

Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

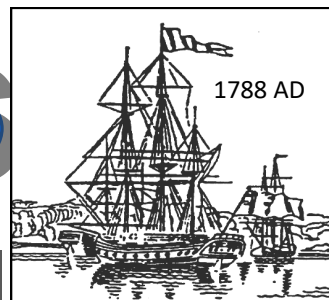
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PATRON: Her Excellency The Honourable Marjorie Beazley AC QC

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

THE ECCENTRIC TOURIST ON THE FIRST FLEET

Guest historian, Professor Ged Martin of Shanacoolie, Republic of Ireland, offers a tentative identification.

A paying passenger somehow joined the fleet of convict ships sent to colonise New South Wales in 1787-88. This note tentatively traces **James Smith** to the Essex village of Messing. Historians of Essex and of Australia are invited to test the hypothesis.

The mystery passenger: When Australia's First Fleet called at Cape Town in November 1787, its commander, **Captain Arthur Phillip**, made an unwelcome discovery. The convoy of eleven ships was taking around 780 convicts to establish a penal colony in New South Wales, along with another 500 sailors, marines, officers and officials. In the months before the Fleet had sailed, in May 1787, Phillip himself had spent much of his time in London dealing with bureaucrats while the expedition was assembling off Portsmouth. Once aboard his flagship, he was keen to depart: Phillip trusted his captains, and there was no time for the commander to inspect his flotilla.

At sea, there had been little direct contact among the various ships, although the officers had begun to establish friendships while sightseeing ashore when the vessels purchased additional supplies at Tenerife and Rio de Janeiro. Thus it was not entirely surprising that it should have been six months into the voyage before it emerged that a paying passenger had somehow attached himself to his military expedition. Phillip was angry: James Smith had no right to be on the voyage. [1] He was also probably embarrassed by what was in effect a security lapse: it seems that no allusion to the interloper was ever made in any reports or statistical returns made to his superiors

in London.

James Smith was sailing aboard the *Lady Penrhyn*, recently built for the Atlantic slave trade but now refitted to take 102 female convicts around the world to Botany Bay. Since the women were regarded as unlikely to mutiny, the ship carried only a handful of marines, along with three officers and two surgeons, who travelled in more comfortable quarters. It is likely that **Christopher Sever**, the ship's master, realised that he had an empty cabin at

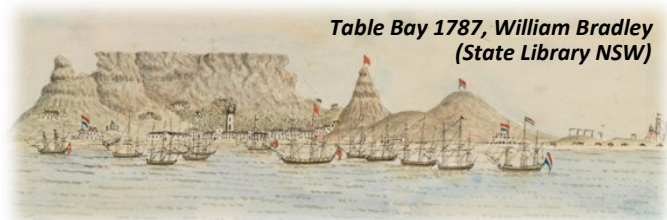


*St Nicholas's Church,
Tolleshunt-Darcy, Essex*

his disposal, and decided to fill it with a paying passenger. It may also be regarded as highly probable that only an eccentric would have been willing to purchase a ticket to Botany Bay. Sever probably urged his human contraband to remain unobtrusive in the early stages of the voyage, so that his presence in the First Fleet might only become generally known when it would be too late to return him to England.

Fortunately for James Smith, his fellow passenger, Surgeon **Arthur Bowes-Smith (aka Bowes)**, found his company congenial. Friendship between them seems to have developed after the Fleet left Rio de Janeiro in August 1787. On 1 December, Bowes recorded in his journal the gift of a four-volume compendium of knowledge from 'Mr James Smith, passenger on this ship'. Perhaps Smith had spent much of his time reading in his cabin, but now felt confident enough to abandon his low profile.

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FOUNDERS

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Editor, Layout and Artwork
Jon & Karys Fearon
Ph. 02 4311 6254

E-mail: firstfleetfounders@inet.net.au

DIRECTORS 2020-2021

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



PRESIDENT'S PEN

It's always good to hear about Fellowship members, when back in the Old Dart, making every effort to trace their FF ancestors' family lines back in time from the late 1700s. But how hard it is to track down the correct lineage of those who were convicts.



Karys and I, in our travels in Cornwall some four years ago, were doing just that in seeking family details for one of my forebears in **Falmouth**. We weren't all that successful, as a cruise ship had arrived in town that morning; however, despite the crowds, we enjoyed exploring the excellent Maritime Museum there. It was featuring a new exhibition on **William Bligh**. While on the topic of that part of the world we were pleased, recently, to hear that our Prime Minister was able to schedule some free time to investigate his FF **William Roberts'** lineage at St Keverne, just along the coast from Falmouth. No doubt his fellow descendants are hoping he will share his discoveries.

In this issue you will find the first part of stories where their contributors have decided to take another look at two of our First Fleeters, **James Smith** (*Lady Penrhyn*) and **Peter Hibbs** (*HMS Sirius*). Their stories are not connected but there has been much conjecture over the years as to their respective backgrounds. We trust you will enjoy a forensic challenge over several issues.

If you have read Annegret Hall's excellent book on early Sydney and particularly the **Ropes and Pulleys**, *In for the Long Haul*, you will be pleased to see that her latest, on the hero and friend of the Hawkesbury first fleeters and other settlers, **Andrew Thompson**, has now been published. The first settlement years of the 19th century was rocked by dreadful corruption and dastardly political intrigue by those who should have known better. The book, briefly reviewed on page 10, is available now in bookshops and is due to be officially launched by the author in Windsor in late October, Covid-19 willing.

As we go to press **Treasurer Kevin Thomas** has yet to hear from any member willing to look after the Fellowship's finances, so we are running the advert for his replacement(s) again. (See below). The need is URGENT and the positions need to be filled in time for our Annual General Meeting set for 22 October. Other Director positions may be available as well, so please consider the meeting as an opportunity to offer your service. See agenda on page 5. **Jon**

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POSITIONS VACANT~ FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

1. TREASURER and 2. FINANCIAL BOOKKEEPER

After 14 years of amazing volunteer service our treasurer **Kevin Thomas** will be retiring from this important role in October 2021. He has offered to train his successor(s) between now and then, so the Directors are keen to see the positions filled to allow a smooth changeover. Kevin has held both roles concurrently but the skills needed would ideally best be shared, the Treasurer as an experienced **Chartered Accountant** to prepare monthly and annual financial statements, and an experienced **Bookkeeper** to look after day to day finances.

Kevin's email is kevthomas_ranger@hotmail.com and he is keen to hear from you and explain the roles.

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LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO OUR WEBMASTER BOB RICKARDS

Webmaster for the Fellowship for the past nine years, #7715 **Robert (Bob) James Rickards** descends from **FF Henry Kable**, Convict, *Friendship* & **FF Susanah Holmes** Convict, *Friendship*.

Director John Boyd has the story:

Following the approval by the Board at its 27 May 2021 Board Meeting, I was joined by FFF South Coast Chapter President and Board Member #4858 **Kerrie Anne Christian** (FF **John Small**, Convict, *Charlotte*, FF **Mary Parker**, Convict, *Lady Penrhyn* and FF **James Bradley**, Convict, *Scarborough*), together with Bob's wife #7715.1 **Dorothy** and FFF SCC Members #7995.1 **Heather Paul** (FF Associate) and #7761 **Dorothy Conkey** (FF **Richard Partridge**, Convict, *Scarborough* & FF **Mary Greenwood**, Convict, *Lady Penrhyn*) for afternoon tea on Wednesday 9 June to present a very surprised Bob Rickards with his **FFF LIFE MEMBERSHIP** Badge.

A big thankyou to **Ian Palmer** who was able to access the safe at First Fleet House, obtain a FFF Life Membership Badge on Thursday 3 June and mail the same to me. It arrived on Monday 7 June in the pm post and it was engraved the following day in Dapto.

Once that was completed, I arranged with Dorothy and Co to attend an 'Afternoon Tea' at the Rickards home to make the presentation on Wednesday afternoon.

Bob first joined the Fellowship on 12 February 2003, but due to work commitments he resigned in 2006. Upon retirement he re-joined on 29 August 2009, together with his wife Dorothy as an Associate.

When #5527 **Ron Withington** (FF **William Parish**, Convict, *Alexander* & FF **Phebe Norton**, Convict, *Lady Penrhyn*) in 2009 became Website Director, he looked to update and modernise the Fellowship's Site, noting in his report

to the Annual General Meeting that year, that he 'particularly would like to express the gratitude of the Fellowship to member Bob Rickards for his valued counsel and technical expertise in setting up and managing the site'



With the resignation of Ron in August 2012, Bob became the FFF Webmaster, a position that he has held until June 2021 when Kerrie Anne Christian took over as the Web Weaver.

Bob has also setup and maintained the FFF South Coast Chapter Website since 2010.

I have had the very great pleasure of working with Bob over the past 9 years in building the FFF Website to what it is today- he was always very open to any idea or process that would improve it.

Together we worked on the following in particular:

- The CHAPTERS page.
- The SHIPS Page listing every First Fleeter on the ship that they arrived on with a link to their story.
- And most importantly the GRAVESITE PLAQUES page

which now has the photos, descriptions and other links for the 99 Individual Plaque Ceremonies undertaken since 1976 and the 23 Commemorative Plaques installed since 1988.

A very well deserved honour for Bob and a very big thankyou from the Fellowship for all that he has contributed to ensure the Fellowship is both accessible and interesting.

Bob is the third member of South Coast Chapter to receive Life Membership, following #6409 Jean Mortimer (FF William Tyrrell, Convict, *Alexander*) in 2009 and #7163 John Boyd in 2018.

#7163 John Boyd (FF **Edward Whitton**, Convict, *Scarborough*), Board Member & Website Coordinator
June 2021



John Boyd, with Webmaster Bob at the Website

FF JAMES MORRISBY, CONVICT, SCARBOROUGH, 1757-1839

James Morrisby (as indicted) is believed to have been born at Cawood, Yorkshire, in 1757. On 7 July 1784 he was sentenced in the Old Bailey to transportation for seven years for theft of a 10lb iron bar valued at 10 pence. He had been observed wrenching it from the window it secured.

James was a blacksmith and stated that he had served about ten years in the Guards and that he had a wife and five children. Military research indicates that a James Morrisby from Cawood had enlisted in the Scots Guards (Third Regiment of Foot Guards) on 3 April 1776, aged 19, being 5ft.7ins. tall and having brown eyes.

Cawood Castle, North Yorkshire



James was transferred from prison to the *Censor* hulk on 6 September 1786 and on 24 February 1787 he was transported by wagon for embarkation on the First Fleet transport ship *Scarborough* three days later. The fleet reached Port Jackson in January 1788 after a journey of eight months.

James was moved to Norfolk Island, aboard HMS *Sirius* in March 1790, embarking in Sydney on 5 March 1790, and disembarking, nine days later, at Cascade, Norfolk Island on 14 March 1790.

In July 1791 James was living on a Sydney town lot and sharing a sow with **Ann Brooks**, also known as **Ann Laverder**, and her son **William** who had been transported aboard the *Lady Juliana* with his mother as part of the Second Fleet. Ann and William had arrived on Norfolk Island aboard the *Surprise* in August 1790, by which time Ann was pregnant with her second son who became known as **Richard Larsom**, fathered by an unknown seaman or convict. James and Ann were one of the many couples married by **Reverend Richard Johnson** during his three weeks on Norfolk Island in November 1791.

In May 1794 James Morrisby, with wife (Ann) and three children (**William**, **Richard** and **George**) had 12 acres of cleared ground which had, by this year's growth, 200 bushels of maize, with 16 swine. One month later Ann Brooks was recorded as 'a convict, married, off stores with three children supporting by James Morrisby, settler'.

In December 1796, James Morrisby was granted 12 acres of land, being Lot 57 on Norfolk Island. He had occupied this land since December 1791. In 1795 James Morrisby

was recorded as 'a Settler, on rations'. **William Shurburd** received a 34-acre land grant as William Shirbird on Norfolk Island in October 1796, being Lot 94. This land was leased to James Morrisby for 14 years on 30 May 1802. The family had increased by the birth of six children between 1791 and 1805. The four younger children were **Grace** (1797), **Diana** (1799), **Henry** (1803) and **John** (1805).

In exchange for his Norfolk Island leases James was initially granted 80 acres at Clarence Plains (now Rokeby) in Tasmania, his property later known as *Belmont Lawn*. He farmed there for over thirty years until his death, having acquired more land in Hobart, assigned to his eldest son, and at Muddy Plains.

After the death, at 51, of his wife Ann Morrisby who was buried at St Davids Cemetery Hobart on 2 February 1813, James, at the age of 66, on 18 November 1816 married **Eleanor Murphy**, (Convict *Catherine* 1814), aged 40, in Hobart.

Just into their fifth year together Eleanor Morrisby, now listed as 'free, aged 49,' died on 14 February 1821 in Hobart and was buried two days later at St Davids. Widower James lived for another 18 years, dying at Clarence Plains on 29 May 1839 his age given as 83. He was buried there at St Matthews.

As to the wife and the children James left behind in England, little is known for certain. A likely wife (**Mary Eaves**) and child (**Catherine Dorcas Morrisby**, who married **William Davison** in 1807 and **George Davison** in 1817) have been linked to him – in which case it may have been his wife who died in a London poorhouse in 1823.



*James Morrisby, Artist unknown, ca 1825
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery,
Art Collection AG 5106*

Written by **D Wong** in 2015, with referenced additions by **Ian Bowie** (ibbowie@bigpond.net.au) in April 2021. Ian's archival notes, under the heading *James Morrisby and Ann Brooks*, are held in First Fleet House archives.

Sources:

- *The Founders of Australia* by Mollie Gillen p253
- *Dispatched Down Under* by Ron Withington p353 & 354
- *Convict Records*: <https://convictrecords.com.au/convicts/morrisby/james/67815>
- *HMS Sirius Her Final Voyage* by Cathy Dunn

NORFOLK ISLAND STAMPS ~ A DOORWAY INTO HISTORY

Stamp collecting has perhaps now been relegated to the past, but how it sparked, for many, a keen interest in the wide world out there, its countries, its landscapes, its peoples and its histories. I, for one, pored over my collection, which focused right from the beginning on the British Empire, its nations and their territories that gradually moved from colony status to independence.

There was always something to discover and I'm sure my lifelong interest in history and geography was born on the pages of my stamp albums. It didn't take me long to realise it was better to specialise, and so for over sixty years my focus was on Australia and its territories.

I don't know where they came from but my pride and joy in the early collection was the 1947 mint set of Norfolk Island stamps, the first in a long line of official issues from there. Do you remember these?



Little did I know then that I had a 4x great grandfather who from 1791 for about ten years farmed the land on the top of the hill pictured right behind the tall Norfolk pine.

Norfolk Island has had varied political and constitutional structure over the years. As a partially independent territory it issued its own stamps which could not be used for postage on the mainland. Since about 2016, however, the island has again become part of NSW and its stamps are now legally usable throughout Australia, just like those of Christmas & Cocos Islands and Antarctic Territory. **WJF**

Norfolk Island Museum Maritime Models

Released 13 July 2021

Norfolk Island's history is preserved and recounted through the Norfolk Island Museum, its four exhibition sites being part of the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Heritage Area. The stamps depict two handcrafted model ships displayed at the HMS Sirius Museum site. The vessels are linked with British settlement of both Australia's east coast and Norfolk Island.

On 6 March 1790, HMS *Sirius* and HMAT *Supply* sailed to Norfolk Island with marines convicts and stores. Due to strong southerlies and high seas in Norfolk's Sydney Bay the ships dropped convicts and marines at the more sheltered Cascade Bay on 13 March. They waited six days before entering Sydney Bay. On entering the bay the storm worsened and the wind direction changed, eventually wrecking the drifting *Sirius* on the reef.

Australia Post Stamp Bulletin June 2021.



FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

ACN 003 223 425

Patron: The Honourable Marjorie Beazley AC, QC

Vice-Patron: Commodore Paul Kable AM, RAN, Rtd.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting will be held by Zoom on
Thursday 28th October 2021, Commencing at 9.30am

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies.
2. To receive and confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 October 2020
3. To receive the President's Report.
4. To receive and consider the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts of the Fellowship for the year ended 30 June 2021
5. To approve the appointment of Commodore Paul Kable AM RAN Rtd as Vice-Patron.
6. To approve Life Memberships.
7. Election of Officers:
 - Appointment of Returning Officer,
 - Declaration of vacancy of positions and the election of Officers:
President, Vice-President, Treasurer & 10 Committee Members (max 13 Officers)
 - Declaration by the Returning Officer of the incoming Officers.
8. General business.

K Thomas, Secretary, 24 June 2021

(from Page 1) On Christmas Day, Bowes described his typical day on the high seas. After breakfast, he showed a proper sense of proprieties and priorities, first checking the health of the ship's company. 'Then I visit the sick among the convicts after wh[ich] I put up such Medicines as are wanting'. He then brought his journal up to date, a chore that was sometimes discharged in a sentence or two. His day's work effectively over, he sought out the company of James Smith, 'a very intelligent good disposed Man' whom he had not met before they found themselves on the same ship. 'I find in my Conversation with him no small Abatement of that irksomeness wh[ich] must otherwise have prevail'd in a voyage of this kind where I was a stranger to every one on Board.' As discussed later, the two found that they knew people in common, so that a conversation with Smith conjured pleasant reminders of home.^[2]

Australia's first free settler When the First Fleet arrived at Sydney, Arthur Phillip at first 'peremptorily refused' to allow James Smith to remain in the colony, although nobody stopped him from coming ashore to ramble around the harbour. Bowes 'draw'd up a petition' on Smith's behalf and – a stroke of luck here – enlisted the support of **George Johnston**, the lieutenant of marines, whom Phillip had just appointed as his aide-de-camp, the chief of a non-existent staff. Johnston, who had also sailed on the *Lady Penrhyn*, supplied James Smith with 'an extraordinarily good Character', as did another shipmate, the marines captain, **James Campbell**.



Lt. Col. George Johnston, 1810 portrait by R Dighton, (Pub. Library NSW)

On 15 February, Phillip swung to the other extreme, telling James Smith that he had changed his mind, and 'there sh[oul]d be a Tent erected for him, a piece of ground sh[oul]d be allotted to him for a garden', with seeds supplied from government stores. In return, Smith was 'to officiate as headborough', a semi-archaic English term for a parish constable. His initial responsibility would be 'to superintend the Convicts that were at work', reporting those who 'misbehaved'. The governor even threw in the promise, both unnecessary and unwise, that he would be 'further promoted' in due course.

It might be tempting to interpret this episode as one in which the top official was persuaded to adopt a sensible course after initially giving free rein his own hurt dignity. In fact, given the orders under which Arthur Phillip was oper-

ating, his decision to allow James Smith to settle in New South Wales represented a major historical landmark. Primarily, Phillip was the autocratic governor of a prison colony, and hence fully entitled to be angry at the discovery of a tourist. His freedom of action was restricted by his Instructions, a detailed document approved at the highest level of British government, the Court of St James's, on 25 April 1787. The Instructions envisaged that the penal colony would evolve towards becoming a free community by encouraging two types of independent settlers, but the transition was to be gradual. Land might be granted to former convicts, in carefully specified small blocks that obviously assumed that an English countryside could be created in New South Wales.

Although Phillip was endowed with the power to speed the process by pardoning reformed felons, the growth of an emancipist population of smallholders was likely to be spread over some time: the shortest term of transportation was seven years, and most First Fleeters had faced the courts since 1784. At least the process of converting convicts into farmers was in the hands of the governor, the man on the spot. However, London intended to control the second category of potential settlers. The Instructions foresaw the possibility that 'many of our subjects employed upon military service at the said settlement, or others who may resort thither upon their private occupations, may hereafter be desirous of proceeding to the cultivation and improvement of the land'. While the British government was 'disposed to afford them every reasonable encouragement', the strategy was one of caution. Phillip was directed to give priority to the submission of a report on 'the actual state and quality of the soil' of districts selected for free settlers, and to make recommendations on the terms and conditions that should accompany land grants.^[3] The intention, it seems, was to build in safeguards that would prevent a large-scale property grab by the officers, of the kind that did indeed take place when **Major Francis Grose** became acting governor after Phillip's departure in 1792.

Some ingenuity was required to fit a James Smith into the rules under which the governor was bound to operate. Smith was obviously somebody who had resorted to New South Wales upon some private occupation – or whim – turning up unexpectedly and well before the Instructions had envisaged the arrival of any such person. On reflection, Phillip presumably decided the spirit of his Instructions allowed him to give himself authority to allocate, not a farm but a hut and ground for a garden patch, no doubt on a provisional basis that might be regularised when some system of land granting was introduced.



Major Francis Grose

On 15 February 1788, Arthur Phillip probably felt that he had resolved an irritating small problem by heeding the pleas of a surgeon and two officers, men whose goodwill he needed for the massive challenges ahead. There was in fact no immediate prospect of shipping James Smith back to England, and he could hardly be drummed out of the colony to starve in the bush. Allowing him to stay was the obvious solution. Nonetheless, Phillip had taken the large step of approving the colony's first non-convict settler, thereby establishing a glimmer of the eventual prospect of a free Australian society.

Six days later, James Smith settled into his new quarters. Another passenger on the *Lady Penrhyn* of indeterminate status had been a fifteen-year-old boy called **Joseph Harrison**, whom Bowes had firmly described as 'not a Convict'. He was now allocated to work for Smith, along with 'a Convict (a Black man)' who had perhaps been a household servant, a liveried fashion accessory, to some wealthy family in England before taking to crime.^[4] James Smith showed his appreciation for the support he had received by presenting Bowes with a lizard.

In June 1788, James Smith prosecuted a female convict, his namesake **Ann Smith**, for insolently resisting his authority as constable. When ordered to put out her fire at night, she had replied that she would do so if he agreed to go to the Governor and get her a pair of shoes. She then abused him a busybody. Ann Smith had travelled on the *Lady Penrhyn*, where she 'had always behaved amis[s]' and had acquired a 'very indifferent Character'. On land, she had threatened to escape, but had presumably thought better of the attempt. She now sneered at James Smith, saying that 'though on the ship, she took him for a gentleman, she now found quite the contrary.' Her lame apology in court that she had thought knowing him at sea might allow her 'to take such a liberty' did not save her from being sentenced to be flogged, although Phillip promptly issued a reprieve.^[5] It is hazardous to build too large an interpretation upon a single incident. Ann Smith was not an easy woman to handle. However, it seems likely that James Smith's transformation from cabin passenger to constable had reduced his standing. Phillip's intervention was humane, but possibly also reflected recognition that the appointment was not proving a success.

In November 1788, Phillip established a new farming settlement at Parramatta, then called Rose Hill. James Smith was transferred to supervise the convict workers. Phillip was well aware that 'the habitual indolence of the convicts' was made worse by 'the want of proper overseers to keep them to their duty'^[6] Unfortunately, James Smith did not fill the gap. His failure in the role is known mainly through the success of Phillip's personal servant, **Henry Dodd**, who replaced him in March 1789. 'One or two others had been so employed for a short time', wrote **Captain John Hunter**, 'but were removed, as wanting either industry or probity'.^[7] James Smith's honesty was

not in doubt, but he was obviously out of his depth. His dismissal came at a time of crisis for the colony, which was running short of food with no knowledge of when ships might arrive with fresh supplies. Phillip decided to divide the population, sending the less productive to Norfolk Island, where they might subsist on natural resources such as fish and seabirds, and where the potential for farming seemed promising. Although his name was carefully kept from the official record, it seems that James Smith was one of those relocated.

In February 1791, the island's commander, **Robert Ross**, reported to Phillip, praising one of the convicts who had succeeded in establishing himself as an independent farmer: 'he is a very deserving painstaking person.' Without any identification or context, Ross continued with a complaint about an individual who was evidently well-known to both of them. 'I wish I could say as much for Mr Smith, for, notwithstanding every encouragement that has been given him ... I am clearly of opinion that he never will do any good for himself or anybody else.' James Smith had been allocated a piece of ground but had proved incapable of making use of it.^[8]

(To be concluded in the next issue of Founders)

ENDNOTES I am grateful for advice from Gillian Doyle, Vice-President & Research Director of the Fellowship of First Fleeters. Websites were consulted during January 2021.

[1] P.G. Fidlon and R.J. Ryan, eds, *The Journal of Arthur Bowes Smyth: Surgeon, Lady Penrhyn 1787-1789* (Sydney, 1979), 72. At the time, the author was known as Bowes.

[2] *The Journal of Arthur Bowes Smyth*, 45, 51. The ship's other surgeon, John Alltree (who was incompetent but likeable) "generally makes up the trio". James Smith is first mentioned accompanying Bowes on a sightseeing tour of Rio, *ibid.*, 34.

[3] *Historical Records of New South Wales*, i (2), 85-91, esp. 90-1. The shock discovery of the infertility of Australian soil, combined with the need to restrict the limits of settlement in the face of Aboriginal hostility, ensured that Phillip's blueprint was never submitted to London.

[4] *The Journal of Arthur Bowes Smyth*, 72, 74, 8.

[5] J. Cobley, *Sydney Cove 1788* (London, 1962), 165; *The Journal of Arthur Bowes Smyth*, 66, 72.

[6] *The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay...* (London, 1789), 57.

[7] A.J. Gray, "Dodd, Henry Edward (c.1752-1791)", *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, i (1966): <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/dodd-henry-edward-1984>; J. Hunter (J. Bach, ed.), *An Historical Journal of Events at Sydney and at Sea* (Sydney, 1968, cf. 1st ed., London, 1793), 302. Hunter's ambiguous comment probably explains Eldershaw's negative comment: "Except for his freedom Smith does not seem to have been an outstanding character." M.B. Eldershaw, *Phillip of Australia...* (Sydney, 1977, cf. 1st ed., 1938), 149. Eldershaw stated that James Smith was appointed a Justice of the Peace at Rose Hill. The First Fleet passenger list of the National Centre for Biography lists him as "peace officer": https://history.cass.anu.edu.au/centres/ncb/first-fleet-ships-and-passengers#lady_penrhyn.

[8] *Historical Records of New South Wales*, i (2), 440-1 (11 February 1791). By a curious coincidence, another non-convict James Smith, a gardener from Kew, was sent out by the *Guardian* in August 1789. *Ibid.*, 262. The ship sank in December. The second James Smith does not seem to have reached New South Wales. The use of "Mr" in the Ross account points to James Smith of the *Lady Penrhyn*. For a third James Smith, a convict on the *Scarborough*, see <https://peopleaustralia.anu.edu.au/biography/smith-james-30783>

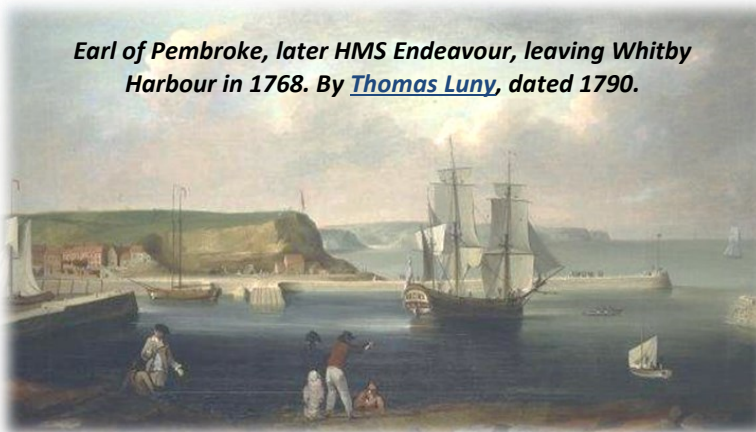
WAS PETER HIBBS REALLY ON THE ENDEAVOUR? ~ PART 1

We begin, in this issue, with the first instalment of a strongly reasoned account as to why many Hibbs descendants agree with what has been passed down through the family from the man himself. #3493.1 Hendrika Johnson invites you to read on and assess her findings for yourself.

Introduction

Peter Kenney Hibbs hardly made the history books, but all the people he served did.

No large cities, seas or mountains were named after him, just a number of coastal features on the wild west coast of Tasmania, Australia. Not a written word from him, except a cross in ink as a signature, but there is oral history, newspapers reports, accounts from third parties and circumstantial evidence which add heavily to the likelihood that Peter Hibbs sailed on the bark *HMS Endeavour* between 1768 and 1771.



Earl of Pembroke, later HMS Endeavour, leaving Whitby Harbour in 1768. By Thomas Luny, dated 1790.

Therefore Peter has a unique place in Australian and British history, as he is the **ONLY** person who arrived in 'Australia' in 1770 with the *Endeavour* commanded by **Lieutenant James Cook**; but also came back 18 years later with The First Fleet on the *HMS Sirius* with **Commodore Arthur Phillip** in 1788.

Eight months after arrival he sailed in the *Sirius* with **Captain John Hunter** to South Africa to buy urgent needed provisions to save the starving settlement in Sydney, completing the first circumnavigation at Antarctic latitudes going in an eastern direction on the gruesome 'roaring forties' to speed up the voyage.

One month after arriving back, apparently he was chosen for an exploratory voyage led by Governor Arthur Phillip in which the Hawkesbury River was found on 'Gentlemen's Halt, Peter was promised by the governor 60 acres for a 'pig run'.

Half a year later Peter Hibbs went on the *Sirius* with Captain Hunter to Norfolk Island, where they became shipwrecked. Peter stayed, married a convict and a

year later received a land grant there.

Six years and two children later, in 1798, Peter is involved in completing the building of the first boat on Norfolk Island, a one-masted 'cutter' sloop, called *Norfolk*, which he sailed as her master to Sydney.

A few months later he was chosen as master of the *Norfolk* to sail her again, this time with **George Bass** and **Matthew Flinders** to circumnavigate Van Diemen's Land thus proving it to be an island. Point Hibbs was called after Hibbs and later on also neighbouring Hibbs River, Hibbs Pyramid, Hibbs Bay, Hibbs islands and Hibbs Lagoon. Apart from Bass Strait and Flinders Island no other physical features were called after any crew or other people on this historic exploratory voyage.

On return to Sydney Matthew Flinders, indigenous **Bungaree**, Master Peter Hibbs and a handful of seaman sailed with the *Norfolk* north exploring the east coast until reaching Glass House Bay, close to current Hervey Bay.

Soon after, in 1801, Peter and his 8 years old son **George** joined the Navy ship *Porpoise*, sailing to Norfolk Island and then to Tahiti to pick up a shipment of salted pork. In 1802 they went again to Tahiti, to pick up another load of meat. He might have again encountered legendary **King Pōmare**.

Father and son sailed the next year to Van Diemen's Land with soldiers, prisoners and provisions for the founding of the first British settlement there in Risdon Cove, coordinated by **John Bowen**.

Coming back to Sydney Peter and George left *HMS Porpoise*. The ship went soon after with Matthew Flinders back to England, but she was shipwrecked in the Coral Sea.

From then on, being 46 year old, Peter bought and sailed his own boats with his sons, transporting provisions to and from Sydney and remote settlements on the Hawkesbury and the coasts.

By 1847 Peter Kenney Hibbs had crossed all oceans, circumnavigated the world, spending about 80 years on and off at sea as a ship's boy, able seaman, boatswain mate, master and owner. In an era of shipwrecks, scurvy, sea battles, isolation and limited communications, to survive AND to become 90 years old, was remarkable.

On land he tilled the soil in England, New South Wales and Norfolk Island, and became the ancestor of thousands of descendants, mainly Australians. He outlived by ten years the last crew member on the *Endeavour*, was ruled by ten New South Wales' Governors, was one of the six eldest colonials in the first census in 1828, saw the colonies in Australia developing over 77 years between 1770 and 1847 and seeing life changing for the Aboriginals wherever he went.

The 250 year commemoration of the arrival of the *Endeavour* on the East Coast of Australia seemed to be the perfect opportunity to bring to life the full story of Peter Kenney Hibbs, and therefore that of the exploration and changes of the south continent and early colonial Australia.

The author is very much aware that her husband and children carry the genes of Peter Kenney Hibbs, and being Dutch she can be more impartial as English imperial history and tragedy unfolded itself wherever Peter Hibbs went.

She feels that it is important to continue telling the stories and understanding how two epic voyages of the eighteenth century have led to another reality for the native populations, the newcomers and the world..

Peter's personal story is not just family history: it is collective history, and therefore worthwhile to be told, to be heard and to be remembered.

Name	Rank	Age	Other
Peter Hibbs	Att	24	Ramsgate Kent
Charles Town	Att	20	America
Cook	Att	25	
Waterford	Att	23	
Chatham	Att	23	
Gosport	Att	19	
Exeter	Att	10	

In the muster book of the *Goliath*: (see above) 'Peter Hibbs, AB (Able Seaman) born in Ramsgate Kent. D (Discharged) on 24/3/1787 (to *Sirius*; Underreason is written: *Sirius* and P (Portsmouth?) and S or Y.

Who was Peter Kenney Hibbs?

There is some uncertainty about Peter's birth dates. But this is what is known from the records:

Peter died on 12th September 1847 in Australia. On his headstone was written that he was ninety years old, which

would make his year of birth around 1757.

At Peter's birth, his 20 year old mother **Mary Kenney**, was unmarried. She came from Coombe Keynes, a hamlet in the county of Dorset, 25 kilometres from Swanage, South England. So Peter was therefore called Peter Kenney.

When Peter was three his mother married the 22 year old **George Hibbs** on Christmas Day 1760, at the parish church of St Laurence-in-Thamet, Ramsgate, Kent. This is a seaside town in the district of Thanet in east Kent, England. It became one of the great English seaside and fishing towns of the 19th century.

Two years later on 24 January 1762, Peter was baptised at the parish church of the sea town Swanage, Dorset, as Peter Kenney Hibbs, the son of George and Mary Hibbs. It was at his mother's homeland. He was baptised as George Hibbs' son and was given his surname, keeping his previous surname as a middle name. Now he had a baptism record which then were used as birth certificates.

With being now officially a Hibbs he could hide his illegitimacy, but there was a five-year discrepancy in his recorded birth and baptism.

This 4-5 year difference between Peter's birth and baptism has caused uncertainties by historians about his age. To cover up Mary's unmarried status and Peter's illegitimacy it was very effective to wait to get Peter baptised when she had become a married woman, which made her look respectable and also Peter.

When Peter enlisted into the navy he gave as his home town Ramsgate, Kent, where his father had his farmlet on the market in 1771.

As Peter became a sailor, both Ramsgate and Swanage could have inspired him, or even forced him into that profession, being both located along the sea, and with ships sailing between London and all continents within view from the shore.

To be continued in the next issue of Founders.

Donations received for House Upkeep

Arch M L, Arndell C L, Baur L A, Benjamin R A, Bennett E D R, Best R C, Binder K J, Binder K B, Binder M J, Birch J A, Bowe A, Bowe R J, Bracey N L, Breuillard-Limondin S, Brown W F, Butler N W, Carroll J A, NR Chapter, Charlton J.M, Clark R W, Cooper R J, Cowled L M, Cridland S M, Davis D H, Davis J P, Davis R N, Davis R A, Dean B G, Dobbs L, Edgington G O, Entwistle R K, Forte M E, Frame K L, Gillan J P, Golden D A, Hadley R C, Haigh C A, Hammond B E, Hammond C J, Hannah, N D, Harris J, Haspell R F, Haswell J, Haxton F L, Heldon B K, Hellyer L E, Hitchcock B, Hodgson B D, Hogan M T, Jewell C, Jones W M, Kable G P, Kelly G A, Keough S N, Legge R M, Lewis H, Lowe E M, MacGregor G C, Manuel J A, Martin J M, McKee I, McKillop-Davies F M, McLean B Y, McPherson E A, Meredith M P, Mewett M, Middleton B, Miles P B, Miles P J W, Milne J B, Moore R C, Morgan H G, Morgan R V, Morris C B, Nelson M L, Newell J S, Norton G S, O'Neill B, Olivier C, Olivier F U, Paul H, Phipps JK, Ratcliffe B A, Reed D J, Risby J C, Risby W H L, Robinson N O, Robinson P E, Ross C S, Scott D A, Searchfield C MN, Searchfield M M D, Shaw M, Smith J G, Soward M A, Stratford M H, Symington M D, Tassone J S, Theobald M C, Walker P E, Walsh L M, Webb G H, Webb P J, Williams B L, Williamson H T, Wright J G, Wyatt B, Yeomans D J, Young M, Young R, Zamiatin J D.

ANDREW THOMPSON ~ FROM BOY CONVICT TO WEALTHIEST SETTLER

Many in the Fellowship will be familiar with the historic town of Windsor on the Hawkesbury, New South Wales, and its heritage listed *Thompson Square*. The siting of the new bridge across the river (recently under floodwaters) and its eastern approach slicing the square in two have been the subject of much concern by the local community and historians in general.

This new biography, by historian **Anne-gret Hall**, tells the story of **Andrew Thompson** the ex-convict pioneer after whom the square is named, and who, while still relatively young, became the wealthiest settler in the colony.

The writer takes us back to Andrew's family and boyhood as an apprentice weaver in eighteenth century in the southern borders of Scotland. As she did in her earlier book, *In For the Long Haul*, Hall skilfully outlines the setting and politico-economic climate of the time and how it led to Andrew's conviction and transportation on the *Pitt* in 1791.

This clear understanding of the family background allows the reader to get to know the boy and suggests what may have driven him to attain such heights in the colony and at such a young age. Those with an entrepreneurial bent will appreciate how astute Andrew was in business dealings as he moved from his time as a convicted felon to become a leader and role model in the

Hawkesbury community. It would seem from all his endeavours that his outstanding personality endeared him to all, from struggling ex-convict farmers to governing authorities.

The author's approach is entirely chronological and the chapter headings clearly show how Thompson's rise to prominence came about through his official appointments, from leading constable while still a convict to the Chief Constable of the district, manager of **Governor Bligh's** farm, hard-working rescuer of flood victims and his appointment as Chief Magistrate under **Governor Macquarie**.

The most enthralling section of the book is Andrew Thompson's unexpected and unplanned role in the interplay between the Exclusionists or Exclusives, represented with malice and often blatant corruption by **John Macarthur** and **George Johnston**, and the Emancipists, their honest leader and wise mentor being Thompson himself.

Do read this wonderfully written book. There is much to learn about this truly local hero and his life and times. Learn what led to Andrew's building his grand house on the water's edge at Sydney Cove and the ructions that ensued. You will see that the much attested manoeuvring in today's politics echoes that of those in high office some 200 years ago.

WJF

FROM THE MAIL BAG

#7348 Marilyn Long writes:

I enjoyed reading the item about FF **William Hubbard** (*Founders* 54/2) as his life reflected aspects of that of my First Fleet ancestor **Catherine Johnson** in the Rocks and the Hawkesbury (with Tristram Moore of *Atlas* 2 in 1805).

On Norfolk Island between 1789 to 1794 she had 2 children by **Edward Beckford** who is **Edward Smith** of 1788 *Scarborough* and he has a biography on the FF site.

The full item from Trove at the end of Heather Stevens' article is:

THE FIRST FLEETERS.--The Government have ordered a pension of one shilling per diem to be paid to the survivors of those who came by the first vessel into the Colony. The number of these really "old hands" is now reduced to three, of whom, two are now in the Benevolent Asylum, and the other is a fine hale old fellow, who can do a day's work with more spirit than many of the young fellows lately arrived in the Colony. We are glad that the Government have commemorated the auspicious day of our anniversary in so handsome a manner.

And as Edward Beckford died in June 1851 I am guessing he is the 'fine hale old fellow, who can do a day's work with more spirit than many of the young fellows lately arrived in the Colony.' He was a seaman all his life and was still going to sea in 1825 aged in his 60s and possibly later as many references to him are from the Colonial Secretary's Correspondence 1788-1825.

This was a very interesting snippet of information to come across. I attach a photo of the FFF plaque commemorating him at St Stephens, Newtown (was Camperdown Cemetery).

Regards,

Marilyn Long #7348.



OUR CHAPTERS IN ACTION

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

Venue: usually at Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury, (Covid conditions apply), monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10:00 for 10.30 am. **Next Meeting:** 21 August: Roz Walls, Albury City Council; 18 September: Sgt Rachael, Fraud and Scammers. **Next Event:** The combined 25 September Excursion with H-NC to the Blue Mountains has been cancelled. **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:** 20 August: Greg de Moore, *Finding Sanity*; 17 September: Jenny Joyce, *Understanding DNA*; 15 October: Dick Whitaker, *History of Surry Hills*. **Next Events:** 13 August: 11th Birthday Luncheon at Hornsby RSL; 15 October: Morning Tea for Phillip's birthday. **Contact:** Judith O'Shea 9797 0240

BOTANY BAY - Southern Sydney, from Cooks River to Waterfall and west to Liverpool

Venue: Our Lady of Fatima Church, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst. Bi-monthly on third Tuesday 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 17 August: **Meeting cancelled, AGM by email**; 21 September & 19 October TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Carol Macklin 0415376434

CANBERRA – ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Event:** There will be an Annual Lunch in September 2021 on a date to be announced soon. Please contact Toni for further details. **Contact:** Toni Pike 041 041 2778

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 Meeting:** 14 August, Greg Powell, *Bushrangers of the Hunter and Central Coast*; (**may be postponed until 11 Sept**); 11 September: Jon Fearon, *The Sealbys of Saratoga*; 9 October: Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** Tuesday 7 September: 10.00am Visit to Spike Milligan Room, Woy Woy Library, Geoff Potter on *The Milligans of Woy Woy* **Contact:** Jon Fearon 43116254

DERWENT - Southern Tasmania

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, first Saturday at Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. **Next Meeting:** 2 October: Speaker TBA. **Contact:** Paul Dobber 0401566080

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 Meetings:** 7 August: Cate Whittaker, *Elizabeth Fry* (**but probably cancelled**); 4 September: TBA; 2 October: TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Jennifer Follers 97991161

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

Venue: Windsor Library, Penrith Library and Springwood. Presbyterian Church --Bi-monthly, third Saturday, 11 am. **Next Meetings:** 21 August at Windsor: **Cancelled, AGM by email**; 16 October, Springwood meeting: Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** September Tour to Medlow Bath, **cancelled** **Contact:** William Hempel 0410950101

HUNTER VALLEY – Hunter Region, Newcastle and surrounds.

Venue: Teralba Community Hall Supper Room. 15 Anzac Pde Teralba—bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday from 10am—

12.30pm. **Next Meeting:** 16 August: Ron Withington, on his new book; (**Covid restrictions permitting**); 18 October: Speaker, TBA. **Next Event:** TBA. **Contact:** Kerry Neinert 49615083.

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

Venue: Presbyterian Church, 76 Albert Street, Taree, Bi-monthly on 4th Tuesday at 2pm. **Next Meeting:** 24 August: AGM. (**may be covid cancelled**); 28 September: Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Heather Bath 0427018566

MORETON – South East Queensland.

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on an available 2nd Saturday. **Covid-19 restrictions will be strictly monitored and implemented.** **Next Meetings:** 14 August: AGM, Diane Hacker, TBA; 9 October: Speaker, TBA. **Next Events:** **Contact:** Robin McCarthy 0412305501

NORTH COAST – Nambucca Heads, Dorrigo, Boambee, Coffs Harbour to McLean.

Venue: Either Mylestom Hall or Coramba Hall, or at members' homes, Bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 1 August at Mylestom Hall AGM, Speaker, TBA; 3 October: At Pat and Darrell Davis's home. Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 66533615

NORTH WEST – Tamworth and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meetings:** (in Family History Rooms) 14 August: AGM followed by regular meeting; 9 October: Warren White, *The Guard Family of New Zealand* **Next Event:** **Contact:** Janet McLean 0438465529

NORTHERN RIVERS – Lismore and surrounds.

Venue: Ballina Cherry Street Sports and Bowling Club - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meetings:** 26 September: TBA. **Contact:** Roddy Jordan 6687 5339

PORT PHILLIP—Melbourne and Regional Victoria.

Venue: Various; quarterly meetings, third Saturday, times vary. **Next Meeting:** 14 August, 12 midday, Lunch meeting at Mail Exchange Hotel, 688 Melbourne: Tarina Fanning, *A Larrakia-Tiwi Perspective on First Nations Descent*. (**Covid-19 restrictions willing**) **Contact:** Geoff Rundell 0429528502

SOUTH COAST – Engadine to Burrill Lake.

Venue: Café Function Room at St Luke's Anglican Church, Moomba St, Dapto – monthly except Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm. **Next Meetings** 3 August: 20th Birthday Meeting (may be cancelled); 7 September: Doug White, *Captain Cook*; 5 October: Jacqui Price, *An Indian Wedding*, **Next Event:** **Contact:** Rob Ratcliffe 42321842

SWAN RIVER – Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.

Venue: 16 Inwood Place Murdoch, bi-monthly, usually first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meetings:** 7 August: AGM and General Meeting; 2 October: General Meeting **Next Event:** 24 September, Outing to Whiteman Park. **Contact:** Toni Mahony 0892717630

PLEASE NOTE: Some of the events on this page may be deferred or cancelled. Please check with your listed contact.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Closing date for this page for the next issue is 20 September 2021

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

DEATHS

Ordinary and Pensioner Members

**PHILIP SCRIVEN/JANE LANGLEY/
HENRIETTA LANGLEY**

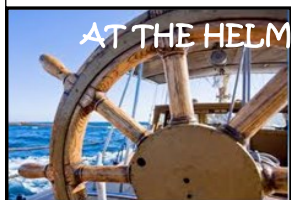
#9110 Jason Christopher Chapman
THOMAS ACRES/AKERS
#9111 Elizabeth Kaye Frappell
#9112 Kevin Charles Frappell
#9113 Sally Lorraine de Zwaan
#9116 Casey Anne Shipley
#9120 Kristy Jo Frappell
#9122 Andrew Russell Frappell
#9123 Faye Lorraine Wyr

Ordinary and Pensioner Members

THOMAS CHIPPI/JANE LANGLEY
#9124 Christopher Paul de Mamiel

Junior Members

THOMAS ACRES/AKERS
#9114 Alice May de Zwaan
#9115 Camilla Elizabeth de Zwaan
#9117 Braxton Charles Shipley
#9118 Kyah Anne Shipley
#9119 Layke William Shipley
#9121 Lachlan Noel Frappell



DEATHS

JOHN CROSS

Christopher Donald R Cross, of Epping, New South Wales, died on 02.05.2021, aged 78. He and his wife Patricia have been members of the Fellowship since 2005.

NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#8022 Lady Joy Cecilia Gould, of Warragul, Victoria, died on 05.05.2021, aged 95. As advised by her daughter 'she was very proud to be acknowledged as a First Fleeter and it gave her much delight in her last years of life'.

WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES

#5857 William John Alpen Hunt, of Mornington, Victoria, died on 29.03.2021, aged 86. Bill was a foundation member of Northern Rivers Chapter until he and his wife Barbara moved to Mornington to care for her mother. He was disappointed that he was not well enough to join the new Port Phillip Chapter.

WILLIAM STANDLEY

#6894 Brian Stevens, late of Fairview Retirement Village, Pinjarra Hills, and formerly of Figtree Pocket, Queensland, died on 11.02.2021, aged 95. He had been a member of the Fellowship for 20 years.

JOHN NICHOLLS

#8389 Christine June Aiken, of Saratoga, New South Wales, died on 05.06.2020 after a short and aggressive illness. She was just 67. Although she had only been a member of the Fellowship since 2014, she will be sadly missed by her friends at Central Coast Chapter where she was an active member.

JOHN CROSS

#2437 Leonard D Murray, of Point Clare, New South Wales, died on 06.06.2021, aged 93. Len was a very proud First Fleeter and his friendly smile and warm, gentle nature will be sadly missed by his Central Coast Chapter friends. Len, with his wife Lola, was a foundation member of the chapter.

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES

#5461 Jeanette Williamson, late of Sapphire Beach and formerly of Coffs Harbour and Ulmarra, New South Wales, died in May 2021, aged 90. She had been a member of the Fellowship since 1988 and was a founding member of North Coast Chapter where her friends described her as 'a cheery person who lit up the room whenever she arrived'.

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES

#7715 Robert J Rickards, of Unanderra, New South Wales, died on 09.07.2021, after long bouts of illness, aged 76. Bob first joined the Fellowship in 2003 and for the last few years he has served as Webmaster both for the Fellowship and the South Coast Chapter. Greatly missed by his wife Dorothy and family and his many chapter friends.



The Australian Census night is on Tuesday 10 August 2021. Every five years, the Australian Bureau of Statistics counts every person and home in Australia. The personal information you provide in your Census form is protected by the secrecy provisions of the Census and Statistics Act (CSA). Other organisations, including government departments and marketing companies, cannot have access to personal information you provide on your Census form. As part of the Census, you can choose to have your Census information preserved for 99 years and it will be transferred to the National Archives of Australia as part of the Census Time Capsule. It will not be made available for any purpose until 2120 and cannot be accessed, altered or retrieved before that time. How many times have you accessed information in UK census records in your search for ancestors. The UK 1920 census is due to be released during the next year. Please remember to **mark the box relating to keeping your details**, as future genealogists will be able to access your information in 99 years.



A new book about an old gold-mining town in North-East Tasmania's Fingal Valley has just been published. The author, Charmaine Low, has advised that **Mathinna—They Answered the Call** is about the town and its 221 men who enlisted in WW1 and their families. It includes about ten First Fleet family descendants. Contact: theyansweredthecall@outlook.com or 0438 340 631.



Once again during the two months when chapters elect their officers for the new year, the dreaded **Virus has struck again**, and so, once more we will see some creative ways to get this done. Best wishes, Chapters, as you travel the road from nomination, to election and declaration, even without a meeting.



Webmaster **Bob Rickards funeral service** was held on 16 July and is available on livestream for 90 days. FFF Director John Boyd gave a moving tribute. Go to www.oneromstreaming.com/family-and-friends#login-watch. Then in Event id space insert bookings@lakesidecrem.com.au Password is **CGL6L4**

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.

Mary Chalmers-Borella
02 6025 3283

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Judith O'Shea 02 9797 0240

BOTANY BAY

Carol Macklin 0415 376 434

CANBERRA

Geoff Lamb 02 6231 5548

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

Robin McCarthy 0412 305 501

NORTH COAST

Robyn Condliffe 02 6653 3615

NORTHERN RIVERS

Roddy Jordan 02 6687 5339

NORTH WEST

Janet McLean 0438 465 529

PORT PHILLIP

Geoff Rundell 0429 528 502

SOUTH COAST

Rob Ratcliffe 02 4232 1842

SWAN RIVER

Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630