

PRICE: 50¢ p.a.

Registered for posting as a periodical Category "

Please address all correspondence to the Fellowship of First Fleeters,  
G.P.O. Box 4441, Sydney 2001.

Vol. 9 No. 9  
October 1978

### From the President

Since the last Newsletter we have three new Executive Committee Members and one new Vice President (complete list elsewhere in this Newsletter). I welcome these new appointees, and those who did not seek re-election, each of whom had contributed much, I thank most sincerely and look forward to happy meetings with them at our various functions in the future. It was a very happy and co-operative Annual General Meeting; much was resolved regarding the Constitution, and we hope to have the revised version printed in the near future.

I was personally very pleased to see amongst those attending Foundation Members and new Members of only a few weeks' standing. It was my very pleasant duty on this occasion to announce the decision of the Executive Committee to recognise 10 years' continuous Committee service to the Fellowship by two Members, Mrs Thelma Guy and Mrs Joan Ross, by conferring Honorary Life Membership on them. Their badges will be presented at the Australia Day Dinner on Saturday 27th January 1979.

Over the long October weekend I attended, as your delegate, the Inaugural Meeting of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations at the National University, Canberra. I was honoured to be elected the only New South Wales Councillor on the Committee. As a result of much discussion I do appeal to all Members to see their Family Documents and History are well looked after, and if their Family

### Change of Meetings for November

Members are advised that the Lecture Night for November will take place on 15th November in No. 1 Board Room, 4th Floor, Assembly Building, York Street, Sydney (third Wednesday of month, not the usual second Wednesday; the Board Room is unavailable on 8th November).

Lecturer will be Dr Peter Reynolds, of the Department of Architecture, University of New South Wales. His lecture is called "Convicts, Soldiers, Architects; the Originators of our Official Architecture".

Executive Members should note that the November Executive Committee Meeting will be held in Room 312, Assembly Building, on 8th November.

are not interested, do see that these documents are willed to a responsible authority. Of course, the Fellowship will be delighted to accept anything of this nature, as will the Mitchell Library. Even photostat copies are most welcome. It is sad how many important papers are lost to future generations, as they are destroyed through ignorance or lack of interest.

Thanks are extended to our new Vice President, Mr E. Linn, for deputising for me on the occasion of Governor Arthur Phillip's birthday commemoration. I understand the ceremony in the Royal Botanic Gardens was very well received, as was the Lecture at night.

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### President's Report (Continued)

The coach trip to Berrima was the first one held on which we have encountered rain. It was a great pity, as we had a full coach and a very knowledgeable guide in Mr G. Squires, a Member from Mittagong. Nevertheless a happy day was had by all, and perhaps we can arrange another day next year when, hopefully, the sun will shine.

The year is fast drawing to a close, so I do appeal to all Members to keep in mind our usual activities for Australia Day. Details of the Official Dinner will appear in next month's Newsletter, but do keep the date (27th January) free and start arranging your parties. Also, our usual activities at The Rocks on the Sunday and Monday -- meetings will be called very soon to discuss this.

Beryl Lewis.

### Officers for 1978-79

Vice Patrons: Mr D. S. M. Oakes; Mr J. Luscombe; Mr J. Harris.

President: Mrs Beryl Lewis.

Vice Presidents: Mr Roy Kable; Mr E. Linn.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Enid Reynolds.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr Ray Meredith.

Executive Committee: Mesdames Joan Ross, Mary Bailey, Colleen Bernath, Thelma Guy, Naida Jackson, Sally Kalina, Margaret Markwell, Barbara Townsend, Mary Hope-Caten, Janice Israel. Messrs Douglas Oakes, Roderick Best. Plus the Executive Officers.

### Membership Report

The Membership is very happy to welcome the following new Members to the Fellowship:

Craig A. Pennell, Kurrajong Heights. (Henry Kable - Susannah Holmes)  
Cedric W. Russell, Cowra. (John Summers, Anthony Rope - Eliz. Pulley)  
Ian E. Wicks, Wyong. (John Small - Mary Parker)  
Neville T. Frost. (John Summers, Anthony Rope - Elizabeth Pulley)  
Peter H. Norvill, Andrew P. Norvill. (Andrew Fishburn)  
Mrs Margaret J. Barnes, Miss Jayne M. Barnes, Miss Leisa G. Barnes, Ingham, Queensland. (John Summers, Anthony Rope - Eliz. Pulley)  
Mrs Beryl J. Ferris, Killarney Heights. (John Summers, Anthony Rope - Elizabeth Pulley)  
Mrs Margaret Clow, Balgowlah. (Dr Thomas Arndoll - Elizabeth Dalton)  
Mrs Gladys L. R. Giron, Railton, Tasmania. (Nathaniel Lucas - Elizabeth Dalton)  
Mrs Edna A. Lawson, Drummoyne. (Philip Shewing (Scriven) - Jane Langley)  
Mrs Lois E. Cook, North Ryde. (Philip Shewing (Scriven) - Jane Langley)  
Mrs Pamela A. M. Quick, Wahroonga. (Philip Shewing (Scriven) - Jane Langley)  
Graham Fletcher Quick, Stephen David Quick, Wahroonga. (Philip Shewing (Scriven) - Jane Langley)

We are pleased to note that there are two new names among the First Flecters above -- Philip Shewing (Scriven) and Jane Langley. Our list is gradually growing in numbers -- we hope it continues this way.

Membership Committee.

### Subscription; Change of Address

A reminder to Members who have not paid their subscription -- long overdue! Also, would Members planning to move please notify the Fellowship of change of address to assist us in keeping our records?

## The Ballad of the First Fleet, 1788

By Howard Guinness. (The first parts appeared in the August and September Newsletters)

As muskets were lowered one after another,  
The dark eyes that watched were compelled to believe,  
That the soldiers in red, who had laid down their weapons,  
Were peacefully seeking to live and let live.  
The spear points were lowered, the taut muscles slackened,  
The spirits had granted a welcome reprieve.

But subsequent efforts were doomed to disaster,  
For no one shared Phillip's persistence and care,  
A convict escaping would steal from a black man,  
And murder him too, if reluctant to share.  
Then came the reprisals on outlying farmers,  
And vengeance multiplied -- killings were fair!

The black man assumed that the white man was evil,  
His life was an outrage to custom and law,  
No towri for him was a sacred possession,  
No land was enough as he lusted for more.  
Living in love he administered hatred,  
And took what he wanted by grabbing or war.

The land like the people was slow in responding,  
The crops were all stunted, the cattle were thin,  
The southerlies swept through the wattle-built dwellings  
To clatter and drown any talk with their din.  
The rain was relentless, the heat was oppressive,  
And man's only solace was women and gin.

The shortage of food saw a fight for existence,  
The stores as they dwindled were eagerly sought,  
But men who are hungry don't argue with conscience,  
And convicts stole boldly despite being caught.  
The subsequent floggings deterred only weaklings,  
And hanging was tried as a final resort.

(To Be Continued)

## September Lecture Evening

M Beatrice Bradloy's lecture, "The Fitzgeralds of Windsor", read like a Victorian novel. It told about a boy of 18 who arrived in the Third Fleet (aboard the "William and Ann") after having been tried at 16 for a crime in Ireland believed to be political. He had three years to serve when he arrived. His assets arrived from Britain -- tradition has it from the Duke of Leinster, whom he resembled. He was given ticket of leave and freed of compulsory labour. When he died at the age of 68 he had acquired much land, much wealth and a good family. His son Robert became a member of Parliament, and the Fitzgerald family undoubtedly helped Australia to become a nation.

Governor Hunter made Richard Fitzgerald (the boy of 18 who arrived in the Third Fleet) Superintendent of Public Agriculture. Governor Grose gave him 30 acres at Cabramatta, he already having at this time (1794) 350 acres under sheep and wheat. He was also made Chief Constable for Hawkesbury.

Governor Macquarie appointed him Government Storekeeper and in charge of Public Works in the Windsor district. He became a close friend of Macquarie's. He was also made Supervisor of Emu Plains Agriculture Farms. Governor Brisbane thought Richard Fitzgerald was too involved with his own interests and put another man in his place. Richard was then able to devote all his time to his own estates.

Richard Fitzgerald lived with Mary Ford and they had three sons, Richard, Robert and John. Robert was the only son to survive, and he managed and  
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### September Lecture Evening (Continued)

helped Richard with the new vast estate. Robert married Elizabeth Henrietta Rouse, but he had two, as he described them, "natural children", whom he appeared to favour. Elizabeth had five daughters.

Mrs Bradley ended her lecture with a quote from Shakespeare: "They say that men are moulded out of faults, and for the most become much more the better for being a little bad".

Mrs Bradley was pleased to meet her fellow First Fleeters from her father's side of the family. Her lecture was told about her mother's side, and could have been entitled, "The Third Fleet Who Missed the Boat" (First Fleet). Thank you, Beatrice, for coming all the way from Armidale and preparing such a wonderful lecture. All those present enjoyed it, as it was such a warm, human historical record.

Sally Kalina.

### Donations to Grave Plaque Fund

Further donations have been received from:

Mr C. W. Blair	Mrs B. Duns	Mrs M. Thompson
Mr L. K. Burchell	Mr R. F. Humphry	Mrs J. Wallman
Mrs C. Cuning	Mrs B. M. Hunt-Smith	Mrs B. Williams
Mrs N. Degraa	Mr E. R. Linn	

### Death of Mrs Ruby Madden

The death occurred on 19th October of Mrs Ruby Madden, of Armidale, in her 92nd year. Mrs Madden was the mother of Mrs Mary Bailey (Membership Committee) and Mrs Barbara Harris-Walker, and was the great-granddaughter of William Broughton. The Fellowship extends its condolences to her family.

### Early Encounters Between Europeans and Aborigines in N.S.W.

(A further instalment of Ena Harper's Papers on the subject. This instalment continues Joseph Banks' comments about the lack of interest shown by the Aborigines in the "Endeavour" after it arrived in Botany Bay)

"At 1 we came to an anchor abreast of a small village consisting of about 6 or 8 houses. Soon after this an old woman followed by 3 children came out of the wood; she carried several peice(s) of stick and the children also had their little burthens; when she came to the houses 3 more younger children came out of one of them to meet her. She often looked at the ship but expressed neither surprize nor concern. Soon after this she lighted a fire and the four Canoes came in from fishing; the people landed, hauld up their boats and began to dress their dinner to all appearance totally unmovd at us, tho we were within a little more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile of them".

One explanation for this odd behaviour is given by Alan Moorehead in The Fatal Impact.

"The sight of the Endeavour had apparently meant nothing to these primitives because it was too strange, too monstrous, to be comprehended. It had appeared out of nowhere like some menacing phenomenon of nature, a waterspout or a roll of thunder and by ignoring it or pretending to ignore it no doubt they had hoped it would go away".

To prove his theory he quotes the natural history artist on board the Endeavour, Sydney Parkinson: "The natives were so abashed at first they took little notice of us". Is this a satisfying explanation?

(To Be Continued)

### Coming Events

Nov. 8: Executive Committee Meeting.

Nov. 15: Lecture Evening. (For details, see panel on front page).

Jan. 27, 1979: Official Dinner.

Jan. 28-29: Activities at The Rocks.

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