

# F.F.F.

# NEWSLETTER

Joan Ross,  
Hon. Editor,

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F.F.F. Newsletter  
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## From the President

I hope all Members had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. We have certainly started 1977 well.

The Wednesday (26th January) Flag Raising Ceremony in the presence of the Prime Minister and the Lord Mayor of Sydney was held in a new venue this year -- Macquarie Place. This is an ideal setting, as the trees do offer some shade from the hot sun. The Prime Minister spoke and shook hands with a number of "First Fleeters," who added great colour to the gathering, in their colonial costumes. We received excellent coverage from the media -- TV, radio and newspaper.

At night my husband and I were the guests of the Premier and Ministers of State of New South Wales at the State Reception to celebrate Australia Day.

Saturday 29th January saw our first Vice-Regal Dinner, with the Wentworth Ballroom almost full. I noted Members present from Tamworth, the South Coast and Melbourne. As well as His Excellency the Governor and Lady Cutler, we were honoured to have the Deputy Premier, the Hon. L. J. Ferguson, Mr Maurice Neil, our first Federal Representative, and the Deputy Lord Mayor, Ald. Barry Lewis, and Ald. Nanette Rudge as our guests. Our ever-faithful Vice Patrons also attended with their wives. This function was voted a great success by all present.

On Sunday morning 30th January I attended, with my husband, the Pioneers Service at the Garrison Church, representing the Fellowship. The same morning Mrs Lola Wilkinson represented us at a special Australia Day Mass at St Patrick's, The Rocks.

Our Exhibition was as usual held at The Rocks on the Sunday, and my heartfelt thanks go to all the hardy workers we had on that day -- the hottest day for 13 years! This was a great success, both from an interest and from a financial point of view.

Monday the 31st saw a group of approximately 50 Members in period costume assemble at Government House to present a Memorial Scroll of Loyalty to His Excellency the Governor. Later we were served light refreshments as His Excellency mingled with and spoke to a great many of the group, and we then enjoyed seeing part of the interior of Government House.

This ceremony concluded a very busy, hot but very enjoyable "Australia Day Week."

Would Members please note the change of night for our lectures? This year they will be held on the first Wednesday of each month.

These lecture nights are most enjoyable and informative evenings, so do come along and then join us in a cup of tea or coffee in the Office.

I look forward with confidence to real fellowship in 1977.

Beryl Lewis.

### Address by Bert Weston

This is the address given on behalf of the Fellowship by Bert Weston, a descendant of Major George Johnston, at the ceremony at Government House on Monday 31st January:--

Your Excellency, Lady Cutler, Ladies and Gentlemen.

In ordinary life I am Bert Weston, a Member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, but today, in the role and guise of my great-great-grandfather Major George Johnston, Commandant of the Rum Corps, I have been appointed spokesman by my fellow Members.

Entry into our Association demands just one unique qualification, which is descent from one (in some cases it is two) of those 1400 people who reached Sydney Cove in the First Fleet just 189 years ago, whether man or woman, bondman or freeman, soldier, sailor or civilian.

And it could not have been a very happy assemblage which, at journey's end, rounded Benelong Point and viewed the rocks, mangroves and mud of the shoreline and the wooded slopes from which was to arise one of the world's great cities; they could not have predicted that, but we, their descendants, are privileged to enjoy the cities and be part of the nation which they started in privation and misery.

We are proud to stand here today on their behalf.

And it was on a January evening 169 years ago, in the reign of Governor Bligh, that my ancestor, with band playing and flags flying, led the troops of the New South Wales Corps, together with a number of citizens of Sydney Town, to Government House, where he deposed and placed your predecessor under arrest and assumed the reins of Government.

History tells us that the only violence occurred when the Governor's daughter, Mrs Putland, belaboured the arresting officers with her parasol.

With that event in mind, Sir, you may be in some state of trepidation as to the reason for this invasion of your premises. I, too, was under some degree of apprehension until I assured myself that Lady Cutler was not carrying an umbrella.

So I hasten to assure you that we come in peace to affirm our allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen and to express our esteem and loyalty to Your Excellency and to your high office.

And in token thereof we have pleasure in presenting to you, and asking you to graciously accept, this Scroll, which sets out our sentiments in more lasting fashion.

And in conclusion, Sir, I tender to you my respects as a fellow officer in the Second A.I.F.

### Memorial of The Fellowship of First Fleeters

To His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales

His Excellency Sir Roden Cutler, V.C., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., Governor in and over Her Majesty's Territory of New South Wales

Memorial of The Fellowship of First Fleeters

The Fellowship of First Fleeters Most Humbly State

That Memorialists are descendants of settlers who came into this Territory in the First Fleet under the command of His Excellency Arthur Phillip Esquire.

Memorialists came together in the year 1968 to form the Fellowship of First Fleeters because their ancestors shared the common fate

(Memorial continued on Page 3)

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## Memorial (continued)

of pioneering European settlement in this country and because Memorialists share an interest in researching and preserving the history of those early days for future generations.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters has 400 members and meets each month at The Assembly Building, Sydney, when lectures are given by visiting speakers.

This day, the twenty-sixth of January, is of special significance to Memorialists who, since the inception of their Fellowship, hold a banquet on that day, when loyal toasts are raised to Her Majesty, to the Government of New South Wales, and to all who have contributed to the development of this country.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters participates in the celebrations of Australia Day by providing informative and entertaining activities for the General Public.

Memorialists were greatly honoured when Your Excellency accepted the role of Patron of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

And Memorialists will ever as in duty bound, pray

While they have the High Honour to Remain

Your Excellency's

Most Humble and Obedient Servants.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters

Sydney, 26 January, 1977

Beryl Lewis President

## Four Generations

Four generations were represented when Thelma Guy attended the Loyal Address at Government House. Her mother, Mrs T. Kable, herself, her son Roy Guy and grandson Shane. Shane, who led the group at the Ceremony as the Drummer Boy, was only five weeks old when he became a member of the Fellowship in 1968 — the youngest member at the time.

## New Members

(From the Membership Committee)

We are very happy to welcome the following new members:--

Mr Vincent F. N. Tetley, Canberra. (Thomas Acres)

Miss Maude B. E. Lee, Balgowlah. (William Nash)

Mr Keith G. Tate, New Farm, Queensland. (John Snall - Mary Parker)

Mr Edward R. Linn, East Roseville. (John Herbert - Deborah Ellan)

Miss Heather K. Sharp, Richmond, N.S.W. (Frederick Meredith)

Mrs Mary B. Caldwell, Ourimbah, N.S.W. (Henry Kable - Susannah Holmes)

Miss Vanessa Holt, West Pymble. (Joseph Hatton)

Miss Beverley J. Anderson, Cowra. (Joseph Hatton)

Miss Catherine E. Anderson, Cowra. (Joseph Hatton)

## Oakes Marriage

On Saturday 8th January Virginia Oakes, granddaughter of our Vice-Patron Dudley Oakes (John Snall - Mary Parker) was married at the Lane Cove Congregational Church, Lane Cove, to Dominic Stone, son of the TV commentator Geoff Stone.

Reception was held at her parents' home in Lane Cove.

### Visit to Mrs Lola Wilkinson's

The Fellowship is in debt to Mrs Lola Wilkinson and her husband for their very kind gesture in inviting those who attended the Loyal Address Ceremony at Government House to visit their attractive unit. Most of those present at the ceremony accepted the Wilkinsons' invitation. There was an excellent morning tea, and everyone also went up to the roof garden of the Astor, where the Wilkinsons live, for a wonderful panoramic view over Sydney. It was a specially nice finish to the morning's activities.

Mrs Wilkinson, incidentally, is one of those clearly shown in period dress with the Prime Minister in the "Sydney Morning Herald" photograph (27th January) of the Macquarie Place ceremony.

### \$166 Raised

The sum of \$166 was raised from the Fellowship's Exhibition at The Rocks on Sunday 30th January. This was a very commendable effort, and our thanks must go to all the helpers who made this possible.

### In Memoriam

This Newsletter regrets to announce the deaths of the following:

Mrs Williamina Kable, mother of former F.F.F. President Edgar Kable.

Miss Bertra Cowell, of Lakenba. (William Tunks)

Mrs Kathleen Buchanan, of Narrabri. (William Broughton)

The Fellowship extends sincere condolences to members of their families.

### The Rose Family Tree

(From Mrs Vida J. Myers, 8 Lowndes St., Salisbury, Q. 4107)

Mr David Rose, founder of the Rose Family Society in England, would be happy to hear from anyone with Rose in their ancestry, hopefully with some details of their line of descent. Those interested should write to Mr David Rose, Flat 6, Northwood House, 119 Tankerton Road, Whitstable, Kent, UK. For anyone wishing to join the Society, the annual subscription for overseas members is £2.50, due 1st February, and includes the Society's quarterly journal "The Rose Tree." (Mrs Myers is nee Rose)

### Canada -- Big and Beautiful

(Continuing Margaret Markwell's account of her visit last year to Canada, the first instalment of which appeared in the November 1976 Newsletter. Margaret's son Peter from Canada is now visiting her)

Red Deer is a very lovely little city of 32,000 and is surrounded by rich farmland and cattle ranches. It looked a picture when we were there -- all the fields of green oats, barley, wheat and alfalfa, with big paddocks of bright yellow rape in full bloom,

Had a day in Calgary. Went to their famous Heritage Park, where all the old historic buildings have been assembled, then to the Stampede, where we saw the Chuck Waggon races. Then to Edmonton for a day and night. The Archives Museum there is simply wonderful. Edmonton is the capital of Alberta, and is a beautiful city of 500,000. Fine buildings and beautiful tree-lined streets.

Spent 11 days at Red Deer with the family and had delightful outings -- including a day at Sylvan Lake, which is very large; people everywhere sunbaking, boating and swimming ... After our beaches it didn't seem that wonderful, but the Canadians make the most of every summer's day, their winters being so long and severe. (Continued)

### Next Lecture

Wednesday, 2nd March: Mr Hosking on Henry Lawson. This should be a very interesting address, so please come along.

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 10th September 1976.

RULE 6A - ASSOCIATES.

Delete the existing clause completely and insert four (4) clauses in its place to read.

1. GENERAL.

Associate members are divided into two (2) categories, namely:-

- (a) Associate - (Spouse)
- (b) Associate - (Friend)

2. Definitions.

(a) An Associate (Spouse) being Husband/Wife of a Member.

(b) An Associate (Friend) being a person interested in the Aims and Objects of the Fellowship. The proponent shall be nominated and duly seconded by Financial Members and is subject to endorsement by the Executive Committee.

3. Conditions.

Associate Members (Spouse/Friend) enjoy the same right to participate in all activities of the Fellowship, except they shall have no vote nor are they eligible to hold Office or accept a position on the Executive Committee.

4. Fees.

Associate Members (Spouse/Friend) shall pay the prescribed fees set out under Rule 7.

RULE 7 - SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Add the word (Spouse) in parenthesis after the word Associate and introduce a new category to the Fee Schedule namely:- Associate (Friend) - \$3.00

Also delete the words "Life Members \$30.00, Junior Life Members \$20.00, completely.