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G.P.O. Box 4441, Sydney 2001. *Registered for posting as a periodical Category "B"*

Vol. 10 No. 9
October 1979

From the President

September is always a busy month for the Fellowship. The Annual General Meeting on Friday 21st September resulted in all Office Bearers and Committee Members being re-elected. The only new name on the list is that of Arthur Ingham Myers as Vice Patron. Arthur does a great deal of work in Queensland, and I'm sure all Members will join me in extending to him congratulations and the hope he will enjoy his new position. The constitutional change which was passed appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

I am delighted to report that Mr Philip Geeves, F.R.A.H.S., the well-known historian and radio personality, will be our Guest Speaker at our Australia Day Dinner on Saturday 26th January 1980 at the Wentworth Hotel. Details for booking elsewhere. Do act quickly -- numbers are strictly limited.

Don't forget the coach trip to the Rhododendron Festival on 11th November, leaving York Street at 9 am. Tickets \$6 each from myself on 709 8974.

The Norfolk Island trip has been very well patronised, and the reminder in this issue is the last chance you will have to join us. Do come along if you can; I can thoroughly recommend it.

It was wonderful to welcome Mrs Valerie Ross, a member of long standing, as our Guest Speaker on Lecture Night in September. Her talk on Matthew James Everingham and writing her book on her ancestor was really fascinating. We had an overflow audience, which was a real compliment to Val.

During the month it was my pleasure to speak to the Central Evening View Club and Pymble View Club. Also, I was made most welcome when I travelled to Bowral to speak to the Berrima Historical Society. The hospitality was wonderful, my husband and I were shown around all the interesting areas of the district. We stayed overnight with a member, and the next day had a private inspection of Throsby Park, a very historic home which has been purchased by the New South Wales Government and, when funds are available, will be restored. It has strong ties with the Broughton and Throsby families. These visits and addresses are very rewarding, and wonderful public relations for both the Fellowship and the host group.

I commend to you the meeting on 6th November in our offices to arrange the Australia Day Exhibition. Everyone -- and their ideas -- are welcome.

Beryl Lewis.

Australia Day Dinner

Tickets for the Australia Day Dinner are now available from Miss Alice Clarke, P.O. Box 328, Lane Cove 2066. The Dinner will be held in the Ballroom of the Wentworth Hotel; tickets \$15 each. The Guest Speaker will be Mr Philip Geeves, well-known historian, author and radio personality. Please send money and stamped addressed envelope with order. Numbers, as usual, are limited.

September Lecture

The September Lecture was a very happy evening, the Board Room full to capacity and many members from the Everingham family. The speaker was

Mrs Valerie Ross (Matthew Everingham), the title of the lecture "Writing the Book". It was a fascinating account of Matthew Everingham, First Fleeter and Hawkesbury settler.

Val Ross has written a very interesting book about this famous early settler, and she has taken so much time and patience in researching the facts and details which are like missing pieces in a jigsaw puzzle that come together at last to tell the intriguing story of the man himself. Her book is a must for everyone's library.

Matthew Everingham (1769-1817) was convicted in London on 7th July 1784 and sentenced to transportation for seven years. Shortly before his conviction he was employed as a servant by an attorney, and he supposedly obtained two books by false pretences from the servant of another attorney, and these he offered for sale.

He arrived in the First Fleet transport "Scarborough" and was employed by Assistant Commissary Zachariah Clark. On 13th March 1791 Everingham married Elizabeth Rymes, a Second Fleeter, who had arrived in the "Neptune". They settled on a 50-acre grant near Parramatta, later

Trip to Norfolk Island

This is your last opportunity to join the quite large group going to Norfolk Island on 2nd March 1980. Deposits must be paid by 1st December 1979. Details from the President on 709 8974.

moving to the Hawkesbury, where farming prospects were better. In 1804 his home at Portland Head was burned by natives, and he and his wife and servant were speared, though luckily their wounds were not fatal.

In 1816 he acquired 130 acres at Richmond Hill and he became a District Constable. A year later on Christmas Day 1817 he was accidentally drowned in the Hawkesbury.

Everingham was survived by five sons and four daughters, and was buried in St John's Cemetery, Wilberforce. As a pioneering settler he worked steadily, and carried out his duties faithfully.

The solid base of history is the lives of ordinary men and women -- the peaks are the greats whom Fate elevates to be men and women of destiny. The history, the story of the common man is no less important than that of great men, who must always be regarded as men of their own times. This means a regard for everyday life -- the simple men and women who worked out their little days in quiet obscurity.

This to my mind is the important message in Val Ross's lecture, and we thank her for a most interesting and successful Lecture Evening.

Sally Kalina.

Important Notice -- Change of Lecture Night

Please note change of night for the inspection of Victoria Barracks and lecture to follow. This will now be on 28th November, not 21st Nov. as originally advised. Please meet at Guard House at 6.50 pm sharp. Parking in Oxford Street. Tour guide will be Major J. F. Miller, Army historian.

Throsby Family Service

On Sunday 18th November a Throsby family service will be held at Bong Bong Church, Moss Vale, at 2 pm. Relatives of the Throsby and Broughton families will be welcome.

Many relatives travel to Moss Vale on this day each year, and this year they will have the opportunity to see the house at Throsby Park.

This kind invitation was received by the President from Miss Rachel Roxburgh.

Membership Report

We are pleased to welcome the following Members to the Fellowship:

Mrs Helen M. Hamnett, Enfield. (Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne)

Mrs Valerie M. Howard, Fairfield. (Frederick Meredith)

Miss Susan O. Macadie, Camperdown. (Joseph Hatton)

Mr Alan W. Parker, Hallett Cove, S.A. (John Small and Mary Parker)

Mrs Myra A. Smith, Roseville. (Andrew Fishburn)

Mr Hylton J. Moore, East Gosford. (Andrew Fishburn)

Mr Gordon C. Battey, Randwick. (Mary Turner (Wilkes))

Mrs Mary E. Teece, Bexley. (James Bloodworth)

Mrs Anne M. Damian, Port Hacking. (Matthew Everingham)

Mrs Helen L. Christensen, Kogarah. (Dr Thomas Arndell) (Ann Forbes)

Dr Richard C. Oppenheim, Kew, Victoria. (Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne)

Mr Lancelot E. Devine, Darling Point. (Philip Devine)

Mrs Mary Jones, Miss Wendy Anne Jones, Emu Plains. (Robert Forrester)

Mrs Beryl M. Leigo, Bourke. (Ann Forbes)

We also welcome Mr J. L. Chalmers, Roseville (Hugh Hughes) as being a descendant from William Tunks.

Membership Committee.

Meeting to Discuss Australia Day Exhibition

A meeting will be held in the First Fleeters Office, Room 312 in the Assembly Building, at 6 pm on Tuesday 6th November to make arrangements for the Australia Day Exhibition. Please come along. Tea and coffee will be available; bring a sandwich if you wish. All welcome.

Constitutional Amendment

The following Constitutional Amendment was passed at the Annual General Meeting on 21st September:

"That Rule 7 be amended to read: Members subscriptions shall be due on the First Day of July of each year and shall be:-

1. Full members unless specified in this rule otherwise, \$6 per annum.
2. Associate and Any member holding a pensioner entitlement card, Associate Friend, \$3 per annum.
3. Junior member, \$2 per annum.

Membership Badges

Members are reminded that membership badges are available at \$2 each from Mrs T. Guy, 3 Coolinda Close, Eastwood 2122. Money and Membership Number must accompany orders.

Inspection of St Patrick's College, Manly

(From the Secretary, Colonial Day Committee, Council Chambers, Belgrave Street, Manly 2095. Note: Colonial Day Committee telephone, 977 3411)

Members who will be in the vicinity of Manly on Saturday 26th January 1980 will have a unique opportunity to inspect one of Australia's most historic buildings and its collection of outstanding and valuable art treasures.

The imposing St Patrick's College, Manly, will be opening its doors to

the public for the only occasion in the year during Manly's annual Colonial Day, one of the major events of the Australia Day long weekend. This is a chance not to be missed, especially with the added attractions of choral and organ recitals in the College's beautiful Chapel, a colonial dress competition for excellent prizes, and all the family fun of an "old-tyme" fair which lasts from 11 am until 9 pm.

Lucas Family Trees

Would descendants of Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne please send to Betty Tabor, 3 Garuwa Street, Fingal Bay via Nelson Bay 2315, any information they have regarding Lucas family trees. This is wanted for a bi-centenary book for the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

(A similar notice appeared in the August 1979 Newsletter)

Duties of the Membership Committee

It is felt that Members may be interested in knowing something about the Membership Committee, and how it operates. The Membership Committee at present is comprised of four members, Mrs Mary Bailey, Mrs Naida Jackson, Mrs Mary Hope-Caten and the Fellowship's Archivist, Mrs Joyce Cowell. Added to that number is Miss Hazel Liebau, who assists the Archivist.

Tuesday is Membership Day, when the above Committee works from 10 am until late afternoon in the Fellowship's room in the Assembly Building.

Each application is checked with the Membership files, and where necessary further information may be sought from the intending member. Wherever possible, dates of births, deaths and marriages are needed, with photostat copies of certificates preferred.

It sometimes happens that an applicant may not be able to find sufficient

Reminder to Members About Fees

Are you financial? Fees are due on 1st July each year. Those who have not already paid are urged to do so now. This is a friendly reminder, as these sort of things do slip our mind.

proof of descent from the "First Fleeter" claimed. It is also not uncommon for another "First Fleeter" name to be found by the Membership Committee when checking through the line of descent.

Whenever time allows, someone from the Membership team goes up to the Mitchell Library to find further proof of identity with those very early names. So many of those names are alike and from the same districts as well. When the Committee is satisfied the application is right, the two application forms are stamped with the words, "Passed by the Membership Committee", and both forms are signed and dated, with details of the subscription paid also noted.

Names and addresses with the "First Fleeter's" name are handed to the Executive Committee for approval at the regular monthly meeting. Copies of these details are typed by Membership for the Secretary, Treasurer, Archivist, Newsletter Editor and for the Member who addresses the Newsletter envelopes. The new Member is given a number in the Roll Book, where name, address and "First Fleeter" is written, then a card filed for the Treasurer, and another under the "First Fleeter" name.

The Committee writes out all Certificates of Membership and posts them with a letter from the President, plus a sheet of paper showing the Aims and Objects of the Fellowship. All relevant information about Members is carefully numbered and given to the Archivist, along with one copy of the application form. The second one is filed by the Membership Committee.

Some Coming Events: 6th Nov.: Australia Day Exhibition Meeting.
11th Nov.: Coach Tour, Rhododendron Festival (departs 9 am York St.)
18th Nov.: Throsby Family Service, Bong Bong Church, Moss Vale.
28th Nov.: Inspection Victoria Barracks. (6.50 pm at Guard House)

Early Encounters Between Europeans and Aborigines in New South Wales

(Continuing Ena Harper's papers on the subject, reprinted by kind permission of Ashfield Historical Society and Ena Harper. The previous instalment dealt mainly with the beginnings of trouble and discord between the white settlers and the Aborigines, and concluded with a long extract from David Collins on certain happenings which caused friction)

Writing later in April 1788 Collins again accuses the convicts of being the troublemakers in the delicate situation.

"In the course of the month several convicts came in from the woods; one in particular dangerously wounded with a spear, the others very much beaten and bruised by the natives. The wounded man had been employed cutting rushes for thatching, and one of the others was a convalescent from the hospital, who went out to collect a few vegetables.

"All these people denied giving any provocation to the natives; it was, however, difficult to believe them; they well knew the consequences that would attend any acts of violence on their part, as it had been declared in public orders early in the month that, in forming the intended settlement, any act of cruelty to the natives being contrary to His Majesty's most gracious intentions, the offenders would be subject to a criminal prosecution; and they well knew that the natives themselves, however injured, could not contradict their assertions".

As Collins was the Judge Advocate to the colony, it is interesting to note his strong assertion that the convicts were the real culprits.

"There was, however, too much reason to believe that our people had been the aggressors, as the Governor on his return from his excursion to Broken Bay, on landing at Camp Cove, found that the natives there who had before frequently come up to him with confidence, to be unusually shy, and seemingly afraid of him and his party; and one who, after much invitation, did venture to approach, pointed to some marks upon his shoulders, making signs they were caused by blows given with a stick. This, and their running away, whereas they had always before remained on the beach until the people landed from the boats, were strong indications that the man had been beaten by some of our stragglers".

At this point of time it is rather difficult to say who caused most trouble. It is certain that there can hardly have been a more diverse set of individuals cast together in the history of mankind. In the bitter struggle to survive, Phillip's dream of friendship between the two races became more and more difficult to achieve.

This Savage Race of Men. "To the invaders of a land who wish to settle there themselves, the native inhabitants are invariably a nuisance. History suggests that there are three ways to deal with them. If the natives are industrious and docile, they can be enslaved or forced to work for their conquerors. If they are proud and defiant, they can be exterminated. Or if that solution is thought to be a little crude, they can either be driven across the frontiers or moved bodily to some remote part of the interior, preferably a bog or a desert which the invaders do not want themselves".

So wrote John Pringle ("Sydney Morning Herald", Jan. 22, 1977) when reviewing The Trail of Tears by Gloria Jahoda, a book relating to the American Indians.

What happened in Australia? According to John Pringle, "White Australians have experimented with all three methods in dealing with the Aborigines, though admittedly in a half-hearted, bumbling kind of way".

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That may be so. Yet, as one reads through the wealth of material relating to early encounters between the two races, no clear picture is seen. In the general confusion, light flashes for a fleeting moment on a man or woman or may reveal groups of people. Personalities emerge. They are living human beings, and it matters not whether they are Europeans or Aborigines.

In the great mass of material available, for these present articles, it is only possible to present happenings of most importance to our study. The Journals have been quoted to show how friction developed between the two races. We have seen how the theft of tools and weapons was the initial cause of conflict. But, as time went on, a more vicious trouble made itself felt. With the coming of the Europeans there was less fish caught by the Aborigines, and, as farms were established, the natives found other kinds of food even more scarce.

David Collins writes in July 1788:

"The cold weather which we had at this time of the year was observed to affect our fishing, and the natives themselves appeared to be in great want. An old man belonging to them was found on the beach of one of the coves, almost starved to death".

Phillip had done everything in his power to cultivate an acquaintance with the Aborigines of Port Jackson. He had done everything he could to bring harmony between the two races, but he had failed. In an age of great brutality he had shown restraint and unusual humanity in his dealings with the native people, but he was driven to desperate measures in the end. He wanted to be able to communicate with the Aborigines. But they were very elusive. Meanwhile acts of violence increased.

Capture of Arabanoo. On December 30, 1788, two armed boats set out to capture some of the natives. They managed to secure one they called Manly because he came from the Manly Bay area. Another made his escape after they had caught hold of him. "The prisoner was now fastened by ropes to the thwarts of the boat; and when he saw himself irretrievably parted from his countrymen, set up the most piercing and lamentable cries of distress. His grief soon diminished, however; he accepted and eat of some broiled fish which was given to him, and sullenly submitted to his destiny". (Tench).

His hair was closely cut, his head combed and his beard shaved. He was put in a tub of water and scrubbed from head to foot, after which a shirt, a jacket and a pair of trousers was put upon him.

That night the Governor made him dine with him. However, he was led about with a rope and a manacle was put upon his wrist. At first this highly delighted him and he called it an ornament, but when he discovered its real use he showed rage and hatred. A trusty convict was his keeper and a house was built for them to live in.

On January 1 Manly dined heartily on fish and roast pork. Later the Governor took him in a boat and on the beach spoke to some of his friends. Manly was greatly affected and shed tears. Then they asked him why he did not jump overboard and rejoin them, and he sighed and pointed to the fetter on his leg.

Captain Watkin Tench speaks of the "gentleness and humility of Manly's disposition. By February he became more confident and told the officers his name was Arabanoo. He began to relish bread and drank tea with avidity, but turned with disgust from strong liquors. After the meal was over, one of the chief amusements was to get Arabanoo to name objects in his language and to tell of the customs of his race.

The Englishmen also showed him some of their customs, including the hanging of a man, which greatly distressed him. His own people would now have nothing to do with him when he went near and tried to talk to them.

(To Be Continued)
