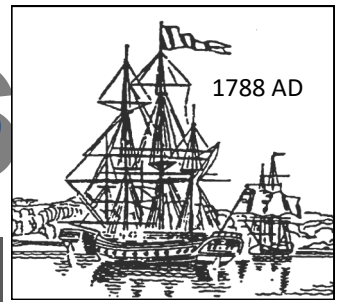


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

ISSN 2208-4894

ACN 003 223 425

PATRON: Her Excellency The Honourable **Margaret Beazley** AC KCVICE PATRON: Commodore **Paul Kable** AM RAN RetdTo live on in the hearts and minds
of descendants is never to die

Volume 55 Issue 4

56th Year of Publication

August 2024—September 2024

Plaque for FF Jacob Nagle, Canton Ohio, USA.

On 18 May the Fellowship unveiled its first plaque to a First Fleeter in North America. This is plaque 108 in our programme.

While there are newspaper reports of his death and burial in Canton an exact location for his grave is not known. As such the plaque was placed in the Westbrook Veteran's Memorial Park.

The ceremony was organised by a Committee chaired by **Kim Demor** of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Other organisations present were the Sons of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution.



The ceremony commenced with a presentation of flags with First Fleet descendants carrying two of the flags. **Jenny Rushford** carried the Queen Anne Jack and **William Hempel** and **Simon Meredith** carried the FFF Banner. After the invocation, pledge of allegiance, American Creed and singing the Star Spangled Banner there were talks by **Dr John Dann** (the editor of Nagle's journal), **Melissa Danielsson** a descendant of Nagle's sister and then by each of the organisations present. My talks will appear in *Founders*. Proclamations from the Governor of Ohio, the local City Mayor and a lovely letter by **Caroline Kennedy** the US Ambassador

to Australia were then read. The 3 plaques were then dedicated and the flags retired.

The **Governor of Ohio** had accepted the invitation to attend however he was a last minute cancellation due to 3 people being killed in a massacre in the State Capital. Regrettably no one was available from the Australian Embassy in Washington DC.

As a result of the gathering new information (to the FFF) was obtained about Jacob's family connections to **President Abraham Lincoln** and **Daniel Boone**. There was also information of his



enlistment in the Continental Army at the age of 16 years and his service with **General Washington** at Valley Forge and the military campaign resulting in American Independence. In his later life he supported his widowed sister and her family who lived in Canton and worked as an official surveyor of the new city of Canton. His biography will be updated on the web site.

From the Fellowship's perspective the ceremony was the culmination of much hard work by former plaque convenor's William Hempel and **Brooke Smith** – congratulations to each.

Roderick Best #1116

DIRECTORS 2023-2024

President/Events/Digital Publications
GILLIAN DOYLE

Vice President/Web Site/ Social Media
KERRIEANNE CHRISTIAN

Company Secretary/Grants/Membership/Public Officer/
Finance & Risk
RODERICK BEST

Treasurer/Assets/Finance & Risk/Events
WARREN O'SHEA

Plaques
ALEXANDER AITKEN

Chapters
PAUL GOODING

Archivist/ First Fleet Park
SHARON LAMB

Minute Secretary/Library/Events
KAREN LOVETT

Office Manager/Events
THERESE LUCK

Founders/Publications/House Manager
JUDITH O'SHEA

Research/Scholarships/Junior Newsletter
ELIZABETH WARREN

DNA/Research/Social Media
JULIE WEBB

Finance & Risk
PETER YATES

Note: Some tasks are looked after by other volunteers.

Editor, Layout and Artwork
Judith O'Shea
E-mail: firstfleetfounders1788@gmail.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Members,

In the June King's Birthday Award announcements, it was wonderful to see the large number of Volunteers who received an award for their community work - and these were not only the high profile recipients but the backbone of our community volunteers.

As we approach the season for Annual General Meetings for our Chapters and the Board, we urge you to consider how you can support your chapter and the Fellowship. Offering your services, even in a small way, can make a significant difference.

Consider sharing a role with one or two others or having a "back-up" person to step in when needed.

Volunteering is a mutually rewarding experience:

A meaningful way of honouring your First Fleet ancestor.

The chance to share your talents and experience.

Enrichment through friendships with like-minded individuals.

Fosters fellowship and goodwill across the wider community.

In response to decreasing membership and the number of volunteers, Board sub-committees have spent considerable time considering how to improve our current situation, the first of which are:

On page 5 of *Founders* 55.2 April-May issue is the announcement of **Scholarship and Essay** prizes (we hope members are encouraging students to apply at fffaus@optusnet.com.au);

On page 6 (**Involvement of Junior and Student Members; ideas** from members who are in full-time employment; and member submissions for a **new name for Friend** membership).

On pages 8-9 of *Founders* 55.3 June-July is a comprehensive *Guide for Chapters*.

If you wish to discuss any of the above or a matter of special interest please email to the attention of the Board: fffaus@optusnet.com.au. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Gillian Doyle #3152

DISCLAIMER: *Founders Magazine takes all care but accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials. Founders Magazine holds copyright to all content unless otherwise stated. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information in this publication, the publisher, Fellowship of First Fleeters, accepts no responsibility or liability for any errors, omissions or resultant consequences including any loss or damage arising from reliance on information in this publication. The views expressed are not necessarily endorsed by the editor or the publisher.*

CONTENTS

1. Plaque unveiling for FF Jacob Nagle
2. Directors; Contents; From the President's desk; Disclaimer
3. The visit to First Fleet House by the Governor of NSW; Notice of AGM
4. AGM; New Members' Morning Tea
- 5—6. David Collins Part 1
7. First Fleeters Week on Norfolk Island in March 2025
- 8.—9. Port Jackson
9. Peter Hibbs Descendants
10. Vale Pamela Quick; From the Mail Bag
11. Our Chapters in Action
12. Welcome to New Members; Deaths; Donations Received

The visit to First Fleet House by the Governor of NSW



Her Excellency the Honourable **Margaret Beazley** AC KC, Governor of New South Wales and Lieutenant-Commander **Robert Valler**, accompanied by two police officers, visited First Fleet House on Monday 1 July at 10am. The Governor is descended from **John Small** and **Mary Parker** so has a personal interest in our activities. Vice Patron **Paul Kable**, three directors and five First Fleet House office volunteers were presented to the Governor, each giving a short description of their Fellowship roles. Unfortunately, sickness prevented five directors from attending.

A delicious morning tea was served. The Governor is a delightfully warm person and conversation easily flowed around the room. Company

Secretary, **Roderick Best**, accompanied the Governor (and a constable) upstairs to see where the hub of First Fleet House operates. The volunteers in attendance each described their main roles in communication and membership before she was shown the archive boxes that document approved membership and the corresponding digital programs where accumulating documentation is filed.

The Governor expressed her admiration of the exacting research and recordkeeping required for both new and established members as well as keeping our ancestors' story alive and integrated within our colonial history and Australia's place in the world today. **Gillian Doyle #3152**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024 NOTICE

FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

ACN 003 223 425

Patron: Her Excellency, The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC

Governor of New South Wales

Vice Patron: Commodore Paul Kable AM RAN Rtd

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next Annual General Meeting will be held at Coffs Harbour Surf Lifesaving Club,

23 Surf Club Road, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

on Thursday, 24 October 2024 commencing at 1100.

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Apologies and Acknowledgement
2. Receive and confirm the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28 October 2023
3. Receive the President's report
4. Receive and consider the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts of the company for the year ended 30 June 2024
5. Approve the appointment of Commodore Paul Kable as Vice Patron
6. Approval of Life Membership(s)
7. Proposed Constitutional amendments
8. Election of Officers

Appointment of Returning Officer and vacation of Chair to Returning Officer

Declaration of vacancy of current positions

Election of President, not more than two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and not more than 10 Committee Members (who have been nominated at least 42 days prior)

Declaration by the Returning Officer as to the incoming officers and the vacation of the Chair to the incoming President

9. General business

Roderick Best, Company Secretary

1 August 2024

UPCOMING FFF EVENTS

New Members' Morning Tea Thursday 5th September 2024



Have you joined the Fellowship since 2020? The FFF Board is holding morning teas for new members (who are financial) at First Fleet House each September and March. The first morning tea will be held on Thursday 5th September 2024. Only an emailed RSVP from new members will be accepted. Please reply to: fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Numbers will be limited to the first 12 who respond.

Those who reply and miss out on this occasion will automatically be listed for the morning tea for new members on Thursday 6th March 2025. The Board looks forward to welcoming our new Fellowship members.

AGM Thursday 24th October 2024



FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING with LUNCH

Hosted by NORTH COAST CHAPTER

at Coffs Harbour Surf Lifesaving Club

23 Surf Club Road Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Tel: (02) 6652 3245 E: info@coffsharboursurfclub.com.au

Web: <https://coffsharboursurfclub.com.au/contact-us/>

Schedule:

Morning Tea at 10am; Annual General Meeting at 11am - in the Event Space.

Lunch in the Club Restaurant & Bar at 12 midday.

General meeting for the FFF Board at 1.00pm in the Event Space.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL to confirm catering numbers.

Morning Tea, Lunch & Meeting venue costs will be funded by the Fellowship.

Beverages to be paid for by individuals.

RSVP by **MONDAY 14th OCTOBER**, by **EMAIL** to:

fffaus@optusnet.com.au

We look forward to welcoming you to this important annual event.

David Collins

A man of “no sense of shame” or having “a disposition most humane.” PT1

A talk delivered by Roderick Best PSM to the Australasian Pioneers Club at its Proclamation Day luncheon, 6 February 2024.



Judge Advocate David Collins

Today we have gathered because we celebrate how in 1788 a new nation was formed. On that day was proclaimed, with all due solemnity, the instructions given to His Excellency, the Governor in Chief for operating the British territory of New South Wales. Associated with the instructions was also the commencement of an Act of Parliament establishing a criminal court and a civil court

established by Letters Patent. The proclamation was read by the senior law officer present, the deputy Judge Advocate **David Collins**. This was followed by an exhortation by the Governor and celebration. A time for celebration and a time of mourning for the losses suffered by the Aboriginal people are just some of the complexities that surround this event.

Much has been written of the Governor, **Arthur Phillip**, but today I have been asked to consider what we know about the deputy Judge Advocate and in particular what his story tells us about those complexities that emerged as part of the new nation. For, despite the efforts of many to cast this period of history into simplistic terms it is surely the case that this period, like much of history, is complex. With David Collins, what we know about these complexities is often in starker contrast than for others who were present. The quotes forming the title of this paper, from Captain Robert Ross of the marines and the Irish rebel, Joseph Holt, highlight the dialectic.

I want to firstly set out what we know of his family and personal background. But before I do, a trivial pursuit fact relevant to your celebrations you might not know is that it was his brother, **William Collins**, who raised the flag upon landing in Sydney on 26 January – just before the proclamation. It is that earlier flag raising that has entered history through the 1937 painting by Algernon Talmage RA called “The Founding of Australia.” The State Library of NSW says on its web site that: “The painting is a celebration of righteousness and importance of colonisation and a statement of the power of the British Empire.”

Returning to the theme of this paper – how does the life of David Collins demonstrate the dissonance and complexity of the early colony.

What was his family background?

Collins was born in 1756 and so was 32 when he arrived in what is now Australia. He was the third of 11 children. But of these he was the eldest of the 5 children to survive infancy.

His father, **Arthur Tooker Collins**, was an officer in the British or Royal Marine Corps. The father went on to become the major-general commanding its Plymouth Division. The father fought in Canada, Brittany and Cuba. In between fighting he married a young lady, where the emphasis is on young, as he was twice her age.

Collins grandfather had died at the age of 33 and his great grandfather, Arthur, had been a genealogist and historian of the aristocracy. Collins’ father and great grandfather bore not just genetic similarities but also an affinity to the aristocracy and each had a love of books shown by each maintaining a personal library. The Collins family had once held position and some wealth and, indeed, a Francis Collins, who was claimed as a relative, had been an executor and legatee of **William Shakespeare**. David’s mother, **Henrietta**, was the youngest daughter of a small Protestant landholder family in Ireland.

As David’s grandfather had died before David was born and his great grandfather died when he was 4, his direct personal memories of these ancestors was necessarily limited. It is clear that family stories, especially of his great grandfather, were strong. David was schooled by the Rev **John Marshall**, of Exeter Grammar School, before joining his father’s Marine Corp division as an ensign. Collins was 14 years old. Throughout his life he retained close relations with both parents and some of his siblings. Generally speaking, it was a close family. Amongst other things, and showing the closeness of the family, was that we still know about their well beloved pet dog.

As he matured into adulthood David was described as “a large, broad shouldered man, over six feet tall ... an open friendly expression, golden curly hair and the fine forehead of a scholar.” This physical description was confirmed, as well as it could be when his vault was opened in 1925 and his remains examined. Other information shows him to have been very convivial, a warm and caring personality and a person who generally thought through problems to reach a humane conclusion – but often not a decision that accorded with others’ expectations.

Cont page 6

The Marine Corps

The Marine Corps which he joined was first founded in 1664 but was not originally a standing corps, being disbanded at the end of each successive war. This changed in 1755 (at the 4th raising of the Corps) when thereafter the Marines have remained on the Order of Battle to the present day. From 1755 some 50 companies were formed and organised into 3 divisions headquartered at Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth. Of these Collins' father, Major General Collins, was eventually the officer commanding the Plymouth division. As part of the navy, they were under the ultimate command of the Admiralty's First Lord. However, like the Army they wore 'red' rather than the traditional 'blue' of naval officers.

David in the Marines

Collins while a second lieutenant gained attention when, while serving on *HMS Southampton* the vessel was sent to Denmark to take the Dutch Queen, **Caroline Matilda**, and sister of the British King George III, into exile following her affair with the Royal physician. The 16 year old Collins, while being in charge of the Honour Guard, kissed the Queen's hand. A romantic gesture by this handsome young officer.

The realities, rather than the romance, of military life soon became obvious, when he was sent to serve in the American War of Independence. He fought at the battle of Bunker Hill at which the Marines were commended in Orders of 20 May 1775 for their bravery. Amongst individual commendations arising from that battle were those made to a Captain **Robert Ross** of 5 Company (who we will shortly meet again) and our subject of scrutiny, Second Lieutenant David Collins of 3 Company.

In 1781 he joined the *Courageux* in the Channel Squadron and this posting convinced him that he hated 'the salt sea ocean.' This was probably the first, but certainly not the last time, that he recorded antipathy to the normal life of a Marine.

Marriage

In North America, in 1777, and now aged 21 years, he married **Maria Stuart (Mary) Proctor** the daughter of Captain **Charles Proctor**. Her family was one of the founding families of the English colony of Halifax, Nova Scotia and there is no surprise that Maria was described by a great niece as "a very accomplished lady, of considerable literary talents." In later life she is said to have written novels and she edited Collins published work.

Maria and David had a daughter. Their daughter tragically died while still a baby. Maria understood that she could no longer have children and wrote in later life of her 'debility' that, amongst other things, kept her in England. It would not have been unusual for Maria to travel to New South Wales as 32 wives of Marines on the First Fleet, did so. She and Collins were consequently

separated for decades and her correspondence to him often appears querulous and demanding of his return. With little, if any, personal wealth Collins did allocate half of his pay to her. While this was, in absolute terms a small amount it does indicate a man who sought to generously support his wife. After Collins' death, she had to successfully lobby to receive any pension – although after her death the pension paid by Tasmania appears on the Colony's financial records for a further 12 years!

Throughout his life, Collins made decisions that separated him from his wife. But in addition to his financial support her they maintained regular correspondence. His friends from the Colony also visited her when they returned to England – again demonstrating his friendship to others and a desire to support his wife.

Chief legal officer

In September 1783 Britain was entering a time of peace and so Collins, a married man re-establishing his wife and himself back in England, was on half pay without other financial support.

Through his father, he heard that the Marines were being sent to establish a new territory for Britain. Major Robert Ross, who we have previously met at Bunker Hill, was also looking to go to Botany Bay and Ross wrote to Under Secretary Nepean, in 1787 that this decision to send the Marines was clearly intended as "drawing the corps forth from that subordinate obscurity in which it has hitherto moved." Ross was cognisant of what he perceived as the rightful place of the marines in imperial history.

Collins was commissioned, not just as an officer in the Marines, but also as the deputy judge advocate. Consistent with his earlier views, he was successful in obtaining a position that where he was removed from the daily grind of military activities. By way of digression, he is strictly a 'deputy' not because he won't be the senior legal officer in the territory but because there was a single Judge Advocate General of the Marines located in England who was supported by territory based officers, located around the world.

Despite having no legal qualifications, his appointment in a legal role was not, in fact, remarkable given that he had served as an adjutant for 2 years in North America. This would have given him experience of the routine and procedures of military law. It is also clear that Lord Howe, First Lord of the Admiralty, expressed his view (while planning for the expedition) that the convicts should continue to be subject to military law. If this view was widely known, or even held by others, then the absence of a broader legal knowledge of civil law was not a prerequisite of the role.

While Howe's view was quickly dismissed in London some, like Francis Grose, persisted with a similar view in the Colony. On the other hand, Collins was supplied with a small but relevant general legal library. This library

included general works like the *Blackstone Commentaries* and the consolidated English statutes. With hindsight it is also noted that notwithstanding the views of others, none of his superiors in the Colony had anything but praise for his legal work.

Once established in the Colony he presided over the civil court assisted by 2 nominees (replaced in 1792 by military officers by **Grose**, a decision of which he was critical) and the criminal court comprising 6 naval or military officers.

While waiting for the Fleet to depart he does not say that he was familiarising himself with his legal tomes. Instead, he read Hawksworth's edition of the *Voyage of Captain Cook*.

To describe how he operated as a lawyer, especially in criminal proceedings, possible the best illustration is his basis for formulating the reasoning behind imposing the death penalty: made by a bare majority of 4 members of the Criminal Court including the Judge Advocate. Collins imposed the death penalty when he was sure that this sentence would serve as a warning, an educational tool, against a recurrence of an act that detrimentally impacted on the Colony as a whole. For example, the first person executed had stolen food from the store in a time of extreme scarcity. Once the example was set by the first death, he recommended to the Governor that the two co-accused be pardoned.

Then there is the case of a woman (**Ann Davis**) who pleaded that she could not be hung as English law

prohibited this happening if the woman was pregnant. He recommended the death penalty primarily for her perjury and dealt with her plea by empowering a jury of women convicts to determine whether she was, indeed, pregnant. This jury of 12 convict deliberated and "the forewoman, a grave personage between 60 and 70 years old, did [give] this short address to the Court: Gentlemen she is as much with child as I am." Not only was this jury comprised entirely of convicts but all were women. While this may have been permitted in England, in similar circumstances, the jury would not have comprised convicts.

Repeatedly Collins commented that the basis of his decision to recommend execution was based on creating an example in the Colony. Sometimes his decision rings unsound especially with our contemporary knowledge. The marine, **Henry Wright** was found to have raped 8 year old **Elizabeth Chapman** – the daughter of a fellow marine. He recommended that Wright be pardoned because:

"this was an offence that did not seem to require an immediate example; the chastity of the female part of the settlement had never been so rigid, as to drive men to so desperate an act; and, it was believed, that beside the wretch in question there was not in the colony a man of any description who would have attempted it."

No good would therefore come of making Wright an example.

Roderick Best #1116

to be continued

First Fleeters Week on Norfolk Island in March 2025



On March 6, 1788, Commandant Philip Gidley King arrived on Norfolk Island with a small group of convicts and settlers, marking the start of the First British Settlement. This pivotal moment is the focus of a week-long commemoration, offering a deep dive into Norfolk Island's rich history.

The event features a re-enactment of King's landing, allowing participants to experience the sights and sounds of that historic day. Following the re-enactment, a luncheon celebrates the island's heritage. Visitors can also join the Island Life Tour to understand the early settlers' daily routines and challenges.

A highlight is the Fish Fry, where locals and visitors enjoy fresh seafood and the island's communal spirit. Throughout the week, guided tours and sessions provide insights into Norfolk's transformation from a remote outpost to a vibrant community. Whether interested in convict history, scenic landscapes, or a unique getaway, Norfolk Island in March offers an unforgettable adventure.

This week-long celebration blends historical re-enactments, cultural traditions, and natural beauty, inviting visitors to appreciate Norfolk Island's captivating past and charming present.

Join us for First Fleeters Week in 2025, with packages available including flights + 7 nights + Foundation Day re-enactment and luncheon + car hire + tours + more from \$2699pp* twin share departing Brisbane and from \$2749pp* twin share departing Sydney.

To book now contact Cici at the Norfolk Island Travel Centre on 1800 1400 66 or email groups@nitravelcentre.com.

Port Jackson

The Fellowship celebrated Australia Day with a cruise on Sydney Harbour on 10th February 2024 Our Vice-Patron, Commodore Paul Kable RAN AM (Retired), gave the following address.

Named by **Captain Cook** in 1770. Although he did not enter the harbour he could see the north, south and middle arms of the port so thought it looked promising but he was in a hurry to finish his long voyage and sailed on.



He had spent a week studying Botany Bay with **Joseph Banks** and reported the Bay favourably to the British Government. So why was Botany Bay acceptable to Cook but not to Arthur Philip and the First Fleet in 1788? The answer is easy. Cook looked for a safe place for a one week stop to rest his crew and maintain a single ship whereas Phillip looked for a place for a permanent settlement for thousands and a safe harbour for many ships. Also, water and land for cultivation and ship repair sites were important. So Cook's 1770 report's mention and naming of Port Jackson was sufficient for Phillip to explore Port Jackson and indeed he did and Phillip decided to move his fleet of eleven ships immediately. It was exactly what he was looking for.

Port Jackson had been transformed by time; originally by volcanic activity as a river some 29 million years ago then about 17,000 years ago at a time of climate change the sea level rose and the river valley became this beautiful harbour. We should reflect that the aboriginal peoples were here over 17,000 years ago and so many generations would have seen the gradual flooding and no doubt passed down tales of it.

I think it is possible still to imagine how the Port would have looked to our 1788 forebears by looking at those parts of the harbour foreshore well preserved. Our Defence forces are proud to have protected the land they had responsibly for from various capricious State

Governments with greedy developer mates.

The Army protected North and Middle Head and the Navy protected South Head. I have personally seen development proposals from the past that would have distressed any Australian with a sense of environmental responsibility.

However the new settlers in 1788 were in a strange environment and not always willing to take advice from the native peoples. They made at least two early important mistakes.

The harbour sea foods had been a rich source of protein for tens of thousands of years. When the settlers started fishing with seine nets the aboriginals wanted some of the catch; however, it was soon clear that the new fishing method was not acceptable to them. Seine net fishing was resisted even to physically pulling the nets away from the settlers. Within two years the fish stocks had dropped dramatically.

It has taken us several centuries to legislate fishing zones.

The tank stream was an important source of drinking water for the native people and was a principal reason Phillip chose Sydney Cove for the settlement. The stream was lined on either side by trees and the centre was a mossy bed and the moss filtered the water stream. Early after arriving in Sydney the settlers started cutting down trees to make houses. This disturbed silt which washed into the moss so the water was no longer cleaned and pure. The stream picked up foul contamination and rubbish and all too soon it was spoilt.

It has taken us several centuries to legislate native forest protection from logging.

After food and water Phillip was keen to establish a ship maintenance capacity. Most importantly, to allow repairs to the ships' hulls where water ingress and worm activity weakens the planking and copper sheathing. This is done by careening. The ship is beached in high water and as the tidal height falls towards low water the ship is pulled over onto its side by ropes and pulleys. If you go to google maps and type in "careening cove" it will appear on the eastern side of Kirribilli towards Milson Park. Vessels were also built from local timber in Sydney Cove where the Tank Stream entered. In fact my forebear Henry Kable, in partnership with James Underwood, were the ship builders there. Today you can visit Underwood Ark close to Sydney Cove; a laneway with murals showing ship building activity and suspended above the lane a large tree trunk of ship building size.

Sydney Cove was attractive on arrival in January 1788 because of the way the eleven ships of the First Fleet could be secured. The Cove was narrower then. The ships could all anchor in the cove and take a stern rope to the shore and tie it to a tree. Thus the ships would be lined up without needing swinging room that comes with using a single anchor.

Port Jackson was hugely important to the First Fleet settlement. It was a link in the communication chain to the rest of the world which was comprehensible to people so remote from everything they knew. Imagine the excitement when those in Sydney town saw the flag hoist at South Head announcing a ship had been sighted. Was it bringing food or tools or mail from family? Was it bringing more convicts or free settlers? The ship needed to arrive in Sydney Cove before that was known for sure. Imagine the crowd of men women and children anxiously waiting on the foreshore to find out.

I will finish with a few words of what Port Jackson means to me.

First memory as a 5yo ... Meeting my naval aviator father as the aircraft carrier SYDNEY returned from the Korean War

I twice left this harbour for war myself; aboard ship PARRAMATTA to protect Malaysia from Indonesian confrontation and later in ship SYDNEY for Vietnam

I was trained by the Army at Chowder Bay to be in charge of six landing craft carried by SYDNEY to land and recover our soldiers up river in Vung Tau Vietnam. We practiced landings in Middle Harbour.

As navigator of the destroyers STUART and PERTH I operated out of here

I later commanded two warships SYDNEY and DARWIN based here at Garden Island in Port Jackson

During the 1988 Bicentennial I was Captain of DARWIN and was sent to Botany Bay to welcome the First Fleet re-enactment on behalf of the Federal Government. We fired a 21 gun salute of welcome. That day I had invited Admiral David Martin, a First Fleeter, to join me on board. Many of you will remember him as our Patron and NSW Governor.

One thing I do know is that it does not matter how many times you enter Port Jackson from the sea it is always inspiring and exciting as the ship passes through the Heads turns down the main channel towards Bradley's Head then rounds that headland to see the city come into view.

I think of our First Fleet forebears every time.

Editor's note

As the cruise passed Bradley's Head Paul pointed out the mast of the first HMAS SYDNEY. She was famous for defeating the German raider Emden in WW1. At the time of the action EMDEN had already sunk over twenty Allied vessels in the Indian Ocean so her demise was a boost to Allied supply lines including troop ships headed for the Mediterranean and Europe. That action is commemorated each year on 5 November at Bradleys Head.

The other annual commemoration in November is the anniversary of the sinking of the second HMAS SYDNEY in WW11 in 1941 after a battle with the German raider KORMORAN. All 645 crew of SYDNEY were lost in Australia's largest maritime disaster. KORMORAN also sunk as result of damage. At that time the German ship had already sunk ten and captured one Allied ship. The commemoration is held at the Cenotaph in Martin Place and is always well attended by Federal and State Ministers, Naval Associations and descendants of the missing crew and sailors of the current HMAS SYDNEY; the fifth ship of the name.

Paul Kable # 514

Peter Hibbs Descendants

This photograph was taken on Saturday 18th May 2024 at the South Coast Chapter's Annual Luncheon at Kiama Leagues Club to commemorate the Departure of the First Fleet from Portsmouth on May 13 1787. Twenty people braved the downpour at Kiama - 18 South Coast Chapter members joined by **Phil and Helen Mitchell** from Botany Bay Chapter.

The three people in the photograph are all descendants of FF Sailor **Peter Hibbs** (HMS Sirius) and his Second Fleeter Convict wife **Mary Hibbs nee Pardoe** (Lady Juliana) via their daughter **Sarah Byrne** nee Hibbs.

From Left: **Robyn Standford**, descendant of Sarah's son **Andrew Byrnes**, **David Christian**, descendant of Sarah's son **Richard Byrnes** and **Phil Mitchell**, descendant of Sarah's son **James Byrnes**.



Vale Pamela Quick

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of my cousin **Pamela Quick** on 21 May 2024.

Pam was a proud descendant of **Jane Langley**, **Phillip Scriven** and **Henrietta Scriven**.

She joined the Fellowship on 22nd September 1978 – Member No. 1356 and volunteered her services shortly thereafter, working in the office weekly and joining the Executive as Secretary. She was part of the team that found and bought the premises to be known as First Fleet House in Cathedral Street and was also involved in the organising of the bi-centennial celebrations, Australia Day luncheons and social events. Her sewing skills were shown in the making of curtains needed at the time for First Fleet House windows.

When the Jane Langley descendants formed an Association with the aim of writing a book detailing the life of Jane and her descendants Pam once again took the role of Secretary attended meetings and helped organise social get

Cousins Lois Cook, Elaine Bennet & Pam Quick with A New Beginning.

The Story of Three First Fleeters and Descendants

Jane Langley Descendants Association.

together.

Pam was made a Life Member in 2006.

When she and her husband **Barry** relocated from Sydney to Canberra she became a member of the Canberra Chapter.

Vice Patron Commodore Paul Kable represented the Fellowship at her funeral on Thursday 30 May.



From the Mail Bag

Dear Editor,

Joseph Peck again in Focus.

It is so exciting when new research becomes available about the lives and times of our First Fleet ancestors, especially when the focus is on their years before the Fleet left Portsmouth in 1787. Thanks to the research teams who provide the information revealed in episodes of SBS's *Who Do You Think You Are* we recently gained fascinating insights into Australian writer Kathy Lette's First Fleeter **Joseph Peck**. I wonder how many of his member descendants had already known the details of his Revolutionary War years in 1770s America. It was indeed a well-documented and graphic presentation as he survived military service both for and against the British in their military campaigns. I do hope the Peck family will be able to update their excellent biography on our website with an addendum that fills out his 'number of years' experience in America'.

I do congratulate new Director for Plaques, **Alexander Aitken**, on his appointment to this important role, particularly as I understand interpretation signage to be erected at Cathedral Park in Newcastle will include acknowledgement of Joshua Peck's interment there. I was surprised to learn from the recent episode that Joseph's remains were later removed from that site and taken elsewhere.

In Fellowship,

Jon Fearon #7141, Cairns.

Our Chapters in Action

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

Venue: Usually at Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury, Monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10:00 for 10.30 am. **Next Meetings:** 17 August: AGM and meeting, Speaker Justin Dallinger *Camera House* 21 September, 19 October **Next Event:** October: Ned Kelly Museum visit, Glenrowan
Contact: Ian Anderson 0426 147 365

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 Meeting:** 16 August: Gavin Crawford *First Fleet Encounters with the Dharawal people*, 20 September: Councillor Nathan Tilbury Professor Sir Tannant W Edgeworth David, 18 October **Next Event:** 18 October: Chapter Anniversary Luncheon, Gordon **Contact:** Michael Noonan 0411 198 089

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

Venue: Our Lady of Fatima Church, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst. Monthly on third Tuesday 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 20 August: AGM, 16 September: KerrieAnne Christian *Fan Tales*, 15 October: TBA **Next Event:** 12 September: Under the Argyle Cut walking tour. Cost \$35. Lunch at Captain Cook Hotel (own cost).
Contact: Carol Macklin 0415 376 434

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Event:** September: Annual Dinner, contact Toni Pike for more details **Contact:** Toni Pike 0410 412 778

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:** 10 August: AGM, Paul Carroll *Kokoda Trail*, 14 September: Catherine Retter, Editor, Central Coast Magazine, 12 October TBA **Contact:** Margaret Morelli 02 4362 2042

DERWENT – *Southern Tasmania*

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37A Lincoln St. **Next Meetings:** 3 August: Show and Tell, 5 October
Contact: Lorraine Polglase 041 555 8256

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: 3 August: Bill Phippen *By Muscle of Man and Horse and the Underground City Railway*, 7 September: Dr Peter Mitchell *The Making and Breaking of Ships on the Parramatta River*, 5 October: Professor Paul Ashton *The Accidental City-Planning Sydney Since 1788*
Contact: Jennifer Follers (02) 9799 1161

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

Venue: Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor, second Saturday of each month, 10:30 for 11:00 **Next Meeting:** 10 August: AGM and meeting, Speaker John Lanser *Radio*, RSVP 12 October: Rebecca McCrea, topic TBA ,RSVP: **Next Event:** 14 September: Outing TBA **Contact:** William Hempel 0410 950 101

HUNTER VALLEY – *Hunter Region, Newcastle and surrounds.*

Venue: Teralba Community Hall Supper Room. 15 Anzac Pde Teralba—bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday – 9:45 for 10am start -12.30pm. **Next Meetings:** 19 August: AGM and meeting, Guest Speaker Gillian Doyle, 21 October, Guest Speaker Ed Tonks **Next Event:** 16 September, Bus Tour of Newcastle with Historian onboard.
Contact: Kerry Neinert (02)49615083.

MORETON – *Brisbane and South East Queensland.*

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on 2nd Saturday, unless otherwise advised **Next Meetings:** 10 August: AGM, Speaker David Paul *His trek of the Kokoda Track and its associated history.* **Next Event:** September: Wolston Farmhouse, Details to be advised at next meeting. **Contact:** Jan Grant 0403 193 647

NORTH COAST – *Nambucca Valley, Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga, Clarence Valley and surrounding areas.*

Venue: Either at various Halls or Members' Homes, bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 4 August: AGM and Baby/Toddler Photo Show and Tell, at Mylestom Hall, 29 September: Speaker TBA, at Red Rock Bowling Club. Members will be notified re any changes, in particular to the meeting at Red Rock.
Contact: Robyn Condliffe 0420 923 140 or (02)6653 6315

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Ballina and surrounding districts*

Venue: Ballina Cherry Street Sports and Bowling Club - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 10.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meeting:** 25 August **Contact:** Roddy Jordan (02)6687 5339

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Family History Rooms – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** 5 October
Contact: Janet McLean 0438 465 529

PORT PHILLIP—*Melbourne and Regional Victoria.*

Venue: Glenferrie Room, Hawthorn Library or via Zoom, 11am, **Next Meeting:** 17 August, **Contact:** Peter Yates pyatesfff@gmail.com

SOUTH COAST – *Engadine to Burrill Lake.*

Venue: Artisan Room, Wests Illawarra Club, Unanderra – monthly except. Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm **Next Meetings:** 6 August: Birthday Meeting, 3 September: Ian Wilson *The Pickerings*, 1 October: David Christian *Freemantle to Broome Cruise* **Next Event:** 17 August: Illawarra Family History Fair **Contact:** Tony Burns scoastcfff@gmail.com

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Venue: 16 Inwood Place Murdoch, bi-monthly, usually first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meeting:** 24 August: AGM **Contact:** Margaret Hutchinson kimandandmaggie@bigpond.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you to the Chapters who submitted details of their upcoming meetings and events. Closing date for this page for the next issue is **23 September.**

Welcome to New Members

Ordinary Members

JOHN CROSS/ANN FORBES

#9298 Warwick John Hadfield OAM

#9299 Karenne Jean Duynhoven

JACOB BELLETT

#9300 Alan Noel Brown

MARY DICKENSON/ROBERT FORRESTER

#9301 Vicki Ailsa Roberts

FRANCES WILLIAMS

#9302 Gregory Stephen Mills

JOHN NICHOLS

#9303 Peter David Nichols

JANE LANGLEY/THOMAS CHIPP

#9304 Gregory William Cantor

ANN FORBES/WILLIAM DRING

#9305 Cameron John Hogan Smith

ELIZABETH FITZGERALD/WILLIAM MITCHELL

#9307 Tracey Patricia Lee

Junior Members

WILLIAM BROUGHTON

#9297 Finnley Jacob Keating-Jones

#9306 Cora Ann Monks

Associate Members

#9299.1 Hendrickus Wilhelmus Martienus Dunhoyven

#8457.1 Peter David Binny

#9302.1 Andrew Gerard Hewitt

Deaths

WILLIAM BROUGHTON

#4038 Josephine Kirkby died on 28.8.2023. She joined the Fellowship on 5.5.1987.

JOHN NICHOLLS

#7352 Stanley Vay Jenkins of Ballina died on 18.2.2024.

Husband of Joy. Stan enjoyed the time he was in the Fellowship of First Fleeters. He was a member of the Northern Rivers Chapter until his health made it hard for him to attend the meeting.

JOSHUA PECK

#8496 Marjorie Elaine Roberts died on the 5.5.2024. She was 88 years old. She was an original pioneer in the wheat and sheep farming area of the Mallee in Victoria, just outside of Swan Hill. She lived an extraordinary life and will be missed by her family.

JANE LANGLEY/PHILLIP SCRIVEN/HENRIETTA SCRIVEN

#1356 Pamela Quick died on 21.5.2024 (see page 10)



#7161.1 Kevin McGregor, former South Coast Chapter Secretary, died on 1.6.2024. Kevin also supported his wife Fae, an ANN FORBES descendant, for many years in her roles as past Chapter President and current Chapter Vice-President.



#FRIEND 66 Valda May Small died on 6.7.2024. Wife of Douglas and member of the Eastern Farms Chapter.

Donations Received for the 12 months to June 30 2024

ADAMS Denis; ADAMS Jeanette; ANDERSON Alison; McPHERSON Elizabeth; MEREDITH Martin MEREDITH Simon; MERKEL Gaye; MIDDLETON Barry; MOORE Rae; ASHWOOD Barbara; BANNIGAN Peter; BAUR Louise; MORGAN Hugh; MORTIMER Dorothy; NELSON Marie; BELLETTE Peter; BENNETT Elaine; BEST Roderick; BINDER Kevin; BLOGG Clare; BRACEY Nevis; BRADLEY Yvonne; NEWELL Judith; NEWMAN Peta; NORVILL Peter; OLIVIER Carolyn; OLIVIER Frank; O'NEILL Beth; O'SHEA Valerie; BREUILLAUD - LIMONDIN Sita; BROWN Viva; BURKE Mary; BUTLER Helen; CARRUTHERS Patricia; NORTHERN PALMER Ian; PHIPPS Joan; PODOLSKA Lesley; RATCLIFFE Beverley; RAVANELLO Deborah; REED Diana; ROBINSON Patricia; ROMERO Louise; ROSS Charles; SEARCHFIELD Christopher; SEARCHFIELD Margaret; SMALL Douglas; COOMBES Bronwyn; DAVIS Darrell; DAVIS June; DAVIS Robert; DEAN Basil; DINGWALL Allan; DINGWALL Mavis; SMALL Greig; SMALL Valda; SMITH Margaret; SOLANOV June; STRANGE Monica; SWENSON Marsha; TASSONE Julie; TAYLOR Pauline; TRACEY Suzanne; TYMOC Kim; WALKER Pauline; WALSH Carol; WEBB Graham; WEBB Patricia; WILLIAMS Beverley; WINDRESS Maree; WOODBURY Allan; YEOMANS Dorothy; YOUNG Elaine; ZAMIATIN Joy

LEO Robyn; LUCAS Patricia; MANUEL Judith; MARTIN Jennifer; MARTIN Lex; McBEATH Jeanette; McBEATH Trevor; McKEE Ian; MCKEE Ilma; McLEAN Belinda;