
Illawarra a Century Ago. Nude Bathing.

In 1900 the hours for bathing in Wollongong were between 9am and 5 pm. And in particular Sunday bathing was quite unacceptable. The Council of Wollongong took measures to ensure that nude bathing ceased and bathing pants were introduced. It seemed that some women's particular habit of collecting shells in the immediate vicinity of the men's baths had not gone unnoticed and was quoted in the newspaper as "seem to have lost all sense of decency".

The writer also stated that the men who paraded outside the baths in the nude state have also "Lost all sense of decency". The hill overlooking the men's baths actually gave the women an advantage point in the baths.

The Council Clerk instigated a Municipal Notice in the Illawarra Mercury 31 December 1900.