Is Wollongong Harbour now Belmore Basin?
A misnomer appearing in many publications such as newspapers, tourist
guides, etc. and regularly brought to the attention of the Society by our
members and at times the public is to read or hear that Brighton Beach
and/or Wollongong Harbour are referred to as **BELMORE BASIN**.

The Empire newspaper of 9th October 1868 reported on the naming of
the new basin by Lady Belmore and declaring the port open by Lord
Belmore, the Governor, as follows:
The Hon. James Byrne, Minister for Works said, "I have much pleasure
in congratulating you upon the naming of the basin as "Belmore Basin"
which has just been done by Lady Belmore, His Excellency will now
declare the port open for general commerce".

The boat harbour of Wollongong underwent improvements under
convict labour between 1837-1844 including excavating a small basin
that is the entrance to today's large basin.

It was not until the 1860s that work commenced in carving through the
rock shelf to extend the loading facilities in the harbour.

The term ‘basin’, in no way, refers to Brighton Beach or the whole area
of the port of Wollongong.

Wollongong still has Wollongong Harbour and only the portion where
the fishing trawlers are moored is known as Belmore Basin.
We are afraid that eventually the use of the name “Wollongong Harbour” will disappear altogether from all documentation when writing about our historic little port.