

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

Vol. 7 No. 1
January 1976

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a wonderful Australia Day Weekend we had!

I represented the Fellowship at the State Reception on the Friday night and was warmly welcomed by the new Premier, Sir Eric Willis.

The annual dinner on the Saturday night was voted "the best yet" by the capacity attendance. We were disappointed not to have the Premier, but we were pleased to welcome his deputy, the Honourable Leon Funch, and Mrs Funch, and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Alderman and Mrs Leo Port.

The weather was kind to us on the Monday morning when we met at 8.30 a.m. at Government House, most in colonial costume, and Mrs Barbara Townsend presented the Address of Loyalty to Brigadier Howard, private secretary to His Excellency the Governor on behalf of the Fellowship.

The Lord Mayor extended an invitation to as many as wished to attend the flag-raising ceremony at Circular Quay on the Monday morning, and this I found very informative and most enjoyable.

Then on to our exhibition at The Rocks. What a thrill it was to see people queueing in the street to see it. The exhibits were wonderful and did great credit to their originators.

Here I wish to extend heartfelt thanks to Mrs Val Ross and Mrs June Whittaker and their committee for the months of hard work that was necessary to make this Day such a success. I also include in this the wonderful support received from our menfolk, most of whom are associates. They worked hard and long.

Thanks are also extended to the members of my social committee, Mrs Margaret Markwell and Mr Doug Oakes. It was a wonderful co-operative effort.

During the weekend we were also represented at the Freshwater Surf Carnival, Old Sydney Town and a naturalisation ceremony at Ryde.

The Loyal Address was a beautiful example of penmanship, and we are indebted for this to Mr Bryan Thomas. I extend sincere thanks to him for this.

I am sure this weekend augurs well for a happy and fruitful 1976, and hope to see even more of our members taking part in our activities in the ensuing months.

Beryl Lewis.

Photographs from Annual Dinner

Proofs of the photographs taken at the annual dinner may now be viewed in the Fellowship's office, Room 312 in the Assembly Building. They may be seen each Tuesday and Friday, when the office is open, and copies can be ordered. The photographs, in colour, cost \$1-20 each. They must be paid for when ordered.

Photographs of the flag-raising ceremony are available from the "Herald" office in Hunter Street, Sydney.

SUCCESSFUL AUSTRALIA DAY

Last year when I was asked to take charge of the Fellowship's Australia Day celebrations I was told that I would get plenty of help. Events have proved that my informants were absolutely correct!

What could well have been a shattering experience for me was turned into an easy and enjoyable task by the many members of the Fellowship who were unstinting in giving their time and labour to bring all the different activities we planned to fruition.

The presentation of our Memorial to the Governor of New South Wales by a group in period costume was, in my opinion, the most dramatic and appropriate innovation this year. We are indebted to Val Ross for this brilliant idea and for the organisation that made it a complete success. Everyone there was impressed by the grace and dignity with which Barbara Townsend made the presentation.

Val Ross took an enormous share of the work-load in every important job that had to be done, and her husband, John, with my husband, worked all of the Saturday and Sunday to turn a dingy and depressing garage into an attractive display place.

Space will not permit me to outline all the help given, but I would like to record the Fellowship's indebtedness to Bryan Thomas for his exciting artistic contributions; to Mary Thompson for preparing the schoolchildren's quiz and the list of names of First Fleeters; to Joy Wallman for taking the exacting work of the children's exhibits off our hands; to the judges who spent a full day deciding the awards for the competition; to all those who provided the family histories; and to those whose combined efforts produced the frieze of events for 1788-1792. (It was the general interest in the frieze that occasioned the bottleneck in the movement of people through the exhibition.)

Keith Thompson arranged the printing of the attractive leaflets, and Roy Kable had the Award Certificates printed. Fred Bailey and Dick Markwell gave us all encouragement and help.

Every active member of the Fellowship made some contribution to the success of our activities, and I personally derived more pleasure from working with the large, enthusiastic and coherent group that comprised the nucleus of our Fellowship than from viewing the outcome.

June Whittaker.

Awards

Some 27 awards have been made by the Fellowship to children who entered the competition. The awards were made possible by the following publishers: The Macmillan Company; the Readers Digest; the Jacaranda Press; William Collins Ltd; Paul Hamlyn; Pergamon Press; John Fairfax Ltd; and Rigby Ltd.

Several Fellowship members also donated awards: Mrs Beryl Lewis, John Small Award; Mrs Cherie Cumming, the Ellen Wainwright Award; Mrs Val Ross, the Matthew Everingham Award; Mrs June Whittaker, the Henry Kable Award; Mrs Gwen King and Mrs Barbara Townsend each

donated a Philip Gidley King Award. The Judges Award was donated by Mrs Joy Wallman and Messrs D. Everingham and R. Whaley. Mrs M. Markwell and Mrs M. Bailey donated the William Broughton Award, for the schoolchildren's historical quiz. Mrs Mary Bailey donated \$20 towards the cost of production of the huge wall map of Sydney Cove. The award winners will be published in the next Newsletter.

PRESENTATION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE BY GROUP IN COSTUME.

Well, wasn't it fun! The success of this part of our Australia Day celebrations exceeded all our hopes and certainly made all the trouble and expense we all went to worth while. Thank you all so much for coming along in costume and I am confident that in succeeding years this project will be self-motivating.

Roy Kable has kindly presented an album to the Fellowship so that we can keep a pictorial record of this event. Would you all therefore send in a picture of yourself in your costume, in colour if possible, and also, if convenient, donate the negative. Please put a brief commentary with it if you are representing someone specially, such as James Bloodsworth or Owen and Margaret Cavanough. Not only will this provide a permanent record of Australia Day, 1976 but it will help future participants with costume, supply a visual aid in our publicity efforts and perhaps His Excellency, Sir Roden Cutler, may care to see it.

You will also be pleased to hear that Joan Ross is writing to Channels Seven and Two in regard to securing the film coverage screened on Monday night. Since many people missed seeing this, we may be able to arrange a night to view it during the year.

F.S. BUCKLES. I am short 2 pairs. Would the borrowers kindly 'phone Val Ross - 44 5941 re return to Hotley, 131 Clarence Street, Sydney.

Val Ross

LECTURE PROGRAMME 1976.

February 18th.	Lecturer from Police Dept. "The Beginnings of the Police Force."
March 17th.	Mr. John Barclay on "China".
April 21st.	Mr. Dudley Oakes on "Anzac Day 1975 - Gallipoli"
May 19th.	A/Prof. Cliff Turney on "Pioneer Teachers and their Schools."
June 16th.	Mrs. B. Graham on "North Sydney."
July 21st.	Mr. Vaughan Evans on "Early Colonial Craft."
August 18th.	Mr. Bert Weston on "Nauru."
September 15th.	The lectures for these months have not yet been confirmed. Topics and lecturers will be announced in later Newsletters.
October 20th.	
November 17th.	

These lectures are held in the Fourth Floor Board Room of the Assembly Building, York Street, Sydney, entered by the Jamison Street entrance. They are held on a Wednesday night at 8 p.m., and afterwards we adjourn for supper in our office, Room 312.

Patricia Cairns.

"Historic Rocks Area"

Rigby Ltd, the publishers, have limited numbered copies available of Cedric Emanuel's "The Historic Rocks Area of Sydney" at £19-50 market price, but at considerable discount to members of the Fellowship. For copies, telephone Mr Burke on 663 6100.

Thanks for Mission to Seamen

The Fellowship wishes to thank the Committee of the Mission to Seamen for allowing the use of the garage for the Australia Day display. The atmosphere of the convict-built structure was singularly appropriate.

The Reverend Colin Craven Sands and Mr Silk, of the Mission, did everything in their power to help the Fellowship, and thus contributed in no small measure to the success of the exhibition.

OLD SYDNEY TOWN

Mr & Mrs David Holt represented the Fellowship at the Australia Day celebrations at Old Sydney Town. (Mrs Holt is the twin sister of Newsletter editor Mrs Joan Ross. Here is her report):--

A visit to Old Sydney Town was a memorable occasion for all those fortunate enough to be present -- and especially memorable for any descendant of the First Fleet. The enthusiasm and dedication of the participants in the numerous re-enactments could only be matched by that of the executive administration in the accurate planning of a myriad of historic details in reference to both building construction and the Australia Day programme itself.

To do journalistic justice in praise of the whole event would take far more space than available for this Newsletter. Suffice to say, one became steeped in the early colonial atmosphere, requiring little imagination in envisaging the daily life of the pioneers.

All the events of the Australia Day programme were "highlights," being difficult to compare one with another. However, the landing of Governor Phillip at Sydney Cove, the firing of the cannon, the raising of the Union Jack and the volleys fired by the marines, concluded by "the drinking to the healths of His Majesty and the Royal Family" really set the seal of success on the celebration of this historic event.

One or two other points -- The day was added to by the holding of a real wedding ceremony there in place of the usual mock wedding. Also, I feel that the Fellowship's Queen's Birthday Weekend picnic might perhaps fittingly be arranged for Old Sydney Town.

Finally, thanks to the Fellowship for being permitted to represent it, and to Old Sydney Town for the entertainment and hospitality extended at their magnificent luncheon.

SURFBOAT MARATHON

Mr Doug Oakes, our Vice President, attended the Freshwater Surf Club's open carnival on Australia Day, and presented the Fellowship's prize to the winning crew, Bronte, of the Surfboat Marathon. He congratulated the crew on behalf of the Fellowship on their performance. He was entertained to lunch and afternoon tea by the President of the Surf Club, Kevin Meyer. Unfortunately he was not able to go to the start of the race because the boat he was to go in had broken down the day before. (The Fellowship donates the prize for the annual Surfboat Marathon from Fairy Bower to Harbord Beach.)

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have been welcomed into the Fellowship:--

Mrs Mary Feltham, 73 Ryde Road, Hunters Hill (Edward Humphrey & Mary Williams).

Mrs Mavis Coghlan, 6 Raleigh Street, Coogee (Joseph Hatton).

Mr Raymond Bassett, 22 Thistle Street, Launceston, Tasmania.

Mrs Emily Gunderson, 17 Bourke Street, Adamstown.

Mrs Dorothy Hill, 573 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Bombarra (Matthew Everingham).

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

The engagement has been announced of Peter Bryant Sanson, of Caringbah (James Bloodworth), to Elizabeth Cunningham, of Sylvania Waters . . . People from as far away as Newcastle, Wollongong and Tarworth attended the Annual Dinner. The Tarworth couple were Mr and Mrs Maunder, who stayed on in Sydney for The Rocks day . . . Merri Bolton (William Broughton) has just obtained her degree in Pharmacy . . . Mary Bailey, Naida Jackson and Mrs Sanson have all recently become very proud first-time grandmothers . . . Mrs Karen Lovett (Joseph Hatton) has now added to her Arts degree Dip.Ed. a major in both Mathematics and History.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS - A.G.M. 1975.

Rule 34 be amended by adding the words --

Notwithstanding that there is no nomination, an officer or member of the Executive Committee shall only be declared elected on the approval of a majority of members present. If a nomination is not sustained by the meeting, further nominations shall be called for from those members present.

Rule 25 be amended by adding the following words:-

The Executive Officers shall be ex-officio members of all Special Committees.

Rule 23 be amended to read --

- The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:-
- (a) Consideration of the Executive Committee Report and the Financial Statement of the Fellowship for the year preceding the date of the Meeting.
 - (b) The transaction of any other business provided for in the Rules.
 - (c) The Election of Officers and the Executive Committee.
 - (d) The appointment of an Auditor.

An amendment was carried that the Executive examine the structure of Members' subscriptions and, if considered necessary, make recommendations to be put before a special general meeting of members. The amendment was put, and carried.
