

THE SOCIETY'S SECOND EXHIBITION.
Tuesday 10th, to Saturday, 14th March, 1959.

Following a request in 1958 from the Council of the City of Greater Wollongong, the Council of the Society agreed to hold an exhibition during the celebrations to mark the 100th Anniversary of Local Government in Wollongong.

The original Wollongong Municipality was gazetted on 23rd February, 1959, being the second municipality formed and the first outside the Metropolis.

The present City of Greater Wollongong was formed by the amalgamation of the former City of Wollongong, Municipality of North Illawarra and Shires of Central Illawarra and Bulli in September, 1947.

The City Council advised it would provide a hall and the I.O.O.F. Hall in Kenny Street was allocated.

Preliminary arrangements were in hand when the Wollongong Retail Traders' Association informed us that several of their member firms intended to dress their windows with appropriate historical motifs during the celebrations and requested the loan of material and advice from the Society.

This request was agreed to by the Society's Council and accordingly assistance was given to six firms which prepared windows, Bebarfalds Ltd., Marcus Clark and Co. Ltd., Walter Lance & Co. Pty. Ltd., Nock & Kirby (Wollongong) Pty. Ltd, W. Waters & Sons Pty. Ltd.. Waughs Pty. Ltd.

Several other firms had independent displays all of which helped to encourage historical interest

However, with the loaning of material is was decided that the Society's exhibition would consist principally of antiques supplemented by the remaining items and the showing of lantern slides from the Library.

It was also decided that the exhibition hours would be Tuesday, 10th, 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, 14th, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The exhibition was formally opened by the President at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, 10th, with an attendance of about 130 members and friends.

We were honoured by an informal visit by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman A. Squires and the Town Clerk, Mr. W. H. Mitchell, who were given a preview on Tuesday afternoon.

The total attendance was estimated at 1,500 which is very satisfactory in view of the heavy counter attractions and particularly the location of the hall. From the many comments offered it was evident that the general public was not very familiar with the hall site.

The antiques exhibited were of a high standard and we are most grateful to those friends and members who loaned items. In this connection the Selection Committee received invaluable assistance from Mr. Stanley Lipscombe, of Sydney, a recognised authority, and we have pleasure in recording herewith our debt for his services so freely given.

Slides were screened in the evenings and on Saturday. Four series, averaging 40 slides each, were selected covering Wollongong proper (2) and one each on the Northern and Southern areas of the district. They proved very popular and the "theatrette" accommodating some 70 people was usually full for each session. The sequence was staggered each session and several people returned for particular screenings.

On Wednesday, 11th, the exhibition was featured in the Radio 2WL Monitor session and on Thursday in the news session of A.B.C. station 2WN.

Our Sister Society, the Brisbane Water Historical Society visited Wollongong on Saturday, some 40 friends from Gosford making the trip. During their all too brief time at the exhibition a special slide screening was arranged.

The Society's Council thanks all members, friends and firms who contributed to its success and in particular the Council of the City of Greater Wollongong and its officers.

