The Minister for Home Affairs, King O’Malley, had fought hard for the adoption of Shakespeare, on the grounds that “Shakespeare was the greatest Englishman ever born”, but Cabinet eventually decided on Canberra which had been the name of the locality for many years.

The origin of the name is obscure. Some maintain that it is an aboriginal word derived from the name of a native tribe which once frequented the district, whilst others hold that it is the corrupt form of an English place name. Whatever the truth may be, it is certain that the district was called by a number of similar names in old documents — Canbury, Canberry, and Kembery.

The correct pronunciation is “Can-bera”, with the accent on the first syllable and the “e” almost omitted.

**COOK’S ATTEMPTED LANDING:**

W. D. Forsyth in his book “Captain Cook’s Australian Landfalls” says: “Cook, Banks, Dr. Solander and four oarsmen had to be content to sit in their yawl outside the surf gazing at four ‘exceedingly black’ aborigines who sat upon the rocks watching them”.

The approximate spot was marked by Bulli Rotary Club with granite inscribed tablet on the Bi-centenary afternoon of the day that happened, now 201 years ago!

**A HISTORY OF WAGGA WAGGA — Keith Swan:**

Many of you know of his work for the preservation of regional history; others will know him as Head of the Area of Humanities at Wagga Teachers College.

This handsome volume of 244 pages of text (including five maps and 36 pages of photographs) retails at $4.50.

This Society, acting as a retailer, would be delighted to supply copies at $4.05 (plus 35c postage and packing where applicable) to members of Historical Societies, Schools, other educational institutions and libraries.

Please send orders together with appropriate amounts to:

Secretary,
Wagga Wagga and District Historical Society,
Box 90 P.O.,
Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. 2650

Please indicate if you would like Mr. Swan to sign your copy.