Mr. O’Brien); Display Accessories: Mr. Owen Shaw and Mr. Harman. Exhibition organisation: Museum Committee; Publicity: Illawarra Daily Mercury; Radio 2WL.

WOLLONGONG’S “SMALL” LIGHTHOUSE:

Society’s Council, to mark the centenary of the small lighthouse at the harbour, requested Mr. A. P. Fleming to ascertain whether sufficient material can be located to make a small brochure of about 12 pages for addition to our publications.

MACQUARIE SESQUICENTENARY

Celebrations to mark the 150th anniversary of Macquarie’s journey through Illawarra, which took place on January 15 and 16, 1822 will begin at Bulli Public School on Wednesday afternoon, December 15, with the inauguration of a monument in the school grounds as part of the school’s end-of-year festivities.

Pupils of the Glenbrook Public School, also built on the route of one of Macquarie’s journeys, will be present as guests of the school.

The address will be given by Mr. W. G. McDonald, who will outline the details of the journey.

All members of the public will be welcome to attend this function.

At Illawarra Historical Society Museum on January 15 additional pictures will be added to the exhibition depicting places on the route taken by Macquarie’s party from Appin through Illawarra. The map of the journey, prepared by Mr. B. T. Dowd, F.R.A.H.S., with slight corrections made in the light of subsequent research by Mr. W. G. McDonald, will also be placed on display.

MUSEUM ENTRANCE FEES:

Members of Illawarra Historical Society are admitted without charge in view of their payment of membership fees; Other adults 25c, family charge 60c covering members of only one family, children 5c.

ILLAWARRA COAL DISCOVERY MEMORIAL:

Members of our Society are pleased to note that the long mooted memorial to the discovery of coal in Illawarra is being constructed on a hilltop at Clifton overlooking the site of the discovery at Coal Cliff by Wollongong City Council.

Our Society’s representations began away back some 15 years and soon afterwards Messrs. Roy Grenfell, Alec Fleming and Bill Bayley spent one Saturday afternoon seeking a suitable site at the foot of the road hill north of Clifton, but nothing came of that visit.

Some years afterwards the then Alderman Rube Hargrave and Mr. W. A. Bayley visited areas nearby and selected the site upon which the memorial is now being constructed.

Council has graded and filled an area on the hill top opposite Clifton School of Arts and children’s playground, reserving one very large rock facing north-east upon which the plaque will later be placed.
A concrete path leading from the Lawrence Hargrave Drive to the stone and encircling it has been laid and it is later planned to develop the park area as time and circumstances permit.

The work is being carried out with financial help by District Collieries, whose contributions are much appreciated by the Society.

QUEEN VICTORIA MEDALS:

Has anybody got one? Know where one is? Seen one? Heard of one??

We refer of course to the medal presented to the children of the district on Tuesday, 21st June, 1887 to celebrate Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee and the opening of passenger rail transport between Wollongong and Clifton.

A picnic was held on Garden Hill and every child of school age (over 2,000 of them!) before being allowed to eat was “decorated” with a medal by a member of the ladies committee appointed for the task.

The medal was described as “of composite metal about the size of a half crown” (slightly larger than a 20 cent piece) with an attached blue ribbon”.

Any information on these medals will be appreciated.

PORT ARTHUR BOOK “FASCINATING”:

Our research officer’s booklet entitled “Port Arthur Railway Across Tasman Peninsula” has taken the imagination and has evidently filled a tourist need at Port Arthur itself, where sales are mounting. The booklet is on sale at our museum.