

F.F.F.

NEWSLETTER

PRICE: 50¢ p.a.

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Vol. 2, No 3.

Hon Secretary

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May, 1971

Hi Ho Everyone:

Into Autumn but marvellous weather we've been having. - our picnic on the Hawkesbury on 18th April could well have been in Spring - it was a balmy day. The Committee and the Directors of the the First Fleet Co-op were more than pleased with the attendance at the picnic. They certainly seem to be one of our more popular entertainments. It is interesting to note that the attendances for the three picnics have been 40, 30 and 60. The road down to the site of the proposed purchase was something of a hazard but our pioneering spirit kept us going. The President assured all drivers that they are now qualified for the worst roads in New Guinea, however, there is a new road in the making. In fact, we lost some of the First Fleeters there for a while but they eventually returned after investigating the area where this new road will go. It certainly will make a lot of difference to the comfort of the journey - bull paddocks notwithstanding!!

We were pleased to welcome Mr A. MacAlister Elain, former MP for Northern Territory, veteran of the AIF and 8th Division. We helped to celebrate the birthday of Alexander Loneragan with a cake with seven candles and the whole affair duly tape recorded thanks to Mr. Dudley Oakes. It was a most convivial affair. The kangaroos took off to the hills when they heard our song!! Any members with portable tape recorders and cameras are requested to bring them to any or all of our functions so that a permanent record may be handed down to posterity and a photograph album kept for record purposes. It doesn't matter if you think you will break the camera!! This is the stuff families are made of and we think we are a rather colossal family!!

Despite the difficult road all who took the trouble were most impressed with the magnificent views of the Hawkesbury River from the ridges overlooking Australian Farm. It was indeed a very beautiful day. Members are reminded that we still require further subscriptions to complete this project and make of it what all those who have seen it would like it to become. A further picnic/barbecue is envisaged there in June or July. More details later.

The theatre party at the Music Hall Theatre Restaurant was a howling success. Those who attended were so pleased with the evening that many are going again privately. A most enjoyable function and great news - a first in the field of romance - one of our members has announced his engagement. We are very pleased to announce the engagement of Miss Carol Bronwyn Esson, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Esson of Chatewood to a First Fleeter, William St John Harris-Walker (6th generation descendent of William Broughton) oldest son of Mr and Mrs Ian W. Harris-Walker of Willoughby. Congratulations to the happy pair.

The Membership Committee is one of our hardest working committees. The work they are doing in organising authentic records, checking memberships, attending to enquiries from prospective members & c is mammoth. Help is urgently needed, especially from people qualified to do research. Are there some young mothers who have time between 10 am and 3 pm and who have readers' tickets for the Mitchell who could help Mrs Thompson in this area. Even if you have a readers' ticket but do not feel qualified, Mrs Thompson would be only too willing to train you. So please, if there is anyone at all interested in doing something along this line please contact Mrs Thompson on 969-2084 or the Hon Secretary of the

Membership Committee, Mrs Elaine Haig, 48-6307. There is a great need for help and it is indeed one of the most interesting aspects of the First Fleeters' work.

How many of your Ancestors arrived with the First Fleet? Such are the answers we should like. We all have at least one ancestor who arrived in the First Fleet.

It would be interesting to find the person or persons who can claim, legitimately, the most Firsts Fleeters in their ancestry. Have you two, four or maybe six? - the Membership Committee would be glad to hear from you. Send your letter direct to the Hon. Secretary of that Committee, Mrs. D. Haig, 2/D Marshall Avenue, Warrabee, NSW 2074.

Trading Post

Elizabeth Williams - would like to purchase a down filled sofa so that she will have something to sit on in her new flat!! She is interested in one in any condition as she is pretty handy with a screwdriver. Her new address is 46a Iluka Road, Mosman, 2088 - telephone 969-7805. After publishing that, she might need a hammer too.

Stocks

We have new stocks of badges and spoons. Back orders will soon be filled. So too will those orders for name bars. Our Hon. Spoon and Badge & Secretary, Mrs. Thelma Guy has almost deciphered all the hieroglyphics received from the secretary, and very soon you will all be happy customers. If, by the end of May, you have not heard from us ~~xx~~ re your order, please contact Mrs Loneragan in case it has been mislaid.

Lost Property

Our man with approx. size 10's has not as yet claimed his red thongs. Mrs. Loneragan still has them.

Functions

Saturday, 22/5/71, 5.30p.m.: Barbecue and dancing at the home of Mr and Mrs George Montgomery, 162 Napoleon St., Sars Souci. A Younger Set is now forming and all members between the ages of 13 and 25 are cordially invited to attend this, the first Younger Set function (not excluding the oldies of course if they would like to come too) Enquiries to Mr Bob Montgomery, 529-6431. No limit to the numbers and mod bods, bring your own records but make sure you mark them in the middle somewhere with your name. Bring your friends too because there's plenty of space both of dancing and barbecuing. Entrance fee 40¢ each and bring your own food and drink. It should be a wow and quite easy to find in the Street Directory.

Monday, 14/6/71: Queen's Birthday Weekend Picnic at Chinaman's Beach. Turn right off Pariwi Road, Mosman. There's ample parking close by and a huge grassed area with shade trees and plenty of space for portable barbecuing. The more the merrier - and don't forget those cameras and tape recorders. Starting time about 11am to give you time to set up your barbecues. There will be games and prizes later.

Saturday, 15th May, 2pm

To have received an invitation from Mr R M Arndell, Session Clerk, Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, to celebrate the 162nd anniversary of this historic old church, and afterwards at afternoon tea. We recommend this invitation to members.

Friday, 23/7/71: Dinner at the Mandarin Club - \$5. per head. Please phone Mr Eric Blair, 29 5827 for bookings. A few places still remain.

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Friday, 13/8/71: Our Annual Dinner Dance will be held at the Anzac Memorial Club, Cammeray. More details later but we would be very glad to hear from interested members via the forward bookings list at the end of the Newsletter.

Sunday, 26/9/71, 10 a.m.: Annual General Meeting will be held at the Northbridge R.S.L. Memorial Hall. You are reminded that you can bring your children and a picnic lunch. Hot water can be supplied and there is enough space, even if it is raining as it was last year. For those people without transport, the No 202 bus leaves from Martin Place and passes the door. The stop is the one 1st past the golf club. Don't forget Associates and families are very welcome to come. Members are reminded that nominations for office, signed by nominee, proposer and seconder are to be in the hands of the Secretary by 15th August. Submissions or special business to be in writing 14 days prior to the meeting, i.e. 13th September.

Transport Pool:

Would all members who require car space to any function please contact Mrs. Margaret Markwell on 95 5571. Would all members willing to offer car space and the number of seats available please do likewise. We have many elderly members who have no means of going to functions and I am sure we would all like to see them come and enjoy themselves with us. We thank those who have already offered space and look forward to building up a transport pool covering the whole of the metropolitan area.

FORWARD BOOKINGS

Please return the following to the Secretary, completed where necessary, enclosing cash where necessary also. Please don't forget self-addressed stamped envelopes where tickets are to be returned.

Saturday, 22/5/71: Monty's Barbecue

I shall be coming and bringing.....friends. Please pay at the door.

Friday, 23/7/71: Mandarin Club

Enquiries direct to Mr. Blair.

Friday, 13/8/71: Dinner Dance

Please make a tentative booking for a party of.....

Sunday, 27/9/71: Annual General Meeting

I shall/shall not be attending

Transport: I should like transport to functions
I have car space available

Younger Set:

Would all younger members interested in joining the Younger Set please list - Name:.....

Sex:..... Age:.....at 1/6/71

Meetings: Next Fleet Meeting, at the home of Mrs Guy, 3 Coinda Close, off Agincourt Road, Eastwood, 8 p.m. 18/5/71.

Next Executive Meeting, Dartford Road, 8p.m. 8/6/71