

Founders

Magazine of Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc. ACN 003 233 425

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

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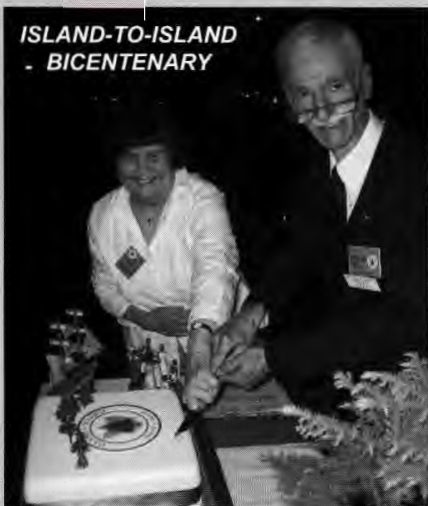
To Live on in the Hearts and Minds
of Descendants is Never to Die

Ray's Second Fleet Memorial Gardens now open at Wallabadah



Despite the record flooding at Tamworth on 29 November, some 50 people, mainly from our North West Chapter, attended the Official Opening of the **Second Fleet Memorial Gardens** at Wallabadah. During a short break in the downpour the commemorative plaque was unveiled by Mr Tony Windsor, Federal Member for New England, ably assisted by the indomitable builder of the memorial, stonemason/gardener/landscaper extraordinaire, **Ray Collins-Cross**. The Mayor of Liverpool Plains Council, Cr Ian Lobsey was MC and the General Manager, Mr Robert Hunt, was in attendance. The new gardens connect directly to the **First Fleet Gardens** via Ray's familiar serpentine paved pathway. All six ships of the fleet, *Justinian*, *Lady Juliana*, *Surprize*, *Neptune*, *Scarborough* and the ill-fated *Guardian* are profiled on colourful 'sail' boards, and the names of the crews, passengers, NSW Corps and convicts are chiselled on to stone tablets, similar to those Ray cast for the original gardens, but of a darker hue. Six years after he began the First Fleet Project, Ray says his job is done and he will be moving back to cemetery renovation. He leaves behind a stately, indelible record of our first arrivals. Dare we say he is our Jørn Utzon? **RW**

ISLAND-TO-ISLAND - BICENTENARY



Rosanne McDougall & Warwick Risby
cutting the Celebratory Cake. See page 6.



Cr Ian Lobsey, Ray and Mr Tony Windsor

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Dates to Remember

Saturday 24 January 2009

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

Sunday 1 February 2009

CELEBRATION OF OUR FIRST CHURCH SERVICE
ST PHILIP'S CHURCH, YORK & JAMISON STS,
SYDNEY AT 3.00PM



Founded 1968

Founders

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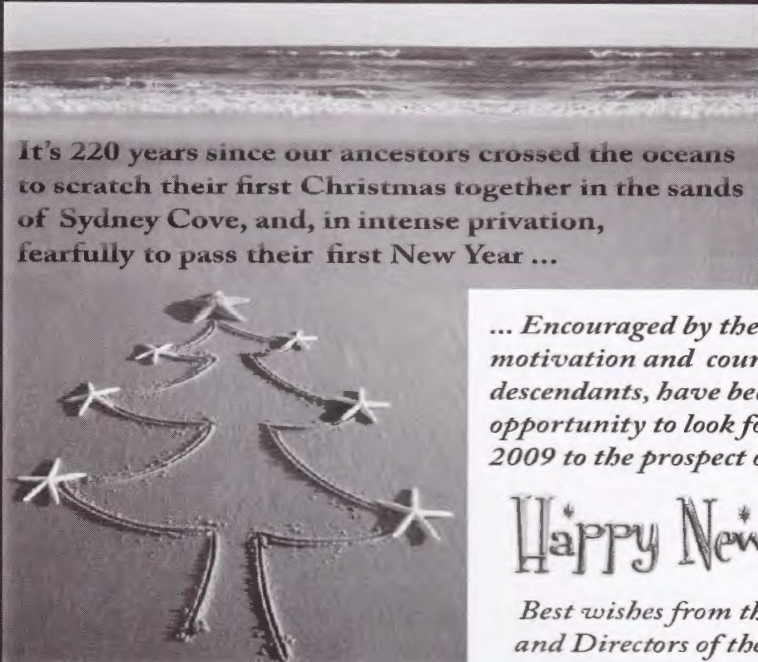
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It's 220 years since our ancestors crossed the oceans to scratch their first Christmas together in the sands of Sydney Cove, and, in intense privation, fearfully to pass their first New Year ...

... Encouraged by their endurance, motivation and courage, we their descendants, have been given the opportunity to look forward in 2009 to the prospect of a ...

Happy New Year!

Best wishes from the President and Directors of the Fellowship



New Board Members following the AGM on 22 November 08



Peter Meyer

FF Eleanor Fraser

After 14 years as a senior lecturer in Business at UTS, Peter has recently retired. Much of his career was spent teaching English and training teachers in UK, Nigeria, Brunei, Vanuatu and Malaysia. He has published a family history, *The Teacher from Snowy River: Carl Meyer and his Family*. Peter is a member of the Society of Australian Genealogists and the Royal Australian Historical Society.



Karen Lovett

FF Joseph Hatton

Karen has been a secondary school mathematics teacher for over twenty years and is now at an inner city government girls' high school. She attended the very first FFF meeting as a child in 1968 with her mother, Joan Ross, who became a founding director and is now a life member. Karen is thus continuing a proud tradition.



Margaret Withington

Margaret, though not a First Fleeter herself, is married to one. She has several Tasmanian convicts in her ancestry, and enjoys researching family history. She is a secondary teacher of English and French by profession. Margaret taught in Tasmania, brought up four children, and resumed her career in Sydney until her retirement to the Upper Blue Mountains in 2002.

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SOME THOUGHTS ON A SHORT HISTORY OF THE FELLOWSHIP 68-93

Part 2 of 2 by Peter Christian. From a speech to the South Coast Chapter in 2008

At this time (1988) we were also involved in the setting up of Chapters of the Fellowship. I think Northern Rivers and ACT were among the first. **Lionel Phelps** over the years has been a tower of strength up north. In my visits to that Chapter, I always looked forward to the hospitality and Fellowship, and indeed, friendship of Lionel and Lenore. I learnt a lot from Lionel, possibly more than he realised!

The same could be said of **Robyn Condliffe**, sometime Secretary and now Membership Officer and Newsletter Editor of the North Coast Chapter. I stayed with Robyn and Tony on a number of occasions during my visits to the North Coast Chapter. I inevitably returned to Sydney saying to myself, 'Gosh I wish I could be as computer-friendly as Robyn.' And, more importantly, 'Why could we not have Robyn at First Fleet House?'

I made quick trips to Brisbane, spoke to the Queensland Family History Society and at Tweed Heads to a number of descendants, with much interest and but little result.

It was here at Wollongong that I visited some five descendants who seemed reluctant to form a Chapter. But there is always one keen member within a group and **Jean Mortimer** took up my challenge and formed the South Coast Chapter. That enthusiasm is still alive! Through the efforts of Jean and Terry, SCC has in excess of fifty members.

The Hunter Valley Chapter had been nurtured by **Ray Meredith**, a member for many years and, again, I was privileged to have visited it on a number of occasions. It recently has been injected with enthusiasm by a long-standing friend and member, **Fr John Brooker**.

In 1988 the Fellowship decided to use funds accumulated to purchase premises close to the city and we leant on **Rod Best** to attend an auction and bid for a property at Woolloomooloo, of all places. We were successful. At about that time I was invited to the opening of the refurbished premises of the Bank of NSW at the Rocks. As luck would have it, I was introduced to the General Manager and I naturally told him of our purchase and asked if the bank would lend us the balance of the money, and, more importantly, at what rate of interest. Sale completed! We moved into the building with our goods and records sometime in May 1988.

In July we invited our Patron, **Sir James Rowland** to officially open First Fleet House. It was a perfect day, a large crowd congregated outside, the Governor and his Lady arrived, cut the ribbon and declared First Fleet House open. There was another ceremony for Sir James, and that was to confer Life Membership on our new centenarian member, **Grace Crameri**, before all were invited inside. Another memorable day in the annals of the Fellowship.

We were involved in many memorable ceremonies leading up to our Bicentennial – the inauguration of First Fleet Park, the opening of the fine memorial at Sans Souci on Botany Bay, a rather grand parade in Macquarie St to note the upgrade of that street, (members came in 1788 garb and we had a float consisting of a replica of Phillip's longboat), and the unveiling of a Queen Victoria statue between the QVB and Town Hall. A fashion parade was organized by the Italian firm Zegna, who always purchased the first wool clip from the Macarthur merinos. Five FFF members were models with a Macarthur descendent, **Ion Macarthur-Onslow** at a grand gathering at the Regent Hotel in the presence of the Governor-General and our State Governor. We wore special woollen garb made for the occasion which was later donated to the Federal Government as a Bicentennial Gift from the Zegna Family in Italy. There is some mention of the event and photos at the Australian Museum in Canberra. The Fellowship organised a pilgrimage to Norfolk Island where the Governor-General unveiled some FF plaques.

Our Australia Day Dinner was held at the Wentworth Hotel on the eve of our Bicentennial. Some 500 members attended. The highlight was the surprise visit of the Prime Minister, the **Hon. R.J. Hawke**, who spoke a few words and joined in a midnight toast to our day of days.

The day itself arrived and our members gathered at their allotted places. Initially we had been offered a measly number of tickets but the Executive made a concerted effort to shame the powers that be into recognising that we, the descendants of these pioneers, deserved something better. Would you believe it worked? We were given many more places than expected and in addition we received a State Government grant of some \$10,000 for computerisa-

tion in First Fleet House.

Much to my surprise both Joy and I were given VIP treatment. A ringside seat at the early morning service at Customs House, a sumptuous breakfast at the Opera House, an escorted ferry ride around to the Overseas Terminal where the banquet was to be held in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Again we had a ringside table, behind the VVIPs.

In 1988, the Fellowship had special Bicentennial Medals minted. Numbered 1 to 1000, the first few were allocated in order – No. 1 to the Queen followed by the State Governor, the State Premier etc.

During the Brisbane Expo, I was invited by the Queensland Government to attend a luncheon in honour of the UK Prime Minister, **Margaret Thatcher**. I was privileged to meet her and present one of our medals plus a few words about our British heritage. Well we feel it is a heritage anyway. I am still not sure that she got the message!

On 20 January we had the welcome news that our member, **Sir David Martin** was to be Governor of New South Wales from 20 January 1989 and thus our Patron. One week later both he and his wife Susie were our most welcome guests at our Annual Australia Day Dinner at the Wentworth Hotel.

Later that year we six 'Zegna models' had a re-run of that earlier fashion parade at a special cocktail party at Government House. Also during the year my wife and I were guests of the Governor at a dinner at Government House. Another memorable occasion.

We joined with the people of NSW in August 1990 to mourn the loss of a fine, upstanding Australian when Sir David died. I was represented at his funeral by my eldest son, Timothy with other members of the Fellowship. I shall always treasure the personal correspondence that I had over the few years that our respective paths had crossed.

Well, that takes us up to the end of my first stint as your President. I was more than happy to hand over to **James Donohoe**, who held the fort for the next three years. Jim, like Rod, found it difficult to balance the Presidency at the same time holding down a full-time professional position. Little did I realise that I would be back in harness in 1993 after three years. And this time for 14 years. Another story for another time...

JOSEPH HATTON OF RYDE

In the previous edition of *Founders*, we reported on the dedication of a FFF Plaque at St Anne's, Ryde, in memory of Joseph Hatton. This account of his life by descendant, Paul Coghlan, is slightly condensed from Paul's address at that Ceremony.

Joseph Hatton, son of Joseph Hatton and Hannah Ramsden, was christened on 2 October 1748 in Mirfield, Yorkshire, and died on 1 June 1828 in Kissing Point (Ryde) at age 79, though other records including the headstone show him to be 82 years of age at his death. By any account this was an extraordinarily long life, half being lived in England and the other half in Australia.

Joseph was taken from York Castle in July 1784 and charged with stealing printed cotton, several pieces of material, and a large quantity of ribbons and handkerchiefs. At his trial, he stated that he was born at Worsop, in Cheshire, about ten miles from Nantwich, and that he was 55 years of age but he appeared to be only about 35 to the court official. This proved to be correct.

We have a very good description of Joseph from his 1784 trial. He was dressed with a claret surtout coat with champagne blanket coat buttons, olive-coloured breeches with white metal buttons, and a round slouched hat. His very long flaxen coloured hair hung loose upon his shoulders. He had a very large scar on the right side of his head, a small scar just below the hair, a scar on his right cheek, another scar on his right temple and had lost the thumb on his left hand. He was described as a grey and a very stiff-made man of about 5 feet 8 inches. He said he travelled as a hawker and peddler, but produced no licence. Perhaps Joseph may have been frequently hawking and peddling other people's possessions!

Joseph was found guilty of grand larceny and sentenced to be transported to the American plantations for seven years. The American War of Independence closed off that destination. He spent almost three years in York Castle prison, before being dispatched to Portsmouth by wagon on 24 February 1787. He was embarked on *Scarborough* three days later.

On arrival, Joseph was put to work in the Port Jackson brick kilns. His first mention in the colony was his presence at the wedding of another brick kiln worker, **Anthony Rope**, with **Elizabeth Pulley** in May 1788. Six days later, a supper party was held at Anthony's tent to celebrate the wedding. There, six guests enjoyed a sea pie which contained fresh meat – a rare treat in those days. The recent disappearance of a goat raised suspicions with the authorities, but the wedding party claimed that the goat had been found dead on a rock and of course they were not going to waste the opportunity provided. All were subsequently acquitted of the charge of improperly sourcing one of Australia's first meat pies!

Old habits die hard! In July 1791, Joseph was sentenced to an incredible 800 lashes for receiving goods known to have been stolen from Parramatta. Hearing that the watchmen were seeking the original theft, he had taken and hidden the stolen property in the woods in the vicinity of Kissing Point. Remember that Joseph's sentence had been for seven years and his time would have been up by 1791 – a year before he officially received his land grant. I can't help but wonder if Joseph was actually living on the Kissing Point grant before it was officially gazetted to him in May 1792.

So, somewhat surprisingly, his crime had not prevented him

from getting a land grant from Governor Phillip the following year. He, together with twelve other emancipists, received land grants at what was known as The Eastern Farms (east of Parramatta) later to be called Kissing Point and now of course, Ryde.

A few months earlier he married a convict, **Rose Sparrow**, who arrived with her mother in 1791. This, he probably thought, was a shrewd move because single men only got 30 acres whereas married men received 50 acres. Nevertheless, he paid a price because in June 1795 she stabbed him in the stomach in a fit of jealousy. Joseph requested that she not be committed to trial but put well away from him. A reasonable request in the circumstances!

Some time after stabbing Joseph, Rose was convicted of receiving stolen property and sentenced to have her head shaved, wear an iron collar for six months and spend twelve months in Parramatta gaol. She was sent to Norfolk Island in October 1799 after the theft of clothing. We are not descended from her!

While Joseph was recovering in the hospital tent, the surgeon, even then, described him as an elderly man but Joseph in fact was to last another 33 years. In January 1796, David Collins wrote to the future Governor King stationed at Norfolk Island describing him as a very good man who had lately suffered some losses!

By 1798 only five of the original thirteen 1792 grantees were still on their land, many having found the hardships to be insurmountable. The resilient Joseph Hatton was one of the five still remaining and by then was living with another First Fleet convict, Ann Colpitts, a relationship that was to last until Joseph's death. But Joseph and Ann never married.

Ann Colpitts (née Watson – a Scot) from whom we are also descended, had lived a most colourful life. Back in England she was a member of the notorious Bishop Auckland Gang of thieves and pickpockets, who infested the markets in the towns and generally resorted to fairs in the country. She was jailed on three occasions. One of her visits to prison was for picking a Highlander's pocket – she must have been good at her profession! Ann had a number of relationships on the way out from England and here in the colony, before she moved in with Joseph together with three of her children from these earlier unions.

In August 1798, the first Christian service was preached at Kissing Point and in 1799, twenty-two settlers including Joseph partly subscribed to the building of a bark schoolhouse and chapel – one of the earliest in the colony, and the forerunner of St Anne's Church. In July 1800, the new structure was officially opened and Joseph and Ann's son, young **Joseph, my great-great-grandfather**, was one of three children christened on that day.

By 1802, Joseph had sold his 50 acres to colonial brewer **James Squire** and had purchased **John Jones'** original grant of 30 acres at Top Ryde, on which Hatton's Cottage still stands today.

Life on the land continued to be very hard and to make matters worse, in December 1804, as *The Sydney Gazette* reported, the family was robbed of all its possessions. Joseph Hatton nevertheless became a leading figure in the life of the small rural community. He often gave evidence at inquests and was frequently listed as a petitioner to improve the conditions of his fellow settlers. His name was on the list of petitioners in 1822 requesting that a piece of land be set aside near St Anne's as a burial ground – the one in which he and Ann (in August 1832) are buried.

His name lives on. Hatton's Cottage, Hatton St, Hatton Lane and Hatton's Court are nearby and Top Ryde was known for many years as Hatton's Flat. The family association with St Anne's now goes back seven generations. My children Lara and Timothy Coghlan were the sixth successive generation to be christened at the church. From humble beginnings Joseph Hatton and Ann Colpitts have left an enduring legacy of which we can all be proud.

Paul Coghlan

MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

valued donors towards the operation of First Fleet House

B. Agland, P. Berry, J. Brooker, M. Forte, V. Frost, E. Gorton, K. Greenhalgh, P. Hempel, M. Houston, A. Johnston, P. Kable, S. Knight, C. McCabe, S. Meppem, M. Morelli, F. Powell, L. Scrimshaw, M. Squire, J. Tarlington, J. Turner, L. Wilkinson, T.&H. Williamson, H. Wilson.

Arthur Phillip Surprise!

My only entrée into the world of campanology was many moons ago when accompanying Lord Peter Wimsey to a UK Fenland village, where he rang one of eight bells in a record-setting nine-hour series of changes and used his knowledge of bellringing method to solve an ancient mystery involving a stolen necklace and foulest murder. But away from the mayhem of a Dorothy Sayers novel, the sound of church bells has wonderful power, penetrating deeply into one's heart. Bell ringing seems to me to evoke peaceful, joyful or melancholy spirits that somehow define one's state of mind. And so to our story...

Last spring Jean and Terry Mortimer returned from a visit to Goulburn bearing a report from **Ray Smith, Tower Keeper** of that City's Cathedral, of considerable appeal to FFF members. It gets a bit technical even in my translation, but the little glossary elsewhere on this page should be of assistance!

On Saturday October 11 2008 the bells of St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn, rang out joyously for over three hours! The purpose was to recognise Governor Arthur Phillip's Birthday and to pay tribute to the memory, life and work of Elizabeth Lipscomb.

Elizabeth, ably encouraged by her husband, the Reverend Ian Lipscomb, had located a redundant ring of eight Taylor bells at St Mark's Church, Leicester and these were purchased with money earmarked from the Bi-Centennial Funds raised for the Belltower Completion Project. The bells were sent back to the John Taylor Bellfoundry, to be refurbished, later to be shipped to Australia. On 5 March 1988 they were hallowed by Archbishop Runcie of

Canterbury on St Saviour's Cathedral Green, an event witnessed by a crowd of over 5000 people.

The 'Light Eight' bells were named after First Fleet ships: (increasing in size): *Supply, Friendship, Lady Penrhyn, Prince of Wales, Charlotte, Scarborough, Alexander* and *Sirius*, the tenor bell, the lowest note, weighing just over a ton.



In 1993 a memorial bequest from the Reverend Ron O'Brien enabled the bellringers to install two more bells in the Tower. Thus *Golden Grove (treble)* and *Fishburn* were added. In 2005 *Endeavour* and *Borrowdale* made up a twelve-bell peal.

Finally the Flat 6 **Arthur Phillip Bell** (pictured here at its installation ceremony) was hung in 2006. With this bell, St Saviour's achieved the objective of having the only Regional Full Circle Ringing Peal of 12 Bells-Plus-One in the Southern Hemisphere, making Goulburn a must-visit destination for bell ringers around the world.

Thus on 11 October 2008 a team of elite ringers assembled at St Saviour's

to ring a Peal of a specially-composed Method for the occasion – **Arthur Phillip Surprise Major (5,026)**, over three hours and seven minutes. This was the first on the 'Light Eight' and the first in the Method, which was of course named for and rung on the 270th birth anniversary of Captain Arthur Phillip.

The Method was composed and conducted by James Smith, who flew from Hong Kong for the occasion! Associated with the composition was Andrew Davies, from the Burwood Tower in Sydney. Doug Nicholls, a Past President of the ANZAB, arrived from Hobart. Thomas Goodyer, a member of the team, started to learn Tower Bells with Elizabeth Lipscomb in 1948! Other team members were from Sydney.

Since Elizabeth was closely associated with the initial Eight Bells from Leicester it was appropriate that the First Peal on the new Light Eight was dedicated to her memory. This included the **Arthur Phillip Bell**, which was partially financed by a \$1000 donation from the **Fellowship of First Fleeters**. Of course Captain Phillip was born within the sound of Bow Bells, making him a true Cockney. It was also appropriate, on the anniversary of the birthdate of Arthur Phillip, that St Saviour's ringers remembered the encouragement and financial support received from the Ringers of Bathampton (the burial place of Phillip) and the members of the Arthur Phillip Society.

This event marked the **Closure of the Project to complete the augmentation of the St Saviour's Cathedral Bells**. Goulburn now has a treasure to be proud of in the unique status of its Bells. And Lord Peter of *The Nine Tailors* would be the first to offer his congratulations! **Ron Withington**



THE BIRTHDAY BELL RINGERS AT ST SAVIOUR'S: Back Row from left: Thomas Goodyer; Thomas Perrins; Douglas Nicholls; Andrew Davies; Ronald Shepherd; Stephen Relf (Tower Captain St Saviour's Bellringers). Front Row from left: Alexandra Prabhaker; the Reverend Ian Lipscomb; James Smith (Method Composer and Conductor); Robert Walters.

SOME CAMPANOLOGY USAGE

METHOD: a sequence each ringer has memorised by numbers in a pattern describing the bells' course. A score, as in music, is not used.

FULL CIRCLE: the bell describes a 360 degree or more rotation each time the clapper strikes.

SURPRISE: a term for Methods of unusual complexity.

MAJOR: all eight bells involved in ringing the Method.

CHANGE: a unique sequence.

ANZAB: Australian & New Zealand Association of Bellringers.

5026: the number of unique sequences or changes. To qualify as a Peal there must be over 5,000 different changes when using eight bells and a change or sequence cannot be repeated!

A FORT FOR THE DAY

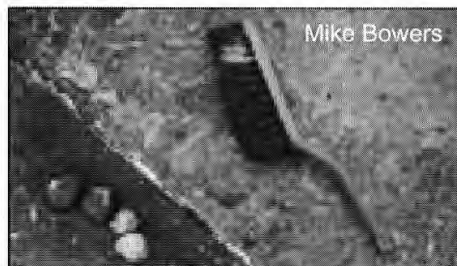
Phillip's Fort — the Fort that never was for the Day that never came!

In 1801, thirteen years after the First Fleet arrived, Governor King wrote, "Our exertions must soon be turned to securing ourselves from any attempt by the troublesome Irish republicans..."

So in 1804 work began on Fort Phillip, high on Windmill Hill. Completely enclosed with six hexagonal faces and a surrounding ditch, it was designed to address the "town and country round" but also probably to work in direct support for Dawes Point battery below. Governor King in a letter on 14 August 1804, referred to it as a 'citadel'. The threat was well anticipated, for just six weeks after construction commenced, an Irish uprising at Castle Hill did occur.

In 1806, with only the ditch and the rampart, merlons and embrasures of three inward facing sides completed and eight six-pounders (pointed shorewards) mounted, all work stopped.

Two centuries later archeologists have started digging on the site, now inside the grounds of the Sydney Observatory. They have several areas of research interest — the defence of the colony vis-à-vis the Irish in colonial Sydney, the military in the Rocks and Millers Point, signalling, and the storage of gunpowder. The section of the Fort being investigated was demolished in 1856 to make way for the construction of Sydney Observatory.



Mike Bowers

Already in October 2008, the diggers have made a big discovery — sandstone blocks with curved faces suggesting a domed roof — the remains of a bomb-proof shelter built into one wall, confirming dispatches from the Governor concerning a key safehold against attack, with space provided for the storage of provisions in the case of siege. They have also found a flagstone floor of a small building that once stood in a courtyard in the middle of the fort. Other relics discovered include a scattering of iron shot (see photo).

Caitlin Allen, an archaeologist from the Government Architect's Office, said that people are welcome to watch the digging during Observatory business hours. No charge, but beware of the weather: I turned up to find that the site was under wraps because a downpour was forecast!

Ron Withington

Island-to-Island Bicentenary Celebration



October 2 2008 marked the Bicentenary of the arrival of the last boatload of immigrants from Norfolk Island to Hobart Town during the mass exodus of 1807-08. The event was celebrated at a Dinner at the Grand Chancellor Hotel on 10 October, 2008, sponsored by the Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association. Vice-President, Warwick Risby #4608 was a principal organiser of the Dinner and had kindly issued an invitation to local and interstate members of the FFF to attend. Warwick, who is descended from two Norfolk Islanders who joined the migration, FF Edward Risby and FF James Morrisby, sent in a report on the proceedings:—

"About 100 people attended the Dinner, and we were delighted to have as our special guest, the Acting Administrator of Norfolk Island, Mr Owen Walsh, who is a former Tasmanian, and Mrs Bianca Walsh, bringing special Island connections and greetings. Many Association members came from interstate and later took part in several walking and bus tours to places of significance to Norfolk Island settlers.

"Guests were greeted by President Jessie Wagner and myself. The tables had special Island-to-Island table mats in green made by secretary Kate Carlisle. A display of locally-made colonial bonnets and map of the First Settlement and Settlers Allotments and some stories of Norfolk Islanders were included in the display.

"The special Bicentenary Cake was decorated with deep green ribbon with 'Island-to-Island 1807-08 to 2007-08' on the top together with a stand of Norfolk Island pine trees. Two model sailing ships and a group of Colonial timber dolls enhanced the arrangement.

"The Harbour View Room overlooking Hobart's docks, near where the first settlers landed, gave a wonderful background for our visitors as we partook of a carvery of roast turkey, roast boneless leg of lamb, and trevalla with vegetables and salads. Pastries, gateaux, puddings and fruit salad were later enjoyed while we were entertained by Colonial songs.

"Greetings from Norfolk Island were read. The islanders were also holding a dinner in recognition of the First Norfolk Settlers. Liz McCoy from Norfolk Island presented us with a Norfolk Island potted pine, and a presentation from the Association was made to Mr Walsh.



Mrs Bianca Walsh, Mr Owen Walsh and President Jessie Wagner

"I made a final 'thank you' speech to all for attending in which I spoke of the five Embarkations from Norfolk Island to the Derwent in 1807-08, recalling that at that time Hobart Town's population doubled when food in the stores was short.

"Rosanne McDougall assisted me in cutting our special cake. I pointed out that Thomas, my First Fleet ancestor Edward Risby's son, was born on Norfolk Island and Dianna, Rosanne's First Fleet ancestor James Morrisby's daughter, was also born on Norfolk. In a small way this represented the many families present at the Dinner, who intermarried and were our founding ancestors." Warwick Risby/RW



Margaret Long, Warwick Risby and Reg Watson

Norfolk Island is located in the South Pacific Ocean some 1500km from the Australian coast. The Island is an isolated, fertile volcanic outcrop of about 34.5sqkm. Two small uninhabited islands, Nepean and Phillip, lie close to the south. The coastline consists largely of precipitous cliffs, except near Kingston in the south where there is a jetty and a coral reef. There is no harbour. Twin peaks, Pitt and Bates, rise to 320m in the north west. There are no lakes. Several creeks drain to the north and south coasts.

This island group was claimed for the British Empire by Captain James Cook commanding *Resolution* on his second voyage to the Antipodes, on 10 October 1774. Cook identified two resources as useful for the burgeoning British fleet, the Norfolk Island pine for masts and spars, and the native flax for cloth for sails.

On 6 March 1788, less than two months after the establishment of the colony of NSW, Lt Philip Gidley King and 22 settlers (including nine male and six female convicts) landed at what is now Kingston.

The produce from this settlement probably saved the Sydney inhabitants from starvation, but the settlement met with mixed success. The soil was fertile, but clearing the rainforest proved difficult and early crops were attacked by rats and parrots.

Despite these difficulties, the settlement continued to grow, reaching a population of over 1100. However, it failed to become self-supporting and proved to be both difficult and expensive to maintain.

On 19 March 1790 *HMS Sirius*, the flagship of the First Fleet, was wrecked on the reef in Sydney Bay, Kingston. Although there was no loss of life, the population swelled to 497 overnight and the incident highlighted the settlement's vulnerability.

From 1806 onwards the inhabitants were gradually transferred to Hobart Town in Van Diemen's Land. Several of the Islanders arrived in 1806, but the following year the exodus started in earnest. The 29 November 1807 marked the arrival of *Lady Nelson* (34 souls). Three other trips were made. On 17 January, 1808 *Porpoise* (180 souls) arrived, followed by the returning *Lady Nelson* (50 souls) on 1 March. *Estramina* (62 souls) came next on 7 June and finally *The City of Edinburgh* (242 souls) on 2 October, 1808.

Most of the persons left on Norfolk Island, were brought to the Tamar River in the north of Van Diemen's Land in 1813,

aboard *Lady Nelson* on 1 March and *Minstral* on the 4 March. They walked to Muddy Plains (now Longford) and settled there on their grants of land. A small clean-up group left on the island was eventually taken to Sydney.

In 1814 the Norfolk Island settlement was abandoned, all the buildings being destroyed to discourage unauthorised occupation of the island. It was not to be resettled until 1825 when it became a penal colony until 1855.

In total 568 men, women and children (most of them free by this time) arrived in the River Derwent during the twelve months, making life in the four-year-old settlement very difficult. Lt-Colonel David Collins in Hobart Town was having an extremely hard time feeding those who had come in 1804 as well as those who arrived in the Colony after that time. He had been told to expect 100 souls from Norfolk Island and now he had to feed, house and clothe nearly 600.

Some Norfolk Island arrivals did very well, while a few fell by the wayside.

Some were given land grants in the area now known as New Norfolk to compensate for their lost farms on the Island. For the majority it was hard work: the land they were granted was difficult to farm

due to flooding of the Esk River, yielding hardly enough for them to live on. Most had to live off government stores for the first two years.

If the coming of the evacuees made Collins' life difficult it did do one good thing. There were over 261 young people on board the five ships, adding to the small number of 38 that had arrived with Collins. Some of those who arrived from Norfolk Island married members of Collins' party, swelling the population but giving it new blood to tackle the challenges of Van Diemen's Land. Without this new blood the Colony may have not survived.

The following generations of the Norfolk Islanders were to struggle for many years but in time most of them were to become valued citizens and their descendants now number in the thousands. Many live in Tasmania while others can be found all over the world, some still carrying their convict ancestor's names.

The Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association seeks to raise awareness of the impact the evacuation of Norfolk Island had on the already struggling settlement of Hobart Town.

RW



THE HONOUR ROLL

John Haxton has advised that for the **War Service Honour Roll** of First Fleeter Descendants he has received 34 nominations, three Boer War, twenty First World War twelve Second World War None have been received for the Korean or Vietnam conflicts. The listing is still open for additions.

The nominees do not have to hold, or to have held, FFF membership. Only those names supplied by individuals or their family members will be placed on the Roll: names will not be sourced from publications or Armed Services records.

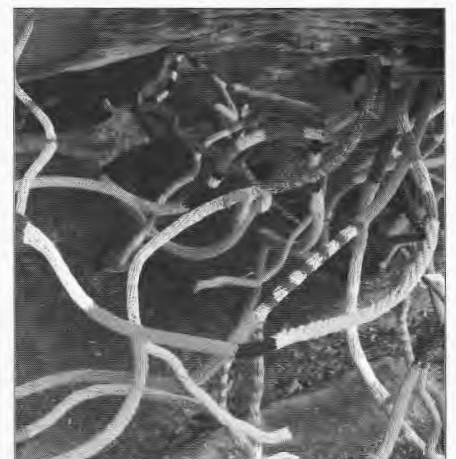
Knitting the Fellowship

Every winter as a child I would start work on a cat's tail mat, (deemed OK for a boy.) Strictly this embraced the craft of French Knitting, using one of those now defunct fat wooden cotton reels, four nails and oodles of leftover wool lengths. My annual aim was to build up a 'tail' of sufficient length to coil into a dazzling new cushion for Grandma. I got as far as a very small kettle holder for Mum.

But sculptor Serena Horton has found the answers to the productivity, utility and significance of French Knitting and allied skills in 'root-bound by friendship', her offering at Sculpture by the Sea, at Bondi Beach in October 2008, an exhibition visited by a great many of our FFF members and countless thousands of the general public.

It is a sculpture in steel, aluminium, wool, porcelain and of course sandstone, displaying multi-hued sinews that are as Serena says "bound by ties of profound fellowship, our family tree continuing to grow and flourish while spreading its roots far and wide". It may not have won the People's Choice Award but it is a wonderfully offbeat talisman for our Fellowship! Pity we can't show it in colour. Next year perhaps, if only on our upcoming brand new website?

RW



Our Most Senior Member dies at the grand age of 102

Frances Leigh Bull #51 (FF John Small/Mary Parker) was born on 21 July 1906 on Bunnamagoo Station at Rockley near Bathurst, the home of her parents, Clifford Leigh Oakes and the former Jane Peacock. Frances died on 13 October, 2008, having outlived her siblings and all her contemporaries to reach her hundred and third year. **She was the most senior member of the Fellowship.**

On her father's side both her great grandparents were convicts – John Small, a highway robber who just escaped the gallows and Mary Parker, a thief from inner London. **Frances was a very enthusiastic founding member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters** and the John and Mary Small Descendants Association, and she very much enjoyed the re-enactments where she wore period costume.

Her convict ancestors produced a large family on a land grant at Kissing Point, now Ryde. Among their descendants came many distinguished people. Their eldest daughter Rebecca married Francis Oakes, a cordwainer from Coventry, an artisan recruited by the London Missionary Society to serve with the first South Sea Island missionaries in Tahiti. He became police constable at Parramatta as well as superintendent of the Female Factory there. Their youngest son, John Leigh Oakes married Elizabeth Mary Shelley, daughter of William Shelley junior and his wife Susannah Marsden Hassall. Throughout the earlier generations many showed strong commitment to the Church of England and the Methodist churches and rose to high rank. The women folk were especially tough and resilient – many bore large families and many lived well into their nineties, so it is not surprising that Frances lived so long.

She was always interested in her family background – not only the Smalls and Oakes, the Shelleys, Beans and Hassalls but those on her mother's side, pioneers of Bathurst district, the Peacocks and the Hamers.

After periods of primary schooling at Smithfield and Canley Vale she went to Parramatta High School where she did exceptionally well. She remembered clearly her Latin and French for almost all of her life. After leaving school she worked as a clerk at Murdochs in the city and played hockey with her former school friends, reaching reserve State level.

She married Hector Alexander Bull in 1931 in her parents' house. It was during the Depression and times were hard – leaving an impression which stayed with

Frances (right) with daughter Nancy Bull #290 in period costume at the Bicentenary Celebration, 26 January, 1988, and more conventionally attired in 1987. Photos supplied by daughter Mary Bull #291. This account of her life is an extract from the obituary delivered by a third daughter, Jean Stewart #289.

her for life. They lived on the vineyard set up by her father-in-law in Fairfield West on the banks of Orphan School Creek. A peach orchard was added in the 1940s and Frances, as well as leading the pickers during the grape season, packed all the peaches during the peach season. She enjoyed her contribution to the enterprise and happily contributed to any necessary task during the year.

By 1964 the land was sold and with the proceeds she and her husband were able to enjoy the fruits of all the years of hard work. They bought a comfortable house in Gordon of which they were both inordinately proud. She began voluntary work at Sydney Hospital and together they went on two world trips, firstly to England and Europe and then to Japan, across the Trans-Siberian railway to Moscow then to America via England on *Queen Elizabeth* before exploring America on Greyhound buses. The diaries she kept of those trips gave her pleasure for years afterwards.

In 1975 she fell and broke her hip while choosing dresses at Grace Bros, and this reduced her mobility ever afterwards. Then in 1978 her husband died. The accident, with which she coped extraordinarily well, prevented her from doing many exciting things when she was otherwise in good health. But she did volunteer work for the Red Cross in Turramurra, she joined the School for Seniors and attended courses in university campuses in Australia and went on a trip to Norfolk Island.

Frances kept up her reading from library books which she carried in her backpack or, as she got older, had delivered to her home, becoming a devotee of Anthony Powell's novels and of Marcel Proust. Frances sold her house when she felt she could no longer cope with its upkeep and moved to a unit at Turramurra. From 1997 she lived at the Belvedere Nursing Home at Wahroonga where she had wonderful care and attention. Her pride in her family and delight in her grandchildren were paramount.

The Fellowship is proud to celebrate the long and fruitful life of its oldest member. *Jean Stewart/RW*



Founders Fleetmuster

The men have to fall-in, up, down, across, back, and on the diagonals!



S	G	L	O	Q	R	I	U	J	C	Y	X
H	S	J	A	M	E	D	N	K	E	P	N
E	A	O	V	H	L	N	F	O	L	I	D
A	C	H	R	I	L	T	R	Q	A	C	J
R	J	N	O	S	I	A	V	M	J	O	G
W	P	S	Q	D	M	G	L	F	K	L	R
K	O	O	R	J	A	O	M	H	L	C	
X	L	N	B	E	B	B	N	G	N	I	K
G	T	K	Z	Z	N	M	G	W	B	N	N
P	B	F	I	R	P	D	H	C	V	S	S
T	L	A	Z	U	T	U	I	F	Q	L	E
E	S	M	Y	F	A	R	N	D	E	L	L

Try to find ten names of the Governor's Staff on the First Fleet, from the muster of:
Ross, Hunter, Collins, Johnson, Alt, Miller, White, Considen, Arndell, Balmain, Furzer, Long, and King. *Margaret Withington*



Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.6

- Governor Phillip brought his dogs with him on *Sirius*. They were: **a. whippets b. greyhounds c. dalmations**
- Reverend Richard Johnson was also keen on pets. He brought his: **a. cats b. guinea pigs c. canaries d. ferrets**
- When *Sirius* struck and foundered, lives were saved when a hawser was made fast to a tree and from a traveller (pulley) a platform was suspended. The makeshift platform was a: **a. tabletop b. grating c. door d. hatch cover**
- One man is famous for having first painted numbers on Sydney Houses in a government initiative to install some order in the chaotic growth of the town. He was: **a. Simeon Lord b. John Lewin c. John Lancashire**
- Phillip's Governorship spread from longitude 135E (now near the WA border) to the South Pacific. Who was deemed under a treaty to control the continent west of that longitude? **a. Spain b. Portugal c. Holland d. France**
- The river that for thousands of years had borne the name Deerubbin became to the first settlers: **a. Hawkesbury b. Parramatta c. McDonald d. Nepean**
- On 14 October 1791 *Britannia* arrived in Sydney. Her master, who reported seeing a large shoal of sperm whale on the way north from Van Diemen's Land, had a very appropriate name. It was: **a. Ahaban b. Whaling c. Melville d. Porpos**
- Who was described by Watkin Tench in 1790 as "the best farmer in the country"? **a. James Ruse b. Edward Dod c. Reverend Johnson**
- Many FF writers refer in their journals to a 'seine'. By this term they meant a: **a. convict shift b. small stream c. net d. signal flag**
- On his punitive expedition to Botany Bay after the spearing of Phillip's gamekeeper, Watkin Tench found his party severely discouraged by: **a. Pemulwuy b. ticks c. leeches d. quicksand e. hailstorm**

SCORES AND PRIZES:

9: Ten-year lease with five-year option on the hotel of Australia's first woman publican, Sarah Bird's *Three Jolly Settlers*.

7: Free backfilling for two five-fathom wells (see opposite).

5: Six-day health-stay in port Batavia with free post-medical.

Answers on Page 11

Ron Withington



Readers' Riposte

• New member, Allan John Baxter #7582, is a descendant of James Williams NOT William Tyrell. *Founders* 39.6 apologises to both Allan and James, and thanks Margaret Tomlinson for pointing out the mismatch.

• In reference to the Becroft Pioneer Track article in *Founders* 39.6, page 5, heading STOP 6, paragraph 3, Mary Ann Small, was NOT FF Mary Small (née Parker) wife of John Small.

Mary Ann Small, wife of James Tunks, who was the son of FF Marine William Tunks, in fact arrived in the colony on *Emperor* in 1851 as a free settler with her widowed mother. It was Peter Christian who was quick to pounce on this unwelcome piece of revisionism.

On the Right Tack – No.5



Words or expressions our ancestors heard or used aboard ship, carried ashore and bequeathed to us.

We look at the derivations and present usage and how literary folk have used them.

Rummage Sale (for cast-off goods, often for charity)

In the days of wooden merchant ships, dockside warehouses had special sales of damaged cargo. Called rummage sales, they took their name from the old French word *arrumage*, meaning to pack or stow cargo aboard ship. Rummage gradually took the meaning of unwanted, damaged or low-quality cast-offs, such as clothing items and household goods. The act of rummaging also came to mean ransacking or searching through a jumble of objects.

"I heard them rattling about the staircase and rummaging the other parts of the house in search of me..." – from Governor Bligh's account of the mutiny, stated at George Johnson's court martial in London in 1811.

Snippets from the Sydney Gazette, the peripatetic prose of George Howe, editor of our first Newspaper.

DING DONG BELL...

Scarcely a week went by without someone tumbling, with either humorous or tragic results, into a well. Howe nagged about covering them according to government orders, but the owners continued to resist. Disused, they were perfect for disposal of rubbish and became archeologically significant.

19 March 1803: Last week an elderly woman who had seriously inclined herself to the influence of SPIRIT, actually conceiving that her faith was sufficient to sustain her, courageously TUMBLED into a well on the Rocks, and had nearly fallen victim to her enthusiasm. She remained in the water, the purity of whose element she had a natural aversion to, above three-quarters of an hour, chin deep, when fortunately a man going to the well, let a bucket fall upon her head, which, as it failed in its assault upon the pericranium, proved instrumental in restoring her to the face of the earth.

8 June 1804: An old man in Back Row East, a day or two since was very near losing his life by tottering into his well. A couple of persons who lived in the house took him out, one of them warmly remonstrating on the impropriety of keeping the well open, the old man peevishly replied, "You may leave off prattling for I'll tumble into my own well as often as I please!"

17 February 1805: A watchman, who deserves every commendation for his alacrity, hearing a foot rustle past him, commanded the traveller to stop, but not being attended to, closely pursued the object, which redoubling its pace he did so likewise; till at length with mutual exertion both sprang together, and together plunged into an abyss. He secured the fugitive by grasping him round the neck, but finding his head fortified with a pair of curling antlers, suspected that he had been maliciously decoyed by Satan himself into a direct avenue to the infernal regions; but after a few fervent ejaculations, he had the happiness to recognise in the shaggy countenance of his companion the venerable features of an ancient ram.

RW

Prospect for a Memorial – Part 3

Continuing the Vignettes, Voyages & Vindications of my First Fleet Ancestors, William Parish & Phebe Norton. Parts 1 & 2 appeared in Founders 39.3 and 39.4. More to come!

It is possible that William had left Lot 43 with sufficient funds from his land sale in 1800 to John Nichols to avoid becoming a common labourer. In the 1802 muster he and Phebe are shown as still resident in Sydney. William, being a seaman, and restless, was then to return to his earlier vocation for a period, working his way back to England, without his family, in 1802. The ship is unknown, as there are simply no surviving records of musters on ships returning to England during this period.

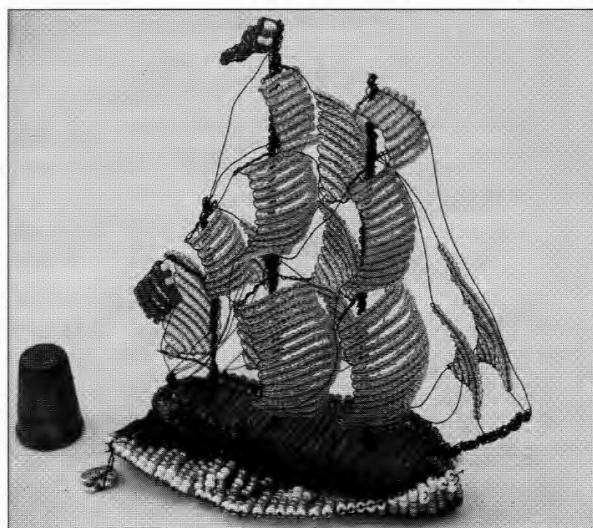
He next appears in the company of someone who knew him quite well and was possibly becoming something of a mentor – David Collins, of the Thomas Arndell Affair! **William voyaged from England in company with that officer in 1803 to establish a settlement at Port Phillip Bay.**

On board *Calcutta* with Collins, Captain Woodruff and the 308 male convicts, were two of the civil officers for the settlement, the Reverend Robert Knopwood and the assistant surgeon William l'Anson. The other civil officers travelled on the expedition's store ship, *Ocean*, under Captain Mertho, together with the free settlers and their families. These civil officers included the Surgeon Bowden, Second Assistant Surgeon Hopley, Surveyor George Prideaux Harris, Deputy Commissary Leonard Fosbrook, Mineralogist Adolarius Humphrey, Agriculturist Thomas Clark, Superintendent William Patterson, and **two Overseers of Convicts** — John Ingle and **none other than William Parish**. It would appear that he was recommended by Governor King in a letter to Collins, and Lord Hobart fixed his salary at 25 pounds per annum. **Well, who better to supervise convicts on sea and land than a man of William's background, experience and salty vocabulary?**

Calcutta and *Ocean* left Spithead on 24 April 1803 but stopped in at St Helens on the Isle of Wight, on the following day. This delay, according to the convict Fawcner, was due to the fair-haired and petite twenty-three-year-old Hannah Powers, who had convinced Collins and presumably Captain Woodruff to let her retrieve her pet poodle and bring it on board. Hannah in fact became Collins' mistress, a move that provided her husband Mathew Powers with liberties not provided to other convicts. He was able to move freely around the ship and to purchase stock whilst on route to Port Phillip. Perhaps disturbed by this moral turpitude in high places, the winds shifted unfavourably and it wasn't until 28 April that the two ships departed the English Channel.

It took *Calcutta* and *Ocean* 22 days after leaving Spithead to reach the first port of call Santa Cruz, Teneriffe, where they arrived on 16 May, and remained at anchor for four days. The male convicts were not allowed off the ship at this or any of the ports of call, a situation which would not have made William's job any easier.

At about midday on 9 June *Calcutta* crossed the Equator. However, it wasn't until the next day that the ship's company enjoyed an equatorial celebration. Imagine the scene on the quarterdeck, laughing and cheering as several of the ship's crew wheeled old Neptune, and his wife Amphitrite towards them from the forecabin, their triumphal carriage ingeniously constructed from chairs fixed on a gun carriage. The pair were resplendently attired in their rags with carefully greased and powdered swabs as beard and hairpieces while the boat hook doubled as the King's trident. After a great deal of banter between the Captain, the crew and the would-be Sea King and the presentation of some ludicrous gift from the Sea King to the Captain, the proceedings moved on to the more formal ceremonies. At this point Neptune's barber together with a few assistants amongst the crew hauled out the first timers crossing the Equator. Each in turn was seated precariously atop a large tub. The new recruits' whiskers and face were then liberally lathered with tar and grease and roughly shaved — then whoops, into the tub! Aboard *Ocean*, the young surveyor George Harris reported that by paying a fine in liquor, first timers were able to escape the tarring and shaving. However he also said "everyone from the Captain to the Cabin boy, passengers and all had a hand in the ducking" though they were prepared by wearing old clothes. Those who were tarred and shaved would have been glad that it was to be three weeks before



Alexander, William's FF ship, complete with bow wave, constructed in 2008 of thousands of tiny threaded beads, by Manon Audigé (15), his 8th generation great granddaughter and daughter of new member, Rachel Audigé #7558.

the ship would reach Rio so there was time to grow their beards back. The voyagers had survived just 44 days of a trip that would last 168 in total. **William Parish, an old hand, was no victim in these festivities. Like Collins, he had crossed the Line for the third time!**

On June 29 1803 *Calcutta* arrived at Rio de Janeiro, the weather having been more pleasant. The voyagers remained at the port for nearly three weeks while the ship was re-supplied and made ready for the stormy weather ahead. Enchardos, a small Island in the Bay about two miles from town, was leased for one shilling per day. The convict wives according to Knopwood, the 'women' according to Lt. Tuckey, were landed to do the washing.

Both ships set sail from Rio on 20 July 1803 and after just two days *Ocean* lost sight of *Calcutta* in a gale and thereafter for the rest of the trip did not sight any vessel. Captain Woodruff had instructed Captain Mertho that if the ships were separated *Ocean* should not land at the Cape of Good Hope for fear of a hostile reception.

Calcutta encountered bad weather and gales for much of the trip but the diaries and ship's log mentioned also that they observed many whales. On rounding the Cape of Good Hope on 12 August *Calcutta* prepared her guns for action but rather than meeting with hostility at Simons Bay she received a welcome reception.

Calcutta departed on 23 August having completed the re-supply and purchases of livestock and seed. The weather continued to be stormy. The gloom that set in after their departure from the last point of civilisation could only have been worsened with the punishment of the convict, Thomas Fitzgerald. He was given 36 lashes on 10 September for theft. Three privates were also punished with lashes for drunkenness, misbehaviour and theft.

HMS Calcutta sailed into Port Phillip Harbour on Sunday 9 October 1803, two days after *Ocean* which had been anxiously awaiting her arrival.

William Parish had completed a second emigration to Australia, this time wielding, not wearing, chains, and content not too often to see the cat let out of the bag! However, life at Port Phillip Bay was not to be his destiny. He was to stay there only four uncertain months.

Ron Withington

CANBERRA: (ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds)

Next Meeting: Australia Day Lunch at Canberra Yacht Club at 12.00 noon. All FFF members are welcome.

For bookings, contact the President, Geoff Cameron, ph (02) 6251 4095.

CENTRAL COAST: (Gosford, Tuggerah Lake, Wyong, Budgewoi & surrounds)

Venue: Wyong RSL Club, corner Anzac Ave and Margaret St, Wyong. Meetings held each month February to November on the second Saturday, except for April, when the meeting is the third Saturday, at 10am for 10.30am.

Next Meetings: Saturday 14 February. Speaker Gwen Bates, *Researching Scottish Records*. On 14 March, Gwen is again the speaker, on *Researching Irish Records*. Contact the Secretary, Beryl Haxton, ph (02) 4353 2524.

EASTERN FARMS: (Ryde, Eastwood, Parramatta, Kings Langley, Pennant Hills & surrounds)

Venue: Ryde/Eastwood Leagues Club. Meetings are held monthly on the 1st Saturday, 10am to 12 noon.

For details of the February meeting, contact the Secretary, Robin Palmer, ph (02) 9871 4102.

HUNTER VALLEY: (Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds)

Venue: St John's Hall on the corner of Parry & Dawson Sts, Cooks Hill, Newcastle. Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Members may arrive at 10am.

Next Outing: Friday 6 February to Parramatta, leaving by train from Broadmeadow at 6.35am. Lots of walking. Details in the newsletter, or contact Noelene Snowden, ph (02) 4959 3702.

Next meeting: Monday 16 February. Speaker: Ray Meredith on his family. Contact Beth Brooker, ph (02) 4926 5535.

LACHLAN MACQUARIE: (Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Dubbo, White Rock, Cowra, Kelso and surrounds)

Next Meeting: 21 March (third Saturday) from 2pm to 4pm in Bathurst. Venue and speaker to be arranged. Contact the Secretary, Judy Dwyer, ph (02) 6365 8234 for details closer to the date.

NEW ENGLAND: (Armidale & surrounds)

Next Meeting: (Quarterly) Saturday 14 February at 12.30pm. Venue and speaker to be arranged. Contact the Secretary, Fran Newling, ph (02) 6771 5099 for details.

NORTH COAST: (Coffs Harbour, Woolgoolga, Leigh & surrounds)

Next Meeting: Sunday 1 February, at 11.30am, at Boambee Creek Reserve. Speaker: Max Leroux on his FF ancestors, John Herbert and Deborah Ellam. Contact Mary Kell. **Australia Day:** Members are asked to help with the Chapter's table at Urunga Public School. Contact: President Mary Kell, ph (02) 6657 1972 for details.

NORTHERN RIVERS: (Lismore & surrounds)

Meetings are held bi-monthly on the fourth Monday. Tables reserved for Australia Day. We will meet you at the door.

Next Meeting: Australia Day, Monday 26 January, 11.30am at Lismore Workers Sports Club, Oliver Ave, Goonellabah.

Following meeting: 22 March. Venue & Speaker to be announced. Contact: Margaret Soward, ph (02) 6686 3597.

NORTH WEST: (Tamworth & surrounds)

Venue: Family History Group Rooms in the V. Guy Kable Building, Marius St, Tamworth. Bi-monthly meetings at 1.30pm. Contact: Jo Crossing, ph. (02) 6766 8255 for details of all meetings.

Next Meeting: 7 February at 1.30pm. Steve Cuneen will be guest speaker on *The Early Settlement of Australia*.

SOUTH COAST: (from Engadine to Burrill Lake)

Venue: Ribbonwood Centre, Laurel Room (not Sassafras Room), 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto. Nine monthly meetings a year on the 1st Tuesday (except May & December) 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Next Meetings: 3 February. Guest speaker: Ron Hill, historian and author. Topic: *The Day Gov. Macquarie came to Town*. 3 March: Members Betty Warn and Fae McGregor will speak on the lives of their FF ancestors on the Hawkesbury.

Next Outing: 4 & 5 March, Overnight at the Windsor Terrace Hotel, for a two-day tour recapping the pioneer history in the area. We commence with morning tea (BYO) at 10am at Howe Park, Windsor. Ph (02) 4261 6893 for details.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: (Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds)

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre, Cnr Albert Lane & Queen St, Mittagong.

Meetings: Bi-monthly on the second Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Next Meeting: 11 February. Guest Speaker: Val Lhuede. Topic: *The Ghost Town of Yerranderie*. Val is the owner of Yerranderie, a unique, lovingly-restored private Silver Mining Ghost Town. Contact: Neville Usher, (02) 4869 1406.

CHAPTER NEWS (see also page 12)

BONDING AT BOWRAL: Twenty-seven members of the Southern Highlands Chapter celebrated their 4th Anniversary at their Christmas Luncheon on 10 December, at the Scottish Arms in East Bowral, rounding off a great year. Guest speaker Ray Thorburn was greatly entertaining with his anecdotes and images of *Christmas in the Antipodes*. Chapter President Pat Robinson formally welcomed new members into the Fellowship, presenting them with both their Fellowship & Chapter Membership Certificates. All financial members were also presented with Chapter Membership Certificates.

WHEN IN MELBOURNE: Following goodwill discussions on 15 November with President Rick Stonehouse and Social Secretary Beryl Stonehouse of the **First Fleet Fellowship Victoria Inc**, John Haxton and John Boyd notified an agreement whereby we will share news of our respective functions, so that visitors traveling interstate in either direction can attend if they wish. Secretary Cheryl Timbury can provide details of meetings and events, phone (03) 5255 2477 or email htimbury@bigpond.net.au.

Margaret Withington, Chapter Liaison Officer, (02) 4757 3984, margaretwith@ozemail.com.au

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT — A New Chapter in Queensland

The inaugural meeting of the **Proposed Brisbane-Based Chapter** will take place on Saturday 14 March 2009, at St Augustine's Church Hall, 9 Charlton St, Hamilton, 10.15am for 10.30am. Some parking is available in the church grounds. Buses are frequent, and fast catamaran ferries serve Bretts Wharf landing, which is about 200m from the hall, connecting with the central city and landings as far upstream as the University of Queensland at St Lucia. The nearest railway station is at Ascot but it is served infrequently by passenger services. All interested members and families are welcome. Those who contact me will receive a news sheet with further details early in February 2009. Looking forward to meeting everyone.

CENTRAL WEST QUEENSLAND: Interested in a Chapter near Longreach? Call Alan Barton, ph (07) 4658 9147.

In Fellowship, Jean Mortimer, Chapter Development Officer, (02) 4257 5575

MEMBERS MEMORANDA

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER

- #7603 Elizabeth Geraldine Ingham
- #7604 Patricia Scott-Wandmaker
- #7605 Jennifer Newling

JOHN ROBERTS

- #7606 Arthur Terence Monk

ANDREW FISHBURN

- #7607 Graham Lindsay Debus
- #7607.1 Beatrice Letitia O'Dell Debus

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES

- #7608 Elizabeth Anne Huntley
- #7609 Fiona Virginia Morthorpe
- #7610 Bradlee Colin Vauvert
- #7611 Stuart Anthony Vauvert

JOHN MUNDAY/ANN MUNDAY

- #7612 Roma Florence Grace
- #7613 Dorothy Clair Grace
- #7614 Kay Roma Sendall
- #7615 Alan George Grace
- #7616 Robert McKellar Grace

ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY

- #7617 Lauren Kathleen Harvey
- #7618 Matthew Leslie Harvey

JOSEPH JOHN WRIGHT

- #7619 Margaret Russell
- #7619.1 Alan John Russell

ANDREW GOODWIN/LYDIA MUNRO

- #7620 Robert James Leech



BIRTHS

Congratulations to the families of:

THOMAS ACRES

Oliver Anthony Brown

26 August, 2008, a son to Richard and Leah Brown, first grandson to #7475 Vicki Ainsworth-Brown.

Angus John Wallace McGree

21 June 2008, fourth child to #7460 Elizabeth and Jason McGree.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy to the families of:

ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY #4166 Rita Dunham

4 October 2008, aged 92. Late of Lane Cove.

JAMES SHIERS/MARY SMITH

#5749.1 Zona Valerie Maguire

7 November 2008, aged 80. Wife of #5749 Ronald Maguire. Late of Springwood.

BENJAMIN CUSLEY

#6728 Kenneth William Gordon Smith

11 October 2008. Husband of Loris Smith. Late of Linden Park, SA.

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER

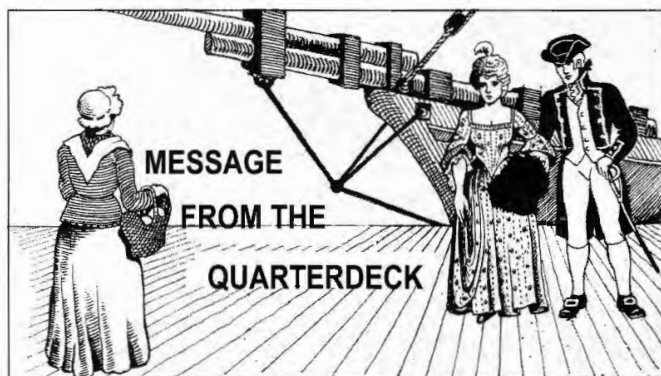
#51 Frances Leigh Bull

13 October 2008, aged 102. Wife of the late Hector Bull. Late of Wahroonga. Most Senior Member of the FFF. (see page 8 of this issue)

FREDERICK MEREDITH

#1679 Kathleen Ann Anderson

1 December 2008, aged 94. Late of Bundanoon, NSW.



• Zona Maguire (see notice above) and her husband Ron FF James Shears, were treasured members of the Board, Zona acting as Secretary of the FFF. She was a most willing volunteer for any number of duties and a wonderful helpmate to Ron who was our long-standing editor of *Founders*. A number of Directors were present at her Memorial Service in Springwood Uniting Church.

• Kathleen Anderson (see notice above) in the days of Beryl Lewis's presidency was a FFF office volunteer. Her son Graham says she often told of her adventures in data entry, converting the membership records from paper to computer which was then quite a novelty.



• If you have not yet visited the incredible *Convict Hulks, Life on the Prison Ships Exhibition* at Hyde Park Barracks Museum, be advised that it will remain open for you until 30 May 2010! These Hulks surely resist time, tide, rot and decay. (See the review in *Founders* 39.1, Jan/Feb 2008)

• More members have newly responded to the invitation in the previous *Founders* to participate in the *Roses from the Heart Project*. Fay Golding FF Thomas Acres reports completing a bonnet for her great grandmother, Caroline Dart, who arrived on *Henry Wellesley* 1 in 1836. It's not too late to carve out the calico or tear up the linen sheets and start needling. Email the Editor or phone him on 02 4757

3984 for that standard bonnet pattern, which incidentally was taken from an 1860s collection of old clothes at Narryna Historic Home in Battery Point, Tasmania.

• **HUNTER VALLEY CHAPTER AT CHRISTMAS:** John Brooker with assistance from John Haxton, set about re-establishing the Hunter Valley Chapter some 18 months ago, and it was a great pleasure to attend the Chapter Meeting and Christmas Luncheon on Monday 15 December, along with the new Chapter Liaison Officer, Margaret Withington, on her first outing. We met at Monet's Café which is part of the Commandants Cottage in the grounds of John Fletcher Hospital in Newcastle. The formal business included the acceptance of a firm proposal to set up a website, reports of a visit to Wyong to hear an address by Louise Anemaat (see *Founders* 39.5 p.7), and the October Meeting address on Arthur Phillip by Warren Hyslop, who also attended the Luncheon. Social Director, Noelene Snowden, proposed an outing to Parramatta on 6 February to kickstart the new Chapter year. Meanwhile it seemed likely that Hunter Valley members will be swelling the numbers at the FFF Australia Day Luncheon in Sydney on 24 January. RW



President John Brooker, centre, with some of his committee, Bruce Donaldson (Publicity), Barbara Turner (Treasurer), Yvonne Bradley (Vice President), Beth Brooker (Secretary), Judy Aubin (Newsletter) and Phil Aubin (Webmaster).