

Founders

Newsletter of Fellowship of First Fleeters



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Days to Remember

FRIDAY 12 MAY
6pm - Reception at
Town Hall

SUNDAY 14 MAY
LUNCH at
East Sydney Hotel

President's Report

I sincerely hope you all had a Happy New Year. The Fellowship started off with a full booking for the Ferry Trip on Australia Day. Thanks to Pam Quick for her efforts. The Seminar and Dinner to celebrate our National Day went off extremely well and again thanks are due to Pamela Hempel for the organising of this weekend. Details of both occasions are in this issue.



November and December were quiet months insofar as my speaking engagements. I attended the Lord Mayor's Christmas Party at the Town Hall on the 30th November as a delegate from the Sydney/Portsmouth Sister City Committee.

I was introduced to Clover Moore, the Lord Mayor... rather non committal re First Fleeter but non committal all the same???

On the 14th December we held our Fellowship Christmas Party at First Fleet House. The organising Committee ensured that there was good food, good wine and good Fellowship. A number of us sat in the courtyard which had been transformed into a festive décor by the magnificent efforts of Leonie Dawes. To Pam Quick and Leonie and their team my personal thanks.

I only wish that members outside of Sydney could have joined us, even though it would have been slightly crowded!!!!



I had three speaking engagements in January... no rest for the wicked!! On the 11th January I spoke to the Oatley Probus Club... some 80 members gave me a well-received welcome. The next day I appeared at the Earlwood/Bardwell Park Probus Club at the local RSL Club. I was indeed in familiar territory. Joy and I had spent some 20 years in this area, long before I realized that we both had a distinct heritage of First Fleet forebears, and I was indeed pleased to renew acquaintances after so many years. There were at least three or four FF descendants in the audience. Hopefully they will join us!



So that was January... On the 25th, the day before our celebration, I am due to speak to a group at the Holy Spirit group at Croydon. It is incredible that in this day and age one can communicate to all Australians regardless of politics and creed.

Political Correctness has been in the news lately. The vociferous minority was at its full pitch re the subject of the Australian Flag being flown at Bondi. I really could not believe the excuses that were put forward. On top of this I heard Dawn Moss, from the Friends of First Government House, reporting on radio, that the powers that be refuse to erect a flagpole on the

Continued page 3

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period - 11 adults, three associate spouses, seven juniors.

WILLIAM BUTLER: Fiona Jean Patterson, James Andrew Patterson (jun.), Stuart Alexander Patterson (jun.), Graham Apsley McLeod, Kerry Glenda McLeod, Ian Graham Apsley McLeod, Matthew Ian Clarris McLeod (jun.).

ANDREW FISHBURN: Steven Tasman Hughes.

THOMAS O'BRIEN (new First Fleeter - Marine Private, ship unknown): Neill Garland, Therese Mary Garland (associate spouse), Beau Laurence Gillespie Garland (jun.), Gemma Mary Gillespie Garland (jun.).

HENRY PARSONS: Thomas Charles Hodgman, Jane Alice Hodgman, Emma Jane Hodgman, John Anthony Coorey (associate spouse), Nicholas John Hodgman, Angela Louise Hodgman (associate spouse), Samuel Nicolas Hodgman (jun.), Andrew Clark Hodgman.

EDWARD PUGH / HANNAH SMITH: Jack Roderick Stephen Munro (jun.).



News of Members

*Membership Report
for period December 2005 to January 2006*

Births

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

CALLUM JACKSON GLENN (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer) born 1 November, 2004 at Southport, Qld. Second son to Angus and Kaylene, tenth grandchild to Brian Heldon (#6850) and twenty-ninth great-grandchild to *Dorothy Heldon* (#2982). Ninth generation.

SAMUEL JAMES HELDON (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer) born 28 May, 2005 at Nambour, Qld. Second son to Ian and Charmaine, fourth grandchild to Ken (#2983) and Jan Heldon and thirtieth great-grandchild to *Dorothy Heldon* (#2982). Ninth generation.

SAXON JORDAN HELDON (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer) born 25 July, 2005 at Southport, Qld. Son to Shane and Lina, eleventh grandchild to Brian Heldon (#6850) and thirty-first great-grandchild to *Dorothy Heldon* (#2982). Ninth generation.

GABRIELLE ELIZABETH MACFARLANE (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer) born 21 November, 2005 at Benowa, Qld. Daughter to Darren and Kate, fifth grandchild to Kaye Macfarlane and thirty-second great-grandchild to *Dorothy Heldon* (#2982). Ninth generation.

LACHLAN JAMES MURRAY (FF John Cross-Mary Davidson Lady Juliana 1790) on 17 October 2005 at North Shore Private Hospital, a son to Craig Douglas and Kristen Jane (nee Hanington) Murray. A grandson to Leonard (#2437) and Lola Murray, and to Bill and Helen Hanington. Seventh generation.

MADISYN ROSE TREBLE (FF Edward Whitton). Born 5 December 2005 at Nepean Private Hospital, Penrith NSW. Daughter to Justin and Gabe Treble. Fifth grandchild to John (#7163) and Pat Boyd. Ninth generation.

KAELYN ELLISHA LILIAN DOLAN (FF Robert Forrester). Born 1 October 2005, daughter to Kathryn and Quinton, first grandchild for Julie (#544) and Barry Webb and great-grandchild for Daphne and Eric Wormald.

AUSTIN LLOYD LOWE (FF Peter Hibbs), born 5 December 2005 at Kareena Hospital, Caringbah. Third son for Leanne and Adrian Lowe, brother to Riley and Cooper, fifth grandson for Dorothy (#6192) and Bill Lowe, and a grandson for Heather and Kevin Dymock. Fifth great-nephew for Betty Warn (#6110). Ninth generation.

EMMA EMORI BOYD (FF Edward Whitton) Born 21st January 2006, Tokyo Japan. Second daughter for Shaun and Mitsuko Boyd, sixth grandchild to John (#7163) and Pat Boyd. Ninth generation.

MATTHEW JOHN NEALON (FF Henry Kable, Susannah Holmes and Joseph Tuzo) born 20 November 2005, brother to Bethany Lee, son to Michelle and Michael. A grandson for Sharon (#1318) and Bob Lamb, sixth great-grandchild to Norma Dawson (life member 727). Bethany and Matthew are ninth generation to our first fleeters.

Deaths

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of the following:

RON COHEN (#6479) died 30th November 2005, aged 94. Descended from First Fleeter William Hubbard.

FFF Office Bearers 2005-6

President CHRISTIAN Peter: JP, Ph.C
Vice-President BEST Roderick: BA, LL.M
ARNETT Bruce:
Mech Eng Cert; Electronics & Comms Cert.
Secretary HEMPEL William: BA MA
Treasurer MORRIS Roy: JP, AO, B Com
(Melb), FCIS, FCPA Brigadier (Ret'd)

Directors

ARNETT Bruce, Mech Eng Cert; Electronics & Comms Certificate.
BENNETT Elaine
BOYD John, JP.
GRIFFITHS George, JP, Web Master
HAXTON John, JP, Dip Chem Eng; Dip Corp Mgmt; Dip R.E Mgmt
MACUIRE Ronald, JP, Editor 'Founders'
MACUIRE Zona
MORTIMER Jean, Librarian
PALMER Ian
PANKHURST Joyce

Maintain-A-Brick Donations

The Fellowship thanks the undernamed for the generous donations made to its Maintain-a-Brick Fund. The names have been inscribed in the fund ledger.
C Cohen, J Eastment, AJ & GJ Huckstepp, D McLennan, AN Moen, SM Shields, J Tarlington, C Thompson, J Westmore.



President's Report from page 1

site of the Museum of Sydney... the excuse is that it is not relevant!!!! For goodness sakes what is NOT RELEVANT!!!

I delved into some of the actual reasons for this reluctance to raise the flag. It does appear that there are some fellow Australians reluctant to display national pride.

Why??

Thank God they are in a minority, noisy nonetheless. It seems to stem from some pseudo-intellectual Marxist dogma that national pride is definitely a no--no. We have been fighting this black armband train of thought for a number of years.

It is up to us, members of the Fellowship, to instill into our descendants the relevance of our distinct heritage. I feel sure that the majority of all Australians will get behind us.

Our forebears, reluctant that they may have been, laid the foundations of our Nation as we know it today.

Is not that a valid argument to pass on to each and every one of our descendants????

In conclusion I leave you with a quote from the poet Walter Scott...

*"Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said?
This is my own, my native land!"*

Advance Australia Fair!!!!
In Fellowship, Peter

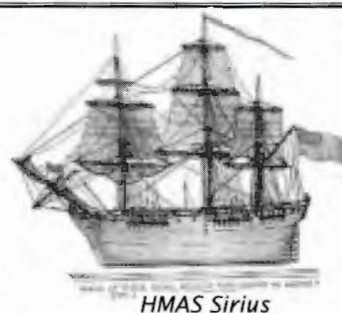
CELEBRATE THE
*Departure Of The First Fleet
From Portsmouth
On 13th May 1787*

FRIDAY 12 MAY 2006

6.00pm - 7.30pm Reception
at Lady Mayoress's Room, Sydney Town Hall
and

SUNDAY 14TH MAY 2006

Pre-lunch drinks at First Fleet House
then LUNCH at East Sydney Hotel



HMAS Sirius

Further details on
back page

MASTER INDEX TO SHIPS' PICTURES IN THE MITCHELL LIBRARY

This indexes the locations of 11,736 images of identified vessels held in eight different collections of the Mitchell Library section of the State Library of New South Wales.

Available from: Nick Vine Hall, PO Box 725 Mt Eliza, Victoria 3930
Price \$29.95 Postage included

(Appreciation to Nick for the Donation of a CD to the Fellowship - Peter)

HOLIDAY TO SCONE FOR 2006

Unfortunately we have to cancel our Scone Holiday as we cannot find a bus load of passengers, which is essential for it to go ahead.

Phyllis Selby

Toast made at Australia Day Conference

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE

It is with a tinge of sadness that I propose this toast, the final chapter of some 18 previous endeavours.

May I say at the outset that it was rather difficult over these years to give so many variations on a single theme, but the message stills comes across loud and clear.

Each year we gather together to celebrate an event, which, at the time, would defy any type of celebration.

Each and every member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters on the 26th January gives silent thanks to the trials and tribulations endured by his or her forebear, whether they may have been bonded or free.

We all know the story only too well.

Unfortunately there are others in our nation who try their utmost to denigrate European Settlement even after some 200 plus years, and it is a continuing exercise to confound their efforts.

Our forebears were the first European immigrants to come to this land, albeit reluctant, and at the lower level of human endeavour.

The majority of them were put to the test and not found wanting and we give them the honour that is due.

Please join me in this toast....

The Day We Celebrate
Advance Australia Fair

Peter Christian



Geoff Stuart, guest speaker and author of *Secrets in Stone*



Above: Ray Thorburn, Director of Kiama Family History Society

Left: Pamela Hempel and Peter Christian



Above: John Haxton and Peter Christian

EDEN REVISITED

A Family Connection



The road climb from the wharf

My family has had a long association with the town of Eden on the NSW south coast. My great-great-grandparents lived and worked in the district between the 1880s until old Grandma's death in 1950. They brought up a family of five there. They had triumphs - weddings, births, family celebrations and tragedies - fire, flood and hard times. Great-great-grandfather Samuel Maxwell would try anything to provide for the family. He was at times an innkeeper, a miner, a farmer and grazier.

Samuel died in 1908, aged 55. Great-great-grandma - Elizabeth Ann Maxwell (nee Smith) - is a great-granddaughter of Thomas Acres of the First Fleet. After her husband's death, Granny Maxwell remained in the district, for many years living in Bass Street. Granny must have been a tough old lady; my dear Aunt Margaret went to Eden to visit as a child and recalls how Granny was still riding her horse through town when she was well into her eighties. Her long life came to an end six months after her ninetieth birthday. The only offspring remaining in the area was Percival Maxwell. Great-uncle Perc died childless ten years after Granny in 1960. And so the family's permanent association with the district died out.



Customs House, Twofold Bay

In 1980, I made my first visit to Eden. I was about 12 years old. My Aunt Margaret showed me where the house in which Granny Maxwell lived, once stood. The only things left were three front steps. At the time the talk of the old lady, the house and Eden didn't mean very much to me.

Many years later I became interested in genealogy. I did some research and discovered my First Fleeter ancestor. Along with him I found a whole host of interesting and diverse people to whom I was related. Some I knew, although until my research I did not know we were related. Many years ago I worked with a very much respected man at a large insurance company to whom I am related. I had also made a very dear friend with a lady at our local club and we are also related. Such a small world.

Suddenly Eden and those who once lived there were much more interesting than when I was a child.

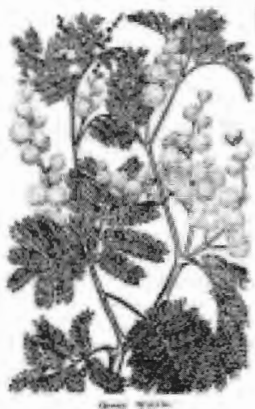


Over the past three years we (Aunt Margaret included) have made an annual visit to Eden. We found Granny's grave which was sadly unmarked. I was very pleased when my family contributed to raising an appropriate headstone to her memory. A new house has been built on the land in Bass Street where Granny once lived and a new church where Granny once worshipped. At Timbillica outside of Eden there is now Maxwell Road, named in honour of Samuel Maxwell and family, on the site of their selection.

Now when I revisit Eden and stand before Granny's grave or walk along the street on which she lived or see the road sign bearing the family name, in a small way I feel at home.

James Bruce (#7127)





From the Chapters

Chapters' Combined Exhibit at Australia Day Seminar

1788 saw the arrival of 11 small ships in Sydney Cove on board was a cargo of thieves, pickpockets and others of minor crimes. Rejected from their land of birth they were never to know of the prominent part they played in founding Australia's history.

In 1968 the Fellowship of First Fleeters was established in their honour for those who could show lineal proof from a person who arrived on the First Fleet. In 1988 the Fellowship became incorporated. Chapters in outer metropolitan areas were forming to enable members to meet and keep the First Fleet Heritage alive in their respective regions.

In 2006 the South Coast Chapter sponsored a display site at the Australia Day Conference/Dinner inviting all chapters to send information, photos etc, and bring forth the activities within the various communities outside Sydney.

Northern Rivers Chapter replied almost instantly with some Chapter History and photos of the Christmas meeting. Secretary Margaret Soward reported the members were looking forward to an Australia Day BBQ prior to the January 26 meeting. North West Chapter is very involved in community activities including a new First Fleet Education Program at the First Fleet Gardens Wallabadah.

David Newling is now at the helm of New England Chapter after Founding President Warren Luxford stepped down, although it appears that Warren is still newsletter editor. Hunter Valley Chapter extends a welcome to FFF members to join them in their bi-monthly luncheons. Over the years Canberra Chapter has held a range of interesting functions for the interests of members and the wider community.

Southern Highlands Chapter sent information of their establishment; meetings and First Fleeters identified by their members. Included were various photos, which made an interesting display.

Details for President, Secretary and the annual program were displayed for the North Coast Chapter.

Flanked by chapter posters was a Fellowship of First Fleeters scroll pictured Arthur Phillip 1788, the Fellowship establishment, corporation and the Aims of a Chapter.

The eight chapters put on an excellent display which soon became known as the "The Chapter Hall of Fame" and all extend an open invitation for FFF members to visit their functions when touring.

Raffle FFF Vice President Bruce Arnett drew the South Coast Chapter raffle.

1st Prize: Framed Embroidery of the 11 First Fleet Ships.

Won by Queensland Member, Barbara Moorcroft (FF Frederick Meredith)

2nd Prize: A night for 2 people in the Windsor Terrace Motel.

Won by Ray Thorburn Kiama Family History Centre.

3rd Prize: A night for 2 people in the Colonial Motel Richmond.

Won by John Haxton FFF Assistant Treasurer.

Thank you to all who participated.

In Fellowship, Jean Mortimer (FF William Tyrrell)

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CHAPTER

Our President, Patricia Robinson, pictured left, played her part in raising the profile of Australia Day in the Highlands.. Our local paper, 'The Southern Highlands News,' published an excellent interview with Patricia on 25th January, and on Australia Day, Patricia was one of the guest speakers at the official celebrations at Berrima. On both occasions Patricia addressed the issue of the inclusion of all Australians in the celebrations, while at the same time she gave an insight into her personal involvement in uncovering her own historical links with the First Fleet and the importance of that discovery to her.



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CHAPTER - NEW VENUE - NEW TIME

Berrima District Credit Union - 411 Bong Bong Street, Bowral.

Plenty of parking near the rear entry in Argyle Lane - enter from Banyette Street. [Disabled access]

Meeting Dates: Wednesdays from 12.30 to 2.30 pm. Please feel welcome to bring a sandwich if you haven't managed to have lunch. Tea -coffee and biscuits to be served at 12.30.

A meeting fee of \$3 collected at the door to cover expenses.

12th April - Guest Speaker Roxanne Seward - Bowral Library.

Valerie Collyer 4872 1238

HUNTER VALLEY CHAPTER

The Hunter Valley Chapter has a long interesting history of involvement with members who descend from the First Fleet arrival 1788.

Spouse Associate and persons interested in our cause are all welcome into our membership. Visitors and new members are very welcome to attend our luncheon gatherings.

Ray Meredith 4943 1246

NORTH COAST CHAPTER

Saturday 1st April *Invitation - First Fleet Memorial Gardens, Wallabadah NSW*

The New England Chapter extends an invitation to join their Chapter at the 'First Fleet Memorial Gardens, Wallabadah NSW'.

Sunday 9th April *'Show and Tell' day*. Once again due to popular demand please bring interesting article or photo of relevance to your family.

At Ron & Pal Benjamin's in Mackay's Road, Coffs Harbour NSW:-

Turn right into Mackay's Road from Bray Street (Baringa Hospital) follow the road over the railway line and veer slightly right and then left and you will see a milk van with 'Mackay's Private Road'. Follow the road to the end.

Do not take any right or left forks. There will be small Australian Flags to guide you.

Robyn M Condliffe 6653 3615

NORTHERN RIVERS CHAPTER

One of our founding members has been awarded an Australia Day OAM (Order of Australia Medal).

Allen Findlay (FF John Nichols) received his award for service to the community through aged care, educational service organisations.

Congratulations to Allen on his award.

Another member, *Cliff James* (FF John Nichols), received a Citizenship award from the Lismore Council for his work with the Royal Easter Show over many years.

Secretary Margaret Soward reports that the NRC members are very proud of their achievements.

Betty Harriman 6683 4493

SOUTH COAST CHAPTER

Tuesday 7th March 10am to 1pm. Trish Skehan: Trish will present an inspiring story of Charles Kingsford-Smith includes aviators Nancy Bird and Sir Ross Smith. Trish will bring along relevant film footage.

Tuesday 4th April 10am to 12noon. Warilla RSL President, Keith Clemmett will speak on a relevant ANZAC topic.

Tuesday 11th April Tour of Sydney Town Hall.

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

The following is a list of the new office-bearers:

Mr. David Newling, President, Telephone: (02) 6771 5099

Mrs. Robyn Crossle, Secretary, Telephone: (02) 6772 3140

Mr. Bob Lemcke, Treasurer, Telephone: (02) 6771 4622

Our address: 20 Dorothy Avenue, Armidale NSW 2350.

Please note - this address differs from information supplied in our own Newsletter, recently distributed to local members and other Chapters.

Next Meetings: Saturday, 1 April; Saturday, 1 July; Saturday, 30 September (those at last December's meeting will note a change from 14 October); Saturday, 2 December.

Robyn Crossle 6772 3140





TO LIVE ON IN THE
HEARTS AND MINDS OF
DESCENDANTS IS
NEVER TO DIE

*Closing Date
for
Next Issue:
March 27*

Chapters

ACT
Geoff Cameron
6251 4095

HUNTER VALLEY
Ray Meredith
4943 1246

NEW ENGLAND
David Newling
6771 5099

NORTH COAST
Colin Robertson
6654 1528

NORTHERN RIVERS
Betty Harriman
6683 4493

NORTH WEST
Aussie Pratt
6766 2130

SOUTH COAST
Jean Mortimer
4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS
Valerie Collyer
4872 1238

Fellowship of *the* First Fleeters

105 Cathedral St Woolloomooloo NSW 2011
Phone: (02) 9360 3788
Fax: (02) 9360 3988
Email: fffaus@ol.com.au
www.geocities.com/fellowship_of_first_fleeters

SPECIAL LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE THE *Departure Of The First Fleet* From Portsmouth On 13th May 1787

'On the 9th of May Captain Phillip arrived in Portsmouth, and the next day came on board and issued the signals and other necessary orders to Lieutenant John Shortland, the agent for transports, to be delivered to the masters of the different ships.

'On Sunday the 13th, we sailed from the Mother Bank in company with the Supply armed tender, six transports, having on board 600 male, and 200 female convicts, and three store-ships, carrying provisions and various other stores: on board the ships carrying convicts, were embarked 160 marines, with their proper officers.'

(Extracts from "An Historical Journal 1787-1792" Captain John Hunter, commander HMS Sirius)

SUNDAY 31 MAY 2006

12 noon -- PRE-LUNCH DRINKS AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE
1.00 pm -- 2-COURSE LUNCH WITH CHOICE OF THREE MAIN
COURSES, THREE DESSERTS AND TEA/COFFEE

at the historic EAST SYDNEY HOTEL
(just across Crown Street from First Fleet House)

\$30 per head - BOOKINGS NOW OPEN - Numbers Limited

Cheques payable to: Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo 2011

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

The Chairman - Richard J Tanner - and Committee Members of the
Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee
Invite you and your friends to a

*Celebration of the Sailing of the First Fleet
from Portsmouth on 13th May 1787*

RECEPTION

**SYDNEY TOWN HALL - LADY MAYORESS'S ROOM
FRIDAY 12 MAY 2006 - 6.00pm - 7.30pm**

*Mr Peter Christian will speak on the occasion of the leaving of
the First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13th May 1787*

Reception: 6.00pm - Concludes: 7.30pm.

Dress: Lounge suit Cost: \$25 each

RSVP Tuesday 9 May 2006

Inquiries: Committee Member Marilyn Jenner

Phone/Fax: (02) 9953 6641 email: mariner183@aol.com

Please send booking details and cheque payable to:
Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee
c/-M Jenner, PO Box 645 Milsons Point, NSW 1565

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