ILLAWARRA DISTRICT AMBULANCE SERVICE: SOUVENIR BOOKLET.

A fine brief history of the above compiled by Mr. Bayley for the opening of Wollongong’s new station. The wheeled litter used in 1908 and 1909 and depicted in the booklet has been presented to the society’s museum and is on display.

Members seeking a copy of the booklet should contact the superintendent, Mr. R. Osmond, at the new ambulance station in Crown Street West.

LINDSAY FAMILY: Details wanted.

Miss Ruth Lindsay of 2/44 Anderson Street, Chatswood is seeking details of the Lindsay family from the date of arrival of George and Jane Lindsay and their five children at Sydney on May 14, 1841.

Our research officer invites any who may have material to contact Miss Lindsay direct.

ATCHISON STREET.

Past president, Mr. Edgar Beale, has supplied some interesting new light on the naming of Atchison Street, which, after all, was evidently not named after the worthy Rev. Cunningham Acheson as is wont to be believed. His letter follows:

I am just going through some Deeds relating to Kenny’s Subdivision of land and I find from the Deeds an interesting side light on the spelling of Atchison Street. Though I have often taken title before in respect of land formerly owned by Kenny, I have never struck this point before. Rightly or wrongly — as it now turns out I think wrongly — I have always assumed that Atchison Street was named after the Rev. Cunningham Acheson and I think many people have shared this view with me.

However, I am now forced to a different conclusion because I find amongst the Deeds for the property Lot 27 Section 1 of Kenny’s Subdivision fronting Atchison Street, a Surveyor’s description dated 13th November, 1883 prepared by one A. A. Atchison, Licensed Surveyor of 141 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Kenny’s Subdivision was effected in 1883 by William Wiley and the conclusion is therefore inescapable that prior to 1883 or thereabouts, there was no Atchison Street at all. This appears from the copy of the plan which goes with the Deeds and which, being a spare copy, is attached for the Society’s records. It is quite clear from this that there was no Atchison Street then.
Consequently, there is no doubt in my mind that the reverend gentleman long since departed from the district for a matter of decades, was not celebrated in the naming of this august thoroughfare, but celebrated a Surveyor who rolled off his own name in preparing his description with great aplomb. It follows similarly that the spelling Atchison in general use is quite correct.

The Vendor will not be handing over Mr. Surveyor Atchison’s description, so it is handed over to form part of the Society’s records.

WOONONA-BULLI R.S.L.: HISTORICAL SOUVENIR.

An ambitious book detailing the history of the Woonona-Bulli R.S.L. has been compiled by E. A. Nicholls in connection with the golden jubilee celebrations.

It outlines many facets of the work of the branch over the past fifty years and is a valuable record of a great number of events affecting the R.S.L. and with which it has been connected. Many pictures are included.

EXCURSION INTO HISTORY: Historical markers on the Blue Mountains.

This unfortunate title (which could be the label of any book on anything) hides a fine contribution to research and publication of points of historical interest on the Blue Mountains published for the Blue Mountains Historical Society.

The book, available for 75 cents at Blue Mountains bookshops and kiosks, includes a map pointing out the location of the chief points of interest for tourists and students.

After a prelude of a series of short articles on the geology, flora and fauna of the Blue Mountains and a contribution about the question “Why are the Blue Mountains blue?” the book gives details of snippets of history of each of the places mentioned.

It is a good aid to those visiting the spots and an interesting well printed publication.


Hiding behind the title “Conference with Affiliated Societies” the Royal Australian Historical Society at the end of 1967 published a very valuable booklet which might well escape the notice of those to whom it would be extremely valuable.

It contains a wealth of suggestions about how to go about research for anyone aspiring to compile local history of any kind. It details where to look and what to look for. It gives the titles of books and publications which give material about most places and shows how to find the local sources. It tells what indexes will help and where they are.