EXCURSION TO HISTORICAL PARRAMATTA — SUNDAY, MAY 16th:

The bus will leave the Cross Roads, West Wollongong, at 8.30 a.m., travelling the usual route of Crown, Kembla, Bourke Streets, Prince’s Highway, picking up at previously nominated points.

FARE IS ONE POUND (£1) and TEN SHILLINGS (10/-) FOR CHILDREN.

BOOKINGS ARE FIRM AND THERE WILL BE NO REFUND.

Reservations at the May Meeting, or to the Hon. Tour Manager, Mr. R. Grenfell, 18 Rawlinson Ave. Tel. 2-2318.

The excursion leader will be the President.

Members of the Parramatta Historical Society will be our hosts and they are arranging morning and afternoon itineraries of inspection and observation. The former in proximity to the Park, where lunch will be taken, and the latter towards Experiment Farmhouse and Hambledon Cottage, where afternoon tea will be served.

Will excursionists kindly note that your own "thermos" will be required for lunch and, in view of the early start and mileage to be covered your punctuality at the picking up points is essential.

The excursion, originally programmed for May 9th, was deferred following a number of requests to avoid conflicting with the Mothers’ Day observance and the Bulli Methodist Centenary.

EXCURSION PROGRAMME:

Council has decided to conduct a series of local outings on the first Saturdays of July, August, September. It is planned that for each excursion a start about 1.30 p.m. will be made and concluded about 5 p.m. A different leader will be in charge. As Saturday afternoon excursions have proved popular in the past it is hoped that this popularity will remain. This preliminary notice will be supplemented in later "Bulletins".

In addition an invitation has been accepted from the Newcastle and Hunter District Historical Society to visit tentatively that area in November next.

EXCURSION TO COOLANGATTA — SUNDAY, 4th APRIL:

Thirty-eight members and friends under the leadership of Mr. Beale (and capably driven by Mr. Bert Hewitt, who withstood the tantrums of "Boiling Bertha" admirably) had a most enjoyable outing to the Kiama/Shoalhaven district.

Outward bound through Jamberoo we followed the new Saddleback Road to Kiama for the morning tea break at "Culbirnie", the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brown.

We then followed Berry Mountain to Nowra for lunch at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. ("Happy") Hawkins. Hot water was provided by our hosts and luncheon on the lawn was most acceptable.

Then on to "Coolangatta", the ancestral stronghold of Alexander Berry and now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Col Bishop and their charming family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bishop conducted us over the site of the old homestead and outbuildings and explained their history and use. In addition they had assembled a collection of photographs relating to the Berries, which also proved of considerable interest. The afternoon concluded with the serving of a delicious Devonshire tea by Mrs. Bishop.

Those present will long remember the day — glorious weather and perfect organisation. The usual votes of thanks were passed to the Brown, Hawkins and Bishop families but those thanks and these words do not adequately express our gratitude for their kindness and hospitality in entertaining us so well.

"CULBIRNIE", KIAMA:

The following interesting historical note has been prepared by Mr. Beale:

On the Coolangatta excursion, the Society enjoyed the privilege of inspecting the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brown, "Culbirnie", Kiama, where morning tea was taken.
This property was erected upon part of the Burroul grant of 500 acres made to the Reverend Thomas Kendall, who was an early settler in N.S.W. and who received several grants of land, notably in the Ulladulla district. It was a younger son of his, Basil Kendall, who was the father of the poet Henry Kendall.

During a voyage by coastal ship plying from Ulladulla to Sydney in 1833, the ship was wrecked and the Reverend Thomas was presumed drowned. By the law of distribution of intestacy at that time (Kendall having left no will), the eldest son took the whole of the estate. By this means Burroul came into the ownership of Thomas Surfleet Kendall, the eldest son of the Reverend Thomas.

After farming the property for many years, T. S. Kendall had a good type house erected, and the specifications still exist. It was a great acquisition for the Society's records when these documents were presented to the Society on the occasion of our visit. They show the date as 5th July, 1866, after which date building presumably commenced. The front section of the present house was built first.

Within about a decade, the property was becoming too much for T. S. Kendall to manage, it seems, and he began partitioning the farm amongst his family, retaining a life interest in it for himself and his wife. After their deaths, "Culbirnie" passed into the hands of the Weir family, until after World War II when it became the proud possession of the present owners, who have substantially improved and maintained it.

The Kendall interest is retained by the family cemetery to the south of "Culbirnie"; it is still held for the family, access by right of way having been reserved over the adjoining farmlands, burials still taking place there.

The Society is indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, not only for their hospitality, but most of all for their gift of the valuable documents. — E.B.

APRIL MEETING:

Once again we were delighted to hear an interesting "History/Geography/Natural Science" talk by Mr. Ken Marshall, covering journeys he and Mrs. Marshall have made between West Wollongong and Western Australia.

Our speaker showed 180 slides, some of which had been flown back from W.A. by Mrs. Marshall within a few days of the meeting and Ken let the slides tell the story with background commentary as necessary.

Indeed a most pleasant evening for the 35 people in attendance.

LAKE DISTRICTS CENTENNIAL MUSEUM, ARROWTOWN, SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND:

The writer recently had the privilege of inspecting this attractive historical museum situated at Arrowtown, a few miles from Queenstown. It tells the story of the Wakatipu goldfields not only in the exhibits, both inside and out (they have engines, tractors, etc., on display) but in the building itself which is a relic of the golden years of Arrowtown, being the old Bank of New Zealand building.

The museum today stands as a unique institution in the history of New Zealand and is visited daily by travellers from all over the world.

It is thoroughly recommended to anyone contemplating visiting New Zealand.

Having regard to our own efforts to establish an historical museum for our Sesqui Centenary in 1966 it is pointed out that the Richmond River Historical Society (Lismore) averaged 200 visitors a day to their museum over the Christmas holidays, and Canberra and District Historical Society reports like success with their museum at Blundell’s Farmhouse.

ST. JOHN’S CHURCH OF ENGLAND, CAMDEN:

The National Trust advises that this historical church is to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of its dedication at a garden party in the grounds on Saturday, May 1st, at 2.30 p.m.