Forthcoming excursions:

On Sunday, 6th November, 1994, interested members are asked to meet at Jamberoo Park at 9.15 a.m. - bring morning tea and lunch. From there, members will visit Minnamurra House and in the afternoon, Tongarra Museum and possibly more, with a picnic lunchtime at Jamberoo Park.

Admission fees may be payable.

More information and bookings will be available at our October meeting.

For enquiries and bookings, please phone Joyce McCarthy on 298225.

VALE IVY MURRAY

We note the passing of Ivy Murray, a stalwart supporter of both Illawarra Historical Society and the Museum. She joined the Society in 1961, always attended meetings and excursions in the early days, and wrote interesting reminiscences of her girlhood in Mt Kembla for our Bulletin.

Ivy and her brother donated various items to the Museum collection including the sulky in which their mother, Mrs. Benjamin used to bring Ivy to Wollongong on Saturday mornings for music lessons in Kembla Street.

Ivy was an accomplished dressmaker having learnt at the old School of Arts and she was organist at the Soldiers and Miners Memorial Church Mt Kembla for many years.

VALE BRIAN DOBING

Society member, Brian Dobing died suddenly on 6 August. Brian had been a member of the Society for some years and was a member of the Society’s Board. His interest in the Society stemmed largely from his research into the Dobing family as part of the celebration for the centenary of the Keiraville Primary School.

Brian’s grandfather, John Dobing arrived from England in 1888 to work at the Mt Keira mine. His sons, also worked in the mine and the family had the use of a parcel of colliery land at Gwynneville. Known as Dobings Bush, part was
sold in 1908 to form Wiseman’s Park and the remainder was subdivided for housing in the 1950’s.

Generous with his time, Brian made himself and his truck available whenever needed. During the renovation of the Museum, I often asked Brian for help and he always found time to assist in between work and family obligations. He will be sadly missed by the Society and his family.

John Shipp  
1.9.94

Old Court House - Wollongong Harbour

Members may have read in the Illawarra Mercury that the Sea Cadets are to be relocated from the old Court House at Belmore Basin. For some years, the National Trust Illawarra Branch has been concerned that use of the building by the Cadets is inappropriate. The Trust approached the Lord Mayor, David Campbell, seeking the support of Council in finding more suitable accommodation for the Cadets. A community committee was established and Frank Osborne has represented the Society.

After much hard work, plans are well under way to relocate the Cadets to a site adjacent to the Illawarra yacht Club building at Berkeley. The move is attractive to the Cadets as it means greater opportunities to sail in an open area rather than the confined space of Wollongong Harbour. The Cadets and the Naval Association of Illawarra are attempting to raise funds to erect new headquarters.

This will not be the first time that the Cadets have moved their meeting place. Establishment of the Cadet Unit was approved in September 1946 and for three months commencing 9 April 1947, meetings were held in the Agricultural Hall at the Wollongong Showground. With eleven initial cadets, the Unit operated as "N.L.T.D. Beatty".

From 10 July 1947, the Unit shared unoccupied space in the Old Court House, then known as the Drill Hall. The long-term occupant of the hall was the Army. Determined to have their own meeting place, the Cadets began fund raising. In 1953, a start was made by laying the piers and erecting the timber