

## Don Kevin Reynolds (1927-2014)

Long-time member of the Illawarra Historical Society, Don Reynolds, died on 19 July aged 87. Don had been in failing health for some time but attended meetings of the Society whenever he was able. He was a keen industrial archaeologist and his work will have a continuing benefit to research into the industrial heritage of Illawarra.

In addition to his involvement in the Society, Don was also an active contributor to the work of the National Trust. When the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Branch of the Trust was being established, Don was one of the first members and convened its Industrial Heritage sub-committee. He quietly undertook research and assessments on sites that were under threat and wrote meticulous reports.

Don undertook research into the mining heritage of the district. He was an active contributor to the Minerals Heritage Sub-committee of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Don worked with Ron Cairns and Geoff

Mould to conduct site assessments of local coal mines and they compiled detailed fact sheets and maps.

Coalmines weren't the only area that attracted his attention. Don had a long association with the steelworks and he was an expert on many aspects of its history. He published some of his research including A History of the Land for the Port Kembla Steelworks, Railways of West Dapto and Swept Under the Carpet - Cement Works at Port Kembla. When Don could no longer conduct active research, he donated copies of his works to the Society to be sold at the Museum.

Don was always happy to share his prodigious knowledge and was able to provide links that might not otherwise be obvious. Although he wrote down a lot of his knowledge, much remained unwritten. Some of that knowledge will never be recovered as it was part of Don's unique life experience. We are grateful for the work Don did to document regional industrial heritage and for the pleasure of knowing him.