

PATERSON

Hunter Valley, NSW

AUSTRALIA

Wonnarua Land



Photo Angus McGee

Project Supported by:



Presented by:

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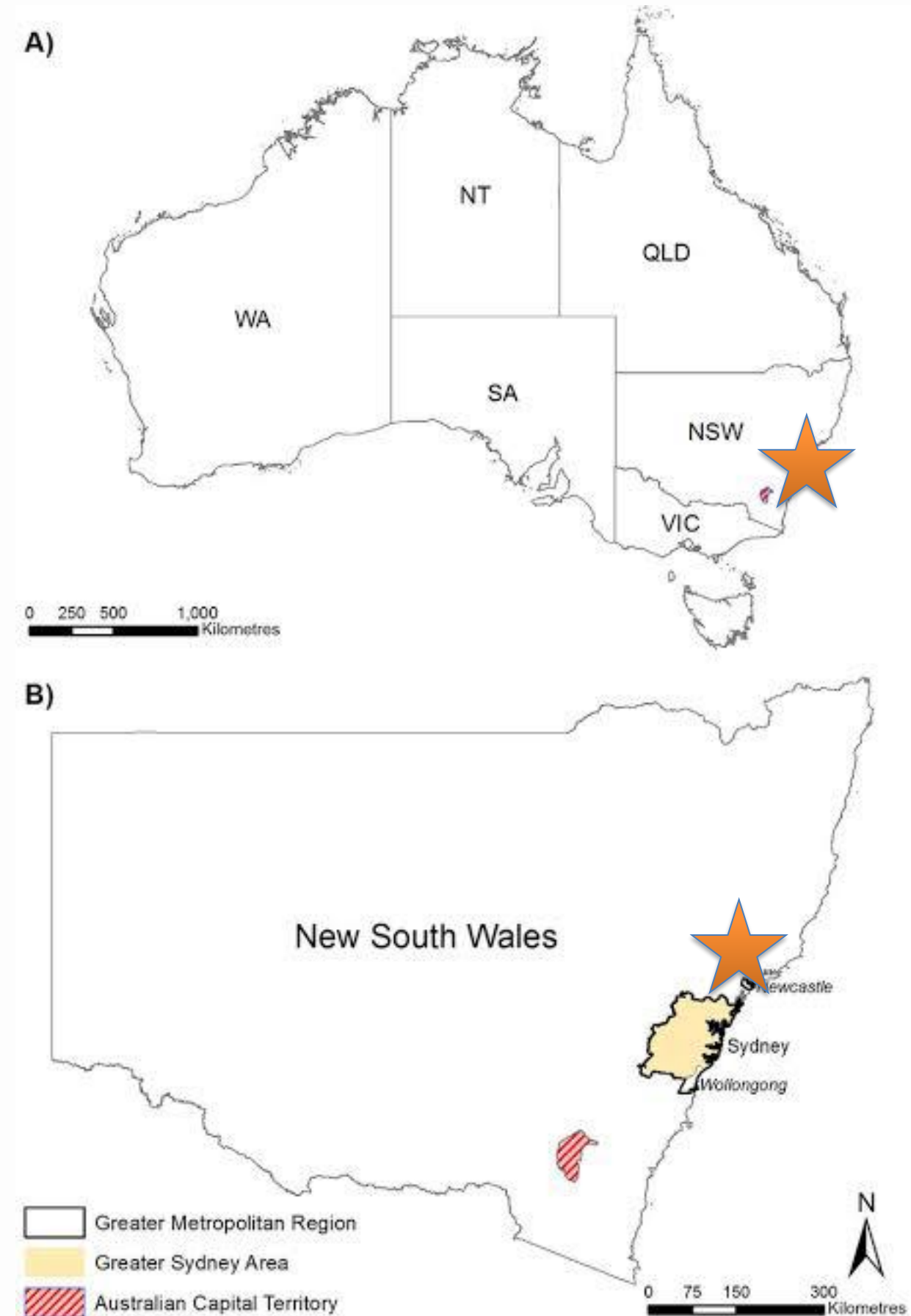




Location



Paterson – Hunter Valley, NSW





Location



Paterson – Hunter Valley, NSW



Paterson's Assets



Historic Buildings – Paterson Lodge



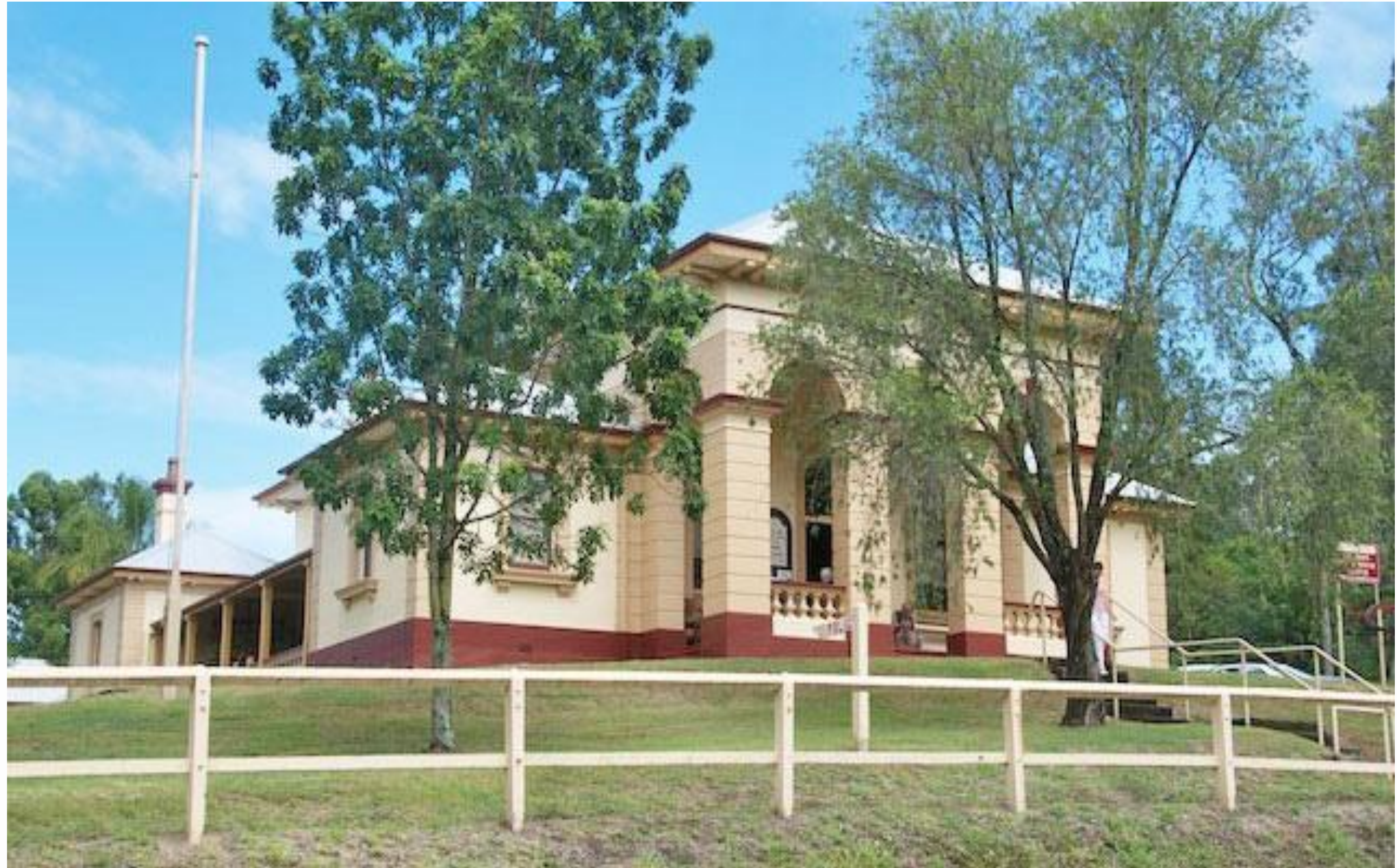
Paterson's Assets



Historic Buildings – Paterson Post Office



Paterson's Assets



Historic Buildings – Court House Museum



Artist/Sculptor
Bill "Wallaby" Cummins

Point of
Difference

Paterson's

Assets

Pelicans Of Paterson



Sculpture Walk Map



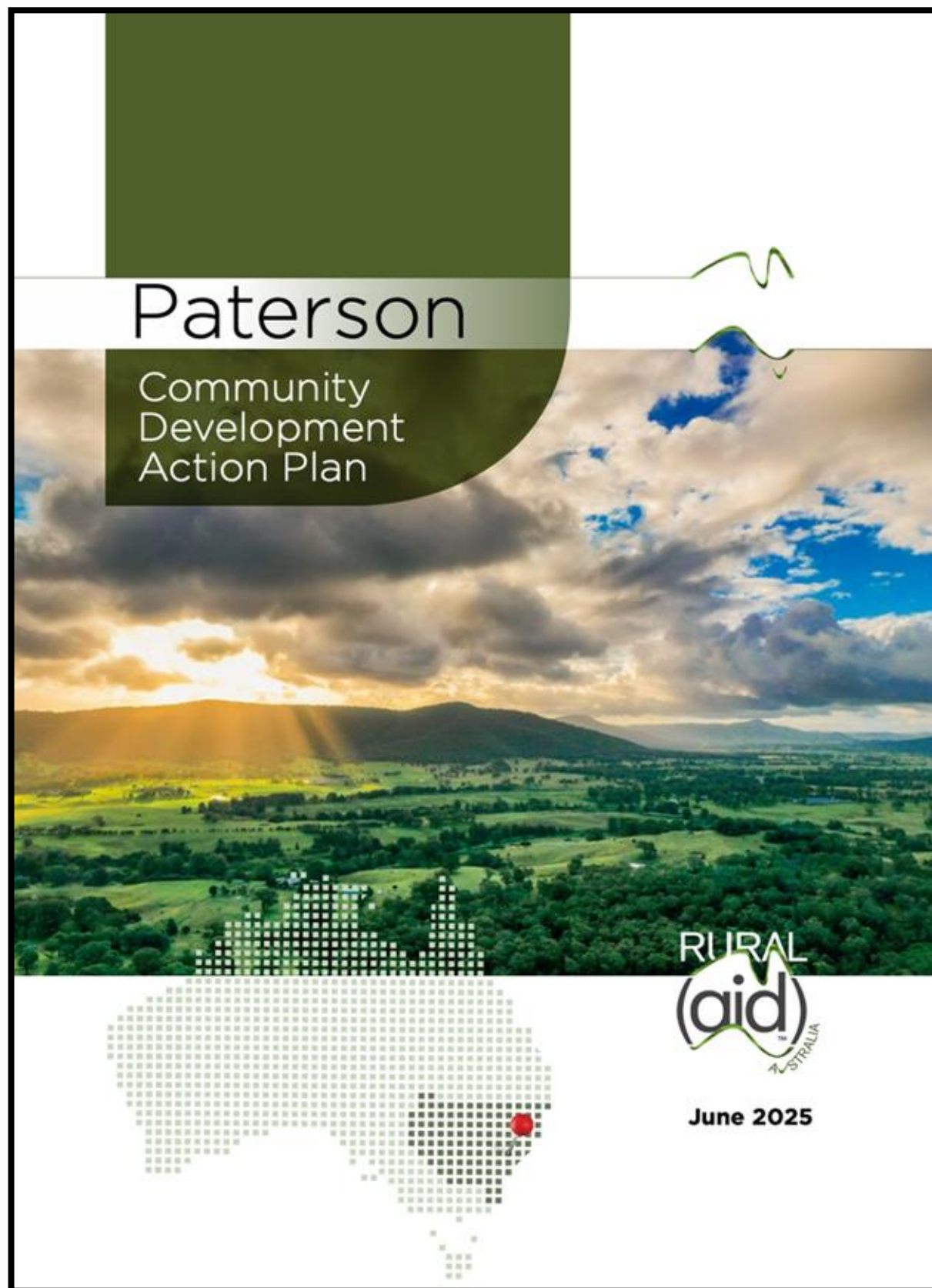
Photos by John Lechner



Paterson's Assets



**Photography Competition/Exhibition
Showcased at one of our community
workshops**



Our Goals

Community goals are broad statements of intent that direct our efforts towards accomplishing our vision in line with our guiding principles.

- To continually foster our sense of community identity, connection and involvement
- To facilitate opportunities and experiences that build upon local assets and the capacities of all community members
- To create an environment where our young people feel involved, supported and empowered, and will consider staying in or returning to our community for work, business, family and lifestyle opportunities
- To develop a flourishing local economy that offers a diverse range of businesses and local employment opportunities
- To encourage an innovative, customer-focused and collaborative business environment and a community with a strong 'buy local' mindset
- To retain strong sporting and cultural clubs, events, facilities and traditions
- To preserve, maintain and strengthen our community assets and heritage

Our Challenges

Like many small inland rural communities, our community needs to respond creatively to a series of demographic, social, economic and environmental challenges. These issues include:

- Volunteer fatigue
- Lack of distinctive identity and brand
- Bland mainstreet
- Limited youth activities
- Lack of rental accommodation
- Road design
- Limited resources for tourism marketing
- Limited visitor accommodation
- Poor parking options
- Cost of living challenges
- Limited public transport
- Train timetabling and need for more services
- Lack of awareness and celebration of local Aboriginal heritage
- Truck traffic through town
- Poor and tired signage
- Limited visitor infrastructure and attractions
- Lack of a welcome strategy for new settlers
- Entry barriers to farming
- Dungog-centric attitudes of Council
- Lack of resourcing from Council
- Limited nightlife
- Council procedures and delays
- Lack of creative recreational options
- Poor internet connectivity
- Flood impacts

PATERSON | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

4-5

Our Strategies & Actions

Theme One

Building a More Engaged & Connected Community

ACTIONS

1

- Instigate a quarterly Forum of Paterson Community Groups** that come together to collaboratively discuss, share, plan and implement actions to advance the village of Paterson and help achieve its vision and goals.
Timeframe: Immediate and Ongoing
- Instigate a calendar of low-cost family events that connect residents and build community relationships** e.g. community fun days, cracker and bonfire night, community talent event, family fun day/picnic, micro street parties, Christmas market, crop swaps, community swap meets etc.
Timeframe: Immediate and Ongoing
- Continually promote **volunteering & community engagement** through:
 - Continual invitation to community members to voice ideas, suggestions and actively volunteer
 - Recognition and celebration of community volunteers through media exposure and an annual 'Volunteer Appreciation Event'
 - Seeking support from the NSW Centre for Volunteering and utilisation of their resources, programs and training
 - Nomination of local volunteers for the annual NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards
 - Continual promotion of the importance of local emergency services and their dependence on local volunteers*Timeframe: Immediate and Ongoing*

PATERSON | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

Paterson Community Development Action

Cover Photo by Angus McGee





PATERSON



Community
Hub

Paterson's Assets

Underused resource:

St Paul's Church Hall

**A place to meet, create
and coordinate
community activities
and projects from.**



**Wednesdays
3:30pm-6:30pm**





We added:

- **branding**
- **colour**

PATERSON



**Community
Hub**





We added:

- **activity**

PATERSON



**Community
Hub**





PATERSON



Community Hub

- We added:**
- **free food
and drinks**





PATERSON



Community Hub

We added:

- **information about projects, ideas and plans.**





PATERSON



Community Hub

We added:

- **workshops –
recycling,
composting
and food
organics**





PATERSON



Community Hub

We added:

- **a safe space for people to come chat and meet others.**





We added:

- **Monthly email newsletter**

, with project updates

PATERSON



Community Hub

2026



NEWSLETTER- January/February 2026

We are in for a huge year in 2026 for Paterson and surrounds with some great projects starting in our community. Here is a summary of three of these projects.

- We have the 'Famous Paterson River Orange' project, funded by Arts Upper Hunter, with artist and painter Jenny McCracken, and support from Paterson Historical Society and the Paterson Court House Museum.
- Our youth members will be invited to take part in some local events to showcase how our youth can volunteer with organisations and projects in our community, as a part of a grant awarded to Gresford Community Group for the 'Dungog Region Youth Volunteering' project.
- Young people in Paterson will also be invited to be part of the 'Cultivating Futures' project to care for the environment and strengthen community connections through the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation's *Backing the Future* grant.

Come and join in on these and more activities and events listed below.

Project Updates

RFS Paterson Pelican Repainted

A huge thank you to Glen for organising the fresh repaint of Paterson RFS brigade's Pelican! The newly restored Pelican was officially presented back to the brigade at their General Meeting in December. Keep an eye out for the Pelican at the station in the near future!

Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=nsw%20rfs%20-%20paterson%20brigade>



The 'Famous Paterson River Orange'



Get set to dive into this amazing history and art project that Paterson Community Builders and Paterson Historical Society are working on delivering.

We will be conducting workshops with artist and painter Jenny McCracken on the history of the Paterson River Orange, and collecting stories related to the citrus industry that played a huge part in Paterson's history.



We added:

- **funding – \$5,000 from Pace Farm, local egg supply**

PATERSON

POP IN!

**Community
Hub**





**We have
created:**

- **A project
concept
for a “Car
Shed” like
a Men’s**

PATERSON

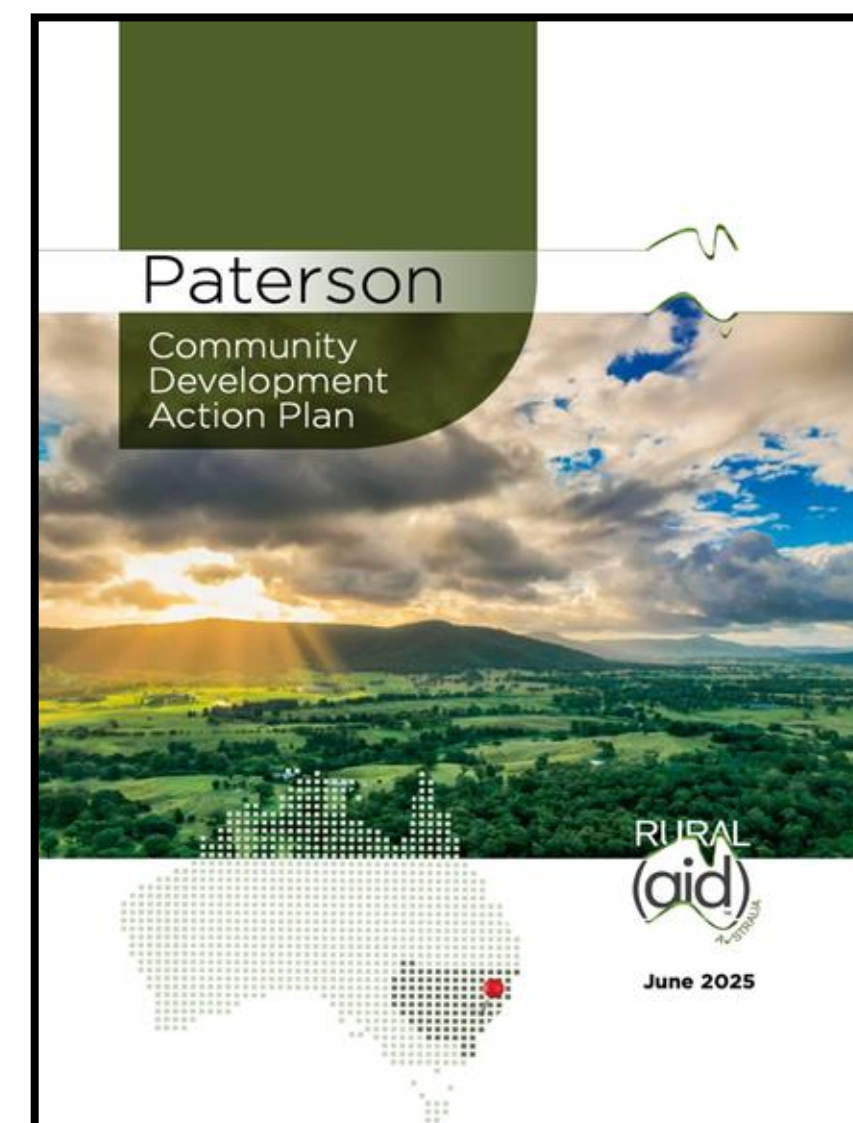


**Community
Hub**





**Join our newsletter
email list
Come and visit
Paterson in the Hunter
Valley, NSW, Australia
julie@overttoncreative.com**

A vibrant poster for the 2026 reopening of the Paterson Community Hub. The background is blue with colorful geometric patterns at the top and bottom. The text "2026 reopening" is in white, with "PATERSON" in large, bold, orange letters and "Community Hub" in white. A purple starburst graphic says "POP IN!". The event is scheduled for "Wednesday 4th February 2026" from "3:30 PM – 6:30 PM". The location is "St Paul's Church Hall, 21 Duke St, Paterson NSW 2421". The poster includes logos for "pace FARM", "RURAL (aid)", and "Paterson Rotary". It also features a drawing of the church building and text stating: "Pop-in and discover how you can be involved in projects for Paterson. Hands-on activities for everyone. Open same time every Wednesday. Free entry & refreshments. Open to all ages".



COMMUNITY

Regional platypus initiative pushes forward

June 18, 2025



Paterson's Assets

Natural –

Paterson River

Work with other nearby small towns for the benefit of the whole area.