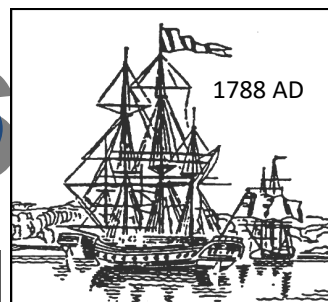


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

ACN 003 223 425

PATRON: Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO



Volume 49, Issue 1

50th Year of Publication

February-March 2018

To live on in the hearts and minds
of descendants is never to die

ALIVE AND THRIVING AFTER 30 YEARS

Chapter Secretary Margaret Soward reports on the 30th Anniversary Lunch celebrated by Northern Rivers Chapter.

On Sunday 26th November thirty seven members and guests attended the Alstonville Plateau Sports Club, to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the formation of the **Northern Rivers Chapter**. The chapter banner was displayed prominently at the entrance to the club.

Everyone enjoyed Fellowship and the items on display that have accumulated over 30 years, such as the original letter to **Peter Christian** at First Fleet House requesting approval for the establishment of the Northern Rivers Chapter, and the minutes of that first meeting in November 1987. The old attendance book was also of great interest.

Lionel Phelps, our founding President, and his wife **Lenore** were fortunately able to attend and enjoyed reminiscing over the past names and happenings.

Current President, **Roddy Jordan** welcomed everyone and introduced our special guests from First Fleet House, President **Jon Fearon** and his wife **Karys**, Chapter Liaison Officer on the Board. They drove up from Gosford and arrived on Saturday. We also had some past members back with us for the occasion and two couples from Lennox Head who are interested in becoming members. We received apologies from nineteen friends or members.

First Fleet President Jon congratulated the chapter on the achievement of this significant milestone anniversary and then talked about his joining the Fellowship when he discovered his Norfolk Island and New Norfolk ancestry via First Fleeter **James Bryan Cullen**. He also explained

how enjoyable and yet challenging a task it is to produce *Founders* every two months. We then enjoyed a Power Point walk through First Fleet House in Woolloomooloo.

Lunch was then served, and Fellowship continued. This was easy as we were lucky to be seated at round tables.

We then enjoyed a trip down memory lane, looking back at the first 25 years from past member **Val Dunstan**. This was followed by the last 5 years from **Rex Soward**.

Lionel Phelps then spoke briefly of the first meeting in 1987, mentioning **Hilda Jackson** as a strong proponent of the formation of the Chapter.

Our delicious 30th Anniversary cake was then cut by Lionel and tea and coffee and cake enjoyed by all.

Attending were Karin & Bob Brown; Des & Mary Burke; Val Dunstan; Pat Eyeington; Jon & Karys Fearon; Wilma Fife; Margaret Hardwick; Betty Harriman; Annette Hepburn; Stan Jenkins; Neil & Gay Johnston; Christine Jordan; Roddy Jordan; Sue King; Delma & Warren McDonald; Betty McPherson; Kay Meredith; Betty Morton; Meg & Wayne Nicholls; Margaret O'Neill; Lionel & Lenore Phelps; Karla Rojo; Sue & Bob Smith; Jennifer & Serg Sonogo; Margaret & Rex Soward; Rhonda Lee & Greg Whafe.

Apologies were received from Carol Briand; Marlene Giggins; Jim Price; Warren Tucker; Nerida & Rob Rogers; Joy Jenkins; Narissa Phelps; Vilmai & Don McDonald; Bev Battersby; Don & Julia Cornford (Moreton Chapter); Mary Joy Payten (Moreton Chapter); Robyn Condliffe (North Coast Chapter); Pat & Darrell Davis (North Coast Chapter) and Bill and Barbara Hunt, past members.

Margaret Soward



FOUNDERS

The magazine of the
Fellowship of First Fleeters
Editor, Layout and Artwork
Jon & Karys Fearon
Ph. 02 4311 6254
E-mail: jkfearon@iinet.net.au

DIRECTORS 2017-2018

President/Chapter Development

Jon **FEARON**, BA, Dip Ed. Stud (TESOL),

Vice-President/Events/ Maintenance

Denis **SMITH** OAM

Treasurer/Secretary

Kevin **THOMAS**, FCA,FCPA,FCIS

Office Manager/Membership

Val **COUNTER**

Research/Web Site Co-ordinator

John **BOYD** JP.

Chapter Liaison /Membership

Karys **FEARON**, BN

Archives

Robert **LAMB**, Mech Eng. Cert.
& Machinist Cert.

Archivist/Events

Sharon **LAMB**, Assoc. Dip Land & eng
Survey Drafting

Minute Secretary/Library

Karen **LOVETT**, BA, Dip Ed

Plaques/Membership

Chris **COUNTER** JP

Note: Many other tasks are looked after by our team of faithful volunteers who are at First Fleet House on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

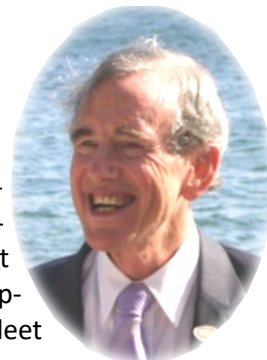
CONTENTS

1. Alive and Thriving after Thirty Years
- 2-3. Directors; President's Pen; Travel Bonus; Members' Message Board
- 4-5 James Peaulet of Musgrave Place
6. Ebenezer Church - My Family Connections
7. What's in a Name - Anecdotal Serendipity; Sculptures by the Sea
- 8-9 Encounters between Europeans and Aborigines in NSW (from the archives)
10. Maintaining Chapter Viability; From the Press
11. Chapters in Action
12. New Members; Births; Deaths; At the Helm; Chapter Secretaries; Australian National Maritime Museum Map.



PRESIDENT'S PEN

Jon Fearon



Many helpful suggestions have been noted by the directors as chapters have responded to the recent viability and sustainability survey. (See page 10). One that stood out is the need for strong liaison amongst the chapters via the hard-working team of volunteers at First Fleet House.

This is particularly good news for your President who as a former Chapter Liaison Officer has always enjoyed keeping in touch, even meeting whenever possible, members from our far-flung fellowship family. Karys and I count it a great privilege to have been in attendance when Albury-Wodonga District, Derwent, Hawkesbury-Nepean and Mid North Coast Chapters held their inaugural meetings some years ago. At other times we have been invited to speak at meetings, attend celebrations and take part in chapter outings to places of local interest.

So it was particularly pleasing to respond to Secretary **Margaret Soward's** invitation to join the Northern Rivers Chapter's celebration of their 30th Birthday. Read the official chapter report on page 1 of this issue of *Founders*.

Karys and I enjoyed wonderful hospitality with **Rex** and **Margaret** at their home in Ballina,



Members' archives on display at the Northern Rivers 30th Anniversary

having driven north from Forster the day before. Some of our members know that we enjoy a 5 kilometre *parkrun* each Saturday morning. When on the road on a Saturday we can visit other parkruns, hence the stopover in Forster.

Our invitation to the celebration at Alstonville came early enough for us to plan a chapter pilgrimage during our nine days away. The opportunities to visit Moreton Chapter and North Coast Chapter were too good to miss.

We left Ballina on the Monday morning, having discovered that Rex had attended Armidale Teachers College the year after me, and that my best mate in college days, also from Brunswick Heads, is Rex's cousin. There was plenty to talk about. What a small world, with ever diminishing degrees of separation!

In Brisbane we stayed with Karys's cousin at Hendra, and while we were there the Moreton Chapter had organised a wonderful lunchtime gathering at the home of **Beverley Fox** at Ascot, the neighbouring suburb. The fellowship, like the food, was rich and sustaining, and we could see how significant for chapters, wherever they are, is the warmth and dedication of their volunteers.

It was especially good to meet the Moreton Chapter secretary, **Gloria Wallace**, whose work on the chapter survey was so outstanding. As Chapter Liaison Officer, Karys was able, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to present Gloria with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Gloria Wallace receives her certificate from CLO Karys Fearon

Time went too quickly, and friendship through fellowship gave us a real buzz as we went on our way. Thank you, President **Julie Webb** and Moreton Chapter. For the rest of our time in Brisbane we were train and ferry tourists, but being with a keen cousin in the cause, family history and DNA dominated much thought and discussion.

We were most impressed when taken by car to the Redcliffe and Scarborough area with its many first settlement monuments and memorials.

The journey back south and home to Gosford began on the Friday, so of course we found ourselves at Urunga for their Saturday *parkrun* - on a beautiful sunny morning beside the sea. This was perfect preparation for

the third part of our pilgrimage, to join North Coast Chapter celebrating their Christmas lunch at the Red Dog Hotel at Glenreagh. Thank you **Robyn Condliffe** and the team.

After a hearty roast dinner, the chapter's annual gift exchange was indeed a highlight. Then the cars proceeded south to **Joe and Marg Bass's** wonderful country home at Nana Glen for afternoon tea together. It was easy to sense the warmth of the friendships that have developed over the years within the chapter through their meetings and social activities.

A precious time for us, so it was hard to leave, having our church commitments the following morning. The motorways were very quiet, and this was just as well, as the rain came down in torrents for much of the way.

So ended a wonderful pilgrimage, and for us the completion of visits to or with all chapters except one, Canberra, Australia-wide. Our heartfelt thanks to all who welcomed and cared for us so well. We are so encouraged by the healthy state of the Fellowship 'out there'.

I conclude with a note to those who have not yet formed a chapter for their area. How about it? It's worth the effort. We would love to help you get started. **Jon**



Joe and Marg Bass's home at Nana Glen - a perfect spot for Afternoon Tea

PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL BONUS



Picture, at left. Some of us enrol our grandchildren in the Fellowship at birth. President Jon waits until they are 18 and then gives them membership. How good it was recently to be on the road and catch up with granddaughter **Lorien Fearon** and do the presentation in person.

MEMBERS' MESSAGE BOARD

NEW FAMILY FACEBOOK GROUP

#5648 Clare Stapleton advises that her Eleanor [Redchester, Register] Fraser Family Facebook Group is now up and running. Any of the known 13000 descendants of Eleanor are invited to join the group.

Contact Clare on **stapleton2137@gmail.com** for details or go to Facebook and search for **After Nell**.

JAMES PEAULET of MUSGRAVE PLACE

Family research indicates that **JAMES PEAULET** (**Pewlet, Pulet, Pewlett, Poulet**) may have been born in London about 1763 to parents **John** and **Mary**. Nothing is known of him until he was tried by the Second Middlesex Jury before **Mr Justice Heath** at Justice Hall in the Old Bailey at the Sessions which began on Wednesday, 7th July, 1784. A statement: "James Peaulet was still a boy when he was tried at the Old Bailey for stealing and sentenced to seven years transportation" would not have been correct if his date of birth was actually 1763.

The Old Bailey Trial 690 record states: "**James Pulet, Peter Woodcock, Nicholas English and Francis Joyce** were indicted for feloniously stealing, on the 16th June last, one silver watch, value 50s, one metal chain & seal, value 1s, and one gold seal, value 40s, the property of **Letitia Bowman** in her dwelling house" The only item that was not recovered was the gold seal and therefore had to be dropped from the charge.

All four were found guilty of stealing to the value of 39s with each to be transported for seven years. Their occupations and ages were not recorded.

Peaulet was sent to Australia on the *Scarborough*, a transport which reached Sydney Cove on 26.1.1788 along with the rest of the First Fleet. The ship's master was **John Marshall** and the surgeon, **Denis Considen**. Built in 1782 it was 111 feet 6 inches in length and 30 feet 2 inches in breadth with a height of 4 feet 5 inches between decks and weighed 418 tons. It was a two-decked three-masted vessel, rigged as a barque and owned by three Scarborough merchants, **Thomas, George and John Hopper**.

The system of payment was that convicts were to be transported, clothed and fed, all inclusive, for 17 pound, 7 shillings and 6 pence per head. Embarkation was at Portsmouth and the ship was 183 days at sea and 68 days in ports on the way. The longest time at sea was the 67 day section between the Cape and Botany Bay).

After unloading its convicts and spending over three months at Port Jackson *Scarborough* sailed in early May for China and eventually reached England with a

cargo of tea. It then sailed to Port Jackson with the Second Fleet in 1790 and was finally broken up in 1798.

John Cobley, in his *Sydney Cove 1788* refers (page 15) to an incident which took place on 6 March 1789. After a party of convicts had been attacked on the way to Botany Bay by Aborigines and one killed, sixteen convicts left their work without leave and set out to take revenge. They too were set upon with one killed and several wounded. After an enquiry the next day their true intent, not as stated "quietly picking tea" was revealed and seven of them were given 150 lashes in front of the provision store in the presence of all convicts and ordered to wear "iron on the leg" for a year. A few weeks later, on 4 April four of the others, including James Peaulet, apparently suffered the same punishment.

Records from the *Settlers' Muster Book 1800* show that at 20 June as an emancipated or expired Convict

James had a grant of land at Musgrave Place (McGrath's Hill) on which he farmed 20 pigs, had 10 acres under wheat and 6 acres of other crops. He had no stock claim on the Government.

In the following year James Peaulett is recorded as having 40 acres held (granted 20.6.1800 by Governor Hunter), 11 cleared and 12 under wheat/maize, and 5 hogs. It is noted that there are three as family (just who the three were is not determined),

who are self supporting and Off Stores

By the 1802 lists he is bracketed with a **Samuel Wheeler** with 14 acres cleared, 8 acres of wheat, 3 of barley and 4 of maize. They had 7 hogs and 8 cows and 20 bushels of maize on hand. It was noted there were 2 women, 1 child and 1 servant.

James fathered two children with **Sarah Robinson** who in the 1806 document **Samuel Marsden's Female Muster** was listed as a concubine. She was a convict who arrived on 12 June 1801 aboard the *Earl Cornwallis* a transport ship of 784 tons that had been built in London and carrying 193 males and 95 females on the voyage out. Apparently 27 males and 8 females died on the trip which lasted 206 days, having left in November 1800.



Sarah Robinson was born in Wilmslow, Cheshire, England in 1783 and it was in that county or perhaps nearby Staffordshire that she was convicted of stealing and sentenced to 7 years transportation. Records show that Sarah became James Peaulet's housekeeper on her arrival in 1801 but there is no record of a marriage having taken place, hence her listing as concubine in 1806.

Handwritten marriage record from the Windsor Parish register, 1810-1856 Index, showing the marriage of Sarah Robinson to William Webb on 14.6.1809. The record is signed by William Webb, Sarah Robinson, and John Croft.

Of the two children, only the elder, **Sarah Agnes Peaulet**, b 1804, survived. The younger child, **James Peaulet**, b 1807, died two days after Sarah's marriage to Third Fleet convict **Joseph Craft** in 1810 at St Philip's Church Hill by **Rev William Cowper**. Sarah and Joseph had five children and after Joseph's death in 1830, Sarah then married another convict, **Joseph Dawkins** in 1840. Joseph had arrived in the colony in 1818. Around the time of Sarah's marriage James Peaulet was apparently sentenced to 6 months jail for pig stealing.

Sarah's daughter, Sarah Agnes, did not live such a long life but had two marriages and ten children. The compilers of these historical notes both descend from the last of these children, **Eliza Elizabeth Dixon**, born in August 1850 at Dinner Creek, Mangrove and baptised two months later at Gosford. Eliza died as Eliza Ferguson at Grafton in 1931

The Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages 1810-1823 from St Matthews Church Windsor shows the record of Sarah Agnes' first marriage to **William Webb** in 1820. The 2017 "White Gloves" event at Hawkesbury Regional Museum allowed guests at the St Matthew's Bicentenary to see the register in person. It is interesting that Sarah used her mother's maiden name of Robinson rather than her father's name of Peaulet. It is also to be noted that Sarah, William and their witness John all signed with an 'X'.

James Peaulet married **Elizabeth Williams** on 14.6.1809 at St Phillip's, Sydney but no children were born of the marriage. The

1814 Muster shows number of children as two, but whose they were, or their names, are not given. Elizabeth had been born in the Colony so she must have been a young bride. However Mollie Gillen, in *Founders of Australia*, states that this marriage was annulled as it was declared illegal by the convict clergyman, Henry Fulton, because it was performed by a J.P. and not an ordained minister.

In *Authentic Australian Convict & Pioneer History* author James McClellands has a story of Grono Park. **John Grono**, pioneer Hawkesbury settler and boat-builder, acquired 25 acres of Peaulet's farm which he purchased on 19.1.1827 from Peaulet's daughter and son-in-law, Sarah and William Webb. This land also fronted the river at the junction of Peaulet's Creek and is believed to be the site of the Grono Park homestead

James passed away on 26 August 1820 and was buried two days later at Pitt Town (Reg. 4761 V2B) as James Pewlett, aged 57 years. He was buried from St Matthew's (C of E) Windsor. Mollie Gillen in her book, *Founders of Australia* agrees that he was buried at Pitt Town but gives his age as 62.

Peaulet is one of three First Fleeters supposedly buried in the Hawkesbury region, see *Dispatched Downunder*, by Ron Withington, page 44. At the time of writing no Fellowship Commemorative Plaque has ever been installed at Pitt Town cemetery since no evidence of the Peaulet burial is to be found there.

The Windsor Parish register 1810-1856 Index shows Peaulet as "free, came out as a prisoner". There is a thought that he may have been buried in an unmarked grave reserved for convicts, however at the time of his death the designation "free" would normally have cancelled out any convict connection. No details of family or birth place or reason for death appear in the register.

Compiled from information supplied by #8011 Des Burke and #8286 Heather Threlfall.

Baptisms solemnized in St. Matthews Church at Windsor on				Parents Names		Born		Quality, Grade, By what	
When	Child's Name	Christian Name	Parents Name	When	Where	Profession	Grade	By what	By whom
1820	Thomas	Thomas	Goodell	Feb 1st	1820	Mr. Iron	Farmer	John	John
1820	Benjamin	Benjamin	Lancaster	Nov 5th	1820	Blacksmith	John	John	John
1820	Bunce	Bunce	McKellar	March 24th	1820	Windsor	Farmer	John	John
1820	Elizabeth	Elizabeth	Lewis	Oct 29	1820	Windsor	Farmer	John	John
1820	William	William	Webb	Aug 5th	1820	Windsor	Farmer	John	John

EBENEZER CHURCH ~ MY FAMILY CONNECTIONS

#7439 Harold McLean's Talk to North West Chapter at their August 2017 Meeting

Owen Cavanough, a Seaman of French origin, was on the *Sirius* when it was shipwrecked at Norfolk Island. He was given a land grant of 60 acres, block 42 near Cascade Bay.

Margaret Darnell (real name Dowling) had been taken off the *Sirius* a week earlier, before the shipwreck. She was an Irish convict.

Margaret and Owen were married by **Rev. Johnson** at Norfolk Island. They had two children there, my 3rd Great Grandmother, **Grace**, being one of them. They returned to Sydney in 1796. Owen farmed on Pitt Town Bottoms.

In 1801 at the Crown Court Church of Scotland in Covent Gardens, London,, seven couples with their families and two single men agreed to migrate to Australia. One of them, **Gregory Hall**, shared with them a response he received from the British Government to a letter written to them by Hall, that they offer themselves as settlers to go to NSW on terms that they receive land in close proximity to each other.

They sailed from Deptford on 12th February 1802 on the *Coromandel*, a 522 ton sailing ship, also on board were 138 male convicts. On 21 March Mrs Johnson's child **Alexander** died and was buried at sea. On 28 April **Andrew Mein** died, the only deaths on the voyage.

They arrived at Port Jackson, Sydney Cove on 13 June. The time taken for the first nonstop trip was 121 days, easily the fastest at the time.

The eight families settled at a Government farm at Toongabbie for the remainder of 1802. In April 1803 after **George Hall** had surveyed an area on the Hawkesbury, known then as Portland Head, they settled on both sides of the river. There were 15 blocks of 100 acres in each, Seven other families, including Owen and Margaret, joined them..

The new settlers kept up their religious faith. **James Mein** a Presbyterian Pastor who led the group in worship on the *Coromandel* became the leader. He led them in the first service 16 May 1803, all religions joining in. In good weather the service was held under a Gum Tree on Owen and Margaret's property, in bad weather in their home or **Thomas Arndell's** home across the river.

On 26 September 1808 the families met at *Hop-e Jam* the home of Thomas Arndell who was the assistant surgeon on the First Fleet.. At this meeting they formed the Portland Head Society for the Preservation of Christian Knowledge and the Education of Youth. They agreed to build a Church to measure 50 x 20 feet x 12 feet high. Next meeting on 21 January 1809 rules and regulations for the guidance of the society were read and adopted. Contracts with stonemasons and a carpenter were signed. Owen and Margaret donated four acres of land, **Andrew Johnson** to design the Church and supervise its construction, George Hall to swim his bullock team across the river and draw stone to the building site. The cost was four hundred pounds.

The little church was ready for worship during 1809. The building was a stone building divided into two rooms by a cedar panel, one end the church the other a school with side doors. For the first 20 years the Pioneers of Portland Head were not aligned to any religion or denomination.

In 1824 the Ebenezer Church became the first Presbyterian Church in Australia. The name of the church was chosen from 1 Samuel, chapter 7, verse 12: "Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mispah and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us'".

The Church is the oldest Church in Australia still in use. There were, however, two others older. One was burned down while the other pulled down to be replaced by a larger one. Ebenezer Church is downstream from Windsor on the Coromandel Road, the King Road off the Putty Road.

Owen and Margaret Cavanough were both buried at Sackville Reach but their headstones were later removed to the Ebenezer Church cemetery by the Owen

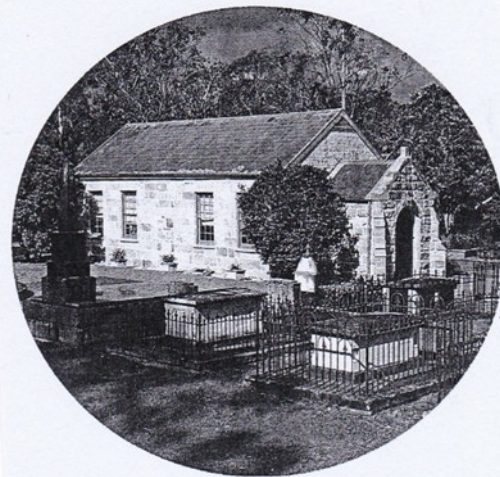
Cavanough Fellowship, which still meet at the Church for family reunions. We attend some of them and were at the Bi-centenary celebrations in 2009.

The church cemetery is a quiet peaceful place, high on the river bank, the ground are well kept. We find it a great place to visit on our few trips to Sydney. We call in and have a cuppa and relax before facing the Sydney traffic.

Harold McLean

Note: Text, above, reads: It's the embodiment of endurance. It signifies the faith, courage and commitment of a fledgling colony. And it's a lasting testament to the history of our nation. It's Australia's oldest church, located at Ebenezer.

EBENEZER CHURCH AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST



"It's the embodiment of endurance. It signifies the faith, courage and commitment of a fledgling colony. And it's a lasting testament to the history of our nation. It's Australia's oldest church, located at Ebenezer"

WHAT'S IN A NAME ~ ANECDOTAL SERENDIPITY

After receiving my mother's family bible following her passing away some years ago, I became curious about several names written within. I pondered for quite some time and finally decided to enter the world of Ancestry to find the people who belonged to these names.

Searching Ancestry would become enlightening, fascinating, intriguing and very rewarding. It became something to share with all our family members who had no clue as to where we came from or our Ancestors and their stories.

Finding my great, great, great grandfather **Joseph Tuso**, a First Fleet convict who arrived on the *Scarborough* was incredibly fascinating, and my eagerness to find more information soon went to another level.

After approximately two years of research I completed my family tree. Then again, as we all know, a family tree is never really complete, so my tree was now at the stage of tinkering.

I asked my darling wife if she would like me to begin a search into her family tree through Ancestry and she eagerly agreed. She and I have now been married for 37 years.

After several months investigating my wife's family tree I came across a person in her tree that needed to be added.

This lady was my wife's 5th great aunt. I viewed a document that needed to be added to her Ancestry Fact Sheet. I clicked 'Save document' and it told me that I had already **saved** this document to **my** tree.

I thought this was very odd so I went back to my tree to see if there was an error in my research, or perhaps a glitch in Ancestry that needed to be investigated.

I sat back in my chair and pondered for quite some time. I then decided to recheck all information and in so doing I found it was correct. I checked again and came to the same conclusion that my wife of 37 years and I shared a

person in both our trees.

When Joseph Tuso married **Rebecca Dear/Golsby** in Sydney Cove in 1811, Rebecca already had a son named **William** from a previous marriage. William accompanied his mother on the voyage to Australia. Rebecca was also a convict, having arrived on board *Friends* in 1811 with a seven year sentence.

William was approximately 4 years old when Joseph and Rebecca married. He is my 3rd great uncle and when he grew into adulthood he married a lady named **Elizabeth Jenkins** who is my wife's 5th great aunt.

Elizabeth Jenkins is the lady that my wife and I shared in both our family trees.

I read the book *Once More To Be Free*, written by **Kevin Golsby**, a fascinating story about the life and times of Joseph Tuso, Rebecca Golsby, and young William Golsby.

A section of the book tells a tale of Joseph, Rebecca, William, and two other men named **William** and **James Jenkins** all having a meal together and having a fine evening.

William and James Jenkins were convict brothers who were doing quite well in Sydney Cove until the murder of William Jenkins.

So, to explain who was sitting at that table, enjoying a meal on that night, all those many, many years ago in Sydney Cove is quite unbelievable in the context of both mine and my wife's family trees.

My great, great, great grandparents Joseph and Rebecca Tuso were sitting with my wife's 5th great grandfather, William Jenkins, and her 6th great uncle, James Jenkins.

Such an amazing set of circumstances I thought I would like to share.

#8766 Robert Thomas McCarthy

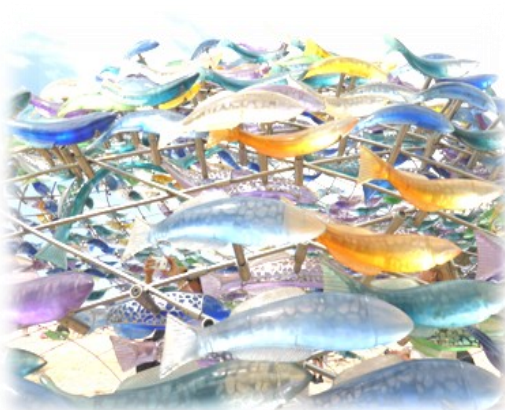
SCULPTURES BY THE SEA ~ THE ANNUAL FOUNDERS PILGRIMAGE

Setting out from Bronte this time and heading north allowed plenty of time to take in the art works displayed on Tamarama Beach, an area that is often overlooked.

The art glass maker **B Jane Cowie's** impressive work, *Swirling Surround*, was an immediate favourite, both visually and for its maritime significance. Granddaughter Zoey found it exciting as she was able to crawl inside and be surrounded.

Considering the swirling ocean turbulence encountered by the ships as they crossed the Southern

Ocean and the later importance of fish in the settlers' diet Cowie's piece stood out for its First Fleet connections. Like fish caught in a net the convicts may have seen themselves similarly trapped until freed from servitude.



EARLY ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN EUROPEANS AND ABORIGINES ~ PART 3

Archival Articles by historian, Ena Harper, continue.

Anyway, to return to Botany Bay.

It was unwise for the Englishmen to despise the Aborigines just because they were primitive or backward in certain aspects. They should have been impressed by the fact that these natives were in a state of balance with nature. The Aborigines were confident and self-reliant, showing no signs of neurosis. There were many things they could have taught the white man.

As it were, the gap between them was too great. It was glaringly apparent in the attitude of the two groups of people, those on the ship and those on the land, as the Endeavour sailed into Botany Bay. There was one lot, thousands of miles from home, plunging on into new worlds of experience and knowledge, acutely interested in all that was strange and new; there was the other almost inexorably bound to their tribal territory, indifferent, almost dead, to anything outside it. Yet they were supreme specialists in their minute knowledge of nature, were wise in the relationship between man and nature, man and man, man and the spiritual world.

Europeans and Aborigines. The two races encountered each other at Botany Bay. They were just human beings, people with common needs but so wide was the gap between them in experience and ideas they could have been beings from separate planets.

It was a pity

On Sunday April 29, 1770, **Captain James Cook** set out in a small boat with **Mr Joseph Banks**, **Dr Solander** and **Tupia** the Tahitian for the shores of Botany Bay. He was accompanied by other boats from the *Endeavour*. In his journal he says there were men, women and children on the south shore and he went there *in the hopes of speaking with them*. What happened?

All the people ran away except two men who were obviously opposed to the strangers landing on their territory. Cook continues: I ordered the boats to lay upon their oars in order to speak to them but this was to little purpose, for neither we nor Tupia could understand one word they said.

Banks writes of it in even more graphic fashion: *They called to us very loud in a harsh sounding language of which neither we nor Tupia understood a word, shaking their lances and menacing, in all appearance resolved to dispute our landing to the utmost though they were but two and we 30 or 40 at least. In this manner we parleyed with them for about a quarter of an hour, they waving to us to be gone, we again signing that we wanted water and that we meant them no harm.*

What facts emerge from these eyewitness stories?

1 The majority of the Aborigines were very timid and shrank from meeting the strangers face to face. Their an-

swer to the threat of invasion was flight.

2 We cannot but be intrigued by the sight of two men who refused to panic and stayed behind to confront the Englishmen. It would be interesting to know if they stayed because of their position in the tribe or because they were more aggressive personalities, more outstanding individuals in what appears on the surface a standardised society. At any rate, we can only wonder at their courage.

3 Right here at the beginning is highlighted the difficulty that arose between the two races—the inability to communicate. On the other hand, we cannot but admit the right of the natives of the land to mistrust the newcomers. True, Banks said they wanted only water, but Cook, though purely an explorer, had secret instructions. One of them stated:

You are also with the Consent of the Natives to take possession of the Convenient Situations in the Country in the Name of the king of Great Britain; or if you find the country uninhabited, take possession for his Majesty be setting up Proper Marks and Inscriptions, as first discovers and possessors.

Banks says they tried to show the men they meant no harm but they could not convince them. In his words *They remained resolute*.

This seems to indicate that there was deep distrust of the newcomers and we cannot but query whether they would have been made any more welcome even if there had been a common language. After all, the Englishmen had fraternised with the Tahitians. It seems to me that the Australian Aborigines regarded their land in a much more personal intimate way than the Polynesians and as being sacred to their tribe, so they would be more emotionally disturbed by any outsider setting foot therein.

Despite this, we cannot lose sight of the fact that the inability to speak any common language led to antagonism and problems right from the start.

This would appear a fitting place to consider the language of the Aborigines in general. In his book **Professor A. P. Elkin** gives a detailed account of Aboriginal linguistics, but we can only deal with some major points.

1. The Aboriginal language seems to have no clear links with any that is known (A. A. Abbie *The Original Australians*)
2. There were at least 633 Aboriginal languages in Australia. (D. A. Capell *Linguistic Study of Australia*)
3. The languages differed widely in structure and in vocabulary.
4. The general principles of these languages are basically of the same stock all over the continent.
5. They are marked by: a) precision, b) brevity of expression, c) an emphasis on concreteness & d) an endeavour

to express in one word or in as few as possible a complete picture of a situation.

Professor Elkin also makes this comment:

6 The languages belong to their own cultural world and the words, phrases and methods of expression derive their meanings from it. The corollary is that knowledge of the language and understanding of thought, belief and custom must proceed together.

Bearing all these facts in mind, it is no wonder that Tupia, the man from Tahiti, was just as unsuccessful as the Englishmen in speaking to the Aborigines of Botany Bay.

But what is more significant is that the Aborigines failed to respond to sign language. I can only emphasise that they refused a request made in the name of common humanity—the common need for water—because that water and the land through which it flowed was sacred to them and them only.

When they failed to communicate by speech or sign, Cook took the next step. He tried to tempt them with the delights of civilisation. The fruits of the tree of knowledge, just as the serpent tempted Eve.

We then threw them some nails, beads which they took up and seemed not ill pleased in so much that they beckoned to us to come ashore. Cook was wrong. They did not accept the presents and so another channel of communication was closed.

What was the result? Cook took the third step. Force was used. He displayed his superior weaponry and proved that in this respect his society was indeed more advanced.

I fired a musket between the two. One of them took up a stone and threw it at us, which caused my firing a second musket loaded with small shot. Although some of the shot struck the man, yet it had no other effect than to make him lay hold of a shield or target to defend himself. Immediately after this we landed. We had no sooner done this than they threw two darts at us. This obliged me to fire a third shot soon after which they made off.

So ended the first encounter between Europeans and Aborigines in New South Wales. After they landed, the Aborigines made it plain to the invaders that the products of an advanced society were valueless to them. This seems to tie in with their lack of interest in the *Endeavour*.

Banks tells in his journal of leaving beads, ribands, cloths, etc as presents in a hut where they found children hiding. He reports that they went back later and *in the house in which the children were yesterday, was left every individual thing we had thrown to them.*

Banks also calls them *Rank Cowards* because of an incident in which one of the midshipmen, when by himself, met by accident a very old man and woman and some children. *They showed signs of fear but did not attempt to run away. He had nothing about him to give to them but some parrots he had shot; these they refused, withdrawing*

themselves from his hand when he offered them in token either of extreme fear or disgust.

Banks says he went botanising *quite void of fear* because the Aborigines just kept away.

Note two other comments from Cook's journal:

1 *During our stay in the harbour I caused the English colours to be displayed ashore every day and an inscription to be cut out upon one of the trees.*

2 *Speaking of the Aborigines: We could know very little of their customs as we were never able to form any connections with them.*

Alone and unarmed, the invaders followed the explorers. **Governor Arthur Phillip** arrived at Botany Bay on January 18, 1788 with the following instructions regarding the Aborigines:

You are to endeavour by every possible means, to open an intercourse with the natives, to live in amity and kindness with them And if any of our subjects shall wantonly destroy them or give any unnecessary interruption in the exercise of their several occupations, it is our will and pleasure that you do cause such offenders to be brought to punishment according to the degree of the offence.

Phillip, accompanied by some of his officers, went to the north shore of Botany Bay at 3pm about 45 minutes after the *Supply* entered the bay. They saw a group of Aborigines and put the boat onshore near where two of their canoes were lying. Note carefully what took place. **Lieut. Gidley King**, in his journal, describes what happened when they landed:

They immediately got up and called to us in a menacing tone and at the same time brandishing their spears or lances. However, the Governor showed them beads and ordered a man to fasten them to the stern of the canoe. We Then made signs that we wanted water, when they pointed round the point on which they stood and invited us to land there; on landing, they directed us by pointing to a very fine stream of fresh water. Governor then advanced towards one man who would not come near enough to receive the beads which Governor held out for him, but seemed very desirous of having them and made signs for them to be lain on the ground, which was done. He (the native) came on with fear and trembling and took them up and by degrees, came so near as to receive looking glasses, etc.

The scene was totally different from the previous encounter between Captain James Cook and the Aborigines.

1. They responded to sign language and were friendly enough to show the strangers where they could find fresh water.
2. They accepted the useless gifts of the Englishmen.
3. They allowed them to land.

(to be continued in next and following issues)

Maintaining Chapter Viability and Sustainability ~ Board Response

The Board of Directors of the Fellowship of First Fleeters warmly congratulates Moreton Chapter and specifically their secretary, **Gloria Wallace**, for conducting at the request of the Board, a survey on Maintaining Chapter Viability and Sustainability during 2017.

The resulting report indicates the tenacity and thoroughness of the survey team throughout four stages – introducing, gathering, analysing and collating the material. We are confident that the suggestions submitted so willingly in writing by sixteen chapters will point the way forward for ongoing chapter growth in the foreseeable future.

In her report, Gloria listed the chapters who had submitted responses and then addressed two key issues, the first relating to membership and the second the role and vision of the organisation and the relationship with its chapters. For both issues, potential solutions were gleaned from the submissions and presented in dot form for the benefit of all.

Directors agreed that some of the statements, albeit criticisms, from chapters went beyond the brief of the survey. However, their inclusion gives a good indication of issues 'out there' that concern chapter committees and their members. As an organisation made up entirely of volunteers all our members need to keep in mind the essence of the word 'fellowship' – a community of like-minded folk who work together in harmony for the good

of all. We are not a hard-nosed business company with a 'head office', a term that is often used pejoratively, that seeks to engender and maintain an 'us and them' mentality.

Some excellent suggestions and ideas have come from the chapters and the Directors recommend that the report in its entirety be circulated via their secretaries to all chapters. It is hoped that the wisdom of all will be of benefit to all and that chapters feel free to provide specific details, of both successes and failures, when requested by others. The Board will be pleased to be kept abreast of innovations planned and tried so that their input and experience can be added to the mix.

It is to be noted that the full text of all chapter submissions, running to 33 pages in hard copy, has been placed on file at First Fleet House and is available for all. The extended 'individual' submissions from both Eastern Farms and Northern Rivers are, upon request, available to chapters electronically for discussion and local action as deemed appropriate.

In conclusion, as the Fellowship moves into its Jubilee year, it may well be time to review the old 'objectives' of the Fellowship and produce vision and mission statements that reflect an organisation of vibrancy and purpose, encompassing both chapters and members, for and in a 21st century Australian Cultural setting.

W Jon Fearon, President, 23.11.2017

FROM THE PRESS ~ an alternative view

This is a comment by a John that appeared in the Daily Telegraph on 24 January 2016. John has an Aboriginal ancestor. He is not a member.

On 26 January 1788 when the First Fleet ships unloaded their 1200 convicts, Royal Marine guards and officials not a shot was fired.

As they looked around what's now Circular Quay they saw nothing other than bush.

Not a single building, planted field, domesticated plant or animal - nothing at all. It was the same across the continent. It was "terra nullius" - a vacant land.

There was no Aboriginal Army to defeat in battle. There was nothing to claim as the spoils of victory.

There was just wild bush. The few Aborigines who came out to have a look at these strange people were completely illiterate and innumerate and those on the south side of the harbour spoke a language completely unintelligible to those on the north side of the harbour and they'd been constantly at war with each other for as long as anyone can remember.

There was no "invasion". Captain Phillip was instructed by the government in London to treat the natives "with

amity and kindness" and he did.

No Aborigines were shot; no platoon of Marines fixed their bayonets or loaded their muskets or took a shot at anyone who emerged from the bush to see what was going on. Instead they offered them gifts and friendship.

Most people now "identified" as "indigenous" - like myself and my children and grandchildren have European - mostly British - ancestry to a greater or lesser extent. I recently had a DNA test done and I'm 48% Irish, 20% English, 30% Scandinavian, 1% Spanish & 1% Aboriginal. The absurdity is that, in this time of identity politics, I am an "Aborigine" by virtue of the fact that one of my Irish ancestors married an Aboriginal woman 6 generations ago.

There is no reason to change Australia Day. It was the day "Australia" came into being and had it not been for those British coming ashore on 26 January 1788, I wouldn't exist & neither would Mr Anthony Mundine, a name as English as a pork pie or fish-n-chips wrapped in newspaper.

It's time for all indigenous people to get over what happened 229 years ago, stop playing the welfare system and stealing anything that's not nailed down.

Contributed article.

Our Sixteen Chapters in Action

ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT – Both sides of the Murray River.

Venue: usually at Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury, monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10:30 for 11am. **Next Meeting/Event:** 24 February at Adamshurst, History talk and tour with Archdeacon Peter McLeod Miller, then lunch. **Contact:** Mary Chalmers-Borella 6025 3283

ARTHUR PHILLIP – Milsons Point to Brooklyn and across to all northern beaches.

Venue: Meeting Room, Old Gordon Public School. 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon – monthly meetings, third Friday at 10.30. **Next Meetings:** 16 February: John Lanser, *Sculling Champion Dick Green*; 16 March: John Boyd, *The Tank Stream*; 20 April: ANMM Speaker. **Next Events:** 5 April: Victoria Barracks Tour; 25 April: Anzac Dawn Service at Roseville. **Contact:** Judith O'Shea 9797 0240

CANBERRA – ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Events:** Mid year, see next Founders for details. **Contact:** Geoff Cameron 62514095

CENTRAL COAST – From Lake Macquarie to Broken Bay, highlands to coast.

Venue: Point Clare Community Hall – meet monthly, second Saturday at 10 am for 10.30. **Next Meetings:** 10 February: Ron Ray, *Japanese Submarines in Sydney Harbour*; 14 April: Peter Price, *Crime Stoppers*. **Next Events:** **Contact:** Jon Fearon 43116254

DERWENT - Southern Tasmania

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, first Saturday at Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. **Next Meetings:** 3 February: Graham Wilcox, *Federation*; 7 April: Nick Brodie, *1787, the Last Chapter of Australia is the Beginning*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Paul Dobber 0401566080 or Judith Wood on 0404807338

EASTERN FARMS – Ryde, Eastwood, Parramatta, Kings Langley, Pennant Hills and surrounds.

Venue: The Hall at Brush Farm House, 19 Lawson St. Eastwood – monthly meetings, first Saturday from 10am **Next Meeting:** 3 February: Gillian Lewis, *Melbourne/Voyager Collision*; 3 March: Judith Godden, *Crown Street Hospital*. **Next Event:** 7 April: 10th Anniversary Lunch at Ryde-Eastwood Club. **Contact:** Jennifer Follers 97991161

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN --Western Sydney, Penrith to Windsor, Blue Mountains.

Venue: Mainly Tebbutt Room, Public Library, 300 George St, Windsor, but occasionally in Penrith and elsewhere-- monthly, second Saturday, 11 am. **Next Meetings:** 10 February: Patrick Dodd, *State Library Treasures*. **Next Event:** 14 April: St John's Cemetery Walk with Judith Dunn, \$20. **Contact:** William Hempel 0410950101

HUNTER VALLEY – Hunter Region, Newcastle and surrounds.

Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunner Road, Adamstown – bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday from 10am – 12.30pm. **Next Meetings:** 19 February: Greg Powell, *Bush ranger man*; 16 April: Cameron Archer, *Local Historian*. **Next Event:** 19 March: Outing to Light Rail Museum, Toronto, and picnic lunch. **Contact:** Kerry Neinert 49615083

MID NORTH COAST -- Taree and Surrounds, Bulahdelah to Kempsey.

Venue: Presb. Church, 76 Albert Street, Taree, Bi-monthly on 4th Tuesday at 2pm.. **Next Meeting:** 27 April: Kevin

EDITOR'S NOTE: Closing date for this page for the next issue is 26 March 2018

Carter, Manning Valley Timber Industry. **Contact:** Heather Bath 0427 018 566

MORETON – South East Queensland.

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on an available 2nd Saturday. **Next Meetings:** 10 February; 14 April. **Contact:** Gloria Wallace 07 3371 2551

NORTH COAST – Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Maclean

Venue: Either at Mylestom Hall or at members' homes, Bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meeting:** at Mylestom Hall, 4 February, Graeme Hays, *My Four First Fleeters*. **Next Event:** 7-8 April: Weekend of Fellowship at Lawrence, Saturday lunch at Lawrence Hotel, Sunday morning 1100 meeting at Lawrence Hall followed by BYO lunch. **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 66533615

NORTHERN RIVERS – Lismore and surrounds.

Venue: Balina Cherry Street Bowling Club - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meeting:** 25 March. **Contact:** Margaret Soward 66863597

NORTH WEST – Tamworth and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meetings:** 3 February: John Oxley Bicentenary, Morning FF table at Information Day at Tamworth Library, afternoon talk by Dr Steve Cunneen, *Life at Sydney Cove 1818*; 7 April, at Family History Centre: Members, *Our FF's Lives in 1818*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Diana Harband 67652122

SOUTH COAST – Engadine to Burrill Lake.

Venue: Scribbly Gum Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto – monthly except Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm. **Next Meeting:** 6 February: Members' *Show and Tell*; 6 March: Joel Thompson, *History of Wollongong*; 3 April: Anita of Dapto SES, *SES and RFS Community Roles*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Rob Ratcliffe 42321842

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS – Mittagong, Moss Vale and surrounds.

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre – bi-monthly – second Wednesday at 10.30am \$5 Admission. **Next Meeting:** 14 February: Ted Westwood, *FF John Martin and John Randall*; 11 April: Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** Flower Laying after Anzac March at Mittagong. **Contact:** Wendy Selman 48624849

SWAN RIVER – Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.

Venue: 16 Inwood Place Murdoch, bi-monthly, first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meetings:** 3 February: Topic TBA.; 7 April: Topic TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Toni Mahony 0892717630

CHAPTERS MORNING AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE

Rather than a full conference suggested by several chapters to follow on from the 2017 Sustainability Survey, the Board has decided, instead, to open **First Fleet House on Tuesday morning 13 March, from 0930 with Morning Tea**, to allow representatives from chapters near and far to meet and informally discuss chapter matters.

For those coming from afar for the 50th Anniversary Luncheon and perhaps the nearby Bridging the Gap conference you might like to factor this into your travel plans. Please let us know likely attendees.

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Ordinary and Pensioner Members

WILLIAM EGGLETON/MARY DICKENSON
#8819 Lynn Maree Young
DANIEL STANFIELD/ALICE HARMSWORTH
#8820 Michael Eric Seabrook
JAMES WILLIAMS
#8821 Annette Christina Coates
#8822 Christine May Larkins

Ordinary and Pensioner Members

JOHN MARTIN/JOHN RANDALL
#8823 Bruce George Hamlin
ROBERT FORRESTER/ANN MARTIN
#8824 Michael Wayne Cleary
JOHN NICHOLLS
#8825 Susan Deniese Baird.

BIRTHS

NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE
Nova Lynne Jones, third daughter for Jess and Toby, was born on 16.12.2017. Another granddaughter for #7848 Lynne Pye of Geelong West. Ninth generation.

DEATHS

ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY
#8334 Colleen Jean Power, of Ferny Hills, Queensland, died on 30.08.2017, aged 79. She most enjoyed being recognised as a First Fleeter.

JOHN HERBERT/DEBORAH ELLAM
#7404 David Newling, of Armidale, New South Wales, died on 03.11.2017, aged 85. David had been a member of the Fellowship for over 10 years and served as President of New England Chapter for several years.

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER
#8325 Roger Hardinge Braham, of Armidale, New South Wales, died on 13.11.2017, aged 84. Roger had been a member of New England Chapter.

JACOB BELLETT
#6637 Nancy Head, of Tugun, Queensland died on 03.12.2017. She was in her 100th year. 'Always a proud First Fleeter', Nancy had been a member for nearly 20 years until ill health intervened.

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES/JOSEPH TUSO
#727 Norma E Dawson, of Revesby, New South Wales died on 29.11.2017 at her nursing home, aged 96. Her daughter, Director Sharon Lamb, reports: 'Mum's membership had been continuous since the Fellowship began in 1968. She was a Thursday lady in the office when the FFF was in Scots Church and later in the early days at Cathedral Street. Mum helped out on the soup and damper days and had received a life membership at an Australia Day Luncheon. Mum will be sadly missed by her family but she had so many memories that we can all reflect upon.'

ROBERT FORRESTER
#3503 Yvonne E Bullock, of Shoal Bay, New South Wales died on 21.12.2017, aged 91. She was a founding and much loved member of Hunter Valley Chapter. During the 1988 Bicentenary she was very much involved in Fellowship activities in Sydney, including the opening of First Fleet House.

ASSOCIATE
#6598.1 Anthony M Condliffe, of Boambee East, New South Wales, died on 10.01.2018 after a long illness. Tony was a member of the Fellowship for over 20 years and belonged to North Coast Chapter. He is sadly missed by his wife Robyn and all at the Chapter.

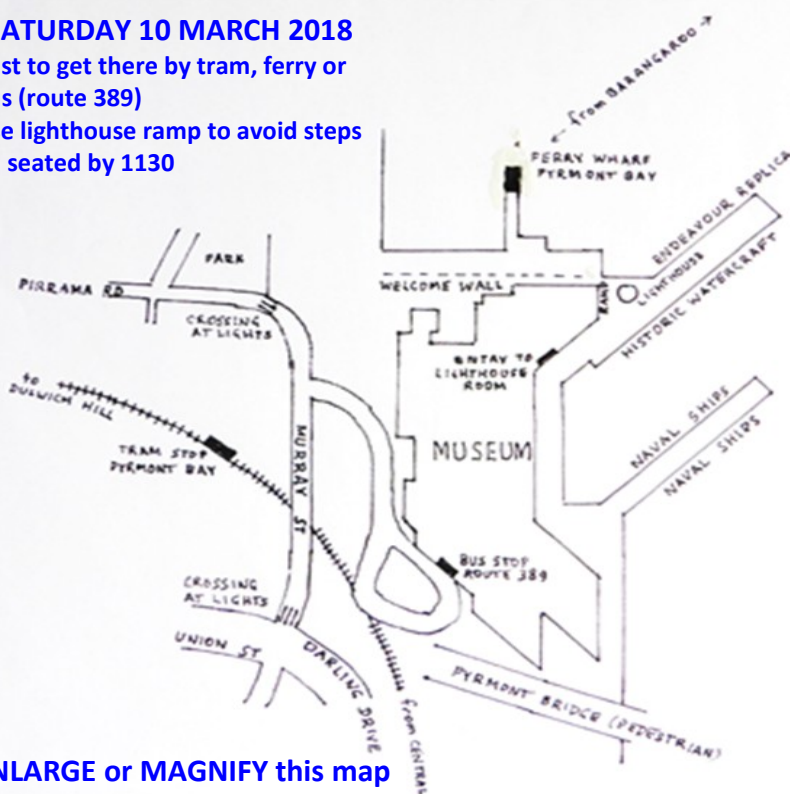
50th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON UPDATE

SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2018

Best to get there by tram, ferry or bus (route 389)

Use lighthouse ramp to avoid steps

Be seated by 1130



ENLARGE or MAGNIFY this map for specific details.

We are looking forward to welcoming over 200 of you at the luncheon and can promise some special mementoes and an interesting programme on the day. Our history and our future are, as ever, paramount.

The Museum has advised that their First Fleet collection will be on display and that some of their regular tours can be fitted in before and after the luncheon. Remember HM Barque Endeavour (replica) is at wharfside. We have asked that these tours be free to members on the day

The nearby Welcome Wall we believe is happy to have First Fleeters added to its numbers and the Museum will be working towards this at the time of the Luncheon.

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.

Mary Chalmers-Borella
02 6025 3283

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Judith O'Shea 02 9797 0240

CANBERRA

Brian Mattick 02 6231 8880

CENTRAL COAST

Jon Fearon 02 4311 6254

DERWENT

Paul Dobber 0401 566 080

EASTERN FARMS

Jennifer Follers 02 9799 1161

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN

William Hempel 0410 950 101

HUNTER VALLEY

Kerry Neinert 02 4961 5083

MID NORTH COAST

Heather Bath 0427 018 566

MORETON

Gloria Wallace 07 3371 2551

NORTH COAST

Faye Smith 02 6653 1019

NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 02 6686 3597

NORTH WEST

Diana Harband 02 6765 2122

SOUTH COAST

Rob Ratcliffe 02 4232 1842

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Wendy Selman 02 4862 4849

SWAN RIVER

Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630