



# 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

**F**riday, 13 May was the 218th anniversary of the First Fleet sailing from Portsmouth. It is indeed gratifying to know that there were at least three organised events to celebrate this occasion. Our own South Coast Chapter held a luncheon at Kiama, well-organised and well-attended, to mark this event. Congratulations to Jean Mortimer and her executive for their efforts.

The Sydney/Portsmouth Sister City committee organised a cocktail party at the Town Hall with Brian Fletcher as guest speaker. Brian is well known to us within the Fellowship. This was attended by a number of our executive members. As a member of this committee I should have been present ... BUT. The Friends of the First Government House Site held their annual Memorial Lecture at History House, where, for my sins, I was the guest speaker. St. Thomas Cathedral in Portsmouth always hold a special service on this date. It would be a fine gesture for Sydney to also hold a Memorial Evensong in the future. How about at St. Phillips, Church Hill in 2006?

The Fellowship has resumed daytime meetings with guest speakers this year. On Wednesday, 25 May we welcomed the vice-president of the Friends of First Government House, Dawn Moss, who treated those fortunate enough to be present to a most interesting talk. Thanks to Pam, Jean, Leonie and Bonney for the preparation of a scrumptious lunch. Dawn was still being bombarded with questions during lunch!

The next proposed Fellowship weekday gathering will be our Soup and Damper Day to be held on 27 July. In past years there has been a full house to this event. This year we are restricting it to 45 members. Rosemary Annable

will be the guest speaker. Rosemary is a co-life trustee, with me, of St James Church, King Street Sydney. Please mark this event in your diary and ring FF House to reserve your booking NOW. Lunch is provided, cost \$5.00.

On Wednesday, 14 September our daytime meeting will have Tony Laffan, the author of the book Ann Colpitts, First Fleet Convict Pioneer, as our guest speaker. Please also note this in your diary.

**HISTORY WEEK COMMENCES  
ON 19 SEPTEMBER ... DURING  
HISTORY WEEK, FFF HOUSE WILL  
BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.'**

History Week commences on 19 September and the Fellowship has launched into a new exercise. Last year we did a tour of First Fleet sites in the Circular Quay area of our city on the Sunday, which proved extremely popular. This year on Sunday 25 September we hope to be able to provide another walk for members to finish at FF House for wine, cheese and bickies. Before proceeding to FF House we will stop at the Arthur Phillip Memorial in the Gardens and also at Matthew Flinders statue in Macquarie Street. Cost to members will be \$10.00, non members \$15.00.

During History Week, FF House will be open to the public.

On 14 December members are invited to a Christmas Party at FF House. Surprises all round! We have even opened bookings now for his event. Our outside courtyard, which is certainly looking good, has been enhanced by potted ferns, courtesy of Leonie.

Good news re the next Commonwealth census. It has been announced that they will, if the respondent assents, be kept in storage for 99 years and not be shredded. Congratulations to member Stephen Mutch, a former Federal MP and Nick Vine Hall for their efforts in this regard.

*(continued on page 3)*

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# News of Members

## Membership Report

FOR PERIOD 20 MARCH TO 28 MAY 2005

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period, nine adults, one associate spouse and three junior members.

JAMES BRYAN CULLEN: William Jonathan Fearon.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS/MARY GROVES: Jade Owens (jun.), Clay Lloyd Owens (jun.).

ANN FORBES: Ronald Frederick Haspell.

NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE: Jennifer Margaret Jelley.

WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES: Judith Beatrice Maley.

JOHN NICHOLS: John Raymond Kirkby.

JOHN RYAN: Raymond Henry Griffiths, Muriel Eva Griffiths (associate spouse).

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER: Glenda Evelyn Montgomery.

WILLIAM STANDLEY: Valentine Sheila Littler.

DANIEL STANFIELD/ALICE HARMSWORTH: Briarna Krista Bourke (jun.).

WILLIAM TUNKS: Patricia Marion Boaretto.

## Births

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

DECLAN THOMAS MINEHAN (FF William Roberts), born 26 May 2005 at St George Private Hospital, second son to Michael and Antoinette and baby brother to Liam Connor (#6889) and grandson to John (6701) and Judy, their fifth grandchild. Eighth generation.

INDIA JOY RAFTER (FF Mary Williams), 24 May 2005, Selengor Hospital, Nambour Qld, daughter to Patrick and Lara Rafter, sister to Joshua and granddaughter to Mary-Joy Payten (#1135). Seventh generation.

## Death

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

SYD BALLARD passed away 24 May 2005, aged 104. On 9 April 2002 Syd was presented with Life Membership of the Fellowship. He had a long and active association with Northern Rivers Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters. Descendant of First Fleeter John Nicholls.

## Contact Corner

The following First Fleeter members wish to contact other members and friends from the same descendant.

**FORBES, ROBERT FORRESTER,  
EDWARD MILES**

Immie Medlyn, 14 Nooal St Newport 2106,  
Phone 9940 0664, Email [immie@tpg.com.au](mailto:immie@tpg.com.au)

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**JAMES BRADLEY, JAMES McMANUS,  
JANE POOLE**

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Orange 2800, Phone 6365 8234  
Email [chrisdwyer@hotmail.net.au](mailto:chrisdwyer@hotmail.net.au)

**ANN MARTIN**

Faye Smith, 29 Clarke St Bowral 2576,  
Phone 4861 3474, Email [smithy@hinet.net.au](mailto:smithy@hinet.net.au)

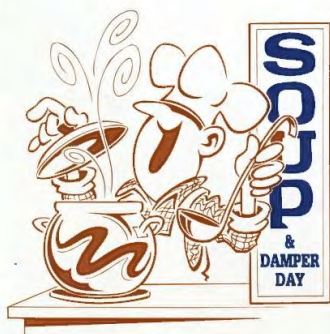


**Closing date for  
copy and pictures  
July/August issue  
28 July 2005**

**OFFICE HOURS  
10.00am to 3.00pm  
Monday to Friday**



# what's *on*



## FFF Daytime Auxiliary Program of Proposed Meetings

**27 JULY**

Soup and Damper Day

Speaker: Rosemary Annable, a former Chair of the RAHS and Archivist and Fellow Trustee of St James Church, King Street.

**14 SEPTEMBER**

Speaker: Mr Tony Laffan (FF Ann Colpitts) will talk on his book about Ann and several others.

**14 DECEMBER**

Christmas Party – should be good – a few surprises for those attending.

Meetings to commence at 10.45am.  
Donation \$5.00.

## Peter Hibbs and Mary Pardoe Reunion

There will be a reunion for descendants of First Fleet Sailor Peter Hibbs and Mary Pardoe (Lady Juliana Second Fleet 1790).

The venue will be the grounds of  
**Holy Trinity Church, Spencer**  
**11 SEPTEMBER 2005**  
**FROM 9.30am**

Holy Trinity is three kilometres from Spencer on the Wisemans Ferry Road.

Coffee, tea and hot water will be provided,  
BYO lunch and folding chairs.

Associated Family Names include:  
Byrne, Cox, Webber, Kelly, Norman and  
many more.

For further details contact:  
Betty Warn 4294 2735, Roy Cox 4377 1128,  
Elaine Young 9874 6272

## The Ormsby Letters

Charles Cutts Ormsby {1796-1810} arrived in the Colony on *Sirius* as a midshipman.

Mollie Gillen in her book *The Founders of Australia* gives a description of him by Joseph Nagle as a young, arrogant midshipman who treated the seamen with unwarranted severity. We are told that Captain John Hunter had warned Ormsby against mistreating his shipmates. After spending some time on Norfolk Island, this First Fleeter departed the Colony on *Waaksambeid* in March 1791.

He wrote three letters to his father in 1787/9 and copies of these have turned up in the Archives of the Fellowship. They are of intense interest and one gives a description of the wreck of *Sirius* at Norfolk Island.

It is said that this young man was disturbed with a personality problem!

Records show that he never married, nor left any descendants.

The copies of these letters are a valuable addition to the Fellowship Library.

**PETER**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*(continued from page 1)*

Since the early 1990s member David Pike has prepared the layout for our newsletter and prepared it for printing. At times he has also acted as editor. He has intimated to the executive that he will be retiring from this position after this issue. At the last Executive Meeting the directors put on record appreciation to David for his wonderful help over the years and wished him well in his retirement.

I've had a number of speaking engagements during April/May. These include Turrumurra National Seniors, Castle Hill Probus, Epping National Seniors, Sylvania Womens

Probus, Drummoyne National Seniors and I took part in the Central Coast Family History Groups Seminar at Gosford.

I would like to record appreciation to Jim Donohoe, Nick Vine Hall and Nell Sansom for their individual generosity in donating material to FF House. I shall enlarge upon this in the next issue as details are at the moment locked in my old computer, and I am having trouble in accessing them.

A timely reminder: subscription forms for 2005-2006 are enclosed in this issue of Founders.

In Fellowship  
**PETER**



t h e

# story tellers ...

We are the chosen.

My feelings are in each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors.

To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve.

To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before.

We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one.

We have been called, as it were, by our genes.

Those who have gone before cry out to us: 'Tell our story'. So, we do.

In finding them, we somehow find ourselves.

How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count.

How many times have I told the ancestors, 'You have a wonderful family, you would be proud of us?'

How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts.

It goes to who am I and why do I do the things I do?

It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying I can't let this happen.

The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh

It goes to doing something about it.

It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish.

How they contributed to what we are today.

It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family.

It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep us a Nation.

It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us.

That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them. So we do.

With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are them and they are us.

So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation, to answer the call and take their place in the long line of family storytellers.

That, is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and put flesh on the bones.



AUTHOR: UNKNOWN



I was interested in learning recently that First Fleeter Jacob Nagle was buried in Ohio in America. As I was planning to attend a wedding in Ohio, I thought that it might be interesting to find out a little about Jacob's background – how it was that he became involved with the First Fleet and finally how his life ended in Ohio. Also, if it turned out that he had a grave there with a stone, I thought it would be appropriate to take a photo and that perhaps sometime in the future a plaque might be mounted in a similar fashion to those First Fleeters buried here in Australia.

My first port of call of course was to consult the *The Founders of Australia* by Mollie Gillen to see what was written about him there. It turned out that Jacob had a page and a half devoted to his story that made him an even more interesting character. Basically, Jacob had been involved briefly in the American Revolution on land and then joined the American Navy. After being a prisoner of both the British and the French, he joined the British navy



likely have the information. In early April this year, I had a reply from Lauren Landis, Manager of the Genealogy Division of Stark County District Library in Canton, Ohio. She was most helpful and actually did some further research into Jacob Nagle for me. Unfortunately, there is no known grave of Jacob Nagle but according to Lauren,

# FIRST FLEETER Jacob Nagle

and in 1787 voluntarily joined the crew of *Sirius* as an able seaman. According to Mollie Gillen he was 'one of more than a dozen North Americans known to have sailed with the First Fleet'. He spent some time in Port Jackson, Broken Bay and Norfolk Island before returning to Portsmouth in 1792 where he was 'paid off'. He then spent a number of years on various ships and in a number of places until finally returning to America where he spent his last years in Canton in Ohio, where he died in 1841. Mollie Gillen noted that *The Nagle Journal* which he had kept between the years 1775 to 1841 supplied much of the article's information and is now located at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. For more information than my brief summary, please see *The Founders of Australia* pages 260-261.

The story about Jacob Nagle in *The Founders of Australia* however, did not mention anything about his grave, just the location of Canton, Ohio. My next step was to contact the City Library in Canton to see what information they had about Jacob Nagle and his grave. It occurred to me that a Revolution veteran's grave would surely be marked and that the local library would most

at the time of his burial there would have only been one cemetery in Canton. That cemetery has now become part of a small city park and no longer used as a cemetery. In fact there is only one gravestone remaining and it is not Jacob's. Lauren is quite certain that he would have been buried in that cemetery at the time. Lauren also supplied me with further details of his war service during the Revolution including the fact that his father was Col George Nagle and that he had no known family at his death in 1841. She also referred to a book titled *Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Stark County, Ohio* which provided details of his war service.

Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity last month to visit Canton, Ohio but hopefully some day in the future I or another Fellowship member may be able to visit the city. Perhaps also some day a plaque might be placed in that park noting the connection and contributions of First Fleeter Jacob Nagle to both the Founding of Australia and the Founding of the American Nation.

WILLIAM HEMPEL





and 12 months later he was placed on half pay. He returned to Scotland and for the next few years lived a farmer's life at Oakamull, on Mull, with his mother Margaret, his sister Betty and her husband Farquhar McLean, and his two brothers Donald and Charles.

### INDIA (1787-1801)

In 1787 Macquarie took up a commission as a lieutenant in the 77th Regiment and began a long association with India. He saw much active service in the subcontinent, especially in the south, where he was present at the sieges of Cannanore (1790) and Seringapatam (1791), at Cochin (1795), the capture of Colombo and Point de Galle (1796), the Battle of Seedaseer, and at the second siege of Seringapatam (1799).

On 28 September 1793 he married Jane Jarvis, who was the youngest daughter of Thomas Jarvis, Chief Justice and Member of Council of the Island of Antigua. Unfortunately, their marriage was brief and childless – she died of tuberculosis at Macao, in China, on 15 July 1796. He brought her body back to India and she was buried at Bombay on 16 January 1797.

# Lachlan Macquarie

## 1761-1824

**L**achlan Macquarie was born on the island of Ulva in the Inner Hebrides, Scotland on 31 January 1761. His father, Lachlan Macquarie, was a cousin of the sixteenth and last chieftain of the clan MacQuarrie. He was a carpenter by trade who lived and worked as a sub-tenant on the southwestern side of Ulva, near Ormaig.

At some time c.1772 Lachlan Macquarie Snr moved his wife and family from Ulva to Mull, where he leased 75 acres from the Duke of Argyll at Oskamull (near the Laggan ferry-berth beside the Sound of Ulva). He died of 'pleuritic fever' c.1785. Macquarie's mother, Margaret, nee Maclaine (1728-1810), was the only sister of Murdoch Maclaine, chieftain of Lochhuie in Mull. She bore her husband at least seven children – six sons, of whom four survived: Donald (1750-1800), Lachlan (1761-1824), Charles (1771-1835), and Hector (d.1778) – and a daughter, Elizabeth.

There are few details of Lachlan's early years and education – though his uncle, Murdoch Maclaine, met the cost of his education. In 1776, at the age of 15, he joined the British Army as a volunteer.

### MILITARY SERVICE (1777-1809)

#### AMERICA (1777-1783)

In 1777 he obtained an ensigncy in the 2nd battalion of the 84th Regiment, known as the Royal Highland Emigrants, and served in Canada at Halifax and other parts of Nova Scotia. He was commissioned a lieutenant in the 71st Regiment in January 1781 and performed garrison duty in New York and Charleston at the closing stages of the American War of Independence. In June 1783 he was transferred to Jamaica

### EGYPT (1801-1802)

In March 1801, while military secretary to Jonathon Duncan, Governor of Bombay, Macquarie was appointed deputy-adjutant-general to the 8000-strong army, under the command of Major-General David Baird that was sent to Egypt to expel the French. The Indian army was landed on the Red Sea coast at Cosseir and from here marched across 140 miles of desert to reach Keneh. From here the troops sailed down on the Nile to Cairo before finally reaching Alexandria in September 1801. Here Macquarie was able to meet up with his brother Charles, whom he had not seen since 1788. They were able to spend several weeks together and to discuss future plans for purchasing land on the Isle of Mull. Charles had received a severe head wound at the Battle of Aboukir on 8 March 1801 and was eventually forced to retire from the army in May 1811. He suffered pain and giddiness more or less continuously for the rest of his life.

On 11 February 1802 Lachlan discovered that he had been appointed as from 15 January 1801 to an effective majority in the 86th Regiment.

### BRITAIN (1803-1804)

Macquarie returned to England in 1803 to attend to financial matters and to enjoy the social whirl of London after so many years abroad. He was presented to the King and Queen (on two occasions), dined with members of the royal family and peerage, attended balls and the theatre, had his portrait painted by noted Cornish artist John Opie, and finally, after 12 months, travelled to Scotland to visit family and friends.



### INDIA (1805-1807)

On 25 April 1805 he sailed for India where he was promoted to lieutenant colonel of the 73rd Regiment. After serving in northern India until 1806 he undertook to return to Britain carrying government despatches. After sailing from Bombay to the Persian Gulf, where he narrowly escaped drowning, he then travelled overland to London via Baghdad, Moscow and St Petersburg.

### BRITAIN (1807-1809)

However the real reason for his return was to marry his distant cousin Elizabeth Henrietta Campbell, of Airds whom he had met in 1804. He had proposed to her in March 1805 but asked her to keep their engagement secret and wait until his return from India. She had become impatient with his seeming delay, particularly when it became apparent that his tour of duty would be for four years. They married on 3 November 1807. The bride was 29, and the groom 46. She bore him a daughter, Jane, on 15 September 1808, but unfortunately the child died on 5 December, the same year.

### NEW SOUTH WALES (1810-1821)

In April 1809 Macquarie was appointed Governor of New South Wales, designated to replace William Bligh whose governorship had been wracked with controversy. Macquarie and his wife sailed with the 73rd Regiment from Portsmouth in the store ship *Dromedary* and escorted by HMS *Hindostan* on 22 May 1809, and they arrived at Port Jackson on 28 December. He took up his commission as governor on 1 January 1810.

From the outset, Macquarie saw the colony as a settled community as well as a penal settlement. However, his term of office also coincided with an increase in the number of convicts sent to the colony. His solution was to commence an ambitious programme of public works (new buildings, towns, roads) to help absorb these numbers. He also extended the practice of ticket-of-leave for convicts.

This policy of encouraging convicts and former convicts (emancipists) brought him into conflict with an influential, conservative, section of the local society. This group, known as the 'exclusives', sought to restrict civil rights and judicial privileges to itself. Many of these free settlers also had influential friends in English political circles.

Frustration and recurring bouts of illness led him to submit his resignation on several occasions. A serious illness in 1819 almost proved fatal, and the pressures of a commission of inquiry into the state of the colony, headed by J T Bigge, reinforced his desire to end his term of office and return home to defend the charges made against his administration. Finally at the end of 1820 he learnt that his third application for resignation had been accepted. However, it was not until 12 February 1822 that he and his wife and son departed for England. (On 28 March 1814, after six miscarriages, Elizabeth had given birth to a son named Lachlan).



### BRITAIN AND EUROPE (1822-1823)

In 1822-23, worried about Elizabeth's health, he took her and Lachlan, with servants and a tutor, Robert Meiklejohn, on a grand tour through France, Italy and Switzerland.

### SCOTLAND (1824)

Finally, in January 1824 Macquarie returned to his Jarvisfield estate on Mull. However, a number of matters still remained to be resolved with the government and in April 1824 he went to London to secure the pension that he had been promised. Unfortunately, while he was there he suffered an attack of strangury – a severe inflammation of the kidneys, bladder and urinary tract. Elizabeth hurried down from Mull, with Lachlan Jnr, in time to see him before he died at 49 Duke Street, St James, on 1 July 1824.

*Reprinted from North Coast Chapter Newsletter*

## London Letter Update

Mrs Dawn Muirhead of 61 Merton Hall Road, London, had a slight error in the piece about Admiral Smith in the September/October *Founders*. She has written a correction plus an interesting explanation of the cause of the error. She writes the following:

'I was so delighted to receive a copy of *Founders* with letter about Admiral Smith. Mrs Jenny Miller sent me her copy but not before I had had a letter from Mrs Beryl Lewis! I have replied to them both.

I know you have a shortage of space but I feel I made a bit of a bloomer over saying Admiral Smith's wife died in childbirth, it was actually his

niece but due to the growth of buddleia over the plaque at the back of the tombs I missed a couple of lines. Before I am deluged with people putting me right I wonder if you could just print an apology for me?

I thought you would be interested to know we have had two grants from trusts who help with tombs, so have raised a quarter of the money so far, in fact nearly a third. The work is supposed to be starting this month but I'll believe it when I see it.

I thought you had done the letter beautifully and I am extremely grateful. Would you like me to send updates and even a photo now and again.'



# from the chapters

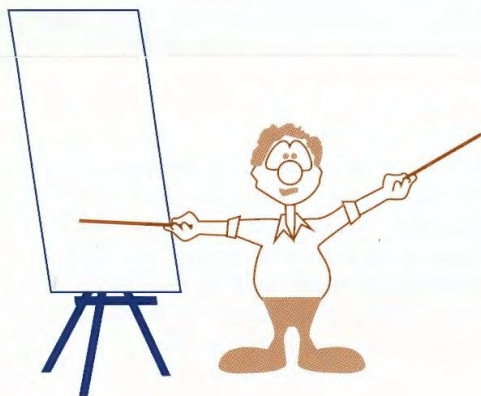
## South Coast Chapter

SCC Members held a luncheon recently in honour of those who sailed on the First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13 May 1787. We were delighted to host FFF directors Pamela and William Hempel who presented the SCC with a framed photo of a plaque on the original wall at Portsmouth England 'Birth of Australia'.

Guest Speaker, historian Ray Thorburn of Kiama Family History Centre, presented an informative and somewhat emotional talk on Hobbies, History and Humanity. His wife Enid was warmly welcomed as well.

### **TUESDAY 7 JUNE MEETING: 10AM-1PM**

Guest Speaker: Trish Skehan Public Relations Officer of Concord Historical Society. Trish will tell of the 'Canada Bay Exiles'. It is compelling history.



### **TUESDAY 5 JULY MEETING: 10AM-1PM**

Winter Warm Day: A special lunch of two hot dishes, followed by plum pudding and warm custard. Tables will be set up but members must each bring two bowls and two spoons. Please bring something old of interest to display and tell.

### **TUESDAY, 2 AUGUST MEETING: 10AM-1PM**

AGM and cutting of the SCC Fourth Birthday Cake.

Guest Speaker: Dr Graham Tucker PhD MA. Graham will speak about Australian novelist and radio commentator Charmian Clift.

### **TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER MEETING:**

**10AM-12NOON**

Guest Speaker: Maurie Pickens, Kiama and Districts Historical Society. Maurie will present 'When, Why and How a Plane Crash'. The history of this event is from his own experience. The newspaper editorials will be displayed.

### **TUESDAY, 4 OCTOBER MEETING: 10AM-1PM**

Guest Speaker: Marilyn Rowan, Transcription Agent of Marbract Services. Marilyn will enrich members with stories and information from BMD certificates.

### **TUESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER MEETING:**

**10AM-12NOON**

Speakers: Various South Coast Chapter members. The topic: 'Convict Stories'.

### **SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

**12NOON FOR 12.30PM START**

Venue: Shoalhaven Heads Bowling Club Function Room. Bookings from 4 October.

All FFF members are welcome to attend our meetings and events.

Meetings are held at The Old Court House, corner Cliff Road and Harbour Street, Woollongong.

For further information please visit our web site [www.geocities.com/ffleet\\_southcoast](http://www.geocities.com/ffleet_southcoast) or contact, president Jean Mortimer 02 4257 5575 or vice-president Stan Keough 02 4232 1060.

## Northern Rivers Chapter

### **SECRETARY'S CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS**

Mrs Margaret Soward  
43 Temple Street  
Ballina 2478

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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