



Founders

NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

PATRON: His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels, AC, Governor of New South Wales

President's report

Our annual Australia Day luncheon was held at the Masonic Club on 23 January last in the distinguished presence of our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC Governor of New South Wales and Mrs Samuels.

Unfortunately, due to a 'full house' we had to turn some members away. The success of the day was in no small way due to the efforts of Beverley Naughton ably helped by Doug Oakes and Ron Maguire. During the proceedings His Excellency presented Ron Maguire with Life Membership of the Fellowship.

Congratulations to our Vice-Patron Commodore Paul Kable R.A.N. receiving an AM in the Australia Day honours list.

An extremely interesting and thought provoking article appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald, written by member the Honourable Marlene Herbert Goldsmith MLC, F.F. John Herbert and Deborah Ellam. Marlene, as far as the First Fleet and those who arrived on that Fleet are concerned, has always been well and truly a 'stickler' for historic correctness.

We were all saddened by the passing of two of our Life Members recently. Olive O'Reilly and Hazel Liebau for many years were volunteer helpers for the Fellowship. Our deepest sympathy and loving thoughts go out to the respective families of these two very proud First Fleeters.

The week preceding Australia Day kept me fairly busy. I spoke on our heritage to the Blacktown Probus Club at the Blacktown Workers Club to over 100 members. An interview was given to 6PR Radio Station Perth, and also to Ray Hadley's John Law's program on 2UE here in Sydney. I am always amazed how little people know of our early history and the preparation and subsequent ramifications of the first European settlement of our nation. On Sunday, 24 January, I read the First Lesson at the Pioneer Service at the Garrison Church at The Rocks, and on the 26th I represented the Fellowship at a State reception at Darling Harbour.

The Hon. Max Evans, a Minister in the Western Australian State Parliament, wrote recently that he would like to meet with Fellowship members in WA later in the year. Max, a recent and proud member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, will be receiving printouts of members in that State by permission of the Executive in the near future.

I hope you like the 'New Look' newsletter. Congratulations to Editor Ron Maguire and our newsletter producers members Judy and David Pike.

In Fellowship
PETER

FIRST FLEETERS FLIGHT TO EDEN

A NATURAL PARADISE 16 MAY - 21 MAY 1999

The Committee is delighted with the response to this year's holiday trip to Eden. The cost of the trip, as previously advertised, is a reasonable \$404 and a \$50 deposit is required to make a firm booking to this very desirable setting.

The final payment must be made by the end of April to First Fleet House 105 Cathedral St, Woolloomooloo NSW 2011

Pick up places and times will be published in the next Newsletter.

INSIDE

- 2 NEWS OF MEMBERS
- 3 WHAT'S ON
- 4 AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON
- 5 AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON
- 6 THE DAY WE CELEBRATE
- 6 GLEBE CEMETERY EAST MAITLAND
- 6 GREEN HILLS BURIAL GROUND
- 7 FROM THE CHAPTERS
- 8 RELATIONSHIP CHART

News of Members

RON MAGUIRE

– Life Member

At the 1999 Australia Day Luncheon held at Cello's on Saturday, 23 January, Committee member and Editor Ron Maguire was presented with a Life Membership badge by His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC Governor of New South Wales.

Ron is a descendant of First Fleeter James Sheers and his wife Mary Smith, also a First Fleeter. Ron joined the Fellowship in 1989 and became a Committee member in 1991 and soon after Editor of the Newsletter.



Ron Maguire with His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

CORRECTION FOR PERIOD 23 SEPTEMBER 1998 TO 25 NOVEMBER 1998.

WILLIAM EGGLETON – MARY DICKENSON: Mr Nicholas Ross Litchfield Hannon (jun.).

BIRTHS

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

ALASDAIR CAMERON HARPER (F.F. Daniel Standfield, Alice Harmsworth, Edward Kimberley), 15 December 1998. Son of Lisa and Stuart (#6095) Harper, first grandchild of Lynette (#6094) and William Harper. Eighth generation.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

GWENNETH ROSALIE DIECKMANN (#2304), passed away 15 July 1998 at Forbes. Descendant of First Fleeters Henry Kable – Susannah Holmes.

RUBY KENNEDY (#5529), passed away 13 May 1998. (Late of New Zealand.) Descendant of First Fleeter Michael Murphy.

OLIVE O'REILLY (#1511), passed away 14 December 1998. Her work and company at First Fleet House is sadly missed. Descendant of First Fleeters Ann Forbes, Margaret Darnell, Owen Cavanaugh.

Seventh Tri-Annual Reunion

OF THE

Descendants of THOMAS & JANE ROSE

TO BE HELD ON

Sunday 28 March 1999
from 10.00am

AT

HAWKESBURY HERITAGE FARM
ROSE COTTAGE AREA
ROSE STREET, WILBERFORCE NSW

All descendants are invited to come and see the fully restored home of their ancestors.

The Committee of The Thomas and Jane Rose Family Society Inc. would like all descendants (Australia wide) to make this a very special Reunion – the last before the millennium – the end of the 20th century!

For further particulars please contact Mrs Louise Prince – phone (02) 9144 1773 or write to

The Secretary,
The Thomas and Jane Rose Family Society Inc.
PO Box 772 STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

**Closing date for
copy and pictures
March/April issue
March 24 1999**

**OFFICE HOURS
10.00am to 3.00pm
Monday to Friday**

what's *on*

ST ALBANS IS DOWN MEMORY LANE

Sunday, 11 April

YOUR ESCAPE TO THE PAST

The journey to historic St Albans, a National Trust village, takes us through some spectacularly beautiful countryside. We head north through Peats Ridge to the Mangrove Mountain area where citrus orchards and stud farms give way to the National Parks that line the Hawkesbury River. On reaching Spencer we follow the northern bank of the river to Gunderman where we will meet a local guide who will bring alive the history of this remote, fascinating area.

After morning tea at the Gunderman Chapel we follow the Hawkesbury to the junction with the MacDonald, passing the township of Wisemans Ferry on the opposite bank and the convict-built Old Northern Road. Our guide will take us back to the early days of settlement when the farms of the St Albans area played a valuable role feeding the infant Colony, many of the buildings remaining intact today.

Cost per person: \$35.00 (including two-course lunch, morning tea, guide and coach travel).

Departs Central 8.30am and returns approximately 5.30pm

Also stopping at Cremorne and Pacific Highway, Lane Cove.

Please phone the Office on 9360 3788 and send money and bookings to First Fleet House.

DAYTIME FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 17 March at
11.30am

GUEST SPEAKER

Bring your own lunch and we will provide cakes and tea for \$2.00.

Office Bearers will be elected (Volunteers wanted) for the positions of Chairman/Convenor, Secretary, Treasurer and Social Secretary.

1999 TUNKS FAMILY PICNIC & AGM

Parramatta Park

Sunday 14 March 1999
10.00am – 5.00pm

AT

THE BATH HOUSE

Bring your own family to picnic with others from the Tunks Family in historic Parramatta

Park where perhaps even John, son of William Tunks, may have picnicked with his family.

MARK 14 MARCH IN YOUR DIARY NOW

Tunks' Descendants Association Inc.

BLOODWORTH, LEE FIRST FLEET FAMILIES REUNION LUNCH

Sunday 14 March 1999
12 noon – 4.00pm

To be held at the Bib and Tucker Restaurant
Drummoyne Sports Club, Drummoyne

Two-course lunch \$25
(choice: Fish or Roast Beef)

Drinks available from Bar at Club prices.

Contact
ALICE CLARKE, phone 9428 4530
PO Box 328, Lane Cove 1595

ALL DESCENDANTS WELCOME

Australia Day Luncheon



The change of venue for this year's Australia Day luncheon, which was held on Saturday, 23 January, to Cello's at the NSW Masonic Club resulted in over 120 people being in attendance. This was more than what the management of the Masonic Club deemed Cello's to comfortably accommodate, but judicious positioning of tables enabled the extra numbers to be accommodated.

Unfortunately, people ringing up in the last weeks for seats had to be told that bookings were closed and they could not be catered for. Early booking and payment is an essential.

Our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC

Governor of New South Wales, and Mrs Samuels were met at the entrance of the Masonic Club by our President, Peter Christian, and Mrs Christian. Mrs Samuels was presented with a posy of flowers by 14-year-old Sarah Sloan, who came from Canberra with her parents. Very proud grandparents Bunny and Elizabeth Sloan watched the presentation.

The official party then proceeded to the Board Room for the presentation of the President of the Masonic Club, Mr Rod Downing, and his wife, Rhonda, and Fellowship Committee members, to the Governor and Mrs Samuels.

The party then joined the rest of the guests in Cello's for the luncheon.

President Peter Christian welcomed the Official Party, First Fleet descendants and guests. Grace was given by Vice-President Rod Best and the Loyal Toast by Ron Maguire.

After the lunch, Peter Christian invited the Governor to speak. The Governor obliged and gave his views on the importance of Australia Day and paid tribute to the contribution to the establishment of this country by our famous ancestors.

Rod Best responded on behalf of all to the Governor's speech.

A Life Membership badge was then presented by the Governor to Ron Maguire for his contribution as Committee member and Editor of the Newsletter.



Ron Maguire in his response made reference to the Newsletter and asked everyone present to observe the major changes in the next issue.

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE address was given by President Peter Christian and everyone joined in singing Advance Australia Fair accompanied by Dr Louise A. Baur on the piano.

His Excellency and Mrs Samuels together with Peter Christian and Jo, circulated among the guests chatting and inquiring of their history.

My thanks to the many people who helped make the luncheon a success. Mrs Phyllis Selby, Mrs Bonny Savill, Miss Joyce Rixon, Mrs Beverley Naughton and Ron Maguire, who liaised with the Masonic Club. Last but not least, the people who attended.

The luncheon is a Daytime Auxiliary Committee function, and we ask for your support in attending its various functions throughout the year.





The Day We Celebrate

The President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, Mr Peter Christian, in the toast 'The Day We Celebrate' said: Your Excellency, Mrs Samuels, fellow First Fleeters, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We come together this day to celebrate an event which occurred some two hundred and eleven years ago – an event which laid the foundations of our nation.

We are told that today Australia has become home to people from many cultures, resulting in a rich and diverse nation. In 1788 the first European settlers were certainly diverse but far from rich. For many, those riches were to come to them later – in the meantime it was a new life in a new land.

Arthur Bowes-Smyth, surgeon on the First Fleet, noted in his diary 'that on the 27 January 1788 every man from the Scarborough stepped from the boat literally into a wood. Parties of people were employed, some in clearing ground others pitching tents or bringing up stores and the spot which had so lately been the abode of silence and tranquillity was now changed to that of noise, clamour and confusion.'

Well that was Circular Quay two hundred and eleven years ago.

In a speech on Australia Day 1974 the then

Governor-General Sir Paul Hasluck had this to say to the Australian people: 'The relics of the past tell us much more than the quaint habits of other days – they remind us of truly great Australian qualities – endurance, hard work, faith, the spirit of give it a go, kindness and courage.' Sir Paul in his words exemplify the hopes and aspirations of a majority of those who planted the raw seed of our nation.

Dr Craig Smee in his book *First Fleet Families of Australia* noted that 'whatever the circumstances of their arrival the First Fleeters planted a seed of the native born who soon acquired a character which is both different in nature from their origins and similar to each other in their new adopted land. Characteristics such as self-reliance, initiative and a sense of fair play.'

Those of us who have delved deep into the very roots of our family trees only discovered too well the struggles and hardships our early settlers bore. To most it was their salvation to have been able to own land – to be gainfully employed and to rear children in the fear and nurture of the Lord and now we their descendants honour their memory today.

Would you please stand and join with me in this toast – 'The day we celebrate.'

MAILBOX

First Fleeter Benjamin Cusley, marine private, and Phoebe Penlaric who arrived on Mary Ann 1791 as a convict. Their two children were Ann and Maria. Anyone who would like to correspond please write to:

Rachel Hargrave, 72 Wardell Drive, South Penrith NSW 2750, phone (02) 4736 2614.

First Fleeter William Broughton. In a recent edition of the SMH RSVP, Lucy Jessop, Christ College, Cambridge, England CB2 3BU, asked if any of the descendants of the following people could help her in her research.

Alick Osborne lived in Kangaroo Valley. His youngest daughter Millicent married Gilbert Jessop, English batsman famous in Oval test 1902. Fred Osborne, Cabinet Minister in the Menzies Government, and Howard Barron, painter.

GLEBE CEMETERY, EAST MAITLAND

We have been informed that this cemetery, formerly known as St Peter's Old Burial Ground, is to get a facelift.

The descendants of First Fleeter Joseph Trimby maintain that he is buried there with a number of his family. The descendants of First Fleeter Joshua Peck think that he may be buried there, also, with members of his family.

The Fellowship is seeking information of the names of other First Fleeters who may be buried in or nearby this cemetery.

Your cooperation in ascertaining the accuracy of names of other First Fleeters who may claim to be buried in the area would be appreciated.

THE GREEN HILLS BURIAL GROUNDS

As stated in the November/December issue of the Newsletter, the Fellowship of First Fleeters has accepted an invitation from the Hawkesbury Historical Society to install a commemorative plaque on its plinth at the Green Hills Burial Grounds, Windsor, on Sunday, 7 March 1999. Starting time 3.00pm.

The service will be receiving publicity in the

local press and the local members for both the Federal and State Parliaments have been invited to attend and participate. The Australian Colonial Marine Enactment Group is again lending colour to the presentation.

The area is located on land fronting South Creek, to the south-west of the Jolly Frog hotel in Bridge Street, Windsor. The grounds can be seen as you travel north along Windsor Road and as you cross Fitzroy Bridge before turning into Macquarie Street at the lights.

Mollie Gillen in her book *Founders of Australia* identifies at least thirty-six First Fleeters buried in the Windsor area and as this site is the first known cemetery in the area many of them may be buried there.

The Hawkesbury City Council is establishing a path through the grounds along South Creek, under Fitzroy Bridge, past Tebbutts Observatory to Thompson's Square.

This will be the twenty-first commemorative plaque which has been dedicated to the memory of First Fleeters buried nearby, without any known tombstone and/or identification monument.

It is hoped that members who can make themselves available on that day roll up to join the many members of the Windsor Historical Society and residents of the area who will be in attendance.

DOUGLAS OAKES

Convenor, Plaques Committee

from the chapters

Hunter Valley Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters

Last October the Hunter Valley Chapter of First Fleeters held their Annual General Meeting. The following office bearers were elected:

President: Mr Ray Meredith
Minute Secretar: Mrs Pat Sheriff
Treasurer: Mrs Dorothy Johns
Publicity Officer: Mrs June Mackie

Meetings of the Chapter are held at the Joy Cummings Centre, Scott Street, Newcastle, at 1.30pm on the third Saturday of each month.

The first meeting for 1999 will be a business meeting at 1.30 p on 21 February.

Every alternate month our meetings are social gatherings so our program will be:

February, April, June, August, October – business meetings.
March, May, July, September and November – social meetings.

After each meeting afternoon tea – tea or coffee – is provided by the members. This makes for an informal get-together each month.

The meetings are publicised locally in the two local free newspapers during the week prior to the meetings.

North Coast Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters

MEETING DATES AND VENUES FOR 1999

7 FEBRUARY

Place: Lorraine and David Woods, "Yargan" 120-122 Shephards Lane, Coffs Harbour. Phone (02) 6652 6646

11 Apr 1999 Place: Deanna and Phillip Shaw, 39 Beach Pde, Mylestom. Phone (02) 6655 4046

6 JUNE

Place: Mona and Jack Keough, 49 Rosedale Drive, Urunga. Phone (02) 6655 3166



1 AUGUST

Place: Ron and Pal Benjamin, Mackays Rd, Coffs Harbour. Phone (02) 6652 7283. Turn right into Mackays Rd from Bray St (Baringa Hospital) and keep following Mackays Rd over the railway line and veer slightly right and then left and you will see a milk can with 'Mackays Private Rd'. Follow this road to the end. Do not take any right or left forks. (There will be small Australian flags to guide you.)

10 OCTOBER

Place: Rod and Ruth Holmes, 291 Mountain Top Rd, Dorrigo. Phone (02) 6657 2765. Turn left into Mountain Top Rd, at the top of the mountain at the Lookout Motor Inn. Follow the signs to Griffiths Mountain Lookout (3.3kms) and when you reach the Lookout turn left into 291 and go past the first house on the left and follow the driveway.

5 DECEMBER

Place: Ivan and Anne Smidt, 4 Weenmala Drive, Waterview Heights. Phone (02) 6644 9436

All Meetings start at 11.30am

If you require transport to any venue please contact Secretary, Robyn Condliffe, Phone (02) 6653 3615.

Northern Rivers Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

The Northern Rivers Chapter held its Annual General Meeting on Australia Day, 26 January 1999. A record fifty-three persons were in attendance. In his annual report to the Chapter, President Rod Davis paid tribute to the efforts of those involved in a mid-year publicity campaign which saw twenty-nine persons either join or express an interest in joining the Chapter. Those who have joined are being encouraged to also join the Fellowship if they are not members already.

Rod also mentioned the obvious success of the recently (1997) formed North Coast Chapter and said that he could see this Chapter progressing from strength to strength.

In conjunction with the Annual General Meeting, the election of officers for 1999 were conducted. Those elected were:

President: Rod Davis
Vice President: Lionel Phelps
Secretary: Narissa Phelps
Treasurer: Vilmai McDonald
Publicity Officer: David Litchfield
Archivist: Allen Findlay
Auditor: Geoff Morton
Patron: Syd Ballard

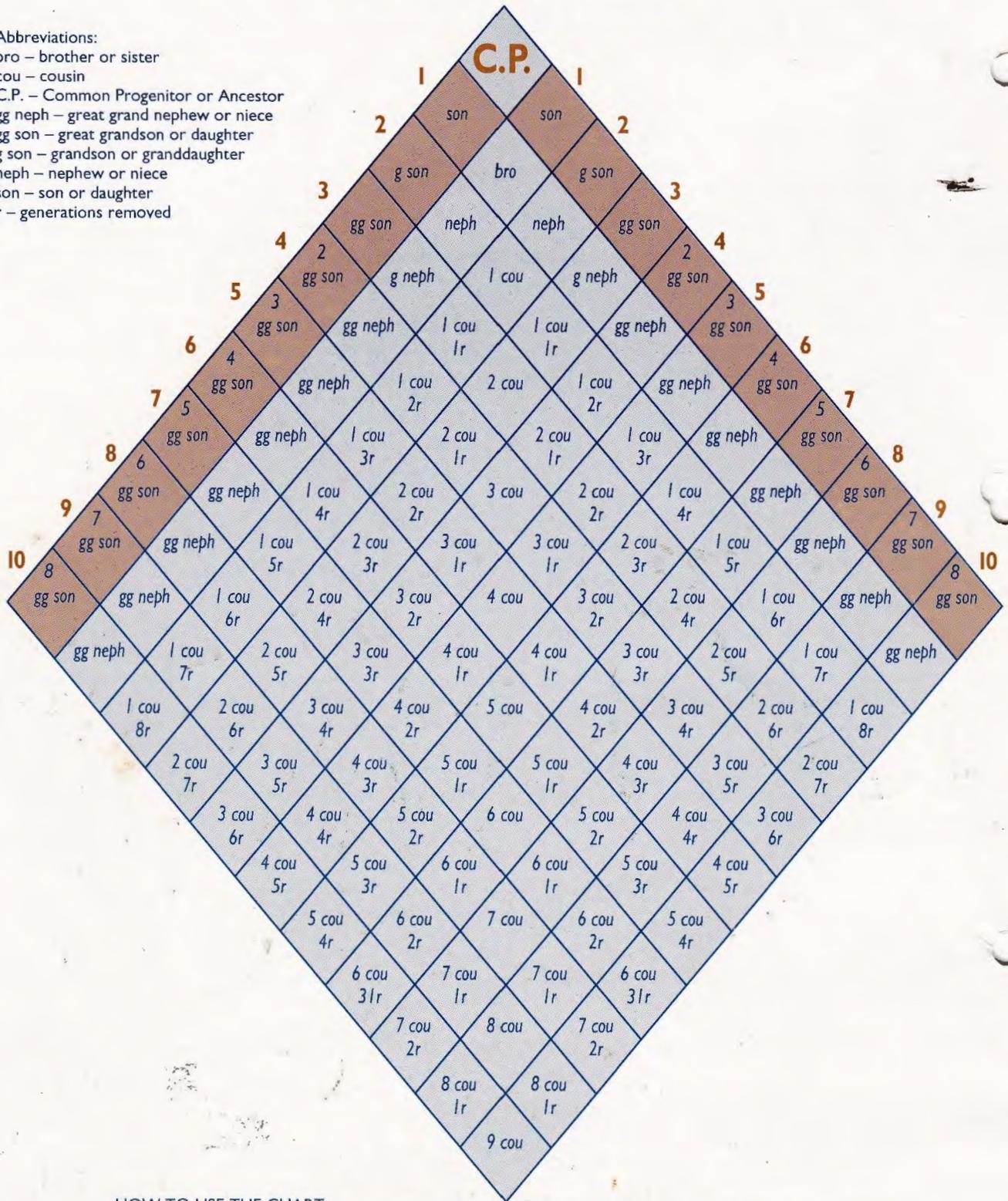
Except for the month of January when the meeting of the Chapter is always held on Australia Day other meetings throughout 1999 will be held on the third Sunday of the months of March, May, July, September and November. Details of these and the venue can be obtained by phoning President Rod Davis on (02) 6680 2768 or Secretary Narissa Phelps on (02) 6628 0192.

Left: Group of North Coast Chapter, Fellowship of First Fleeters

Relationship Chart

Abbreviations:

- bro – brother or sister
- cou – cousin
- C.P. – Common Progenitor or Ancestor
- gg neph – great grand nephew or niece
- gg son – great grandson or daughter
- g son – grandson or granddaughter
- neph – nephew or niece
- son – son or daughter
- r – generations removed



HOW TO USE THE CHART:

1. Locate the position of the Family Representative or yourself in the shaded column on the left marked 1-10.
 2. Locate the position of the person you are figuring the relationship for by finding his/her direct descent from the Common Progenitor (C.P.) in the shaded column on the right marked 1-10.
- Your relationship to the other person will be found where these two lines cross.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the article authors and correspondents and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, nor the views of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to omit any material considered unsuitable for publication. Space limitations may result in some material being held over to another issue. **RON MAGUIRE, Hon. Editor**

OFFICE ADDRESS: First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral Street Woolloomooloo NSW 2011 **PHONE:** (02) 9360 3788, 9360 3988