

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

Vol. 5 No. 8
October 1974

From the President

I would like to thank all members who attended the Annual General Meeting for coming along and for giving their support.

A very fine team has been elected to support me, and I extend my congratulations to each and every one of them. I thank the Fellowship for their faith in me as President.

With such a very good Executive, I am sure the coming year will see further advancement of the Fellowship, and I see no reason why we should not continue to make progress.

The following officers were elected at the Annual General Meeting:--

Patron: Sir Roden Cutler.

Vice Patrons: Mr Dudley Oakes, Mr J. H. Luscombe.

President: Mr E. A. Kable.

Vice Presidents: Mr Doug Oakes, Mrs Beryl Lewis.

Hon. Secretary: To be appointed.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr A. Meredith.

Executive Committee: Mrs T. Guy, Mrs M. Markwell, Mr Eric Blair, Mr Roy Kable, Mrs B. Hooke, Miss R. Harrison, Mrs C. Bernath, Mrs Cairns.

Hon. Auditor: Mr Ronald Rope.

Hon. Solicitor: Mr Paul Jurd.

Edgar Kable.

Personal Jotting

Very good news regarding our diligent Research Officer for the Membership Committee. Mrs Mary Thompson is making wonderful progress, after a serious illness. She is at present with daughter Mrs Goldner at Glenfield, but will soon be moving back to her own unit.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1974-75?

If subscriptions are not paid before 1st
January, 1975, members will be declared
unfinancial.

Lecture Night, 19th November

Mrs Patricia Thompson, whose name is synonymous with the Paddington Society, has agreed to come and speak on the evening of 19th November on "The Paddington Society and Some Early Citizens."

At question time I am sure she will be quite prepared to answer anything from "Who had the first Land Grant?" to "Where can I buy wrought iron and lace curtains to do up my terrace house?" as the preservation of Paddington has been a many-sided undertaking.

A second guest on the same evening will be Miss Rosalind Kirkwood, a direct descendant (as is my husband, John Ross) of Robert Cooper, the owner of the oldest house in Paddington and, it is thought, the oldest surviving mansion from Macquarie's days to be found in Sydney, "Juniper Hall."

Miss Kirkwood has kindly agreed to bring along two fine, vital portraits of Robert Cooper and his wife, Sarah -- a visual bonus to what will be a very interesting talk.

As usual we will meet in the Seminar Room, Fourth Floor, Assembly Building, York Street, City. Enter by the Jamison Street entrance and take lift to the fourth floor. Afterwards we will adjourn to our room, No 312 on the third floor, for our usual light supper and conversation. Friends and relatives welcome. Convenor, myself (telephone 44 5941).

Val Ross.

Late Mr Eric Arthur Mobbs

The death occurred on 4th October of Mr Eric Arthur Mobbs, M.B.E., J.P., in his 83rd year.

Father of Fellowship Vice-President Mrs Beryl Lewis, Mr Mobbs was a descendant of John Small and a member of the Fellowship. He was present at the 1973 annual general meeting, and had attended one of the most recent Lecture Evenings.

A well-known and well-respected citizen, Mr Mobbs was a former Mayor of Dundas and Parramatta, and at the time of his first election to Council was the youngest man ever elected to a council in the State.

Australia Day Luncheon

Tickets for next year's Australia Day Luncheon are selling well, but there are some still available. Tickets are \$9 each, with wines included. Available from Mrs Beryl Lewis (telephone 709 8974). Tickets will be mailed upon receipt of money and a stamped addressed envelope.

The Australia Day Luncheon 1975 takes the form of a smorgasbord luncheon at the Weinkeller in Pitt Street. Numbers are strictly limited to 200.

Stand By for Squalls?!?!

From Taffy Davies' Sydney Today column in "The Sun" (3rd September): "That elitist band of Australians, the First Fleeters, could be in for an ethnic shock. A rabbi is writing a history of the First Fleet and the racial backgrounds of the people on board. Stand by for squalls."

F.F.F. NEWSLETTER

--- 3 ---

Lecture on National Trust

On Lecture Night on 10th September Mr Victor Parkinson, President of the National Trust (N.S.W.), gave an interesting address on the National Trust and its aims and activities.

Mr Parkinson spoke of how the National Trust came into being, and of its being incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1960. (Nevertheless, Mr Parkinson said, the National Trust was not a creature of the Government, and its views often conflicted with those of the Government).

The National Trust was deeply concerned about the quality of the environment -- that is, the quality of the man-made environment and the quality of the natural environment.

Among the aims of the Trust were the preservation of buildings of special significance -- buildings of historic, scientific, architectural or cultural interest. The Trust was also interested in the conservation of areas of natural beauty and of wildlife.

Mr Parkinson gave details of the Trust's views and actions with regard to several recent controversial issues -- Myall Lakes, Colong Caves and the Clutha proposal to build a coal dump and conveyor out to sea on the South Coast.

The Trust was very interested in the shaping of tomorrow, Mr Parkinson said, and detailed various surveys being carried out. These included a survey into the Sydney of the year 2000, the Hunter Region in 2000, and the Growth Centres of Bathurst-Orange and Albury-Wodonga.

Mr Parkinson also spoke of the various Trust properties, and on other activities of the Trust.

"In summary," Mr Parkinson said, "the Trust is concerned with the quality of the environment. Its main concern is the pursuit of quality. I think it can be said that it will have achieved the objectives its founders set out to achieve."

Various questions were then asked, to which Mr Parkinson replied. Mrs Naida Jackson moved a vote of thanks, and made a presentation to Mr Parkinson.

President Mr Edgar Kable presided.

Old Words and Dialects

(From Bert E. Weston)

It has occurred to me that, in addition to researching and preserving historical items dealing with families and personalities connected with our colonial ancestors, there is a wide-open field in the matter of words and dialects used by those same people which have been handed down in memory if not in actual usage and of which many of our members could quote examples for inclusion in our records.

To start the ball rolling, I would quote a series of words in common use 50 years ago all referring to a heavy punch or "king hit." These were "sockdollager," "palthog," "haymaker" and "dennyhazer."

In my home district down the South Coast there was a large Ulsterman community which made much use of the word "gin," with a hard "g" (as in "goat"). A typical utterance would be "Gin I get home it will be dark," and was a short cut to saying "Against the time I get home" ...

(Continued overleaf)

Old Words and Dialects (Continued from Page 3)

The same folk usually prefixed "Yon old" to most statements: "I will plough yon old paddock tomorrow" or "Here comes yon old Bob Smith."

Another saying, often used in exasperation to naughty children, was: "You kids bang bannagher." Does this ring a bell with anyone?

A source of much rural mirth was the oft-quoted story of one Paddy O'Neill being asked why he was mixing a batch of concrete.

"Oi'm consecrating ne cowshed, Oi'm putting on Congregational iron to kape out the Wesleyan winds and fixing it slantingdicular instead of perpendicular."

"Wombeyan Marble for UK"

Readers will recall that in the last (August 1974) issue of the "Newsletter" a long item appeared on the Phillip Memorial and Australia Chapel. Among the points made in the item was the fact that the entire floor of the Chapel would be in Australian Wombeyan marble, the gift of a large Australian firm.

Under the heading "Wombeyan marble for UK," the "Daily Telegraph" of 31st August 1974 published the following news-item:--

"Australian marble tiles valued at \$2500 have been shipped to England for the flooring of a memorial chapel being built to honour Captain Arthur Phillip, the first Governor of N.S.W.

"The chapel is being built on the site of Phillip's grave at Bathampton in western England, and the flooring will be of Wombeyan marble.

"The marble came from Wombeyan, 225 km (140 miles) south-west of Wombeyan."

Nice to see this publicity, but it is a pity the "Telegraph" did not see fit to acknowledge the role of the Fellowship in pressing for this Phillip Memorial.

Monument to Explorers

A monument constructed of local basalt has been erected at Mt Tomah, in the Blue Mountains, to commemorate four pioneers associated with early crossings of the mountains. (But not the three original explorers, Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth).

The monument, inaugurated on 17th November, 1973, commemorates Archibald Bell, Robert Hoddle, Allan Cunningham and George Caley.

In 1823 Archibald Bell and Robert Hoddle surveyed the route across the mountains which is now known as Bell's Line of Road.

In 1823, too, the route was followed by botanist-explorer Allan Cunningham, who turned back after reaching a point about five miles west of Mt Tomah.

George Caley, also a botanist-explorer, had penetrated as far as Mt Banks some 19 years earlier (1804), taking a more devious route, and had made his main camp on Mt Tomah.

Extended MotorRail Facilities

Those proposing to travel north for a Queensland motoring holiday may be interested to know that the Gold Coast MotorRail service introduced in 1973, now includes Casino as a second place where cars may be off-loaded from Sydney or taken aboard for Sydney. When the service was first introduced, Murwillumbah was the only terminal point.

XXXXXXXXXX