[Mr. Ian Young (Member) is a great-great-grandson of "Old Bedad" and a great-grandson of Joseph Vance.

It should perhaps be added that there were several Alick Osbornes. Mrs. Robertson, who is herself a descendant of Dr. John Osborne, tells me that Alick Osborne of Mangerton was one of Dr. John's sons, but the Alick Osborne who erected the plaque at Kangaroo Valley would probably have been one of the Barrengarry Osbornes, who were descendants of Dr. John Osborne's brother Henry (of Marshall Mount). And, of course, the original Alick Osborne (of Daisybank) was someone else again — a brother of Dr. John and Henry. — Ed.]

ILLAWARRA ESCARPMENT:

The Society has made submissions to the forthcoming public inquiry on the Illawarra Escarpment, suggesting that the historic roads from the coast to the escarpment should be reserved or resumed, and made accessible to the public as foot or bridle tracks. We are not suggesting they should be opened as motor roads — some are inherently unsuitable because of steep grades and sharp curves, and in any case their historic and scenic interest would be largely lost if those who used them had to devote most of their attention to dodging cars and motor cycles (or worse — for, if the case of Mount Keira Road is any guide, no road is too steep, winding or rough for semis to use to gain some fractional advantage in distance or time—and bother you, Jack!).

The roads covered by our submissions are:

1. The original road into Illawarra (situated approximately ¾ mile south of Bulli Pass, and shown on the 1884 Lands Department Map of the Parish of Woonona as "Old Mountain Road") discovered by Charles Throsby in 1815 and used by Macquarie, Oxley, Cunningham, J. D. Lang and other prominent historical figures as well as by the first settlers of the district.

2. Rixon's Pass, the lower part of which, between Woonona and Russell Vale, is still in use.

3. Major Mitchell's original Mount Keira Road, running generally parallel to and at a slightly lower level than the existing road from the vicinity of the Mount Keira Lookout road junction to the vicinity of the Frank March Memorial Lodge.

4. Mitchell's road running close to the escarpment from the head of Bulli Pass to the junction of Mount Ousley Road and the connecting road to Mount Keira Road, and connecting with the Old Mountain Road and Rixon's Pass.

5. O'Brien's Road, the lower part of which, from Figtree to west of Mount Nebo, is still in use. This dated from 1821, and was used by Macquarie on his return from Illawarra.

6. Bong Bong Pass, south-west of Dapto, the most important early link between Illawarra and the Southern Tablelands.