

Founders

Newsletter of Fellowship of First Fleeters



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Australia Day Luncheon



Speaking at the Australia Day Luncheon, Rod Best, The Governor, Professor Marie Bashir, and outgoing president, Peter Christian.

Our New President

The Beginning of an Era

Hello John, Farewell Peter



John Haxton, JP; Dip Chem Eng; Dip Corp Mgmt; Dip RE Mgmt

John was born at Longueville, attended Mowbray House Primary School (near Chatswood), then Sydney Grammar School. John is married to Beryl, they have three daughters, a son, and eight grandchildren.

He commenced working with CSR as junior chemist for four years, went to Baptist Theological College for two years, returned to CSR and served in North Queensland for ten years as shift chemist in sugar mills at Ingham.

On his return to Sydney, John was involved in internal audit and management accounting for a further ten years. He was Executive-Director of Presbyterian Social Service for five years, and finished up as Residential Property Manager of 'The Grange' retirement village at Waitara, where he served for eleven years before retirement.

John's background well suits him to the captaincy of President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters. Since 1999 he has been involved in family history at Wyong, joining Fellowship of First Fleeters in 2004, and the board in 2005.

His other interests have him involved with Wyong Bendigo Bank; Central Coast Barbershop Chorus; and Central Coast Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters. He is well able to supply his Family Tree background, featured on pages 3 and 4.





News of Members

*Membership Report
for period December-January 2007*



FFF Office Bearers 2006-7

President

HAXTON John, JP, Dip Chem Eng;
Dip Corp Mgmt; Dip R.E Mgmt

Vice-Presidents

BEST Roderick: BA, LLM
CHRISTIAN Peter OAM, JP, Ph.C

Secretary

HEMPEL William: BA MA

Treasurer

MORRIS Roy AO, JP, B Com
(Melb), FCIS, FCPA, Brigadier
(Ret'd)

Directors

ARNETT Bruce, Mech Eng
Certificate; Electronics & Comms
Certificate.

BENNETT Elaine, Membership
Convenor

BOYD John, JP, PR Officer

GRIFFITHS George, JP, IT
Manager

MAGUIRE Ronald, JP, Editor
'Founders'

MAGUIRE Zona

MORTIMER Jean, Librarian

PALMER Ian, FF House
Maintenance

PANKHURST Joyce

New Members

No new members were recorded as there was
no board meeting in December.

Births

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

JEMIMA IVY DOYLE (FF Henry Kable/Susannah
Holmes/Thomas Acres), born 11 July 2006.

Second daughter to Gregory and Fiona, sister to
Abbey and Rory, seventh grandchild to Kable
and the late Maureen Doyle, fifth grandchild to
Trevor and Jeanette McBeath, great-grand-
daughter to Edith McBeath and Mabel Pearce
(#3707). Eighth generation.

EVA HOPE JEAN MENDER (FF Thomas Acres),
born 14 August 2006. First child to Timothy and
Joanna, first grandchild to Neil and Susanne
Menger, fourth grandchild to Ben and Jean
Leeman, sixth great-grandchild to Mabel Pearce
(#3707). Eighth generation.

TORSTEN HENRY KABLE (FF Henry
Kable/Susannah Holmes), born 30 November
2006 at Manly. Son to Andrew and Debbie Kable,
grandson to Paul (#514 Vice Patron FFF) and
Anne Kable

Deaths

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the
following:

AMIE LOUISE BARKER (#2503), died 25
November 2005. Descendant of First Fleeters
William Tunks, Thomas Spencer, Mary Phillips.

ERICA JURD (#335) of 3 Warburton Street,
Marrickville. Descendant of First Fleeters William
Douglass, Maria Groves. 10.7.06

BETTY McALISTER (#1398) passed away 16
November 2006, after a long illness. Descended
from First Fleeters William Nash/Maria Haynes.

EVERINGHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION Foundation Day Reunion

for descendants of Matthew James Everingham (First Fleet)
&

Elizabeth Rimes (Second Fleet)
is to be held on

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2007
(216th anniversary of their wedding)

at
Dargle Picnic & Caravan Park
River Road, Lower Portland (plenty of parking)
Commencing at 10.30 am

Celebrations will also include the Bi-Centenary of the birth of
Matthew & Elizabeth's son, James, in November 1807
Bring along picnic lunch, memorabilia, old family photos, etc.

For further information please contact
EVERINGHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC, PO Box 1039, ASHFIELD 1800
or Anne O'Sullivan 02 9326 3290, Rhonda Pilkington 02 9716 8991



Maintain-a-Brick Donations

We have gratefully received
donations from the following
people:

J Adams, M Binder,
J Burnett, R&C Crane,
M Farndell, K Findlay,
R Legge, A Moen, K Shore.

Sandlin; Winter; Boulton; Grosvenor; Owen; Haxton.

Sandlands Ann (Alias LYNES; PATTENS).

Transcript of the proceedings of the Old Bailey. (ref: t17861213-136)137.



The Old Bailey

The wife of Hugh Sandlin was living with him in the parish of St John, Clerkenwell, when charged at the Old Bailey on 13 December 1786, was indicted, for that she, on the 24 November 1786, did take away, with intent to steal, embezzle, and purloin, one copper saucepan, value 3s; a tea kettle, value 1s; a flat iron, value 6d; the property of John Brett.

John Brett sworn.

I know the prisoner; I let the lodging to Hugh Sandlin, and he brought this woman as his wife; they stayed about five or six weeks before the robbery was committed; on Friday, the 24th of November, I lost a great number of articles of linen, out of the yard,

and on Saturday morning when the things were missed, I immediately suspected the prisoner; I sent to Justice Blackborow for a warrant to take her up on suspicion; she had stripped the room of the things mentioned in the indictment; my wife missed a blanket, and she (the prisoner) owned she had pawned that two doors off, and said if I would go with her, she would get it out; I went with her in hopes of finding the other things; I then missed nothing else out of the room; she was committed for further examination, and on the Sunday my wife went up-stairs, and missed the things mentioned in the indictment; I went to Lucy the constable.

William Jones sworn.

I live in St John's street, Clerkenwell; I am a pawnbroker; I have lived there about eight years; here is a saucepan, a kettle, and a flat iron, which I received of the prisoner at different times in November.

You are sure they were pledged by her?-Yes.

Whose did she say they were?- She said they were her own property.

Court to Prosecutor. Did Mr Sandlin leave the woman?- No, not till she was committed; I found nothing against the man; he is very honest hard working man; I heard her say before Justice Blackborow, that her name was Ann Lynes.

Prisoner. I did lodge in that gentleman's house.

GUILTY. Transported for Seven years.

Tried by the second Middlesex Jury before Mr Recorder.

Ann was 30 years of age (1787) therefore born 1754; occupation - needle work. She was delivered to the Lady Penrhyn on 9th January 1788, her child Hugh accompanying her. The child died while the fleet lay at Portsmouth. (c12.12.1785-d. before 13-5-1787). Chaplain Marsden has the child at two years of age at death.

Possibly the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Lyne, and who had been baptized at St Botolph's Bishopgate, London, on 17 April 1754. No record of a marriage to Hugh Sandlin has been found, but their son Hugh was baptized on 12 December 1785 at St Sepulchre's, London.

As with all the others who arrived at Sydney Cove on 26th January 1788, and the joyous release of the female convicts on 15th February, the son attributed to Richard Floan as father was born on 17th September 1788 at Port Jackson. The child Richard Hugh died two days later and was possibly the result of that day, although a possible earlier encounter with Floan on board Lady Penrhyn.

At Port Jackson Ann gave birth to a daughter Elizabeth by another sailor, John Winter from Sirius. Elizabeth was baptized on 15 August 1790. (Winter finally went back to England as a seaman on the Supply on 5 March 1791, and was discharged at Deptford in May 1792.) Ann worked as a cook at the Sydney Orphanage and received 8 Pound 8 Shillings wages for the year ended 3 August 1802 (as Sandilon). She married a William Baker on 26 August 1795. I have not found any reference to children of this marriage to date. Nor have I traced Baker's arrival to the Colony. As Ann Sandland, she was buried at Sydney on 2 January 1809, having drowned in Sydney Cove.

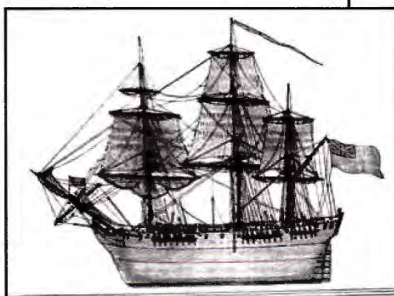
Funnily enough her daughter Elizabeth was described as an orphan having attended the orphan school, and, at her marriage to Thomas Boulton on 10 August 1806, her mother was not a witness, the witnesses were Henry and Diana Kable. As Elizabeth was under 18 at the date of her marriage permission to marry was given by His Excellency Philip Gidley King, and was performed by Rev. Samuel Marsden.

John Winter

John Winter arrived at Sydney Cove on 26 January 1788 as a sailor on the *Alexander*, a transport.

Winter is listed as a seaman on the crew of the *Alexander* when Governor Phillip commissioned Lt. Shortland on 14 July 1788 to return to England; the four transports; *Alexander*, *Friendship*, *Prince of Wales* and *Borrowdale*. They set forth to sail via the east coast of New South Wales northward either through Endeavour Straits or around New Guinea to Batavia and thence to England. Their complement was small, only six personnel to a hundred tons, officers included; there was no surgeon, and they were not provided with those articles which have been found essential to the preservation of health on long voyages, such as bore-cole, sour-crout, potable soup, and other antiseptics recommended by the Royal Society.

On 17 October two of the ships *Alexander* and *Friendship* traveling together had had a lot of sickness, fevers, scurvy, some deaths had happened, with the result that the ship was undermanned for the weather they were encountering and as a result the *Friendship* struck a reef off Borneo; the *Alexander* dropped anchor and by lighters they emptied the stricken *Friendship*, having pulled her off the reef, and as she was listing badly, they decided to scuttle her. On 28 October one John Winter was dispatched to the *Friendship* and with an auger bored holes in the *Friendship's* bow between wind and water, cut her from alongside the *Alexander* and set her adrift ... at about nine o'clock that night she went down.



HMS Sirius

When the *Alexander* reached the Cape of Good Hope in February 1789, she encountered *Sirius* there on her voyage to purchase provisions for the beleaguered NSW Colony. At this port *Sirius* took on some seamen both for her own crew and for that of the *Supply*. A seaman John Winter from Stockholm, Sweden, joined *Sirius*. There is record of payment to John Winter for work done on *Sirius* at Sydney in May and June 1789, and a daughter born to him by Ann Sandlin. It is likely that this John Winter was the First Fleeter, now able to tell his mates at Port Jackson about going on board *Friendship* with an auger to bore holes through the bows below the surface of the water.

Winter was on the *Supply* on a return voyage to England leaving Sydney Cove on 5 March 1791 and was discharged at Deptford in May 1792. No record of his birth or death has yet been found.

Elizabeth Sandlands and Thomas Boulton

Twelve children were the product of this marriage, the one I am interested in was William Boulton born 15 August 1822; he married Mary Ann Fry, who was born in the Colony of two convicts Sampson Fry and Martha Millington, both of whom had life sentences attached to their crimes (more research).

Boulton/Fry marriage was held at Scots Church 29 March 1853; their eldest daughter Eva Maude Boulton was my great-grandmother; she was born 5 March 1855; she married James Cato Grosvenor who immigrated from Brampton England about 1876; they married in Scots Church 8 August 1878; their eldest daughter Mildred Maude Grosvenor was born 9 December 1878. Mildred married Henry Corbett Owen who was born in the Colony on 18 January 1905. Their eldest son Alan was born 12 February 1905. My mother Merle Olive Owen was born 23 February 1909, she married Robert Douglas Haxton 23 December 1933; Dad immigrated when he was 17 from Preston Lancashire; his third class (Steerage) ticket on board *Jervis Bay* left England 29 March 1927, his passport is stamped at Fremantle 29 April 1927. Possibly arrived in Sydney four to five days later.

John and Patricia were the two children of that marriage.

John married Marjorie Beryl Richards at the North Sydney Baptist Church at Crows Nest. They have four children and eight grandchildren.



Scots Church, Sydney.



Australia Day Celebrations 26th January 2007 Australia Day Luncheon

On Saturday 20th January 2007, 124 descendants (including spouses and families) attended a glorious luncheon at Cello's Restaurant in the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, to celebrate the two hundred and nineteenth coming of the First Fleet to Botany Bay in 1788.

Our Patron, thirty-seventh Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir, was accompanied by her husband Sir Nicholas Shehadie. Her Excellency's aide was Lieutenant-Commander Rick Stone.

Vice-President and Master of Ceremonies Rod Best kept everyone entertained and informed prior to the Governor and her party's arrival, and following introductions to Board Members of the Fellowship, Her Excellency was presented with a posie of flowers by Fiona Cook.

Two verses of the National Anthem were sung with great gusto by the gathering, accompanied by Elaine Keough (wife of South Coast Chapter VP Stan).

It was a privilege for the luncheon attendees to have, firstly, retiring President Peter Christian OAM to say Grace, then to have the Loyal Toast given by Vice Patron Paul Kable AM RAN (Rtd).

President John Haxton then led a Toast to our First Fleet Ancestors.

A wonderful lunch was then served by the very professional and attentive Cello's staff, led by Maitre'd William. The low volume of table chatter that ensued attested to the quality of the lunch served.

Following lunch Her Excellency spoke about the undervalued qualities of our first Governor, Captain Arthur Phillip, and the great legacy that he left Australia in establishing the Colony--noting that the Portuguese valued Phillip more highly than did the English and that he has not received the recognition in our history that he deserved. President John Haxton spoke to a vote of thanks for the Governor.

Due to the unfortunate non-attendance of our planned Guest Speaker Dr Ken Knight, at very short notice, the three amigos spoke and certainly entertained the luncheon audience. President John Haxton (on his family tree research and that journey), Vice President Peter Christian (on his recent visit to our sister city Portsmouth) and Vice President Rod Best (an at times emotional story of his family research and particularly his German grandfather Charlie).

ADL Sub Committee Chair John Boyd thanked the three amigos for their entertaining impromptu talks and also took the opportunity to thank the hardworking ADL Committee - Elaine Bennett, Zona & Ron Maguire, Jean Mortimer, Joy Pankhurst and John Haxton - who had made the Luncheon such a success.

The Governor then graciously agreed to present a number of awards that had been approved at the Annual General Meeting of 25 November 2006 and at the subsequent board meeting that followed same. These were:

Pamela Quick: Life Membership.

Phyllis Selby: Certificate of appreciation.

Harold Lewis: Certificate of appreciation.

Peter Christian: Board Minute recording appreciation for dedication to the Fellowship.

Following a delicious dessert, the Governor and Sir Nicholas bid the gathering goodbye and were escorted to their vehicle by President John and his wife Beryl.

It was then time to complete firstly the Annual Grand Raffle draw, then the Lucky Program Draw. Again Vic Patron Paul Kable did the honours, ably assisted by Jean Mortimer, Joy Pankhurst and Elaine Bennett.

The winners of both draws will be published in our next edition of 'Founders.'

The day concluded on a fine note with old friends catching up and leaving the luncheon in high spirits.

John Boyd, Chair ADL Committee

Pictures from these events are available on our web site, and a selection will be published in the next issue of Founders. Ed.

Australia Day Picnic

was attended by a small group of First Fleet members and friends, who saw from a distance, the ferry boat race go past Farm Cove, the 21 gun salute at 12 noon; Parade of ships- sailing (ex sails), paddle steamers (ex steam), and numerous other high priced vessels, all of whom made a spectacular event. The Air force flew past over the Harbor Bridge four times; the Navy conducted a rescue by chopper near Fort Dennison. All in all a pleasant day under the spreading branches of a large tree with seats commandeered from nearby places, to create a harmonious setting. Although the cool breeze was somewhat brisk by about 1 pm, the gathering was earnestly discussing matters of importance, as always.

Thanks to our organizers, and for those who attended thank you for your continued participation in the Australia Day Picnic.

We would like to extend congratulations to our Vice President Rod Best, upon receiving a Public Service Medal in the Australia Day Honors list for 'Service in the provision of legal services within the NSW Department of Community Services'.

Thomas Arndell

Continued from Founders Nov-Dec 2006 (37, No 6)

This is an extract of a talk given to the daytime fellowship meeting on Wednesday 12th July by Marjorie Raven. Mrs Raven is the author of "Thomas Arndell in the Colony of NSW" and "Assistant Surgeon Thomas Arndell - The Man He Was Not".

Elizabeth Burley (alias Dalton) was a convict girl who arrived on the First Fleet on the Lady Penrhyn, and assigned to Thomas. They were living at Parramatta when their first son, William, was baptised on 5th September, 1790, at St. John's Church. William died aged 19 months and 23 days and is buried in the old cemetery at St. John's Church with Frances Hannah Clements.

Frances Hannah was the daughter of Elizabeth Burley and John Clements, who was a seaman on the Lady Penrhyn; she died on 20th January, 1800, aged 11 years. The headstone of William and Frances is still standing - with a First Fleeter's plaque affixed.

I'll slip a little gem in here that is food for thought and many of you would have heard - the only ancestor you can be sure of is your mother! Just think about it. All those months coming from England on the Lady Penrhyn carrying only female convicts and crew - would Elizabeth and the other convict girls really know who fathered their children?

Frances Hannah Clements was born while the First Fleet was anchored in Botany Bay and arrived in Sydney Cove on 26th January, 1788, making her the youngest child who arrived on the First Fleet.

Elizabeth's crime? She stole 14 linen handkerchiefs - they were LINEN, so perhaps she had just a bit of class. She could have been one of the female convicts who were framed or falsely accused of a petty crime and transported to reproduce and populate the Colony.

Thomas and Elizabeth Burley were apparently married by Rev. Samuel Marsden at Windsor in 1807. There is a typed affidavit in the Mitchell Library stating that this is so, but I cannot trace the depositor of this affidavit and no actual record exists.

Their first child, William, was buried at Parramatta.

Their second child was Elizabeth Emily born 1792 who married Captain James Gordon at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Windsor. He was Magistrate and Naval Officer at Hobart Town and the famous Gordon River in Tasmania is named after him.

Their third child was Mary Louisa born 1793 at Parramatta, who married John Lakeland; he was Superintendent of Convicts at Port Arthur and was renowned for his cruelty—we won't go into him.

Then came Sarah, their fourth child, born 1796 at Parramatta; she married Rev. Lancelot Edward Threlkeld as his second wife in October 1824, at St. John's Church, Parramatta. Lancelot decided to return to England to find a second wife after his first wife had died in Tahiti where he had been a missionary; he called into Sydney, met Sarah Arndell, married her and went to Belmont and Toronto as a missionary to the aborigines along with the five children from his first marriage - they had another five - just to keep it even!

Lancelot and Sarah are my great-great-grandparents.

Sarah was the only daughter who remained on the mainland - the other three lived in Tasmania after their marriages.

Their fifth child was Thomas, born about 1799. He married Sophia Loder and lived at CADDIE until his death.

The sixth child James, born about 1802 at CADDIE, married Mary Pike of Denman and settled in the Hunter River area.

There are no records of the births of Thomas and James.

Their seventh child was Frances Hannah born 1808, who married Captain William Gunn in 1829 at Sorrell, Tasmania; he was Superintendent of the Prisoners' Barracks in Hobart and later visiting Magistrate of the convict establishments and became Police Magistrate until his death.

All the daughters of Thomas and Elizabeth, as well as Esther, the illegitimate English-born daughter of Thomas, married men of sufficient importance in the Colony to be written into the Australian Dictionary of Biography, as was Thomas himself.

Thomas Arndell died at CADDIE on 2nd May, 1821, aged 69 years after a painful illness lasting five weeks; he is buried in a tomb in the graveyard of St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Windsor. When Elizabeth died 22 years later she was buried with her husband.

It is interesting to note that the children of Thomas and Elizabeth who were born before their marriage in 1807 are referred to in his Will as 'my son or reputed son' and 'my daughter or reputed daughter' whereas the youngest, Frances Hannah, born 1808, AFTER their marriage, is referred to as 'my daughter'. To me this is the only evidence that Thomas and Elizabeth married - there is no record in the St. Matthew's Register at Windsor and the Declaration in the Mitchell Library is just a typed page and there is no record of who lodged it or when.



Caddie Park, Parramatta

Continued on page 8

Bits & Pieces

For those who would like to feel like it was at sea in a tall ship. Now you have the chance to visit HMS Endeavour at the National Maritime Museum, 2 Murray St., Darling Harbour, Sydney. Endeavour is about the same size (slightly smaller) than the Charlotte which had 183 (178)* people on board during the voyage.

See how they lived, ate, the room sizes, cooked and etc. (* King's journal).

Be quick as the Endeavour is about to sail for Tasmania.

Visit the site on line:

www.anmm.gov.au

<<http://www.anmm.gov.au>>

For those who are interested in reading Founders on line at:

www.members.ol.com.au/fffaus/

<<http://www.members.ol.com.au/fffaus/>>

Click on

Members Newsletter

Username: **guest**

Password: **enter**

Please note that this site is still on trial.

Feed back is quite welcome!

For those who don't have the internet, I would say within the next fifty years, it will be the only way.

With the internet, some of the pictures can be in colour and you would be able to copy them, subject to copyright, store them on disk or make a slide show out of the pdf file.

*In Fellowship
George Griffiths
Web Master*

From the Chapters

Canberra Chapter: (ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounding areas)

The Canberra Chapter has a varied and interesting program for 2007, all interested members and friends are welcome to share in fellowship with us. President Geoff Cameron phone (02) 6251 4095

Central Coast Chapter: (Gosford, Tuggerah Lake, Wyong, Budgewoi)

Members of the Central Coast Chapter extend an invitation for all interested persons to attend the meetings at Wyong RSL on the second Saturday of each month starting at 10.30am. Further Information contact Secretary, Beryl Haxton ph (02) 4353 2524.

Hunter Valley Chapter: All inquiries phone First Fleet House. (02) 9360 3788

New England Chapter: (Armidale and surrounding areas)

The new program arranged early 2007 includes another combined Chapter event. North Coast and Northwest Chapters will unite with us to enjoy a visit to Uralla Museum followed by a picnic. Other interesting activities are planned for the afternoon. Date 14th April, for full details contact Secretary Robyn Crossle (02) 62723140.

North Coast Chapter: (Coffs Harbour, Woolgoolga, Leigh and nearby regions)

Sunday 1st April 2007, Dr Andrew Beattie will be our guest speaker. His subject will be "A Bird's Eye View & Beyond—A Fresh Look at Our Family History". Venue: The home of Ron & Pat Benjamin, Mackay's road, Coffs Harbour NSW. Time 11-30am. For transport & further details contact President Robyn Condliffe phone (02) 6653 3615. See New England for combined Chapter event.

Northern Rivers Chapter: (Lismore and surrounding regions)

Meetings are held bi-monthly. Venue: 16 Atlas street, Lismore. Time 11-30 for a BBQ lunch. Cost \$7 members \$8 visitors. Following lunch the program consists of relevant activities or a guest speaker. Next meeting **Sunday 25 March**. All interested persons are welcome, for more details contact President Betty Harriman, phone (02) 6683 4493

Northwest Chapter: (Tamworth and surrounding areas)

Meetings are usually held at Tamworth Regional Art Gallery, Time 1-30pm. All inquiries to Secretary, Jo Crossing ph (02) 6766 8255. See New England Chapter for combined Chapter event.

South Coast Chapter: (from Engadine to Burrill Lake)

Tuesday 6 March: Bert & Molly Matthews both descendants of First Fleeters will bring to us a detailed history of Mt. Kembla Mines. Venue: Old Court House Wollongong. Time: 10am, followed by a buffet lunch and fellowship.

Tuesday 20 March: members are looking forward to a combined Chapter outing with the Central Coast Chapter. Venue: The Historic Sydney Hospital & Museum. Lunch venue TBA. Secretary/ Membership Officer, Jean Mortimer (02) 4257 5575

Southern Highlands Chapter: (Moss Vale, Mittagong and surrounding areas)

Meetings are held at the Berrima District Credit Union, 411 Bong Bong Street-Bowral. Wed, 11th April commencing 12.30 to 2-30pm. Members are participating in the Celebration of Heritage & Roses Festival in Goulburn on 'Sunday 11th March. The itinerary includes tours of Garroigang Historic House & morning tea, Goulburn Historic Waterworks & lunch at your own cost, Rail Heritage Centre. \$20 per person. Bookings by 1st March send to PO BOX 503 Mittagong 2575. Cheques payable to Southern Highlands Chapter, FFF.

Chapter Liaison News: Twenty-five Chapter members from five Chapters were present at the pre-Australia Day Luncheon held in Sydney Jan 20. These members not only represented their own Chapters but the FFF Chapter network as a whole. Many FFF members have shown interest Chapter membership but do not live near an established Chapter. The Board of Directors will work every step of the way with anyone wanting to establish a Chapter anywhere!! It may be interstate, country regions or within metropolitan areas. For all information about Chapters contact Chapter Liaison Officer, Jean Mortimer (02) 4257 5575 or write to me at First Fleet House.

In Fellowship, Jean Mortimer (with the 2007 program, please contact FFF President, John Haxton (02) 4353 2524)



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

*Closing Date
for
Next Issue:
March 31*

Chapters

ACT

Geoff Cameron
6251 4095

CENTRAL COAST

Beryl Haxton
43532524

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 First Fleeters

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www.geocities.com/fellowship_of_first_fleeters

Thomas Arndell *continued from page 6*

Now for poor Elizabeth! I am certainly not a women's libber, but she did have a hard time as so many of our female ancestors did. Due to her convict background she was unable to attend official dinners at Government House in Parramatta with her husband; he was always accompanied by one of his daughters. The convict stigma must have been hard to wear.

Some years ago I participated in a weekend sojourn to Windsor with a group from Sydney University, accompanied by Professor Ian Jack. I mentioned to him that CADDIE is the only First Fleeter's house standing - to which he replied - 'But Thomas did not live in it, he died before it was completed' - to which I replied - 'His wife, Elizabeth, came on the First Fleet and she lived in it until her death in 1843'. He said - 'Shame on me, we do tend to forget our women, don't we?'

I'll just go back and tell you a little bit about John Arndell, the only surviving English-born son of Thomas and Susanna; he was baptised at St. Stephen's Church Coleman Street, London, in 1772. He came to the Colony and was sent to Norfolk Island by Gov. Hunter in March 1796 as an Assistant to the Surgeon, but returned to Port Jackson four months later.

John has proved to be as big a mystery as his father! I have every piece of documentation that exists, I'm sure - Letters of Administration when he died in London in May, 1807, indicating his widow's name; copy of a Rate Notice for his residence in London; Norfolk Island Victualling List and other miscellanea - but, how did he arrive here? I think he SWAM! He is not recorded on any shipping lists here or in London, nor is his return to London. He is not listed as a convict or ship's crew or officer so he must have come as a steerage passenger and these lists no longer exist.

From my research my PERSONAL opinion is that he arrived on the Marquis Cornwallis with Elizabeth Jackson, an Irish convict girl. The ship departed Portsmouth on 8th June, 1795, with John on board, and departed Cork two months later on 9th August, where it picked up Elizabeth and arrived at Sydney Cove on 11th February, 1796.

Elizabeth was allegedly pregnant with John's child - was this John's child as the Arndell family has recorded? Again, the only ancestor we can be sure of is our mother!

She was sent to Norfolk Island after she arrived in Sydney Cove and John followed her but stayed for only four months.

I have spoken by phone in England to the owner of the ship's log of the Marquis Cornwallis - but no John! That doesn't mean that he was not on the ship.

A book could be written on John and his alleged descendants in the Colony - he was back in England dying when he was purported to be having babies with Elizabeth Jackson in the Hawkesbury area. There are a lot of people claiming to be Thomas and John's descendants - but they aren't!

Thomas's second surviving English-born child was Esther, born in London to Isabella Foscari in December 1781. She married William Hilton Hovell, a Master Mariner, who became one of our early explorers. They arrived in the Colony in 1813 with their two children, Emily Elizabeth, who died of tuberculosis aged 36 and is buried in the Protestant Burial Ground outside Rome, and Arndell John Palmer, who was accidentally killed in 1827 aged 14.

Esther died in 1846 and is buried in the graveyard at St. Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn with her husband and his second wife.

As a person, what does all this portray of my ancestor?

To make the journey from England to New South Wales he was adventurous - or desperate. To survive he was industrious. He was the only medical man who arrived on the First Fleet who did not return to England; would this make him 'the founder of the medical profession in the Colony'? His integrity inspired leadership in the Hawkesbury in the formative years of its settlement. He was appointed to significant positions and was a dedicated medical man, farmer and explorer. He showed determination to succeed as a settler and conscientiously raised a new family in a new land with Elizabeth Burley/Arndell, to whom we must also pay homage.

Marjorie Raven

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RON MAGUIRE, Hon. Editor