Whatever the answer, Phil and Warren’s discovery reinforces what by now must be a home truth for readers. Colonial art has much to teach us about Illawarra History as print and manuscript and that careless viewing is as big a crime as poor reading of the original written sources.

I would love to see the day when visual illiteracy was as much frowned upon in schools as the more traditional kind.

Joseph Davis

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

(Phil Presser has suggested that we include a regular column detailing what was happening in the Gong one hundred years ago on or near the month our Bulletin goes to press and has agreed to provide material for it.

I am hoping that next year I can con him into writing the column as well!

Phil’s first contribution comes from the Saturday October 9, 1897 edition of the Illawarra Mercury)

THE PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR 1897

(A Bill for the Construction of a Deep Water Harbour at Port Kembla)

Wednesday Night, 6th October, 1898 was probably the precise moment Wollongong became destined to be changed from a cluster of rural and coal-mining villages into a fully industrialised community.

This Bill, when it was eventually pushed through against considerable opposition from Newcastle MPS and others who could see how scandalously public money was being used to finance private profit, was the essential pre-condition for the twentieth century
industrial base of Wollongong.

And as Henry Lee points out in what I consider the best chapter in the recently published *A History of Wollongong* (WCC/WUP, 1997, p. 52) the decision to construct a "large safe and well equipped harbour...was already shifting the local economy onto an urban-industrial footing."

The *Mercury* (and its then editor, the MP Archibald Campbell) knew what he was on about and dutifully listed in his paper's report of the Bill's introduction into Parliament all the good guys who voted in favour (Campbell and Nicholson among them) and all the Satanists who voted against.

As Henry Lee so acidly remarks: "The town's businessmen no longer controlled or needed to control the district's destiny. Their contribution had been, through their committees and newspapers to fashion a population that equated progress with mines and smokestacks and prosperity with giving the district over to a single industry or even a single company." (p.52)

Joseph Davis

**WHERE IN CORRIMAL STREET DID SID HOSKINS LIVE?**

I've been re-reading Sir Cecil Hoskins book *The Hoskins Saga* (privately published/printed by the Halstead press, 1969) and was taken by thew following remark:

"Sid [A.S.... Hoskins] and his family...in 1930 all moved to the South Coast where for four years they lived at Dapto, about seven miles from the site of the new Steelworks. Here began a long and intimate connection with the South Coast, and Sid and Madge soon took an active part in its interests and activities.

Philip Sidney, their only living son, was born at Dapto. Another four years were spent living in a house in Corrimal Street, Wollongong until in 1938 there permanent home