

F.F.F.**NEWSLETTER**

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October, 1971

Hello Everyone:

We are writing this Newsletter on Friday and our thoughts are with the 3000 descendants who will be meeting to-morrow at Hyde for a family get-together. Wait for the influx of new members!! We wish you a very successful and enjoyable party.

The car trial on 12th was very successful. Starters got away with a minimum of fuss and delay. Many a covetous eye was cast in the direction of letter boxes and telegraph poles on the way and I know someone who only had one hub-cap left on arrival!! A great day of fun and togetherness. The winner, Mr and Mrs Peter Taylor, friends of our President, won a bottle of wine - bottle suitably attired and the booby prize - a miniature bottle of wine was won by -- perhaps I should not say!! Not that there was a great deal of difference between the scoring points. Congratulations to those who finished and thank you all for coming and making the day's outing one to remember - about 67 persons were there, plus two F.F.F. dogs.

Members will be pleased to know that we are now affiliated with with the Royal Australian Historical Society, The Jewish Historical Society, The Peel River Historical Society (per favour of Mr A C Vaender, a Tamworth member), The Genealogical Society and we have no doubt at all that we will benefit from the experience and knowledge of these organisations and that the interchange of ideas and information must be of value to us all as it may well be to them also.

Mr Vaender is proving to be a very valuable member and would like to hear from ALL MEMBERS who live within a radius of fifty miles of Tamworth with a view to having a regional conference such as is planned for Port Macquarie next year and subsequently forming a branch in that area for the mutual benefit and enjoyment of members in the Tamworth area. Mr Vaender's address is -

A.C. Vaender Esq,
RMB 250A,
Appleby,
Tamworth, NSW 2340

In our last Newsletter we mentioned the Parramatta Historic Graves Restoration Appeal. Our honorary archivist, Mrs Mary Thompson has come up with some thoughts concerning this worthy appeal. As you will be aware the Fellowship is not in a position financially to assist with this project BUT if all the descendants of - Kilback, Murray, Reynolds, Tunks, Kobbs, Figgins, Bellamy, Cakes, Shelley, Armstrongs, Kable, Fooks, Palmer, Campbell, Ryan, Cyrns, Hicks, Acres, Herberts, etc etc were to send us a cheque for (say) one dollar made out to the Parramatta Historical Graves Committee "in memory of....." the result could be considerable. Perhaps you feel that sending one dollar is not worthwhile but imagine the result if three hundred people sent one dollar each!! We have so many children who are members can you imagine the thrill it would be to be able to send (say) fifty cents each from fifty or one hundred of them. As Mrs Thompson wrote, "For those like myself who have no ties with St. Johns, I would rather like to think that my dollar was helping to preserve the memory of -

Frances Hannah Clements

Baptised 20th April, 1788 Died 23rd January, 1800

aged 11 years

If any member wishes to know if their ancestor was buried at St Johns I shall be glad to help."

The restoration and maintenance of historic cemeteries throughout Australia is a massive task which, up till now, has received scant attention. The finding of First Fleet's graves is one task your Fleet Committee is active in pursuing and they would be glad to hear from any member who can enlighten them as to the whereabouts of a First Fleet's grave. We have had numerous working bees and have managed to find quite a number of graves and have worked to clean up the areas concerned. This task has convinced your committee that there should be a national body responsible for this important facet of our national history. We, as First Fleet's descendants, may well be able to give a lead in this regard. Your committee is engaged in correspondence to local councils &c and we recommend and urge all members to write to their local members of Parliament, members of their local Councils &c &c. seeking the preservation and restoration of historic graveyards so that they can become places of serenity and beauty instead of the things of horror and neglect they are (in most cases) to-day.

Sorry to keep harping about our lack of finance but another very worthwhile project we feel would be for the Fellowship to become a Sponsor in the Australian-British Society. As you are no doubt aware this is a Society recently founded by Sir Robert Menzies for the interchange of ideas and information between ourselves (Australia) and Great Britain. Students' scholarships will be awarded among other worthy aims and objects. These will be detailed further in the Journal shortly to be published. Briefly, a sponsor pays \$200 subscription and no more and thus receives all benefits &c pertaining to membership with no further cost accruing. In fact, at our recent Annual General Meeting, the idea was received so enthusiastically that a number of members present contributed an average of \$2.20 each to start the fund. We should like to hear from all members interested in joining the Society together with your donation of (say) 50cents or more.

Talking about money we ask all those members who have not yet renewed their subscriptions to do so as quickly as possible. As from 1st October you are placed on the "retired" list and will receive no further newsletters or correspondence from the Fellowship.

The Annual General Meeting on on Sunday 26th was well-attended, fiery but very successful in many ways. The weather, of course, was delightful and the luncheon adjournment much needed and convivial. Elections resulted in the following members being elected:-

Vice-Patrons: J.E. Luscombe (Town Clerk, Sydney)
Dudley Cakes
President: F.J. Everingham
Vice-Presidents: T. Daniell, E.A. Kable
Hon Secretary: Mrs E.P. Loncragan
Hon Treasurer: Mrs J. Hallman
Executive Committee: Messrs C. Guy, P. Markwell,
E. Yaig, R. Thompson, J. Ross,
Messrs. V. Parker, Doug Cakes,
Miss E. Williams, Miss E. Harrison.
Auditors: J. Gray

Four additional Executive Committee members were elected at the Executive Committee Meeting following the Annual Meeting. They are:-

Mrs. J. Crook, Messrs. R. Montgomerie, C. Small, B. Jurd

We sincerely welcome these new members of the Committee and hope that they will have a very happy year of work and play!!

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We look forward with keen anticipation to the contribution we know they will make to the Fellowship in their capacity as members of the Executive.

We were truly sorry to lose Mr Eric Blair as Treasurer as he did not seek re-election owing to other commitments. Mr. Blair has been Hon. Treasurer of the Fellowship since its inception and has done a magnificent job in an untiring way with the result that he leaves the Fellowship's financial affairs in impeccable order for which we thank him.

Another loss with a difference was the resignation of Mr Dudley Sakes. But, we could not let Mr Sakes escape us so easily so it was with the greatest of pleasure that the Annual General Meeting appointed Mr Sakes as a Vice-Patron. The Meeting also ratified the Executive's decision to appoint Mr Sakes an Honorary Life Member in recognition of the great service he has rendered the Fellowship during his time on the Executive Committee. A little bird tells me that to-day is Mr. Sakes' birthday. We wish him the greatest joy and happiness and long years during which we can benefit from the experience and counsel he has to give us. We congratulate Mr. Sakes on his appointment as Vice-Patron.

As I mentioned earlier the meeting was fiery, mainly because the Chairman, our President stood firm on his interpretation of certain points in the Constitution against the wishes of the meeting. I must congratulate him here on his stand. It takes a great deal of courage and honesty to be the only dissident voice and subsequently he was proven correct on three of the four points on which he stood out. We have been asked to publish the following letter from Mr Paul Jurd, Honorary Legal Adviser to the Fellowship and we do so together with a reply from Mr. Everingham.

"Dear Sir:

I am informed that at the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship on 26th September, 1971, problems involving the interpretation of the Constitution arose.

I am also informed that I was said by Mr. Frank Everingham to have given "legal advice" on the particular problems.

With all due deference to our President, I wish to make it quite clear that I did not give legal advice to him. For me to have done so would have been quite improper in view of my position as Honorary Solicitor of the Fellowship. I am available to give advice to the Fellowship, but not to individual members of the Fellowship on matters involving the Fellowship.

I did have a telephone discussion with Mr. Everingham when he rang me during which the Constitution was mentioned. Because of my view expressed in the latter paragraph (a view which I also expressed to Mr. Everingham), this conversation proceeded on my behalf on the basis of an informal chat in which opinions expressed by me were purely off-the-cuff and not with the understanding that they were to be taken and repeated as formal legal advice.

I sincerely apologise to Mr. Everingham for the occurrence of this misunderstanding and, while not at all wishing to embarrass him in this matter, feel that I should make the circumstances

Mr. Everingham replies as follows:-

Mr. Paul Jurd attended an Executive Meeting (following the Annual General Meeting) on Tuesday, 6th October where the Constitution was discussed. It became apparent that my ruling that nominations could not be accepted from the floor on the day of the Annual General Meeting, nor that nominations could be accepted during the period less than one month prior to the date of the meeting, was correct.

It was found that the election of Miss Rosalie Harrison was invalid and she was therefore formally nominated at the Executive Meeting above-mentioned. The Executive Committee at this meeting welcomed the four new members and look forward to having them work with us.

May I take this opportunity of formally apologising to Mr. Jurd for using his name at the Annual General Meeting, thereby causing him embarrassment.

Yours sincerely,

Frank J. Everingham

Forthcoming Functions:

Saturday, 30/10/71 - mid-afternoon: The Salamagundy Night
A night of fun and frivolities with entertainment for all. In aid of the First Electors Farm Co-operative, the Chairman of which, Dr. Dudley O'Sullivan, will be waiting to greet as many members as possible on the night. This function will be held at the home of George and Alice Montgomery, 162 Napoleon Street, Sans Souci. For further information please phone 529 6431 or 5 3349. Cost \$1.50 each.

Bus Tour, Sunday, 2/11/71 - \$2.00 per head
We are off to see the rhododendrons at Blackheath. The bus (Chalmers Coach Service) departs Chatswood at 7 a.m. (rather earlier than originally intended but necessary if we are to see anything of Blackheath). Please meet on the eastern side of Chatswood Station near the White Elephant stop of the Smith Family. There will be a pick-up at Granville Station. Please meet at 7.30 a.m. at the car park at Granville Station and walk over to the other side to meet the bus which will depart Granville Station at 7.45 a.m. The bus will take the Great Western Highway route with a possible stop at Everslades. It will return via Bell Road, Richmond Road departing Blackheath at 5 p.m.... Only a few seats left on bus so please hurry & book.

Belmont Park, Richmond Visit: Sunday 22/11/71
This priceless mansion, formerly the property of Sir Philip Charley, and now a geriatric hospital conducted by the Brothers of the Order of St. John of God is something not to be missed. The Brothers have expressed their great interest in the Fellowship and have signified this by offering conducted tours of this magnificent building. Our plan is to meet for lunch in the grounds (picnic style) and then proceed to tour. Groups will be limited to 20 at one time and should the interest be as great as we think will be, a series of tours will be arranged throughout the year. The first tour is almost booked out at time of going to press. Please book early.

Christmas Party: Saturday 12/12/71, 7.30 p.m.
Miss Gordon Houston, 1 Winter Avenue, Carlisleford has kindly offered to lend her home for our party this year. We ask that everyone bring a gift to the value of \$1.00 suitable for giving to a person of one's own sex (this will balance out the gifts and if suitably marked with "male" or "female" should preclude a lady going home with a pair of braces or some such while a man gets a lacy handkerchief or something equally ludicrous. Please do NOT include beer or cigarettes). There

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will be music for dancing. Please bring your own food and drink - adults only function and the rest is up to you.

Anniversary Day Dinner: Wednesday 26/1/72

Will be held at the Anzac Memorial Club, North Sydney, and further details will be provided in future Newsletters. As you know this is our most important function and marks our respect for the founding of Australia, and this day of remembrance.

Dinner at City Tattersall's Club: Saturday, 26.2.72

A descendant of Frederick Meredith will be our host for this function. The cost will be approximately \$4.25 per head and guests must take their own musical entertainment if desired. Guests may also take their own liquor or purchase it at the Club. More details later.

Argyle Celebrations: The Rocks, Saturday 15/4/72

Start sewing for our stall and/or a costume for yourself and join the parade.

Regional Conference: Port Macquarie: Sat/Sunday 22-23/4/72

Arrangements are well in hand. It is anticipated that the bus will leave York Street at 6am Saturday, pick up at St. Leonards & Fornsby. The Oaks at Forham for breakfast/morning tea. Chatham for lunch and arrive at Port Macquarie soon after. Approximate cost will be \$20.00 each.

Settlement Ball, Saturday 22/11/71

This Ball, in aid of Addington, Ryde, proceeds helping to restore this historic old home, will take the form of period and/or formal costume affair, being held in the Ryde Civic Centre, starting at 8 p.m. and finishing approximately 1.30 a.m. The cost is \$12.00 per double ticket. Please phone Mrs Ess Hooke on 44 6675.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Fleet Meeting:

Tuesday, 26/10/71, Cor. R.S.L. Hall, Northbridge

Executive Meeting: Tuesday, 2/11/71 8 pm, at 36 Dartford Road.

FORWARD BOOKINGS

Peel off and return to the Secretary with cheques &c where necessary. Please ensure that these are made out payable to F.F.F. Fleet Committee.

Saturday, 30/10/71 - Salamagundy Night \$1.50 each

I shall be coming to the Salamagundy night and bringing..... friends.

Bus Tour, Sunday 7/11/71 - \$2.00 each

I shall be coming on the bus tour and bringing.....friends.

Sunday, 28/11/71 (please note correct date is 28/11/71)

Visit to Belmont Park, Richmond.

I shall be coming on the Belmont Park visit and bringing

.....friends. If unable to be included in this tour I should like to be included in a future tour. Please indicate the best time (month).....for you.

Saturday, 18/12/71 - Christmas Party

I shall be coming to the Christmas Party and bringing husband/
wife.

Saturday 26/2/72 - City Tattersalls Dinner

I am interested in attending Dinner and bringing.....friends.

Wednesday 26/1/72 - Anniversary Day Dinner

I am interested in attending Dinner and bringing.....friends.

Saturday 15/4/72 - Argyll Celebrations

I am interested in working on stall Yes/No

I am interested in joining parade Yes/No

Sat/Sunday 22-23/4/72 - Regional Conference Port Macquarie

I am interested in joining the bus to travel to Port Macquarie
for the Conference.

I shall be attending the Conference by my own transport.

Addington Settlement Ball Saturday 27/11/71 - \$12.00 double

I should like to join a party attending the ball.

Parramatta Historic Graves Committee

I enclose a donation of \$.....in memory of -

Australia/Britain Society

I believe the Fellowship of First Electors should join the
Society. Yes/No

I enclose donation of: \$...../.....cents

Subscriptions:

I enclose overdue fees amounting to \$.....

orders

Could all members, when sending money/or cheques, please
remember to make them payable to F.F.F. Fleet Committee and
enclose stamped self-addressed envelopes where tickets are to
be returned.

Name:.....

Address:.....

Telephone No:.....