

Mrs Joan Ross,  
Hon. Editor,  
F.F.F. Newsletter,  
G.P.O. Box 4441,  
SYDNEY. 2001.

Vol. 8 No. 2  
March 1977

### From the President

Our first Lecture Night for 1977 was really a misnomer, as it took the form of a Film Evening and Talk, very ably given by an assistant to Mr Owen Magee, of the Sydney Cove Redevelopment Authority. Part of the film was made on Australia Day 1976, and some of our members proved to be real "film stars." I particularly noted Colleen and Eugene Bernath, Naida Jackson, Eric Blair and Joy Wallman, all in costume at The Rocks.

Also featured was a group, again in costume, at Government House, with Barbara Townsend and myself presenting the Memorial Scroll. I also noted Thea Rowe busy with a group of children. The Lecturer told us the film had been showing commercially in a City Cinema over the Christmas period. It proved to be a most interesting evening.

On Sunday 6th February quite a number of First Fleeters attended the Ecumenical Service at St Philip's, Church Hill, to commemorate the anniversary of the first Christian Service in Australia. I was very honoured to read the first lesson on this occasion. It was a pity the Warden had his seating plan incomplete, and our three pews at the front of the church had only a few seated in them, with other Members scattered around the church here and there. (An apology appears later in this Newsletter).

I draw Members' attention to our previous appeal for information re First Fleeters' graves. Please send details to Mr Eric Blair, G.P.O. Box 4441, Sydney. This is one of our main projects for the year, and in reply to several questions -- "No, we don't want to move them; the Executive feel they should be preserved in the original spot." We hope the various families will contribute towards the cost of a plaque to be placed on each respective grave stating the person was a First Fleeter.

Some of our active Members have been ill, and I send best wishes for a speedy recovery to each of them.

As I am writing this from hospital, I thank all Members for flowers, cards, visits and inquiries, and assure you they were all deeply appreciated. To the anonymous Member who sent flowers -- many thanks. Unfortunately I will miss the March Lecture, but I hope to be back on deck very soon.

Beryl Lewis.

### New Members

The Fellowship welcomes the following new members:

Mr Leslie K. Burchell, Northbridge. (Nathaniel Lucas - Olivia Gascoigne)

Mr Clyde D. Sproule, East Preston, Victoria. (Thomas Lucas)

The Membership Committee apologises for delay in acknowledging a second First Fleeter (Wm. Saltmarsh) for Mr G. Squires. The information came to this committee within the last month only.

### Plaques on Graves

The Graves Committee has decided to proceed with the placing of further plaques on tombstones of First Fleeters.

The next selected cemetery is St John's, Parramatta.

However, in the meantime it is proposed to complete St Luke's, Liverpool, where three known burials took place.

At St John's, Parramatta, we have located the following:

John Palmer	David Kilpack	Simon Burn
Mary Duggan	Deborah Ellan	Isaac Knight
Ann George	John Herbert	John Irving
Augustus Alt	Thomas Eccles	

Should any Member have information regarding the above, or of any other burials in this cemetery, would you please contact the Secretary urgently?

Full details of this work will be advised as soon as possible.

Eric Blair.

### Small Family

The Small Family are in the news again. It appears that a Building Society wanted to do a film on an historical family of Australia, and the Smalls were contacted to be featured in the film.

More than 300 descendants of John Small and Mary Parker congregated at Ryde Park recently to be film stars for the day. Lunch was provided by the film company, and thousands of feet of film were used to photograph various scenes for the story.

Everybody was quite excited, and appreciated the opportunity for the publicity that was given.

Doug Oakes.

### Apology

Archdeacon Goodwin, of St Philip's Church, rang the President to apologise for the poor seating arrangements for the Fellowship at the Ecumenical Service at the church on 6th February.

The reason why the Fellowship was not placed in the first three pews as intended was due solely to an oversight on the part of the Warden.

Archdeacon Goodwin extended sincere apologies for the inconvenience resulting.

### Lecture Convener

Mrs Joan Stear has graciously consented to be Lecturer Convener for 1977.

### Coming Lectures

The following lectures have been arranged:

6th April: Mr Paul Coghlan, B.Ec, M.Ed, on "First Fleeters in the Kissing Point Area."

4th May: Mr Vaughan Evans, on old guns of Sydney. Lecture is entitled "A Huff, a Puff, a Flash in the Pan."

1st June: Mr David Neil, on the Great Northern Road and Wisenans Ferry.

(Continued on Page 3)

Lecture Nights (Continued)

6th July: Dr Peter Reynolds on Balnain.

3rd August: Dr George Burgmann on "Earliest Years in the Colony."

7th September: Ald. Ron Rathbone on "Historic Buildings of the St George District."

5th October: Mr B. Hosking on Henry Lawson. (Because of Mr Hosking's illness, this lecture was postponed from 2nd March).

2nd November: To be advised.

The Fellowship thanks Thea Rowe for filling-in for her husband, Mr B. Hosking, on the 2nd March Lecture Night, following his illness. Thea gave a very interesting talk on the people and customs of Cornwall.

"The Pioneer Families"

The book "The Pioneer Families," by Robert V. Gerlach, is now obtainable from Mr Gerlach at his home address, 191 Springvale Road, Nunawading, Victoria 3131.

Cost of each copy is \$20, plus \$2-20 postage. If Melbourne members telephone Mr Gerlach, he will deliver their copy personally.

The book covers the life of Thomas Lucas (First Fleeter) and his descendants, and also some information on Nathaniel Lucas (First Fleeter).

Mr Gerlach, a Member of the Fellowship, acknowledges the assistance of Mrs Mary Thompson in 1970 in the search for some of the information in the book, which took him 11 years to produce.

Mr Gerlach has donated a copy of the book for the Fellowship's archives. This was a gesture much appreciated.

Canada -- Big and Beautiful

(Continuing Margaret Markwell's account of her visit last year to Canada, previous instalments of which appeared in the November 1976 and February 1977 Newsletters)

On 21st July we went by plane from Calgary to Ottawa, a distance of 2000-odd miles east. We flew over the famous wheatgrowing provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario, the prairies of Canada. Myriads of lakes both large and small, and big rivers -- no water shortage likely in this country!

Ottawa, the Federal Capital of Canada, is a beautiful, well-planned city. The gracious old Parliament buildings are a delight to the eye -- grey stone, copper roofed spires and set at one end of a square which also contains a magnificent War Memorial. We were taken on tours of all the points of interest (the suburb where Trudeau lives is like a lovely park; huge trees, lawns and big private homes dotted around. Saw a lot of the larger black squirrels which are everywhere in Eastern Canada).

The trip to Upper Canada Village was a highlight for me: a real piece of past history preserved for ever, we hope. The period is 1784-1867, and the village is built on land originally settled

(Continued on Page 4)

## Canada -- Big and Beautiful (Continued)

by the Loyalists. All the houses, churches, a sawmill, hotel, etc, were all moved from a part that was flooded when the St Lawrence Seaway was put in. It is situated on the banks of the St Lawrence -- what a mighty river!

On other tours we saw the former Prime Minister Mackenzie King's home in Ottawa which is now a museum and which contains all the pictures, furniture, gifts, etc, accumulated during his term as Prime Minister. The only Australian we saw in a photo was the late Harold Holt.

This home was bequeathed to Mackenzie King by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Mackenzie King's country home, Moorside, is in Gatineau Park, in the glorious Gatineau hills in Quebec Province, about 20 miles from Ottawa. This part of Canada must be a perfect glory in the fall, with its thousands of maple and other trees in full colour. Ottawa is also famous for its millions of tulips which bloom in spring, the bulbs being a gift from Queen Juliana of Holland, who was there during World War II. Ottawa's population is approx. a million.

Saturday, 24th July. We flew from Ottawa to Quebec City, about 250 miles. We had a most interesting from the airport to the old part of the city, sharing a taxi with two very charming American girls. Didn't take us long to start on a walking tour of parts of the city. Next morning we were on the go early and went up to see the Changing of the Guard at the Citadel, which is high above the city in the centre of the old fortifications. All so old and the ceremony most impressive.

My greatest thrill was to walk on the famous Plains of Abraham, where Gen. Wolfe defeated Montcalm in 1759. This place is 360ft above the St Lawrence River.

Quebec is the most fascinating old city; history in every little street. So many of the old buildings are being restored to their original condition, and look so beautiful -- it is costing \$500,000 Canadian to restore one such building. After our evening meal we went on a tour out to St Anne de Beaupre, site of the world-famous shrine, 24 miles along the St Lawrence River valley. Some of the original old farmhouses still remain, also the root cellars where they used to store the root vegetables for the winter.

(To be Continued)

## Argyle Annual Celebrations

Don't forget that the Argyle Annual Celebrations will be held this year on the last Saturday in April -- 30th April.

The Fellowship will once again have its stall there, about opposite the Garrison Church and near the Village Green. Proceeds from the stall help both our own finances and charities in The Rocks area.

We ask members to donate anything saleable: white elephant goods, jams, china, books, etc. Cakes are acceptable and welcome, though it's preferred not to have cakes, as too many other stalls have them.

Helpers to man the stall on the day, if only for a few hours, will be most welcome.

To add colour to the occasion, members are asked to come along in period costume.

The Argyle Annual Celebrations are a real fun day, with plenty to see and do, and you meet all your old friends. So do come along and be in it!

## Coming Events

Wednesday 6th April: Lecture, Mr Paul Coghlan, "First Fleeters in the Missing Point Area."

Saturday 30th April: Argyle Annual Celebrations at The Rocks.

\*\*\*\*\*