

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

Vol. 4 No. 3
May, 1973

F.F.F. Box Number

We wish to advise all members that we have now obtained a permanent box number at the G.P.O. Sydney (as above, G.P.O. Box 4441). All correspondence for the Fellowship should be addressed to this box number.

Picnic Day

The Fellowship's Annual Picnic will be held at Chinaman's Beach on Sunday 11th June, 1973. As this is a family day, we would like to see as many present as possible. Bring your friends, too.

Chinaman's Beach has been the sight of the Fellowship's previous picnics and is a very pretty spot. Barbecues are permissible provided you have a contained fire. To reach Chinaman's Beach, turn off Spit Road past Spit Junction into Barrind Road, then Cyprian Street and Maclean Crescent.

Report on Rocks Festival

Members who missed this day missed one of Sydney's most entertaining days. The F.F.F. was represented at both the march and the stall. The day was a success both from a financial and a social aspect, as the F.F.F. had many visitors to the tent with inquiries, etc., and we banked \$22.4 after having given a cash donation of \$12.00 to the Festival Organisers.

We wish to thank all the following people who kindly donated saleable goods: Miss Beryl Bridle, Mrs. Mary Bailey, Mrs. Margaret Maxwell, Mrs. Joan Ross, Nancy Kable, Mrs. Maide Jackson, Mrs. Dorothy Smith, Mrs. Hazel Leabo, Mrs. Joy Callan and Mrs. Lois Wilkinson. Donations of cash were received from Mrs. Mary Thompson and Val Davies. Our thanks and appreciation go to these people and we apologise if any donor's name has accidentally been omitted.

Our thanks go to Margaret Maxwell, Jane Bailey, Jean Cowell and Leslie Garvin for their help on the stall. Thanks also to Dick Maxwell and Keith Ross (two associates) for carrying the banner in the march and to the other 'footsloggers' in the march. Thanks to Des Jurd and Doug Cakes for providing transport and other assistance during the day; and thanks to Eric Blair and Dudley Cakes for donations (two whose names were omitted from the list above).

Lecture on Old Sydney Town Development

An interesting and informative lecture was given on 17th April 1973 at the Mary Reibey Parlour in the Argyle Centre on 'The Progress of Sydney Cove Development at Somersby'. (This development is the reconstruction of Old Sydney Town of 1810). The lecture was given by Mr. Robert Irving of the Faculty of Architecture at the University of New South Wales. Our thanks go to Mr. Irving for his informative lecture. Members present were very impressed with his account of the Somersby venture, which should prove to be a wonderful tourist attraction. After the lecture members were invited to coffee and biscuits by Mr. E. Wright, proprietor of the Mary Reibey Parlour. He also showed them over the museum of old Australian relics.

Colonial Supper Dance

Are members interested in a Colonial Supper Dance to be held some time in September? If enough members are interested, one will be arranged. If so, write to the Social Secretary, c/- G.P.O. Box 4441, Sydney 2001, or phone Mr. Margaret Markwell (phone 95-5571), Mrs. Ruth Blair (phone 95-1708) or Mrs. Mary Bailey (phone 43-4075).

Rope Family Gathering:

Descendants of Anthony Rope are having a family gathering at Castlereagh Cemetery on Sunday 10th June (the Sunday of the Queen's Birthday weekend). Anyone who would like to join this gathering please phone Mrs. Joyce Crook (phone 869-7361).

Membership Committee

(From Mary Thompson)

Since our last Newsletter the following people have been welcomed into our Fellowship:

- Mrs. Alice Waller, 6 Kentwell Street, Castle Hill (F.F. James Squire, Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne).
- Mr Bert L. Weston, 13/7 Telopea Street, Wollstonecraft (Lt-Col. George Johnston and Esther Abraham).
- Mrs. Doreen Flett, P.O. Box 549H, Newcastle (John Small and Mary Parker).
- Mrs. Elizabeth Quinn, Yarral Avenue, East Tamworth (Phillip Gidley King, Governor of New South Wales).
- Mrs. Patricia Lewis, 84 Warrimoo Avenue, Eastwood (William Broughton, Deputy Commissary).
- Mrs. Sophie Briggs, 679 Pacific Highway, Narara (Owen Cavanough).
- Mr. Thomas Madden, 14 Jesselton Avenue, Panang, Malaysia (William Broughton).
- John Barton Madden, 10 Wilkinson Street, Warick Qld. (William Broughton).
- Mrs. Vida Myers, 8 Lowndes Street, Salisbury Qld. (John Cross).
- Mr. Reginald Lambert, 137 Third Avenue, Kingston Park, Kingston (Mathew Everingham).
- Mrs. Rita Cooke, 445 Pacific Highway, Murwillumbah (Mathew Everingham).
- Miss Victoria Everingham, Macleay Street, Frederickton (Mathew Everingham).
- Mrs. Thora McMahon, 5 River Street, Macksville (Mathew Everingham).
- Mrs. Frances Wonderley, 7 Camellia Circle, Woy Woy.
- Mrs. Hazel Lunnon, 1 Fox Crescent, Padstow (John Small and Mary Parker).
- Mr. Frederick Lunnon, 1 Fox Crescent, Padstow (John Small and Mary Parker).
- Mrs. Margaret Knight, P.O. Box 49 Cooma (James Squire, John Small and Mary Parker).

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Membership Committee (cont'd)

New Members (cont'd)

Mrs. Dorothy Smith, 26 Browning Road, Turrumurra North (William Tanks).

Mrs. Joy Whitehead, 9 Henderson Street, Garran A.C.T. (Surgeon Thomas Arndell).

First Fleeters' Graves

(From Mary Thompson)

We have on a number of occasions mentioned with regret the dilapidated state of some of our earliest cemeteries.

Unfortunately it is too big a task to tackle on our own, but we have decided to do something about the graves of our First Fleeters with your help.

Mr. Des Jurd will be heading a committee which will be formed to carry out this important work.

We hope to enlist the help of members who would be prepared to act as CUSTODIANS OF FIRST FLEETER GRAVE, and report back to Mr. Jurd twice a year, so that we may keep a check on these tombstones. The custodian is only asked to report on the condition of the tombstone, which would not be a very onerous task. At a later date we hope to place plaques on these graves, showing that these people were First Fleeters.

This project needs the assistance of many members, and we are looking to you for support. If you wish to know anything further about this work, please do not hesitate to ring Mr. Jurd at 80-4583.

If you are willing to help, please fill in the form below and return to Mr. Jurd.

Mr. D. Jurd
4 Acacia Avenue
RYDE 2112 NSW

I shall be happy to assist the First Fleeter Graves Project and would be prepared to act as CUSTODIAN of the grave of

- () My ancestor in Cemetery
- () Another F.F. grave in the above cemetery.
- () As the grave of my F.F. ancestor is no longer in existence, I would be prepared to act as Custodian of another F.F. grave.
(Please tick whichever applicable).

Signed _____

Address _____ Telephone No. _____

Kathleen Oakes' Graduation

Congratulations to Kathleen Oakes, who graduated B.A. with honours at Sydney University on 26th May this year. Kathleen is the eldest grandchild (of 22) of Mr. Dudley Oakes.

Any Spare Typewriter?

Does any Fleeter own a typewriter which he or she is prepared to donate to the Fellowship for use in preparing this Newsletter?? The typewriter must be good for cutting stencils. It will remain in the possession of the Fellowship, and will be mainly used on the Newsletter. (The Ross typewriter does not seem to be suitable for stencil-cutting).

Obituary

The obituary notice which appeared in the March issue of the Newsletter was unfortunately obliterated in some copies. Accordingly it is published again here:-

Mrs. M. Kable, of South Broken Hill, has written sadly of the death of her husband. The mothers of Mrs. Dot Smith, Mrs. Naida Jackson and Miss Hazel Leibau, and of Mrs. Blanche Dean and Mrs. Trixie Wildman have passed away.

Nothing to Apologise For

Members may be interested to know that Arthur Griffiths, travel editor of a U.S. newspaper "Sunday Bulletin", referred to First Fleeters in an article in that paper on 21st January, 1973, dealing with the tourist attractions of Sydney. Here are some relevant extracts:-

"We get on the subject of Australian History. "It's terrible to think Australia got a start as a penal colony, said one" (chance acquaintances in a pub.) "We've got nothing to apologise for," said another, explaining to me that the equivalent of our Mayflower Society. I tried to soften history by supposing some of the First Fleeters were political prisoners. No petty thieves and poachers, he said. England began shipping them to Australia when she lost America. I had a recommendation to dine at the nearby Argyle Tavern, once a prison, now a fashionable spot for dinner. I couldn't help wondering if I were sitting among some First Fleeters."

RE: ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Owing to increase of postage rates it will be necessary for the F.F.F. to cut costs as much as possible. Therefore the Notice of Annual Subscriptions will be included in our next Newsletter.