HUNTER DISTRICT EXCURSION — SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
10th AND 11th NOVEMBER:

As mentioned at the September meeting, we propose, if we have enough starters, to run a weekend excursion on Saturday and Sunday, 10th and 11th November, to the Hunter vineyard districts (Pokolbin and Dalwood), Maitland and Morpeth.

Assuming that daylight saving will then be in force, we will start from Cross Roads at 7.30 a.m. on Saturday, and follow the usual route to Bulli Pass. Travelling via the Newcastle Expressway, we should arrive at Pokolbin about lunch time. Saturday afternoon will be spent among the wine-casks, and we will stay overnight at East Maitland. Sunday morning will be devoted to the historic towns of Maitland and Morpeth — the latter, in the days when ships were smaller and the river deeper, the head of navigation for seagoing ships and the principal port of northern New South Wales. Mr. Fleming has arranged for friendly native guides, and this part of the trip should be full of interest.

The return journey will begin after lunch on Sunday, and we should be back in Wollongong by about 7 p.m.

The estimated cost, including fares, dinner, bed and breakfast (but not lunches, morning or afternoon teas, or hard liquor) is $25 for adults and $15 for school-age children.

As members will realise, a week-end excursion requires a good deal of advance planning, and commits the Society to a substantial outlay. To allow the bus to be booked and accommodation arranged, we must therefore ask you to book and pay a deposit of $10 each AT THE OCTOBER MEETING, or to ring Mrs. McCarthy (phone 29-8225) BEFORE THE MEETING and forward your deposit to Box 1030, P.O. Wollongong not later than Friday, 5th October. To make the excursion a practical proposition we need twenty adult starters.

THANKS:

To our unpaid “Contractor” Ken Thomas, who has completed the construction of a new incinerator at the Museum.

However, as Ken points out, it will last a lot longer if not filled up with bottles and cans. They will not burn!

THE MOUNT KEIRA GORILLA:

It is stated by several persons residing in the locality that a gorilla has again been seen in the mountain ranges in the vicinity of Mount Keira, or, rather, between Mount Keira and the Mount Kembla coal tunnel. Different residents there said that they have caught sight of the strange animal on separate occasions and in various places. They describe it as resembling a man, but covered with long hair, and having long sharp claws. As a matter of fact, we learn the report has had the effect of frightening the children in those parts from attending school at Mount Keira. What a “draw” the capture of the gorilla would prove to the Wollongong Show. There’s money in the hint, but we give it gratuitously.

— Illawarra Mercury, 19 January, 1883