

Founders



NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

'To live on in the hearts and minds of Descendants is never to die!'

PATRON: Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, Governor of New South Wales

President's report

This issue contains the subs form for the coming year. If you joined after March 2003 you are financial, and if, by chance, you have paid in advance you are also financial.

We rely on our membership to keep First Fleet House afloat and the Executive has exciting plans for the coming 12 months, including the seminar over Australia Day weekend and a First Fleet Kit for primary school students. It is so vital to get the message across re our distinct heritage and the ever present need to emphasise the importance of European settlement of our nation whilst at the same time ensuring that the process of Reconciliation with the descendants of the original inhabitants of our land reaches an agreement acceptable to all in the community.

It was recently brought to our notice that member Freda Gray of Tasmania received an

AM at the Australia Day honours List. Freda has been active for a number of years in connection with the First Settlers Group of Van Diemens Land and

was of great help in 1988 with the Fellowships Plaque Ceremonies in Tasmania. Belated congratulations Freda.

Congratulations to our 7000th member, a very junior Master Trent James Leon Buchanan, FF Frederick Meredith.

We are indebted to member Len Chalmers, FF William Tunks, for the donation of a bookcase and books for the library. For many years in the 1980s Len was an Executive member and a keen volunteer with the Membership Committee. Thank you Len and son Richard.

We were saddened to learn of the passing recently of Doug Huxley, FF Ann Forbes. Doug, with the help of a band of descendants, including FF helpers June Bigham, Dot Johnson, the late Keith Selby and present Executive member Bruce

Arnett, produced a magnificent family history of Ann Forbes *Transported to Paradise*, together with two later supplements. I was privileged to launch this book in 1991 and in its some 780 pages it contains many thousands of descendants names.

Doug spent his working life as an educator and administrator at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. He resided in the Newcastle area.

Our sympathy goes to his family.

To live on in the Hearts and Minds of Descendants is never to Die

I was able to share Fellowship with Pamela Hempel at the South Coast Chapter early in June. Two years ago this Chapter started off with about five members and now has reached 47 members. A sterling effort is being accomplished

by Jean Mortimer and her dedicated committee.

The past two months I have had a number of speaking engagements, including Woy Woy Probus Club where Kevin Phelps, FF William Roberts, is President.

More information re our Australia Day weekend is in this issue. This event could develop into an exciting chapter in the history of the Fellowship.

Founders would appreciate receiving information of members being honoured with receipt of Queens Birthday or Centenary Federation Medal awards.

The next President's Welcome will be held after our Annual General Meeting in November next. Details in a later issue of *Founders*.

Please remember to send off those subs forms!!

In Fellowship
PETER

'... THE EXECUTIVE HAS
EXCITING PLANS FOR THE
COMING 12 MONTHS ...'

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News of Members

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

FOR PERIOD 23 FEBRUARY 2003 TO 24 MAY 2003.

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period; 12 adults, five juniors and five spouse associates.

WILLIAM BOGGIS: Mr John Cameron Minnett.

ROBERT FORRESTER: Mrs Julie Anne Webb.

JOHN HERBERT - DEBORAH ELLEM: Mrs Julie Bates.

FREDERICK MEREDITH: Mrs Samantha Buchanan, Miss Laura Dawn Buchanan (jun.), Miss Sophie Ann Buchanan (jun.), Mr Trent James Leon Buchanan (jun.).

WILLIAM NASH - MARIA HAYNES: Mrs Jill Ciapponi.

SAMUEL PIGOTT: Mrs Penelope Jane Ferguson.

JOHN ROBERTS: Mrs Terri Helen Williams (sp Mr Ian Anthony Williams), Mr Luke Anthony Williams, Mr Kyle Mathew Williams (jun.), Miss Codi Dyane Williams (jun.).

THOMAS WILLIAMS: Mrs Jane Ann Tainsh (sp Mr John McArthur Tainsh),

Mrs Jennifer Jane Brodie (sp Mr Mark Brodie), Mr Angus John Tainsh (sp Mrs Nicole Louise Tainsh), Mr Donald Keith Tainsh (sp Mrs Kathryn Lee Tainsh).

BIRTHS

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

LAWSON ROLAND DALTON BARTLETT (FF John Gowan), 4 November 2002. A brother to Cooper.

JACOB DARCY TUCKFIELD BRAIN (FF Thomas Spencer and Mary Phillips), 22 April 2003. Son to Katrina and Stephen Brain, a brother for Patrick James Tuckfield Brain, and second grandson of Patricia Tuckfield and of the late Edward James Tuckfield (#3249). Eighth generation.

KATRINA MARY DORIZZI born 9 May 2003, sister to Bridget Amelia Dorizzi, **CHLOE ANNE McCORMACK** born 2 April 2003, sister to Connor William McCormack, granddaughters to Wendy McCormack (#6371) (FF John Anderson and Elizabeth Bruce)

ALICE JEAN COLLYER (FF Hugh Hughes), born at Ryde Hospital, 18 May 2003. A daughter to Belinda and Richard, a sister to Hugh and second granddaughter to Valerie (#1829) and

Peter Collyer. Seventh generation Australian.

JACOB ANGUS GLENN (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer), born 10 November 2002, at Southport, Queensland. Son to Angus and Kaylene, eighth grandchild to Brian Heldon and twenty-fifth great-grandchild to Dorothy Heldon (#2982). Ninth generation.

HENRY GEOFFREY KABLE (FF Henry Kable Susannah Holmes), born 17 March 2003, first child of Edwina and Mark Kable of Forth, Tasmania, and seventh grandchild for Margaret Kable and the late Geoffrey Kable (#494), of Richmond NSW.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

WILLIAM CLARENCE WRIGHT (#4341), passed away 2 May 2003. Aged 85. Descendant of First Fleeter Joseph Wright.

RICHARD KABLE (#770), passed away 10 March 2002 (suddenly), son of John Kable (#769). Descendant of First Fleeters Henry Kable and Susannah Holmes.



Volunteers Wanted

Your Fellowship requires help from volunteers for the day-to-day running of First Fleet House. No special skills are necessary for this important role and if you are able to give one day per

week or even one day per month please contact Elaine Bennett or Pam Quick by phone on any Wednesday at First Fleet House 9360 3788 between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Family Associations

Recently records were updated at First Fleet House in regard to the various Family Associations and Societies. Information was sent out to the Associations, but some mail was returned as we had incorrect addresses. We would like to make contact with the person overseeing any of the following Associations:

William Broughton
Henry Kable
Elizabeth Haywood
James Walbourne/Sophia Lewis

Also, if there is a Family Association who recently did not receive information in relation to the event planned for Australia Day Weekend 2004, could you please contact Pamela Hempel in writing at the address shown on the opposite page.

**Closing date for
copy and pictures
July/August
July 30 2003**

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

Australia Day 2004 WEEKEND

The Fellowship of First Fleeters will celebrate Australia Day with a number of functions taking place over the Saturday and Sunday of the holiday weekend at Panthers at Penrith NSW. All members of the Fellowship throughout Australia are invited to attend. On-site accommodation will be available at Panthers as detailed on the accompanying booking form.

Saturday 24 January 2004

CONFERENCE

An all day Conference will be held commencing at 9.00am with key speakers during both morning and afternoon sessions. The cost of the Conference includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Family associations, societies and trade groups have been invited to set up displays for you to meander through during breaks.

WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

These will be run during the day whilst the Conference sessions are on and will be a fun time for all children attending. Bookings are essential. Children will be grouped according to age.

CELEBRATION DINNER

This will commence at 6.30pm. Round tables for ten people will be arranged so descendants of each family, both adults and children, can join one another. Special meals will be available for children.

The finale to the evening will be the Grand Draw of our annual raffle – keep posted for prize details.

Sunday 25 January 2004

PICNIC DAY

This will be held as a Picnic Day in a special cordoned off grass area at Panthers. This event is to allow families to get together not only with their own descendants but also with families from other First Fleet descendants. BYO picnic lunch or light refreshments – tea, coffee and sandwiches – will be available for purchase. Those who wish to attend a church service prior to the Picnic or visit one of the cemeteries nearby where First Fleeters lie may do so. You should note your intentions when booking.

BOOKING DETAILS

EARLY BIRDS COULD WIN A GREAT ACCOMMODATION PRIZE

As numbers for the Conference and Celebration Dinner will be limited bookings will be on a first in first served basis. All bookings close on Monday 15 December, 2003 but you are advised to book early to avoid disappointment. Those who book to attend the Conference and Celebration Dinner and pay in full prior to 31 October, 2003 will automatically be placed in the draw to win a great accommodation package for two people. This comprises free deluxe mountain view accommodation for two people, plus breakfast in a restaurant with wonderful views of the Blue Mountains – what more could one dream of?

Your booking forms for the Conference, Celebration Dinner and Picnic on Saturday and Sunday are enclosed with this issue of Founders. Please return your completed forms with cheque/money order, made payable to Fellowship of First Fleeters, to:

Pamela Hempel
'Edenmore'
1 Millstream Road
Werrington Downs NSW 2747

Event bookings close on Monday 15 December, 2003. Vouchers will be mailed to you on 2 January, 2004. REMEMBER to be in the draw to win the great accommodation prize, bookings with payment must be received prior to Friday 31 October, 2003.

It is hoped that the Australia Day weekend planned for 2004 will become an annual event. It is that special time of the year when we should all feel proud to be descendants of First Fleeters and celebrate.

*'To live on in the hearts and minds of Descendants
is never to die'*

SHIPS of the First Fleet

ALEXANDER

CAPTAIN: Duncan Sinclair. Tonnage 452. Built 1783 at Hull.

The largest of transports carrying male convicts and had a crew of about 40. Alexander left the Colony with Friendship on 14 July 1788 and arrived in England on 3 June 1789. It has been said she was the unhealthiest of the ships of the Fleet owing to an outbreak of 'ship fever' [typhoid?] whilst on route to the Colony.

BORROWDALE

CAPTAIN: Hobson Reed. Tonnage 272. Built 1785 Sunderland.

Was one of the three storeships of the Fleet and carried 20 to 30 crew, nine only being identified. She left the Colony 14 July 1788 via Cape Horn. Five of her crew perished on the homeward journey.

CHARLOTTE

CAPTAIN: Thomas Gilbert. Tonnage 345. Built about November 1786 Deptford Yard, Thames River.

Crew numbered about 30. She was a poor sailer and it is reported that she was towed down the English Channel by the naval escort Hyaena on leaving Portsmouth. Carried about 110 convicts, male and female, together with about 45 marines. Charlotte left the Colony 6 May 1788 heading to China under the charter of the East India Company. She returned to England 28 November 1789 and became the property of merchant company on the London - Jamaica run. She sank off Newfoundland in 1818.

FISHBURN

CAPTAIN: Robert Brown. Tonnage 378. Built 1780 Whitby.

Carried about 30 crew and left the Colony with Golden Grove 19 November 1788 via Cape Horn. On 25 May she was discharged from His Majesty's service.

FRIENDSHIP

CAPTAIN: Francis Walton. Tonnage 278. Built 178 Scarborough.

She was the smallest of the transports and carried a crew of about 20. Not aptly named according to reports, as she was a troublesome ship as far as crew, convicts and marines were concerned. Evidently troublemakers from other transports were transferred to Friendship to add to brawls between marines and seamen. A number of 'ladies of quality' broke through the bulkhead to the sailors' quarters much to the disgust of Lieut. Ralph Clarke who treated all female convicts with contempt.

Friendship left the Colony with Alexander 14 July 1788 and off the coast of Borneo both ships' companies, being riddled with scurvy, she was scuttled on the order of Lieut. John Shortland and her crew transferred to the depleted crew of Alexander.

GOLDEN GROVE

CAPTAIN: William Sharp. Tonnage 331. Built 178 Whitby.

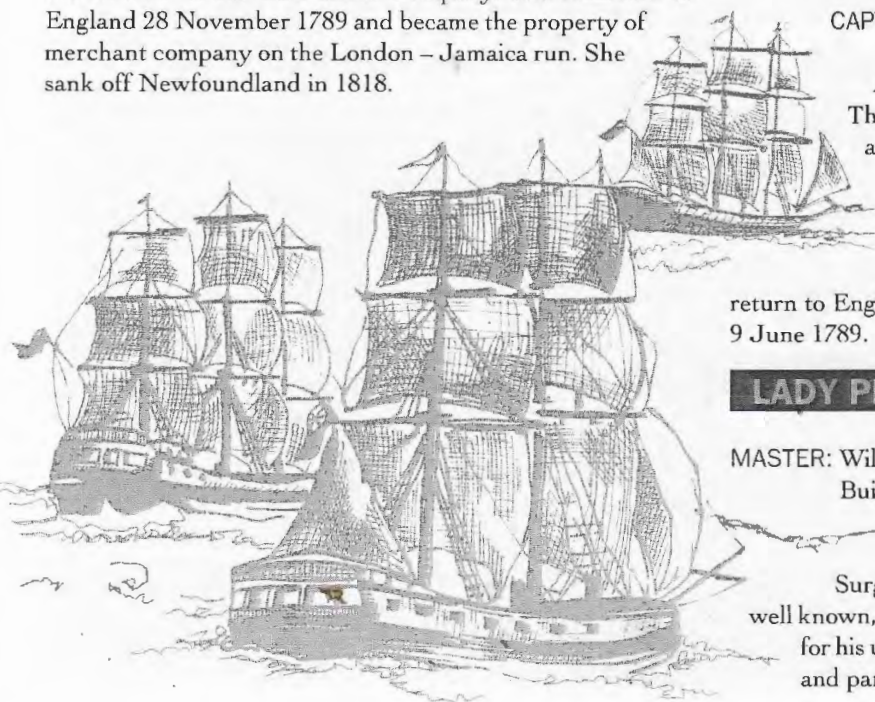
A storeship carrying a crew of possibly 20 men. The Chaplain Richard Johnson, his wife, Mary, and servant Samuel Barnes were carried on this ship. In October 1788 she transported some 30 male and female convicts to Norfolk Island. Golden Grove left the Colony 19 November 1788 in company with Fishburn to return to England via Cape Horn. She arrived at Deptford 9 June 1789.

LADY PENRHYN

MASTER: William Cropton Sever [co-owner]. Tonnage 338. Built 1786 Thames.

Crew numbered about 33. Carried some 102 female convicts and about six marines.

Surgeon Bowes-Smyth sailed on this ship and is well known, not only for his diaries handed down to us, but for his utter carelessness in the matter of birth dates, sex and parentage of children born during the voyage.



It is also interesting to note that whilst anchored in Table Bay at Capetown, one convict, Phebe Norton by name, went to the toilet which was suspended over the ship's side and duly fell in! She was eagerly rescued by a couple of sailors, none the worse for wear and, judging by her behaviour during the voyage, not in the least embarrassed by this episode.

On leaving the Colony under charter from the East India Company, Lady Penrhyn sailed to China for a cargo of tea and returned to England in August 1789.

PRINCE OF WALES

CAPTAIN: John Mason. Tonnage 333. Built 1786 Deptford, Thames River.

Carried about 35 crew. Took on about 30 female convicts and 30 marines. She left the Colony about August 1788 and arrived in London 30 April 1789. Her captain died on the homeward voyage and the crew suffered heavily from scurvy.

SCARBOROUGH

MASTER: John Marshall. Tonnage 418. Built 1782 Scarborough.

The second largest of the transports. An all male ship she carried a crew of up to 35 together with some 208 male convicts and about 35 marines. She was the only ship from the First Fleet to make a return voyage with the second fleet under the command of the same master.

CAPTAIN: Arthur Phillip. Master: James Keltie. Tonnage 512.

Was formerly to be commissioned as one of two naval vessels to escort the First Fleet to its destination, an armed storeship named HMS Berwick. Having been converted for the approximate sum of 7,000 pounds. Other than naval personnel and marines she carried a crew of some 140.

As a heavy laden ship she sailed poorly. Livestock was included in the ship's indent in addition to a launch and three

cutters, and the 'piece de resistance' was a piano belonging to Surgeon George Worgan.

In October 1788 we are informed Sirius sailed to Capetown via Cape Horn for supplies for the starving Colony. This voyage took seven months, returning to the Colony again by way of Cape Horn.

On 19 March 1790 Sirius was wrecked at Sydney Bay, Norfolk Island, adding to the problems of not only the settlement on Norfolk but also to those in New South Wales. Luckily most of the stores were off-loaded in addition to the passengers and crew who numbered well over 200.

The ship completely disappeared from the reef after nearly a year.

HMS SUPPLY

CAPTAIN: Lieut. Henry Lidgbird Ball. Tonnage 175. Built 1759 Deptford, Thames River.

Converted into an armed trader, she carried a crew of about 41, six of them deserting the ship at various ports en route. The smallest of all ships of the Fleet she was a fast sailer being the first to enter Botany Bay. Phillip transferred his pennant to Supply in January 1788 and sailed into Port Jackson ordering Captain Hunter to take charge of Sirius in leading the rest of the Fleet to Sydney Cove.

After the wreck of Sirius, Supply was the only contact the new settlement had with the outside world. She made the trip from Sydney to Norfolk Island on ten occasions. On 17 April 1790 she sailed to Batavia for much needed supplies and finally left for England 26 November 1791 and anchored in Plymouth 21 April 1792.

Supply was sold at auction in 1792 for 500 pounds and spent the rest of her days carrying coal in the Thames area until 1806.

PREPARED BY PETER CHRISTIAN

SOURCES: *The Founders of Australia* Mollie Gillen.

The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay.

The Historical Records of New South Wales Vol.1.





private tour of **Camden Park**

Sunshine after a rainy day was enjoyed by about 60 people to this private tour of Camden Park. The magnificent house was built by John and Elizabeth Macarthur and finished in 1835. John died in 1834 so he did not see the final touches to the house. Elizabeth preferred to stay at Elizabeth Farm House in Parramatta. The first occupants were their sons James and William. Today it is occupied by John and Edwina Macarthur-Stanham and their three children. Camden Park is Australia's oldest private residence occupied by descendants of its founders.

John took the first group into the house while Edwina took us around the back to a large marquee where their children served coffee, tea, cake and biscuits. While in the back garden we were shown the oldest surviving camellia tree in Australia.

Edwina then started our tour through the house. The house consists of a two storeyed block with symmetrical

pavilions extending to the left with an enclosed courtyard separating the front pavilion from the rear pavilion. They were both originally one storey but the front pavilion was increased to two storeys much later.

The library holds over 2000 volumes, and a book passage contains the overflow from the library and is lit by indirect natural light from a clerestory window. There is much to see in the house and garden, which is the largest 19th century garden in New South Wales. I can only cover a fraction of this tour but it is a 'must see' for all Australian History enthusiasts. Members sat under the large marquee and enjoyed their picnic lunches and fellowship.

Our thanks must go to Pam Quick and her team for arranging these outings.

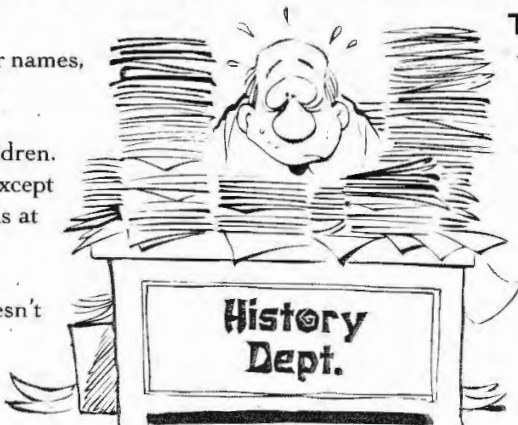
JEAN MORTIMER

GENEALOGIST'S DISEASE

Warning: Genealogy Pox (very contagious to adults)!

SYMPTOMS

- ◆ Continual complaint as to need for names, dates and places.
- ◆ Patient has a blank expression.
- ◆ Sometimes deaf to spouse and children.
- ◆ Has no taste for work of any kind except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses.
- ◆ Has compulsion to write letters.
- ◆ Swears at mailman when he doesn't leave mail.
- ◆ Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins and remote desolate country areas.
- ◆ Has strange, faraway look in eyes. No known cure.



TREATMENT

- ◆ Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, but gets progressively worse.
- ◆ Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

what's *on*

NASH FAMILY REUNION

The reunion of the Nash Family will take place at the
Wren Ground, Murrumbidgee

Entrance is off Knox Road, Doonside

19 JULY 2003 at 12.00noon

(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

(Mrs) Lydia Hope (02) 9831 2279



SNOWY MOUNTAINS 'TOUR ONE'

MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER –

SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

This fantastic package includes hearty breakfasts, morning teas, lunches and three-course dinners, including wine, in the elegant 'Top of the Town' restaurant. Live music Wednesday night as entertainment. Daily coach tours – you will ride the Ski Tube to Blue Cow Mountain, viewing the highest peaks in Australia, visit Cabramurra, Thredbo Alpine Village, Mt Kosciusko, Bega Valley, cheese factory, The Big Trout at Adaminaby, Happy Valley, and lots more.

PRICE: a comfortable \$510.00pp. \$50.00 deposit – refundable if unable to go.

(Limited singles available)

Please send deposit and name as soon as possible.

Headquarters for the tour will be High Country Motel, built in the typical alpine-style found throughout the area. All the units are comfortable and have central heating. The large, open lounge area overlooks the pool and the adjacent hillside and guests can enjoy, in comfort, the lovely log fire and the beautiful view.

Note: Unless 40 people book we will catch the XPT to Canberra and get picked up at the station.

SOUP AND DAMPER DAY

WEDNESDAY, 30 JULY 2003 12.00noon

First Fleet House

Guest Speaker

Cost \$5.00

PLACES LIMITED TO 40

Book early on 9360 3788



BIOGRAPHY

ELEANOR FRAZER (REDCHESTER)

Eleanor was sentenced to seven years transportation with her husband William at Manchester for theft in January 1787. William arrived on Charlotte, whilst Eleanor originally embarked on Prince of Wales, in the census it is recorded that she arrived on Charlotte. It is possible that she was the one female convict transferred whilst the Fleet was at Rio on 13 August 1787.

William appears on the victualling lists as a blacksmith and appeared to be in trouble from the start. In 1789 he was sentenced to work for a month in irons. He died in 1791 quite possibly from alcoholic poisoning!!

Eleanor in the meantime, having given birth to two sons John 1789 and Daniel 1791, received a grant of 20 acres at Concord in 1794 soon followed by a further grant in 1795. She appeared diligent in the management of her land and was assigned up to six convicts as help.

At Concord she formed a relationship with Second Fleeter William Morgan, a former New South Wales Corps soldier. They eventually had five children born of this union. Although living together their farms were kept separate, indeed, it is recorded that in November 1798 she sued Morgan for the wrongful detention of a number of her pigs!

Permanently separating by 1814 she was described as

single and living near Sydney. In 1822 Eleanor was living at Concord with her eldest son John Frazer and one of her labourers on a conditional pardon, Thomas Humphries according to the 1828 Census became another man in her life. Quite some lady!

She died at Concord on 18 November aged 76 and was buried at Saint Luke's Liverpool. She is buried with her son, John, and the *Australian* newspaper carried the following obituary November 1840.

'At her residence at Concord, on Wednesday the 18th instant Mrs Eleanor Frazer, aged 83[sic] years. Mrs Frazer was a First Fleeter having arrived at the formation of the Colony. Her intellect was unimpaired and she had a perfect recollection of the *First Deeds* in New South Wales.

Her remains were interred with those of her eldest son, John, who was the second person born in the Colony, in Liverpool Churchyard to which place[sic] the corpse was followed by a long train of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.'

Eleanor was one of many of the success stories from the First Fleet. She was certainly one of the more independent women who arrived in the Colony.

The above was taken from our FF publication *Where First Fleeters Lie* written by members Joyce Cowell and Rod Best.

book reviews

Tracing Your Family History in Australia

A National Guide to Sources. 3rd Edition
By Nick Vine Hall.

This definitive source by a well-known genealogist, 884 pages in length, takes the would-be family historian on an up-to-date detail of relevant resources featuring Internet and CD-Rom material available to the researcher. The range is enormous especially considering the fact that this is the third edition and 23 years of intense work.

Possibly the greatest accolade paid to an earlier edition of Nick's work comes from the National Library in Canberra, who told him 'We used to have six copies of your book, but they have all been stolen!!'.

We thank the author for the copy donated to the Fellowship.

The book is available by post from:

Ships Picture Research Services

PO Box 725

Mt Eliza Vic 3930

Price is \$75.00 incl post

Watkin Tench 1788

Editor: Tim Flannery

Published: 1966 Text Publishing, Melbourne

ISBN Number: ISBN 1 875847 27 8

Watkin Tench stepped ashore at Botany Bay with the First Fleet in January 1788. He was in his late twenties, a captain of the marines, and on the adventure of his life. Insatiably curious, with a natural genius for storytelling, Tench wrote two enthralling accounts of the infant colony – *A Narrative of the Expedition to Botany Bay* and *A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson*.

Tench brings to life the legendary figures of Bennelong, Arabanoo and Governor Phillip, and records the voices of convicts trying to make a new life in their new county.

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

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