SOCIETY NEWS

Australia Day Bookstall. A bookstall was held in the museum forecourt on Australia Day to take advantage of passing custom. Whilst the store in the open air sold only $86 worth of books, it boosted interest in the museum to such an extent that the total takings for the day amounted to $130. Well done, helpers.

Thanks to Tim Kirsopp. Museum workers may know Tim, who has worked at the museum every Tuesday for the last couple of years, originally to gain points for his Queen's Scout award. However he became so interested he stayed on as voluntary helper, even though he was still studying for his HSC. Having scored well in the latter he is now off to the ANU in Canberra. We wish him well and have presented to him a certificate of appreciation.

Membership. We welcome several new members who have joined the Society since the last Bulletin: Mr Neville Fenn of Dapto

Mr & Mrs Janusz and Helen Dybowicz of Balgownie
Mr Noel Taylor of Dapto
Ms Sylvia Enklaar of Mudgee.

It is with much regret that we must announce two recent deaths:

Ms Coralie Davies, a life member;

and Mr Gordon Sellers, a member for many years.

The Society extends sympathy to the relatives of these two members of long standing.

Seniors Week: As a contribution to Seniors week, the Museum will hold an Open Day on Saturday March 27 from 10.00am to 4.00pm. If you can help, please advise Mrs McCarthy on 42 298225.

Bulli Mine Disaster: 112th Commemorative Service. The Committee of the Bulli Black Diamond District Heritage centre has extended an invitation to this commemorative service which will be held at the Disaster Memorial, Park Road, Bulli, adjacent to the
railway overbridge, on Tuesday 23rd March, 1999, at 2.00pm. Afternoon tea will be served afterwards at the Centre.

RSVP Mrs Fay Haines, Tel. 42674312.

CAROLINE CHISHOLM IN KIAMA

Dear Joe,

Following our conversation about Caroline Chisholm, I reviewed my research to find that the Sydney morning Herald reported:

THE NEW SQUATTERS. Twenty-three families, who are booked to be located on land near Wollongong on clearing leases, left Sydney by the steamer last night, accompanied by Mrs Chisholm, through whose exertions this arrangement has been made.

SMH 7 Dec 1843.

Shellharbour was the first destination to which she took a large number of families to settle in an undeveloped locality with a view to clearing the land and establishing a small rural community.

Her letter to the Chronicle 13 Dec 1843, claims:

I have settled all the families much to my satisfaction and theirs. They must, with common prudence, do well. I could settle 300 families during the next three months, but except that I meet with some aid, I cannot go on. You will be amused to hear that I had to lead