Dr Ward outlined the history of the Hassall family who lived at “Denbigh”, Cobbity, from 1826 until after the death of Thomas in 1868. She painted a fascinating picture of colonial life in those early years of the colony, and in particular of the life of Eliza (1834-1917) who remained unmarried, devoting her life to family and to active Christian service.

As we have come to expect from Dr Ward, this address was the result of much patient research. We thank her for providing a copy of her paper, which we hope to publish in future issues.

PUBLIC MEETING AT
WESLEYAN/PRESBYTERIAN CEMETERY
Kenny Street/Fox Avenue, Wollongong

The convenors, Carol and John Herben, were pleased to see such a large attendance at the public meeting held at this cemetery on Saturday March 27. Despite threatening weather requiring brief use of umbrellas, a large cross-section of the community was represented, as listed in Carol’s letter to the Illawarra Mercury of April 9:

Wollongong City Council, National Trust, Ferguson House (Presbyterian Archives), Berkeley Pioneer Cemetery Restoration Group, Ryde District Historical Society, H Parsons funeral directors, Simpson’s Memorials, Illawarra Historical Society, Illawarra Family History Group, and members of the public from Illawarra, Sydney and as far away as Young.

A further meeting at Wollongong City Memorial Gardens at 10am on Saturday April 10 elected officers and formed committees.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome a significant number of new members: Ray Markey, John & Hazel Higman, Ken & Tanya Barlow and son Thomas, Christine Anderson, Arthung