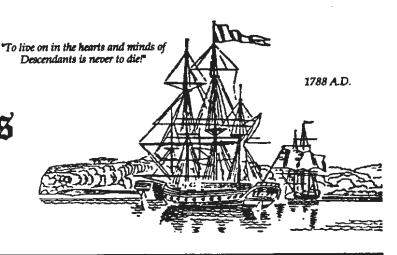
Fellowship first Fleeters Rewsletter



JOURNAL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS INC. NSW 1988

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PATRON:

His Excellency The Governor of N.S.W., Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G., A.O.

OFFICE ADDRESS:

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On 26th January, 1990 I was a very proud Australian. In conjunction with the Australia Day program I attended a number of functions and ceremonies as the President of the Fellowship. The thing that stood out was the range of celebrations and the extent of attendance at each of them. It was very obvious that Australians are taking this great day more seriously than about five years ago when the crowds were mainly comprised of First Fleeters and it is most pleasing to realise that the cynics' expectations of a decline in interest in the significance to each Australian of the nation's heritage following the "hype" of the Bi-Centenary has not eventuated.

I was impressed to hear that there were some three thousand official Australia Day celebrations and activities throughout Australia and in the Australian Overseas Legations. The Australia Day Council did a magnificent job of co-ordination.

However, I was a little concerned that the Fellowship received only a few direct invitations to attend functions. The thought has since occurred to me that it would be important to a lot of our members everywhere if they were personally invited to attend their local Australia Day celebrations as Official Representatives

of the Fellowship. I hope that I can arrange this through the Chapters or the suggested Local Contact, as mentioned in my last President's Report. The Committee will be looking at better ways of advising people well in advance of local programs and ensuring that our members receive personal invitations from the organisers.

I visited the Australia Day Council. This was a courtesy call only. Unfortunately no senior staff were available so I intend to arrange a formal visit again shortly. I propose to discuss with the Council advanced notices of planned Australia Day activities and invitations being made through them or other organisations to members of the Fellowship of First Fleeters throughout Australia.

I attended the Australia Day Luncheon, held at the Convention Centre at Darling Harbour, on 25th January, 1990. Our Patron, His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G, A.O. was Guest of Honour. I joined 1,300 other people who paid \$70.00 per head (I thought it was well worth attending) in commemoration of the day that was so poignant to our ancestors. That was the day they arrived, joined Australia with the outside world and commenced the newer Australian families.

l attended the Australia Day Ceremony held on the forecourt of the Sydney Opera House on Australia Day. I later attended the morning tea which was hosted by our Patron His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G, A.O. So that other members can view the ceremony from the official section, I am hoping to arrange for more places to be given to the Fellowship.

My wife, Sandra, and I attended an Australia Day Cocktail Party given by the Hon. N.F. Greiner M.P. Premier, Treasurer and Minister of Ethnic Affairs held at the Conference Centre, Darling Harbour.

In company with about a dozen fellow members I attended the Flags and Flowers Ceremony conducted by the Garrison Church, Millers Point on Sunday, 28th January, 1990. I have taken note of the many people who have said that they were disappointed to have missed this impressive ceremony. Regrettably there was not much notice given and certainly no time to publish advance details in the Newsletter.

I attended a talk given by author Veronica Geoghegan Sweeney about her recently launched novel, The Emancipist, held at the Opera House Reception Hall on Sunday, 4th February, 1990. As I am a keen student of the convict/emancipist era I am most intrigued by Ms. Sweeney's novel. I can see a best seller coming on. Unfortunately, Australian publishers ignored it and the book was published overseas. It is a top seller in Europe and the USA. However, we have to wait for imports or an Australian publisher, when they wake up, in due course.

In company with Peter Christian I visited our Patron, His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G, A.O., at Government House on 12th February, 1990. As the outgoing President, Peter formally introduced me. I can assure members that His Excellency has a profound interest in the success of the Fellowship and I certainly found him to be very probing as to how far our future direction is concerned. During the discussions I found His Excellency most positively constructive as far as suggestions were concerned. I have referred the matters raised to the Committee for further attention.

On Sunday 4th March, 1990, I attended a talk given by Comedienne, Toni Lamond. I had a chance to introduce myself to her later and discuss the Fellowship. Toni is a wonderful lady besides a great entertainer. Toni, by the way, starred in "Starsky and Hutch" at some time, so I met a "Hollywood Star" (Chips Rafferty once said "gidday" to me). That wonderful lady Gloria Loring, of "Days of Our Lives", is the only other Hollywood Star I have met. Toni, though, is very special to us. Toni confirmed that she is a first fleeter. She descends from Richard Morgan. We have a Richard Morgan descendant among our membership...Toni's half sister, Helen Reddy.

The Principal Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for NSW, Mark Bennett has asked me to tell members that the Family History Consultancy Service will be suspended between 1st April and 30th June, 1990. The Registry is being transfered to Thomas Street, Ultimo (near the Entertainment Centre). The Registry provides Genealogical Service which allows researchers direct access to their historical Registers. A fee of \$25.00 per half hour is charged. An appointment is required.

It has been estimated that there are now over one million Australians today who are descended from First Fleeters. Among them must be many achievers and prominent citizens. We know some of them but we would like to know of as many as possible for our records.

Some of them are His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G, A.O., The Hon. Stephen Mutch MLC, Toni Lamond, Jonathon King, Bill Waterhouse, Helen Reddy.

If members know of others please let us know.

We are also aware that there may be Aborigines who also have First Fleet ancestors. It is believed that at least one first fleet family had an Aboriginal wife (Henry Lovell) and there are two other possibilities.

This is something we should not overlook, after all the Aborigines did contribute to the survival of the early arrivals in the face of starvation. In the long term a greater proportion of future Australians will have Aboriginal ancestors and in due course their history and the other Australian's Histories will need to be better integrated than they are at present. It is therefore important that we remember now. If you are aware of any Aborigines with first fleet ancestors please let us know.

YOURS IN FELLOWSHIP JAMES HUGH DONOHOE.

BITS AND PIECES

THE FORGOTTEN WARRIORS

Do you know that Australia does not have a War Memorial to those Australians who served in the Napoleonic Wars and other conflicts long before the Maori Wars?

There were a number of First Fleeter's sons who enlisted in the Armed Forces. No one seems to have bothered to record them and those other Australians who served from the commencement of colonisation.

The first Australian born Servicemen are believed to have been Aborigines who enlisted into the Royal Navy. Some may have enlisted in British Army Units stationed in Australia.

Marine Lieutenant Ralph Clark of course died on service in the West Indies. His English born son Midshipman Ralph Stewart Clark

died just after him aboard the same ship.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

(at least the start)
Aborigine(s) (Navy)???
Norfolk King (Navy)*
Phillip Parker King (Navy)
Sydney King (Navy)
George Johnston (Marines)
Robert Johnston (Navy)
Francis Spencer (Squire)
(11th Devonshires)
John Mitchell (Poulden) (Navy)

* Died in Service

Hopefully we can add more names to the list and in due course the other pre-1840 warriors can be remembered too.

James Patrick Furzer (Navy)

Incidently, Francis Spencer was enlisted when he was one year five months old. He was about seven when he was sent to England as a drummer. With all very due respect, that beats the fourteen year old Anzac.

RESEARCHING OFF THE BEAT AND TRACK

Sometimes little snippets of information come to light about the first fleeters that perhaps we would not use in their biographies yet they may be worthy of retention. One day the data found may be useful.

For example, were you aware that members of the families of some first fleeters came out to settle in Australia? The full extent is not known but here are some.

WILLIAM BROUGHTON

William Broughton's mother came to

Australia. Mrs Broughton Snr. is believed to have died at Liverpool.

HENRY LOVELL

Henry and his wife, believed to have been an Aborigine, returned to England with their son, James, in 1799. A daughter, Sophia, was born later. James returned to Australia. He also went home again in 1825 and returned to Sydney the next year. In 1827, Sophia came out to Australia as a convict on the "Louise". Sophia was described as "Black" and a Gypsy.

JAMES SQUIRE

James Squire left behind three young children in England. One of them James junior by his wife Martha Quentin arrived in Australia, possibly as a convict on the "Lord Eldon" in 1817. James junior ran a brick works in St.Peters and raised a family. He died in Hurstville in 1858. (James Squire had a second son named James. James Mason Squire died in 1825 at Ryde).

James (Quentin) Squire's descendants have advised that the Mister Squire mate of the "Lady Penrhyn" was James Squire's brother. He too is believed to have come back to Australia later. Mister Squire is believed to have served as a Naval Officer at some time. This family insists that the name was "Squires" plural. The Fellowship does not have any of the descendants as members but they have been in contact with us.

EDWARD GOODIN

Edward Goodin had a brother named Andrew. At one time it was thought that the First Fleeter, Andrew Goodin, and he were brothers. Edward's brother Andrew migrated to Australia (date and ship not recalled). He settled in Toongabbie at one stage. He was a trained sailor and recorded as a sea Captain in a family record. At one stage he operated a ferry service on the Hawkesbury River. His death details are not known but he was alive in the 1840's when he bought a block of land in Toongabbie in partnership with his nephew, William Goodin.

PHILLIP GIDLEY KING

Both the Governor King's families returned to England. Anne Innet left Australia with her husband, Richard John Robinson. Researchers claim that they cannot find any record of

her in England. It is possible that she changed her name to Anne Crosslands (Wentworth Papers, Mitchell Library) and settled in Lincolnshire. Her grandchildren through her son, Sydney, migrated to Australia and some of their descendants are members of the Fellowship. Some research into a possible family of her other son, Norfolk, is being carried out. A Thomas Alfred King, a Railway Engineer born in Lincolnshire in 1834 and who travelled to Australia in 1865 (Brisbane), may have been Norfolk's son. Thomas' daughter, Kate King (known as Faulkner), is buried in the family grave of John Andrew Goodin in Rookwood cemetery. John was the great-grandson of Anne Innet's Worcester Goal cell mate and neighbour on Norfolk Island and in Liverpool, Olivia Gasgoigne. Phillip Parker King's family migrated to Australia. The Fellowship has a number of his descendants.

If any member has details of other families arriving in Australia, please let the editor know.



THE GARRISON CHURCH Holy Trinity Church, Miller's Point, Sydney.

1990 - 150TH ANNIVERSARY

"I lay this as the foundation and corner stone of a church to be built in this place, to be named the Church of The Holy Trinity..."

The speaker was the first Bishop of Australia, William Grant Broughton, on a blustery Tuesday morning, June 23, 1840.

And so the spot was declared for what was to be more popularly known as The Garrison Church which still stands at the southern end of Lower Fort Street, cornering Argyle Street facing Argyle Place in one of the most historically colorful areas of Sydney known as The Rocks.

The year 1878 saw the completion of the Garrison Church, although the tower was never built. Thirty-eight years of alterations, renovations and additions merely extended its mellowness rather than obscure it, retaining the air of being well kept and quietly powerful, thanks largely to Blacket's clever designing and to those who followed him.

Built to contain comfortably a congregation of 600 it recaptures much of the early days and extends silent account of the manners, customs and identities of those times.

Although officially called the Church of the Holy Trinity, it had, almost from its foundation, been more popularly known as The Garrison Church, simply because the numerous regiments at the nearby Garrison worshipped there.

One can envisage the colourful display of the various uniforms dotted throughout the congregation; the black on grey, white on navy blue, red on white with gold trimming...

Here we do not so much speak of "a religion" but of a history - one can, in this time walk there - and Sydney's Rocks area is history, despite the fact that the cobblestones have long since been covered, horse's hooves, ringing of sailor's clogs and dragging convict chains long vanished.

But a fleeting glimpse of an oriel window set in warm red brick set the thoughts of an interested observer spinning. And so it is with this church; gazing at rugged old Gothic, passing through ancient doors and wondering afresh at the slim columns supporting the sweep of the graceful interior arches.

One is certainly caught by mullioned windows and, arriving early in the day is entranced by the rose window setting the rosewood pews and panelling to crimson, sparkling the wine-glass pulpit and roomy prayer desk.

But if we are careful in contemplating all this we realise that this, and other buildings of historic beauty, was not the result of sheer skill alone but fierce concentration and determination in the work involved.

Courage, determination, love, loyalty and integrity - all those qualities built a church and a place in our history.

The Fellowship well represented the 1990 Australia Sunday Procession of Flags and Flowers for the 202nd Anniversary of The Rocks, Sydney organised by The Garrison Church.

At least 30 posies and bunches of flowers were laid at First Landing Monument, a posy at Captain Philip's Monument and a posy at Captain Bligh's Monument, Circular Quay, Sydney.

The 1991 Pioneers Pilgrimage of Flags and Flowers will be held on Sunday 27th January.

COMING EVENTS AT THE **GARRISON CHURCH**

SECOND FLEET BI-CENTENNIAL

17th June, 1990 10.30am at the Garrison Church.

Descendants of Sarah Woolley (2nd Fleet) who married John Ryan (1st Fleet) will be in attendance. Other descendants and friends from First and Second Fleets are warmly welcomed.

All enquiries: A.J. Brown (02) 861465 ANNUAL SERVICE OF ROYAL N.S.W. REGT. 24th June, 1990. 10.30am at the Garrison Church.

(Australia's oldest Regiment with links from Settler's Patriotic Associations dating from 1800).

The occasion is to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Garrison Church foundation stone.

All enquiries: B. Seers (02)247 2664



Attention Wednesday Auxiliary

Due to decreasing patronage at our meetings, the March A.G.M. was suspended. A special meeting will be held on June 27th to decide the future of the Auxiliary. All interested members please attend, special welcome to new members. Norma Cunningham Bernice Smart.

BUY A BRICK DONATIONS

We wish to record appreciation to the following for recent donations to the Fellowship's "Buy a Brick" Fund. These names will also be recorded in our Donor Book in the Library at First Fleet House.

Mrs Dorothy Endicott, Mrs M. Chencz & Family, Miss M.I. Wheeler, Mr & Mrs Raymond Meredith.

AROUND THE TREES

ANN FORBES

Descendants of Ann Forbes, William Dring and Thomas Huxley are invited to a family gathering on 22 April, 1990 at the Kailway İnstitute, near Devonshire Street entrance, Central Railway, Sydney from 10am - 4.30pm. A book on the family is planned to be available at the reunion on 21st August, 1991. Material for the book is needed before or at the 1990 gathering. Phone or write with all enquiries as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you all, bring your lunch and don't forget your family trees, photographs etc.

Contact: Mrs. J. Bigham 2/80 Dee Why Rd, Dee Why NSW 2099 Phone: (02) 982 9550

JANE LANGLEY DESCENDANTS GET TOGETHER

On Sunday, 5th November, 1989, 253 descendants of Jane Langley "Lady Penrhyn' registered their name at a picnic to form the Jane Langley Descendants Association. An enthusiastic committee has been formed and a Newsletter is being sent out with more information of future

gatherings. Ella Hannam, who was present at the picnic, wrote this poem which expressed the thoughts of everyone who attended:

Further information from: Armitage, Mrs. May Secretary 20 Timmins St. Birmingham Gardens NSW 2287 Mrs. Ila Knight, 60 Kittyhawk Cres, Raby NSW 2566

THE FRIENDS OF FIRST GOVERNMENT **HOUSE SITE**

The Friends of the First Government House Site would be honoured if the President, the Committee and Members of the Fellowship of First Fleeters joined them at History House, Macquarie Street, Sydney on Saturday, 30th June at 2pm to honour the arrival of the Second Fleet 200 years ago.

Guest speakers have been invited who will present papers covering topical subjects.

Refreshments will be served.

Charge of \$5 (pensioner \$4) to cover expenses.

R.S.V.P Gwen Newton 905 2371 or Doune MacNought 371 7868.

WEDNESDAY DAYTIME **AUXILIARY**

Emergency Meeting

THANK YOU, JANE

We realise the suffering in your young life Throughout the days before you became Thomas Chipp's wife. Being parted from your family, detained on a smelly boat Mixing with every type of criminal - a hell ship afloat.

Thank you Jane for your courage - your will to survive the harshness, was it for your child's sake kept you alive? Or perhaps another motive deep within your breast Impelling acceptance of the fate denying you your rest.

What were your thoughts when you stepped ashore? Were they of the family you would see no more or the "nothingness" of this wretched place And the future you were expected to face?

Dear Jane. Did you visualise the future scene Two hundred years hence - did you dream? What were your thoughts on that fateful day When you were carried from your home so far away.

To-day dear Jane, on the 5th November, Your children met - they wished to remember Your life, suffering, courage, your will to survive. Thank-you Jane, because of you - we are alive.

> Ella Hannam Jane Langley Get-together, 5th November, 1989.

FROM THE MAILBOX

From: Mrs. Betty Horskins 8 Sandgate Ave, Glen Waverley, VIC. 3150 Phone: (03) 232 **7925**

Family History Research in Victoria

Having been a researcher for many years I am experienced in not only the Public Record Office of Victoria at their Melbourne and Laverton branches and the La Trobe and State Library of Victoria but also many of the lesser known archives and lesser known records. Some of these are in the Australian Archives, Salvation Army, Uniting Church, Melbourne General Cemetery and other cemeteries, Titles Office etc.

I am a member of the Genealogical Society of Victoria, Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, Port Phillip Pioneers Association, Australian Post-Tel Genealogy Club, Irish Ancestry Group and several historical societies.

Another speciality is researching old issues of newspapers. Enquiries welcome.

Please forward a stamped self addressed envelope or 3 International Postal Coupons with your enquiry for a prompt reply.

From: HMS SIRIUS HOMECOMING TOUR 1991 1/51 Fairlight St, Fairlight,, NSW, 2094

HMS SIRIUS PLAQUE

On 11th May, 1987 an Australian Heritage flag was presented to HMS SIRIUS at Portsmouth.

Later, the First Fleet Re-enactment Company certified that 84 paper replicas of the flag, were transported by Soren Larsen of the Re-enactment Fleet, to Sydney.

These will be included, with interesting HMS SIRIUS photos, on a similar number of plaques, after the Portsmouth ceremony, 13th May, 1991.

The Arthur Philip Booklet, by The Stanley Hughes, covers the HMS SIRIUS story. Contact: Movement Publications, Sydney, (02) 736 2271.

Sales of the above, support the administration of the HMS SIRIUS Homecoming Tour 1991. Ancestors can be commemorated on plaques.

Dear friends of MMS Sirius,

On 19th March, 1790, the First Settlement suffered a severe loss, when HMS SIRIUS was wrecked at Norfolk Island. Therefore it is very appropriate to announce that it is planned for a symbol of the ship in the form of the HMS Sirius Sculpture Replica, by Victor Cusack, to be transported home to Portsmouth and

unveiled at the Guildhall Square on 13th May 1991.

In 1987 the people of Portsmouth presented a Sailing Gig to the people of Sydney.

The gift of the sculpture will be from the people of the City of Sydney to the City of Portsmouth, as a sister city gesture. The initiation and major sponsorship of the gift is from the Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney and the Mayor of the Municipality of Ku-ring-gai (responsible for the original sculpture commission, Bicentennial Park).

The HMS Sirius Homecoming Tour 1991, itinerary is now being prepared.

The three weeks tour will depart from Sydney on 23 April and visits will be made to the six First Fleet cities.

Items of interest include Anzac Day Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament and St. Katherine's Dock London, Governor Philip Chapel and memorial, Bath, his farm at Lyndhurst, two First Fleet Ships, Plymouth, Osborne House and Britain-Australia Heritage Museum, Ryde, Isle of Wight, First Fleet Chapel, Sallyport, the Royal Dockyards, just to mention a few.

Provisions will be made for ancestry research. Sports enthusiasts including bowlers, golfers and Biathlon runswimmers are welcome to take part in events at Plymouth and Portsmouth, where many old rivals from the armed services are located.

Members of the First Fleet Re-union Tour, 1989, can be contacted, to explain why this tour is the experience of a lifetime.

It is expected members will depart for Heathrow Airport after the ceremony on 13th May. It is planned for a seven day visit to France including Paris and Albi. The Laperouse Museum is of special interest since his flagship "LA BOUSSOLE" met "HMS Sirius" under extraordinary circumstances at Botany Bay on 26th January, 1788.

It would be appreciated if members inform as many people as possible that are likely to be interested in this exceptional heritage visit.

It is important to include, name, address and particular interests in the tour, so that an itinerary with details can be sent direct to each interested person, without obligation.

FROM THE CHAPTERS

CANBERRA CHAPTER Forthcoming Events: 26th April, 1990

Social evening at the home of the Secretary, Stephan Williams will show his books including his new book "The First Bushrangers 1789 - 1806"

All welcome. Members wishing to attend please phone Marion 88 2558 or Laurie 86 1402. Please bring a plate for supper.

17th May, 1990

Ordinary business meeting and supper. Location will be advised in the "Frig Door" segment of the Canberra Times prior to this event.

28th June, 1990

Annual General Meeting at Room 2, The Griffin Centre commencing 7.30pm. Guest Speaker and Supper.

The following are tentative only, subject to the approval of the in-coming committee.

22nd July, 1990

First Fleeters Dinner.

October

Petticoat Lane Stall.

November

White Elephant Stall at the Weston Creek Festival. (Please start saving your books, plants and any other "treasures" you may have for what has proved to be a very successful function.

December

Children's Christmas Picnic or Barbecue.

BIRTHS

A warm welcome to the following New First Fleeters:

ALEC JOEL McKAY (9th Generation)

16th January, 1990 F.F. John Anderson/Elizabeth Bruce First child of Dale and Joan McKay First grandchild of Ray (#5595) and Thelma McKay of Kingston Tasmania.

ENGAGEMENT

The engagement has been announced in Canberra of Chris Batchelor, (#1408) F.F. James Wright and Miss Susan Applebee, F.F. Frederick Meredith.

Two more First Fleet Families united. Congratulations.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Pauline (sister of the editor Rhonda Kroehnert #1247) F.F. Nathanial Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne on her marriage to Mr. K. Maczkowiack at the Lutheran Church, Liverpool NSW on 24th February, 1990.

OBITUARIES

Deepest sympathy is offered to the families of the following:

MRS IVY LYNETTE POGSON (#711) F.F. John Small/Mary Parker/James Bradley Died 14th January, 1990 aged 94 years A proud 4th Generation Australian

ELIZABETH (BETTY) HODGES F.F. Philip Devine Died 20th January, 1990 Canberra ACT Mother of Jane Aeberhard-Hodges of Geneva, Switzerland and Christopher Hodges of Canberra ACT.

ARTHUR MINTER LETHBRIDGE

(#2045) F.F. P.G. King Died 31st August, 1989 Toowoomba QLD Aged 79 Years

Minter as he was known was considered a good sheep man, being very skilled as a counter, drafter, manager and boss, and a good bushman.

After retiring in 1986 he became involved in the Royal Flying Doctor Association, Bowls and many other activities.

A loving husband, father and grandfather, he is survived by his widow Olive (Chick), son King, daughter Christina and grandchildren Dorothy, John, Vivienne and Andrew

"To live in the Hearts and Minds of Descendants is Never to Die".

MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR PERIOD 10th JANUARY TO 20th FEBRUARY, 1990.

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period, 14 adult, 4 junior members and 1 spouse associate.

Ann Forbes:

Mr Hamish Cullenward (Jnr)

Peter Hibbs:

Mr Esmond Augustine Kelly.

Nathanial Lucas - Olivia Gascoigne: Mrs Molly Mills Mr Russell Kim Mills Mr Robert Clarence Mills Mrs Cosette Barbara Morris.

John McCarthy - Ann Beardsley: Mrs Mavis Irene Dingwall (sp. Mr Allan Gerald Dingwall).

William Nash - Maria Haynes: Miss Tegan Maria Moore (Jnr) Mrs Margaret Josephine Hunt

John Nichols:

Miss Adele L. Chinnock, Mrs Beryl May Newman.

Samuel Pigott:

Mr Wayne Lighezzolo Mr Adrian John Lighezzolo.

Anthony Rope - Elizabeth Pulley: Mr Rodney Jon Hall.

John Small - Mary Parker: Mr Justin Stewart Gow (Jnr).

Mr Allan Hunt.

William Tunks - Anthony Rope
Elizabeth Pulley
Thomas Spencer - Mary Phillips

William Tunks - Thomas Spencer Mary Phillips

William Nash - Maria Haynes Anthony Rope - Elizabeth Pulley, Miss Lori Keverette Hunt (Jnr).

Joseph Tuzo:

Mrs Deborah Mary de Giorgio.

Additional First Fleeter:

Matthew Everingham added to William Douglass and Mary Groves for Mrs Nola Fay Hill, 5155

Future Fellowship Functions

NSW STATE PARLIAMENT - COCKTAIL PARTY & TOUR

Wednesday, 16th May, 1990

A cocktail party will be held at Parliament House, Macquarie St., Sydney, hosted by Fellowship member, the Hon. Stephen Mutch, MLC. Light refreshments, wine and orange juice will be served from 6.00pm - 8.30pm followed by tours of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council and various public rooms of Parliament House. Parliament will be in session.

Numbers are limited - book early. Cost is \$12.00 per person.

Send cheque and stamped self addressed envelope to FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE,
Fellowship of First Fleeters,
105 Cathedral St., Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011.

GALLIPOLI

Descendants of First Florters at Gallipoli

Some time ago a request was made to members for information on any First Fleet descendants who would have fought in the Gallipoli Campaign. There was a slight possibility that the media may have used this information as feature story.

The following would only be a few of the stories of First Fleeters on Gallipoli, fathers, brothers, and sons, some only young men in their teens, but as Patsy Adam-Smith wrote in her book "The Anzacs", "by the time the Gallipoli Peninsula was evacuated, it had become hallowed ground, the forging place of a nation."

We thank the following members who sent information:

Vic Morrisby, Helen Draper, Wilma Steain, Dare Taylor, Valerie Sanson, Marj Raven, Ron Frasa, Norma Cunningham, Dorothy Mathews and Yvonne Bullock. And the following is a precis of the letters.

Peter Christian.

PERCY JAMES MORRISBY... F.F. James Morrisby.

Born 8-5-1895 and killed in action at Lone Pine 9-5-1915, the day after his 20th birthday. He was attached to a South African Regiment being a resident of that country. Fate would have it that he now lies buried in ground hallowed by Australian Blood.

Pte Stanley Tunks and Lieut Keith Tunks, F.F. William Tunks both survived Gallipoli and France to return home.

PERCY GEORGE... F.F. Thomas Acres.

Born 1895 and killed in action 18-11-1915. In a letter to his mother, a Lieutenant of the 1st Batallion A.I.F. gave details of his death. "Percy was a stretcher bearer and on that day in November set out from the front line at Lone Pine to take a wounded soldier to the beach. On the way back he was caught in a barrage of shellfire and was severely wounded. He never regained consciousness."

JACK BENSON... F.F. Thomas Arndell.

Born in Hobart 21-11-1897, he was

educated at the Hutchins School and later at St. Virgil's College. Whilst at the latter school he saved a fellow pupil from drowning, for which, the Christian Brothers presented him with an inscribed watch in recognition of his bravery..(this is still in the possession of the family). He enlisted in the 12th Infantry Battalion, was wounded at Gallipoli and died in Egypt 3-9-1915. He was only 17 years of age.

REGINALD CRASTER (DICK) HUMBLE... F.F. Thomas Arndoll

Born at the Southead Lighthouse, Watsons Bay, where his grandfather was the Superintendant. He enlisted at the age of 26 in October 1914 and served in the 7th Light Horse Regiment. Prior to this he had been jackerooing at various properties in the North West of NSW. He took his own two horses to war with him and had the sad task of shooting them both at the end of the war as no transport was available for them back to Australia. Dick Humble served until the end of the war and died in Sydney 27-11-1959.

MERVYN MILTON MENYWEATHER... F.F. John Small/Mary Parker.

Aged 21 years was wounded whilst carrying out his duties as a Water Carrier and subsequently died 6-8-1915.

JACK PIPER...F.F.

At the age of 21 was killed in action 22-8-1915 at Lone Pine. He enlisted with his brother-in-law, Peter Hardie, who was also killed in action on the same day.

ALBERT CHALMERS BORELLA... F.F Thomas Kidner

Military Medal, Victoria Cross.

He was born at Borung, Victoria 7-8-1881 and 15-3-1915 joined the 26th Battalion A.I.F. He served at Gallipoli from Sept 15th until the following November. At Pozieres, on the Somme, he was awarded the Military Medal and on the 17th July 1919, at Villers-Brettoneux he won the Victoria Cross for Conspicuous Bravery...he was wounded and invalided to Australia. At the beginning of World War II he was appointed a Lieutenant with the 12th Australian Garrison, he gained a promotion to Captain in 1942 and was Honourably Discharged in 1945. He died in Albury, NSW on 7-2-1968 and was buried with full military honours. Two streets have been named after him, one in Canberra, the other in Albury.

SIONEY TEMPLETON... F.F. William Roberts/Kezia Brown,

He was a Private in the 3rd Battalion and was killed in action at Lone Pine at the age of 34 years. He has no known grave.

The following is an Article sent in by member Valerie Samsom...

The young man sat looking into the distance. It had been a pleasant day commencing with his daily chore of a swim across the wide river to collect a pail of milk from the butter factory so that his family of eleven brothers and sisters could have it for their breakfast. He was employed as a buyer and seller of hides and he was beginning to do quite well at it despite the fact that his education had not been very fulfilling due to the fact that he really did not bother to attend school regularly.

Times were slightly different then. The young man's parents had started out on a farm, his mother being 16 at the time of marriage and his father 21. Like so many farmers in the area, tragedy struck early in their life together, with a disastrous flood - the mother's precious velvet cushions floating in the waters colouring everything red! From then on the family shared/leased farms and as the children grew the sons took over the father's job as he had found work building bridges to supplement their income. With his health deteriorating he was advised to get away from the humidity of the coast, and with one of his older sons he became a drover taking cattle through the tablelands. This meant that the family existed without money for long periods of time and the young man's mother was the sole provider. She did this by dressmaking and the years of World War I were taken up for her in the making of black dresses for women in mourning. No wonder our young man did not attend school very often!

On this particular day a friend approached, sat beside him and began speaking of the war that had broken out thousands of miles away. "I'm going to join up", he said, "what about coming with me? It might be our only chance to see the world - we could have a lot of fun together!"

What excitement, when the two young men left for overseas on their great adventure! One of the young man's sisters joined in the farewells envying her brother's chance of a lifetime. He wrote home occasionally, in a faltering hand, which the mother and sister could barely read - and in one of the letters he told the family that he had been wounded in the thumb and was in hospital in Ciaro. Whilst walking in the town his sister saw a photo of him in a magazine prominently displayed in a shop window showing him in the middle of a group of wounded soldiers in Egypt. The cutting was kept by his sister in a small tin that was returned to Australia after the war.

Not long after this a telegram arrived, stating that the young man had lost his life at Lone Pine. Details received said that he had been wounded in the stomach whilst carrying out his duties as a water carrier on the beach, he was moved to a hospital ship where he died but as the ship was close to shore, his body was returned to the beach for burial a short time after his 21st birthday.

This completes the story of a good looking young man whose life ended so suddenly on a beach, far from home and family - his great adventure completed!

When the bells rang on Armistice Day his mother and sister walked in the main street of their small town with no joy in their steps. The sister wanted to join the celebrations but because of her Mother's grief she was unable to do so. The sister went on to leave the small town at the age of 16 on her own adventure, to become a primary school teacher, a career she followed until her retirement at the age of 60. The sister spoke about the brother all her life and the impact it had on her was great, to the extent that her daughter now tells the story to her children and grandchildren so that the young man is remembered by his family.

His portrait in uniform, together with framed letters from the King hangs in the houses of his niece and great nephew - not a lot to leave behind from a life begun in the lush area of the far north coast of NSW!

The name of the young man was Mervyn Milton Menyweather, Private, No. 203 1st Battalion A.I.F. a descendant of First Fleeters John Small and Mary Parker.

BOOK REVIEW

The Story of John Nichols, First Fleeter, And Five Generations Of His Family.

This volume of some 384 pages was compiled by five members of the Nichols family and follows in some detail the history of five generations. It is an eminently readable history, well documented, indexed and contains countless interesting photographs. The John Nichols Family Society and the co-authors of the book, Kaye Purnell, Sue Tuck, Sharon Draper, Barbara Coleman and Joy Marden are to be congratulated on the publication of this important contribution to not only Family History, but to the history of our Nation as a whole. Published in 1988 the dedication reads.... "To our ancestors, all those ordinary people whose extraordinary lives have made us what we are.* The book was presented to the Fellowship library by the John Nichols Family Society.

Peter Christian #1881.

AUSTRALIA DAY DINNER

Thursday 25th January, 1990.

Our Australia Day Dinner this year was held at The Refectory, The Reception and Conference Centre, within the Holme Building, The University of Sydney.

This proved to be a most interesting venue as The Refectory contains three murals by Vergil Lo Schiavo. The first painted was "A Tribute to Shakepeare" in the Eastern Gallery overlooking the Refectory. Donated by the artist in 1944 it was awarded the Shulman Prize for 1945. In 1951 "A Tribute to Dickens" was commissioned for the Western Gallery. It was completed in June 1952. The third mural "Mankind" was donated by the artist in 1971.

The latter masterpiece was completed just three months before Lo Schiavo died in September 1971. "Mankind" looked down on us as we enjoyed a most appetising dinner.

The University of Sydney Motto, which is under the Central Figure in "Mankind" reads "Although the Hemisphere has been changed, the disposition of mind is the same".

The speech by Professor Brian

Fletcher, Bicentennial Professor of Australian History,

University of Sydney follows in part, however due to unavailability of space the second half will be published in the next newsletter. It was as I am sure you will all find a most interesting speech, enjoyed by all present.

PART 1.

The Present State of
Australian History in New
South Wales.
by Brian H. Fletcher

The arrival of the first fleet at Port Jackson in January 1788 has long been regarded as marking the beginnings of white settlement in Australia. Admittedly, two hundred years later, in 1988, one journalist tried to deprive the event of its importance. He was given what purported to be an extract from a manuscript journal of an exploring party led by a Lieutenant Nixon. The extract was published in the Leeds Mercury on 25 January 1834 and related to an expedition that

supposedly had landed at Raffles Bay on the north coast of Australia on 10 April 1832. During the course of a two months excursion into the interior the party was reported as finding in the midst of "barren hills and rocks" and scorched plains, a "low and level country" laid out in plantations "through which a broad sheet of smooth water extended...as far as the eye could reach". In this paradise dwelt a community of Dutch origin that lived on maize, yams and fish. They had built a fortified village and claimed they had been there for 170 years. In effect this meant that they had arrived in 1652, one hundred and thirty years before the coming of the first fleet to Port Jackson. Details of this claim were published in the London Sunday Times in 1988 and the question was raised, had Australia mistaken the date of its birthday? Were Australians wrong in making 1988 the year of the bicentenary? Was it not the Dutch of the seventeenth century rather than the English of the eighteenth century who formed the first white settlers. These claims of course were totally false. No records exist of any settlement in the region

said to have been visited by Nixon and the whole manuscript appears to have been a hoax, perhaps calculated to take the attention of the people of Leeds away from their own gloomy climate. The ships that came in 1788 did bring the first settlers and opened a new era in the history of the Australian continent.

It is a great honour to have been invited to deliver this address on an occasion so important as the Australia Day Eve Dinner. I do not myself have any connections with the First Fleet but I share with you a deep interest in Australia's past. I thought that this evening I would look at the question of how that past is being treated at present and what value the community as a whole seems to attach to Australian history. That is particularly appropriate on the eve of celebrations associated with the landing of the first white settlers. Amongst those who stepped ashore were Australia's first historical writers - Lieutenant Watkin Tench, Surgeon White, Captain John Hunter, Judge Advocate David Collins and even Philip himself, to mention but a few. These men, possessed varying qualities as writers, but all were sufficiently struck by the importance of what was going on around them to record their impressions. Later they published books that marked the beginnings of Australian historiography and that threw valuable light on life in the infant colony. The arrival of the Fleet then was significant in a double sense. It marked the beginnings of white settlement but it also laid the foundation for the study of Australian History. What use is being made of those opportunities today? What is the state of historical writing just over two centuries after those pioneers recorded their firs impressions? What are we at present doing at university and school to arouse in the younger generation an interest in their past? These are among the questions to which attention deserved to be paid on an evening such as this.

One of the most remarkable developments so far as the recent writing of Australian history is concerned, has been the immense increase in output. When I started teaching this subject there were very few books that could be recommended to students. Indeed, it was for long feasible to devote only a short time each year to catching up with the new literature. The journal Historical Studies used to contain an annual review article, normally by

L.F. Fitzhardinge, discussing the year's publications. At most it ran to a few pages and this was sometimes achieved only by including books of limited value. Nowadays, output has increased to the point where it is difficult for even the most assiduous reader to keep pace with what is going on. Whereas once there existed one or two journals devoted to Australian History, now there area substantial number. The journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society, with which I have long been associated, can barely keep pace with submissions from authors even though we produce four issues a year.

Not only has the volume of writing grown to an unprecedented extent, but its range has changed out of all recognition. Australian historical writing, as recently as the 1950's, covered only a small number of topics. Biography had emerged and there was also interest in subjects such as land settlement, immigration, constitutional development and the convict system. Most of these fields were considered only in relation to the early period and, in geographical terms, there was a strong leaning to eastern Australia. Writing also dealt mainly with the policies of governors and the actions taken by men in positions of authority. It was history that reflected the standpoint of the colony's rulers and was often based almost entirely on documents and other material produced by that group.

Nowadays, the scope of history has been greatly widened to cover themes in which an earlier generation displayed no interest. Some of these themes reflect changes in present-day attitudes. The emergence of a feminist movement; for example, has given rise to considerable research on the role of women in Australian The existence of a history. multicultural society has aroused interest not only in recent migrant groups particularly those of non-British origin, but also in the part which such groups played before 1945. Earlier historians wrote of nineteenth and twentieth century Australia as though it was exclusively British. It is now recognised that although predominantly British it did contain other ethnic groups such as Germans, Italians and Greeks who contributed to the development in various ways. The First Fleet contained a number of different nationalities whose presence added variety to the white population.

One could readily mention other new

and exciting areas that are currently being explored. The emergence of urban history reflects the growth of an interest in this subject overseas and the writings that have so far appeared have already modified the view of the nineteenth century Australia as a predominantly pastoral society. From the outset towns and cities played a role only dimly appreciated by historians until recently. Important too has been the recognition that Australian history began, not with the coming of the white settlers in 1788, but with the arrival of the Aboriginal people centuries earlier. The time span of Australian history has been lengthened and its course has been placed in new perspective.

There is, therefore, more variety and complexity in Australian history than ever before. In place of a small group of writers working on a limited number of aspects of the past there are now a diversity of researchers looking at a wide range of issues. Political history, ethnic history, urban history, Aboriginal history are all attracting attention. To these must be added areas such as local history and family history whose growth has been quite phenomenal. At first glance it may appear as though the situation has become somewhat chaotic. Yet underlying the rich variety of offerings, general tendencies are discernible. The older books presented the view as seen from the windows of government house or the chambers of legislature. The new history is cultural and above all, social. Its concern is less with the governing than the governed. To an increasing extent, historians are concerning themselves with everyday people, their lives, their customs, their attitudes and their beliefs. The current preoccupation is not so much decisions and decision-makers, but with how policies and administrative actions have affected individuals and different social groups. In other words, history from below is replacing history from above. This in turn partly reflects the fact that within the community at large there is a greater concern with social issues. Poverty, disadvantages groups, the aged and so on are all matters of general debate and in coming to the fore these problems have raised questions about how they originated.

But why is it that so much more is being written about Australian history than ever before? Why has output increased to the extent that it has? One reason is that universities now exist in unprecedented numbers. In my student days there was one university in each state. Now, taking into account recent amalgamations, there are seven in New South Wales alone. In the 1950's there were probably only about sixty academic historians of all kinds in Australia. At present there are many times this number studying Australian history alone. Research facilities have also greatly improved as a result of the expansion of libraries, the opening of archival collections, the introduction of microfilm and the greater ease of travel. These last two changes bring the resources of overseas libraries within reach of many enthusiasts. But Australian history has never been the preserve of academics. Indeed trained historians did not appear on

the scene until the end of the nineteenth century, for it was only after 1891 that the subject was taught at university. One of the more striking features of Australian historiography has been the important part played in its development by what are loosely described as amateurs. Increasing numbers of people, many drawn from professions such as law, journalism and medicine, have come to write Australian history. Their activities have in recent years been coordinated by the information of historical and genealogical societies, whose numbers proliferated after the war.

All this points to a fundamental change in attitudes that in turn is connected with the growth of a sense of Australianism. The development of nationalism was for long impeded by the absence of serious external threats to Australia, by state loyalties and above all the cultural dominance of Britain. In recent years, that combination of loyalties has weakened as Britain has turned to Europe, and the Commonwealth ties have gradually loosened. Australia has been forced to find new partners and to develop an identity of its own. The strengthening of nationalism has been an important factor in heightening interest in the past. Increasingly it has come to be recognised that Australia enjoys a distinctive heritage that is worth exploring and preserving.

SOCIAL DIARY FOR 1990

Wednesday, 16th May, 1990

Cocktail Party and Tour of NSW Parliament House 6.00pm - 8.30pm

Cost: \$12.00

Sunday 22nd July, 1990

Tour of La Perouse Museum and Bare Island

11am BYO Picnic Adults: \$4.00, Children \$2.00

Sunday, 9th September, 1990

Tour of Tank Stream Adults: \$8.00, Children \$4.00

October, 1990

On board a squarerigged sailing ship. Details to be advised.

Sunday, 18th November, 1990 Junior member's Colonial Costume

Saturday, 8th December, 1990 Christmas Dinner.

FROM THE EDITOR

Closing Dates for 1990 Newsletters

in office for posting by:-

Closing Date:-

10th May

12th July

13th September 15th November

14th June

16th August

18th October

13th December

Newsletter Months:-

Christmas Party.

May/June July/August

September/October

November December

Please type or print any articles and enclose member numbers with all correspondence and First Fleet ancestors for "births", "obituaries" columns etc. There is no fee for any articles published in the newsletter.

Would all family associations and members who have published books, please notify the editor with details on where to purchase their books, including costs etc and a small description of the book, for the May/June Newsletter.

Are you pleased with the Newsletter? The editor welcomes any new ideas on improvement.

CORRECTIONS

Annual General Meeting and Annual Reports 1989 booklet p.6 line 9 should read: "Elizabeth King, who died in 1856, was the longest surviving convict First Fleeter"

We apologise for any inconvenience.