

Founders

Newsletter of Fellowship of First Fleeters



President's Report

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Days to Remember

• FRIDAY 12 MAY

6pm - Reception at
Town Hall

• WED 17 MAY

James Donohue, Daytime
Fellowship

• SUNDAY 21 MAY

LUNCH at
East Sydney Hotel

Your Executive Meeting of the 25th March last initiated some important changes with regard to the Fee structure of the Fellowship, in addition to some very important changes pertinent to the structure of membership of the Chapters.

The Joining Fee has been significantly lowered from \$50 to \$10.

During the year 2005 to 2006 the Membership Committee sent out some 140+ joining forms. From this we received a positive response from about four new members. Should this tell us something??

It was obvious that if we were to keep the Fellowship on a viable even keel, this fee would have to be reduced.

Also we needed to take a hard look at the Junior fees. These have been reduced to \$5 which will give any Junior First Fleeter a numbered Certificate for life, and a Junior Newsletter until the age of 18.

Student Fees have been reduced to \$10, an incentive for our young descendants of First Fleeters to keep up interest in our organisation. To my mind it is viable to the future of the Fellowship, that we should at all times, encourage the young descendants of First Fleeters to be cognizant of his or her unique heritage in the genesis of our Nation.

Also, in regard to the membership of our Chapters, it has given some concern that a majority of their members do not belong to the parent body. Under the new system, First Fleet Chapter members will be required to join the parent body without financial loss to the Chapter concerned. A plus will be that they will come under the umbrella of our Insurance Policy. There will be no financial loss to any Chapter as the parent body will underwrite any loss incurred.

All I can say, as your outgoing President, give this a try, if it does not work then the Executive Committee will rethink the whole program.

I must thank our Deputy Treasurer, John Haxton, for the efforts put into this exercise, and also for his efforts in producing the latest Junior Newsletter.

A Junior Newsletter was recently put out, ably edited by John Haxton. It is the first of many envisaged by the Executive, following on from the efforts of former Vice-President Alice Clarke.

John hopes that we may continue every two months? We await further developments in regard to your comments!!

Would you please note the forthcoming engagements for the Fellowship. Former President James Donohue will speak to the Daytime Fellowship on the 17th May and on the Soup and Damper Day at FF House, 12th July, we will have Marge Raven, a former Secretary of the Fellowship, speaking on Thomas Arndell FF. All are welcome and we can assure you of a morning of Fellowship, followed by a really delicious lunch. Cost is only \$5. Looking forward to seeing you there!!

I was quite intrigued in the last Newsletter that member Dorothy Heldon, #2982, had 31 grandchildren to her descent. Over the past years I have been in touch with Dorothy, in the knowledge that we had common ancestors. Would you believe

Continued page 3



News of Members

*Membership Report
for period January to March 2006*

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period. 12 Adults, four Associate Spouse, two Juniors.

OWEN CAVANOUGH / MARGARET DARNELL / JOHN CROSS: Alan Frederick Hannah.

THOMAS CHIPP / JANE LANGLEY: Marie Chiplin (Spouse of K.R. Chiplin).

ELIZABETH COLE: Malcolm Ronald Dale (Spouse: Jean Dale).

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM: Jannette Ellen McNeill (Spouse: Robert Andrew McNeill).

ANNE FORBES: Philip John Debenham, Janine Isabel Debenham, Karen Ann Turner (nee Debenham).

JOHN GOWEN / THOMAS ACRES: Barbara Robyn Gowen Turner.

WILLIAM HUBBARD: Peter John Cohen.

FREDERICK MEREDITH: Raymond James Crawford.

SAMUEL PIGGOTT: Jackson Samuel Wallace (jun.).

JAMES SHEERS / MARY SMITH: Gail Joyce Huckstepp (Spouse: Ron Huckstepp).

THOMAS SPENCER / MARY PHILLIPS: June Frances Tarlington.



DANIEL STANFIELD / ALICE HARMSWORTH: Zoe Louise Bennett (jun.).

JAMES WRIGHT: Louise Lurline Alma Owen.

Births

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

MISCHA ELIZABETH WINCKEL (FF James Williams), born 3 March 2006 at Baulkham Hills. A daughter for Dale and Sean, sister for Flynn and Byron, ninth grandchild for Keith (#6853) and Jo (#6854) Phipps, of North Wollongong. Ninth generation.

Deaths

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

RICHARD HARRIS FAYLE (#1939), passed away 11 June 2005.

GRAEME BLAKISTON ('BUSHY') MARTIN passed away on 16 April 2005. A descendant of First Fleeter Elizabeth Cole.

RONALD DAVID PLAYER (#6393), passed away 19 December 2005 at his home, Culburra (formerly of Wollongong). Loved father of Christine (Blissenden) and Rhonda (Van Bergen), loved father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather to their families. Aged 78. Proud descendant of First Fleeters Anthony Rope and Elizabeth Pulley.

FFF Office Bearers 2005-6

o am
President CHRISTIAN Peter: JP, Ph.C
Vice-President BEST Roderick: BA, LL.M
ARNETT Bruce:
Mech Eng Cert; Electronics & Comms Cert.
Secretary HEMPEL William: BA MA
Treasurer MORRIS Roy: JP, AO, B Com
(Melb), FCIS, FCPA Brigadier (Ret'd)

Directors

ARNETT Bruce, Mech Eng Cert; Electronics & Comms Certificate.
BENNETT Elaine
BOYD John, JP.
GRIFFITHS George, JP, Web Master
HAXTON John, JP, Dip Chem Eng; Dip Corp Mgmt; Dip R.E Mgmt
MAGUIRE Ronald, JP, Editor 'Founders'
MAGUIRE Zona
MORTIMER Jean, Librarian
PALMER Ian
PANKHURST Joyce



Your Stories

We invite members to contribute their stories or historic information for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Board of the Fellowship has resolved to draw the annual raffle on
**Saturday
 27 May
 at 12 noon.**



Australia Day Cruise Raffle Winners

Left to right:

Peter Christian with Louise Baer and Joan Thompson



President's Report from page 1

that I am related to her, and her immediate descendants, through not only William Tunks FF on my father's line, but through my mother's line, one Antoine L'André, a French Prisoner of War, who was engaged in 1800 to grow grapes for wine at Parramatta. There are quite a number of members of the Fellowship who are related to me in this common descent!!

I can count on not only being a descendant of one First Fleeter, William Tunks, I can claim kinship, but not direct descent, with descendants of Elizabeth Pulley, Anthony Rope and Thomas Spencer and Mary Phillips!!!

In the 1980s, mainly through the line of the Hadley Family, I wrote a treatise in the Landers Vine, which brought a number of First Fleeters, not only to my father's line of descent, but also into my mother's line. Quite a coincidence!!

I have had had a number of speaking engagements since last speaking to you. In February I spoke to the Cherrybrook Probus Club. I attended a meeting of the U3A Liverpool Group, the Tunks Annual Picnic at Bicentennial Park and the James Squire get-together at Kissing Point. Also I was privileged to speak to about 80 members of the Salvation Army Citadel group of Senior Citizens at Faulconbridge. They came from various parts of the Blue Mountains and, due to a mix up, I had to walk 3.5 kms to reach the Citadel!! Well worth it!!

I still have a number of engagements, mainly in May, one of which, to my mind, is most important, that of speaking to members and friends of the Sydney/Portsmouth Sister Committee on the Anniversary of the First Fleet leaving for a new beginning!!

Please keep in mind our own recognition of this important event at FF House on the 21st May. At 12 noon we will have drinks and 'bikkies' at FF House and head across the road to the lovely East Sydney Hotel for a fabulous meal. Numbers are limited so book now!

Also on the Friday 12th May I have been invited to speak on the Anniversary of the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth at the Lady Mayoress's Room at Sydney Town Hall at 6.00pm. I deem this quite an honour for the Fellowship.

On top of all of that I have been invited to appear at Wyong, NSW, at the invitation of our Deputy Treasurer, John Haxton, to attend a meeting on Thursday 11th May to look into the forming of a Central Coast Chapter of the FFF.

I also look forward to being with our South Coast Chapter in their celebration of the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth, on the 13th May next at Kiama, NSW.

That will complete a busy itinerary for your President!!

I had a reminder from Nick Vine Hall about the Census in August. There may be a par [more than a par, Ed] re this in this issue if room. If not I will relate more about the subject in the next Newsletter.

I recently paid a visit to our former Vice-President Alice Clarke, who unfortunately broke her leg. On your behalf we wish her a speedy recovery.

In Fellowship, Peter

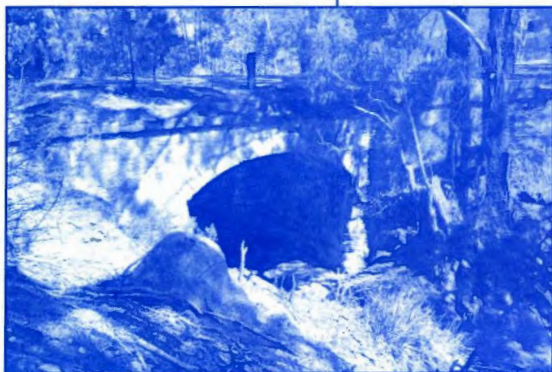
SPECIAL LUNCHEON

Celebrating the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13th May 1787

SUNDAY 21st MAY 2006
AT THE HISTORIC EAST SYDNEY HOTEL
\$30 per head - BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

A Tour of Historic Goulburn

South Coast Chapter's Visit to St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn, Towrang Bridge and Stockade



Towrang Bridge

Terry and I have explored a great deal of the Great South Road, on our frequent return trips from Canberra. Our visit to St Saviour's Goulburn would not have been complete without showing some SCC members the history around Towrang.

Turning left into the Derrick VC Rest Area, one can explore the bridge and culverts of the Great South Road. The Towrang Bridge, built over Towrang Creek, was constructed by convict labourers from the Towrang Stockade. The bridge and nearby culverts comprise part of the construction of Surveyor-General Sir T. L. Mitchell's Great South Road. The bridge and culverts provide insights into early road building methods and they are quite rare

due to the many changes made to the line of the Hume Highway which have resulted in the loss of much of the original road. It is believed that prominent colonial bridge designer David Lennox, who was responsible for the Lapstone Bridge in the Blue Mountains, may have designed Towrang Bridge, though this has not been proven. The bridge has a segmental arch and it is built of dressed coursed sandstone, the date 1839 can be seen if one looks closely.

The Towrang Stockade was built to house convicts engaged in the construction of the Great Southern Road to Goulburn. Macquarie ordered the construction of the road in 1819 to open up the prime farming land discovered by explorers such as Hume and Throsby.

The remains of the Towrang Stockade, the powder magazine and three graves are situated across the other side of the Hume Highway. Interested persons can enter a gate from Towrang Road closing it as you enter and leave.

The Powder Magazine: This was used to store explosives used in road cuttings and in stone splitting. The magazine was partly excavated into the bank of the Wollondilly River and is still in excellent condition. The stockade complex comprised of grave sites, convict huts, a blacksmith hut, a possible bakery hut, stables and powder magazine. Also Troopers Quarters which is fenced off. Six mounds in line can be seen, they are remains of cabins believed to have housed the troopers who guarded convicts working on the Great South Road.

The excavation of this site exposed a stone hearth and base layout of one of these huts. Ash within the fireplace contained fragments of bone, glass and clay pipestems. The rectangular building was approximately 3700 x 7920 mm (12 x 26 ft), with the hearth in the centre of the long north wall. All walls were of pise construction. A drip-line along the Eastern and Western walls indicated a hipped roof. Various artefacts found at this site are in the care of the Goulburn City Library.



The Powder Magazine



The three graves.

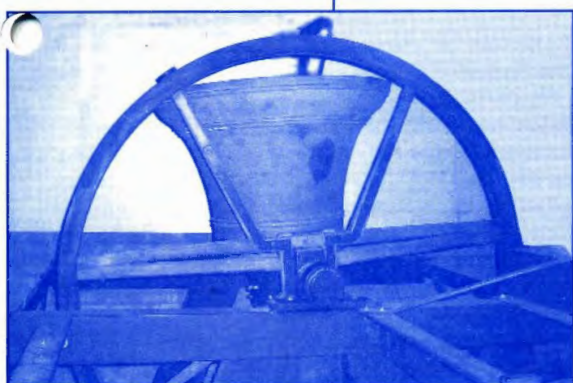
Three graves are found across the creek from the stockade. One bears, in part, the inscription '*John Moxley, Private Soldier of 80th Regt, who departed this life November the 16th 1838*', another the name of Elizabeth Weiticker, who died June 9th 1841, aged 33 years. The third is of Mary Brown, who died 25th June 1841 aged 4 years and 1 month.

A sign erected in the graveyard mentions three convicts whose names are recorded and may be buried nearby:

James Fielder: by the Guildford. Buried 17th Feb. 1839;
Monks ? : by the Lancashire. Buried 15th Feb. 1839 who
were killed by blast exploding;
Feagon, John: by the Minerva buried 27th Aug. 1840.

Other convicts are recorded as dying at the Convict Hospital Goulburn, and by drowning. Erected by the Trustees Towrang Stockade. Relics of an old inn, where the troopers and passing travellers used to frequent are reported to be located from the other side of Towrang Road. Terry and I have tried three times to find the remains according to instructions on the Trustee sign. After an encounter with a black snake we have decided to take the historian's word for it.

The South Coast Chapter started the tour of St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn at 1.00pm. Bell Captain Ray Smith gave us an unforgettable tour of the bell tower with hands on demonstrations and invited members to experience bell ringing. Ray's wife Sheila presented the Cathedral's history as we toured the exterior and interior of this grand building. Members witnessed the passing of sunlight across the Cathedral's high altar to a sculpture of 'The Last Supper', due to the equinox which can only be seen around September 21st and March 21st.



Upside-down at rest.

In March 5th 1988 eight bells were Hallowed with FFF members present to witness. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Runcie, conducted the service. The bells were named after ships of the First Fleet, increasing order of size: *Supply, Friendship, Lady Penrhyn, Prince of Wales, Charlotte, Scarborough, Alexander and Sirius* (tenor). 1993 came *Golden Grove* (treble) and *Fishburn*. 2005 saw *Endeavour* and *Borrowdale*. The 13th bell (Flat 6th) *Arthur Phillip* will be 'hallowed' soon.

Funds are needed for the Arthur Phillip Bell (Flat 6th). Members of the South Coast Chapter donated \$100 in conjunction with \$1000 from the FFF headquarters.

The bells are upside-down at rest, on three levels. The approach is from a steep narrow stone staircase.

As we journeyed home some members paid their respects to First Fleet arrival Mary (Allen) Martin, who is buried in St. Saviour's Historic Cemetery, Goulburn.

Another good day for the SCC relating to our heritage.

Jean Mortimer (FF William Tyrrell)

All members are welcome to visit First Fleet House Monday to Friday and use the library. Commonsense prevails as to why books can not be borrowed. Photocopying of any material is subject to copyright laws. More details in each edition of Founders.

**First Fleet House
Monday to Friday
10-am to 2-pm.**

There are times when our volunteer staff may be away, its advisable to phone the day before to be sure.

Jean & Terry Mortimer

First Fleet House Library

The library has over 480 acquisitions of Australian History from 1788, the subjects are catalogued into 16 categories.

- 1.0 Records - Diaries, Journals & Letters.
- 2.0 First Fleet - Voyage, People & Lives
- 3.0 Second Fleet
- 4.0 Third & Fourth Fleets
- 5.0 Pioneers - 1788-1888
- 6.0 Directories
- 7.0 Periodicals - Sydney Gazette etc.
- 8.0 Grants, Musters & Census
- 9.0 Local History
- 10.0 Norfolk Island & Van Diemen's Land
- 11.0 Cemeteries & Churches
- 12.0 Convicts
- 13.0 History
- 14.0 Pioneer Art & Cooking
- 15.0 Albums
- 16.0 Family History



SAVING OUR CENSUS!

TELL 10 OF YOUR FRIENDS TO TELL 10 OF THEIR FRIENDS
TO TICK "YES" TO QUESTION 60 ON CENSUS NIGHT - 8 AUGUST 2006.

The next Australian census will be conducted on the night of Tuesday 8 August 2006 and will cost in the order of 300 million dollars. It will contain 61 questions, of which all will be compulsory except the ones on religion and census retention.

The retention question (Q60) reads:

"Does each person in this household agree to his/her name and address and other information on this form being kept by the National Archives of Australia and then made publicly available after 99 years?"

If this question is ignored, it will be treated as a NO.

The Census Information Legislation Amendment Bill (2005) was introduced into the House of Representatives of the Australian Parliament on 3 November 2005 and passed later that month unopposed. It was passed by the Australian Senate on 27 February 2006 and awaits Royal assent to become law.

The Bill amends the *Census and Statistics Act* (1905) and the *Archives Act* (1983) relating to the retention of identified census information by the National Archives of Australia. The Bill ensures that name identified information collected in all future Australian censuses will be preserved for future genealogical and other research. Retention only applies to information supplied by those households that provide explicit consent on the census form. Some 51 per cent of Australian's answered "YES" to the retention of their forms in the 2001 census survey. This was in effect a national referendum of the Australian people and a majority voted that our history matters. We can do even better this year.

As with the 2001 survey, during the 99 year period, the name identified information will not be released by the National Archives under any circumstances.

The Australasian Federation of Family History Organizations (AFFHO) is working closely with the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the National Archives of Australia to assist in the national public education campaign prior to census night. Please support us by encouraging as many Australians as possible to answer YES in the census question concerning the retention of this vital record of the Australian culture. Unless you answer YES your census form will not be retained in the archives.

More details will soon be published on the AFFHO webpage of the campaign and how you can help.

Nick VINE HALL, Chairman, AFFHO Census Working Party nick@vinehall.com.au



From the Chapters

NorthWest Chapter (Tamworth & surrounding areas)

Next Meeting: 3rd June.

Each member is asked to bring along a historical object and talk about it.
Phone Diana Harband (02) 6765 2122 for further details.

Northern Rivers Chapter (Lismore & Surrounding areas)

Next Meeting: 28th May.

Venue: 16 Atlas Street, Lismore

Time: 11.30am for a BBQ lunch

Cost: \$7.00 meeting and speaker or activity.

Phone (02) 6686 3597 or (02) 6621 3650

North Coast Chapter (Coffs Harbour, Woolgoolga, Leigh & nearby regions.)

Next Meeting: Sunday 4th June 2006 AGM.

Venue: John & Jeanette Williamson, 7 Lynhaven Crescent, Ulmarra NSW.

Talk by Robyn Condliffe, her ancestor Uncle Francis Christie, alias bush ranger Frank Gardiner. Phone (02) 6653 3615

South Coast Chapter (from Engadine to Burrill Lake)

Next Meeting: Tuesday 6th June.

Time: 10.00 am.

Venue: Old Court House, Cliff Road & Harbour St. Wollongong.

Speaker: Kevin Gillis will speak on local history.

Phone (02) 4257 5575 or (02) 4261 6893

Canberra Chapter

The Canberra Chapter met to discuss the implications of the amendments to the Constitution and the proposal with regard to the financial arrangements. The Chapter also discussed its program for 2006 and agreed on the following program:

AGM	Thursday 6 July
Annual Dinner	Saturday 22 July
Winery visit	September
Christmas BBQ	Sunday 3 December

Advise of times and venues will be given when they are confirmed for placement in the Newsletter.

Fellowship of First Fleeters

South Coast Chapter

Luncheon to Commemorate the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth 13 May 1787

The President & Members extend an invitation for all FFF Members,

Family & Friends to attend the Luncheon to be held on

Saturday 13th May 2006

Time: 12-noon for a 12-30pm start.

Venue: Kiama Bowls Club Function Room, Noorinan Street Kiama.

A three-course meal with the choice of 2 dishes each course, includes dinner roll, tea & coffee.

Cost: **\$28 per person**, special dietary need catered to if mentioned at the time of booking.

•Bring First Fleet Family Association Banners

•Bring Posters made by members 2 years ago for conference.

Peter Christian will speak about his First Fleeter William Tunks' ship Sirius.

Bookings from now and payments by Monday 1st May.

No refunds after 2nd May (common sense prevails)

Cheques made out to: **FFF South Coast Chapter**

Send payments to: *Treasurer Mr T. Mortimer*

10 Smith Avenue, Albion Park NSW 2527

Phone :*Jean Mortimer President 4257 5575*

or Pam & Warwick Grace, Committee Members 4272 7013





TO LIVE ON IN THE
HEARTS AND MINDS OF
DESCENDANTS IS
NEVER TO DIE

**Closing Date
for
Next Issue:
May 31**

Chapters

ACT
Geoff Cameron
6251 4095

HUNTER VALLEY
Ray Meredith
4943 1246

NEW ENGLAND
David Newling
6771 5099

NORTH COAST
Colin Robertson
6654 1528

NORTHERN RIVERS
Betty Harriman
6683 4493

NORTH WEST
Aussie Pratt
6766 2130

SOUTH COAST
Jean Mortimer
4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS
Valerie Collyer
4872 1238

Fellowship of the First Fleeters

105 Cathedral St Woolloomooloo NSW 2011
Phone: (02) 9360 3788
Fax: (02) 9360 3988
Email: fffaus@ol.com.au
www: geocities.com/fellowship_of_first_fleeters

Celebrations of the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13th May 1787

The Chairman - Richard J Tanner - and Committee Members of the Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee Invite you and your friends to a

RECEPTION at SYDNEY TOWN HALL LADY MAYORESS'S ROOM

on FRIDAY 12 MAY 2006 - 6.00pm - 7.30pm

*Mr Peter Christian will speak on the occasion of the leaving of the
First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13th May 1787*

Reception: 6.00pm - Concludes: 7.30pm.

Dress: Lounge suit **Cost:** \$25 each

RSVP Tuesday 9 May 2006

Inquiries: Committee Member Marilyn Jenner

Phone/Fax: (02) 9953 6641 **email:** mariner183@aol.com

Please send booking details and cheque payable to:

*Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee
c/-M Jenner, PO Box 645 Milsons Point, NSW 1565*

SUNDAY 21st MAY 2006

SPECIAL LUNCHEON

Extract from "An Historical Journal 1787-1792" Captain John Hunter, commander HMS Sirius.

'On the 9th of May Captain Phillip arrived in Portsmouth, and the next day came on board and issued the signals and other necessary orders to Lieutenant John Shortland, the agent for transports, to be delivered to the masters of the different ships.

'On Sunday the 13th, we sailed from the Mother Bank in company with the Supply armed tender, six transports, having on board 600 male, and 200 female convicts, and three store-ships, carrying provisions and various other stores: on board the ships carrying convicts, were embarked 160 marines, with their proper officers.'

12 noon -- PRE-LUNCH DRINKS AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE

**1.00 pm -- 2-COURSE LUNCH WITH CHOICE OF THREE MAIN COURSES,
THREE DESSERTS AND TEA/COFFEE**

AT THE HISTORIC EAST SYDNEY HOTEL

(just across Crown Street from First Fleet House)

\$30 per head - BOOKINGS NOW OPEN - Numbers Limited

Cheques payable to: Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street,
Woolloomooloo NSW 2011

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