

Founders

Magazine of Fellowship of First Fleeters

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

Volume 39, Issue 6

November/December 2008



To Live on in the Hearts and Minds
of Descendants is Never to Die

Flagging a First Fleeter's Memorial



The Reverend Greg Burke, President John Haxton and Hatton descendants, Paul Coghlan and Joan Ross, who is a Founding and Life Member of the Fellowship. The FFF plaque on this occasion has its own stone pedestal.

A cast metal plaque is at the heart of the life of the Fellowship, a simple element we attach, with the consent of descendants, to the gravestone of First Fleeters whose burial sites can be confidently identified. The inscription sets out where possible to include with the name, the famous arrival date, the name of the ship, the date of death, the signature of the Fellowship and the date of the dedication.

Such a ceremony took place on 14 September, 2008, at St Anne's Anglican Church, Ryde, in recognition of **Joseph Hatton**. On this occasion it was in fact a combined memorial service and dedication ceremony for Joseph, as 2008 is the 180th anniversary of his death at age 82.

The proceedings were co-ordinated by the Reverend Greg Burke of St Anne's, and some thirty descendants attended along with President John Haxton and his wife, Beryl, and Director, Bruce Arnett and his wife, Marilyn.

Traditionally we drape the Queen Anne Flag (relevant to the early years of the Colony) over the headstone, for a significant outdoor unveiling during the dedication.

However, on this occasion Bruce reports that the heavens were about to open and it was agreed to move inside the Church – a fortunate decision, he said, as soon after it really did "bucket down"!

After a short presentation by Bruce on behalf of the Fellowship, **Paul Coghlan**, a descendant of Joseph Hatton, delivered an overview of his life and times. It is planned that this will be published, at least in part, in a future issue of *Founders*.

Bruce later pointed out that in 1976 Paul submitted a 30,000-word Master of Education thesis to Sydney University entitled *Education, Religion and Life at Kissing Point (Ryde) 1792-1879*. A number of Ryde's pioneer First Fleeters, of course including Joseph Hatton, are mentioned. A copy of the document is held at the Ryde Library.

Any member of the Fellowship who has located the burial site of a First Fleet ancestor which has not been recognised by a FFF plaque, is encouraged to get in touch with President John Haxton on 02 4353 2524. It's a great tradition!

RW

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Dates to Remember

Saturday 24 January 2009

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

Plenty of places. Booking form enclosed!

THE CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY DATES

and subsequent

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS (see page 11)



Founded 1968

Founders

is the magazine of the
Fellowship of First Fleeters

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Synopsis of the President's Annual Report

I am pleased to summarise for you the main points of my Report to the AGM in November 2008, the key events having been fully reported in *Founders* 38-39.

• The Board has seen the retirement of Mr George Griffiths for health reasons, and the appointment of the three new Directors, Mrs Robin Palmer, Mr Kevin Thomas and Mr Ron Withington. Kevin is Assistant Treasurer, and Ron has become editor of the FFF magazine. I wish to record our thanks to Janet Selby for her hard work in producing *Founders* over the first nine months of the 2007-08 year.

• **The Australia Day Luncheon** at the RAC was attended by 130 members and guests. In 2009 our new venue is able to cater for 250, and we hope to reach capacity! **The 40th FFF Anniversary Function** at NSW Parliament House was hosted by Mr David Harris MP, Member for Wyong. Both of these functions were attended by our well-loved and respected Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, and her husband, Sir Nicholas Shehadie. I thank the team of Directors and members, headed by Mr John Boyd, who organised both events.

• We enjoyed instructive day tours to the **Female Factory** at Parramatta and the **Camperdown Cemetery**, and participated in the **Blessing of the Bonnets** at St John's, Parramatta after many of our members had contributed to this mammoth project.

• The **Eastern Farms Chapter** with some 40 members covering the Ryde/Parramatta Region was formed in April 2008. Our thanks to Mrs Jean Mortimer, Chapter Liaison Officer for all the hours put in to bring about new groups and oversee our ten extant Chapters.

• The **Inaugural Joint Chapter Meeting** in Sydney was an outstanding success with nine of our Chapters represented and more being planned. To be repeated in 2010!

• Honour Roll contributions are slowly coming in from members. Remember it is for all service personnel in any theatre of war. Not only those who lost their lives.

• **Mr Roy Morris**, who has achieved 20 years of membership this year, is the presenter of the Financial Report. Roy has had mobility problems in 2008, but has continued to regularly attend Board Meetings and contribute his valuable advice and experience.

In Fellowship, John Haxton



The Fellowship of First Fleeters

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON Saturday 24 January 2009

in the Grand Ballroom Bayview Boulevard Hotel, 90 William St Sydney
Please send in the Booking Form enclosed in this issue of *Founders*

These "Five Lucky Program" Prizes will be drawn at the Luncheon

1st PRIZE: A 1oz Silver Proof Coin – Courtesy of the Perth Mint & the FFF

First Fleet 1788 220th Anniversary Commemorative (Valued at \$82.50)

2nd PRIZE: 2008/2009 Memberships of Fellowship of First Fleeters

– To the Value of Your Current Membership – Courtesy of the FFF

3rd PRIZE: Gift Vouchers to the Store at First Fleet House

– To the Value of \$20.00 – Courtesy of the FFF

4th PRIZE: 2008/2009 Memberships of Fellowship of First Fleeters

– To the Value of Your Current Membership – Courtesy of the FFF

5th PRIZE: Gift Vouchers to the Store at First Fleet House

– To the Value of \$20.00 – Courtesy of the FFF

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NORTH WEST

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SOUTH COAST

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

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BOOKS THEY BROUGHT TO BOTANY BAY?

Greg Martin of Winmalee is a master (hand-sewing!) bookbinder whom we recently commissioned to bind the 1999 to 2007 issues of *Founders* into two handsome hard-cover blue volumes. (They are available to members in the FF House Library along with their companion volumes of earlier issues of our magazine.) In conversation, it turned out that, although not a member of the Fellowship, Greg is indeed a descendant of FF John Cross, and one of his jobs is to act as honorary bookbinder to the Camden Park Preservation Committee which oversees, among other tasks, the curation of the library in this historic home of the Macarthur family.

Always on the lookout for FF artifacts, I asked Greg if there were in the library any books which had in fact arrived with the First Fleet. He suggested that it was unlikely, but that I had best speak to the curator, Alan Robinson, who was involved in the demanding task of cataloguing the 2000 or more books that are reposing in the Camden Park library.

My best approach, he suggested, was to attend the annual Camden Park Open Day in September, when he would arrange for me to have a chat with Alan.

My wife and I duly turned up, along with hundreds of people embarking on a tour of the house and gardens, and we were lucky enough to spot Alan seated under a huge radiata, about to begin a talk on the history and romance of the property.

That task completed, Alan took us inside, explaining that he had yet to examine and database the many books in the house, but

that he had turned up two volumes, which betrayed strong evidence of being FF arrivals. The key, he said, always has to be an inscription of a name on the frontispiece of a book which appears to convey ownership.

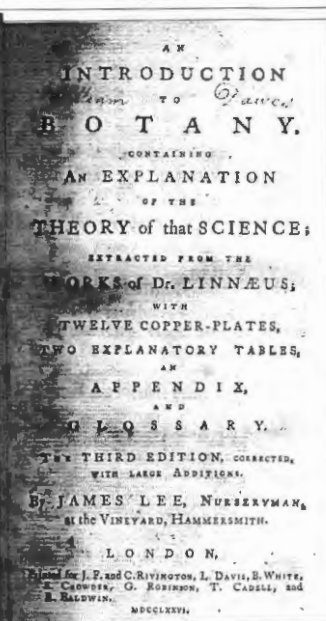
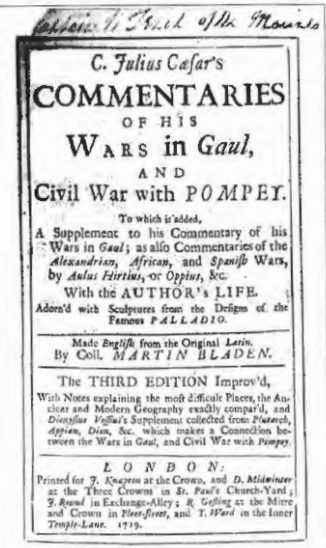
There, in the former head butler's pantry, now a storeroom, he handed me two leatherbound books, far too fragile to warrant even the expert attentions of Greg Martin, but each bearing a telltale signature!

The first was Julius Caesar's *Commentaries on his Wars in Gaul and Civil War with Pompey*, signed by Captain W Tench of the Marines. Watkin Tench, whose writings are known to most of our members, had boarded *Charlotte* as Captain-Lieutenant of the Marines 5th (Portsmouth) Company. He was clearly a well-educated man who had seen action in North America and had spent time as a prisoner-of-war there. It is thus consistent that he could have studied and owned a classic published in 1719 on military campaigns.

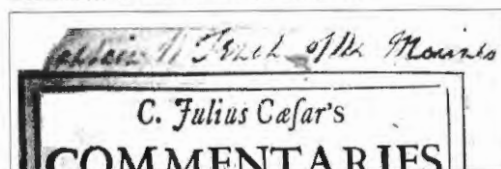
The second was J. Lee's 1765 book *Introduction to Botany*, essentially an interpretation of the work of Swedish botanist, physician and zoologist, Dr Carl Linnaeus. It is signed by William Dawes (of Dawes Point), who arrived on *Supply* as a 2nd Lieutenant of Marines, and was a surveyor, astronomer and linguist. Again this background is consistent with his having owned a scientific monograph on this subject.

Both Tench and Dawes stayed in the colony until late 1791. John and Elizabeth Macarthur arrived with the Second Fleet in 1790. So it is conceivable that the books could have been given to the Macarthurs or loaned and not returned. Further it is not surprising that they would have been retained by James and William Macarthur who later lived together at Camden Park – James was very active in politics and William in horticultural pursuits.

I do not know where other FF books may repose, or indeed if there are any. Two probable volumes at Camden is a meagre return, but as a bit of a bookworm, I was excited at handling them and very grateful when Alan offered to



The 'park-side' of Camden Park homestead, (1835) walled in wisteria, the oldest private residence occupied by descendants of its founders, John and Elizabeth Macarthur, who never lived there themselves. It is heritage listed, but still under private management, the present occupants being Edwina and John Macarthur-Stanham and their three children.



provide a copy of the signed pages.

The last word goes to FF Matthew Everingham who in 1795 wrote to one Samuel Shepherd in England, "If it would not be too much trouble, I would esteem it a most particular favour if you would send me a few books for my instruction and amusement when I have an hour for relaxation from business. Here it is impossible to get them, or I would purchase them cost what they would!" The irony here is that in July 1784, at the age of 14 or 15, Matthew had been convicted of stealing two books, *Compton's Practice* and *Burn's Justice*, and in 1788 was duly transported to the book-parched colony at Sydney Cove. RW

ON THE (FF) PIONEER TRACK AT BEECROFT– with Rod Best

On Sunday 14 September 2008, Rod Best led a group, mainly of locals of the Beecroft area, along the Pioneer Track from Midson Road to Roselea. Astonishingly, in an area where so few First Fleeters held original grants, he promised to touch on the families of **John Hunter, John Small, James Squire, William Tunks, James Bradley** and **David Killpack**. Here, lightly abridged, is how he did it:–

STOP 1 – The first Small connection, east side of Midson Road, the creek opposite the entrance to *Orchid Grange*.

A grant of 460 acres stretching from the creek south with its western boundary near present-day Midson Road was made in 1803 to a William Kent. The problem is there were two such men!

William Kent Snr was born in 1751 and his mother was Mary the sister of **John Hunter**. He joined the Royal Navy in 1763 and had command of *Supply* which came with *Reliance* bringing Hunter to NSW as Governor in 1795. In 1796-97 he sailed to the Cape with Captain Waterhouse and returned with the first of the Cape Merinos.

William George Carlile Kent, known as William Kent Jr, was born in 1788 and was the nephew of William Kent Snr. He entered the Royal Navy when he was ten years old and arrived in Sydney in 1802 aboard *Buffalo*, commanded by his uncle. During the Rum Rebellion he attempted to maintain a neutrality. For his efforts he later served two years in gaol but was eventually acquitted. He didn't marry until 1830 when he was 42 years old.

Whichever William Kent owned the 460 acres, they comprised two entities – *William Farm* to the north and *Somervail Farm* to the south. The land was not farmed, but from 1816 a licence was granted by the government to remove cedar.

Another William Kent was born in Sydney, the son of William Kent Snr and the cousin of William Kent Jr. He petitioned the Colonial Office in 1828 seeking rescue from 'dire pecuniary distress' because his father, he said, had died suddenly leaving him a friendless orphan. His father had, in fact, died 16 years before and William at 29 was married with three children! However, in 1835 he sold both farms, probably as a 'fire sale'.

William Farm was bought by James Devlin for £172. His father was Arthur Devlin, an Irishman involved in the troubles of his homeland. His mother was Priscilla, daughter of Elizabeth Mason and a Philip Morris. Elizabeth later

formed a relationship with First Fleeter **James Squire**, of brewery fame. Priscilla was acknowledged by James Squire as his daughter and was married at 16 as Priscilla Squire. After Arthur Devlin died in 1820, Priscilla in 1821 married Thomas Small who was the fifth child of two First Fleeters – **John and Mary Small**. Thomas, then James Devlin's stepfather, paid £272 for the neighbouring *Somervail Farm*.

James Devlin did not live on this property, which was used for timber-getting. He lived at what is now Top Ryde – just near St Anne's Church. In 1845 he and his wife moved into a new home called *Ryde House* – now known as *Willandra* opposite the corner of Victoria Rd and Devlin St. James sold *Ryde House* in 1872 and moved to larger holdings at Wagga Wagga – where he died in 1875.

James Devlin gave his name to the local creek. The land on the southern bank of the creek was then purchased by the Scottish Investment Co which in 1883 commenced subdividing the land into smaller lots. Some of the land was purchased by the Mobbs family and some by Edward and William Midson – after whom the road was named.

In 1886 Beecroft railway station opened. Associated with the railway station a number of small carrying businesses and feed stores appeared.

STOP 2 – Martin Bros Quarry

In the 1880s, just to the north of Murray Farm Road, William Martin and his wife Esther had eight acres with a small timber cottage. William had an orchard and sold topsoil to start the gardens of wealthy houses in the Beecroft area.

Their eldest son, Ernest (born 1880), and his wife Catherine (born 1882) purchased five acres on the southern side of Murray Farm Road. They used some of their land as a quarry for sandstone as the foundation for the Federation houses in nearby suburbs. The Martins had 15 children (14 boys and one girl). The boys worked the quarry but also started a cartage business for fruit, soil, bricks and stone. This enterprise grew by 1941 into the incorporated trucking business of Martin Bros (Transport) Pty Ltd.

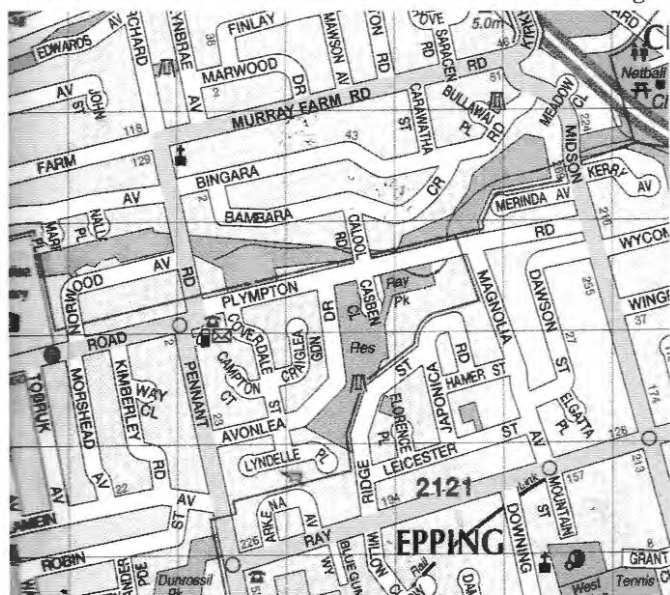
STOP 3 – Little Ray Park near Plympton Rd – Orchard Rd

From here, across the Hills District and into Seven Hills, the late 1880s saw a shift from timber and grain into orchards. Maria Ann Sherwood, born in Sussex in 1799, married Thomas Smith, a farm labourer from a nearby parish. In 1838 they were recruited to NSW as skilled migrants and in 1855-6 Thomas bought 24 acres in present-day Marsfield.

From a discarded French crab apple which self seeded, the Smiths created a popular new variety of apple. Maria died in 1870, but by the early 1890s the apple had become known as a **Granny Smith**, the name first used at the Castle Hill Show. In 1895, a nurseryman, Mr Spurway, took some budding wood from the original tree and from this, 30 trees were planted on the site by his relatives – the Ray Family.

STOPS 4/5 – Bottom of Little Ray Park – the Ray Family

In the 1850s George Ray and his family moved from Parramatta to settle in Pennant Hills. In 1869 George, together



MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

donors towards the operation of First Fleet House

Our dedicated contributors over the past two months will be recognised in the next issue of *Founders*.

with his sons Richard and George Jr, purchased land between Midson Road and Ray Road. It was used for vegetables. By the late 1890s the Ray family were largely orchardists, and continue to be – especially at Bilpin. Frederick Ray gave some three acres of this land for the parkland in 1962.

In 1884 Richard Ray, needing bricks for his home, *Boronia*, now standing at 166 Ray Road Epping, created a private kiln, situated near present day 9 Japonica Road, Epping. The clay came from two pits on the southern bank of Ray Creek and about 40,000 bricks were made for this one house.

STOP 6 – Tunks Bridge – A second Small connection, more First Fleeters and the Tunks Family

Two families are relevant at this spot. They are connected by a woman from a third family.

Phoebe Tomlinson was born in 1809, the younger daughter of Robert and Sarah Tomlinson. In 1827 Phoebe married John Mobbs, son of William and Ann Mobbs.



Rod on Tunks Footbridge over Ray Ck – with Mobbs of people

John fathered two children, but died in 1828, struck by a falling tree. Phoebe then married John Tunks, the son of First Fleeter **William Tunks**, a marine, and Sarah Lyons, a convict. John was 14 years older than Phoebe and himself a widower with five children. To their blended family of seven, they added another nine together. One of their children, James, married Mary Ann Small of the ubiquitous First Fleet family we have already met through the Devlins.

They too did not live on this land but had a substantial home, *Norfolk House*, which still stands opposite the old Catholic Cemetery in North Parramatta. John made money from a hotel and in the 1840s started to branch out into the lucrative timber trade. He died in 1848. Phoebe married a third time, to an Irishman, John McRoberts. They had no

FIRST FLEET CHRISTMAS CARDS "In the Beginning"
10 for \$3.00 or 30c each plus \$2.00 postage for pack of 10.
Each card has a simple Christmas greeting.
To order, call First Fleet House 02 9360 3788 or email.

surviving children. John was granted 56 acres here in 1856.

Completing the picture – another of the Mobbs family living at Carlingford was George Arthur Mobbs born in 1866. He married Rachel Small in 1889. Rachel was the great-grand-daughter of **John Small** and **Mary Parker** via their son Samuel and another First Fleeter **James Bradley**. Rachel and George had Eric Mobbs, a distinguished local politician, and he in turn had a daughter **Beryl (Lewis)**, a former President of the Fellowship.

Returning to the Tunks family – once most of the significant timber had been removed the land was converted into an orchard and managed by John E M Tunks – John McRobert's step-son. The western boundary was a track originally called Tunks Rd but now known as Pennant Parade. The footbridge was built in 2005 by Hornsby Shire Council and dedicated to the memory of John Tunks and his family.

STOPS 7/8 – Ray Park, Plympton Rd – FFs & Murrays

The first stop is a reminder of the timber and the timber getters who originally extracted wealth from this land and the land owners from Kent to Devlin to Ray to Tunks who licensed the logging.

David Killpack was originally convicted in 1783 and transported to America aboard *Swift*. The convicts mutinied and rowed back to England. He was convicted a second time and in 1787 sent on *Scarborough* to NSW. Killpack received his first grant of 30 acres in 1794 and his second of 50 acres in 1795. Both grants were slightly to the west of Ray Park near present-day Pennant Hills Rd. The land was acquired by John Macarthur as part of his Cornish Hills Farms, where Killpack was an overseer until his death in 1797. In 1821 Macarthur surrendered the land for his larger grant at the Cowpastures, now Camden.

While Macarthur was in England he met a young farm manager, Andrew Murray, nephew of novelist, Sir Walter Scott. Murray came to the Colony when Macarthur returned in 1817 and took up various posts as a superintendent of agriculture. He was befriended by one James Milson, who had worked on Cornish Hills Farm when he first arrived as a free settler in 1806, and became a significant landholder on the North Shore. In 1818 Murray married Eleanor, the sister of James Milson's wife Elizabeth. Eleanor and Elizabeth were children of **David Killpack**. **RB**

AUSTRALIA DAY ROLE PLAYS – seen no more?

Laurence Harkness #3004 has written to ask the FFF Board to respond to his call for a greater emphasis on overt celebration of Australia Day 26 January. He refers to earlier times when "myself and family along with many First Fleet families would congregate in the Opera House area on that special day – there were stalls with memorabilia, the attendants would be dressed in colonial costume with bonnets and long dresses, some of the men wore uniforms or convict outfits and the ships in the harbour were decorated with appropriate flags etc."

Laurence's submission was considered by the Board in September and a reply was sent to him. Essentially the Board's position is that there is now an older base of FFF members and it is a fact that there is little or no interest or the resources to dress in colonial costume to attend

celebrations. In Sydney over the last few years the Board has encouraged members to attend our Australia Day Luncheon and also Sydney members to join in an Australia Day picnic in the Botanic Gardens. Some years ago a harbour cruise on Australia Day in a ship suitably decorated was organised. However, after two years this was cancelled due to lack of interest.

Nevertheless, the Board will remain responsive to any member groups or family associations who feel that they can involve themselves fully as prime movers and organisers of the sorts of activities suggested by Laurence.

On a positive note it has become an emphasis of the Board, rather than concentrating solely on Sydney, to encourage our Chapters to involve their members in their local community activities, and in this way spread our message more widely across the population. **EB**

SOME THOUGHTS ON A SHORT HISTORY OF THE FELLOWSHIP 68-93

Part 1 of 2 by Peter Christian

From a speech to the South Coast Chapter, June 2008

On the 29 March 1968 Mr John Lavett convened a meeting at the AMP Theatre, Circular Quay, to formally inaugurate a distinctive Australian organization, to be known as **The Fellowship of First Fleeters**, with headquarters in Sydney, the site of the Nation's foundation.

The new body was indeed fortunate to have a President of such high calibre and the 200 or so new members, yet to be verified as proven descendants, looked forward eagerly to the future. It was mooted at the time that "Divisional Councils would be set up in the states and territory of the ACT each being represented on a National Council in Sydney."

Also, it is of interest to note that Mr Lavett, at this meeting, formed a second body to be known as the "1788-1820 Association" for descendants of those pioneers who had arrived between and including those years. A proviso was included that members of the Fellowship received Hon. Life Membership of the second body! I have not been able to ascertain whether or not this was acted upon.

He also laid down plans for the setting up of an Australia Day Movement with the Fellowship taking a major part in the future celebrations of Australia Day. Later, into the future, an Australia Day Council was inaugurated and the FFF completely ignored.

Reverting to the Foundation Meeting, I feel that he would have opened the meeting with the following words, which I came across some years ago and have a copy in his handwriting... "REMEMBRANCE"

"On the 26 January 1788, Captain Arthur Phillip and the men and women of the First Fleet founded Australia. Let us gratefully remember them and also those of our later forebears who lived and toiled and died to build and defend



John Kempton Rowley Lavett,
Founder of The Fellowship of First Fleeters.

our heritage. When remembering the pioneers of our Nation, also consider the future into which our children go, that we may shape it well and wisely for them."

All of the Presidents who followed have elaborated upon this theme.

The first months of the newly-formed body would have been rather hectic. A membership committee, under the name of *Lady Penrhyn*, was set up and other committees were formed for the smooth running of the organisation and also to formulate and present a Constitution.

But during the first year storm clouds appeared on the horizon. The President had some hidden agendas which proved to be his downfall. He had formulated plans for two competitions in the name of the Fellowship, one for the adoption of a new National Flag and another for a new National Anthem. Unfortunately he did not liaise with his Executive which resulted in the acceptance, on 13 March 1970, of his resignation. Fuel was added to the fire when he publicly went ahead with his plans much to the chagrin of the membership. More is the pity that he, having done such sterling work in the formation of our Fellowship, was unable to communicate or even attempt to reach a compromise with, from what I can gather, a clear majority of his Executive.

The second President was Frank Everingham, a likeable chap who from the very beginning of his Presidency made decisions which upset some of his Executive. He delighted in telling me once that a mark on the wall in the room where they met at his home came from a chair being thrown at him by one of the members! Again there was a split in the ranks and it was obvious that the Fellowship would founder under these circumstances.

Matters certainly settled down when **Fred Daniell** was elected as the third President. He oversaw the finalisation of the Australia Chapel at Phillip's last resting place at Bathampton, but even before his work had commenced in earnest he died in office. A great loss to the Fellowship.

From then on the Fellowship gradually went from strength to strength.

There were another two fairly short Presidencies by **Edgar Kable** and **Dudley Oakes** until **Mrs Beryl Lewis** became the first female President in the midseventies through until 1983. During her term of office the Governor of New South Wales became our Patron, which has carried on to this day.

We had moved into new quarters in the Assembly Building and membership was rising. The Executive was also thinking about the coming Bicentennial and examining plans for a suitable Fellowship memorial to record the event. After 15 years we were starting to consolidate. From 1982 to 1988 we processed over 3000 members!

Beryl took a high profile as President, a fact not overlooked by those who followed. With a large membership and a wonderful story to tell we deserved to be noticed!!

The identification of First Fleet graves was instituted in the mid seventies and the ceremonies connected with this exercise were snowballing.

On the resignation of Mrs Lewis, **Rod Best** stepped in, but only for three years. The Fellowship prospered and we all looked forward to Rod leading us into our Bicentennial year. But due to pressures of his profession he resigned in 1986. Personally I thought that **Doug Oakes**, who had done such good work as Graves Convenor would, as an early member, take over. Doug declined and I found that I had the task, a daunting task I might add, of leading the Fellowship into 1988.

It was a most interesting few years. From 1986 to 1988 the Fellowship volunteers were stretched to the limit from all angles. Enquiries came in from every quarter of the globe. For example, we had correspondence from a family in the UK purporting to be descendants of FF William Balmain...would we be prepared to fly them out to Australia for the celebrations?!

The world press was angling for stories and we were not found wanting in acceding to their requests. There was this mountain of membership forms to be verified, in addition to a number of rather pushy new chums seeking a spot on the Executive.

Harry Seidler, the well-known Architect, contacted me personally with

a proposal that the Fellowship endorse the concept of a new plaza to be named First Fleet Square which would have inscribed around the walls the names of all known First Fleeters. The only catch was that it involved the demolition of two Edwardian edifices on the corner of George and Grosvenor Streets. I checked with my Committee and received somewhat mixed support, some eagerly for and some lukewarm, but I went ahead regardless. There was some slight opposition within the membership, but the main protest was from the National Trust and some other Conservationists. The whole idea was shelved, but I still thought that it would be a large plus, not only as PR for the Fellowship but a memorial close to Sydney Cove to our forebear pioneers.

About the same time I was contacted by new member, **Rear Admiral David Martin**, FF Johnston/Abra-

ham, Flag Officer of the Naval Support Command, Sydney, regarding a proposed re-enactment landing on Australia Day at Farm Cove, close to the Opera House, consisting of a number of fairly well known First Fleeters in conjunction with the proposed First Fleet Re-enactment voyage.

I have a strong suspicion that the Government of the day stepped in and firmly declared this a no-no. Political Correctness once again!

Strange to say that we met this political correctness theme all through the years leading up to our Bicentennial, and to some degree afterwards. The Fellowship gave full support to the First Fleet Re-enactment project, and indeed gave a hefty donation to get the Fleet out of trouble when it arrived in Mauritius. The Australian Government would not allow the Fleet to stay in Cape Town, nor to take any part in a proposed Plaque Ceremony as a me-

morial to the original fleet.

With regard to David Martin... in 1988 I had the privilege in proposing David as Father of the Year. He was indeed elected. Prior to his acceptance he was heard to say... "I think Peter Christian had a hand in this."

At our 40th Anniversary's celebration this year my good friend Rod Best mentioned the fact that we had had in 1988 a number of strange requests from the press, for example, do you have a butcher from a FF butcher or a baker from a FF baker. What he did not recall is the time I was being interviewed by a journalist from one of the better known Sydney papers who knew that I had had a pharmacy at Kings Cross and requested that I produce a 'lady of the night' descended from one of her ilk. I was sorely tempted to remind the young man that his employer was descended from two First Fleet convicts!

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

Kate Grenville returns to pinpoint Dawes' Point

Book Review

Kate Grenville broke through to full literary recognition and 500,000 sales worldwide with her novel *The Secret River*, even if she did attract the ire of historian Inga Clendinnen, who took issue with Grenville's claim that novelists could use empathy to enter the mind of historical figures and help readers actually get inside the experience in the way that historians, bound by facts, could not. Anyway in her new book *The Lieutenant*, Grenville is more restrained, with fewer characters and a sharper focus, as she constructs a fictional narrative of the early days of the settlement at Sydney Cove, this time from well-documented history, wherein the historical figures Phillip, Tench, Ross, Johnson, McEntire and others all appear under other names but as true to their character as the novelist can research and deduce.

With her central character, Daniel Rooke, she has chosen to reflect the fortunes, life and character of FF Lieutenant **William Dawes** (see page 3 of this issue), picking up on his intelligence, his skills in mathematics, astronomy, and navigation and importantly on his linguistic talents and his ethical probity. His early years are sketched in with deft economy. So we first see Rooke in Sydney town, like Dawes, as a superb navigator on inland exploration, and as a hermit-like recorder of astronomical and meteorological observations from his humpy high on the headland of Sydney Harbour, all the while trying to distance himself from the day-to-day chaotic struggle for dominance and survival going on beneath him.

As he watches through the months to track the path of the comet that never arrives, Rooke slowly befriends a few of the local people, in particular a girl called Tagaran, and it is through conversations with her that he learns the Gadigal language. Grenville has described Dawes as a kind of 18th Century nerd. His notebooks are set out in an obsessive-compulsive way, full of tables of verb conjugations and systems. But he finally gets round to writing entire conversations and it is from these witty, affection-

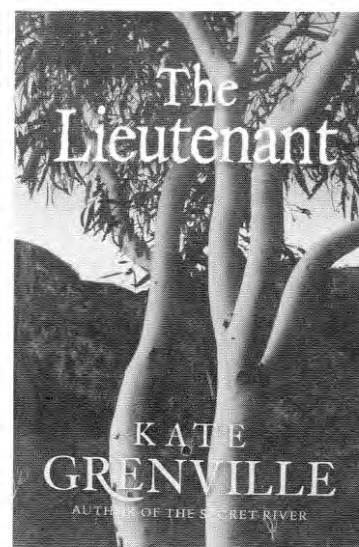
ate and mutually respectful exchanges that Grenville develops the otherwise unlikely relationship between the 26-year-old marine and the 15-year-old girl who is historically known as Patygarang.

Despite the good example of this quite electrifying friendship, two years down the track relations between the colonists and the indigenous people have turned murderous, and Phillip's gamekeeper is fatally speared. Tench (Silk) selects Dawes (Rooke) to be part of a violent reprisal attack stipulated by the Governor and despite a moral dilemma Rooke obeys the order to join the detachment. The search fails to apprehend a single native, but Rooke takes a principled stand against the inhumanity and informs the Governor that he will not acquiesce to any such order in the future. He avoids court-martial for insubordination only because the Governor is not empowered so to act in the colony.

Rooke (Dawes) in the last short section set in Antigua in 1836 is revealed as having long campaigned in later life in the movement to abolish slavery.

This novel is written in lean but glittering prose, challenging in its ideas, silky smooth in the presentation of them. It affords FFF readers a chance to recap on some of the pivotal events in the early life of the colony, to see a variety of key First Fleeters' personalities, motivations and activities interpreted in a fresh new way. And crucially in terms of relations between the newcomers and the indigenous people it shows what might have been.

RW



THE LACHLAN MACQUARIE CHAPTER FORMED AT ORANGE

Our hosts, **Phillip Foster** and his wife Amanda googled up a glorious spring day at Orange and Amanda, who is Head Librarian at Kinross Walaroi School, had the library meeting area beautifully arranged, sun streaming in through the picture windows onto a celebratory display of First Fleet publications. We were there on Saturday 20 September for the inauguration of a new FFF entity, heretofore known as the proposed Orange/Bathurst Chapter.

Eleven FFF Members attended, along with thirteen Visitors and six Directors and Assistants, across a wide spectrum of age groups – thirty people in all. There were seven apologies from interested folk who could not make it on the day.

The business meeting, steered by President John Haxton, and following Jean Mortimer's now standard, but precisely structured format, resulted in the election of the following Executive Office Bearers, after which new Chapter President, Phillip Foster took the Chair:

President: Phillip Foster

FF Anthony Rope/Elizabeth Pulley

Treasurer: Gerry Harris

FF Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes

Secretary: Judith Dwyer

FF James Bradley/James McManus/Jane Poole

Membership Officer: George Wilkins

FF Matthew Everingham

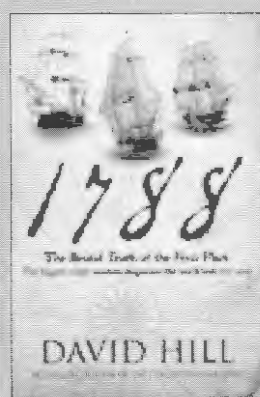
Phillip's first task was to call for discussion of an appropriate name for the Chapter, which is to have a nominal catchment of Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Dubbo, White Rock, Cowra, Kelso and surrounds. As most of the other Chapter names combine to produce a mesmerising conglomeration of compass points, it was a welcome departure that the group sought to identify with an historical figure or activity rather than a geographical location. The name, **Lachlan Macquarie Chapter** was settled upon with universal acclamation, as being redolent of the two major rivers of the area, but also a recognition of the Governor's first visit to Bathurst in 1815 and his enthusiasm for developing the region.

The Chapter decided to meet quarterly, on Saturdays at 2.00pm and to alternate between Orange and Bathurst. Over a generous afternoon tea prepared by the local members and visitors, Jean and Terry Mortimer calculated that the LMC inaugural membership, including those who had sent apologies, stood at 28, 17 FFF Members, four FFF new Applicants on the day, five Spouse Associates and two Friends. Jean said that this number was great, as she recalled that her own South Coast Chapter, now sixty strong, started with only eight members.



The lights are all aglow for this group containing most of the founding members of the Lachlan Macquarie Chapter of The Fellowship of First Fleeters. Seated left to right are Executive members, George Wilkins, Phillip Foster and Gerry Harris. Secretary Judith Dwyer stands between Phillip and Gerry.

In closing, Phillip, who had done much of the work in the region to get the Chapter established, undertook to work with his Executive to provide members with an exciting program of speakers and events, at the same time expressing the view that the members over the course of the next few years will themselves have some fascinating stories to tell! **RW**



1788 The Brutal Truth of the First Fleet

This is a new book by David Hill, he who over nearly 20 years ran the railways, the ABC, Sydney Water, Soccer Australia and, briefly, the railways again. In interview with David Marr, Hill blithely remarked, "Not a lot has been written about 1788," forgetting, as Marr points out, that Robert Hughes, Thomas Keneally, Manning Clark, Mollie Gillen, Robert Jordan, John Cobley and all have given it a fair old nudge! Hill says 1788 was written in a year. I thumbed through it and came to the conclusion that it contained nothing new in content, treatment or style. There were a few well-known glossy pictures, and a couple of maps too small to read. Any FFF member can invest \$34.95 and his or her time to more informative effect! That is the brutal truth! **RW**

Founders Fleetmuster



On page 12 of *Founders* 39.3, June/July 2008, we recorded the names of our members who had made Bonnets and the ships on which their ancestors had arrived. Using that prompt, see if you can unlock 10 such ships, all of which have only one word to their name!

C	A	T	R	I	J	S	G	H	I	F	B
U	T	E	B	B	E	L	L	O	N	A	F
F	L	N	L	E	R	K	M	S	D	N	Y
D	Q	U	E	E	N	Q	G	A	J	N	D
H	V	B	H	M	Q	L	J	R	K	Y	E
E	A	M	D	O	I	C	A	E	G	A	E
L	N	R	G	S	I	R	Z	K	Z	T	P
M	I	D	M	F	M	K	E	E	N	P	S
W	F	Y	H	O	B	V	E	P	J	W	U
Q	N	I	L	E	N	Y	L	S	X	Q	C
E	P	O	N	O	N	Y	Y	C	P	E	X
P	X	O	H	K	A	L	M	O	R	A	H

To find them you may advance vertically, horizontally, diagonally, use the same letter twice, and go backwards as well as forwards. **Margaret Withington**



Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.5

- One of the FF men who kept a journal had bad toothache in February 1788, and complained long and loud. He was:
a. Ralph Clark b. James Easly c. Daniel Southwell
- A real stinker! How many books were there at Elizabeth Farm, in a list compiled for Edward Macarthur in 1854?
a. 602 b. 387 c. 479
- Richard Johnson preached the first sermon "on the grass" in Sydney Cove. On which Psalm?
a. Ps 116 v12 b. Ps 23 v1-4 c. Ps 71 v3
- Who said, "All Europeans are countrymen at such a distance from home, and we had the most eager impatience to fetch anchorage"?
a. La Perouse b. Baudin c. Duperry
- In London parlance of the times, those who purloined pewter pots and pint pots were known as
a. Drag sneaks b. Noisy racket men
c. Cat & kitten hunters
- Another of the Sydney Cove FF journalists speaks of "flash" language which was in use in 1788 by:
a. seamen b. aboriginal people c. convicts
- This (blurred) late 18th Century painting is by:
a. George Raper
b. Robert Cleveley
c. William Bradley
d. John Hunter
- Who escaped from *Alexander* in Tenerife but was caught?
a. John Power b. John Price c. James Price
- The first land grant issued in NSW in April 1791 was to:
a. Edward Pugh b. Samuel Griffiths c. James Ruse
- With the First Fleet came a limited number of books. Of the four listed below one was not among them:
a. *A Natural History of the Earth & Animated Nature*
b. *The Tragedy of Lady Jane Grey*
c. *Robinson Crusoe*
d. *The Adventures of Telemachus, the Son of Ulysses.*



SCORES AND PRIZES:

- 9: Bank Loan for Edward Wills' house @ 1.5% (see opposite)
7: Two Seniors tickets to Sidaway's *The Recruiting Officer*.
5: Cabin on *Sirius* for adventure cruise to Norfolk Island.

Answers on Page 11

Ron Withington



• Alan Barton, who is doing his best to set up a Chapter in Central West Queensland, suggested that C.C. Ormsby (page 6) could NOT have been on *Sirius* if he was born in 1796. In fact he came into the world in 1769 and *Founders* had that old numeral transposition trauma!

• Bonney Savill pointed out that when the Fellowship came to FF House in 1988, the members quite deliberately set out to get a phone number ending in 1788 and a fax number ending in 1988. However, Telstra had allocated 1788 to the florist in our area, *Bloomers*, who were set up and unwilling to give their number away. So on page 12, *Founders* should have reported a 'noble endeavour'.

On the Right Tack – No.4



Words or expressions our ancestors heard or used aboard ship, carried ashore and bequeathed to us.

We look at the derivations and present usage.

The works of literary seadogs

and other writers will certainly give us assistance.

The bitter end (that one will continue doing something until it is finished, no matter what)

The end of the anchor line was secured to a sturdy post on the deck called a bitt. The line was paid out in order to set the anchor. However, if the water was deeper than anticipated the rope would pay out to the bitter end.. Avast ye lubbers!

"Meanwhile the bosun and his mates roused out the best cable the *Diane* possessed, a seventeen-inch cable that they turned end for end and bent it to the best bower anchor by the wholly unworn end that had always been abaft the bitts: the bitter end. There was thought to be good luck attached to the bitter end, as well as greater strength."

Patrick O'Brian, *The Thirteen Gun Salute*, p.299.

"Eating is touch carried to the bitter end." Samuel Butler

Avast! (command to cease any action or behaviour)

Probably from the Old Dutch *houd vast*, to hold fast.

Perhaps first used by British naval surgeon and writer, Tobias Smollett, in *The Adventures of Roderick Random*, in 1748.

"Avast there friend, none of your tricks upon travellers."

Snippets from Sydney Gazette, the Colony's first newspaper, edited by George Howe

ACCOMMODATION, WHEELED AND AT REST

8 January 1804: To be sold, and immediate possession had, a Neat, Eligible and Commodious DWELLING-HOUSE, substantially and handsomely built, well shingled and glazed throughout, good Kitchen detached, and lately called by the Sign of the GREEN GATE, situated near the Hospital Wharf: the Property and in the immediate Occupation of EDWARD WILLS, of whom particulars may be known.

The beginning of the Sydney residential fascination? Glass was still hard to get and glazed windows were a top feature. The roof was wooden tiled rather than thatched, and a detached kitchen kept cooking smells, hot fires and servants away from the living areas. A desirable residence, great location, pity it had been a pub!

Meanwhile, on the same day, here perhaps is the start of the Australian grey nomad caravan tradition:

8 January 1804: Among the Travelling Conveniences we have hitherto noticed none appears better entitled to the eulogium than a Hawkesbury Caravan-SARA that set out on Wednesday with all the precaution necessary to a journey across Deserts. From the sun's inclemency it was sheltered by means of a large tilt, closing in from the rear as necessity should require. In its external appearance it resembled nothing more than a Common-stage Cart, but its interior Accommodation surpassed that of any other vehicle: a bed was spread upon the floor; a handsome larder filled one corner, with necessary kitchen requisites in the other; in a third was placed a bottle of rum and in the centre RESIDED the little family, travelling in all the eccentricity of a Persian fable.

PROFILING CHARLES ORMSBY – Extracts from his letters

In the last issue of *Founders* we noted the acquisition in our Library of typed copies of the letters of FF *Charles Cutts Ormsby* to his father, Henry Ormsby, at Henly-upon-Thames in Oxfordshire. On close examination there are six letters in the collection, depicting an intelligent, forthright young man, a bit arrogant and critical of superiors. (For example he dares to write, "I asked Capt Phillip to supply me with a little money but he would not – he is an exceedingly stingy man, there is two or three Gentlemen in the Ship whose friends are personally acquainted with him and he would not spare them a farthing.") He is almost refreshingly cynical, but an able commentator, whose association with the colony was very much linked to the voyages and fortunes of the good ships *HMS Sirius* and *HMS Supply*.

Ormsby sailed on *Sirius* in 1787 as a midshipman of 18 and was aboard for the 36 weeks to Sydney Cove. Then in October 1788 he spent 13 weeks sailing to the Cape of Good Hope via Cape Horn and a further 10 weeks back across the Southern Ocean, arriving in May 1789, having completed the first global circumnavigation in Antarctic waters and writing an excellent account of it. On his return from the Cape he wrote:

"We found every body in port Jackson wishing heartily to be relieved perfectly tired of the Land of promise, nothing new to be found in the country, no Society, nothing but one continual scene of wind and water. there was some shooting at first, but the game & fish are almost destroy'd – they thought themselves bad enough off then little did they think of being so bad as they are now."

Ormsby remained with *Sirius* at Sydney, and then embarked on her fateful final trip to Norfolk Island in February 1790. He wrote certainly the most graphic and comprehensive first-person account of the wreck and its immediate aftermath.

Ormsby sailed back to Sydney on *Supply* arriving in April and then set out on the same ship via Norfolk Island to Batavia, arriving in July 1790. From port in Batavia, in his last surviving letter to his father, he wrote:

"If she (*Supply*) had not happily got off most likely we must have all perished together in that Land of Famine, for we were forgot in England and altogether and nothing left to keep us from starving, but to go to some foreign port and beg. I believe that there has been some Magical Proceeding's against the settlement in general for nothing seems to have prosper'd since our first landing – it may be a great saving to the Kingdom if it takes warning by the many losses it has sustain'd & evacuate a Country which no man in his senses would give a hundred Pound's for and all its Productions, a Sterile Unhospitable Region fit for nothing but ye miserable Wretches that Exist in it."

Ormsby's foreboding and misery were not confined to Sydney. *Supply* left Batavia for Port Jackson, but he was assigned as midshipman to a Dutch Captain on the *Waaksamheid* with a crew of Malays, also to proceed with a cargo of supplies to Sydney. He arrived in December 1790, "a living picture of the ravages made on a good constitution by Batavian fever."

There can be no surprise then that in March 1791 Ormsby left the colony in *Waaksamheid* to return to England. In 1794 he was 2nd Lieutenant on *Reliance*, in 1804 he was appointed to *Conflict* gun brig that was wrecked on the French coast a few months later. He died in 1810.

It is perfectly understandable that a perceptive young man who spent so many months on the high seas sharing a desperate and seemingly failing endeavour to provide the colony with a level of subsistence should have become quite disenchanted with the whole operation, to the point of asserting that the colony was totally jinxed and should be abandoned. But certainly we, the descendants of those who suffered, are exceedingly thankful that they, and that erstwhile purveyor of Magic Proceedings, had other ideas!

RW

Fig.1: Musket trigger guard from the wreck of *Sirius* at Norfolk Is.



THE CONVICT'S OPERA

Accomplished British Royal Court director, Max Stafford-Clark, has made a return trip to Sydney to direct the premier of *The Convict's Opera*, a re-interpretation of the 1728 'musical', *The Beggar's Opera*, but this time set on a period tall ship with the original motley mix of highwaymen, thieves, arsonists, jailers and whores transposed into a cackle of convicts being transported to Botany Bay.

Many will remember Stafford-Clark's 1989 visit with the Royal Court's superlative dual productions of Farquhar's *The Recruiting Officer*, and *Our Country's Good*, the latter being a play by Timberlake Wertenbaker based on Thomas Keneally's novel *The Playmaker*, which in turn was an interpretation of FF Robert Sideways' first commercial theatrical offering in the new colony.

As in *Our Country's Good*, *The Convict's Opera* has the convicts putting on a play within the play, but now less of a drama than a rollicking balladic tale of intrigue, heroics, burlesque, incarceration, escape, gender swapping and romance within a syrup of political agitation.

While the lighting is quite adequate, the set is a travesty

Theatre Review: Sydney Theatre Company

of maritime design. A lantern which pendulums irritatingly high in the tabs is about the only evocation of a ship on the ocean wave. On the other hand the costumes are vivid and the cast of five British and five local actors are by no means at sea! The music is provided minstrel-like by the cast, cheerfully based on pop songs by Rod Stewart, Ian Dury, Carly Simon and the Proclaimers.

The 1728 script is not about beggars, but by a beggar, John Gay, ruined by the bursting of the South Sea Bubble. As the show progressed, I became more and more connected with the resetting of the piece – the convicts' fear of the life they would find at Botany Bay, their ineffectual toying with the idea of mutiny, their 'dangerous liaisons', their corrupt turnkey, their masochistic ship's captain and the emergence of a Ned Kelly-like hero who was to become the first bushranger. And somehow the role-playing intrinsic to the play's structure created for most of them a self-awareness which gives rise at the end, as the kookaburra greets them, to a confidence and determination to make their exile work for them despite the odds. And we know that for most of our FF ancestors that is what really happened.

RW

Canberra: (ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds)

Next Meetings: A Christmas BBQ Lunch will be held on Sunday 7 December at the home of 'The Camerons'. Australia Day Luncheon is planned for Monday 26 January 2009 at Canberra Yacht Club. All FFF members are welcome. For bookings contact the President, Geoff Cameron. Ph. (02) 6251 4095

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

Venue: Wyong RSL on the second Saturday of each month starting at 10.30am.

Next Meeting: Christmas Luncheon, Saturday 13 December at Wyong RSL, 11.30am for 12 noon. \$25pp. Bookings to Beryl Haxton before 28 November. Ph. (02) 4353 2524

Eastern Farms: (Ryde, Eastwood, Parramatta, Kings Langley, Pennant Hills & surrounds)

Venue: Ryde/Eastwood Leagues Club. Meetings are held monthly on the 1st Saturday, 10 am to 12 noon. For further information Ph. (02) 9871 4102.

Hunter Valley: (Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds)

Venue: St John's Hall on the corner of Parry & Dawson Sts, Cooks Hill, Newcastle. Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Members may arrive at 10am.

Next Meeting: Christmas Luncheon, Monday 15 December at Monet's Café, Newcastle. Please phone Beth (02) 4926 5535 or Yvonne (02) 4957 4758.

Lachlan Macquarie: (Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Dubbo, White Rock, Cowra, Kelso and surrounds)

Next Meeting: A 'Getting to Know You Day' will be held on Saturday 6 December. Judy Dwyer will send a letter to all members with full details, including time and venue. Judy's phone: (02) 6365 8234

New England: (Armidale & surrounds)

Next Meeting: A Christmas Luncheon will be held on Saturday 6 December at 12.30pm. For the programme of the day's celebrations please phone Fran (02) 6771 5099.

North Coast: (Coffs Harbour, Woolgoolga, Leigh & surrounds)

Next Meetings: Christmas Party, Sunday 7 December at Boambee Creek Reserve commencing at 10.30am. Then Australia Day Celebration, 26 January 2009, at Bellingen Showground. For details contact Robyn (02) 6653 3615 or Mary (02) 6657 1962

Northern Rivers: (Lismore & surrounds)

Next Meeting: Christmas BBQ Lunch, Sunday 23 November at 11.30 am. \$7 for members, \$8 for non-members.

Venue: Betty McPherson's home, 515 Skyline Rd. Goonellabah. Bring some snippets to share.

Come along and enjoy a day of 'Fellowship and Fun'. Please RSVP to Betty McPherson (02) 6624 1085.

North West: (Tamworth & surrounds)

Venue: Family History Group Rooms in the V. Guy Kable Building, Marius St, Tamworth.

Bi-monthly meetings at 1.30pm. For details contact Jo Crossing. Ph. (02) 6766 8255.

Next Meeting: Christmas Party, Saturday 13 December, 11.00am for 11.30am at 46 Jenkins St Nundle. BYO. Please phone (02) 6769 3295 regarding other items to bring.

South Coast: (from Engadine to Burrill Lake)

Venue: Ribbonwood Centre, Sassafras Room, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto. Nine monthly meetings a year are held on the 1st Tuesday (except May & Dec) 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Next Meeting: Christmas Luncheon Saturday 6 December at Dapto Leagues Club-Sinclair Room. 11.45am for 12 noon. \$30pp. Guest Speaker Ray Thorburn, topic, *Christmas Past*. Bookings before 25 November. Ph. (02) 4261 6893.

Southern Highlands: (Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds)

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre, Cnr Albert Lane & Queen St, Mittagong.

Meetings: Bi-monthly on the second Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Next Meeting: Christmas Luncheon, Wednesday 10 December at the Scottish Arms-East Bowral-Celtic Room. 12 noon for 12.30pm. \$35 per person. Guest Speaker, Ray Thorburn, topic, *Christmas in the Antipodes*. Ph. (02) 4869 1406.

Central West Queensland: Alan Barton, of Longreach, says there are five interested descendants in the region. We need more to form a Chapter to meet two or three times a year. He has promoted the FFF in the 'Back to Longreach Parade' and is keen to hear from other members. Contact Alan for more events in 2009. Ph. (07) 4658 9147.

Annual Chapter Liaison Report to the Fellowship AGM, November 2008 – the final report from Jean

This year we have had the pleasure of establishing the 10th and 11th Chapters of the FFF – Eastern Farms Chapter based in Ryde/Eastward in April 2008 under the Presidency of Malcolm Squire and Lachlan Macquarie Chapter based in Orange in September 2008 with Phil Foster as President. A Brisbane-Based Chapter is mooted for early 2009.

The current trend is to identify with more historic names for Chapters and with their newsletters. South Coast calls their newsletter 'Colony', Southern Highlands 'The 1788 Chronicle' and Hunter Valley 'The Coal River Bulletin' to recognise local history.

There are no stringent boundaries for Chapters and all FFF members who find travel accessible to a Chapter venue are welcome to join. An important factor of FFF membership is to meet with like-minded people, share family research stories and keep our unique heritage alive. Chapter life covers all these aspects and friendships are formed. Willing members cover speaking engagements at local schools, and various social groups. Combined Chapter outings and events have proved popular over the years. Interest in establishing new Chapters is on the increase.

A Chapter Conference held in August 2008 made it possible to meet with members whom I had only known through emails, newsletters and the occasional phone call. The outcome proved fruitful enabling members to discuss issues in person. Many thanks to our National President, John Haxton who made the gathering possible.

I want to thank most sincerely the Chapters Committee members for providing reports for this Chapter Page and for the Board of Directors Meetings. May the Chapters always be the 'Pride of The Fleet'.

Jean Mortimer, Chapter Liaison Officer

MEMBERS MEMORANDA

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

HENRY KABLE / SUSANNAH HOLMES
 #7556 Dawn May Quinton
 #7556.1 Kenneth Roy Quinton

WILLIAM EGGLETON/ MARY DICKENSON
 #7557 Robert Noel Davis

WILLIAM PARISH / PHEBE NORTON
 #7558 Rachel Ann Audigé

CATHERINE JOHNSON
 #7559 Margaret Mary D Searchfield
 #7560 Brittany Rebekah Van Dyke (Jr)

HENRY KABLE / SUSANNAH HOLMES
 #7561 Colleen Lynette Simpson

ANDREW GOODWIN / LYDIA MUNRO
 #7562 Pauline Anne Crawford

OWEN CAVANOUGH / MARGARET DARNELL
 #7563 Raymond Victor Andersson
 #7563.1 Cornelia Andersson

ELLEN WAINWRIGHT
 #7564 William Blake P Wheeler (Jr)

JOHN SMALL / MARY PARKER
 #7565 Gregory Norman Denning
 #7566 Stephen John Denning

JOHN RANDALL/ JOHN MARTIN
 #7567 June Anne Biffin

SAMUEL PIGOTT
 #7568 Patricia Anne Jarvie

HENRY KABLE / SUSANNAH HOLMES
 #7569 Gerard Charles Dempsey

CHARLES PEAT/HANNAH MULLEN
 #7570 Ruth Marie Dungate

JOHN NICHOLS
 #7571 Richard Cook
 #7572 Lisa Mary Cook

#7573 Bradley Stan Cook
 #7574 Nicola Boadicea Drew Cook (Jr)
 #7575 Freyja Ariadne Drew Cook (Jr)
 #7576 Matthew Leslie Cook
 #7577 Emily Rachel Cook (Jr)
 #7578 Renee Louise Cook (Jr)
 #7579 Mikaela Jade Cook (Jr)
 #7580 Jon Richard Cook (Jr)

JAMES WILLIAMS
 #7581 Richard Paul Kavanagh
 #7581.1 Kathleen Kavanagh

WILLIAM TYRRELL
 #7582 Alan John Baxter

WILLIAM BUTLER
 #7583 Raylee Alice Jones

WILLIAM BAKER
 #7584 Carole Mavis Santa Maria
 #7584.1 Joseph Samuel A Santa Maria

JOHN CROSS
 #7585 Harrison Lyndon Kane (Jr)
 #7586 Alyssa Gabriella Kane (Jr)
 #7587 Lily Grace Kane (Jr)
 #7588 Ginger Penelope Kane (Jr)

CAROLINE LAYCOCK
 #7589 Colin James Carr

WILLIAM HAMBLY / MARY SPRINGHAM
 #7590 Gloria Cronk
 #7591 Erin Gayle Reece
 #7592 Emerson Taylor Reece (Jr)
 #7593 Lachlan Campbell Reece (Jr)
 #7594 Katrina Delphine Torrens-Witherow
 #7595 Miles Elliot Torrens-Witherow (Jr)
 #7596 Leah Nadine Torrens-Witherow (Jr)
 #7597 Clinton Stanley Cronk
 #7598 Joshua Stanley Cronk (Jr)

JOHN SMALL / MARY PARKER
 #7599 Judith Sydney Newell

OWEN CAVANOUGH / MARGARET DARNELL
 #7600 Johanna Carol Eupene (Jr)
 #7601 Alexander Xavier Eupene (Jr)
 #7602 Isobell Jennifer F Andersson (Jr)

BIRTHS

Congratulations to the families of:

ANN FORBES

Daniel John Wilson

3 July 2008, at Caringbah, a son to Stuart and Catherine Wilson, new grandson to Jillian and Ian Wilson #7041.

JACOB BELLETT / EDWARD GOODWIN

Matilda May Pang

15 August 2008, a daughter to Derek and Melinda Pang, granddaughter to Janice Bellette #6600 and Peter and Pamela Cliffe. 9th generation.

THOMAS ACRES

Bryon Ronald Andrew Dower

13 August 2008, at Loganholme, Queensland, a son to Karen and Michael Dower, great grandson of Lilian #5409 and Ronald Noonan (dec.)

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM / WILLIAM TUNKS

Fletcher John James Christian

7 October, 2008. 10th grandchild for Joy and Peter Christian #1881.

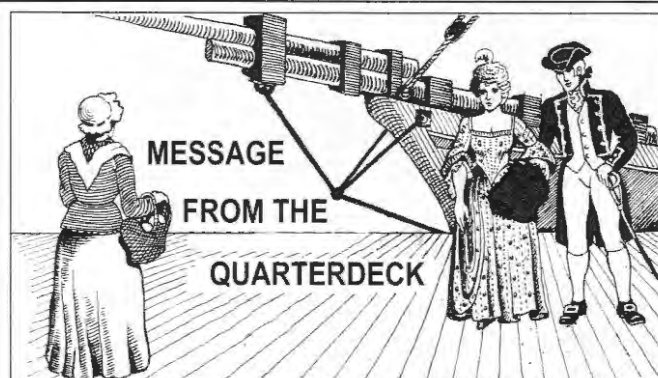
DEATHS

Sincere sympathy to the family of:

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER

#755 Bess Hooke

6 October, 2008. Late of Turrumurra. Foundation member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters and formerly a Secretary of the Fellowship.



• Judy Gordon is a member who has lately made a Bonnet for the *Roses from the Heart* Project, celebrating Olivia Gascoigne who arrived on *Lady Penrhyn* in 1788. Our listing in *Founders* 39.3 did not include a tribute to Olivia. Christina Henry still needs many more bonnets to reach her target of 25,566, when they will become a permanent installation in Hobart. She continues to hold exhibitions, installations and workshops all over Australia. Until early November, the Parramatta Heritage Centre, Church St, had a *Women Transported* Exhibition, which included some bonnets. For a pattern, email or ring *Founders* editor.

• Elsie (Madge) Rups (Rope/Pulley) writes, "Just a short message of 'Hello' to Joan Ross through your magazine. I was also at that first meeting of the Fellowship at Circular Quay. But my No. 69 certainly doesn't precede

your No. 13! I have kept in touch through the good work of Norma Edwards and now *Founders*. Unfortunately my husband Frank is permanently in a wheelchair and we are unable to attend the gatherings. I'm very grateful to the people behind the news publications as we have some knowledge of the amount of work involved."

• Len Murray wrote to explain that he omitted to say that Zara Kate Murray, whose birth was recorded in *Founders* 39.5, is also a sister for Lachlan James and a granddaughter for Bill and Helen Harrington.

• **PHILLIP'S BIRTHDAY:** John and Beryl Haxton, Jean and Terry Mortimer, John Boyd, Betty Warn and Ian O Palmer attended the Annual Phillip's Day Commemoration Lunch at the Botanical Gardens and the RAC on 15 October. This event, sponsored by the Women's Pioneer Society, featured an address by the President of the Arthur Phillip Society, Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris. John Haxton came away with a signed copy of her excellent 28-page monograph, *The Life of Admiral Arthur Phillip RN*, for our FF House Library.

On Saturday 11 October 2008 Jean and Terry Mortimer attended a Peal of Bells specially composed for the occasion – *Arthur Phillip Surprise Major* – rung by a team of elite ringers assembled at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn. (More of this event in the next issue of *Founders*.)

Hunter Valley Chapter enjoyed a Commemoration Lunch, with an address by Warren Hyslop, and other Chapters celebrated the birthday with toasts and tributes at their October meetings.

RW