

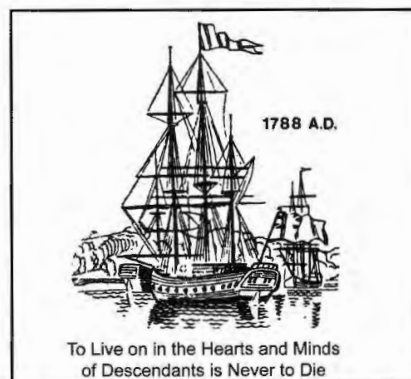
# Founders

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

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

Volume 40, Issue 3

May/June 2009



## An Innkeeper's Memorial Mound

**W**illiam 'Lumpy' Dean may not be the most famous convict to be banished to NSW, but at 22 stone (139.5kg) he almost certainly became the largest. William arrived on *Hillsborough* on 26 July 1799 at the age of 23 as a lifer, having had his death sentence for stealing £20 from his employer commuted to transportation. On Christmas Day 1806, William married **Elizabeth Hollingsworth** after she had been assigned to him from the Female Factory at Parramatta. She had arrived on 24 June 1804 on *Experiment 1* to serve seven years for stealing just one pound from her employer. They were to have eight children. William obtained a ticket of leave on 19 January, 1811, by which time he had carved out a living for his family at Eastern Creek raising wheat and cattle and supplying grain and meat to the Government Store.

**This brings us to the mound pictured at right.** It is a beehive well, built by Lumpy Dean in 1814, one of many scattered around the region, but without doubt the best preserved, although it may have been repaired in 1911. Such wells served both settlers and travellers as the area was being opened up. The dome is some four metres in diameter, constructed from fired brick and coarse cement, with a square stone-capped opening at the top for bucket access. Rainwater collected in the well and stayed clean, pure and cool under its beehive. At the same time the shape factor made it devilish difficult for adult, child or animal to fall in. If you want to try, however, the well is located on the Great Western Highway, just east of Wallgrove Road. Stop at a lone conifer on your right, stare left and there it is behind a gated wire fence, nearly buried in a fennel thicket. Another smaller beehive can be found at the end of Pikes Lane across the Highway, and there are more ruins near the Royal Cricketers Arms, Reservoir Road, in Prospect. Interestingly, Mt Druitt Historical Society has incorporated a flattish brick facsimile beehive above an *in situ* well in the grounds of their wonderfully renovated premises at *The Manse*, 23 The Avenue, Mt Druitt.

**Lumpy was to go on to provide much greater amenity for travellers.** On 24 January, 1817, Macquarie granted William 100 acres of land on the south side of the Western Highway, on the condition that he was to "maintain and keep a house of entertainment for travellers." In 1818 William got his conditional pardon. In 1819 he held a liquor licence under the sign of *The Bush Inn*. It was alternatively named *Halfway House* (between Parramatta and Penrith). Lumpy was known to sit outside the Inn in his specially-made gargantuan chair, sparring with all passers-by, and it may be for this reason that hostelry was also known as *The Corporation Inn*!

Throughout his life as a publican his banter often turned to argument and he was regularly at odds with the authorities, while his sons had scrapes with the police for horse stealing and cattle duffing. Late in life Lumpy was before the court for having blackened the eye of the wife of the Police Sergeant. All of the complainants were drunk and he escaped the full rigour of the law.

By 1829 William owned *The Bush Inn* with 210 acres and 100 cattle. He lived on at the Inn, fulfilling his contract, until his death in 1847, aged 78. He willed the pub and the adjoining 60 acres to his daughters, Martha and Ann, who married Thomas Pike. Martha, Ann and Tom shared the business, renamed *The Old House at Home*, until Martha's death in 1870. Pike descendants were in residence until 1938. Even today there are Dean and Pike descendants living in the area.

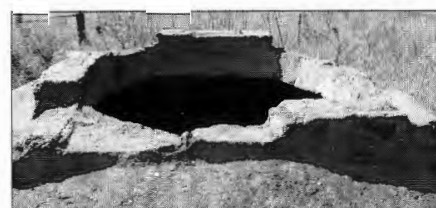
**While the Inn has gone, Lumpy's well remains as his rotund memorial.** RW



**Lumpy's Beehive Well with peephole, April 2009, needing care and attention**



**Deep and dark and damaged inside**



**The stone-capping has seen better days**



**The Mt Druitt facsimile, April 2009**

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**NOTE: MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS  
DUE 1 JULY - NOTICE ENCLOSED**

**KEY  
DATES**

### SOUP & DAMPER DAY AT FF HOUSE

Friday 10 July, 11.00am to 2.00pm. All welcome. Cost \$5.

### EBENEZER CHURCH BICENTENARY CELEBRATION

19, 20, 21 June 2009 (see p.3)

### THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF FIRST SETTLEMENT

First European Settlement in Queensland at Redcliffe, 1824-5  
Redcliffe Museum, 2 June to 4 October, 2009 (see p.10)





Founded 1968

### Founders

is the magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

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## From the President's Desk

**13 May 1787 the First Fleet departs** Portsmouth heading for Botany Bay. Of course Australia was marked for glory, for its people had been chosen by the best and finest judges in England. We who are their descendants raise our hats to their pioneering spirit and determination to give it a go. The following, we all know so well, recounts some of the problems that confronted the authorities 222 years or so ago.

1786, British gaoles were filled to overflowing, the crime rate continued to rise, and the Government was forced to use obsolete old war ships as floating prisons. These rotting hulks did not improve the beauty of the English seaside ports, and the stench that came from these temporary prisons caused the authorities to seek a better place for society's human refuse. On the river Thames over 600 prisoners were confined, working ashore each day in chains and returning to the hulks each night.

There were many propositions put to the government to solve the convict problem, including the idea of Botany Bay; however, there was a demand for timber and flax which were needed continually for ships' masts, sails and hemp rope. These could be supplied from Norfolk Island or New Zealand.

Britain needed to build a strong centre in the Pacific. France and Spain, already, were taking steps to establish their control of the Pacific Ocean area. Under the Treaty of Tordesillas, Spain considered she had the prior right to colonise the eastern area of the Great South Land. Britain had no intention of allowing either France or Spain or Russia to establish themselves on either the east coast of Australia, Norfolk Island or New Zealand. Captain James Cook had raised the Flag in the name of His Majesty, so no other country could be allowed to lay claim. The only way to establish a settlement was to use convict labour, hence the decision was made in August 1786 to assemble a fleet of 11 ships.

The expedition was expected to leave within two months; however, attacks by the press on the organisers caused

embarrassment for the Government. The assembling of the ships, repairs and alterations, and ordering of equipment and stores etc took much longer than anticipated. The only people pleased with the delay were two convicts on *Alexander*, whose pardons came through just before the ships sailed.

Recruiting crew, collecting supplies, fitting the ships so that they could carry convicts, attending to such small details as liquor for the marines, medical supplies for the surgeons and scientific equipment for the officers: it was not surprising that comparisons were soon made to Noah's Ark.

The Home Office selected Captain Arthur Phillip to lead the expedition. The Navy was responsible for the execution of the assembly of the ships and the loading of the convicts. By the end of December the store ships and some of the convict vessels were ready to sail to Portsmouth. Upon arrival the ships started to load their cargo of humanity; the fact that they had to feed them made the authorities more determined to expedite the fleet departure. More delays, repairs to security hatches that were found to be faulty, supplies not yet procured, all added up to frustration; even then they left without adequate clothing for the women convicts and shot for the marines.

Eventually on 13 May 1787 the fleet of 11 ships accompanied by the tender *HMS Hyæna* finally departed on what we now know to have been a successful voyage. We of the Fellowship are grateful that our ancestors were in the care of Captain Arthur Phillip. Sometimes it is good for our character to recount the hardships and conditions they endured, when we contemplate our current pleasant situation.

*In Fellowship, John Haxton*

Acknowledgements: *Australia in History; The First Fleet*, Jonathan King, Alan Boardman, Roland Harvey; *The Naval Historical Society of Australia Inc. The Life of Admiral Arthur Phillip RN 1738-1814*.

### SOUP & DAMPER DAY AT FF HOUSE

Friday 10 July, 11.00am to 2.00pm. All welcome. An opportunity for new members to meet with Board Members and Staff Volunteers. Cost \$5.



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## Prisoners in Paradise – Olivia and Nathaniel Lucas

### BOOK REVIEW

In looking into the life of Robert Forrester in the last issue of *Founders*, we encountered an inveterate farmer, a man, like so many First Fleeters, whose every action revolved around the acquisition and husbandry of acreage. **Nathaniel Lucas** was different. He was the son of a middle-class builder, who gained carpentry skill as his father's apprentice, tried his hand as a shipwright and gained further experience as a millwright.

At age twenty he was working with a builder in London when he apparently fell out with his landlady, a publican's wife. She didn't like his sober habits and wanted rent in advance. He declined and was soon discovered mysteriously in possession of women's clothing hidden under his mattress. Author Trevor Lagström suggests not only a frame-up, but that he was "targeted as a skilled tradesman of good character who would be an asset to the infant Colony". Conspiracy victim or not, he was convicted and sentenced, and departed for Botany Bay on *Scarborough* in 1787.

It certainly transpired that Nathaniel was one of the chosen few included with Philip Gidley King's pioneer settlers to Norfolk Island in March 1788. **Olivia Gascoigne** was also in the party and she and Nathaniel were married

by Surgeon Jamison a few weeks after arrival. Lagström says that no other female convict was allowed to marry on the island in that year, and suggests that the concession to Olivia may have been due to her birth into an aristocratic family: her dad was High Sheriff of Yorkshire and her mum was a Wentworth, the same family as D'Arcy Wentworth. These connections in no way dampened a rebel spirit, which led her into the company of a group of young men during an

armed robbery in August 1784, and saw her convicted of the capital crime, but later pardoned and embarked on *Lady Penrhyn* in 1787.

Nathaniel and Olivia had 13 children, 11 of whom were born on Norfolk Island. They now have some 40,000 descendants, as documented in another publication, modestly titled, *A Nation within a Nation*.

For me the overriding fascination of this engaging book lies in the unusual career of Nathaniel as a constructor. Sure he, like Olivia, had some illustrious connections — a close relative was the King's Private Secretary and his sister Fanny was the mistress of Crown Prince George, while Philip Gidley King was a powerful mentor — but there is no doubt that along with his farming, manufacturing and business skills he was a superb building project manager.

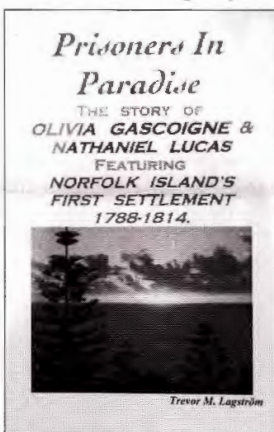
Norfolk Island and later Port Jackson became bedecked with his work. On the Island, he supervised the carpenters, sawyers and blacksmiths and built sawpits, the first Government House for King (in wood), and later a more fitting stone residence for the Lieutenant Governor. He built the 38m-long Cascade Jetty, complete with a crane for cargo handling and later improved it. In 1794 he built a grain mill turned by manpower, which King used for punishment as an alternative to the lash. The remains of his windmill near

Point Hunter still exist, as do some relics of the overshot water mill he built in 1795 at Arthur's Vale. He built houses and may even have added Matthew Flinders' boat, *Norfolk*, to his portfolio. He took millstones from NI to Sydney and in 1805 built his own post mill in the Domain and became Australia's first flour miller. He built an octagon smock Government Mill where the bridge toll gates stand today. He is credited with building the so-called Rum Hospital in Macquarie St and its component, the Mint Building. He had a liquor licence, built Trafalgar Hotel near Church Hill and in 1809 auctioned two of his 6m keel boats. In 1817 he built the parsonage houses at Liverpool and Parramatta, and in April 1818 started work on St Luke's Church, Liverpool.

It was here he ran foul of the architect **Francis Greenway** and a violent argument is said to have drowned out Macquarie's speech at the laying of the foundation stone. A few weeks later he was dead at 54 in the mud beside Georges River. Lagström has a fund of theories as to the cause of his death, inevitably including one of a conspiracy! Nat's headstone has been attached to the wall of the church, his last building contract. The elegant structure has stood for nearly 200 years, on the same foundations that Greenway claimed to be of inferior quality. Nat was a master builder!

*Prisoners in Paradise* is a very accessible book, carefully researched and compiled by a fascinated writer, assisted by some crisp colour photos by his wife, Judi, who is a descendant. Lagström handles the passing parade of historical characters and events most adroitly. The book packs a lot into its 85 pages, and could have had even more punch if some of those self-publishing evils of short paragraphs at 6mm spacing and sundry repetitions had fallen to an editor's axe. And oh yes, I continue to be bemused by the use of *sans serif* body text in book self-publishing, a practice that renders the reading more tiring and the content curiously less authoritative.

Ron Withington



### Bicentenary at Ebenezer Church



EBENEZER CHURCH - 1809

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us"

*Ebenezer (est. 1809) was the first non-conformist then Presbyterian Church in Australia. A school began in 1810 so it is also the oldest extant school building in the country.*

**A Bicentenary Celebration will take the form of a community event over three days, 19-21 June 2009**

**19 June:** Static displays in the Pavilion. Devonshire teas.

**20 June:** From 10.00am. Main Day with Outdoor Service, displays, foodstalls, souvenirs, re-enactments & other entertainments.

**21 June:** From 10.30am. Family Picnic Day with displays, music, barbecue, Devonshire teas, historical walk-and-talks.

**For more information phone: Ted Brill 02 4579 9235**



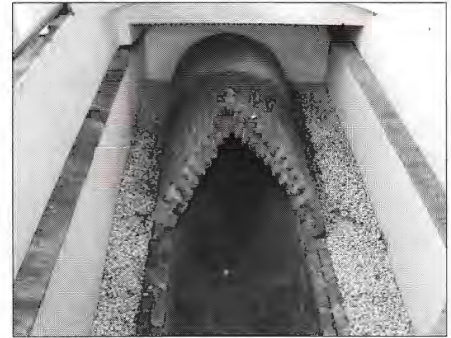
# A HISTORY STROLL AROUND THE PARRAMATTA CBD

**A**s early as 15 February 1788, Arthur Phillip with William Bradley took a trip up the Parramatta River as far as The Flats at Homebush and into the shoals of Duck River looking for fertile earth in which to plant their salt-ravaged and infested seed which was not going to survive in the sandy soil of Farm Cove. He returned on a week-long expedition on 22 April, paddling the freshwater sections of the Parramatta River and marching cross country to Prospect Hill from which he could see the expanse of the Cumberland Plain. He concluded that Rose Hill (or Parramatta) should be the young colony's cradle city – it had fresh water, was surrounded by good farmland and impregnable to 'enemy naval bombardment'.

The town was established on 2 November 1788. Within a year the first locally-built boat, *Rose Hill Packet*, was running from Sydney Cove to the new settlement. Parramatta Road to Sydney dates from 1792, at which time James Ruse received his 30-acre land grant for *Experiment Farm*.

In 1793 John Macarthur began building *Elizabeth Farm* to the east of the town. From 1799 *Government House* to the west of the town was for seven decades the 'country residence' of the first ten Governors of the colony. Both buildings are well known to members of the Fellowship.

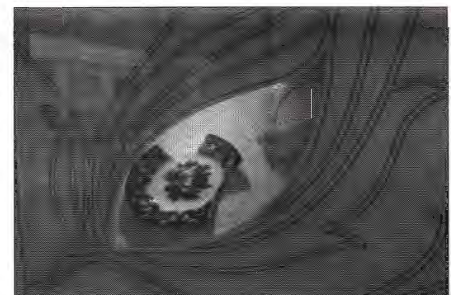
Probably less well known within the modern city of Parramatta is a number of early settlement historical sites that can be seen as excavations, structures, buildings or interpretative displays during a shortish walk, map in hand, around the CBD. Here are some of them:



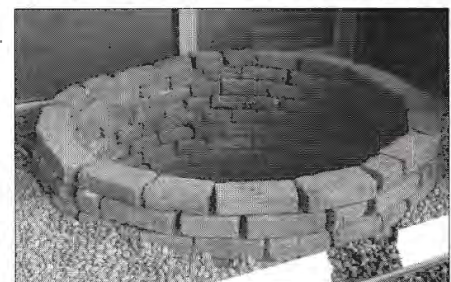
*The barrel-shaped section of the drain*



*Drawing of the box section of the drain*



*One quarter of the artwork "Shard" in the foyer of 25 Smith St. A broken plate.*



*'Babes in the Wood' water well.*

## 1. Convict Barrel Drain (126-138 George St at rear, facing Phillip St)

Not a Tank Stream! Early Parramatta had fertile soil for growing crops, but was very marshy in places. Not for nothing was it known to the Aboriginal people as 'the place where eels lie down'. This drain made more land available for buildings and roads to expand the settlement. In 1981 about 50m of intact drain was found running through the building site. It is cylindrical, some 1300mm in diameter, with two courses of 200mm sandstock bricks bonded with lime mortar and laid parallel along the axis of the drain, some bearing the arrow frog mark, indicating that they were used for public works. The drain was built between 1822 and 1827 and a small section has been preserved and interpreted in an outdoor plaza. Convicts mastered this draining task in two phases. The drain ran northeast from near the intersection of Argyle St and Church St, crossing Macquarie, Smith, George and Phillip Sts before entering the river. To the north it is the clever barrel-shape. The south section is in the form of a box of sandstone blocks. Parts of the drain still carry water from random inflows.

## 2. Convict Box Drain (25 Smith St)

Redevelopment on this site in 2005 uncovered evidence of C19th occupation. Some artefacts are incorporated in the foyer artwork — the beautiful semi-tetraptych, "Shard", crockery and glass containers backlit in blue, purple, pink and green. The drain at this site has the box section referred to above.

## 3. Water Well from 'Babes in the Wood' (Barrack Lane, Smith St)

*The Hawkesbury Settler* was on this site by 1817, to become by 1828 *The Babes in the Wood* hotel. It was demolished around 1879 and replaced by a large Victorian house which remained until c1960. A dig in 1989 uncovered a brick well which was dismantled and rebuilt in the foyer of the new office building.

## 4. Convict Huts, Wheatsheaf Hotel and Wheelwright's Workshop (134-137 Marsden St and 45 Macquarie St, backing onto Hunter St)

Initially the town allotments were occupied by convicts, who were housed in what are known as 'convict huts' – small wattle and daub buildings accommodating 10-14 people. Gradually the hut sites were taken over by free persons, building brick houses. By 1823 the whole town was leased out and the remaining convicts were housed at the Convict Barracks in Macquarie Street, opposite Arthur Phillip High School. The excavation includes the sites of four convict huts, built in the 1790s. Two are located on the Macquarie Street frontage, the other two are on the Hunter Street frontage.

The hut on the corner of Macquarie and Marsden Street contains a brick floor, a feature not usually found. Additions to the hut include an early wheelwright's forge and workshop. The hut became *The Wheatsheaf Hotel* by 1801 and later the *Shepherd Inn*. It was leased to John Graham in 1806 and survived until the 1870s. A cellar built of sandstone rubble masonry has an internal timber floor. Brick footings from the 1840s houses were also found. The completed new building

will include an artefact showcase and a public plaza where the *in situ* remains can be viewed.

## 5. Lord Nelson Hotel (95-101 George St)

The foyer of the new building contains an information panel setting out the history of the site 1790-2005. The site contained drainage channels and by 1795 a two-roomed convict hut with garden allotments was built for 10





men. In 1810 former convict Robert Cable set up *The Lord Nelson* hotel in the hut. He and wife Mary added more buildings and gardens and a hut for their home. Robert died in 1821 and Mary operated the hotel with new husband Robert Armstrong. Together they added new rooms, two verandahs, a kitchen, dairy, a brick-lined well and an orchard. Robert's stepson Gilbert, in later years, completely razed the site, topsoil and all. Only post holes and brick remnants survive to describe the place. Was this an act to 'cleanse' the site of its convict past?

#### 6. Convict Huts & William Byrnes Store (180 George St)

An extensive historical display has been set up in this Meriton apartment building. The remains of six convict huts from the 1790s were found in the form of post holes of wattle and daub structures. Three were still standing in 1822. Artefacts belonging to the convicts included two simple red clay pipes, and two bowls, undecorated because no glazes for pottery were available in the colony. Evidence was found of the house, warehouse/store and cellar built by William Byrnes by 1830. The dig also revealed their two stone reservoirs, cesspits, pet burials including a pony, ceramics including a teapot and pharmaceutical bottles.

#### 7. Parramatta Justice Precinct (former Parramatta Hospital site)

The site has been occupied for hospital uses for over 200 years. Within the dramatic new Precinct the major building envelopes have been so located as to create an archaeology courtyard where significant remains have been preserved intact. A number of brass plaques containing historical prompts has been inserted integral with the courtyard paving stones. Two pavilion buildings interpret and partially expose the archaeological remains of the third Colonial Hospital (1818-1848).

#### 8. Landslide 2007 (Parramatta River bank)

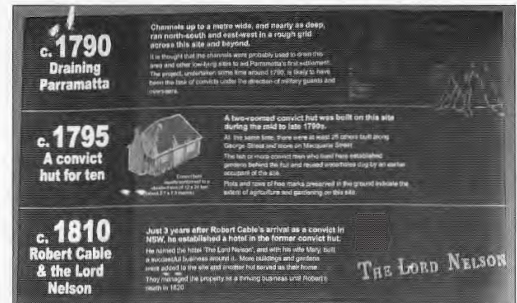
This sculpture by Mel O'Callaghan is located on the incline that runs from the courtyard adjacent to the Justice Building to the river. It is a representation of a convict hut that appears to be sliding into the river. Consisting only of a cross-section of the hut, it reads as a slice of a past reality that has been covered with layers of history and memories. As such it is an appropriate summary of the sites described in this walkabout.

**CODA:** Among other early intact, if modified, historical buildings to be discovered in the CBD are: *The Woolpack Hotel* (1796), *Brislington*, *Harrisford*, *Hambledon*, *Experiment Farm Cottage* and the *Lancer Barracks*. And of course within *St John's Cemetery* lie many early settlers. However the Sites 1-8 above are those typically chosen for an archaeological walking tour by the Royal Australian Historical Society. The map and all but two of the photographs are original and the descriptions have been based on RAHS literature, widely supplemented by derivations from public inscriptions and a group of archaeological websites.

Ron Withington



Cellar of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, 2005.



Detail of the Lord Nelson Hotel site information panel in the foyer.



Excavation of William Byrnes' Cellar.



A typical plaque in the Justice Precinct paving.



Landslide 2007

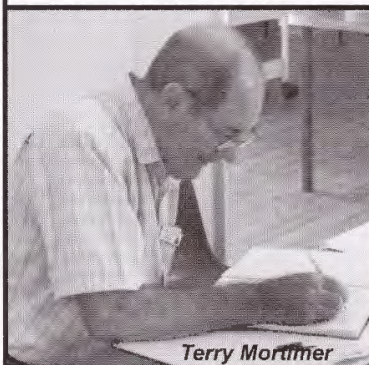




## NO.12— IT'S OUR FIRST INTERSTATE CHAPTER!



**Scene: Queensland:** The Parish Hall at St Augustine's Anglican Church in the Brisbane suburb of Hamilton. 10.30am, Saturday 14 March 2009. Among the early arrivals (*pictured*) were Jack Singe and Dorothy Singe (FF William Tunks/Thomas Spencer/Mary Phillips) of Kenmore. Three founding members of the FFF attended – #289 Jean Stewart (FF John Small/Mary Parker), #292 Viola Beard (FF Samuel Pigott) and #293 Stephanie Lawless (FF Samuel Pigott).



Terry Mortimer



Jean Mortimer

FFF Librarian, Terry Mortimer, signed in 38 attendees plus six Sydney visitors, namely John and Pat Boyd, Jean and Terry Mortimer, and Margaret and Ron Withington. The group assembled before the FFF banner under the Australian Flag and the Queen Anne Jack, which Terry explained lacks only the cross of St Patrick to become a Union Jack. John Boyd, FFF Events & Research Director, took the Chair.



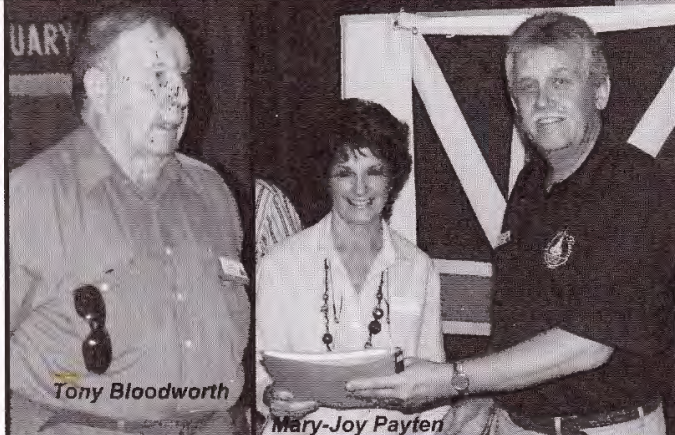
John Boyd



Ken Reardon

In his welcome and introductions, John conveyed an apology and read a message from the President of the Fellowship, John Haxton, who was unable to attend due to family matters. He also read apologies from Jean Kitchen and Christopher Mitchelson. John then provided a brief profile, history and operational data for the Fellowship, and introduced Chapter Development Director, Jean Mortimer.

Jean spoke of the activities of the typical Chapter, the various levels of membership and how the Chapters integrate their functions through the staff at First Fleet House. She emphasised that Chapter organisation is facilitated by a \$200 seeding grant to get a new Chapter established along with a \$10pa rebate for each member family. Margaret Withington is the Chapter Liaison Officer.



Tony Bloodworth

Mary-Joy Payten



Ken Quinton

**Election of Officers followed.** Ken Reardon (FF Bartholomew Reardon) was voted President and Tony Bloodworth (FF James Bloodworth/Sarah Bellamy) became Vice-President. Then Mary-Joy Payten (FF Edward





Julia Cornford

Humphrey/Mary Williams) was elected Secretary and Ken Quinton, husband of Dawn Quinton (FF Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes) was took up the job of Treasurer.

Julia Cornford (FF John Palmer/Richard Morgan) accepted the role of Membership Officer and Brian Russell, husband of Susan Russell (FF James Wilson) became Newsletter Editor. Jean then read the Charter Scroll of the new Chapter, which was duly signed by President Ken Reardon, flanked by his Committee. John Boyd presented each of the elected officers with a folder, prepared by Jean, setting out their contacts and modus operandi.



Brian Russell



Following his address to the membership, Ken read out and accepted on behalf of the Chapter a framed statement of Chapter Aims which Jean had prepared.



Additionally, on behalf of the Chapter, Tony accepted the newly-revised *Founders of the Nation* chart and Julia a copy of *Where First Fleeters Lie*.



The President and Vice-President received a very special donation from Faye Shadlow (FF Thomas Spencer/Mary Phillips) – a finesewn Queen Anne Jack, for display at all future Chapter functions.

The meeting, under its President, then proceeded to fix its banking signatories and to decide a title for the Chapter. **After some discussion the name Moreton was voted in.** The new Chapter decided to meet bi-monthly on the second Saturday at the same venue, beginning at 10.00am on Saturday 9 May 2009.



Jean Stewart

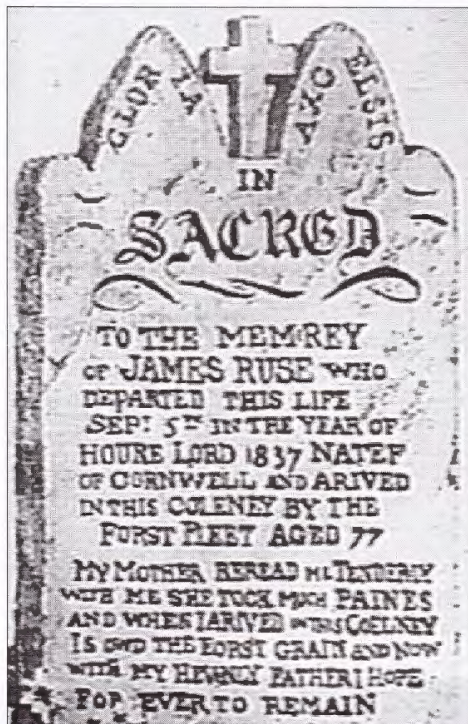


Jean Stewart OAM, #289, writer and historian, who is now a Chapter member, was acclaimed as speaker for the inaugural meeting. (See *Founders* 40.1 page 8). Her topic will be *Local Research Facilities*. As the attendees began to rise for a repast in the Hall the new Committee could be seen tying up the loose ends at their first working lunch meeting. What an auspicious beginning for FFF Moreton Chapter!



## Plaque Ceremony Reprise for James Ruse

**J**ames Ruse is said to have carved his own headstone (sans his age of course) confidently expecting, it may be assumed, that it would rest over his grave in St John the Evangelist Catholic Cemetery, Campbelltown from 1837 in an approximation of perpetuity. For our first farmer, however, it was not to be —



On 13 November 1983 the Fellowship conducted a First Fleeter dedication of a bronze memorial plaque on the headstone. The ceremony, captured on film, is recorded on page 122 of *Where First Fleeters Lie*, where you will espy a young Rod Best as MC and a youthful descendant, Janice Ruse Israel, #1053, who is reading the eulogy.

In 1994 a couple of young larrikins vandalised the graves in the cemetery. Many headstones could be glued back together, but some could never be restored. While the headstone of James Ruse was not damaged, concern was felt for its future safety. The family therefore arranged for his headstone to be placed in protective custody and it presently resides in the Alex Goodsell Rural Exhibition Centre of the Glenalvon Museum, home of the Campbelltown and Airds Historical Society.

Our memorial plaque was removed from the headstone at that time and returned to the Fellowship. Two facsimile headstones were cast. One was placed at the gravesite and the other was appropriately located in the grounds of James Ruse Agricultural High School.

Then on 10 February, 2008, the Fellowship was invited back to the gravesite for a ceremony marking the re-installation of the plaque.

The event was presided over by President John Haxton, with Director Bruce Arnett as MC and Father Tony Daly as the representative of the Catholic Diocese. The eulogy was again presented by Janice, (now Mrs Janice Ruse Huntington), and author of a scholarly book, whose title is derived from the offbeat inscription carved by James: *My Mother Re-read Me Tenderly – The Life of James Ruse*.

That ought to be the end of the story. But in March of this year the National Museum in Canberra made application to borrow the original headstone for exhibition over the next two years. In view of the foregoing events it is not at all surprising should the family have firm reservations, possibly suggesting that the Museum should rather look to the High School facsimile to meet their needs.

After so much unrest, may James now finally Rest in Peace. **BA/RW**

## FFF new webbing



Our new URL is:

[www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au](http://www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au)

The Fellowship has registered this new website domain name in tandem with a commercial hosting agreement which will, over some months, permit considerable expansion of content and allow a general upgrade in design of our web presence.

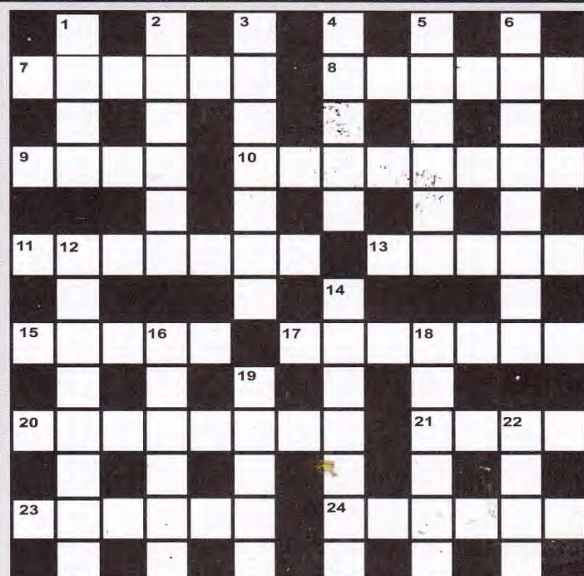
A start has been made with up-to-date membership forms, contacts, Chapter details, news items, photo gallery, and back copies of *Founders*. The site is now sufficiently relevant for you to confidently direct potential members and friends to it.

The Board is indebted to Mr Bob Rickards of Unundarra for the assistance he is freely providing within the Website Subcommittee, which also includes Directors, Ron Withington and John Boyd. Judicious website comments may be sent to him.

[ronwit@ozemail.com.au](mailto:ronwit@ozemail.com.au)

Do please bookmark the new website address and at the same time remove the old "geocities-based" URL from your files.

## Colonial Cryptic



### ACROSS

7. Bad smell transformed frozen garment (6)
8. I 'ear the sound of a cold from the long box (6)
9. This philosopher sounds like grass (4)
10. French one mixes with 7 and is held fast ((8)
11. Row you up for CEO of Apple in 1990 (7)
13. First man's a female's (5)
15. Smell without direction leads to writer (5)
17. Dynasty composed of cook and flair (7)
20. Irish town in teacher at fort (8)
21. Turn up takings for utensil (4)
23. Man takes direction for fuel (6)
24. Summoned is only one letter from dismissed (6)

### DOWN

1. Gaze into tether (4)
2. Sieve this cryptic message! (6)
3. Slandered amongst bare vile demons (7)
4. Scare built into estate (5)
5. Supply produce (6)
6. Mix, simmer on unsuitable name (8)
12. Pope's mild with a bend (8)
14. Mix the smallest with a city for a knife (7)
16. Girl from Coorain might learn route (6)
18. A dear man – town and state to be merged (6)
19. Twisted like gardens (5)
22. Poet remakes number and direction (4)


**All but seven answers are the names of First Fleeters**





## Foundlings

### FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.8

1. An anonymous but literate female convict managed to smuggle an uncensored letter dated 14 November 1788 back to England. Most of her letter was taken up with a gripe about: **a. Aboriginal nakedness b. lack of tea c. lack of clothing d. abandoned mothers e. her soldier's workload**
2. Sarah Whitlam, who arrived as a convict on *Lady Juliana*, bore a son to a conspicuous mariner/diarist on board. He was: **a. Captain Aitken b. Watkin Tench c. John Nicol**
3. Governor King in 1793 brought two male Maori flax dressers to Norfolk Island to train the locals in the processing of flax for sails. The venture failed and they were taken home again because: **a. they were hopelessly homesick b. a mutiny intervened c. that skill in NZ was women's work**
4. The remarkable Mollie Gillen, who died in January, 2009, in 1976 published a biography entitled *Royal Duke*. It was about George III. **a. True b. False**
5. George Howe, editor of the *Sydney Gazette*, was: **a. an Indian, b. a Swede, c. an American d. a West Indian, e. an Irishman f. a Dane**
6. *Hawkesbury Duck* was the nickname given to this dish: **a. roasted cob of maise b. oyster pie c. rabbit stew. d. pickled pumpkin e. battered mullet**
7. This well was one of the early sources of water in the colony. It is in the grounds of:  

**a. St Philip's Church in York St b. Government House c. the Garrison Church in The Rocks d. St John's Church in Parramatta**
8. Who wrote the famous lines: "I was the convict / Sent to hell / To make the desert / The living well: / I split the rock; / I felled the tree - / The nation was / Because of me."? **a. Henry Lawson b. Mary Gilmore c. A.B. Paterson d. Henry Kendall**
9. Pigs, not cattle, played a vital role in the early food chain of the colony. Who said, "I like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals."? **a. R. Ross b. S. Johnson c. J. Ruse. d. W. Churchill e. C. Dickens**
10. Of the men involved as designers of Sydney, spot the odd man out! **a. Henry Kitchen b. Walter Vernon c. Nathaniel Lucas d. Francis Greenway e. James Bloodsworth**

#### SCORES AND PRIZES:

- 9: A Hawkesbury sow with a litter of eight piglets. (kept outside)  
 7: A double helping of *Hawkesbury Duck*.  
 5: A second-hand brass monkey. (at room temperature)  
 Answers on Page 11 - Ron Withington



- Bruce Arnett has doubts about the accuracy of the age of Margaret Cavenough (83) as recorded on her burial certificate. (*Founders* 40.2, page 4). He has unconfirmed evidence that she may have been only 80, as stated on her headstone, and a London Christening record.
- Elsie Watson pointed out that we had no right to have James Bloodworth arriving on *Scarborough*. (page 6). James had already suffered the inconvenience of boarding *Friendship* and being transferred to *Charlotte*.
- Irma Foster (FF Anthony Rope/Elizabeth Pulley) when placing an order for photographs confided that there is a Nott in her Family Tree. A prize for her double pun?

## On the Right Tack – No.6



**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.*

**It's cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.**

**(Comment on low temperature, real or imagined)**

Careful now. A colloquialism. This may not be the truth, but if not, it's soundly invented. Among the tall ships, a first-rate ship of the line could carry as many as one hundred large cannon balls. To save space the balls were stacked in pyramid fashion on brass trays called 'monkeys'. During long periods of intensely cold weather the balls would experience thermal contraction, shrinking, then shifting and falling off the brass monkey.

**Toe the line (obey social rules)**

On wooden warships, when men were required to muster at quarters, it was customary to right-dress in neat ranks, using the tar-filled seams in the deck for straightness. Any man not properly located would be ordered to "toe the line." For midshipmen and boys training to be officers or sailors, standing for long periods toeing the line was a punishment for minor misdeeds.

"Amos Dray... shaded his mouth with his hand and in a deep rumble whispered, 'Toe the line, my dears.'"

"The two little pudding-faced twin girls in clean pinafores stepped forward to a particular mark on the carpet, and together, piping high and shrill, they cried, 'Good morning, sir.'"

(Patrick O'Brian, *Desolation Island*, p.8)

**Snippets from the *Sydney Gazette*, featuring the often gruesome, but never dull, storytelling power of the editor, Mr George (Happy) Howe.**

**NOT A PORKY – Shocking truth, read at own risk!**

**A porcine tale with a twist at its end**

**23 September 1804:** On Monday last an infant of Sarah Pearce, in the Brickfield's experienced a fate the most distressing that can possibly be imagined. The mother on returning home with the little creature in her arms, placed it on the bed, in order that she might herself go in search of two other children, but unhappily after which she closed the door and secured a young pig also within the house.

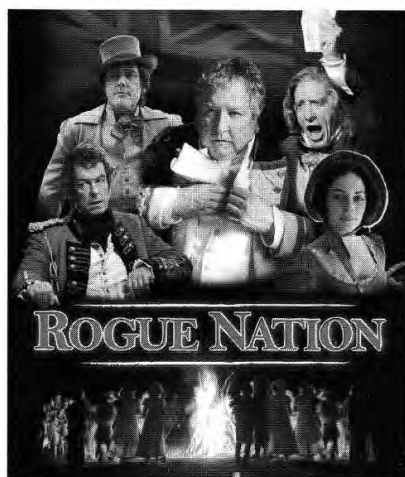
After a short interval she returned and supposing the child to be asleep, paid no immediate attention to it. Some moments after, to her utter astonishment, she accidentally approached the bed, and there witnessed a spectacle, the horrors of which are not to be conceived. The pig had by some means mounted the bed, and was then in the very act of devouring the child. The mother's shrieks brought the neighbours to bear witness of the calamity, but alas! too late to render assistance to the babe; whose face was torn to pieces and devoured; the hands of the ill-fated innocent were also mangled and destroyed, owing, it is probable, to its incompetent resistance.

The same day a Coroner's inquest was held on the body of the Child, whose verdict was dictated by the terrible circumstances of its death, and acquitted the distracted parent of any blame whatsoever.

The voracious animal was shot immediately that the accident was discovered; and was afterwards burnt by order of the Coroner. **It had been given to the poor child by a sponsor on the day of its baptism.**

**RW**





During March 2009 our members will have seen, or just missed, on the Box, the two-part TV dramatised documentary, *Rogue Nation*. It allows modern times and modern-dressed historian Michael Cathcart to weave his course among some of the colourfully-clad characters of early colonial Australia and explore a few of the circumstances which helped transform the fledgling colony from a place of punishment to a place of opportunity.

Specifically it covers the clash between Macarthur and Bligh resulting in the Rum Rebellion, and the later lesser-known fight of Wentworth against Darling for the formation of a liberal democracy. In doing so it regrettably skips almost entirely over the ten-year administration of Macquarie, (except for a brief chance by actor Tony Llewellyn-Jones to display his Scottish accent), but one can hope that the ABC is saving Lachlan for the bicentenary of his appointment which comes up in May of this year.

The music is overheated, but the production is slick and full of action with charming glimpses within and around our well-known heritage buildings while very little use is made of those infuriating stills. As is common with such potted histories, the characters can be cripplingly one-dimensional – Macarthur, another of Geoff Morell's glum lipless nasties, John Brumpton as a frenetic WC Wentworth, Patrick Dickson as a terminally tormented Darling, a far too ineffectual George Johnston – and worst of all – the overwhelmingly over-exposed John Wood as yet another fat Laughtonesque parody of Bligh.

## AS SEEN ON TV

When, we might ask, will the man Bligh ever get recognition appropriate to his place in history as an intelligent person, well versed in science and mathematics, a talented writer and illustrator, sailing master on *Resolution* in 1776 with James Cook, fighter with Lord Howe at Gibraltar, navigator for 18 men to safety across 3618 nautical miles in an open boat, twice cleared of blame at courts martial, first transplanter of the breadfruit tree from Tahiti to the West Indies, champion of the Hawkesbury farmers against oppression, and at his death respected as a Vice-Admiral?

So it may not be as satisfying as a good book, but as First Fleeters we should of course be grateful that the ABC, within a limited budget, has chosen to portray to a larger audience something of the power struggles between wealthy landowners, the educated offspring of convict settlers and the governors who ran the colony, all of which helped to define the nation as we know it today. Worth a look.

Now available on DVD at ABC Shops just about everywhere. \$24.95. **RW**

## Moreton — what's in the name?

**M**oreton is the name chosen for the new Chapter in Queensland. James Cook gave the name Morton to the bay he sailed past in 1770, honouring James Douglas, 14th Earl of Morton, but it was misspelled by later cartographers as **Moreton Bay**.

The bay was to have close ties to the early settlers in NSW. By the 1820s it was decided that a new site was needed to house re-offending convicts. In 1823, under orders from Governor Brisbane, explorer **John Oxley** sailed up the coast and into Moreton Bay. He was shown the mouth of a large river and guided upstream by escaped convicts who had been shipwrecked and were living with local Aborigines. Oxley explored the river for about 20 km and named it after the governor. On his return to Sydney, he recommended Moreton Bay as the place for a convict settlement. The penal colony was established by Lieutenant Henry Miller on the bay at Redcliffe in 1824. Later the colony was moved south to a site on the Brisbane River at North Quay, where there was a more reliable water supply. This area became the city of Brisbane.

**Captain Patrick Logan** arrived in March 1826 and immediately started to develop the settlement by planting the flats (New Farm and Bulimba) with maize and to carry out a program of public works. Two of his buildings were still in use after 140 years: his commissariat store in William Street which became the lower floor of the State Stores, and his windmill, later the State Observatory. In August 1826 he discovered the Logan River and the next May the Albert River. In 1828 he climbed Mount Barney (1356m), then the highest altitude gained by a white man in Australia. In July 1830 he led an expedition to the headwaters of the Richmond River and then attempted to chart the windings of the upper

Brisbane River. He failed: being killed by Aborigines on 17 October near Mt Beppo.

Logan is regarded by many historians as the true founder of Queensland, as he was an important explorer and the first to produce any practical development. During his term as commandant of the convict settlement he showed a fine sense of duty, and no thought of personal gain in any of his activities. He was, however, reputed to be cruelly harsh to the convicts, the settlement was in continuous unrest and uprisings were frequent under his command. Logan's death is central to the folk song *Moreton Bay* which represents him as a bloody tyrant: "Captain Logan, he had us mangled, on the triangles of Moreton Bay". It attributes his death to "a native black", and concludes: "My fellow prisoners, be exhilarated that all such monsters such a death may find".

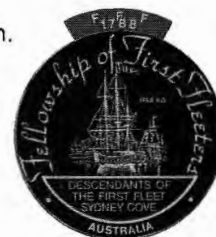
Transportation did not cease until 1839, with some felons sentenced to Moreton Bay directly from England. Approximately 2200 convicts were sent to Moreton Bay (including about 135 women), and when transportation was briefly resumed in 1849-1850, two ships transported over 500 men to the area and another 120 from Sydney were given a Ticket of Leave for the Moreton Bay area.

It is clear from this history that our first Queensland Chapter could have selected Oxley, Brisbane, Redcliffe or more provocatively, Logan, as names evoking the pioneering days in their region. But it seems that the members have chosen the name with the earliest and possibly most significant connotations.

By coincidence, the Redcliffe Museum is celebrating 150 years of Queensland statehood with an exhibition from 2 June to 4 October, 2009 exploring the archaeological remains of the First Convict Settlement at Redcliffe, 1824-25.





**CANBERRA:** ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Saturday 4 July at 2.00pm: **AGM** at Brian & Helen Mattick's home, 14 Lawrence Crescent, Kambah. Contact the President, Geoff Cameron, for details. ☎ (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 on the second Saturday at 10.00am for 10.30am, except for April when it is the third Saturday.

**Next Meetings:** Saturday 9 May. Speaker: Elizabeth Roberts. Topic: *The Great North Road*.

Saturday 13 June: Speaker: John Hassen. Topic: *Shipwrecks of the Coast of NSW*.

For details contact the Secretary, Beryl Haxton, ☎ 4353 2524.

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

**Venue:** The Hall at Brush Farm House, 19 Lawson Street, Eastwood from 10.00am-12.00 noon, first Saturday of the month.

**Next Meetings:** 6 June. Speaker: Local historian, Trevor Patrick. Topic: *Arthur Phillip, French Spy?* 4 July. Speaker: Julie Evans, Volunteer with Sydney Harbour Federation Trust. Topic: *Historic Harbour Sites*.

For more information please contact the Secretary, Robin Palmer, ☎ 9871 4102.

**HUNTER VALLEY:** Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds

**Venue:** St John's Hall on the corner of Parry & Dawson Sts, Cooks Hill, Newcastle. Chapter Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Members may arrive from 10.00am.

**Next Meetings:** 18 May: Outing to the Hawkesbury area, meeting at the Tea Shop at Spencer at 11.00am. 15 June: General Meeting at St John's Hall. 17 August: **AGM**. For more details contact the Secretary, Beth Brooker, ☎ 4926 5535.

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

**Venue:** Quarterly meetings at different venues. **AGM** to be advised.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 20 June at Parkes, starting with lunch. For information contact the Secretary, Judith Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234.

**MORETON:** Brisbane, Tweed Heads, Noosa Heads, Dickey Beach, Eagle Heights/Tamborine North & surrounds

**Venue:** St Augustine's Church Parish Hall, Hamilton. Meetings bi-monthly on the second Saturday at 10.30am.

**First meeting:** Saturday 9 May. Speaker: Jean Stewart, OAM, FRI Hist. who is with the Royal Historical Society of Qld.

**Next meeting:** Saturday 11 July. For information please contact the Secretary, Mary-Joy Payten ☎ 07 5455 3905.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Armidale & surrounds

**Venue:** Quarterly meetings on the first Saturday of the month at various venues.

**Next Meetings:** Saturday 2 May at 12.30pm, our Eighth Birthday celebrations at the Family History Centre, Kentucky St, Armidale, with a tour of the Library. Saturday 1 August: **AGM** at 12.30pm at Judy White's home.

Please contact the Secretary, Fran Newling, ☎ 6771 5099 or President Robyn Crossle, ☎ 6772 3140.

**NORTH COAST:** Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga

**Venue:** Meetings are held at various locations on the first Sunday of every second month at 11.30am.

**Next Meetings:** Sunday 7 June: (Queen's Birthday long weekend) John & Jeanette Williamson's home, 7 Lynhaven Crescent, Boambee East. Sunday 2 August: **AGM** at Colin & Pat Robertson's home, 21 Queen Street, Woolgoolga.

For more information please contact Robyn Condiffe, ☎ 6653 3615.

**NORTHERN RIVERS:** Lismore & surrounds

**Venue:** At various venues, bi-monthly on the fourth Sunday of the month at 11.30am.

**Next meetings:** Sunday 24 May at the home of Vilmai & Don McDonald, 269 Richmond Hill Rd, Richmond Hill. Speaker: Jannifer Sonogo on *John Small*. Sunday 26 July: **AGM**. Contact Margaret Soward for more information, ☎ 6686 3597.

**NORTH WEST:** Tamworth & surrounds

**Venue:** Family History Group Rooms, V.Guy Cable Building, Marius St, Tamworth, bi-monthly on the first Saturday at 1.30pm.

**Next meeting:** Saturday 13 June. Saturday 1 August: **AGM**. Contact the Secretary, Jo Crossing, ☎ 6766 8255 for details.

**SOUTH COAST:** Engadine to Burrill Lake

**Venue:** Laurel Room, Dapto Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Hwy, Dapto. Meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for January and December from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Next Events:** Saturday 16 May: Special Lunch commemorating the First Fleet Departure, 11.30am for 12 noon at Dapto Leagues Club. \$28 FFF members, \$30 visitors. Speaker: Peter Christian OAM. Tuesday 2 June: Speakers: Sogia Laba & Barbara Masur. Topic: *Polish Immigrants in Wollongong*. Thursday 11 June: Three Churches Tour in Sydney CBD, Scot's, St Phillip's, St Patrick's. Lunch at the Courtyard Coffee Shop at St Pat's. Train ex Kiama 6.50am. Tuesday 7 July: **AGM**.

For more information please call John Boyd, ☎ 4261 6893 or Jean Mortimer ☎ 4257 5575.

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS:** Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds

**Venue:** Bi-monthly, second Wednesday: 10.30am to 12.30pm, at Mittagong Community Centre, Cnr Albert Lane & Queen St.

**Next Meetings:** Wednesday 10 June: Speaker: Linda Emery (Local author & historian). Topic: *A Pictorial History Tour of the Southern Highlands*. Bring your copy along for signing. Wednesday 8 July: **AGM** followed by Chapter Chats and our Soup & Damper Day. For more details please contact Neville Usher ☎ 4869 1406.

**CHAPTER NEWS**

Canberra Chapter supported a display of books and documents in Civic on the Convict Contribution to Australia, with material from the Kable family, and visited the National Archives for a tour in April. Lachlan Macquarie Chapter held a very successful first outing on 21 March — a walking tour of early Bathurst. This will be reported in the next edition of *Founders*. North West Chapter's April bus trip to Uralla proved to be both well-attended and enjoyable, with a nice mixture of history and local refreshments. **AGMs** are coming up in July or August for all the Chapters, when some of our hard-working officers will retire for a well-earned rest — as long as there are others willing to take on their jobs.

Margaret Withington, Chapter Liaison Officer, 4757 3984, [margaretwith@ozemail.com.au](mailto:margaretwith@ozemail.com.au)

**CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT**

The inauguration of the Brisbane Chapter was an inspiring event, reported in a detailed storyboard form in this issue of *Founders*. The process of establishing our first interstate Chapter has been immensely exciting, and I can only add a heartfelt: "Congratulations! Moreton Chapter, you've done the Fellowship of First Fleeters proud."

In Fellowship, Jean Mortimer, Chapter Development Officer, 4257 5575

**MAINTAIN-A-BRICK**

valued donors towards the operation of  
First Fleet House — G&M Dingwall

Not to know what happened before we were born is to remain perpetually  
a child. For what is the worth of a human life unless it is woven into  
the life of our ancestor.

Marcus Julius Cicero 106-43BC



## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

**NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE**  
#7652.1 Kenneth John McCubbin  
**JAMES RUSE**  
#7654 Betty Ruthven  
**JOHN BARRISFORD/HANNAH BARRISFORD**  
#7655 Alan James Arthur Beresford  
**JOHN WINTER/ANN SANDLANDS**  
#7656 Jr Adam James Arthur Nepean Hounslow  
#7657 Jr Matthew David John Robert Hounslow  
#7658 Wendy Jeanne Hounslow  
#7659 Jr Amy Jeanne Meryl Anne Hounslow  
**JOHN CROSS**  
#7660 Philip Dowle  
**ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY**  
#7661 Geoffrey Malcolm White  
**EDWARD WHITTON**  
#7662 Joan Lorraine Knight  
**HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES**  
#7663 James Frederick Anthony Gaudry  
**JOHN HERBERT/DEBORAH ELLAM**  
#7664 Jr Natalia Montserrat Newling  
#7665 Jr Nicholas Keefe Newling  
**OWEN CAVENOUGH/MARGARET DARNELL**  
#7666 Robyn Bradley  
#7666.1 Alan J. Bradley  
**ZACHARIAH CLARK**  
#7667 Jr Sydney Elizabeth Hammond  
**MARY ALLEN**  
#7668 Jean Heather Stubbings

## MEMBERS MEMORANDA

**BARTHOLOMEW REARDON**  
#7669 Kenneth Nash Reardon  
#7669.1 Cleone Scott Rolfe Reardon  
**PHOEBE FLARTY**  
#7670 Margaret Lesley Howard  
**HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES**  
#7671 Stephen Lesley Caskey  
**WILLIAM BAKER/SUSANNAH HUFFNELL**  
#7673 Ian James Wallace  
#7673.1 Mary Jean Wallace  
**MATTHEW EVERINGHAM**  
#7674 Allan James Chaseling  
**JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER**  
#7675 Jr Benjamin Garness  
#7676 Jr Hannah Garness  
**JOSEPH WRIGHT**  
#7677 Marie McShane  
**WILLIAM TUNKS**  
#7678 Ronald John Baird  
**JOHN SMALL/ MARY PARKER/JOHN RANDALL/JOHN MARTIN**  
#7679 Judith Helen Bellamy  
**THOMAS SPENCER/MARY PHILLIPS**  
#7680 Karen Tarlington  
**BIRTHS** Congratulations to the families of:  
**ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY**  
*Joshua Terrence Kildey*  
14 March 2009, third child to Luke and Robyn Kildey, seventh grandchild to Paul and #5957 Roslyn Kildey, fourteenth great-grandchild to #5825 Stella Martin.

### ANN FORBES

**Isabel Alexa McKeown**  
18 December 2008, daughter to Ian and #2669 Wendy McKeown. Granddaughter to Marilyn and #1888 Bruce Arnett.

### EDWARD WHITTON

**Alyssa Emori Boyd**  
23 April 2009, in Melbourne, third daughter to Shaun & Mitsuko Boyd, eighth grandchild to #7163 John and Pat Boyd. Ninth generation.

### DEATHS

Sincere sympathy to the families of:

#### SAMUEL PIGOTT

**#294 Frances Cornwallis King**  
14 January 2009, aged 101. Mother of #292 Viola Beard. Late of Clayfield, Queensland.

#### FREDERICK MEREDITH

**#2845 Percy Raymond Cutting**  
19 February 2009. Late of Campsie, NSW  
**JOHN HERBERT/DEBORAH ELLAM**

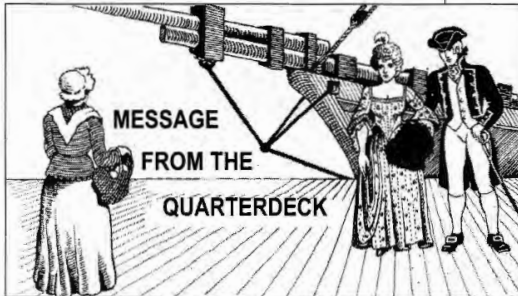
**#6564 Frederick Paul Moxham**  
8 October, 2008. Husband of #6554 Elizabeth. Late of Lockhart, NSW.

#### JOHN BARRISFORD/HANNAH BARRISFORD

**#6250 Stella Audrey Down**  
28 June 2008, aged 80. Husband of R.L. Down. Late of Double View, Western Australia.

#### JOHN NICHOLLS

**#3117.1 Muriel Findlay**  
1 April 2009, aged 87. Wife of Allen Findlay. Late of Ballina, NSW.



RL Down, husband of **Stella Audrey Down** (see above), wrote to say, "My late wife took great pride in her membership throughout her life and had a full history of her family. Commensurate with the "redbacks" tradition of the Marines, her great-great-grandfather First Fleeter Marine, John Barrisford, received 50 lashes on the journey to Port Jackson for fighting with his fellow marines. Stella was never without that strong fighting spirit — except I was spared."

**Marilyn Long**, FF Catherine Johnson, at [marilyn.long@cievents.com.au](mailto:marilyn.long@cievents.com.au) or 9358 2825 is seeking information from Lucas descendants concerning **Jane Elizabeth Townsend** who married **William Nathaniel Lucas** in 1871; and from Smith descendants concerning **Anne Smith** and her partner in crime **Catherine Johnson**, both on *Prince of Wales* 1788.

Founding FFF member **Jean Stewart OAM** (FF John Small/ Mary Parker) (pictured on page 7 as the inaugural speaker for Moreton Chapter) has received a 2009 Australia Day Honour for service to the community through the preservation and promotion of local history and heritage. Jean is a former history teacher, author and former President of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland.

Founding FFF member **Elsie Watson** #74 has made a bonnet for her ancestor Sarah Bellamy (*Lady Penrhyn* 1788). For that bonnet pat-

tern ring Ron Withington on 02 4757 3984 or email [ronwit@ozemail.com.au](mailto:ronwit@ozemail.com.au)

The work of **Mollie Gillen** has received very extensive recognition following her death in January. We had shown her how much she meant to us in a gesture we made last century. Our tribute in *Founders* 40.2 omitted to note that the Fellowship had presented Mollie with Life Membership during her visit to Sydney in 1995.

On a recent trip to St Saviour's Cathedral Cemetery in Goulburn, members of the Southern Highlands Chapter inspected the gravesite of **FF Mary Martin** (née Allen) on which a FFF plaque was placed during a ceremony on 5 March 1988. The site is now in an unkempt condition, and the Chapter is respectfully seeking the permission of the Mary Martin family descendants, initially to tidy it up and then to continue to monitor its condition. Could an appropriate family representative respond please to **Neville Usher**, 02 4869 1406? (see also *Where First Fleeters Lie*, pp145-147).

## Yes, there's certainly a Sirius Connection

Resident Norfolk Island member, Anne Huxley-Howe, tells us that *Sirius* arrived at the Island in mid-March 2009 and departed a few days later. No, she was not a ghost ship, but she was carrying supplies. The original *HMS Sirius*, flagship and later supply vessel to the colony also arrived at Norfolk Island in mid-March, but she would never leave, foundering in heavy seas on 19 March 1788.

*HMAS Sirius* is an 'underway replenishment vessel', and the first RAN ship to carry the name of the Royal Navy ship of the First Fleet. A modified double-hulled tanker with helicopter flight deck and multiple transfer points, capable of replenishing two ships at a time at sea, by day and night, she provides operational support for the fleet by carrying fuel, stores and ammunition. Arthur Phillip would have loved her 16 knots.

*HMAS Sirius* was commissioned on 16 September 2006, and on 3 March 2007 was accorded the official and festive Freedom of Entry Ceremony at her designated home port, which is Kingston, Norfolk Island. The name was selected because of historical connections with the First Fleet and the important role *HMS Sirius* had played in providing logistic support to the struggling colony in NSW and Norfolk Island. Her agreeable motto is "to serve and provide".

