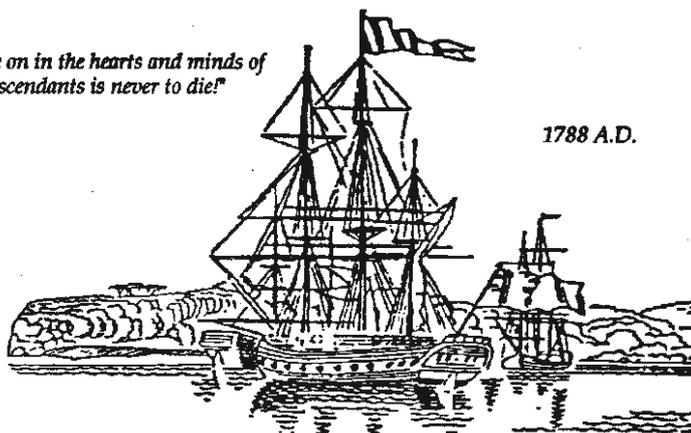


Fellowship of First Fleeters Newsletter

"To live on in the hearts and minds of
Descendants is never to die!"

1788 A.D.



JOURNAL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS INC. NSW 1988
PRICE: 50c Registered by Australia Post Publication No. NBH 1271

PATRON:
OFFICE ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE:

His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G., A.O.
First Fleet House 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011
(02) 360-3788, 360-3988

May/June 1990 Volume 21 No.3

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Anzac Day 1990 was another day this year on which all Australians showed how proud they were to be Australian. It was truly a magnificent show of respect for those Australians who fell in war to preserve the spirit of this nation laid down by the pioneers and to keep us free. Anzac Day is well worth commemorating just like Australia Day and Australians proved their sentiment in 1990.

My wife Sandra and I attended the Heritage Ball on 26th April, 1990 at Sydney Town Hall. Unfortunately there was little notice given for more interested people to attend but this event should be put on next years calender.

I would like to thank our Newsletter Editor, Rhonda Kroehnert, for our last magnificent Newsletter. To cap it off Rhonda edited it with son Robert in hospital following a road accident and her mother ill after a heart attack. We wish Mary Kroehnert a speedy recovery and best wishes to Robert....from the bottom of our hearts....well done Rhonda.

A special thanks is due to the Wednesday Ladies. This group of unsung volunteers work in First Fleet House processing the huge volume of mail, sending out the

newsletter, keeping the accounts, answering the correspondence and many other necessary chores. These good people also found time to do some fund raising and the committee was passed a cheque for \$250.00 from their fantastic efforts. That is a big chunk off the Mortgage on First Fleet House where the funds have been deposited. We are all very grateful for these wonderful Fellowship workers.

Other special thanks must go to the people and associations who have recently donated to the "Buy a Brick" fund. See names in "Buy a Brick" section.

I would also like to thank the members who have written to me concerning their ideas about Local Contacts and Official Fellowship Representatives at local ceremonies and functions. I would like to hear from a few more members before the Committee considers its approach on these. These ideas are still being looked at.

One member raised an enquiry about new members' addresses being mentioned in the Newsletter so that fellow descendants of a First Fleeter can contact them. On legal advice we cannot do this, however, all members can correspond by sending their letter addressed to the new member (or

other members) to First Fleet House where the letter will be sent on. Please highlight your envelope "MEMBER CONTACT".

I have been talking with people interested in forming a Brisbane Chapter. If anyone else there is interested in joining the Chapter Formation Committee, please write and let me know.

News has been received of yet another First Fleeter who was not previously recorded. Information so far is that the gentleman concerned is claimed to have travelled on one of the ships as an observer. He prepared a report on his observations and published it. A copy has been found and, it is understood, the work has been authenticated by academics at Oxford University and by a respected member of the Royal Australian Historical Society. The work is to be republished.

On Saturday 6th May, 1990 the Committee met to spend the whole day reviewing the activities of the Fellowship and seeking direction on a number of issues. Some of the conclusions were:

1. Policy to be put to the next A.G.M. seeking direction for the Fellowship. The question of whether the Fellowship continue as it is or proceeds to develop itself as a National

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on Sunday 7th October, 1990 in the Penrith District.

Body and propagate more Chapters and Family Associations.

2. Constitutional amendment to be put to the A.G.M. to allow Associate Members (eg. Widows and Widowers of members, step children and people who contribute to the various activities of the Fellowship).
3. Consideration of creating a few more Chapters where there are large groups of members.
4. Junior Newsletter to be issued three times a year and a special Junior Members Condenor to be sought.
5. Proposed amendment to the Constitution to be put the A.G.M. for postal voting where the number of nominations for Office Bearers and the Committee exceed vacancies.
6. A Bulletin will accompany each Newsletter, if necessary, which would advise of the activities where short notices has been given or other important notices have been missed from the Newsletter because of printing or editorial constraints.
7. Advertising in the Newsletter will be permitted to help offset the cost of publishing it.
8. An effort will be made to obtain from the Australia Day Council a list of activities to be held on 26th January, 1991.
9. The Fellowship will pass on to Civic Leaders the names of any member of the Fellowship who would like to be given a personal invitation to attend functions such as those held on Australia Day, particularly local ones anywhere in Australia where the members live or would be visiting (Please send your details to the Fellowship's Hon. Secretary).
10. The Committee will be projecting the image of the Fellowship nationally and some advertising will be undertaken (subject to cost restraints) and Newsletters and News Releases will be issued regularly to the Media.

11. Regular lectures will be hosted at First Fleet House on weekends and on weeknights.
12. An Annual Lecture, hosted by the Fellowship, will be initiated with a special Key Note Lecturer. These may be conducted anywhere in Australia.
13. The President's Welcome for new members will be restarted. Dates will be advised to members on the acceptance of their nominations. Hopefully, arrangements can be made to delegate these to Chapters for members beyond Sydney.

DATES FOR THE PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

At First Fleet House, for members admitted in 1988 - 1989 who have not been officially welcomed are:

- July - Wednesday 18th, 7.00pm
TOPIC "The Value of the First Fleeters"
- August - Saturday 11th, 2.30pm
TOPIC "Finding First Fleeters"
- October - Wednesday 17th, 7.00pm
TOPIC "Who cares about the First Fleet"
- November - Saturday 24th, 2.30pm
TOPIC "The First Fleeters and the Locals"

R.S.V.P. By phone one week prior to the event.

The reception will include a talk on relevant topics and refreshments.

Other members are welcome too but, a small charge will be made for the light refreshments provided to them.

Volunteers are invited to be Hosts for the Fellowship's Presidents Welcome for new members (and other interested members) in your local cities or towns. If you are interested and nominate to do this, the Fellowship will advertise the event in the Newsletter.

If sufficient numbers of members are interested in attending then the Committee will see what support it can give to provide a function. Talk notes can be provided also.

14. Unfortunately, not everything can be positive. The Committee has given much thought to keeping the fees down as it has for the last two years. However, the belt tightening which goes with freezing fees has its limits. I regret that our budget demands, particularly the costs relating to the Mortgage on First Fleet House and the Newsletter, both critical to the survival of the Fellowship, give us little option but to adjust the fees a little. The hikes in postage charges over the past three years are a major culprit. The Joining Fee after 1st July, 1990 will be \$25.00. Renewal Fee \$20.00 (a 3%p.a. average increase since the last change) and \$12.00 for Juniors and Pensioners. The Pensioner increase was established only on the cost of issuing the Newsletter.

I might add that the Mortgage on First Fleet House has been reduced by \$10,000 over the past 2 years and currently stands at \$58,000. Much of this reduction has been brought about by those who have contributed so generously to "Buy a Brick".

It saddened us to hear recently the news of ill health beset upon our Fellowship patron, His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Sir David Martin, K.C.M.G., A.O. We wish it to be known that our heart felt thoughts are with His Excellency, Lady Martin and their family. A letter and card has been sent to His Excellency on behalf of the Fellowship.

YOURS IN FELLOWSHIP
JAMES HUGH DONOHOE.

BITS AND PIECES

Sixth Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry, 1991.

The Sixth Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry will be held in Launceston, Tasmania from Thursday May 9th to Sunday May 12th, 1991.

Host for the Congress is the Genealogy Society of Tasmania, Inc. with the support of the Australian Federation of Family History Organisations.

Venue for the Congress is the Albert Hall Convention Centre which adjoins the charming 12 hectare City Park near Launceston central business district. The Albert Hall was originally built by the Launceston City Council as a venue for the 1891 Tasmanian International Exhibition

and was ranked the 11th largest hall in the world at the time of its construction. Thus the Hall will be celebrating its centenary in 1991. In recent years it has been extensively renovated and extended to serve as a convention centre.

A registration brochure is available from:- Congress Convenor
P.O. Box 60, PROSPECT
TAS. 7250

AN INVITATION FROM THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY.

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor Alderman Jeremy Bingham has written to the Fellowship extending an invitation to all Fellowship members and friends to attend a performance by a vast array of notable performers at the Sydney Town Hall on 20th June, 1990 as part of the Lord Mayor's Command Performance, to

be staged in the presence of His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales.

Ticket price is \$35 per person and dress is Black Tie optional.

Any further enquiries should be directed to: Entertainment Section, Sydney City Council, G.P.O. Box 1591, Sydney 2001 or phone: (02) 265 9554

THE 1788-1820 PIONEER ASSOCIATION CELEBRATING "THE 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE SHIPS OF THE 2nd FLEET IN PORT JACKSON."

During the week 24th June - 1st July 1990, this Association will be opening with a service of Thanksgiving at St. Philips Church, Church Hill at 10am, Sunday 24th June.

A Flag Raising Ceremony at First Fleet Park, Circular Quay at 12 noon, Tuesday 26th June, and a Family Picnic day at Burwood Park, Burwood Sydney commencing at 10am, Sunday 1st July.

All Fellowship members and friends welcome.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1990 subscriptions are now due for: "Technical Information Service" Royal Australian Historical Society History House 133 Macquarie St, Sydney, NSW 2000

This years program will include the following publications:

1. Historic Plaque Programs: A Guide to Their Development.
2. Organising Tours and Speaking Programs.
3. Heritage and Conservation: A Practical Guide.
4. A Guide to Using Documents Pertaining to Land Settlement.
5. Cemeteries: Their Use and Abuse.
6. Sources of Labour History for Local Historians.

Cost including postage:
\$20.00 RAHS Members
\$20.00 Affiliated Society Members
\$22.00 Non-members, Libraries, Institutions.

FORT DENISON AND GOAT ISLAND TOURS APRIL, 1990.

The Fort Denison and Goat Island tours proved to be a great success.

The warm autumn sun shone on us as our tour guides, Norman and Lena, gave interesting talks on the history of the islands. We were not only impressed with the history and buildings of the Islands, but also the original native plants still growing on Goat Island. These specimens included: 6 specimens from the "Fern" family, 34 specimens from the

"Dicotyledon" family and 7 specimens from the "Monocotyledon" family.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE TOUR MAY, 1990.

The cocktail party and tour of Parliament House, Sydney was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The Honourable Stephen Mutch M.L.C., our guide, joined us for drinks after which we proceeded to the Library. The Library this year has its 150th anniversary. We were met there by Dr. Cope, himself an institution of the library.

He gave an interesting talk on how, he and his thirty staff run this service library for the members of the House.

We continued on to watch the Upper and Lower House of Representatives sitting. A most interesting tour.

THE VON MUELLER CORRESPONDENCE

A comprehensive edition is being prepared by Professor A.M. Lucas (Centre for Educational Studies, King's College, London) of the correspondence of the noted Australian Botanist, explorer and first Director of Melbourne's famed Botanic Gardens, Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller.

Mueller's own files were destroyed some years ago. However it is known he wrote prolifically to people in Australia. Maybe he wrote to your ancestor, as he did to the Rev. J.B. Gribble FRGS. If you could help in any way, to find extant correspondence, please contact Mrs. Lafayre Palmer, (02) 522 8317.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Mrs Enid Peters (#204), (daughter of Friday helper Joan Cox) and Glen Snowball (#1252), (grandson of Thursday helper Norma Dawson) are studying the "Industrial Design Degree Course" at the University of Technology this year. Enid and Glen, both descendants of John (Jack) Kable,

a son of Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes are two of the forty students in the class selected from more than 1000 applicants.

"WOMEN OF BOTANY BAY - COLLEEN TO MATILDA ASSOCIATIONS"

Dr. Portia Robinson of Macquarie University proposes a change of name of this association to "THE BOTANY BAY PROJECT" or a sub-title name such as "AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY, 1788-1828".

Any objections by members of this society should be directed to the above association.

A REMINDER

A Commemoration of the Arrival of the Second Fleet, on Saturday 30th June, 2pm at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney.

Guest speaker is Dr. K.J. Cable, an authority on Colonial History.

Invitations have been extended to members of the Fellowship of First Fleeters and to the 1788-1820 Pioneer Association.

Join the Friends of the First Government House Site. Reference Vol 21 No.2 F.F.F. Newsletter.

All enquiries to:

Nell Sansom, Chairman of Friends. F.F.F. #226.

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.

Wednesday Ladies Auxilliary Hunter Valley Chapter, William Roberts and Kezia Brown Association, The Friends of First Government House Site, Tunks Family Association, Mrs Norma Dawson, Miss A.Astley, Mrs W.J.Harken and Miss Elgine Kelly.

AROUND THE TREES

JOHN SWINFIELD (Arr. 1848)

10th June, 1990, 10am - 4pm

In 1858 John Swinfield married grand-daughter of First Fleet seaman Frederick Meredith. To celebrate this union a "Gathering of Swinfield's" will be held at Burwood RSL on the 10th June, 1990. All members of this family will be welcome, especially those who are First Fleet members, as well as descendants of same. Please

bring any family photos and mementoes or documents as an added interest to this function. We can arrive after 10am and leave when we like any time till 4pm. As club rules require, no one under 18 years can attend.

Contact:

Mrs. Barbara Glass (#4968) F.F. Frederick Meredith 120 Hastings Road, Terrigal NSW 2260 Phone: (043) 843-760



ODE TO AN ANCESTOR

Susannah, what a puzzle you have given us, to solve before we die,

What happened to, where is he?
Where does his body lie?

John Bradley, whom you married,
witnessed by the Frosts,

At Castlereagh where you carried
high hopes at all costs.

John came in chains from England in
1815,

From an Army court-martial in
Canada to a land so green,

What happened to him after that
that's where the puzzle lies,

Where was he, where did he go,
before he ups and dies?

In 1828 Susannah, you were toiling on
your own,

Washing for the local constable, John
Proctor, all alone,

Where was John your husband, had
he died or run away?

Why can't we, your descendants, find
him to this day?

Oh, daughter of First Fleeters,
Elizabeth and Anthony Rope,

We turn to you in spirit, to guide and
give us hope,

That someday we will come upon,
John's body where it lies,

So we, his descendants can see how he
really died.

1990 - Lyn Norcott
F.F. Anthony Rope/Elizabeth Pulley

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

Valerie Frost of 104 Acadia Ave,
Gymea Bay NSW 2227 (02) 524-2797
would like to hear from interested
family members re a Family Day
reunion. To be held in March 1991 to
celebrate 200 years of marriage of
Matthew James Everingham (First
Fleet) and Elizabeth Rimes (Rymes)
("Neptune" Second Fleet).

WILLIAM ROBERTS/KEZIA BROWN

14th October, 1990 - 11am - 4pm

The Annual Family Reunion of this
Association will be held in the
Macquarie Room, Community
Centre, NSW followed by the Annual
General Meeting at 4pm. More details
next newsletter.

THE OLDEST FIRST FLEETERS.

JOHN HARMSWORTH

John Harmsworth is now thought to
have been the last surviving member
of the First Fleet who died at Clarence
Plains, Tasmania in 1860.

Marine Private Thomas Harmsworth
and his wife Alice embarked on the
Prince of Wales with their daughter
Ann and son Thomas.

John was born on the voyage on the
1st December, 1787. His birth is not
recorded in official records. Sgt. James
Scott of the marines wrote an entry in
his diary for that day. "December 1st
Saturday. A marine's wife
(Harmsworth) was delivered of a boy
at 1/2 past 3 o'clock A.M."

It was previously thought Thomas
was also born on the voyage but he is
now known to have been born on the
6th March 1784 at Warnford
Hampshire. He died at Sydney Cove
on the 24th February 1788. Thomas
Harmsworth Senior died on the 30th
April, 1788.

Alice Harmsworth has a son named
Daniel to Daniel Stanfield in 1790, and
they married in 1791. All the family
sailed for Norfolk Island the same
year.

John Harmsworth joined the New
South Wales Corp as a drummer and
fife at an early age and was attached
to Capt. Johnston's Company and was
serving on Norfolk Island in 1802. In
the year 1805 while still on Norfolk
Island he had a daughter Sarah with
Sarah Wheeler.

John Harmsworth saw service

overseas with the 73rd regiment in
Ceylon. Oh his return to Van
Dieman's Land in 1820 he settled near
his stepfather Daniel Stanfield at
Clarence Plains, where he farmed. He
died on the 21st July 1860 aged 73.

From material compiled by:

Betty Brown (#3643)

F.F. Edward Kimberly/Daniel
Stanfield/Alice Harmsworth

ELIZABETH THACKERY/KING

The last female survivor of the First
Fleet is presumed to be Elizabeth
Thackery/King, who came on the
"Friendship". Elizabeth aged 22 was
sentenced at Manchester on the 4th
May 1786 for stealing a silk
handkerchief.

In 1794 she was with James Dodding
on Norfolk Island, later marrying
Samuel King in 1810. She died on the
7th August 1856. Elizabeth King was
buried at the old Methodist Chapel at
Magra, Tasmania. The Fellowship
attached a plaque to her tombstone in
the Bicentennial year.

HENRY KABLE JNR.

Henry Kable Jnr. the son of Henry
Kable and Susannah Holmes was
born in Norwich Castle Gaol, Norfolk
in 1786. He accompanied his parents
on the voyage. Henry and Susannah
married at Sydney Cove on the 10th
February, 1788.

At the age of 13 years Henry Jnr. went
to sea, serving on ships trading with
England, China and the Pacific
Islands. He spent 20 years of his life at
sea retiring to his father's farm then to
Vanderville after the death of Henry
Snr. in 1846.

Henry Jnr. remained unmarried and
died on the 15th May, 1852. He is
buried at the old Oaks Cemetery. He
is the last known survivor of the First
Fleet in New South Wales.

The following First Fleeters were
previously thought to have been the
oldest at the time of their deaths.

ELIZABETH BIRD/ECCLES.

When Elizabeth, wife of Thomas
Eccles died in Parramatta in 1835 her
age was given as 105. Her age was
given as 38 years when she was tried
for stealing a lamb in 1785, and 45
years in 1787. Elizabeth Eccles age
would have been about 93 at the time
of her death.

JOHN LIMEBURNER

John Limeburner's age was given as
104 when he died in 1847. No age was
given at his trial, but he was listed as
being 30 years of age while on the
hulks. His age was possibly around
92. His headstone is still standing and
he is buried in Strathfield.

JAMES SHEERS

James Sheers was another First Fleeter
who age was given as 103 at the time
of his death. He was tried at the Old
Bailey in 1784 for robbery on the
King's Highway. He was aged 38
years when sent to the hulks. After
his arrival in the colony he married
Mary Smith in 1788. Mary died in
1792. He then went to Norfolk
Island where he had several children
to Elizabeth Wishaw, among them
Mary Ann who later married Captain
John Piper. James Sheers died at his
son in law's property "Alloway Bank"
at Bathurst on the 17th December
1838. He was possibly aged 92.

The Fellowship would be pleased to hear from any Members with any

additional information on these First Fleeters.

Compiled by:
Mary Hope-Caten.

A STORY OF INTEREST

**First Fleeter John McCarthy
circa 1758-1846**

Compiled by Doug Oakes.

The Fellowship in their research for the burial sites of First Fleeters has been working on the assumption that those buried in Australia are either located in New South Wales, Norfolk Island or Tasmania.

Mollie Gillen in her book "The Founders of Australia" records the following information of First Fleeter John McCarthy.

"John McCarthy, private marine 21st (Plymouth) Company, embarked for N.S.W. on "Friendship" etc.

The Biography finishes:

"The Melbourne "Argus" of 28th July 1846 reported his death at Kinlochewe

near Melbourne. He had lived nearly eight years at his great grand-daughter's home. Her husband W.H.Budd had kept the Ashby Inn, Britannia Street, Geelong."

John McCarthy's Catholic burial service was conducted by the Reverend P. Geoghegan on 24th July, 1846.

Mrs June Adams, Associate member, form the Cape Banks Family History Society has written to their Geelong affiliates for further information and details of John McCarthy's burial site.

We therefore seek your help in obtaining the following information.

1. The actual location of "Kinlochewe". It may have been the name of a homestead.
2. Details of the "Ashby Inn" situated Britannia Street, Geelong. Does

the hotel still exist and under what name?

3. Name of the local Catholic Church so that we may write to them for possible information and clues of John McCarthy's burial site.
4. Details of the Melbourne "Argus". Does the newspaper still exist and under what title?

If any member could supply us with the answers to any of these questions or any other information on John McCarthy and his descendants we would appreciate their help.

All correspondence to:

Attention: Joyce Cowell or Rod Best
First Fleet House
105 Cathedral St.
Woolloomooloo
NSW 2011

BIRTHS

A warm welcome to the following New First Fleeters:

THOMAS EDWARD CHAMPION
19th April, 1990. F.F. Matthew Everingham/William Tunks

Second son of Neil and Amanda Champion.

Grandson of Peter and Joy Christian.

KURT RUSSELL WATSON
3rd May, 1990. F.F. James Sheers/Mary Smith

First child of Gai and Brett Watson.

First grandchild of Norm #2481 and Tonia Kingham.

on his marriage to Felicia Maryann Winders at the Church of St.Mary, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane on 19th May, 1990.

Congratulations to Brenda Grant, #3536 only daughter of Jocelyne #3537 and Arthur Grant on her marriage to Peter Morsillo, second eldest son of Mr & Mrs Tom Morsillo of Ryde, Lanelli, Wales, U.K.

OBITUARIES

Deepest sympathy is offered to the families of the following:

REGINALD VAUGHAN WOODBURY

F.F. Matthew Everingham
Died 9th April, 1990.

Retired Police Inspector in charge of Police College Mackay and district and Roma Station, City of Brisbane District.

Father of Mr. E.R. Woodbury #4205.

DR. GERALD ALLEN O'NEIL #5435
F.F. Edward Miles
Died 20th October, 1989, Aged 60 years.
Late of Airlie Beach Qld, previously of Dee Why, NSW.
Husband of Jill, Brother of V.F. O'Neil #5145.

HAZEL ALICE BARNARD #1127

F.F. Frederick Meredith
Died 23rd October, 1989.

KEITH WHEELER FROST

F.F. Matthew James Everingham
Died 4th January, 1990.
Husband of Valerie Frost.

JOHN STEWART SMITH #1867

F.F. Matthew Everingham
Died 28th April, 1990, Aged 81 years.
at Buderim Qld.
Husband of Helen Smith.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Nicholas Stephen Charles Christian, #5691 F.F. Matthew Everingham/William Tunks

FUTURE FELLOWSHIP FUNCTIONS

SECOND FLEET BICENTENNIAL

1st July, 1990 10.30am
at the Garrison Church

A weekend celebration at different locations, to conclude at the Garrison Church for descendants of Obadiah Ikin (N.S.W. Corps). Descendants

and friends of first and second Fleets are invited to the Church Service.

All enquiries to: G. Thom
48 Derwent St.
Lyons, ACT 2606

OLD BRITISH AND SETTLERS REGIMENTS

COMMEMORATION AND SEMINAR.

5th August, 1990 10.30am

at the Garrison Church

Snacks may be purchased in Old School Hall or B.Y.O. lunch pack. Afternoon seminars on Old Regiments in the Church, static displays, and resources for Military Forebears research.

All enquiries to: Secretary NSW Military Historical Society.
Merell Taplin (02) 524 5095.

THE SECOND FLEET...A BICENTENNIAL

Peter Christian #1881

June/July of this year is the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of The Second Fleet. Technically the fleet consisted of only three ships, but on the 3rd June 1790, after a voyage of some 10 months, the "Lady Juliana" "staggered", if one may use that word in a nautical sense, into Port Jackson, narrowly missing the rocky shore at North Head and anchoring in a small cove just north of the harbour entrance for some 3 days before being towed to Sydney Cove. The harbinger of the Second Fleet had arrived much to the chagrin of Judge Advocate David Collins who wrote..."In the distressed situation of the colony, it was not a little mortifying to find on board the first ship that arrived, a cargo of so unnecessary and unprofitable as 222 females instead of a cargo of provisions."

The "Lady Juliana" under the command of Lt. Thomas Edgar RN. was a ship of 401 tons. The storeship HMS "Guardian" which left Spithead on 12th September, 1789 was to have been the bearer of provisions for the starving colony, but she had foundered off the Cape of Good Hope on 22nd December 1789, having struck an iceberg. This ship was under the command of Lt. Edward Riou RN., and in addition to being laden with provisions, she carried 25 convicts selected for individual skills as artisans and an Assistant Chaplain for the colony, the Rev. Mr John Crowther.

Some three weeks after the arrival of the "Lady Juliana" the 3 ships of the Second Fleet arrived bearing more

mouths to feed. These three ships were the "Surprize" 400 tons, Master..Nicholas Anstis, "Neptune" 809 tons, Master..Donald Trail and "Scarborough (2)" 418 tons, Master..John Marshall. These three ships have been aptly named "the death fleet" by John Bateson. On the "Neptune" alone, there had been 147 deaths. 486 souls were desperately ill and the rest "lean and emaciated". This was out of a total of 692 male and 67 female convicts!! Naturally the treatment meted out to these convicts left much to be desired and we are told that the kindly Chaplain, Richard Johnson was much overcome by the sights encountered on boarding the "Surprize". Indeed he was persuaded not to venture on to the other two ships which were described as "wretched and intolerable". The subsequent absconding of the Master of the Neptune, Donald Trail, to escape the wrath of Arthur Phillip, the Governor and his subsequent trial and acquittal in London, leaves a lot to be desired in the name of English justice.

How different was the leisurely voyage of the "Lady Juliana" and her cargo of "troublesome" women, a motley assortment of thieves, pick-pockets, receivers of stolen goods and prostitutes.

John Nicol, Mariner, on this ship wrote..."when we were fairly out to sea, every man on board took a wife from among the convicts; they nothing loath. The girl with whom I lived, for I was as bad in this point as other, was named Sarah Whitelam(Whitlam)!! She was a

native of Lincoln, a girl of a modest reserved turn, as kind and true a creature as ever lived." This Sarah, whom John had taken as a wife had been convicted of theft at Lincoln on the 10th July, 1787 and sentenced to 7 years transportation. Nicol gives more insight into the dealings of some of the "girls"...

"We had a number of Jewesses on board and at Santa Cruz, one, Sarah Sabolah had a crucifix..others soon got them and passed themselves as Roman Catholics by which means they got many presents from the people on shore and laid up a large stock for sea" much the same happened at the ports of St.Jago and Rio de Janiero according to John Nicols.

I wonder if my grt grt grt grandmother Sarah Lyons, described by Rev. Samuel Marsden as a "Jewish concubine" and indeed arrived on the same "Lady Juliana", was involved in this enterprise?

A number of convicts from the four ships which arrived in 1790, married or cohabited with First Fleeters either here or at Norfolk Island. There was indeed no sad ending but a beginning..the beginning of a nation.

*There is no evidence of a Sarah Sabolah on the Lady Juliana..John Nicols may have mis-represented a name or Sarah had an alias as many did have.

Sources.....Historical Records of Australia. "The Convict Ships" Charles Bateson. "The Second Fleet Convicts" ed R.J. Ryan.

SQUARE RIGGED SAILING SHIP CRUISE

Sunday 2nd September, 1990.

After investigating several square-rigged sailing ship cruises, the cruise on board "Solway Lass" is the most cost effective we could find. "Bounty" was very expensive and is now being sold, and "Our Svanen" is in liquidation. Prices also rise considerably from the end of September.

"Solway Lass" is a 125 foot gaff rigged topsail schooner. Authentically restored, she has been totally rebuilt from her timbers to her 10 working sails. She was Sydney's official entrant in the 1988 Bicentennial Tall Ships Race.

We have chartered "Solway Lass" for two cruises on Sunday 2nd September from 10am - 2pm and from 4pm - 8pm. The cost is \$35.00 adults, \$24.00 children under 12, under fives free. Price includes hot and cold smorgasbord meal.

For tickets send cheque and stamped self-addressed envelope, and indicating morning or afternoon sailing time to:

Functions Committee Fellowship of First Fleeters,

105 Cathedral Street
Woolloomooloo NSW 2011

"Solway Lass" sails from Aquarium Wharf Pier 26, Darling Harbour Sydney.

TOUR OF LA PEROUSE MUSEUM AND BARE ISLAND

Sunday, 22nd July, 1990 - 11.00am.

The La Perouse Museum was opened on 23rd February, 1988 in the Cable Station at La Perouse, Botany Bay.

Each room in the museum focuses on a particular aspect of the voyage of La Perouse. From the planning of the expedition and the instructions from King Louis XVI, to the search for, and eventual discovery of the wrecks of his ships at Vanikoro.

La Perouse appeared in Botany Bay on 26th January, 1788 within a week of the arrival of Captain Phillip and the First Fleet. They established a cordial friendship and remained for a period of six weeks witnessing the establishing of the new colony. In March, having entrusted to Captain Phillip letters and reports to his King, La Perouse set sail - never to be heard of again. The French nation was embroiled in the

Revolution but La Perouse was not forgotten. However, their whereabouts were to remain a mystery till two wrecks were discovered on the reefs of Vanikoro off the Solomon Islands and a handsome reward was claimed from the French Government by the adventurer, Peter Dillon.

This is a guided tour of The Cable Station housing the Museum, the La Perouse Monuments, Macquarie Watchtower and Bare Island which is a fort built on Bare Island in 1881, following Britain's decision to give self governing colonies the responsibility for their own defence.

There are parking and picnic areas at La Perouse Monuments in Botany Bay National Park. Buses #393 and 394 to La Perouse south of Bunnerong Rd from the City.

Tickets for the tour are \$4.00 Adults, and \$2.00 children all inclusive. Please send a Stamped Self Addressed Envelope with your cheque to: Functions Committee, Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral St, Woolloomooloo NSW 2011.

BOOK REVIEW

"River Station"

Bloodworth and Brown Family
1788 - 1988
by: Elsie Watson nee Brown.

This book has been donated to the Fellowship Library by the author Elsie Watson a descendant of James Bloodworth F.F. Its 284 pages gives an insight to life on a property in the Rylstone district of New South Wales and is an absorbing, interesting history of a family descended from a First Fleeter.

The book has been dedicated "to our youth" and the Preface is indeed pertinent to the publication as a whole.

"A true and accurate account of one's family life set in the times of depression and pre war and war years. Of struggle and hard times and of fun and laughter, of sorrow and joy, events and people and life on the land as it was at the time. It gives a brief glimpse into the past from the First Fleet, down the generations to the present generation and it is my contribution to our Bicentennial Year of 1988" end of quote.

Elsie Watson, #74 is to be congratulated for this most valuable contribution to Australian History, it will be a most welcome addition to our Library and it is to be hoped that a copy is deposited with the National Library in Canberra.

Peter Christian.

"John Nicols, First Fleeter"

The book review which appeared in the last Newsletter may have given the impression that the book is still available. Unfortunately this is not the case as all copies have been sold. However, a copy of the book was donated to every main Municipal Library in Sydney and to many libraries, local history associations and family history societies throughout NSW and Australia. For advice about where to find a copy of the book readers should contact the John Nicols Family Society.

BOOK DONATIONS TO OUR LIBRARY.

We are sincerely grateful to the following for their kind donations of books for our library.

"River Station"

by Mrs Elsie Watson
(Foundation Member #74)

The book is on the Bloodworth and Brown Family 1788 - 1988.

"Whiff of History" by Alan Barton.

BOOKS FOR SALE

"Nathaniel and Olivia - The Lucas Family" by Their Descendants
370 Pages, Hard Cover, Gold Embossed.

Also contains stories and family trees on:

Thomas Lucas (First Fleet Marine), James Squires (First Fleet), Edward Goodin, Thomas Rowley (Rum

Corps), Hodgett, Murray, Hortle and Cox.

Available from:
Miss Rhonda Kroehnert
14 Fitzpatrick Cres, Casula, NSW 2170
and
Fellowship of First Fleeters
105 Cathedral St.
Woolloomooloo NSW, 2011

Cost: \$30
plus postage and packaging.

POSTAGE:

Within 50kms of Sydney . . \$5
NSW \$6
VIC, BRISBANE METRO,
ADELAIDE METRO \$7
QLD, S.A. \$8
W.A, TAS \$9
N.T. \$10

"THE ROSE FAMILY OF THE "BELLONA".

830 Pages, over 300 photos and documents, hard copy, beautifully bound in imitation leather, gold embossed, index of 27,600 names.

This book is on the Rose Family who arrived in the sailing ship "Bellona" on the 16-1-1793.

AVAILABLE FROM:

Mr Norman King (Treasurer)
The Thomas and Jane Rose Family Society
6E/456 Military Rd
Mosman NSW 2088.

COST: \$45ea plus postage and packaging.

NB:(This special price available for a short limited period)

POSTAGE:

NSW \$6 - INTERSTATE \$8

AUSTRALIA DAY DINNER

PART 2.

The Present State of Australian History in New South Wales.

by Brian H. Fletcher.

Increasingly it has come to be recognised that Australia enjoys a distinctive heritage that is worth exploring and preserving.

But how have all these exciting developments been translated into teaching? Has the growth of community interest been paralleled by an expansion of Australian history as a university and school subject? The answer so far as the universities are concerned is positive. Many of you may well have attended university at a time when only one Australian history course, dealing mainly with the early nineteenth century, was available. Course structures have been transformed. At Sydney University, for example, Australian history can be studied at pass and honours level in every year from second to fourth. In addition our Master of Arts Coursework programme contains much Australian history and amongst our PhD and MA Honours students are a high proportion researching in the Australian field. Much the same is true in other institutes of higher learning throughout the country. The opportunities for studying Australian history at university are greater than ever before, the number and range of courses has grown and enrolments are encouragingly high. Certainly the universities have responded to the growing interest in this subject.

But what about the schools? How does Australian history rate as a school subject in New South Wales? Here again important advances have been made. The subject is widely available, particularly in High School, and it is taught in a way calculated to arouse the interest of students. Ample opportunities exist for them to engage in research and for teachers to concentrate on topics that are exciting as well as stimulating. This is a great improvement on the situation that once prevailed and with which some of you may be familiar. People who attended school before the 1950's all too often complain that they learned only about governors, explorers and pioneers, and that their experiences were of a kind that turned them off Australian history for life. That certainly is no longer the case thanks

to great improvements in the syllabus and in methods of teaching.

Yet although a great deal has been achieved much remains to be accomplished. At Primary School the whole position of Australian history has been threatened by the introduction of Social Studies. Courses have been arranged as to allow teachers to follow their own interests. If, for example, classes are taught by someone who is a geographer then the focus is likely to be more on that discipline than on history. In the junior years of Higher School, Australia figures quite prominently in the history curriculum. But history is not compulsory and many students do not come in contact with it. What then of the senior years? Up until the late 1950's Australian history did exist as an option for those enrolled as Honours students for what used to be the Leaving Certificate examination. In the late 1950's, however, a new syllabus was introduced in which Australian history had no part at all. This situation changed in the late 1970's when a separate Australian history option was introduced. But this did not survive for long partly because of the way in which it was structured, partly because it was too advanced for many schools. The present situation is that Australian history does exist in the senior school but only as part of a syllabus that deals with the modern world. The point is, however, that Higher School Certificate candidates do not have to study history of any kind. If they study history they do not have to do Australian History. If they study Australian history they do so only as part of a wider course and it is doubtful if they are provided with a systematic picture.

In all this there is a great deal of cause for regret. Indeed viewed from a wider standpoint the history of the teaching of Australian history in New South Wales schools is one of unfulfilled expectations. In 1880 when major reforms were introduced into the educational system by Sir Henry Parkes, the relevant Act contained a clause that made the teaching of Australian history, at least in primary schools, compulsory. Yet

the record since then has been disappointing. Instead of occupying a central role, Australian history was all too often pushed to one side or subordinated to other areas of history. Far from adopting a programme which would ensure that all students had a firm knowledge of the history of their own country by the time they left school, the opposite occurred. Students who did study history often knew far more about other countries than their own.

This is a curious and highly regrettable situation. As I showed earlier there has over the years been immense progress so far as writing and research in Australian history are concerned. At universities and within the community at large there has been a significant growth of interest in the subject. In addition to a vast outpouring of writings there have also been significant improvement in the quality of writing. Historians like Professor Manning Clark have shown that there are in Australia's past issues of great significance that deserve to be discussed at length. Yet educationists have not done nearly enough to ensure that schoolchildren are brought in touch with these developments. There is a contrast between what has happened to Australian history in the schools and what is going on at practically every other level of society. To this extent it may be said that the school system is out of touch with the community of which it forms part. Fortunately, there are indications that the situation may change. In a recent discussion paper issued by the Ministry of Education regret was expressed at the fact that students can bypass entirely the study of history and geography (including Australian history and geography) not just in years 7-10 but across the whole of their secondary schooling. In a later document "Excellence and Equity", the Minister has revealed plans for improving the position of history and developing courses in Australian studies. One would hope, however, that the existence of a "studies" programme is not seen as reducing the need to promote Australian history as a separate subject. The situation has long been worse in New South Wales

than it is in other states, particularly Victoria where Australian history is very strongly entrenched. There is also a contrast between what has happened here and what goes on overseas. In Britain and the United States national history attracts considerable attention. So much so that in North America knowledge of the past is required of all who seek employment.

The celebrations to mark the coming of the first white settlers to Australia remind us that this country has a history that deserves to be remembered and explored. This is something that is worth doing for its own sake for we now know that Australian history, far from being colourless and uneventful as some once thought, is rich, varied, complex and lively. It is becoming increasingly apparent that what has developed here is not a mere duplicate of an overseas society, but something that is distinctive and in some respects unique. Australia is not a derivative society but one from which outsiders can learn. This is a message that it is important to convey, particularly to young people, for it can help shape their attitudes and strengthen both their attachments to Australia and their understanding of themselves. At a time when a multicultural society, drawn from people of many lands, is being fashioned, greater attention needs to be paid to the heritage of the past which can help to bind disparate elements together. The Fellowship of First Fleeters, in common with the many other societies that have strong links with the past can do much to ensure that Australian history gains an even stronger hold on the community. From actions of this kind all of us will benefit.

Vote of Thanks given on the night to

**Professor Brian Fletcher
by Alice Clarke.**

"Mr President, Professor Fletcher, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me much pleasure to move this vote of thanks to you, Professor Fletcher, and to add that we were very pleased that you were appointed to the newly established Bicentennial Chair of Australian History at this University.

We do thank you for coming this evening and giving the address which was both stimulating and challenging, and has given us a greater appreciation of our history, and an enlightenment of the study of history.

History is not something dead and best forgotten. History is based on fact and our perception of it; it determines Why we are, and What we are.

I call to mind two examples of how it is perceived. In May, 1987, my sister Ula and I with Joyce Cowell, had the privilege of representing the Fellowship of First Fleeters at Portsmouth for the Bicentenary celebrations of the sailing of the First Fleet. The Mayor and Corporation and Bicentenary Committee were very generous in their hospitality to us and proud of their historic role.

The following Sunday, we attended Church in the Midlands. After the Service we were chatting to the locals when one of the assistants said to Ula, "You are a visitor, - where do you come from?" When Ula replied "Sydney" the lady looked puzzled, and Ula added "Sydney, Australia". "You are a long way from home, and what brought you over here?" the lady remarked. Ula proudly replied that she had been to Portsmouth for the Bicentenary Celebrations etc. as she had three ancestors who were on the First Fleet. "Oh" was the reply, quite facetiously, "Convicts were they?" Great was the shock and confusion when Ula proudly said, "Yes, two were!!" There was a rapid termination of the handshake and the conversation.

Later that morning at the small Worcestershire village of Belbroughton we very proudly

unveiled a plaque placed on the wall of the Village Green by the Belbroughton History Society which states; Sarah Bellamy born in Belbroughton 1770 was convicted of theft and transported to Australia on the Lady Penrhyn as part of The First Fleet 13 May, 1787.

Belbroughton History Society erected this plaque to mark the visit of her Descendants in the Bicentennial Year 13 May, 1987. They are a small but very active and dedicated group who became interested in Sarah, and have since published their research in a book. The village itself can boast 1,000 years of history, going back to Saxon times and recorded in the Domesday Book.

By way of sad contrast; Late in 1987 the Fellowship of First Fleeters contacted the two Sydney Newspapers and one magazine offering any journalist who may be interested, information from our archives on our First Fleet forebears, for, perhaps, a weekly story for our Bicentenary Year. Some very interesting stories on what we thought the Bicentenary was all about! But what was the response? Yes you guessed it, "Not interested at present". I wonder when they WILL be interested! I can only equate that with the ABC Commentator who announced that we would be celebrating the bicentenary of the arrival of the First Fleet in Botany Bay led by Capt. Cook!!!

We are extremely gratified that a Chair of Australian History was established in 1988. We are proud of our First Fleet forebears who under the guidance and jurisdiction of that great man Captain Arthur Phillip and despite the untold hardships, founded this Nation.

I end with our Fellowship of First Fleeters motto, "To live on in the hearts and minds of descendants is never to die".

*Alice Clarke
Vice President.*

FROM THE EDITOR

Please type or print any articles and enclose member numbers with all correspondence.

If items for the Newsletter are posted to the Editor's home address, please follow-up with a phone call.

As from the next Newsletter all births, marriages and engagement notices will be held over for publication in the Nov/Dec Newsletter. Obituary notices will be printed in every issue when necessary.

Also an index of all articles printed in 1990 Newsletters will appear in this edition.

A MOMENT OF VERSE

*I'm glad I'm not fifteen again, to give my parents hell.
At fifteen you're the expert, you do it all so well.
You only tell them just so much, enough to keep them quiet.
You only tell them little lies, enough so that they will buy it!*

*'Cus if you tell them whoppers, the chances are they'd twig.
Then Dad will crack a mental, and Mum will blow her wig.
They go right off the deep end when they find out its a lie
And from that moment on, they'll have their finger in your pie!*

*Its not real hard to fool them, 'cus parents aren't real bright.
You'll always get away with murder, if you handle them just right.
At first you look so innocent, you'll see them casting doubt.
You use a wide-eyed stare, but just be careful not to pout!*

*'Cus if you pout, they say you're only acting immature.
You've given them the upper hand, they'll use it, that's for sure.
If innocence won't work, well then you try another trick.
You say "You just don't trust me, Mum, you really make me sick!*

*If you can't trust your daughter, in this world, who can you trust.
And no one else's mother ever acted so unjust.
Why, everyone is going, even Lisa is allowed.
And I'm the only one with parent trouble in our crowd.*

*It mostly works extremely well, their consciences are pricked.
And if you are convincing, they won't know they've been tricked.
Of course, they can ring up to check, and then you are in trouble.
'Cause Lisa's mum will tell the truth, and she will burst your bubble.*

*And when the school report arrives, you've got an uphill task.
Somehow you must convince them, less than 50 is a pass.
It was really a tough exam, no one did very well.
Besides, the teacher has it in for me, she always gives me hell!*

*I don't know where fifteen-year-olds get all their expertise.
They know just how to handle situations such as these.
They're amateur psychologists, although they have not been taught it.
You'd pay a fortune for this education, if you bought it.*

*Well that was long ago, my education is complete.
I married and had kids myself, not an easy feat.
The worst is yet to come, I know, but I will be prepared.
I'll be one jump ahead of them, I'll really have them scared!*

*'Cause when the nonsense starts, I'll say, "Look, I've been there before.
I know each trick that's in the book, all those, and many more.
So trot them out and try them, just put me to the test.
You'll find out that your mother's so much smarter than the rest!*

by
Robyn Ryder

SOCIAL DIARY FOR 1990

PRESIDENTS WELCOME:

Wednesday, 18th Jul., 1990. 7pm
Saturday, 11th Aug., 1990 2.30pm
Wednesday, 17th Oct., 1990 7pm
Saturday, 24th Nov., 1990 2.30pm

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

Sunday, 2nd September, 1990
Squarerigged Sailing Cruise aboard "Solway Lass"

Departs 10.00am & 4.00pm
Adults: \$35.00ea, Children under 12 \$24.00

William Robert/Kezia Brown

14th October, 1990

Matthew Everingham

March 1991.

Sunday, 18th November, 1990
Junior Members Colonial Costume Christmas Party

At Australiana Pioneer Village, Wilberforce.

Saturday, 8th December, 1990
F.F.F Christmas Function.

Don't forget to wear your First Fleet T-Shirts, Windcheaters etc. to these outings.

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the official views of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

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Newsletter Closing Dates.

Closing Date:-

12th July, 1990

13th September 1990

15th November 1990

In office for posting:-

16th August

18th October

13th December

Newsletter Months:-

July/August

September/October

November/December