



Founders

NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

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

PATRON: Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, Governor of New South Wales

President's report

The Executive has set the date for the AGM of the Fellowship as Sunday 27 November next at 1.00pm. A President's Reception for new and 'old' members will follow. RSVP to FF House (02) 9360 3788.

I am always heartened by the feed-back from my talks on our European beginnings to various organisations in the Sydney area. The genesis of our nation is an incredible saga of triumph over adversity, and yet, many of our fellow Australians are ignorant of the historical facts emanating from the trials and tribulations of those who were sent to this land, either bonded or free. One of the main aims of the Fellowship is to get this story across to our contemporaries.

The issue of Reconciliation looms large as a divisive element within our Nation and, as descendants of those European arrivals, we need to meet this head on, albeit by putting aside our personal prejudice; this may be overcome in the hope that future generations of First Fleet descendants will come to grips with, and solve, the problems facing us in this day and age.

Some 45 members and friends attended the Soup and Damper Day at FF House in July and we are indebted not only to Phyllis Selby and her helpers, but to member John Shortland who gave an interesting account of his First Fleeter, John Shortland and his two sons who accompanied him in the settlement of this land. We certainly missed Bonny Savill on that day as she had a fractured wrist.

A number of the members of the South Coast Chapter attended, led by President, Jean

Mortimer, and I was able to organise a tour of St James Church King St before proceeding to FF House. My fellow Trustee of the church, Rosemary Annable, also Archivist of St James, gave a most interesting tour of the church and crypt, a magnificent Georgian edifice built at the instigation of Governor Macquarie by the convict Francis Greenway.

There are two First Fleet Family get-togethers on 12 September next, one, organised by the Frederick Meredith Family Association at Liverpool Library, and the other by the Peter Hibbs Association at a venue at Spencer on the Hawkesbury River.

At the July meeting of the Executive, appreciation was expressed to Terry and Jean Mortimer on their combined efforts in the reorganising and collation of the Fellowship's Library. Appreciation is also due to Executive member Bruce Arnett, FF Ann Forbes, for the framed photo of Doug Oakes, suitably inscribed, and now reposing at FF House.

I recently attended, through an invitation of the French Consulate, a ceremony at the Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour of the handing over of a bust of Nicholas Baudin. This French navigator did sterling work at the beginning of the nineteenth century mapping not only Van Dieman's Land, but the southern coast regions of this land. Another aspect of the history of our island about which most of us know little.

In a future issue of *Founders* I hope to relate the story of Baudin and his contemporary navigator, Matthew Flinders.

Over the past two months I was privileged,
(continued on page 8)

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News of Members

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

FOR PERIOD 27 MAY 2004 TO
24 JULY 2004

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period; ten adults, seven juniors and three spouse associates.

JAMES BRADLEY + JAMES McMANUS + JANE POOLE: Judith Ann Dwyer, Eilish Maire Dwyer (jun.), Liam Patrick Dwyer (jun.), Clare Aylce Dwyer (jun.), Eamonn Banning Dwyer (jun.), Christopher Patrick Dwyer (spouse).

JAMES BRYAN CULLEN: Stanley Nicholas Keough, Elaine Joy Keough (spouse).

WILLIAM 'ALEC' DOUGLAS + MARY GROVES: Kim Maree Duncan, William Jones Duncan (jun.), Lucy Maree Duncan (jun.).

ANN FORBES: Norman John Leek, Christine Leek (spouse).

AINSLEY MARIE HELDON (FF William Tunks, Mary Phillips, Thomas Spencer), born 20 June 2004 at Benowa, Queensland. Daughter to Matthew and Marna, ninth grandchild to Brian Heldon (#6850) and twenty-eighth great grandchild to Dorothy Heldon (#2982). Ninth generation.

HENRY KABLE + SUSANNAH HOLMES: Sister Lensey Elizabeth Doyle, Gertrude Moya Barry, Kirk Mallon

FREDERICK MEREDITH: Diana Judith Reed, Peter Michael Gibbins (jun.).

JAMES SHEERS + MARY SMITH: Hugh Anthony (Tony) Robinson.

JOHN WINTER + ANN SANDLAN: John Douglas Haxton.

BIRTHS

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

BYRON JAMES WINCKEL (FF James Williams), born 23 May, 2004, at Baulkham Hills. Second son for Dale and Sean Winckel, brother to Flynn, third grandson and eighth grandchild for Keith (#6853) and Joan (#6854) Phipps, North Wollongong. Ninth generation.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

ROY F. TURNER (#6222), July 2004. Devoted husband of Betty. Descendant of First Fleeter Carolina Laycock.

FLEETINGS

MEMBER NUMBERS

Member numbers will now appear on mailing labels, as per sample below.

'MRS LAVINIA WILKINSON
#3655

HARVEST RISE
TILLINGTON WEST SUSSEX
GU28 ORA
UK'

NORTHWEST CHAPTER WEB PAGE

Northwest Chapter web page, which contains photos of their outings, minutes of meetings and other happenings, can be found at <http://nwfff.tripod.com>. Following recent elections, the new president is Aussie Pratt, telephone 02 6766 2130 or 02 6755 2241.

MAIL BOX

Marie Fardell writes: I was wondering if any of your readers has any information on the family of Charles Hadley who married Sarah Phillips/Spencer. My mother was a Hadley, but I have found it very difficult to obtain much information on the family.

Any snippets however small would be much appreciated.

Email: jmfardell@bigpond.com

A FIRST FLEET WALK IN HISTORY

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1.00pm

A walk has been organised to First Fleet Historical Sites in the city. Assemble at our starting point, First Fleet Park, Corner Alfred and George Streets, Circular Quay.

During the walk our President will point out many places of interest including the Bonds of Friendship Memorial, Sirius Anchor at Macquarie Place and Arthur Phillip's Statue. The walk will terminate at First Fleet House for a wine and cheese afternoon tea.

Members: \$10.00 Non-members: \$15.00

Payment to First Fleet House by 10 September

Closing date for
copy and pictures
Sept/Oct issue
Sept 24 2004

OFFICE HOURS
10.00am to 3.00pm
Monday to Friday

AUSTRALIA DAY 2005 Weekend

After the resounding success of our Event held in January this year, the decision was made to again hold our celebration in 2005 at Panthers at Penrith, NSW.

The Executive has decided to only hold the weekend conference and Saturday night dinner every second year and in the intervening years, a Saturday luncheon will be held together with only the exhibition.

On the Sunday, the picnic day will be held as usual. This will be the format for 2005. Although there will not be a conference in 2005, members will still have the opportunity to stay at Panthers on the Saturday night.

EARLY BIRD BOOKINGS WILL APPLY AGAIN
– DETAILS BELOW

Saturday 22 January 2005

LUNCHEON – The Glenleigh Room has been chosen as the venue. Seating arrangements will be organised for family association tables of 10 people. The celebration event held earlier this year was a sellout with 240 attending. For 2005, it will be on a first in booking basis. Following the luncheon there will be the grand draw of our annual raffle. See the next issue of *Founders* for details.

EXHIBITION – The Woodriff Room has been booked for exhibitors to set up their displays. It will open at 10.00am,

temporarily close for lunch, then reopen until 5.00pm. This has proved to be a great place for families to meet new relatives.

Sunday 23 January 2005

PICNIC DAY – Last year family and association groups planned this time for a leisurely get-together so as to catch up with one another. Some family groups plan to make this an annual get-together and others plan to even include a short meeting.

ACCOMMODATION – A group booking has been made for accommodation on site at the Holiday Inn, Penrith Panthers with a great package for bed and breakfast of \$110 twin share in a deluxe room. Single accommodation bed and breakfast will be \$94. Reservations can be made by calling 1300 666 747. To be entitled to the SPECIAL RATE, YOU MUST REQUEST THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS RATE AND MAKE YOUR BOOKING PRIOR TO 30 NOVEMBER. By making the booking prior to 30 November, you will be placed in a draw for a treat! More later!

To those we met in 2004, we look forward to seeing you again in 2005.

To those unable to attend last year, come and join us in 2005 and help celebrate a very special event for both Australia and First Fleeters.

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

For more information please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your enquiry, which should include your name, address, telephone numbers (home, work and mobile) and your email address if applicable. In cases where an email address is supplied, the necessary forms will be emailed to you.

Send this information to:

Pamela Hempel

'Edenmore'

1 Millstream Road

Werrington Downs NSW 2747

PARKES – THE HEART OF THE GOLDEN WEST

Our annual holiday for 2005

Details are as follows:

Six days, five nights: \$579.00 per person, twin share. The single supplement is \$25.00 per person, per night

Departure: Monday 2nd May returning Saturday 7th May 2005

8.30am Bay 4 Eddy Avenue, Central Station

Tour price: \$579.00 per person twin share. If a single room is requested the single supplement is an additional \$25.00 per person per night.

Deposit: \$100.00 per person payable by 30th November 2004.

The balance is due upon arrival in Parkes and can be paid by cheque or money order.

Coach: 50 passenger, air-conditioned, seat belt and toilet equipped luxury Coach.

Accommodation: 26 rooms

Deposits are non-refundable within 28 days of departure. Prior to this time, all refunds are subject to a \$20.00 service charge per person and will require a minimum of 14 days for processing.

DOCUMENT

I recently had the opportunity to attend a seminar at Macquarie University on Basic Paper Conservation and although the material presented focused on the work of Archivists the principles involved apply to the preservation of documents such as birth, death and marriage certificates that we all have in our homes.

Professional archivists store documents in air conditioned vaults, within polypropylene sleeves and packaged in specially manufactured archival boxes, stored on appropriate shelving. This type of set up is ideal and very expensive and entirely out of the question for application in the home.

However it is possible to preserve and store precious documents in the home environment quite safely and at reasonable cost. Wherever documents are stored there are some basic principles that should be adhered to:

- 1 Documents store better flat than vertical.
- 2 Avoid storing folded documents – open them out and store them flat.
- 3 Don't use staples, paper clips or bull dog clips to hold documents – in time they rust and leave unsightly rust marks on the paper that are impossible to remove.
- 4 Stainless steel staples are available but expensive (about 2 cents each).
- 5 Stainless steel clips applied with a 'power clipper' or similar tool are ideal for holding documents.
- 6 Cardboard archival boxes are ideal storage for documents but take up a lot of space.
- 7 A cheaper alternative is for documents to be stored vertically in plastic (polypropylene) sleeves held in folders and the folder/s stored in a protective cardboard box. Delicate documents may have an appropriate support sheet within the sleeve to hold the document flat.
- 8 Documents that need to be handled regularly should be encapsulated in polypropylene sheeting (Melinex film).
- 9 Documents should not be laminated as the plastic sticks to the document and thus can never be removed intact.
- 10 Plastic sleeving other than polypropylene should be avoided as they give off fumes that may effect the document – eg discolour the paper, make ink fade, etc.
- 11 Steel storage cabinets or steel shelving is the most practical means for safekeeping boxes. However shelves should not be painted with other than baked enamel or powder type coating as paints give off vapours, and fumes from solvents, cause the same problems as detailed in 10 above.
- 12 Wooden storage cabinets are not ideal as again certain timbers (especially MDF, pyneboard, masonite, etc) and the varnishes or paints they are finished with give off fumes and lead to the same problems as 10 above.

All of the products you will need for home storage and preservation of documents may be obtained from Kmart or Office Works type stores at reasonable prices. Plastic sleeves from these stores are often labelled photocopy safe or similar and are quite adequate for home use.

If more professional (and expensive) products are preferred they may be obtained from:

Zetta Florence: PO Box 1173 Collingwood
Victoria 3065 phone 1300 555124
www.zettaflorence.com.au and a catalogue is available.

Conservation Resources: PO Box 210, Enmore
NSW 2042 phone 1300 132370
www.conservationresources.com.au

Albox Storage Solutions: 56 North Terrace, Kent
Town SA 5067 phone 1300 555717
www.albox.com.au

IAN PALMER

PRESERVATION

THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF THE RECORDS OF THE NEW
SOUTH WALES REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.
AREAS COVERED INCLUDE THE EARLY CHURCH RECORDS, THE INDEX, LATE
REGISTRATIONS, LEGITIMATIONS (RE-REGISTRATION OF A BIRTH OF AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD)
AND DECLARATIONS AND PAPERS.

Early Church Records

In 1788 the only birth, death or marriage records kept in the colony of New South Wales were registers maintained by the Churches when they performed a baptism, marriage or burial.

The first child baptised was William Tilley on board the *Lady Penryn* (Penrhyn) on 20 April, 1787. On Sunday 10 February, 1788, at the corner of Bligh and Hunter Streets, Sydney the Reverend Richard Johnson, Chaplain to the First Fleet, baptised three children: a daughter of Samuel Bacon, a marine and his wife Jane, and the sons of Catherine Prior

case of a birth, a minister, in the case of a marriage, or the owner of a house in which a death occurred to notify the District Registrar of the details so that the event could be registered.

In the early years of civil registration most events were registered following verbal advice from the informant. The widespread use of notification forms did not begin until after World War I (1918). District Registrars would then enter the details into bound registers and allocate the registration a unique number. In some registration districts numbers would run sequentially for the whole year, while in other districts a new number was begun each quarter.

A copy of the registration was made on a loose registration

Early Church Records

and Sarah Bellamy. There were also five weddings that day: the first was William Parr to Mary McCormack followed by Simon Burn to Francis Anderson, Henry Cable to Susannah Holmes, William Haynes to Hannah Green and William Bryant to Mary Braund. The first burial was that of James Bradley on board the *Alexander* on 3 February 1787. Reverend Johnson recorded these events and his successors continued to perform and record baptisms, burials and marriages.

Between 1825 and 1855, eight Acts of Parliament were passed in an attempt to regulate and improve the system of Church registration. Conditions in the colony were vastly different from those in Great Britain and distances from towns, distrust of authority and lack of participation in formal Church services meant that the Church registration system was unable to adequately record the details of all births, deaths and marriages which occurred in New South Wales.

Civil Registrations

On 1 March, 1856 'An Act for Registering Birth, Deaths and Marriages' came into effect. The Act established a number of District Registrars responsible for the compulsory registration of all births, deaths and marriages occurring in New South Wales. It was now the responsibility of a parent, in the

sheet and forwarded to the Sydney Registry at the end of March, June, September and December each year. The Sydney Registry consolidated these returns. They were bound with Sydney registrations first, followed by metropolitan districts and then the country districts in alphabetical order. The consolidated registers were then renumbered starting at one(1) and running through the whole year.

Marine Births and Deaths

The 1856 Act made provision for the registration of births and deaths which occurred at sea while en route to New South Wales. The registration of marine events included information such as the name of the ship, originating port and the longitude and latitude defining where the events took place. Marine births and deaths were originally bound into separate registers and each given a number beginning with an 'M'. This practice was amended later in the century as the number of births and deaths at sea declined.

Marine births from 1888 and marine deaths from 1894 were still registered on the separate registration sheets, but these were now bound with the ordinary returns at the end of each year and were allocated a registration number in sequence with other births or deaths.

Family Reunions



JOHN NICHOLS FAMILY SOCIETY REUNION

For the descendants of
First Fleeter John Nichols
and
His wife Ann (nee Pugh)

Are invited to attend a world-wide Reunion to be held

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2004

10.00am – 4.00pm

At
Norm Jordan Pavilion
Coffs Harbour Showground
Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour
ALL WELCOME

Information, old family photos, certificates etc will be on display as well as all other documentation which will be willingly shared. A photocopying service will be supplied. Admission is free and tea, coffee and light refreshments will be served throughout the day.

For details contact Reunion Co-Ordinator
Robyn M Condliffe
28 Sandpiper Crescent, Boambee East NSW 2452
Phone: (02) 6653 3615
Email: condliffe@smartchat.net.au

HIBBS REUNION

Descendants of First Fleet sailor Peter Hibbs (Sirius)
and Mary Pardoe (Lady Juliana 1790)

12 SEPTEMBER, 2004

Grounds of Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Spencer.
This year we can barbecue (BYO) so please bring salad for the smorgasbord table.

After lunch, those who wish can go to the Laughtondale Cemetery where Bern Cuthbertson, builder and sponsor of the Norfolk replica, will unveil a special plaque on Peter Hibbs' headstone.

Associated families include Byrnes, Webber, Woodbury, Cox, Izzard, Norman and many more.

For further information please phone
Betty Warne 4294 2735, Lindy Carrall 4937 4346
Roy Cox 4377 1128

2004 MEREDITH FAMILY GATHERING AND BOOK LAUNCH

12 SEPTEMBER, 2004

12.00pm – 4.00pm

Liverpool Library
Level 2
170 George Street
LIVERPOOL

I look forward to hearing from you – Pamela Sadler

Family Updates

DATABASE ENTRIES AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE

All information on past and present members and their First Fleet Ancestors has been added to our database and this information is now subject to audit. This will enable us to compile listings of Members for all First Fleeters. In addition Ian Palmer has developed a spread sheet whereby all documentation which has been received, such as Birth, Death and Marriage certificates, can now be recorded.

The Fellowship has purchased a computer package whereby Family Trees can be produced and recording has commenced. This is a long process.

With all these projects, assistance is needed to 'fast track' the programmes. If you can help, please contact Elaine Bennett on 9360 3788 (FFF office) or 9369 5929 (home). Don't be alarmed by the use of a computer as training will be provided.

FAMILY TREES - WE NEED YOUR FILES

As part of the continuous upgrading of our office procedures and information storage the Fellowship recently purchased Family Tree Maker II. This is the latest version of genealogy software that is available from Genealogy.com and is used for recording and displaying research information and compiling family trees.

The Fellowship has many valuable records on the families and descendants of our First Fleet ancestors that at the moment are stored in written form. To collate and sort these records then transfer them into Family Tree Maker is one of our present aims.

To ensure our database is as comprehensive and accurate as possible I am appealing to members who have their family records stored in similar programs to share their story with us and forward copies of their files, on disc or as an email attachment in gedcom form to the Fellowship so they may be included in our update. Our email address is fffaus@ol.com.au and our postal address is 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo NSW 2011.

Any information forwarded will of course be respected and only used for research and study purposes.

Ian Palmer may be contacted at First Fleet House on Mondays if you require further information.

book review

NASH: FIRST FLEETERS AND FOUNDING FAMILIES

By Carol Baxter

This family history tells the story of marine private William Nash and his wife Maria Haynes, not only their lives in the infant Colony, but those of their children and grandchildren through 29 detailed biographies.

This book is not only just a family history, and a social history, but is also a statement of the history of the beginnings of our nation.

Keith Johnson AM, a partner in the publishing company of the Library of Australian History, noted, in praising this publication, that it is a meritorious piece of scholarship with an elegant and eloquent style he added that it was one of the best manuscripts he had read.

A copy was presented to the President of the Fellowship at the unveiling of a memorial plaque to First Fleet matriarch Maria Haynes on 28th March last and is indeed a most valuable acquisition to the Library.

Carol Baxter, who is a descendant of these two First Fleeters is also a Fellow of the Society of Australian Genealogists, is to be congratulated for her efforts in producing this magnificent work.

Copies may be obtained from Carol Baxter, 10 Melaleuca Drive, St Ives NSW 2075. Cost is \$69.50 + Postage \$10.00.

PETER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(continued from page 1)

on your behalf, to spread the word re the First Fleet to Auburn Probus Club, Pennant Hills Uniting Church History Group, Kenthurst Probus, Castlereagh Street, Sydney Probus, Hurstville Probus, Goodwin Retirement Village at Woollahra and the Wyong District Family History Society. At Pennant Hills, member Trish Harvey, FF Ann Forbes, had unknowingly to myself organised the talk and at Wyong, I was greeted by quite a number of descendants of First Fleeters who could be talked into forming a Central Coast Chapter of the Fellowship!!

Just a note re the proposed 'Sacred Sites Walk' on Sunday 19th September next. We will meet at the steps to First Fleet Park in George St at 1.00pm, and will make our way via the Bonds of Friendship, the Sirius Anchor at Macquarie Place, to Governor Phillip's statue near the State Library and then walk down to First Fleet House for afternoon tea and refreshments. It does entail a bit of uphill walking, but some may like to join us at Circular Quay and make their own way to First Fleet House where

we will enjoy Fellowship!! Members: \$10.00. Visitors: \$15.00. Bookings with payment to First Fleet House by 10 September.

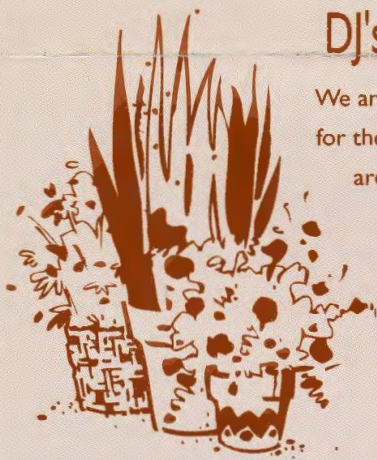
Again at the July Executive meeting we welcomed the 7074th member to the Fellowship since 1968. May I say that I have no fears for the future of our organisation!

Finally, I recently received a report from our South Coast Chapter, and at a gathering to celebrate the sailing of the First Fleet, President Jean concluded with these words during the toast: 'Despite the uncertainties and hardships, the majority of First Fleeters survived the harsh beginning. Little did they know that in generations to come, THEIR descendants would fill library research rooms, tracing THEIR footsteps and recording THEIR lives.' Well said Jean!!

Thank you once again to those who have written words of encouragement to me – it keeps me going!!!

In Fellowship

PETER



DJ's SPRING FLOWER DISPLAY TOUR

We are attempting to make a group booking with David Jones for their Morning Tea and Spring Flower Display Tour. Bookings are in great demand but are not open until mid August at which time we will apply.

If you are interested in attending if we manage to get a booking would you please ring First Fleet House on 9360 3788 to have your name placed on a waiting list to give us an indication as to how many would be interested.

At this stage all we know is that it will commence mid September but have not been able to obtain available dates or cost. We will advise all those interested when all information is to hand.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Australia Day Harbour Cruise booked for Wednesday 26 January 2005. Further details October Founders. Numbers limited, please advise Elaine Bennett 9360 3788 (Wednesdays) if interested.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the article authors and correspondents and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, nor the views of the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to omit any material considered unsuitable for publication. Space limitations may result in some material being held over to another issue. RON MAGUIRE, Hon. Editor

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Email: ffaus@ol.com.au Website: www.geocities.com/fellowship_of_first_fleeters