

# Founders

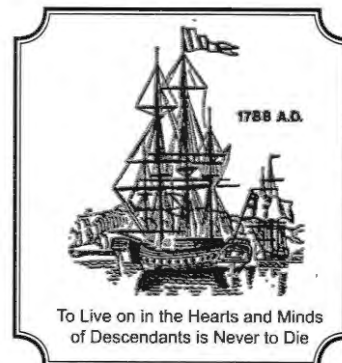
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**PATRON:** Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of New South Wales

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## Queen Susan of the Albanians – a FF Descendant in exile

**T**he self-proclaimed heir to Albania's royal throne, **Leka I Zogu** died of a heart attack, aged 72, on 30 November 2011. Though presiding over a parliamentary republic, Albanian authorities held official ceremonies for the self-styled king in the capital.

Leka Zogu was the son of King Ahmet Zogu, a Muslim chieftain who proclaimed himself Albania's monarch in 1928 and ruled for eleven years during a time that many older Albanians now remember as prosperous and stable. Albania's communist rulers abolished the monarchy in 1946, but, even in exile, the royal family insisted that Leka Zogu was Albania's legitimate ruler.

Born just two days before Albania was occupied by Italian forces in 1939, Leka Zogu spent most of his life in exile in Europe and Africa while his country was ruled by Communists.

**Why am I telling our members all this? Well his wife was an Australian, not only that but she was a First Fleeter descendant.**

**Susan Barbara Cullen Ward** was born in the Sydney suburb of Waverley in 1941, a daughter of Alan Robert Cullen Ward and his wife, the former Phyllis Dorothea Murray-Prior. **Her FF ancestors were Robert Forrester and Ann Forbes.** She was raised on her father's sheep station in the NSW central western town of Cumnock. She attended Presbyterian Ladies College at Orange, then Sydney Technical College before teaching art at a private studio. She was married to Rick Williams from 1965 to 1970.

Susan met Crown Prince Leka at a dinner party in Sydney, and in 1975 they were married in a civil ceremony in Biarritz, and again in a religious ceremony in Madrid. Guests at the wedding shouted, "Long live the King", then acknowledged the Spanish dictator with, "Long live Franco". Barry Everingham, a commentator on royal families, said the marriage was a love match, but in many ways she had a sad, turbulent life, moving from country to country while her husband tried in vain to capture the crown once worn by his father. Australian authorities refused to recognise Susan as queen but, in a compromise, when Andrew Peacock was foreign minister, issued a passport in the name of "Susan Cullen Ward, known as Queen Susan".

In the first few years of their marriage, the couple lived in Spain, before Leka was expelled for illicit arms dealing, a claim Susan later denied. He had been arrested earlier in Thailand on charges of arms smuggling. They later settled in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) where Susan had a stillborn son. After falling out with the government of Robert Mugabe, the couple moved on to South Africa where their son, also Leka, was born in 1982. Here they were to lose diplomatic favours when Nelson Mandela won office.

After Albania's Communist regime fell in 1990, Leka Zogu made two disastrous attempts to return home — being thrown out during the first in 1993 by the inaugural democratically-elected president, Sali Berisha, and charged with leading an armed upris-



**A Royal Dream and a Coat of Arms: Susan Cullen Ward with Crown Prince Leka Zogu. Their son, Prince Leka, still a pretender (and a First Fleeter!), serves in the Albanian Ministry of Interior and has served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.**

ing during the second in 1997.

Leka Zogu finally settled in Albania in 2002, leading a quiet life with his wife and son but never relinquishing his claim to the throne. The royal family's official website listed his interests as "arms, shooting, reading and history."

Her Majesty, Queen Susan of the Albanians, which was the title she preferred to use, died of lung cancer in July 2004. She lay in state in a chapel outside the capital Tirana, and was buried in the Cemetery of Sharra in Tirana. Leka outlived her by seven years.

Maureen Cullen Ward, a cousin, has said, "Susan was very nice, very clever, cool and with a great sense of humour." Barry Everingham has said, "She was a woman with great dignity, who became enamoured by her husband's dream to return to the monarchy."

**CODA:** It was **Peter Christian OAM**, our former President, who drew attention to the death of Leka Zogu, and to the link with Susan Cullen Ward. Peter went on to remark, "The Cullen Wards have been members of the Fellowship for ages. It is obvious that she did not join, but she belongs to that clan. Susan was present with her lady-in-waiting at the launch of *The Everingham Letterbook* by Val Ross at the Macquarie RAHS rooms in 1985. I asked Val who was the lady to whom all the women were curtsying. She told me she was Queen of Albania! Albeit in Exile!! First Fleeters show up in the strangest places and in all shapes and forms." **RW**

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**At the Australia Day Luncheon**  
**See pages 6 and 7**  
**Photos available**



## Founders

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**A**s I outlined at the Australia Day Luncheon, this year is the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sailing of the First Fleet – 13 May 1787 from Portsmouth – 10 June from Teneriffe – 9 September from Rio de Janeiro – 12 November from Cape Town – 20/21 January to Botany Bay and 26 January 1788 Raising the Flag at Sydney Cove. Hence 2013 is an important anniversary for the Fellowship to celebrate the arrival of our ancestors, and the generations of Pioneers who came after them, to establish a thriving Colony.

Planning for a March through the streets of Sydney, proceeding to Government House to present the Governor with a certificate or pledge of our Loyalty to Australia and especially New South Wales, would be a wonderfully fitting way to celebrate our heritage. Some of you at the Luncheon indicated that you would be willing to dress in period costumes and participate in such a March. We are having discussions with members of the NSW Parliament about staging this event and are receiving positive responses. We will keep you informed as to the progress of these plans.

Other dates for possible events are; the First Church Service, 3 February; Disembarking of the women convicts, 6 February; Constitution of the Law Courts, 7 February; First weddings, 10 February; *HMS Supply* leaving for Norfolk Island, 14 February; Arrival at Norfolk Island, 6 March.

**First Fleet Park** discussion has progressed a little. We have been given a copy of the planned alteration to the Park and its precincts, tree culling and planting etc. The bust of Arthur Phillip is in storage with the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority.

We will continue to persist with our desire to be consulted at an early stage about the final plan for the Park

*In fellowship, John Haxton*

## From the President...

## Arthur Phillip, the man who made us great

Is this the big think our First Fleet Park campaign demands?

An approach by Justin Owen, reprinted from *The Spectator*, 21 January 2012

**F**illed up the gas bottle? Purchased the BBQ budget meat pack? Stacked up on Tooheys New? Rummaged around in the cupboard for the tomato sauce-stained, Chinese-manufactured Australian flag? Good. But as we carry out Australia Day preparations that are now as venerable as the Book of Common Prayer, surely it's an appropriate moment to reflect upon the genius of this momentous day? And to honour the individual who more than any other deserves our praise and gratitude for the success story which is Australia and the shining miracle that is Sydney? Captain Arthur Phillip.

He was, of course, not only the first Governor of New South Wales and founder of the settlement, but also a visionary, a warrior, an administrator and above all a man whose achievements in establishing the settlement against all odds should be taught to every Aussie schoolkid as a shining example of courage, determination and purpose. As Percival Serle remarked: 'He was sent out to found a convict settlement, he laid the foundations of a great dominion.'

As such, it would be reasonable to assume that Phillip's contribution to our nation would by now have been loudly and proudly recognised at the nation's birthplace of Sydney Cove.

Sadly, not in contemporary Sydney. 'Political correctness' prefers to forget the achievements of men like Phillip, James Cook and other icons of European settlement in Australia. As indeed with Columbus in the US, the history of colonisation and exploration is buried by academics and bureaucrats of varying candlepower who choose to view the period as an embarrassment best not spoken of.

Disgracefully, Phillip has been allowed to fall away piece by piece from the consciousness of the city he founded. In the late 19th century an impressively ornate fountain was built near Government House to recognise him, followed by an unremarkable small bronze bust at West Circular Quay in the 1950s. A further attempt of sorts was made during the 1980s — prior to the Bicentennial — with the construction

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of First Fleet Park near the attractive art deco building that houses the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Covering the site of the former Queen's Wharf, the Commissariat stores and Sydney's first marketplace and meeting place, First Fleet Park soon became nothing more than a site for office workers to lunch, inebriates to pass out and — almost as bad — the site of Dr John Hewson's celebrated and disastrous Fightback! rally in 1993. More a rundown suburban reserve minus the dog turds than a worthy expression of a city's recognition of its founder, it's not surprising the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority last year decided to demolish the park in its current form.

Yes, it became unfashionable in recent decades to believe anything remotely praiseworthy occurred in Australia before the election of the Whitlam government. But shouldn't the opportunity now be taken to finally erect at this unique site at the heart of Circular Quay a monument appropriate to Phillip's standing? As Darrel Conybeare, the original architect of First Fleet Park, recently stated: 'The place has a national significance in that it is the birthplace of Australia, it's where people did step ashore and built a parade ground. It seems therefore to have a significance that no other place enjoys.' Surely such a spot deserves better than a few 'passive zones' and unwanted concrete slabs for the local skater community?

Apparently not. With doleful certainty, the bureaucrats have delivered up a proposal for the site that is even more soulless and pointless than the park had become. Chillingly labelled a 'revitalisation', the redevelopment involves the construction of a 'vibrant pedestrian zone for many activities'. Breathtaking in its banality, a grass slope will also be constructed to create a natural amphitheatre as 'an ideal location for outdoor cinema and stage performance'. Satirical mime, anyone?

This all sounds more like the development of a dreary suburban shopping mall or a council youth centre for surly, disenfranchised adolescents than a worthy recognition of Sydney's founder and birthplace. Quite simply, not only does Captain Arthur Phillip deserve so much better than this, but so too does Sydney.

**SO HERE'S MY SUGGESTION:** the NSW government, the City of Sydney and the SHFA this Australia Day should announce a bold new plan for the heart of this site. They should construct a huge bronze statue of Phillip on the lawn next to the Museum of Contemporary Art. Built to the height of the MCA, this monument should not be meek. It should be unashamedly patriotic and King Kong-sized. Indeed, this monument should ultimately stand alongside the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House as celebrations of the enormous achievements and pride we have in Sydney and Australia.

Such monumental commemorations of significant public figures were once a common element of civic life and societal pride: a celebration of public achievement and

human endeavour. Think of the two magnificent statues at either end of the Anzac Bridge, or, to a slightly more modest degree, Warnie at the MCG or even the Dog on the Tuckerbox at Gundagai. Flinders' celebrated black and white cat Trim lurks at the NSW State Library. Even the unlamented Governor Bligh enjoys greater recognition than Phillip at Sydney Cove today.

As for funding, the Phillip statue could be built with a combination of public subscription and government support. If taxpayers are making significant annual contributions to the cosmopolitan and frankly ridiculous 'installations' masquerading as art at the MCA, surely we can find a dollar or two for something as worthy as the celebration of our founder and our city? Why not hold an Arthur Phillip Lottery?

An announcement of such an endeavour this Australia Day, to be prepared by local artists and unveiled on Australia Day 2013 in celebration of Phillip's arrival at Sydney Cove two-and-a-quarter centuries earlier, would be a magnificent assertion of national sovereignty and civic pride. Furthermore, I can't help but think what a wonderful counterpoint of celebrity focus this monument would be to the inanity of a national conversation dominated by running updates on Kyle Sandilands' love life or Matt Preston's waistline.

It does great credit to the people of Australia (and to governments both Coalition and Labor) that over the past decade and a half, the date 26 January has evolved from its traditional summer slumber to a day of patriotism and a celebration of our unique identity and our great history and traditions. A proud and bold statue of Captain Arthur Phillip in Sydney Cove would be a wonderful manifestation of all we have achieved, recognition of a noble and brave patriot and a positive and confident statement about this city and this nation's bright future.



### Three score Bonnets and counting

It was rather a spooky moment when the *Founders* 43.1 arrived this afternoon with its progress report on the Roses for the Heart Project. I had just sealed up the envelope to go to Christina Henri with four more bonnets. This group was made by my grand-daughter for her four female convicts. She is only 15 but her total of convicts' bonnets now number 24, all from her other grandmother's side and from mine. She only has two First Fleeters, John Alexander Herbert and Joshua Peck, who are from my side.

**I have made about sixty Bonnets to date.** I have never seen the display but hope to one day. **Robin Walker #7012**

### History made Easy!

My ancestry search reveals that I am a descendant of Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne, and I plan to join the Fellowship. Thank you for your wonderful website.

I am a primary school teacher and my class have used your site in their history studies. The highest compliment I can pay you is from an eight year old, who having read through the list of supplies on *Golden Grove* said to his friend, "History is awesome!"

**Jody Arthur**

**FFF Web Watch**

- Profiles of Edward Smith & James Bryan Cullen added.
- More information on our new Albury-Wodonga District Chapter.
- Library Catalogue revised.
- Home page content upgraded as to numbers of members, FF families & individual First Fleeters.

[www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au](http://www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au)

## Where Did William Dring Come From and Where Did He Go?

**Lynne McDonald enthusiastically addresses the question many members are very familiar with, especially in respect of their convict First Fleeters. This is almost a stream of consciousness quest, but material perhaps for one of those factional novels, à la Kate Grenville's, *The Secret River*!**

I have tried in vain to find William Dring in England and to also find out what happened to him after 1795 when he returned to Sydney Cove with his family from Norfolk Island. It all remains a mystery and my interpretations of the available evidence remain only speculation.

My research for William in England has been long but extremely interesting. We know that he was a Mariner and therefore the coastal sea ports or canal villages are the expected places to find his birth. Hull, is a seaport town of York and the town he is reputed to have been born in, but I have been unable to find the birth of a William Dring in 1767 in Hull.

My first piece of evidence came to light about two years ago when I found a bastardy case in 1773 between Frances Thompson, William Perrot and Nicholas Dring with William Perrot named as the Father (QSF/259/C/8). On enquiring with the UK National Archives I was informed that there is neither record of the gender of the child nor any christening record, so my first excitement soon turned to uncertainty, although I continued to speculate on a possible scenario.

According to this document, William Perrot was the Manservant of Nicholas Dring. I found a marriage and the birth of three children for a William Perrot in Nottinghamshire. Was he the same William Perrot? I don't know. If was him how did he come to be in Hull? Perhaps he left his family to find work, had a liaison with Frances who lived nearby in Meaux, but when she fell pregnant he left and returned to his family?

Then did Nicholas bring Frances and the child into his care and give the child his name? A possibility but there is no proof. There is no record of a marriage of Nicholas Dring to anyone, let alone a Frances Thompson. Nicholas was a brickmaker and had six apprentices in the 1780s and 1790s. If this child was our William, did he then run away to sea to escape a lifetime of brick making. Maybe? Another scenario is that he grew up in the workhouses of Hull, escaping to sea as a very young lad.

**My research continued:** Another William Dring was born in Hull in 1760 — too early I believe and besides he appears to have married in 1781 to Sara Speed, with children born from 1781 to 1791. So he was crossed off my list. There were three other Marriages of a William Dring between 1781 and 1806. William Dring of Arnold Nottinghamshire, born in 1760, was a Yeoman not a Mariner and a most unlikely candidate for a convict.

I have however, found two possibilities, one fits the bill more so than the other. William Dring of Granby, a town where produce was taken via the river to Hull, and therefore giving rise to his gaining some seamanship experience. But he was born in 1770 which makes him a little young to have gained the seamanship that our William appears to have had.

On the other hand, William Dring of South Shields born on 28 December 1767 is a stronger possibility. He is

the right age and South Shields is a seaport about 40 miles north of Hull where whalers left for the North Sea, Iceland and Greenland and merchant trading ships left for Spain and Scandinavia. Many of these ships would return to Hull before returning to South Shields. The sailors would leave the ships south of Hull and then work their way around the city to try to escape the impress gangs who were always on the look out for men with sailing experience for the Navy.

My greatest concern has been that William would have had to be very young when he first went to sea in order to have then gained the seamanship he appeared to have had at the tender age of 17 when arrested. My guess is that he went to sea as a cabin boy possibly as young as 10 or 12 years of age, living the perils of the sea and gaining knowledge and experience over the next five to seven years.

In 1785-6, after William's arrest, a Captain Taylor wrote a letter for clemency. I dare say that this was because he was a valuable member of his crew, and when his letter was unsuccessful I am speculating that he then employed the local Member of Parliament, William Chaytor, to also write to the courts pleading a case for clemency. But this too was refused and William's fate was sealed. He was to be transported to New South Wales in 1787.

His arrest and the items stolen are well documented and with further research I found that there were three groups of men through whose hands these clothes filtered and all were sailors. The court records state that items stolen belonged to Joseph Mitchinson and Morris Wall but there are other records from other magistrates which state that two other sailors, Thomas Topping and James Walker, also sailors, stole them from Joseph and Morris, but they had put to sea and no charges were laid. But when William Dring and Joseph Robinson took them charges were in fact laid.

**So what's the story?** A scenario could be that the clothes may have been nobody's true property but handed between the sailors to wear when they went ashore, so that they did not look like seaman and therefore did not run the risk of being picked up by the impress gangs. Thomas and James had 'borrowed' them whilst on shore leave and given them back after going back out to sea. Joseph Mitchinson and Morris Wall were going ashore and may have wanted to use them but William Dring and Joseph Robinson took them preventing this. So Joseph charged them with theft and we know the result from there.

We know that William and Joseph were sentenced for seven years after and were both sent to Norfolk Island where William was a Coxswain and Joseph a Sawyer. William married Ann Forbes. They returned to Sydney Cove in 1794 with two children, Ann, two years of age and Elizabeth, two months old.

The child Ann died in 1795 when she was only three years old. We do not know how but one might consider two possibilities. After spending most of her life in the relative cleanliness of Norfolk Island she may have become ill with dysentery, a common occurrence at the time, in the more cluttered and dirty environment of Sydney Cove. Or maybe she drowned in the Harbour or the Tank Stream. William's son Charles was born on 20 August 1796 and baptised on 18 September of the same year. However further records on both these children have not survived, so only speculation remains on their deaths. From then on William appears to have just disappeared from the records.

Can we therefore suggest that perhaps, in despair William may have blamed Ann for both deaths? Did he beat her?



We know he did this on Norfolk Island when he found her in the company of the NSW Corps Soldier Charles Windsor. Then from 1796 onwards with their daughter and son dead and perhaps Ann's friendship with Thomas Huxley beginning, William had more grief than he could handle, and decided to leave!

Phillip Gidley King became ill and returned to England in October 1796 and I am of the opinion that William may have left with him. What evidence do I have for this? Only that King was supportive of William during some of the more difficult times on Norfolk Island. William was a skilled and experienced mariner. King trusted his skills and mentioned him in his diaries, saying that William was a 'very useful man' and also 'a man of general good character.' Is this enough evidence to provide an incentive for William to leave the Colony with King? Yes, I believe so, especially as it was soon after the death of his son.

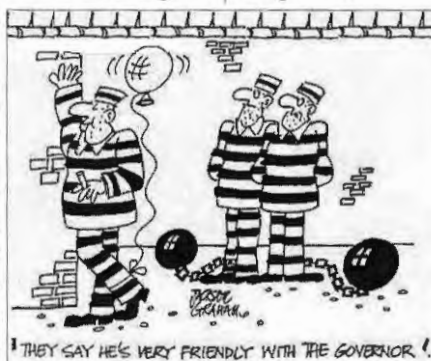
So where did he go, if he did go back with King? Obviously to England in the first instance, but did

he stay there? Well who knows, but I have found a number of marriages from 1797 to 1806 for a number of William Drings. Was one of them our William? I have also found criminal charges, in 1815 (imprisonment) 1819 (imprisonment), 1827 (acquittal), 1828 (acquittal), and 1829 (imprisonment) for a William Dring. Is this our William? After all he did have a penchant for trouble whilst here in New South Wales! This is a pattern that could be enough to speculate that it is him.

If it was, after being released he may have gone to sea in the hope that he would escape his life of trouble. Upon more speculation, he may have been the William Dring who is said to have drowned off Tahiti from the ship *Will Watch*. I have also found a death of a William Dring Labourer in 1845 in Durham, Yorkshire, which is where the William Dring I believe could be our William, was born. So

did he end up going home after all?

In conclusion, my interpretations of the above evidence are all speculation. Is there enough evidence for it to be more than this? I will let my readers be the judge and would like to know what you think. If anyone reading this has a William Dring in their family who may fit my description of events, I would love to hear from you. *Lynne McDonald, FF William Dring/Ann Forbes*



## EXPLORERS' TREE – PULPIT HILL — AN OLD MYSTERY SOLVED

The bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains in 2013 (see page 12) will focus a lot of attention on the route taken, and in particular the area around the controversial Explorer's Tree on the Great Western Highway at Katoomba. This is an account by historian John Low, of the rescue of a convict's memory, the sort of activity which our members find so fascinating and important, certainly where it related to the discovery of "where First Fleeters lie".

It all began in November 1816 with the theft of a trunk valued at 16 shillings from the premises of its manufacturer in Leadenhall Street, London. The law acted swiftly and a month later the young offender, **Edgar Church**, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to seven years transportation, arriving in Sydney on *Batavia* in April 1818. Four years later he was working in a road party in a strange, lonely landscape in the grip of a Blue Mountains winter.

The elevated area behind the Explorers' Tree at Pulpit Hill is a very melancholy place and especially so in cold, wet and misty weather. And such a day it was when sometime ago I joined some fellow enthusiasts to celebrate the first authenticated burial there. Until the twentieth century little interest was shown in the site and while appearing on some early tourist maps as an "old cemetery", it has long experienced both neglect as part of an unwanted convict past and trivialisation from well-intentioned (and mischievous) 'refurbishment'. Consequently, reports of grave numbers there have been amazingly contradictory.

Nevertheless, though not translated until 1938, there has always been one genuinely documented report of a burial – that made by the French surgeon René Primevère Lesson who, with his companion the naturalist and explorer Jutes-Sébastien-César Dumont d'Urville, travelled to Bathurst in 1824 and found on the "wind-beaten height" a "still fresh grave". Lesson failed, however, to record the name of the "young man who died there in 1822" and gradually, with the years, all evidence of the grave and its marker disappeared. Even when the RTA undertook a Ground Penetrating Radar investigation in 2000 and identified one apparent grave site, it still seemed likely that the occupant would always remain anonymous. What a surprise then, when Sydney historian Edward Duyker, researching a biography of Dumont d'Urville,

told me he had discovered the explorer's journal in a French bank vault and could now identify the young man buried on Pulpit Hill! D'Urville had recorded in English the inscription on the grave's stone marker. It was the young trunk thief, Edgar Church.

From depositions sworn at Church's inquest, it appears that on the evening of 20 June 1822 another convict road worker – they were not manacled and were not the hardened recidivists that made up the later chain gangs – found him dead in one of the small roadmen's huts in which they slept. He lay with his hand in his mouth, having suffered a seizure of some kind brought on by his recent consumption of rum. He was, according to d'Urville's transcription, 27 years of age.

There is something incredibly poignant about rescuing someone's memory from such a long period of anonymity and Church's story can now add much greater meaning to a site that has often puzzled visitors. The RTA's investigation did not rule out other shallow burials. Who knows what future research will uncover?

*John Low*



This cannot be confirmed as the grave of Edgar Church, but it is typical of the scattered grave sites with rough unmarked headstones littering the stoney "cemetery" on Pulpit Hill.



## Australia Day Luncheon 2012

**O**ur State Governor, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, in September 2011 accepted an extension of her appointment until 2014, and in so doing she remains our Patron for a further two precious years. So

we were overjoyed that on Saturday 21 January she and Sir Nicholas were once more able to join us for our annual Australia Day Luncheon.

We had a change of venue, being hosted by the Marriott Hotel in College Street, opposite Hyde Park, where the event attracted a full dining room of 179 members and friends, with good representation from the Chapters and heavy rain!

**Rod Best PSM** was again our sagacious MC and was joined at the Official table by his wife, Louise Baur, the Vice-Regal couple, President John Haxton, Moreton Chapter President, Jean Stewart, Vice-Patron Paul Kable AM, Ann Kable and our Guest Speaker, Michael Flynn.

The Governor was greeted by a spirited singing of the National Anthem, admittedly with augmentation by a recorded choral group and a program note that set out the words of the second verse! Sharon Lamb followed up with the Royal Toast to Her Majesty who has now reigned over us for sixty years, and Paul Kable gave Thanks for the food.

Vice-President, **Ian Palmer**, proposed the Toast to our First Fleet Ancestors reading out the names of those 85 such persons who were represented by their descendants at the Luncheon. Ian and **John Haxton** then presented Life Memberships to the current duo who comprise the Membership Committee, **Elaine Bennett** and **Lois Cook**. These ladies, both descendants of Jane Langley/Philip Scriven/Henrietta Scriven, have been members for 34 years and have regularly undertaken a variety of tasks. Elaine is a former Director, has acted as Office and House manager and for a short time was the Fellowship Secretary. **Bruce Arnett**, 40 years a member, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his eleven valued years service on the Board, three of these years as Secretary.

In her generous remarks the Governor paid tribute to the resilience of the First Fleeters, who through all sorts of trials and setbacks, and under the visionary leadership, particularly of Phillip and Macquarie had the courage to start over time and time again, and so forge the traditions of this great country. She remarked that the name Bashir, is Arabic for Herald, and as a second generation Australian herself, she called on members to proclaim to their Councils and Governments the passionate need to celebrate the role

played by our ancestors on the 225th Anniversary of the sailing of the First Fleet which will occur in May 2013.

The Governor said that she had written to Westminster Abbey and to Lincoln Cathedral asking that

due recognition by way of a plaque, be given to Matthew Flinders, on the bicentenary of his death in 2014, recognising his gigantic contribution not only to Australia (he mapped and named it!) but to British navigation. And perhaps recognition to his cat, Trim, the first feline to circumnavigate Australia!

The warmth and attachment Her Excellency expresses to our endeavours and our early history seems to know no end.

In his address **Michael Flynn** explained that he is revising both his own book, *The Second Fleet: Britain's Grim Convict Armada of 1790* (1993) and the book *The Founders of Australia* (1989) on which he worked with author Mollie Gillen. He expressed his appreciation for the assistance he had received from the Fellowship, in particular for our emphasis on original sources and for the use of our excellent library. Within his wide-ranging scholarly remarks Michael raised several points of keen interest:

(i) He introduced us (well me!) to the Journal of Richard Atkins, acting Judge Advocate after David Collins, easily downloadable and source of quite distinctive, if maundering, information on the state of the colony, 1792-1794.

(ii) He said that he had found five previously unknown *Lady Penrhyn* First Fleeters within the original of the journal of Bowes Smyth: seamen **John Campbell**, **Daniel McDonald**, **Thomas Duncan**, **Abraham Green** and **William Palmer**.

(iii) He pointed out that he had found a new candidate for the oldest survivor of the First Fleeters: **Thomas Russell**, who was born the son of a marine private at Rio in August 1787, returning to England in 1791. He became a Navy agent and a publican, had three children and died in 1867.

(iv) He was confident of discovering more First Fleeters who had descendants living in the 21st Century, probably by further tracing the lives of those who had returned to England in the early days of the colony.

(v) He emphasised the enormous importance to the voyage and the colony of the character of Arthur Phillip: the calmness under stress of a battle-hardened soldier, his cockney egalitarianism, his seafaring German father Jacob Phillip, his black sense of humour, his grasp of science and political intrigue and his ruthlessness when necessary. "All adding to the success of a venture with special meaning now, but as significant in its day as Noah's Ark or a moonshot, a venture or great interest, a good story and forever a talking point."

Ron Withington



The Official Table: The Governor in conversation with our Guest Speaker, Mr Michael Flynn. Sir Nicholas Shehadie is seated beside the Governor. President John Haxton is seated at right.

**RECORD OF THE EVENT:**  
Colour photos were taken at each table, and can be obtained as a print or an emailed file.

Please contact the Editor on 02 4757 3984 or [ronwit@ozemail.com.au](mailto:ronwit@ozemail.com.au) or ring First Fleet House.





**Table 11:** Cristina Palmer (fr) presented a bouquet to the Governor. Standing centre – Ian Palmer, who made the presentations, and Robin Palmer, Convenor for the Luncheon.

**Table 16:** Standing – Colin Selman, Wendy Selman, Judith Russell, Paul Miskelly, Glenda Miskelly, Robyn Mackenzie, Wood. Seated – Lola Murray, Len Murray, Margaret Tomlinson



**Table 15:** Standing – Kevin Shaw, Janice Eastment, Pamela Hempel, William Hempel. Seated – Douglas Small, Valda Small, Laureen Wilson, Mary Penfold, Jean Foxover, Edith Turner



**New Life Members, Elaine Bennett and Lois Cook, flanking fellow Life Member, Pamela Quick.**



**Table 10:** Standing – Anna Lamb, Craig Lamb, Sharon Lamb (ADL Convenor), Governor's Aide-de-Camp, Bob Lamb. Seated – Norma Dawson, Elaine Snowball, Kevin Snowball, Jim Kable, Margaret Binder



**At the front desk, Lois Cook, Therese Luck and Elaine Bennett, with guests installed, awaiting the arrival of Her Excellency, the Governor, and Sir Nicholas.**

#### THE 85 FIRST FLEETERS REPRESENTED BY THEIR DESCENDANTS AT THE LUNCHEON

Thomas Acres, Thomas Arndell, John Barrisford, Hannah Barrisford, Jacob Bellett, William Boggis, James Bradley, Elizabeth Burley/Dalton, Patrick Burn, Thomas Chipp, John Cross, James Bryan Cullen, Benjamin Cusley, Mary Dickinson, William Dring, William Eggleton, Deborah Ellam, Matthew Everingham, Andrew Fishburn, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Ann Forbes, Robert Forrester, James Freeman, Olivia Gascoigne, Edward Goodin, Andrew Goodwin, Maria Hamilton, Alice Harmsworth, Ann Harmsworth, Thomas Harmsworth, Joseph Hatton, Maria Haynes, Peter Hibbs, Susannah Holmes, John Herbert, Thomas Jamieson, Henry Kable, Edward Kimberley, Philip Gidley King, Henrietta Langley, Jane Langley, Nathaniel Lucas, Frederick Meredith, John Martin, James McManus, Edward Miles, Richard Morgan, Hannah Mullins, Lydia Munro, William Nash, John Nichols, Phebe Norton, John Palmer, William Parish, Mary Parker, Charles Peat, Mary Philips, Jane Poole, Elizabeth Pulley, John Randall, Edward Risby, William Roberts, Anthony Rope, Ann Sandlin, Philip Scriven, James Shiers, John Shortland Snr, John Shortland Jnr, Thomas George Shortland, John Small, Ann Smith, Mary Smith, Thomas Spencer, James Squire, Daniel Stanfield, William Stanley, Elizabeth Thomas, William Thompson, William Tunks, Joseph Tuso, Ellen Wainwright, Edward Whitton, James Williams, John Winter, Joseph Wright



**Bruce Arnett, recipient of a Fellowship Certificate of Appreciation**

**A**t our Australia Day Luncheon in January 2011 Andrew Tink gave us a spirited address on **Lord Sydney**, the political figure who as British Home Secretary, effectively "launched" the First Fleet and chose Arthur Phillip as its leader.

At the corresponding event in January 2012, our MC, Rod Best, was able to direct our attention to the book Andrew has now released, *Lord Sydney, the Life and Times of Tommy Townshend*.

*Founders* 42.2 page 3 contains an enthusiastic and comprehensive review of the earlier address which was made when the book was virtually complete and awaiting publication. Thus this review needs only to focus on two or three of the additional insights that the book provides.

Many of us tend to regard King George III as a weak individual, because he lost the colonies and went mad for a while. Tink proves him through documentation to be a strong and resolute figure, mostly well on top of his parliament, a man who deserved the respect obviously shown to him by Phillip and his fellow officers, and who enjoyed the loyalty and friendship of Lord Sydney, at all times, but particularly when he was temporarily unwell.

Curiously much of the book is a treatise on the political machinations within the English parliament that surrounded the alienation of the "revolting" colonies and the American War of Independence. As a nineteen-year veteran politician in the bearpit of the NSW parliament, Tink deals with all the intrigue and debate of the time with a particular skill and relish, to present one of the clearest accounts of the emergence of the USA that

one can find anywhere, while at the same time keeping a friendly but unbiased eye on the important role of Tommy Townshend. However, as a First Fleeter descendant I did find myself eager to press on to the Botany Bay bits which did not arrive until the last fifty pages. It was worth the wait, but please no skipping!

It is astounding that so many of the family and extended family of Lord Sydney should have been so active in affairs of State, often on opposing sides, but frequently indulging in more than casual nepotism. Many achieved high office, and his daughters married to advantage. Tommy's son John Thomas was an exception. After working for his father and taking over dad's seat in parliament, his final appointment was lord of the bedchamber, which involved waiting on the king as his Majesty dressed and ate in his rooms.

Andrew Tink has had a bit of a tussle getting the book to the presses, some potential publishers unconvinced that, despite the fact that our first and biggest city is named after him, Lord Sydney has not, and will not, capture the imagination of the general reader of Australian history, as a prime mover in the foundation of our Nation. I hope they are soon proven to be quite wrong. We want that bust in First Fleet Park! **RW**

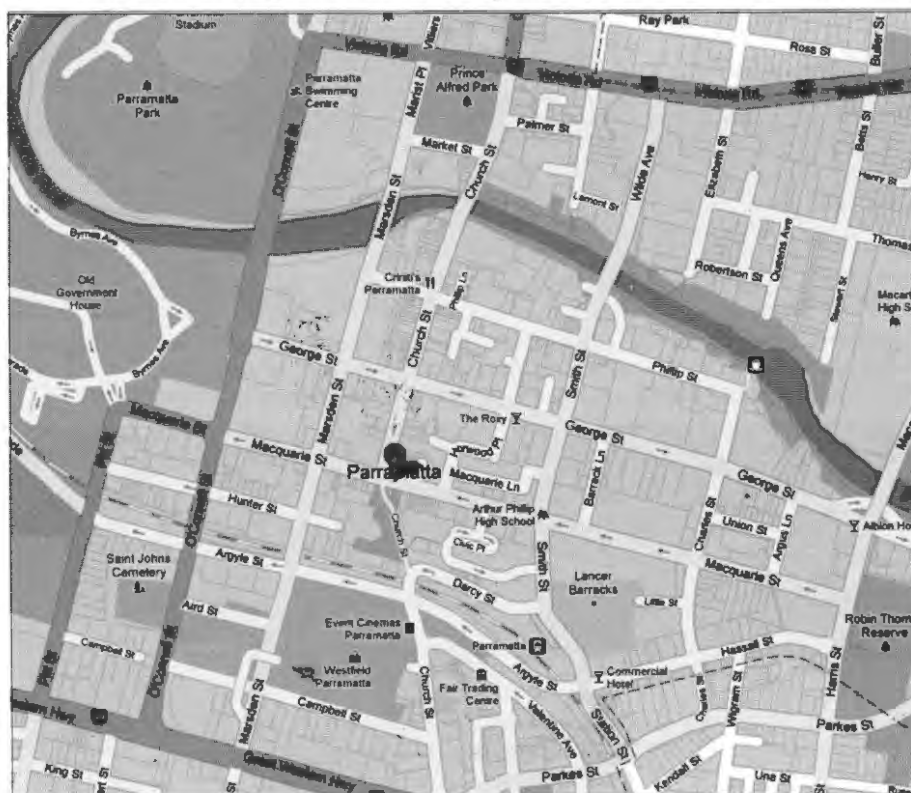
## BOOK REVIEW



*Lord Sydney: The Life and Times of Tommy Townshend*. Andrew Tink. Australian Scholarly Publishing, soft cover, \$39.95

## THE STREETS OF PARRAMATTA

**P**arramatta is the only surviving town in Australia, other than Sydney, which was laid out by First Fleeters. Planned on a grand scale by Baron Augustus Alt and Lieutenant William Dawes on instructions from Governor Phillip early in 1789, its main street (High Street, later George Street) was to be 1.5 kilometres long and 62 metres wide, on an east-west



axis from Government House to the public wharf. A second street parallel to the High Street and 33 metres wide was also laid out, called South Street (now Macquarie Street).

Wide cross streets at right angles to the main axis were laid out in front of Government House; one by the church, ending at the north end in an open plaza big enough for a Town Hall as its focus (now O'Connell Street); another further to the east, which was the crossing point over the river (now Marsden Street).

The town allotments were larger than those in Sydney and were designed to provide gardens which could be worked by convicts and others to supplement the scarce food supplies of the colony.

The generous scale of the main street was described by Watkin Tench during a visit to the settlement in 1790 as being "of such breadth as will make Pall Mall and Portland Place hide their diminished heads"..... Wow! **RW**



## The Revd Richard Johnson Remembered

On Sunday 3 February 1788, the first Christian Service in the colony of New South Wales was conducted by the chaplain, the Reverend Richard Johnson.

This was little more than a week after the First Fleet had arrived in Sydney Cove. One can only imagine the chaos that would have accompanied daily activity up to that point. The service is purported to have been held under a large tree on what is now the corner of Hunter and Bligh Streets. Johnson's text came from Psalm 116 v12, beginning, 'What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?'



Johnson's Bible, and his Book of Common Prayer, (foundational documents in the formation of Australia), as well as the Communion Plate presented by George III in 1803, (pictured at right) now reside under the care of St Philip's Anglican Church in York St, Sydney. The Prayer book went back with Johnson when he returned to England. It was rebound and returned to NSW with the Reverend William Cowper on his appointment to St Philip's in 1809.

Every year on the Sunday which falls closest to the original event, commemorative Services are held at St Philip's to mark the occasion. My husband, Paul, and I attended at 10.15am on Sunday 29 January. The current rector of St Philip's, the Reverend Justin Moffatt, who preached on the same passage from Psalm 116, says that he considers Johnson's Bible to be one of our greatest treasures.

We were reminded of the steadfastness of Johnson's faith and his amazing pastoral care in the fledgling colony. His dedication cost him dearly, not only physically and emotionally but also financially. His health suffered, due to the need to hold services in the open in all weathers, because Governor Phillip steadfastly refused to release to him the resources that would have enabled him to have a church constructed. Similarly, his trips to Parramatta to perform Divine Service were equally uncomfortable. An extract from one of his letters reads: - "Last Spring (i.e. 1791) there was a foundation of a Church laid at Parramatta. Before it was finished, it was converted into a jail, and now it is a granary. Have had this place to perform divine Service in for several Sundays, but am now again turned out, and must again turn field preacher there also." Add to these tribulations the requirements that he attend all executions, visit the sick and dying, preside

The monument on Richard Johnson Square, at the corner of Bligh & Hunter Sts, Sydney, where the service is said to have taken place.

The plaque reads: "To the Glory of God and in commemoration of the First Christian Service held in Australia 3rd February 1788. Revd Richard Johnson BA, the Chaplain, being the Preacher."



## Foundlings

### FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO. 25

- Who was the first legally qualified judge in the penal colony?  
a. David Collins b. Richard Atkins c. Richard Dore d. Jeffrey Bent
  - Who took possession of the western third of Australia for the British Government in 1829? a. Charles Fremantle b. James Stirling c. Edmund Lockyer d. Charles Sturt
  - This building is a. Museum of Sydney, 1835 b. Lady Franklin Museum, Hobart, 1843 c. Town Hall, New Norfolk, 1856. BONUS point for its name and the meaning of same.
  - A prominent First Fleeter took Phillip's injunction to respect the native population seriously. He gave his first born daughter (1790) the aboriginal name Milbah. He was a. William Dawes b. John White c. Richard Johnson d. Philip Gidley King
  - He discovered and named Port Phillip, Arthur's Seat, and Point Paterson. He was: a. Matthew Flinders b. John Hunter c. John Bowen d. John Murray e. Francis Barrallier
  - He landed on King Island and proclaimed Van Diemen's Land a British Possession. He was: a. George Bass b. Charles Robbins c. Ellis Bent d. William Paterson e. John Batman
  - A question for anglers: In April 1792, Richard Atkins, in his journal says, "I should imagine the fisheries under proper regulations might be of great advantage, should they neglect to send a store ship from England. The quantities of fish in the harbour is amazing, Mostly.....?"  
a. trevally b. king fish c. mullet d. luderick (blackfish)  
e. amberjack f. John Dory
  - Two Crossing questions for their bicentenary (see page 12). William Wentworth is buried at Vaucluse House. Where is Gregory Blaxland buried? a. Parramatta b. Springwood c. Emu Plains d. Campbelltown
  - Where is the grave of William Lawson? a. Ryde b. Liverpool c. Prospect d. Ashfield e. Botany
- SCORES AND PRIZES:** Answers on page 11.  
2/9.... Two weeks solitary with only Atkins' journal to read.  
5/9.... A 150 hole-dollar gift voucher for Sydney Fish Market.  
10/9... The keys to the village of Carcoar. RW



as a Magistrate and do his share of farming, it is no wonder that he felt overwhelmed at times.

In the face of continued obstruction and more than five years after the Fleet had landed, on June 1793,

Johnson commenced construction on a timber church. The cost of this rudimentary building was "upwards of £67, £60 of which I have paid in Spanish dollars, and the remainder in provisions". He used his own finances to fund this and was still seeking reimbursement years later. Finally, the repayment to Johnson was authorised by the Duke of Portland in a letter to Governor Hunter dated 31 January, 1797.

Biographer George Mackaness describes his later years. "Worn out by hard work, privations and lack of sympathy, Johnson, in September 1798 applied for leave of absence, left the colony a year later, and spent two years resting in England. Then being asked to resume his post, he resigned and took a curacy in Essex." His character may be best summed up in the words of Governor Hunter: "A most dutiful son of the Church of England. A Moravian Methodist - I believe him to be a very good, pious, inoffensive man."

In 2013, 3 February falls on a Sunday which will add a degree of poignancy to the commemorative Services marking 225 years since the first Service was celebrated. Glenda Miskelly



## A modern motley of members mount memorable moments in mufti

The year 2013 will be the 225th Anniversary of the sailing of the First Fleet. During his address at the Fellowship of First Fleeters Australia Day Luncheon on 21 January 2012, President John Haxton asked the gathering whether or not individuals, Family Fellowships and Chapters would be willing to mount a celebratory parade through Sydney clad in period costume. There was a healthy scattering of consent.

The issue presents no problem for the Hunter Valley Chapter. Five days later, on the Australia Day holiday, a dozen or so HVC members turned up at 6.30am, period costumed, to staff an information stall on Newcastle Harbour foreshore. Great interest was shown in the sundry offerings of the stall, and the marines, handmaidens and convicts were in constant demand for photographs with visitors, young and old. It was in effect a Sunday transportation for all, as they did not manage to ship out until after four of the clock.

RW



Back row: Paul De Bono, John Turner, Yvonne Bradley, Lee De Bono, Cynthia Huggup, Don Huggup, Pat Smith and Bob Walker. Seated: Barbara Turner, Helen Pacey and Judy Aubin. Lee De Bono commented that the Fellowship was given great publicity by the local media.

## A Chapter on Carcoar

CARCOAR'S site and district were first seen by Europeans in 1815. It was not established as a settlement until 1828, but is the third oldest town on the western side of the Blue Mountains. Bathurst and Wellington preceded it. The population never reached the great heights expected of it — only 600 by 1866 with some 7500 people in the surrounding district. The first discovery of uranium in Australia was made near Carcoar in 1894, but the combined effects of gold and silver mines in nearby districts, together with movement of industries away as settlements expanded to the west, always meant that the population remained low. These days Carcoar is a functional satellite village of Blayney, population 281, nestling on the banks of the Belubula River in a small valley at the foot of nearby Mount Macquarie, and happily bypassed by the Mid-Western Highway. In July 1974 the whole village was classified by the National Trust.

So it was no surprise the Lachlan Macquarie Chapter decided to arrange a day trip to the town, arriving in numbers on Saturday 18 February at the Court House (1882), now a museum, and the home of the Carcoar and District Historical Society. Local historian Carl Purcell was on hand to conduct a walking tour, while his wife, Louise opened her pottery display within the same building. Carcoar was proclaimed as a place for holding of Courts of Petty Sessions, and this Court continued to sit here until 1950, when its functions were transferred to Blayney. The courtroom, which along with the building itself, underwent restoration in 2010, is stately with its red cedar panelling, painted frieze and dado, British Coat-of-Arms and photo of Queen Victoria. And of course, in one corner is a rack of period costumes, which, with perhaps a little guidance, the group was unable to resist! What an imposing judge was Phil Foster...

The walking tour traversed seven of the eleven streets, covering



No bail for Judy Dwyer, Alison Thorn and Amanda Foster, under the eye of prosecutor, Cedric Russell of Cowra.

a macrocosm of a country community, frozen in time. There were the Post Office (1879), the CBC Bank (1877), Dalesford (1862, the site of the first-ever daylight bank holdup, St Paul's Anglican Church (1845, an Edmund Blacket design), its Rectory (1849), the City Bank (1886, site in 1893 of a double axe-murder), the Emporium (1851, still a general store), the School of Arts (1901), the Saddlery (1845), the Police Station (1884, still housing a copper), St James' Presbyterian Church and Manse (1861), the Church of the Immaculate Conception and its Convent and Catholic Presbytery (1870) and the Public School (1857). This is not to mention the Carcoar Chronicle building (1872, shut down in 1943), the Railway Station (1888, closed in 1974), the District Hospital



**Carcoar (cntd)**

(1852), Stoke Stables (1849) and the Old Bakery Gallery (1840, now home to a store of collectables).

What have I missed? Oh, yes, the inevitable pubs — sixteen of them once stood in the village — with only the Royal Hotel (1849) currently in operation, and that as a 1942 replacement of two former buildings. Most have become private homes.

Stoke House (1846) was, under its former name, Victoria Hotel, the oldest pub in the village. It is now Stoke House Carcoar, Bed and Breakfast, Cottages and Café, and it was to this establishment that we repaired for scones, jam, cream and bottomless tea, rounding off the visit to an historic gem set in a picture-perfect idyll of countryside Australia.

That evening my companion and I stayed on with mine host, Ross Townsend, at the Royal. Fine wine, superior pasta, tantalising tiramisu and an airy upstairs room opening onto a balcony large enough to host a wedding party, which, Ross says, it very often does.

RW

**A Navigator Stranded**

In her address at the Australia Day Luncheon Her Excellency paid tribute to the life and work of Matthew Flinders. "He is an historical figure I would really have liked to know," she said. This image is another one extracted from last year's *Sculptures by the Sea*. It depicts the lone figure of Flinders marooned with his cat Trim on the island of Mauritius. NOT REALLY, MORE'S THE PITY! It is Peter Tilley's bronze entitled *Domestic Bliss*. But let's hope that during his long imprisonment, Matthew and Trim did oft times find solace approaching a kind of bliss together. No more sculpture stories till next year — promise!

**~ Our Fifteen Chapters in Action ~**

**ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT:** *Both sides of the Murray River*

**Venue:** Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St, Albury, monthly, third Saturday at 10.00am for 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 17 March and 21 April. Topic: *Members speaking about their First Fleeters*. For details please contact Gaye Merkel, ☎6025 5747.

**ARTHUR PHILLIP:** *North Shore Sydney, Milson's Point to Cowan and surrounds*

**Venue:** Meeting Room, Old Gordon Public School, 799 Pacific Hwy, Gordon, monthly, third Friday, 10.30am to 12 noon. **Next Meetings:** 16 March. Speaker: Joan Lawrence. Topic: *A First Fleeter & Two Interesting Women*. 20 April. Speaker: Graham Marshall. Topic: *Lady Juliana*. **Next Events:** Sunday 18 March. Hawkesbury Cruise to Danger Island with lunch at Cafe. Meet at Brooklyn at 10.00am. Thursday 10 May. Tour of Parramatta Female Factory. Meet at Circular Quay at 9.30am to board Rivercat. Contact Joy Zamiatin, ☎9451 8665 or Gillian Doyle ☎9440 5340 for details.

**CANBERRA:** *ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds*

**Next Event:** To be advised. Please direct enquiries to Geoff Cameron, ☎02 6251 4095.

**CENTRAL COAST:** *Gosford, Tuggerah Lake, Wyong, Budgewoi & surrounds*

**Venue:** Wyong RSL Club, corner Anzac Ave and Margaret St, Wyong. Meetings each month on second Saturday at 10.00am for 10.30am.

**Next Meetings:** 14 April. Speaker: Peter Moss. Topic: *The Newcastle Maritime Centre*. 12 May. Speaker: Lyn Fergusson. Topic: *Admiral Arthur Phillip*.

**Next Event:** Friday 30 March. Tour of the Rocks with Liz Parkinson — including the Discovery Centre. Meet at Central Station 11.05am. Contact Jon Fearon ☎4323 1849.

**EASTERN FARMS:** *Ryde, Eastwood, Parramatta, Kings Langley, Pennant Hills & surrounds*

**Venue:** The Hall at Brush Farm House, 19 Lawson Street, Eastwood, from 10.00am to 12.00 noon on first Saturday of the month.

**Next Meetings:** 7 April. Speaker: Lynne McDonald. Topic: *Her Norfolk Island Family*. 5 May. Speakers: Graham Percival & Ian Adair. Topic: *Hunters Hill, the French Village*. For details please contact Robin Palmer, ☎9871 4102.

**HUNTER VALLEY:** *Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds*

**Venue:** Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunner Rd, Adamstown.

Chapter Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

**Next Meeting:** 16 April. Speaker: Suzanne Martin. Topic: *Governor Macquarie*.

**Next Events:** Monday 19 March 10.30am. Mission for Seafarers with Gary Dodd at 96 Hannell St, Wickham. Lunch at Albion Hotel. Friday 11 May. Celebration Lunch, First Fleet Sailing, 12.00noon at Kotara Bowling Club. Contact Yvonne Bradley, ☎4957 4758.

**LACHLAN MACQUARIE:** *Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Dubbo, White Rock, Cowra, Kelso*

**Venue:** Quarterly meetings at different venues.

**Next Event:** To be advised. Please contact Judy Dwyer, ☎6365 8234 or 0428 173 213.

**MORETON:** *South East Queensland*

**Venue:** Bi-monthly on available Saturday at St Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 14 April. Speaker: Brian Rough. Topic: *Colonial Forces*.

Please contact Don Cornford, ☎0457 466 020 for details.

**NEW ENGLAND:** *Armidale & surrounds*

**Venue:** Quarterly, normally on the first Saturday at various venues.

**Next Event:** 14 April. The Chapter will join with North West Chapter for their bus trip to Ben Lomond Station. See North West entry. Contact Robyn Crosslé, ☎6772 3140.

**NORTH COAST:** *Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga*

**Venue:** Meetings bi-monthly are at various locations on the first Sunday at 11.30am.

**Next Meeting:** 1 April at the home of Margaret and Joe Bass, Nana Glen.

Speaker: Mal Dale. Topic: *First Fleet Descendants & their Occupations*.

Contact Mal Dale for details, ☎07 3283 4485.

**NORTHERN RIVERS:** *Lismore & surrounds*

**Venue:** Various locations, bi-monthly, fourth Sunday at 11.30am.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday 25 March, 11.30am at 32 Bottlebrush Crescent, Evans Head. Usual barbecue. Please contact Karin Brown for more information, ☎6682 5338.

**NORTH WEST:** *Tamworth & surrounds*

**Venue:** Bi-monthly meetings, generally on the first Saturday at 1.30pm.

**Next Event:** Saturday 14 April. Bus trip to Ben Lomond Station, Armidale. Leave Tamworth at 8.00am, Armidale pick up at 9.30am. Cost \$50 for bus & lunch. Joint event with New England Chapter. Numbers and money by 15 March. Contact Jo Crossing, ☎6766 8255.

**SOUTH COAST:** *Engadine to Burrill Lake*

**Venue:** Laurel Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto. Meetings monthly except January, May and December on the 1st Tuesday, 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Next Meeting:** 3 April. Speaker: Ron Hill. Topic: *Family Research Stories*.

**Next Event:** Saturday 12 May. Birthday Luncheon at Dapto Leagues Club. Musical Group, "Sway". Details from Stan Keough, ☎4232 1060.

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS:** *Mittagong, Moss Vale & surrounds*

**Venue:** Usually Mittagong Community Centre, bi-monthly, second Wed, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

**Next Meeting:** 11 April. Speaker: Robert Griffin. Topic: *History of Sydney Hospital*.

Details from Neville Usher, ☎4869 1406.

**SWAN RIVER:** *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds*

**Venue:** Various locations as arranged from time to time.

**Next Meeting:** To be advised. Please contact Toni Mahony, ☎08 9271 7630.

Jon Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

**MAINTAIN-A-BRICK**

valued donors to the work of FF House

Rowan Chalmers-Borella, Joy Grass,  
Keith Hanney, Judith Manuel,  
Michael Ronald

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

**WILLIAM BROUGHTON**  
#8026 Gary Broughton Webb  
**EDWARD HUMPHRIES**  
#8027 Peter Allan Regan  
#8028 Georgia Ellen Regan (Student)  
#8029 Rosemary Carlin  
**JAMES PEAULET**  
#8029 Ann Therese Burke  
**ANN FORBES**  
#8030 Marian Elaine Roeling  
**ANN FORBES/JAMES WRIGHT/WILLIAM DRING**  
#8035 Belinda Maree Hogan-Collis  
**JAMES WILLIAMS**  
#8031 Pamela Ann Howard  
**NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE**  
#8032 Patricia Ann Buchanan  
**WILLIAM DOUGLASS/MARY GROVES**  
#8033 Matilda Rose Crane (Junior)  
#8037 Michael McNair Ronald  
**THOMAS KIDNER**  
#8034 Rowan Chalmers-Borella  
**WILLIAM EGGLETON/MARY DICKENSON**  
#8036 Geoffrey Henry Westbrook  
**JAMES BRYAN CULLEN**  
#8038 Dawn Cantwell  
**EDWARD PUGH/HANNAH SMITH**  
#8040 Heather Jean Brown  
#8050 Valerie M. (May) Williams

**JANE LANGLEY/THOMAS CHIPP**  
#8039 Diana Elizabeth Stockdale  
#8043 Albert James Burgman  
#8044 Nicki Justine Burgman (Junior)  
#8045 Rylan James Burgman (Junior)  
**JOSEPH WRIGHT**  
#8041 Allison Vanley Buckley  
#8042 Tiffany Jay Wheway  
**DANIEL STANFIELD/ALICE HARMSWORTH**  
#8046 Christine Joyce Youngman  
#8047 Andrew John Youngman  
#8048 Katy Elizabeth Youngman  
#8049 Ian Lachlan Youngman  
**ANN MARTIN**  
#8051 Barbara Horsfield  
**GEORGE JOHNSTON/ESTHER ABRAHAMS**  
#8052 Jane Stewart Ross  
#8053 Malcolm Stewart Ross  
**HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES**  
#8054 Gail John Massey  
#8054.1 Joanne Patricia Massey  
**JAMES MCMANUS/JANE POOLE**  
#8055 Robert Scott Elsworth  
**THOMAS ACRES**  
#8059 Denise Robyn Lawler  
**WILLIAM ROBERTS**  
#8056 Susan Elizabeth King  
**CATHERINE JOHNSON**  
#8058 Cheryl Josephine Hammond  
**JOSEPH TUSO**  
#8060 Wendy-lou Tisdell

**BARTHOLOMEW REARDON**  
#8061 Marianne Berris Fridell  
#8062 Ethan Christopher Larkins-Fridell  
**FRIEND F104** Cherrilyn Rawlin  
**F105** Diane Rayner

**ASSOCIATE** #5343.1 Margaret Scott

**BIRTHS** Congratulations to the families of:

**JANE LANGLEY/PHILIP SCRIVEN/HENRIETTA SCRIVEN**  
**Zoe Anne Bryce**  
19 September 2009, at Westmead, second child to Elizabeth and Grant Bryce, fourth grandchild for Anne and Wayne Bryce, and fourth great grandchild for #6203.1 Margaret and #6203, the late Canon A R Hardwick.

**Joaquin Rafael Herandez**  
14 August 2011, in Sydney, first child to Amy and Rafael Herandez, fifth grandchild for Anne and Wayne Bryce and fifth great grandchild for #6203.1 Margaret and #6203, the late Canon A R Hardwick.

**MARY SPRINGHAM/WILLIAM HAMBLY**  
**Delilah Hope Brown**  
7 January 2012, daughter to Nev & Mandy Brown, granddaughter for #7962 Karin Brown.

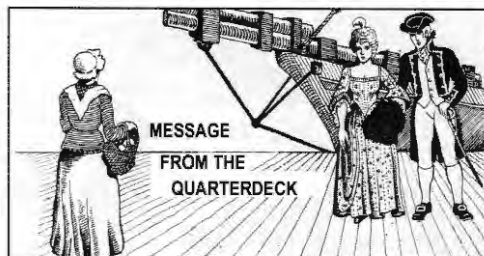
**DEATHS** Sympathy to the family & friends of:

**NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE**  
**#6328 Ronald Iredale**  
25 December 2011, aged 78. Late of Corlette, NSW. Member of Hunter Valley Chapter.

**FREDERICK MEREDITH**  
**#918 Alan Wollaston Bowman**  
25 November 2011, aged 97. Late of Drysdale, Victoria.

**HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES**  
**#7511 Gerald Harris**  
6 January 2012. Late of Blayney, NSW. Gerry was the first Treasurer of Lachlan Macquarie Chapter. He served until struck by ill health.

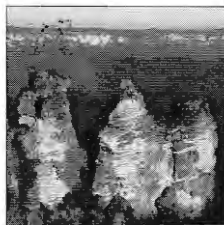
**WILLIAM TUNKS**  
**#3835.1 Sandra Liebau**  
6 January 2012, Late of Epping NSW, wife of #3835 Bruce Liebau.



✦ Tuesday 7 February 2012 was the 200th Anniversary of the birth of the great Victorian novelist, **Charles John Huffam Dickens**. He was born at Landport, Portsmouth, and, as we pointed out in the article in *Founders* 41.2, throughout his career he ever invoked the fine opportunities awaiting those who would emigrate to the Australian colony and work hard. He sent his two sons down under, along with at least eight of his fictional characters. Furthermore, Dicken's death in 1870 coincided with the cessation of convict transportation to Australia. Happy Birthday, Chassa!

✦ From **Richard Atkins** journal, 16 June, 1792: "We walked up the hill from which we saw distinctly Mountains call'd the Blue ones at about 25 miles distance.

"The whole face of the country appears one artistic wood. It has twice been attempted the getting to them but the natural difficulties of the country and the necessity for every man carrying his own provisions they have never proceeded much further than a river call'd Hawkesbury, about half way."



Well they did get to them and 2013 will herald the bicentenary of the Crossing of the Blue Mountains by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. A Western Crossings Project Committee has been formed under

the auspices of the RAHS and includes all stakeholders. The Fellowship is represented by directors Sharon and Bob Lamb. The Committee may mount events in a three-year staged celebration which will cover: **May/June 1813** – Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth crossing of the Blue Mountains.

**November 1813** – February 1814 George Evans survey of the route across the Mountains extending to the exploration to Bathurst.

**July 1814/January 1815** – William Cox and his team of skilled men and convicts building the road across the Mountains.

**April/May 1815** Governor Macquarie travelling the length of the new Great Western Road, declaring the site of Australia's first inland town and naming it Bathurst.

Sponsorship and some Government funding will be sought.

✦ Australian Heritage Week 2012 will go international for a day. The International Day for Monuments and Sites will occur during Australian Heritage Week, on 18 April 2012. This Day is run by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), a non-government association of more than 9,000 professionals – architects, historians, archaeologists, art historians, town planners and anthropologists – all working for the conservation and protection of cultural heritage places. The Fellowship will be aiming to use this day to focus further attention on our campaign for the restoration and enhancement of First Fleet Park.

✦ In *Founders* 42.3 we reported on the project, *For a Pittance: a Photographic Exploration of Direct Descendants of Convict settlers in Australia*, being undertaken by **Mine Konakci** for her Masters in Documentary Photography at Sydney University. The project will be exhibited at the Museum of Sydney, July to September 2013, and Mine is looking for yet more descendants who are willing to be photographed with an artifact of the object(s) their ancestor was guilty of stealing, or with representations of the petty crimes for which they were convicted, as well as participating in a short interview. If you are able thus to share your ancestor's story and your own please contact Mine directly to obtain her briefing paper.

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