MUSEUM REPORT 2001

January 2001. The year began with the planning of our Federation 2001 exhibition. "One Hundred Years of Communication in Illawara" opened on 31st May 2001. It was partly funded by the Wollongong Centenary of Federation Committee with a grant of $5,000; the total cost being $8,400. Opening day was very busy and during the exhibition, until the end of the year, the museum was visited by more people than usual.

May. A small display was set up in the Wollongong Town Hall Foyer for the Gala Federation Concert organised by the Wollongong Music Club.

August. Warren, Meg and I attended a workshop at Wollongong Art Gallery named "Floods, Fire & Pestilence". The information we gleaned was very worthwhile.

September. The Museum lent various items from its medical collection to the Illawarra Area Health Service for their exhibition held at the Wollongong Art Gallery.

The Museum applied to the Museums and Galleries Federation for the funding of three projects. We were successful with one project, namely a package of Mosaic software, a museum based programme, to record all our inventory. To use this programme we invested in a computer in early January 2002.

October. Warren and I attended the Museums and Galleries Federation conference at Sydney University on 5th October. Some useful information came out of the various papers presented.

November. Negotiations were continuing with the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney for their travelling exhibition "Births of a Nation" to be installed at our Museum in early 2002.

Launch of "Journey of a Nation" Treasure Chest and touring exhibition in J J Kelly Park took place.

The poles supporting the awning over the Blacksmith's shop and Air Raid Shelter door were replaced.

December. Many thanks to all our volunteers who have helped throughout the year. Twenty two enjoyed a morning tea at the Museum early December.

Many have been busy during the year with the usual sorting, cataloguing and general administration.

Mrs Joyce McCarthy - Hon Curator