

# 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

Christmas and the New Year celebrations certainly came to an abrupt end with the news of an unprecedented universal calamity as we learnt of the Tsunami in South East Asia. We should all be proud of the way in which we, as Australians, responded!

I spoke to the members of Lodge Kiama, early in January. They, through their Worshipful Master, Stan Keough, also VP of the South Coast Chapter of the Fellowship, had organised a general meeting of interested Kiama citizens for this talk.

Some 145 people attended and I was thrilled that they donated the sum of \$500 to a Tsunami Appeal. My appreciation to Stan and his wife Elaine for their hospitality to me over two days.

Member Diane Peppun, FF Ed Whitton has sent the Fellowship a CD copy of the Whitton line down through Mary White and Richard Barnes. Our appreciation to Diane, who resides in California, for this valuable addition to our computer library.

Another member, Keith Finlay, FF Andrew Fishburn, has sent a photo of a newly released book of this First Fleet line through Finlay-Deamer Family 1788-2002. It seems quite a good presentation. Further details to Keith Vincent Finlay, 12/490 Binjara Road, Mandurah, WA 6210.

Director Jean Mortimer recently brought to my attention that a Memorial First Fleet Garden, the proposal of which appeared in *Founders* issue of January/February 2004, was to be opened this Australia Day by Dr M Cross, FF John Cross. The garden, designed by Ray Callus, FF John Cross, is situated at Wallabadah on the New England Highway some 55 kms south of Tamworth on the turn off to Quirindi. Members and friends are invited by Ray to visit the site if ever passing that way.

Mary Hope-Caten, FF Rope/Pulley, also

brought to my attention that the land in the St Marys area, where the old munitions factory was located, is now being developed as a housing estate. Whilst Mary had some concern for the wildlife fairly abundant in the area, I am sure that she and all members of the Anthony Rope and Elizabeth Pulley family would be pleased at the name of the new area Ropes Crossing.

Again, recently digging through the archives at FF House, I happened to unearth copies of some six letters written from August 1787 to July 1790 by First Fleeter Charles Cutts Ormsby. Our Librarian, Jean Mortimer, has placed them in a suitable folder and accessed them into the Fellowship Library. I have written a par on Ormsby which should appear in the next Newsletter.

I received a publication in December entitled *Ann Colpitts - First Fleet Convict Pioneer* written by descendant Tony Laffan. In his foreword, Tony states that it is a celebration of the life of Ann Colpitts ... an understatement ... it gives an insight into the lives during the early years of the colony of a number of First Fleeters. The book is available from Tony Laffan, 52a Reading Road Brighton le Sands 2216. The cost is \$12.00 cash in hand or \$15.00 to cover book, postage and handling.

Our Australia Day Festivities are reported elsewhere in this edition of *Founders* but it was a time of Fellowship on the two occasions we gathered. I must pay tribute on your behalf to not only those who participated, but to the dedicated few who laboured behind the scenes. Director Pamela Hempel did a magnificent job in organising the luncheon at Panthers, with able assistance of spouse William, our Secretary. The menu was mouth watering, the décor of the room would have been a delight to any First Fleeter. The lunch program was extremely well done, and for the first time there was a symbolic gesture

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# News of Members

## Membership Report

FOR PERIOD 28 NOVEMBER 2004 TO  
29 JANUARY 2005

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period, 22 adults and four juniors.

**PATRICK BYRNE/WILLIAM SMITH/ANN SMITH:** Graham William Howard.

**ANN FORBES:** Garnet Kay; Suzanne Michelle Harris; Harriet Kate McAtee (jun.), David James Harrison McAtee (jun.); Elizabeth Germani.

**HENRY HACKING:** Roberta McCullough; Muriel Nancy Paton; Leslie Arthur Harris; Charlotte Stephen; Elizabeth Ellen Graham; Ruth Muriel Schultz; Jennifer Lundie Jenkins; William James Moss.

**JOHN NICHOLS:** David Gilbert Cashmore-Brooke.

**SAMUEL PIGOTT:** Paul David Murphy

**JAMES SHEERS/MARY SMITH:** Edward John Hudson.

**JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER:** Zoe Summer Collis (jun.), Kiarna May Collis (jun.).

**WILLIAM STANDLEY:** Ruth Ann Lawson; Paul Andrew Stevens, Nicholas John Stevens, Timothy Frank Stevens.

**JAMES WILLIAMS:** Graham William Howard; Anne May Simmonds.

**JOSEPH WRIGHT:** Beryl Annette Curtis; Neville Ralph Watkins.

## Births

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

**STIRLING JAMES KABLE** (FF Henry Kable and Susannah Holmes), born 13 December 2004. Second son to Mark and Edwina Kable and brother to Henry. Eighth grandchild to Margaret and the late Geoffrey Kable (#494). Eighth generation.

### PICKETT LINES

Reunion of Descendants of

**SAMUEL PICKETT and MARY THOMPSON**

The Pitt Town Sports Club Auditorium

139 Old Pitt Town Road

**EASTER SATURDAY 26 MARCH 2005**

From 12.00 noon

Guest Speakers: Associate Professor R. Ian Jack, Department of History, University of Sydney, President of the Royal Australian Historical Society and Jan Barckley Jack

**EASTER SUNDAY 27 MARCH**

Easter Service, Historical St Matthews, Church of England, Windsor

Following this a BYO picnic lunch on the land originally granted to Samuel Pickett with kind permission of present owners.

Co-ordinator: Penny Ferguson, 79 Perry Drive, Chapman ACT 2611  
02 6288 6122 Mobile 0432 551 220 Email [fergcanb@alphalink.com.au](mailto:fergcanb@alphalink.com.au)

### CENTRAL COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY ALL DAY SEMINAR 21 MAY 2005

'Clowns, Criminals, Convicts and the French Connection'

Registration from 8.30am

Seminar commences 9.15am

to be held at

Gosford Lions Community Hall  
Rear Research Centre

8 Russell Drysdale Street, East Gosford

Cost \$33.00 pp includes Morning and Afternoon Tea and BBQ Lunch

Four speakers, including Peter Christian, cover the title subjects

For application forms and further information:

Phone: 02 4234 5164

PO Box 4090 East Gosford 2250

email: [info@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto:info@centralcoastfhs.org.au)

## Now is the time!

## A revival of the Daytime Auxiliary

The Daytime Fellowship has been in limbo for the past couple of years, especially since the deaths of Doug Oakes and Joyce Cowell, both extremely dedicated members. To revive this Auxiliary, a meeting at First Fleet House on the 10 March next at 1.30pm has been arranged. Your interest is invited! All welcome!

It will be up to the meeting, but possibly a program of three or four get-togethers each year, with a guest speaker, would engender some Fellowship for not only Sydney members but also visitor members.

## PLEASE NOTE!

The Fellowship of First Fleeters holiday scheduled for May 2005 has been cancelled because of insufficient numbers in booking. A new holiday for 2005 is being researched, but we will need participants when we arrive at a solution.  
Cheers, Phyllis and Bonney.



## EVERINGHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION DAY REUNION

for descendants of  
**Matthew James Everingham (First Fleet)**

&

**Elizabeth Rimes (Second Fleet)**

is to be held on

**SUNDAY, 13 MARCH 2005**

(214th anniversary of their wedding)

at

Dargle Picnic & Caravan Park (plenty of parking)

Commencing at 11.00am

Celebrations will also include the Bicentenary of Matthew & Elizabeth Everingham's daughter, Elizabeth, born 10 June 1805

Bring along memorabilia, old family photos, etc.

For further information please contact

EVERINGHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC

PO Box 1039, ASHFIELD 1800

or Anne O'Sullivan 02 9326 3290, Rhonda Pilkington 02 9716 8991

## Norfolk Island March 2005

The pilgrimage to Norfolk Island is a trip that lives with one forever, especially if you are a descendant of a First Fleeter that actually lived on the island.

I am a descendant of John and Hannah Barrisford who went to Norfolk and ended up being the second largest landholder at the time, settling in the Cascade Area. During the 2001 Fellowship visit when I was there, I pinpointed the area and actually had the unreal experience of walking on the land. The Island Administration Office was very helpful and put me into contact with the present owners.

On Saturday, 5th March, I shall make the trip again and I am looking forward to catching up with as many of you as possible. We shall have a wonderful trip! Those who have not been before, try to imagine as you are flying in and looking at the coastline what those settlers must have experienced in contrast to our relative luxury in the plane.

Bon Voyage!

Pamela Hempel

Public Relations, Fellowship of First Fleeters

## Australia Day Celebrations Regatta Centre Penrith

A number of Fellowship members set up a stall together with a small exhibition to show the flag, reminding everyone that it's our day to celebrate and remember.

The attendance was 30,000 plus, with the day finishing in fireworks at 9.00pm.

Guests to our stall included Hon Jackie Kelly JP, Ian 'Dicko' Dickson and Stephen Hunt (Matt from *Neighbours*).

A lot of fun was had in a small quiz to win an Advance Australia sticker if you got seven or more questions correct. No one passed, but they all got a sticker. But it did show one thing, most don't really know what it is all about. You would be surprised in how many answered James Cook.

Try your luck!

**Q1** When did the first Fleet arrive in Australia?

a. 1770      b. 1788      c. 1790

**Q2** How many ships sailed with the First Fleet?

a. 2      b. 10      c. 11

**Q3** Who was the first person to discover Sydney Cove?

a. James Cook  
b. Arthur Phillip  
c. Matthew Flinders

**Q4** Which way did they sail to their new homeland? Via?

a. Cape Horn      b. Suez Canal      c. Cape of Good Hope

**Q5** How many ships sailed into Sydney cove on 26 January 1788?

a. 1      b. 10      c. 11

**Q6** How many convicts sailed with the First Fleet?

a. all the people      b. some of the people      c. 732

**Q7** What port did the First Fleet call into first on their arrival in 1788?

a. Broken Bay      b. Botany Bay      c. Port Jackson

**Q8** What did the British call Australia before 1788?

a. Van Dieman's Land  
b. New Holland  
c. New South Wales

**Q9** What was their biggest problem after arriving in 1788?

a. Aborigines      b. lack of water      c. food shortage

**Q10** Who was the First Fleeter who discovered the Nepean River?

a. Blaxland, Lawson or Wentworth  
b. Watkin Tench  
c. Evan Nepean

**GEORGE GRIFFITHS (FF John Palmer)**  
Australia Day Promoter



# AUSTRALIA DAY 2005

## Australia Day Luncheon

**D**escendants of 43 First Fleeters were present at the Fellowship of First Fleeters Annual Luncheon held in the Glenleigh Room at Panthers in Penrith. The ancestors, I am sure, would have been most impressed with the celebration. People travelled from as far as Malaysia, ACT, country NSW and all parts of Sydney.

Jackie Greenow, the Honourable Mayor of Penrith, graced us with her presence, opening the event and expressing words relating to the First Fleeters. President Peter Christian as always delivered an enlightening presentation on Arthur Phillip. The three course alternate menu prepared by the banquet chefs received accolades.

A highlight of the Event was our guest speaker Geoff Stuart, the author and photographer of the magnificent book, *Secrets in Stone*, which is Geoff's view of Sydney. It is also a tribute to the people who built Sydney, as Sydney is not just a beautiful city, it is a great city, with a marvellous and intriguing past. It is also ours to take care of. Geoff offered a slide presentation that included the initials FM – Frederick Meredith, one of the first graffiti artists – on stone located on Garden Island. Guests fortunate to be present were able to purchase an autographed copy of *Secrets in Stone*. Geoff kindly presented the Fellowship with a signed copy of his book.

Nell Samson, a descendant of James Bloodworth and Sarah Bellamy, presented Peter Christian with a magnificent large print of *A Direct North View of Sydney Cove* by Thomas Watling (1762-1810) and three publications *Guests of the Governors – Aboriginal Residents of the First Government House*, *A Good Foundation – Reflections on the Heritage of Government House* and *Arthur Phillip Founding Australia* by Alan Frost, Second Foundation Day Lecture. Peter Meyer, descendant of Eleanor Redchester/Ellen Fraser and currently residing in Malaysia, made a presentation of *The Teacher From Snowy River* which is a story of Carl Meyer and his family touching on the First Fleeter.

Following the entertainment by the group *Tira-na-not* that had many of the guests sharing their vocal chords, we farewelled one another, departing with pleasant memories to last us 12 months, until we are reunited on Saturday, 21 January 2006.

PAMELA HEMPEL





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## AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE

All aboard for 120 First Fleeters and their friends and families on 26th January for our Harbour Cruise. The Fellowship of First Fleeters chartered the ferry 'Fiesta', which sailed from Birkenhead Point down the river to the Harbour. There we joined a vast armada of sailing ships, pleasure boats, ferries and runabouts, to follow the annual Ferry Race, amid many cheers and whistles and greetings from one boat to another. Then onto sailing round the harbour, under the harbour bridge and into Darling Harbour to join the procession of decorated craft. We then sailed back down the harbour, and watched the Air Force flyover and helicopter rescue displays.

It was a day of great fun and fellowship aboard 'Fiesta', the weather was magnificent, and there was great pride among First Fleeters for their ancestors, who started with so little and created so much. Many thanks to all who attended.

PAM QUICK







## STOP PRESS

### Grand Annual Raffle

In the September/October edition of *Founders*, a pink form was enclosed which had the price for tickets in the Grand Annual Raffle.

Raffle tickets were enclosed in the November/December *Founders*, but the price for tickets did not appear in this edition. Apologies are expressed.

Due to this happening and in fairness to all members who wanted to have a great opportunity to win one of the Grand Prizes, the draw will now take place on Saturday 19 March 2005.

If you would like extra tickets, they are \$2.00 each, three for \$5.00, eight for \$10.00 and 18 for \$20.00.

Please contact First Fleet House:

Phone 02 9360 3788 Fax: 02 9360 3988

email: fffaus@ol.com.au

Arrangements will be made to forward them to you ASAP.

**GOOD LUCK!!**

## North West Chapter

The North West Chapter of the First Fleeters got away to an early start by attending an Australia Day Church Service at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre, where President Aussie Pratt participated in the bible readings. This was followed by a bush breakfast. After breakfast the First Fleeters assisted with running of the Citizenship Ceremony and Citizen of the Year Awards.

Then there was a quick dash by all out to the little town of Wallabadah to participate in the opening ceremony of the First Fleet Memorial Park. This park was the inspiration (and much hard work) of Ray Collins and was officially opened by Dr Merv Cross OAM. Both Ray and Merv are descendants of FF John Cross. The North West Chapter presented Liverpool Plains Mayor, Ian Lobsey, with a framed copy of the First Fleet Roll.

After the park was officially opened we were all entertained by Ray's nephew Travis Collins and his band. Travis had been a finalist in an entertainers award during Country Music week at Tamworth. Quite a few of the spectators at Wallabadah expressed an interest in the First Fleeters so we may well have recruited some new members.

A long but wonderful day.

### AUSSIE PRATT



Photos by Warren White

1 President of the North West Chapter of the FFF, Mr Aussie Pratt, presenting a chart to the Mayor of Liverpool Plains Council, Cnclr Ian Lobsey, showing the names of all the 1,030 people who arrived on the First Fleet.

2 FFWarrenWhite points to the name of one of his ancestors, Anthony Rope who arrived on the Alexander.

3 FFF members, Beryl & Robert Beynon, visitor, Daisy Holley, Annette Miller, Anne Ware, Colin and Pat Worrad, all descendants of FFs Matthew Everingham and John Nicholls who arrived on the Charlotte.

4 Betty-Anne & Warren White and Marie Kilday, descendants of FF Elizabeth Pulley showing her name as being one of the convicts who arrived the Friendship".

5 Mr Ray Collins and Dr M Cross (3rd and 5th from right), together with people of FF ancestry at the unveiling ceremony of a plaque commemorating the opening of the First Fleet Memorial Park.

6 View of the new park.



# from the chapters

## Northern Rivers Chapter

Northern Rivers Chapter held their AGM in Lismore and had our usual sausage sizzle for lunch. Sweets consisted of lamingtons and damper with cookies joy of course. We are fortunate to have our meetings at Pat Eyeington's home which means we can store our archives, chairs, BBQ etc.

We started our meeting with a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem sung with 'great gusto' to quote one of our group.

We now have a new President, Betty Harriman (FF William Roberts) and the rest of the executive remains the same.

We have sent a donation to First Fleet House to assist with the running costs. We also donated to our local Westpac Helicopter in the hope none of us will ever need it.

MARGARET SOWARD

## North Coast Chapter

The North Coast Chapter once again celebrated Australia Day with the Bellingen Shire, this time at the Earl Preston Reserve, Gleniffer. A most beautiful venue near the 'Promised Land'. The Chapter set up a display in the Hall, with the assistance of Ron and Pal Benjamin, Cathie Mackay, Mary and Jim Kell, Colin and Patricia Robertson, Robyn and Tony Condliffe and Shire Mayor and Chapter Member, Mark Troy. Mary Kell gave a great rendition of the Poem *Our Flag* and Robyn Condliffe presented a 10 minute talk on *How the First Fleet came into being, the voyage and the first days of settlement*.

ROBYN MÉLISE CONDLIFFE  
Secretary

## South Coast Chapter

Members of the South Coast Chapter enjoyed a Christmas luncheon held in the Function Room at Shoalhaven Heads Bowling Club on Saturday, 4 December 2004. We welcomed FFF members Ron Player, Bill and Marylyn Broughton and Keith Johnston from the Frederick Meredith Family Association.



The day was complete with the Loyal Toast and a toast to Our First Fleet Ancestors followed by the National Anthem, with music played by pianist Elaine Keough. Lucky program prizes proved to be popular as was a raffle for two watches. A great time was enjoyed by all as we reflected on past events of the SCC. We had time for a few photos with our much loved banner before we bid some farewells until the New Year.

The first event for 2005 was an invitation from SCC Vice-President Stan Keough to attend the 13 Jan Australia Day Celebration of Kiama Masonic Lodge. Peter Christian was guest speaker to 140 people, and as usual presented our First Fleet history in a most professional way. Members of various groups and organisations from the Kiama districts were present. Eight First Fleet descendants made themselves known to us during the night, which ended with a sit-down supper.

JEAN MORTIMER  
SCC President  
Phone 02 4257 5575

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(continued from page 1)

of Reconciliation when the event was recognised as taking place on the traditional country of the original inhabitants of this land.

This is now becoming the norm and we follow the example set by our Governor-General, all State Governors, our Prime Minister and all Premiers of the States.

The ferry trip on Australia Day was an outstanding success ... over 100 members and friends spent some five hours following the events on our beautiful harbour on a day which twinned with that day in 1788.

To Pam Quick, Elaine Bennett, Neville Usher and Lois Cook our thanks for the organisation.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to two behind the scenes volunteers, Bonnie Saville and Phyllis Selby. Both members took on the responsibility of not only co-ordinating the lists but unravelling the numerous cheques for the events – as it happened, both were priced at \$45.00!

At the first meeting of the Executive held 29 January last, we welcomed John Haxton as a Director. John, who resides at Wyong, has been helping Treasurer Roy Morris for the past year in his endeavours. We look forward to John's input to the Executive in future years.

In Fellowship  
PETER



# The Day We Celebrate

## A TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR PHILLIP

It was the 26th January 1788, a Saturday, a temperature of 70 degrees F, a slight sou, sou east breeze and it was on this day that the destinies of Cook, Phillip, Britain and Australia were indeed brought into close association.

On the previous day, in the afternoon, Phillip had brought *Supply* to anchor in Sydney cove, with orders to Capt John Hunter to follow with the 10 remaining ships of the First Fleet on the following day. Thea Stanley Hughes, in her book *Arthur Phillip*, delves into the mind of the founder of our Nation and she writes:

'Now there was a slight pause – one night – between the sense of urgency about getting the fleet to its destination, and the new sense of urgency about the fulfilling of his destiny.'

Alan Searle wrote of Phillip in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*:

'... steadfast in mind, modest without self-seeking, Phillip had imagination enough to conceive what the settlement might become, and the commonsense to realise what at the moment was possible and expedient. When almost everyone was complaining, he never, himself complained, when all feared disaster he could still hopefully go on with his work. He was sent out to found a convict settlement, he laid the foundations of a great dominion.'

We are told that the Governor was a slight, dark complexioned man of below medium height, quick in manner, self-controlled and courageous. He was multilingual, speaking Portuguese, Spanish, French and German. He had seen action against France during the Seven Years War, he had spent some two years with the Portuguese Navy helping them in Brazil in the Colonial War between Spain and Portugal. And also we are told that he transported a shipload of convicts from Lisbon to the Portuguese colony of Brazil.

Sally Ann Atkinson, a former Lord Mayor of Brisbane in a speech in honour of Arthur Phillip delivered at the Parish Church of St Mary le Bow in London, had some pertinent things to say.

She commenced by posing the question ... 'So why don't we know more about Phillip ... why isn't he a national hero?'

One of her reasons was that he founded a convict colony and we do not wish to be reminded of that.

Personally I would give her two out of ten for that answer. The stain of having a convict in the Family Tree was a decided minus until the 1950s.

And having dusted skeletons out of the cupboard we found that they weren't too bad at all. BUT there are some politically correct people within our community who seem extremely eager to denigrate the whole concept of European settlement of our land. The Fellowship came up against that problem in 1988 and these so called PC pseudo intellectuals are unfortunately still around, albeit a noisy minority!!!

Back to Sally Ann. Reason No 2 and, as Sally says, was especially evident in our Bicentennial Year, that Phillip's landing displaced the original inhabitants, the Aborigines. For some Australians, it was not a cause for celebration.

Five out of ten for that one.

My reply to this would have been, that during the 18th century it would have been inevitable that one of about four nations would have colonised this land. France, Holland, Spain had been fairly active in the Pacific area, and one may be forgiven in declaring that it was fortuitous to the original inhabitants of our nation that it was the British who arrived first!!

We may well ask, together with the descendants of the displaced people, many by the way have both a black and white heritage, who should take the blame? Maybe that is for future generations to work that question out.

Reason No 3. Sally Ann goes on to say that it should not be ignored that it was a historical fact that the coming of the British in 1788 led to the change and destruction of Aboriginal life.

Eight out of ten for that reason.

The First Fleeters did bring the diseases, the alcohol and more importantly an alien culture.

Regardless of this Phillip was a man of his time, and for his times he was thoughtful and sensitive.

His observations of slavery in the Portuguese colonies had instilled within him an abhorrence of the ill treatment of native peoples.

Later events have shown that there was much to answer for in respect to the authorities in the treatment of Aborigines. But ... this is the way modern Australia was founded and I think that we should all recognise the fact that it was founded on man's inhumanity to man.

On arrival it was recorded that Arthur Phillip stated that ... In this new country there will be no slavery hence, no slaves.

And ten out of ten for Sally Atkinson's last sentence:

'Phillip has never seemed a hero. He didn't look like one and he didn't behave like one. And yet for us, he was the right man in the right place.'

If it were not for him the Colony would not have lasted.

His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him, that nature might stand up and say to the world:

This was a man.

*Advance Australia Fair  
To the Day We Celebrate.*



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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