

F.F.F.

NEWSLETTER

PRICE: 50c p.a.

Registered for posting as a periodical Category "B"

Vol. 7 No. 7
August 1976

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

From the President

July started with a very happy and successful Coach Picnic. Firstly to Kendall's Cottage, where we were entertained to morning tea by the Brisbane Waters Historical Society. They were so friendly and hospitable I'm sure our visit will long be remembered by all who went along. The Cottage, of course, is a real delight.

We then proceeded to Wangi Wangi for lunch at the water's edge, and later inspected Sir William Dobell's Cottage. This proved to be fascinating, and it was a very happy, tired but much better informed coach-load of "First Fleeters" who returned to Sydney.

The Lecture Night this month proved quite a surprise to many. Entitled "Early Colonial Craft," many members and friends expected to be hearing of weaving and suchlike, but instead the "Graft" referred to "Boats," and most interesting it proved to be. The talk was illustrated with slides, and we are indebted to Mr Vaughan Evans for such an informative evening.

On Tuesday 20th July I was honoured to attend, on behalf of the Fellowship, a Civic Reception at Sydney Town Hall in honour of the new Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Neville Wran, Q.C. It is heartening to know the Fellowship is becoming so much better known in the community, and thus invited to these important events.

Do please make an effort to come along to the Annual General Meeting on Friday 10th September 1976 -- it is your Fellowship, don't leave it to "the other person," but come along yourself.

Beryl Lewis.

1976 Annual General Meeting

7.30 p.m. Friday 10th September,

No. 1 Board Room, 4th Floor,
Assembly building.

(Use Jamison Street entrance)

Next Lecture

The next Lecture Evening will be held on Wednesday 18th August, when Mr Bert Weston will speak on Hauru. The lecture will be held in the 4th Floor Board Room of the Assembly Building in York Street.

More on "Horsley"

At the end of Mr Bert Weston's article on different homes named "Horsley" at Dapto and Prospect, an editorial question was asked concerning "Horsley," Dapto, as there appeared to be some confusion. (The article was published in the issues of April, June and July 1975 and March, May and June 1976). Mr Weston has now supplied the following information in explanation:--

The existence of two different homes with the same name and linked to the name Weston in each case is a bit confusing.

To put it straight. You have dealt with "Horsley" at Prospect, west of Sydney, and its builders, Capt. George Edward Weston and his wife, Blanche, nee Johnston.

Capt. Weston's older brother, William Francis Weston, came to New South Wales in 1817 with his wife, formerly Betty Crouch. He took up a land grant of 500 acres at Dapto, and from what I can gather built the first stage of the homestead and called it "West Horsley."

He died nine years later, leaving Betty with a family of girls. Two of them married Andrew Thompson and Richard Brooks; or, to put it better, Elizabeth married Thompson and Augusta married Brooks (of "Denham Court," near Liverpool).

It is stated that the two girls inherited "West Horsley" and built the present homestead by adding to the rudimentary earlier structure.

The home was later sold to the Lindsay family, who lived there for years and had a large family, with some of whom I attended Wollongong High School.

Now it is owned by Mrs Neaves, of Albion Park, who has developed it as a colonial showplace and museum.

On 3rd June last I gave a talk to the Illawarra Historical Society at Wollongong on the subject of "The Westons of Illawarra."

I realised that this could deal only with the tip of the iceberg, and to make the thing coherent the address combined the story of the three "Horsleys" (in Surrey, Dapto and Prospect), the story of George Johnston and the history of the Weston family down the centuries.

It went over very well to a packed hall, and aroused a lot of interest from members and visitors. Some were from Surrey, and were fascinated to hear about a place they knew so well.

I later had a request from Mr W. C. Wentworth, the Federal Member, for a copy of the talk, so news of it had spread as far as the Federal Capital.

"Horsley" at Prospect is still owned by the Moffitt family and is occupied by one of the daughters, Mrs Kerfoot, who tries to keep it in order with the help of the National Trust. I trust this has made things clearer.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members into the Fellowship:--

Mr George Leonard Corkill, North Epping (Charles Peat & Ann Mullen).

Mrs Sarah Rachel Ann Kalina, Vacluse.

Mrs H. D. Farrell, Bowen Mountain, via Grose Vale.

Mrs M. J. Watkins, Ryde.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we are still interested in getting Family Trees of the first two generations of a number of First Fleeters.

Haida Jackson.
Mary Bailey.

Flags

Members may not have seen the following Letter to the Editor which appeared in the "Australian" of 28th May 1976, and may be interested or able to assist:--

I am endeavouring to collate material on the flags in Australia's history, including those representative of arrivals with the First Fleet, free settlers, and the wars in which Australians served and died.

Also required are details about flags long extinct that may have had a part to play in this great nation of ours, and the flags of migrant groups who have come to this country over the decades.

Anyone who can provide such information or lend out-of-print flag books (these will be treated with the greatest care and returned), may write to me at MS 291, Gympie, Queensland 4570.

-- Alex H. Rehardt, Executive Director,
International Flag Gallery, Gympie, Q.

Appeal for Historical Books

Members will recall that the Fellowship recently appealed for donation of a bookcase.

Mr Jack Meredith has now kindly donated a bookcase, and we now appeal for historical books to go on it.

Books can be donated for permanent use by the Fellowship, or can be made available for sale.

Articles for Newsletter

Any member who would like to submit an article on the life of their First Fleeter ancestor, or any later ancestor, or their family, or an article on some relevant historical subject, is more than welcome to do so. Such articles will be considered for publication in this Newsletter, and will be published unless it is felt there is some particular reason why they should not be. Manuscripts submitted will be returned if requested when not published.

Members' Illnesses

Many members or close relatives have recently been, or are still, on the sick list. Some, we know, have been very ill (in one or two cases, badly injured in accidents). The Fellowship extends best wishes to all these folk, with the hope of a speedy and complete recovery.

Tropicana Flats

Without wishing to make this too much of a "commercial," we would like to point out to members contemplating a holiday in the Forster-Tuncurry district that a fellow-member of the F.F.F., Bill Robertson, is the proprietor, with his wife Barbara, of the Tropicana Flats, at 17 Head Street, Forster, not far from the bridge linking the twin resorts.

Tropicana Flats are within a few minutes' walk of surfing beach, baths, the lake, boatsheds, picture theatre and shops.

There are large units of two double bedrooms and two day beds, and small units of one double bedroom and two day beds in living area.

Whether wishing to stay at Tropicana or not, Bill and Barbara will be pleased to briefly meet any visiting First Fleeter.

Dudley Oakes, on Israel

Here is a further extract from our Vice-Patron Dudley Oakes' long report following his "Anzac Cove 60 Years Later" pilgrimage in 1975. This extract begins on the morning of 14th April 1975, after Dudley and his group had arrived in Israel the day before:-

We left for tour of city (i.e., Tel Aviv), passing Dizengoff Cultural Centre with fountains of coloured water which play only on holidays. Then along Rothschild Boulevard to Habima Square, named after Israel's National Theatre (Hebrew, "The Stage") housed in a circular building. Behind is Helena Rubinstein Museum for modern arts, and on the right the main concert hall, the Mann Auditorium. The Tel Aviv Museum is in King Saul Avenue.

Then on to Jaffa, the ancient city of Joppa where St Peter had his housetop vision. Visited the Old Port, the Clock Square, the excavations, the Artists Colony and Hagans Museum.

Jaffa (Hebrew name Vafo) is very ancient. Since antiquity it has been an important seaport and the gateway to Jerusalem. Some say the name is from the Hebrew Vafe ("beautiful"), while others that it was named after Japheth son of Noah, who established the town after the Great Flood had subsided. The Greeks called it Joppa, and it is mentioned in the New Testament. Jaffa appears in ancient Egyptian records. When the Tribes of Israel entered Canaan they found the town too well fortified. The tribe of Dan inherited the district. Under King Solomon's rule Jaffa became Jerusalem's seaport.

It can be seen how historical and ancient the City of Jaffa really is. To modern times up to 1840 the population was about 4000 Arabs and no Jews. In 1940 Jews started to settle there, and in three years numbered 120 out of about 50,000. In May 1948, on the eve of the declaration of the State of Israel, Jews entered Jaffa and it became a Jewish City with a few Arabs and Christians.

We walked through the markets -- very dirty meat and food sold in the open, very crowded. After morning tea at a cafe, we went through the suburb of Afeko to Beit Haloshem (disabled veterans home). Terrific place, just like a Country Club. They have every imaginable thing for the care of disabled soldiers. Their families may also join them. There is a beautiful Olympic pool with all the trimmings. General Chaim Lask, chairman of Israel's War Veterans League, addressed us on the project. Then back to hotel for dinner and bed.

On 19th April we left Tel Aviv at 9.30 am via the Judean Hills to Jerusalem. On to Mt Zion, where the room of the Last Supper is, Mt Zion Convent and the traditional tomb of King David. Then via the Valley of the Cross to the Hebrew University, where we toured the campus and had lunch. Then to the Israel Museum. Visited the Shrine of the Book to see the Dead Sea Scrolls in underground vaults preserved at an even temperature and humidity. They were discovered in 1948 in Nathan wilderness of Judah, east of Jerusalem -- ancient MSS in excavations at Mt Mezada on the shore of the Dead Sea. More than 5000 years old.

At 2 pm we visited Yad Vashem for short service, then laid a wreath, then on to Mt Herzl. At 3 pm we visited the military cemetery and Andaba, a memorial for fallen Israeli soldiers of World War II whose burial place is on foreign soil. Laid a wreath. At 5.30 pm to Mt Herzl as guests of Israeli Government for opening of the Independence Day Ceremonies -- very impressive. The authorities half-expected some disturbance from the Arabs, but nothing happened. We were protected by two girl soldiers each about 18, so we felt quite safe. We never quite decided whether, if anything had started, we would have looked after the girls or they us! We will never know!

Coming Events

18th August: Lecture on Nauru by Mr Bert Weston.

10th September: Annual General Meeting.

Patron: His Excellency the Governor of N.S.W.
Sir Roden Cutler V.C., K.V.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.E.

Kindly note that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Fellowship of First Fleeters will be held in No. 1 Board Room of the Assembly Building, Jamison Street Entrance, Sydney. (Please take lift to 4th Floor) on Friday 10th September 1976 commencing at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

4. Welcome and Apologies.
2. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting.
3. Business arising from Minutes.
4. President's Report. (see attached).
5. Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet.
6. Constitutional Amendments

In accordance with Rules 35 and 42 I hereby give notice that I intend to move at the A.G.M. scheduled to be held on 10th September 1976:

"That the Constitution be amended in the following respects namely:

Re Rule 6A - Associates.

Delete the existing clause completely and insert four (4) sub-clauses in its place, to read:

1. General

Associate members are divided into two (2) categories, namely:

- (a) Associate (Spouse)
- (b) Associate (Friend)

2. Definitions.

- (a) An Associate (Spouse) being husband/wife of a Member.
- (b) An Associate (Friend) being a person interested in the Aims and Objects of the Fellowship. The proponent shall be nominated and duly seconded by Financial Members and is subject to unanimous endorsement by the Executive Committee.

3. Conditions.

Associate Members (Spouse/Friend) enjoy the same right to participate in all activities of the Fellowship, except they shall have no vote nor are they eligible to hold Office or accept a position on the Executive Committee.

4. Fees.

Associate Members (Spouse/Friend) shall pay the prescribed fees set out under Rule 7.

Re Rule 7 - Subscriptions.

Add the word (Spouse) in parenthesis after the word Associate and introduce a new category to the Fee Schedule namely:

Associate (Friend) \$3

Also, delete the words "Life Members \$30 Junior Life Members \$20, completely.

Moved by Margaret Markwell
Seconded by R. Meredith.

7. Notices of Motion.

1. That the Journal be published at six monthly intervals.
2. That the Fellowship affiliate with and give support to the Friends of Gore Hill Cemetery.
3. That the Fellowship award a prize in any area of the City of Sydney Eistedfodd.

Moved by P. Everingham
Seconded by B. Loneragan.

3 Vice Patrons
President
2 Vice Presidents
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Executive Committee
Hon. Solicitor
Hon. Auditor.

9. If time permits a general discussion may follow,
with suggestions to be placed before the incoming Committee.

The Building must be vacated by 10 p.m.

This has been a year of achievement in many ways. Membership continues to increase, with 39 new members (Nos. 1126-1164 inclusive) being admitted in the last financial year. We are now firmly established in our City Office, with the following new equipment purchased or donated - 2 large storage cupboards, 1 bookcase, history books (which form the nucleus of a Library) and framed portraits of Her Majesty the Queen and Captain Arthur Phillip, together with a map of early Sydney. All these properties are now fully insured.

Executive Committee - Since taking Office 10 Executive Committee meetings have been held with the following attendance:-

	Apologies	Attendance
Lewis B.	1	9
Oakes D.	2 *	7
Harrison R.	5	4
Ross J.	5	4
Meredith R.	1	9
Blair E.	4	5
Bernath C.	2	7
Cairns P.	2	8
Guy T.	1	8
Jackson N.	4	6
Kable E.	3	2
Markwell M.	*	8
Kable R.		10

* Denotes leave of absence granted.

Recognition. I visited the National Library, Canberra and as a result our Journals and Newsletters are now part of their collection and we have access to anything they may have of interest to us.

Australia Day Weekend. This continues to be our most important time of the year. In 1976 our Annual Dinner was held at the Carlton Rex Hotel, our guests being the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Ald. Leo Port and Mrs. Port and the Deputy Premier and Mrs. Puhch. This was an outstanding success with a capacity attendance. The Monday holiday started with a visit to Government House where Mrs. Barbara Townsend on behalf of the Fellowship presented an address of loyalty to Brig. Howard for His Excellency the Governor, Sir Roden Cutler. Approximately 60 members and associates attended in Period Costume. My sincere thanks go to Mrs. Val Ross and Mrs. June Whittaker and their hard working committee for the success of this venture. Following this, at the invitation of the Lord Mayor, we attended the Flag Raising Ceremony organised by the Sydney Committee. An Exhibition was held at the Rocks all day on the Monday and this was a great success, with long queues waiting to gain admission. Grateful thanks are extended to all those who worked so hard and long on this day. Vice President, Mr. Douglas Oakes deputised for me at the Freshwater Surf Carnival and presented the F.F.F prize to the winning team. We were also represented at the celebrations at Old Sydney Town, by Mrs. Ruth Holt and her husband David. The Phillip Memorial at Bathampton, England was officially opened on Australia Day 1976. The Fellowship had 2 representatives present, Mr. A. Ingham-Myers and Mrs. J. Mitchell. The photographs and literature received show the Fellowship's contribution has been well worth while.

Representations. I was honoured to attend the following functions:-

- The State Reception for Australia Day at the Wentworth Hotel.
- Reception for Sesquicentenary of the Library Council at the Mitchell Library.
- Reception for Library Council at Bankstown Library.
- Civic Reception for the Hon. Neville Wran Q.C., M.L.A. Premier of N.S.W. at Sydney Town Hall.
- The Lady Mayoress' Ball at the Town Hall, Sydney.

Grave Identification. Another milestone was reached with the

unveiling of our first plaque, on the grave of Henry Dodd in St. John's Cemetery Parramatta, by Mr. Justice Elsie-Mitchell, on 21st March 1976. Further plaques will be placed as graves are identified and funds are available.

St. Phillip's Church. Several members and I again attended this Annual Service to commemorate the first Christian service in Australia.

Argyle Day. This was again most successful both socially and financially. Sincere thanks are extended to Margaret Markwell and her helpers for their hard work on the stall and to Colleen Bernath for her great effort in arranging the float.

Ceremony at Portsmouth. The City of Portsmouth England on 13th May 1976 held a function to mark the sailing of the First Fleet. A piece of Australian Granite was unveiled by Sir Davis Hughes, Agent General for N.S.W. This is phase 1 of a scheme and the F.F.F will have a plaque affixed here when phase 2 (a piece of sculpture placed on the granite plinth) is completed. We were represented at the ceremony by Mr. Bowman Jnr. & Mrs. Stringer both of Queensland. This scheme will reach a climax on May 13th 1987, the bi-centenary of the First Fleet sailing.

Newsletter. This has continued to maintain a high standard and sincere thanks go to Mrs. Joan Ross and her husband Keith for an arduous job very well done.

Lectures. Lectures have been held each month and have been well attended. Excellent speakers have addressed us with a wealth of knowledge - mainly on the early days of the Colony. I sincerely thank Mrs. Trica Cairns, who has been responsible for the organisation of these lectures.

Social Outings. During the year the following outings were held:- A picnic in the Botanical Gardens following a wreath laying ceremony to mark the birthday of Captain Arthur Phillip. A Wine Tasting evening at Johnny Walker's Bistro, prior to Xmas which was voted an excellent evening by all present. A Coach Picnic to Kendall's Cottage at Gosford (morning tea provided by Brisbane Waters Historical Society will long be remembered) and then on to Dobell's Cottage at Wangi Wangi. We had perfect weather and all had a very happy and informative day. It is very good to note that all Social Functions this year were financially profitable.

Addresses. During the year it was my privilege to address:-
The pupils of Panania North School.
Women in the Community - Bankstown Town Hall.
Ashfield Historical Society.

Exhibition. On the 4th June 1976 we joined with the Sydney Rotary, by mounting an Exhibition, to help raise funds for the Childrens Medical Research Fund and the Fellowship.

Special Invitation. Mrs. Joan Ross (Hon. Secretary) and I were honoured to be received by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Roden Cutler and received his thanks for the Address of Loyalty. We were then entertained at Morning Tea. I feel this is a great compliment to the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Conclusion. I thank:- All my fellow officers for their loyalty and hard work; the Membership Committee (Mrs. M. Thompson, Mrs. M. Bailey and Mrs. N. Jackson) who work so constantly and without whom there would be no Fellowship; and the team of women who man the Office and prepare the Supper on Lecture nights. Finally I thank all Members for their continuing support and interest and hope 1976-77 will prove even more successful than the one just closed.

Beryl Lewis.

FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30.6.'76.

<u>INCOME.</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
Subscriptions:		Rent	830-79
Current Year 1501-00		Stationery.	450-67
Arrears 33-50		Postages.	287-75
In Advance 165-50		Office Equipment	218-45
	1700-00	Electricity.	31-92
Joining Fees.	220-00	Badges.	3-00
Bank Interest.	10-66	Flowers.	13-50
Donation.	5-00	Donations.	60-00
Sundry Sales.	211-36	Subscriptions.	25-50
Annual Dinner.	1195-00	P.O. Box Rental.	72-00
Wine Tasting Evening.	284-00	Publications.	67-00
Bus Excursion.	166-60	Annual Dinner.	1093-70
Australia Day Activities.	100-00	Wine Tasting Evening.	242-00
Argyle Day Activities.	206-18	Bus Excursion.	130-00
Rotary Charity Day.	47-90	Australia Day Activities	121-36
		F.F. Grave Plate.	19-83
	<u>4146-70</u>		<u>3666-47</u>
Balance B/f. 1/7/75	2045-89	Balance C/f. 30/6/76	2526-12
	<u>\$6192-59</u>		<u>\$6192-59</u>

On the information supplied the books of the Fellowship of First Fleeters appear to reflect income and Expenditure as transacted or period 1st July, 1975 to 30th June, 1976.

Patricia D. Kable.