

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 4

Forty-First Year of Publication

July/August 2009



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

FF CAVANOUGH

Ebenezer Bicentenary Event

FF ARNDELL

MEIN

JACKLIN
GRONO
JONES



BUSHELL
HOWE
STUBBS

The key moment in the re-enactment of 1808, 'Lt Bell' shakes hands with 'James Mein' and then with every member of the congregation – and worship at the church site is free to proceed. (See the story on page 3)

The Bicentenary of the Ebenezer Church, Australia's oldest, was celebrated over three days, 19, 20 and 21 June 2009. On the Saturday there was a massive turn-out of descendants of the fifteen families who established the church and the twenty-three ministers who followed, plus civic dignitaries, church folk, historians, Hawkesbury locals, re-enactment players from Richmond, and the NSW Corps of Marines. A descendant of John Turnbull, the Honourable Malcolm Turnbull MP, attended with his wife, Lucy, and a media battery. Each of the aforesaid families staffed a display tent in honour of their ancestor. Dancing and the re-enactment of a crucial 1808 service, preceded a 2009 outdoor service conducted by the local Minister, the Reverend Grant Bilbey, with homilies by both the Moderator General of the Presbyterian Church in Australia and the President of the Uniting Church in Australia. Historical displays and souvenir stands flourished. Pumpkin soup was on the boil, damper dampened, coffee instant and coffee cappuccino were on tap, and the steaks and sausage sangos had not only an onion garnish, but also delicious fried mushrooms.

JOHNSTONE

SUDDIS
DAVISON
HALL



TURNBULL
JOHNSTON

Period civvies dress ruled amid a generous sprinkling of red-coats. It was a cool showery afternoon, which found Malcolm Turnbull in hat and coat, gratefully dunking buttered damper into his cup of hot pumpkin soup.

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Fellowship of First Fleeters

105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011

Phone: 02 9360 3788 Fax: 02 9360 3988

Email: fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Website: www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au

KEY
DATES

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF FIRST SETTLEMENT

First European Settlement in Queensland at Redcliffe, 1824-5

Redcliffe Museum, 2 June to 4 October, 2009

BLESSING OF THE BONNETS

St Matthew's Anglican Church, Windsor NSW

Sunday 2 August at 2.00pm



Founded 1968

Founders

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Editor, Design & Artwork
Ron Withington 02 4757 3984
email: ronwit@ozemail.com.au
Editor-in-Chief John Haxton

OFFICE BEARERS 2008-09

President

John HAXTON, JP, Dip Chem Eng;
Dip Corp Mgmt; Dip R E Mgt.

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From the President's Desk

June 30 has come and gone for another year. It is time for our Treasurer to prepare the Financial Report in readiness for the AGM. Not everyone has returned their subscriptions for 2009/2010. They were due on 1 July. I would encourage you to keep financial with us and support the Fellowship. If subscriptions are not in by 30 August, *Founders* will cease to be distributed, and other benefits may be curtailed.

Retirement at FF house has struck again. Bonney Savill, who has been a stalwart in the Daytime Fellowship, is hanging up her receipt books. You may read a report of her farewell function on page 9.

Have you looked recently at our revamped web site? The address is on page 1. Please be pro-active and give us your feedback, as well as interesting articles to include that are of an historical nature.

The Directors have a number of projects in the pipeline that may be of interest to you:

- a redrafted 'Constitution' which should be forwarded for approval at the Annual General Meeting in November;

- the War Service Nominal Roll, incorporating an Honour Roll with those service personnel being indicated with an asterisk (*) who died in service. If you have relatives or served yourself in any sphere of service please forward your contribution for inclusion;

- a new publication of additional First Fleeter grave sites;

- work over the next few years on the formulation of a 'History' of the Fellowship.

You will see below a request for you to forward information relative to a rewrite by Michael Flynn of Mollie Gillen's *The Founders of Australia*. It will be wonderful to be able to purchase this historic book again.

Time to reflect upon our achievements for the year — an increase in membership, new Chapters, and speaking engagements conducted by your Directors and members at large with Primary Schools and community groups. Congratulations all for a job well done! *In Fellowship, John Haxton*



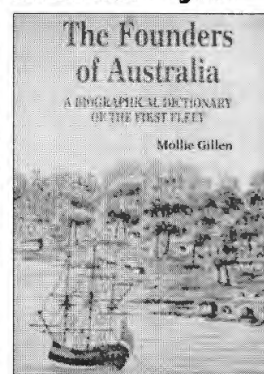
'The Founders of Australia' Revision, by Michael Flynn

During 1987-1989 I worked as a researcher with Mollie Gillen on her book *The Founders of Australia*. Gillen, then still in her late 70s and London-based, was a prodigiously energetic and industrious researcher and correspondent, working mainly in the British Library and the Public Record Office (National Archives). When I went to London in 1989 to begin my thesis and book on the Second Fleet I visited her on many occasions and we often had lunch at the Public Record Office. It was a valuable apprenticeship with an historian five decades my senior who possessed the energy and intellectual vigour of a much younger person.

A little over a year before her death this year aged 100, I visited Mollie Gillen in her Toronto nursing home. I promised I would put into effect the plan we had discussed in the 1990s when her sight began to fail that I would revise her book, adding my own new research to additional notes she had compiled. The revised version will be completed during 2010.

Mollie Gillen deserves recognition for her significant work on failed British attempts to establish penal settlements in West Africa and North and Central America in the 1780s. In a series of articles during the 1980s she became involved in a debate with Alan Frost (Arthur Phillip's biographer) about the origins of the decision to colonise Australia. This lively and creative discussion ought to be continued by subsequent generations of historians.

NOTE: Michael Flynn is also revising *The Second Fleet* and is collecting materials for a study of the Third Fleet. He is interested in including any newly discovered biographical information concerning persons who arrived on the First, Second or Third Fleets 1788-1791. Email him direct on: russmike@bigpond.net.au — The FFF would appreciate an email copy of your communication for our archives. *RW*



CANBERRA

Geoff Cameron 6251 4095

CENTRAL COAST

Beryl Haxton 4353 2524

EASTERN FARMS

Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY

John Brooker 4926 5535

NEW ENGLAND

Fran Newling 6771 5099

CHAPTER CONTACTS



MORETON

Mary-Joy Payten 07 5455 3905

LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Phil Foster 6360 2117

NORTH COAST

Mary Kell 6657 1962

NORTHERN RIVERS

Betty Harriman 6683 4493

NORTH WEST

Jo Crossing 6766 8255

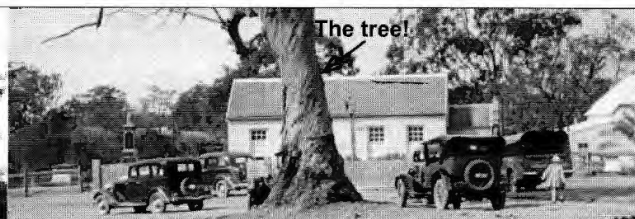
SOUTH COAST

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Neville Usher 4869 1406

Ebenezer Church 1809-2009



Ebenezer Church came into being following the arrival in NSW of eight families on board *Coromandel* in June 1802. These families – **Davison, Hall, Howe, Johnston, Johnstone, Mein, Stubbs and Turnbull** – came to the new colony with a request to be settled together, having made such plans in England. Their wish was granted by Governor King and they moved to their 100-acre land grants at Portland Head (Ebenezer) on the Hawkesbury in 1803.

They were joined by seven other families – **Arndell, Bushell, Grono, Cavanough, Jacklin, Suddis and Jones** – and met regularly on Sundays for services in the open air on Ebenezer Mount or in the homes of the settlers. They were people of various denominations but they came together as one congregation. One of their members, '**Pastor**' **James Mein**, led the group in worship, initially focusing on the text from 1 Samuel 7:12 — *Then Samuel took a stone... and called the name of it Ebenezer saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.*

On 22 September 1808 at a meeting in the home of surgeon Dr Thomas Arndell, of the First Fleet, they formed the 'Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge and the Instruction of Youth' and each family pledged itself to the building of a church and school. The total cost of £400 was to be obtained from voluntary subscriptions.

First Fleeter Owen Cavanough donated four acres of land for the church site. Andrew Johnston designed the church and supervised its construction. George Hall swam his bullocks across the river to haul the stone to the site. David Dunstan and later Charles Smith, carpenter for Governor Macquarie and architect Greenway, did the carpentry. Built of locally obtained materials – sandstone, cedar wood and hardwood – it was completed in 1809. A cemetery was established in the churchyard and the first burial occurred in 1812. The oldest headstone, dated 14 May 1813, is that of baby Sarah Gilkerson.

The building was originally divided by a cedar partition into two rooms, one used for church services and the other as a school. The school began in 1810 under schoolmaster John Youl of the London Missionary Society, and remained open with teachers such as John Anderson, an ex-convict transported for his involvement in the Scottish Uprising of 1820, and Matthew McFetridge, until 1887 when a new public school opened. It is thus the oldest extant school building in Australia. The schoolmaster's residence, also designed by Andrew Johnson, is thought to have been built in 1817.

The first Ebenezer communion service according to the Church of Scotland was conducted in 1824 by the Reverend Dr John Dunmore Lang. Prior to this time, services were led by James Mein and itinerant preachers, notably Rowland Hassall and John Youl. Andrew Johnston was inducted as an elder. The first ordained minister was the Reverend John McGarvie who migrated to the colony from Scotland in 1825. Ebenezer Church, the oldest existing church in Australia, is still active today within the Uniting fellowship.

Despite their general lack of agricultural background, the fifteen pioneer families of Portland Head were a vital part of the development of the Hawkesbury as the food bowl for the colony. Most of them supported Governor Bligh at the time of the Rum Rebellion. It is recorded that the rebels who deposed the Governor, aware of that support, in 1808 issued instructions to Lt Bell at Windsor to disperse or arrest the worshippers. Accordingly, one Sunday morning he marched out with a detachment of troops. On arrival he found the congregation gathered at a tree, being led in worship by James Mein. Lt Bell waited until the close of the service and then shook hands with Mein and each member of the congregation in turn, declaring that he was satisfied with the orderly nature of the gathering and would not interfere.

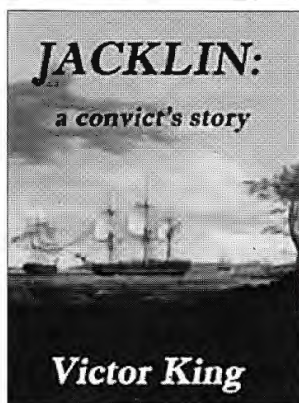
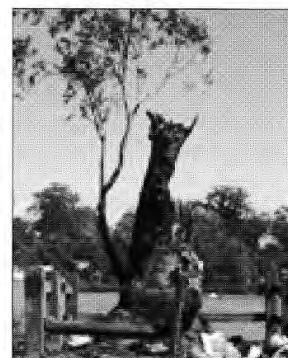
In 1959 the church was repaired and a vestry was built nearby. In 1985, a Heritage Council grant assisted the restoration of the Church, vestry and schoolmaster's residence.

From 2006 in the lead-up to the Bicentenary, the church congregation returned to its roots, raising some \$210,000 by voluntary donation and completing comprehensive repairs to the church building and its grounds. More remains to be done as the Church advances into its third century. **RW**

In 1982 a fence with a plaque was erected around this tree to identify the site of the first service in the area conducted by James Mein. On 16 December 2005 the trunk was split by a severe wind storm. However, the tree is still alive! This branch low down on the trunk has grown vertically and now its canopy is flourishing.

*Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Here by Thy great help I've come.*

Robert Robinson's hymn, 1757

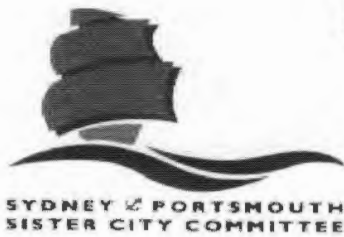


Victor King, author of *Jacklin, a convict's story* was on hand at the celebration to sign copies of his 2008 publication. Victor is a descendant of **William Jacklin**, head of one of the 'Ebenezer Fifteen Families'. The book is an intensely researched, but fictional account of William's life.

It concerns the inter-reactions of a small community, as accurately as possible, while telling a story of a man's descent to the depths of suffering and his ultimate rise to respectability.

Jacklin survives the dungeons of Lincoln Castle, the trek in chains south to the Thames, the horrors of the river hulks and transportation as a convict on the Third Fleet only to be met by famine in the new colony. He finds himself at the newly-settled Hawkesbury River where he attempts to start a new life. Given his background he is ideally suited to life there as a boatman where the main communication is by water and as a farmer where the colony depends on the region's food production for its survival.

Along the way though he has made enemies who are bent on his destruction and his travails with them, together with the leaders of the Rum Corps, lead to love, murder, injustice and new alliances until a surprise twist and an historical intervention bring the story to a close.



trade and tourist links. Sydney has a sister city partnership with San Francisco, Nagoya, Wellington, Guangzhou, Florence, Portsmouth and incredibly with Bethlehem — often the empathy between such siblings is difficult to fathom.

But not so for Portsmouth! Portsmouth and Sydney are forever physically bound as the ports of origin and destination of the First Fleet of European settlers to NSW. This very tangible relationship has been supported in Australia in the formation of the *Sydney Portsmouth Sister City Committee (SPSCC)*, a body which is embraced by the Fellowship, our Vice-President, Peter Christian AO, being a long-standing Member.

Each year, as near as possible to 13 May, both cities hold individual celebrations to toast the sailing of the First Fleet and to exchange letters of greeting. This year, the 222nd Anniversary, the Lord Mayor of Sydney hosted an SPSCC evening reception at Town Hall House on 15 May 2009. Four of our Directors attended.

In England, the Lord Mayor hosted a dinner attended by **Brian Hall**, the Chairman of the Portsmouth Branch of the Britain-Australia Society, the Australian High Commissioner, Mr John Dauth LVO and 90 guests. We had more guests than they, but while we met over sandwiches and cocktails in a temporary Reception Hall (with a truly execrable hand-daubed mural) the Portsmouth folk dined in Lord Nelson style aboard his *HMS Victory*.

Councillor Phillip Black presented a profile of the City of Portsmouth in enough tantalizing detail to send this First Fleeter scurrying off to Harvey World Travel, eager to see the Bonds of Friendship sculpture, the iron-clad ship *Warrior*, Henry VIII's restored *Mary Rose*, the Naval Dockyards, Newport, the *Sirius* bronze, Lyndhurst, the Australian Heritage Society Museum, the birthplace of Charles Dickens and the many other intriguing historical sights in a maritime city that received its charter as long ago as the year 1194.

Anniversary of the Sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth on 13 May 1787

Many a city across the globe chooses to form a 'sisterhood' with a city or cities in geographically and politically distinct countries with the goal of sharing cultural,

A Royal Toast was proposed with barely excusable levity but general mirth, by a former chairman of the Britain-Australia Society — to King George III!

The Chairman of the SPSCC, Richard Tanner, then introduced the Guest of Honour, immediate past Governor General, **Major General Michael Jeffery, AC, AO (MIL), CVO, MC**, (pictured right) who chose as his address 'Reflections of a Governor Then and Now.'

Major Jeffery paid extended tribute to the role of our first Governor, Arthur Phillip, who he said over some five years of a non-despotic rule, administered the colony with wide-ranging authority strictly in accordance with his instructions from the King. But Phillip, he said, carried the full burden — isolated from English rule, with no separation of powers from a judiciary or the Church, no Parliamentary Executive (no Parliament!), making his own policy and laws, administering them and dispensing justice through his courts.

The speaker then moved on to extol the achievements of Governor Macquarie, who with similar powers from 1810 to 1822 did so much to set the colony on a path of development after the instability that followed Phillip's departure.

Major Jeffery then detailed the lengthy path by which the colony moved from the establishment of a nine-man Legislative Council in 1824 to share the burden of administration with the Governor, right through to the adoption of our own constitution in 1901 and the complete involvement of the community in the democratic system. His explanation of the bureaucratic processes of today with their full separation of powers in which the Governor's role is an intricate combination of constitutional, ceremonial and community responsibilities, in the political context, was quite brilliantly elucidated. However, suffering growing pangs of information overload, I could not help yearning for the simplicity of the largely benevolent dictatorship of such upright figures as Phillip and Macquarie. **RW**



VALE – Ronald Seton Arndell #1465

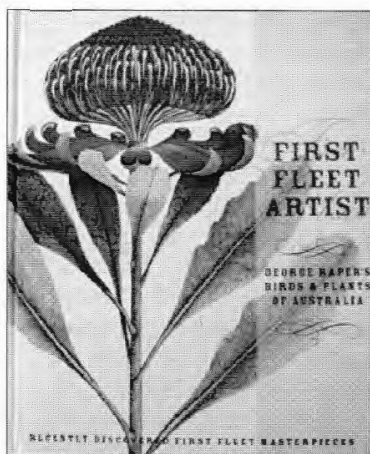
A Thanksgiving Service was held at Epping Baptist Church on 14 February 2009 to celebrate the life of the Reverend Seton Arndell, descendant of Thomas Arndell, First Fleet surgeon, magistrate and land holder. Seton was Patron of the Thomas Arndell Family Association. He and his wife, Barbara, worked as teacher and nurse in the remote Western Highlands of PNG and later established the Baptist Bible College of PNG. Back in Australia he became pastor of Greenacre Baptist Church and then Director of Missions for the Baptist Churches of NSW. In the 1980s Seton and Barbara moved into and renovated his family home, 'Macquarie Retreat' on the Hawkesbury as a centre for historical research. Arndell College used part of the property before it obtained its present site at Oakville. Seton retired to the Central Coast and continued his interest in Baptist church history and writing. His ashes are to be placed in the family vault at Ebenezer.

— from the eulogy by the Reverend Dr Jim Kime

At the National Archives in May



Canberra Chapter members, Brian and Helen Mattick and Geoff Cameron with Faye Smith (Southern Highlands Chapter, second from left) at the opening of the 'Women Transported' Exhibition at the National Archives (see page 8).



Book Review

In 2004 the National Library purchased 56 exquisite First Fleet watercolours of plants and birds from Davis Moreton, seventh Earl of Ducie and the Moreton family. The paintings were discovered in a storage building at the Tortworth estate in the Cotswolds, England, during a routine valuation. Passed

down through generations of the Moreton family, unsigned and undated, their significance was unrecognised, but the colours are astonishingly vibrant as a result of the lack of handling and display. In 2005 the Library Conservators and curatorial staff examinations confirmed that they were of 1770s provenance and indubitably the work of George Raper (1769-1797), complementing the collection of 16 of his watercolours, manuscripts and maps, some signed, acquired by the Library in 1999.

The entire Ducie collection was placed on exhibition then subsequently digitised and uploaded to the Library website. Now, in 2009, the Library, under the authorship of Linda Groom, has published a book, *First Fleet Artist, George Raper's Birds & Plants of Australia*, making the wonderful images and the Raper story available to all.

Unlike voyages of exploration by mariners such as James Cook, the First Fleet carried no professional artists. For visual evidence of the first European impressions of New Holland's flora and fauna, we rely on the work of First Fleet officers such as John Hunter, John White and George Raper.

Raper was only 17 when he joined the crew of *HMS Sirius* as one of the young gentlemen. He was promoted to midshipman during a series of voyages that would see him circumnavigate the globe in a race against starvation, experience shipwreck on Norfolk Island, dodge fever in Batavia, face court-martial for the loss of *Sirius*, live to see home and family and finally win his own command. He died at 27.

On board *Sirius* Raper learnt astronomy, navigation, cartography and topographical drawing from Captain John Hunter and Lieutenant William Bradley. He was an apt pupil, creating an impressive and historically significant record of his voyage to the colony in a series of maps, drawings and manuscripts.

Raper then spent three periods at Port Jackson: from January to October 1788, from May 1789 to March 1790, and briefly from late February to March 1791. It is likely that the paintings in the Ducie Collection date from the period June to November 1789, when *Sirius* was isolated at Careening Cove – now Mosman Bay – for repairs. The floral species in this collection are all spring and summer-flowering, while autumn-flowering banksias are significantly absent.

The species depicted include the Crimson Rosella, the now-endangered Swift Parrot, a Laughing Kookaburra and a Fairy Wren. The artist was clearly fascinated by the brightness of the birds' plumage and the cheekiness of the parrots. Raper, alone of all the First Fleet artists, used a glittering bronze paint to capture the sheen on the feathers of the Bronzewing Pigeon. The flower paintings include a waratah, boronia, crowea, dendrobium and several lilies.

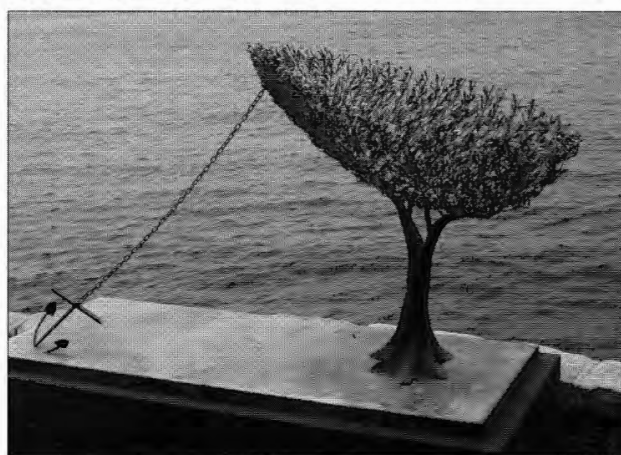
Raper was wealthy enough to acquire his own superior paper and paintbox, and it turned out that in terms of artistic skill the pupil outshone his masters. Linda Groom illustrates by way of comparison of line detail and shading that Hunter copied many of his nature drawings from works in the Ducie Collection. This practice of copying, among the naval officers and convicts who made up the body of First Fleet artists, is a well-known phenomenon and was not at the time considered in any way improper.

The 56 watercolours are printed full page in a hardback measuring 24cm 29cm and the maps, also in colour, are especially legible. They provide wonderful insights into the life and work required of eighteenth-century midshipmen in the British Navy, specifically the mastering of coastal profiles, mapping and navigation calculations.

My favourite among the seascapes is the well-known *Melancholy Loss of HMS Sirius off Norfolk Island*. Stranded ashore for eleven months after the disaster, Raper assembled a highly narrative painting depicting all the elements of the story of the wreck. He chose the most dramatic moment, just after *Sirius* struck the rocks and the masts were cut away to lighten the ship. Her sails are awry, her rigging is snapping and a trailing pennant traces the downward path of her main mast. Lines of waves drawn with strong contrast churn hungrily around the ship. The height of the waves as they hover over the inshore rocks is Raper's allusion to the incoming king tide whose sudden arrival was the precipitating factor in the loss of the ship. Behind *Sirius*, the stern of *Supply* can be glimpsed, as she tacks out towards Phillip Island and the safety of open water.

This is a rewarding book for the those of us who oft times dip into botany, ornithology or naval history, and for our members it is a chance to trace the final ten years in the life of one of the more gifted young mariners of the First Fleet.

AND FROM A MORE MODERN ARTIST...



Here is a 'modern-day' narrative image which can be interpreted as saying something about our First Fleet heritage. It is another of those works from *Sculpture by the Sea 2008* at Bondi — a bronze tabloid by Australian Alex Kosmas entitled *Nexus*. Alex had his own interpretation, which we will pass over in favour of a more personal commentary:

"All the ships that were our home for so long have departed, the sea is empty, the earth is hard and barren. Captive as we are to the alien landscape we must nevertheless keep ourselves firmly anchored to it, confident that in the fullness of time we will perceive the ways in which it can sustain us. Then our ship will have indeed come in." RW

Phillip and Bow Bells...

Arthur Phillip was buried in St Nicholas's Church, Bathampton. Forgotten for many years, the grave was discovered in 1897 and the Premier of NSW, Sir Henry Parkes, had it restored. An annual service of commemoration is held there around Phillip's birthdate. A monument to Phillip in Bath Abbey Church was unveiled in 1937.

Another was unveiled at St Mildred's Church, London, in 1932.

Thereby hangs this charming tale told by a Captain S.R. Watts in a letter to the Fellowship dated 5 September 1989.

"I refer to an incident relating to a bronze Memorial which was erected in London to honour Admiral Arthur Phillip RN, First Governor of NSW.

"In 1978 I was residing in Cynhordy, five miles from Llandovery in South Wales. Calling one morning, just after opening time, at my favourite small public house in Llandovery, *The Black Ox* (only one bar), I was followed in by two ladies. We were the only three people present except, of course, the landlady, and I suggested that the ladies were attended to first. It seemed that a difficulty arose because the ladies disclosed that they were Australians and had no knowledge of the merits or demerits of English Ales. I intervened and suggested that a bottle of White Shield Worthington was a good ale, and would the ladies honour me by joining me in one which, to my pleasure, they accepted.

"During the course of the ensuing conversation, the ladies informed me that it was their intention to visit Bathampton in Somerset the next day to meet the Architect of a Memorial to Arthur Phillip, erected in Sydney.

"I was absolutely amazed at what was the most remarkable coincidence, because in 1931 I had prepared a design sketch for a bronze Memorial honouring the same gentleman, and to meet, just the three of us, in a little Welsh pub, twelve thousand miles from Australia, was unbelievable.

"The ladies each wore a small oval badge in metal showing that they were, I believe, 'First Fleeters', direct descendants of the original settlers.

"Having got over the shock I described the Memorial I had designed and, borrowing a piece of foolscap white paper from the landlady, I sketched for them (on the pub coun-

ter) what I remembered of the Memorial after a lapse of forty-seven years. I suggested that they might like to show it to the Architect at Bathampton.

"The ladies were very interested, and I related that the Memorial had been erected externally on a wall of St Mildred's Church, Bread St, off Cheap-side. The church and the Memorial were destroyed by bombing during the London Blitz, but the cast bust of Arthur was found a considerable distance away, in what condition I am unable to say, but I recall it was saved.

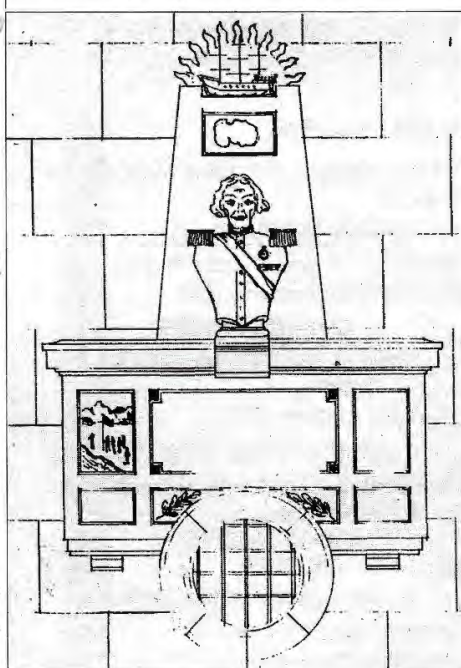
"Regarding the actual Memorial, I was employed as Chief Draughtsman to Messrs G. Johnston Bros Ltd of London and Mr Johnston introduced me to Douglas Hope-Johnston, M.A., a member of the British Empire Society, who proposed the Memorial and spared no effort to bring his cherished idea from inception to fruition.

"Mr. Hope-Johnston explained to me what he wanted to portray and after many meetings, the final design was accepted and the Memorial came into being as the very generous gift of Lord Wakefield of Hythe, then the Lord Mayor of London.

"Mr Hope-Johnston and Lord Wakefield then in 1932 arranged for the unveiling by HRH Prince George (later King George VI) in a ceremony conducted by the Bishop of London.

"I append a sketch of what I can remember of the Memorial after fifty-seven years, but you must excuse its roughness as my hands are affected by my war injuries and my 89 years have left their mark.

"In my opinion a new Memo-



rial should be erected, on a very frequented site, to maintain the wonderful event in our joint history and give honour to the memory of Admiral Arthur Phillip, and so that the original bronze cast Bust of the Admiral can be restored and included in the design.

"It would afford me the greatest pleasure to hear from the two ladies I met in the pub in Llandovery, and recall the most wonderful coincidence. Extraordinary!!"

~ CODA ~

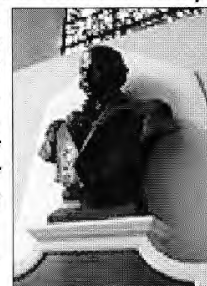
1. In 1968, unknown to Captain Watts, the principal elements of his Memorial including the Bust were in fact re-erected in St Mary-le-Bow Church at the west end of Watling Street, near St Paul's Cathedral. This is the Church whose bells must toll in the new-born hearing of all who can claim a Cockney heritage. They are immortalised in the nursery rhyme, *Oranges and Lemons*, and their sound is credited with having persuaded Dick Whittington (no relation!) to turn back from Highgate and remain in London to become Lord Mayor. Through the connection with Arthur Phillip, the Rector of St Mary-le-Bow is the Chaplain of the Britain-Australia Society.

2. In 2007, Australian 'Hypothetical' Geoffrey Robertson QC alleged that Phillip's remains are no longer in St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: "Captain Arthur Phillip is not where the ledger stone says he is: it may be that he is buried somewhere outside, or he is simply lost." Robertson also believes it was a "disgraceful slur" on Phillip's legacy that he wasn't buried in one of England's great cathedrals. He is campaigning for a rigorous search for the remains, which he believes should be re-interred in Australia. Hear, hear!

Ron Whittington

LEFT: St Mildred's 1932 – Two-and-a-half tons in Statutory bronze, cast in sections. Fitted over the circular stone surround to a window. A large bronze tablet in Roman Classical letters in relief describes the planting of the Flag by Phillip. Cast panels either side depict scenes of the Founding ceremony. Capping these is a cornice with a central pedestal on which is mounted the Bust of Admiral Phillip, by Sir William Hartnell. The upper part is cast as a tapered monolith with a panel showing Australia in contour and relief with a fine model of HMS Supply, backed by a rising sun.

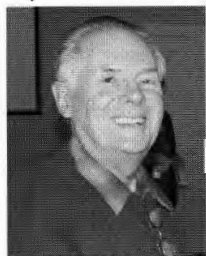
RIGHT: St Mary-le-Bow Bust 1968



... Phillip, was he a spy?

Writer and historian, **Trevor Patrick**, (pictured) in his address to Eastern Farms Chapter in June, came equipped with a strategically-illustrated, laterally-researched and very audience-friendly PowerPoint presentation on the life of Arthur Phillip from cabin boy to arrival in NSW as Governor.

In relation to his keynote question, "Was Phillip a Spy?" – understood to mean a British agent – Trevor conveyed a wealth of circumstantial evidence drawn from the progression and circumstances of Phillip's career. In terms of hard evidence it is fair to say that Trevor was far less forthcoming.



The circumstantial evidence, as outlined, really relates to the activities and opportunities that could be said to have prepared Phillip for the role of *C18th James Bond*. So we have him born to a German father who is a language teacher, at sea on a British warship at age nine, taught writing, navigation, mathematics and drawing at Green-

wich School for the sons of seamen, apprenticed to Captain Redhead on *Fortune* at 13, seeing whaling action in the North Sea as well as trading activity in the Mediterranean and the West Indies. In 1755 we find him at 17 in the Royal Navy rising to lieutenant in 1762, following an engagement resulting in the capture of Havana, before being retired in 1763 at the end of the Seven Years War. He marries Margaret, a wealthy widow, spending 15 years farming at Lyndhurst in Hampshire, engaging in the social rounds, seeing and being seen in prominent society and keeping in touch with shipping matters through proximity to the port of Southampton. He becomes a leader in the local Council and consorts with such luminaries as Lord Sydney and Sir George Rose, secretary of the Navy. Fluent in French, in 1770 he undertakes training in Paris in fortifications and artillery and in 1774-78 serves in South American waters as a captain in the Portuguese fleet, which he enters with the Admiralty's permission after the outbreak of the Spanish-Portuguese war. In 1778 he returns to the English navy and in 1781 is made a post-captain but again retires on half-pay in 1784 at the end of the American

War of Independence. **He then spends two years in France engaged in peace time survey work for the Admiralty.**

Much of this career activity, Trevor implied, could be construed as admirable 'spook' training, and he then drew our attention to this 'survey work in France.' Trevor said that a Colonial Secretary Secret Service document of the time reveals that Captain Phillip was to travel to Toulon and other ports for the purpose of ascertaining naval force, stores and arsenal at the good salary of £150pa.

Trevor then went on to suggest that it is therefore possible that at Brest in mid 1785 Phillip secretly boarded the ships *La Boussole* and *L'Astrolabe* being fitted out for the voyage of La Pérouse to the Pacific, in order to ascertain whether that voyage had colonising intent along with scientific endeavour. In support of this theory Trevor then pointed out that when in due course the two ships arrived in Botany Bay in 1788, Phillip made no attempt to visit La Pérouse, instead sending over Lieutenants King and Dawes.

Was this the action of a Governor busy at Sydney Cove, or of a spy who even at this late juncture, did not want his cover blown? The jury is out... **RW**

Computer Upgrade at FF House – Ian Palmer mounts a full scale revamp of our data processing capacity

Many years ago the Fellowship purchased its first computer to keep membership records and family trees. In the intervening years more and more office duties including general correspondence, emails and family research have been able to be performed using computers and the Internet. A couple of our Members have donated pre-loved computers to the Fellowship when they have done upgrades on their own home computers. As a result the volunteers have been working with a mixture of skills and computer capabilities.

The Directors have now recognised that a computer upgrade was long overdue and as a result have purchased three new computers that have been interconnected via a wireless network system. This facility means the computers can be repositioned anywhere within First Fleet House allowing versatility without the necessity of expensive rewiring.

With this system all the computer workstations have access to any and all of the information held by the Fellowship. Any enquiry, membership, subscriptions, family connections or

functions, and the one hundred and one other matters the volunteers are routinely asked about can be answered quickly and efficiently regardless of where the volunteer is working at First Fleet House.

This update has taken place recently, but the volunteers have already embraced the new system and have remarked on how much easier and quicker it is to perform their normal office duties and attend to Members' enquiries.

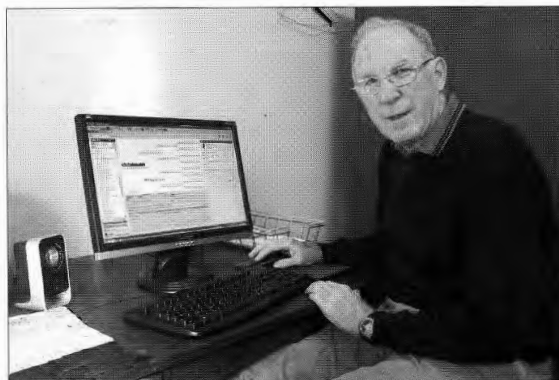
Many of us have lost computer files due to operator error, equipment failure, fire or hardware theft. So we have installed a comprehensive security facility which allows all information on all computers to be backed up on an internal hard drive. A second external hard drive is connected to this device permitting a copy of all the backup information to be

taken home from site every working day if practicable.

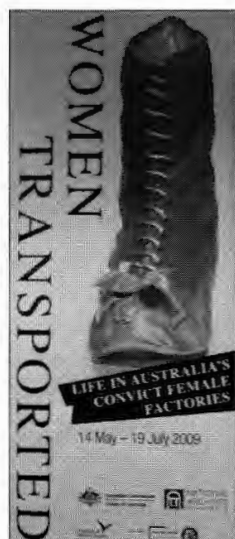
In conjunction with the computer upgrade, we have also recently changed to a broadband internet connection resulting in faster email downloads and enquiries are answered more quickly and efficiently. And, as already announced, we have upgraded our website capacity and are working to extend the content.

The new computers and general office revamp will be of great benefit to all Members.

Ian Palmer



Ian looks after all the maintenance and equipment matters associated with the operation of FF House. As Records Officer he is also involved in transferring all hard copy Member family records to computer-generated genealogy files – an enormous task!



The Curator of the Parramatta Heritage Centre, Gay Hendriksen, in May mounted the *Women Transported* exhibition at National Archives in Canberra. It depicts life in the convict Female Factories, revealing the stories and paying tribute to the memories, experience and efforts of the many internees who found themselves unwed, unassigned, unemployed, or unable to resist repeating criminal offences.

The exhibition was opened on 14 May 2009 by Dr Anne Summers, author, journalist and speaker on women's issues, who as far back as 1975 published her seminal work *Damned Whores and God's Police*. It runs until 19 July 2009. On 14 June Gay Hendriksen delivered a paper, *Women Transported – Myth & Reality*, at the National Archives Menzies Room.

Female Factories were established at Parramatta, George Town and Hobart, while at Bathurst, Port Macquarie, Newcastle and Moreton Bay they were adjunct to the gaols. As at 2009 the combined number of female factory women over the period 1804 to 1846, thus far named, is 9145.

The main jobs were production of linen, wool, and twine. The women worked at wool-picking cloth-scouring, spinning, carding and later weaving. They also did laundry, stone breaking, oakum-picking, needlework, straw-plaiting, cleaning and factory duties such as nursing, monitoring and portering. The exhibition charts these occupations with a display of clothing, lace, veils, boots and bonnets, along with a fine selection of line drawings, paintings and some photographs.

The stories of individuals are given pride of place along with the very few available images of the inmates. Again it is apparent that the authorities and the artists were much more interested in the buildings and officials such as the 'saintly' Samuel Marsden, than in illustrating the endeavours of a group of people who were doing significant work in sustaining the colony.

Convict women have been analysed in many historical studies, and feature in ongoing research by descendants. The exhibition is nevertheless supported by a new 103-page illustrated book, *Women Transported*, containing meaty articles by Gay Hendriksen and Dr Carol Liston of the University of Western Sydney, together with a list of Factory inmates for both NSW and Van Diemen's Land. Typical of all exhibitions of the noughties, a DVD, a set of playing cards and a convict love token trinket box are also on hand. But I bought the book for \$35, reluctantly eschewing the trinket box at the same price. Copies of the book may be obtainable from Gay at the Parramatta Heritage Centre, 346A Church Street Parramatta, phone 02 8839 3311. Her email address is ghendriksen@parracity.nsw.gov.au



RW

LACHLAN MACQUARIE IN BATHURST

On the first outing of the Lachlan Macquarie Chapter around twenty members and friends met at the Foundation Cairn, Bathurst, for 'An Historical Walking Tour of Bathurst 1815 to circa 1840', along with a visit to Holy Trinity Church in Kelso where First Fleeter James Sheers is buried.

Chapter member, Professor Rob McLachlan, of Charles Sturt University, Bathurst, was our guide, leading us on a two-hour informative and inspiring tour on which we had to use our imaginations as well as the documents he had provided. Rob really brought the history of the area to life, making it quite personal by including anecdotes about the lives of some of the personalities of the time.

Items brought to our attention we would not have noticed were we not on foot. One such feature is the lonely cairn sitting on the edge of the bowling green in Durham St where many of the expeditions to the interior of the continent began.

Rob is lobbying Bathurst Council to erect signs and interpretative information on the significant early colonial sites that we visited, as there is very little physical evidence remaining (above ground) to mark these sites. He may seek the support of the Lachlan Macquarie Chapter to add weight to his work on the project.

Judy Dwyer

PENNANT HILLS HISTORY

Accepted wisdom says that Pennant Hills in Sydney was so named because a flag was raised on the heights by soldiers to communicate with Government House at Sydney Cove. But research by Trevor Patrick and James Symes has led to the conclusion that the entire area was named by Arthur Phillip after a Welsh naturalist and travel writer and one of the foremost zoologists of his time, Thomas Pennant (1726-98).

This finding and myriad other facts and stories are revealed in their newly-released coffee table book, *In Search of the Pennant Hills*, in large format, 208pp, with special maps, photographs, line drawings and biographies of pioneers. Mail order to T. Patrick, PO Box 176 Kenthurst, 2156 or visit www.hillstory.com.au. \$59.95 plus \$10 p&h



Founders Fleetmuster

First Fleeters could offer Governor Phillip an impressive number of occupational skills, many of which were of scant assistance to a colony struggling to feed itself. Find the names of ten such skills from this list: hawker, dustman, staymaker, bookstitcher, caulker, currier, milliner, pinheader, waterman, fiddler, husbandman, brazier, lacemaker.

Margaret Withington

Colonial Cryptic

Solution from Last Issue.
Who got it out?

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

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



Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.9

In this issue *Foundlings* quiz relates to the pivotal activity of the Fellowship, the installation of Memorial Plaques on the graves of First Fleeters. Furthermore, all but one of the answers are to be found, *ex post facto* of course, in the edifying book *Where First Fleeters Lie*, by Roderick Best and Joyce Cowell. The book covers our Plaque Dedications 1965 to 1989, and profiles the First Fleeters so remembered. It is to be updated.

1. Who is the First Fleet ancestor of the famous Australian writer Stella Maria Sarah Franklin?
2. Which Church Cemetery contains, as far has been identified, the most First Fleeter graves?
3. Among the graves on which the Fellowship has dedicated a plaque, only one First Fleeter so represented was born on the voyage. Give the name.
4. Among those on which the Fellowship has dedicated a plaque, two separate graves belong to a father and his son. Who are they?
5. There is one confirmed centenarian headstone in the group, surprisingly, that of a male. Whose is it?
6. Other than that on the monument to David Collins in Hobart, two inscriptions exceed twenty carved lines and represent almost a full biography. Who are the persons so eulogised?
7. A plaque has been dedicated by members of the Fellowship to a woman who in fact had no descendants. She drowned in Parramatta River with her infant child. Who was she?
8. Who was buried with full military honours in Sydney Town Hall Cemetery, his tomb being unearthed in 1997?
9. Who was the First Fleeter in the group who owned land on which First Fleet House sits today?
19. This is what makes multiple choice sneaky... About how many First Fleeter Graves has the Fellowship honoured by a Plaque Dedication since the publication of *Where First Fleeters Lie* in 1989? a. 15 b. 33 c. 52

SCORES AND PRIZES:

No prizes this time, tempting as it was to offer a lawn plot to the 'nearest correct entry'. Rather, do treat yourself to the book from FF House, just \$22 plus \$5 p&h.

Answers on Page 10.

Ron Withington



Readers' Riposte

- In relation to the *History Stroll around Parramatta CBD*, Mary-Joy Payten, of Moreton, advised that the Paytens owned the *Babes in the Wood* and the *Woolpack* hotels. The *Woolpack* is where bowls started in Australia and the Bowls Club in Sydney has a picture behind the bar of the hotel and a notice re Nathaniel Peyton, later spelt Payten.
- Paul Kable wrote to say, "The article on *HMAS Sirius* was of special interest to me – another FFF connection. When Manager of Naval Requirements for Tenix Defence Pty Ltd in 2000-06 I had the role of analysing the Navy's tanker requirement; leading a design team on modifications required to *Delos*, an existing double-hulled Korean merchant tanker; and leading Tenix' winning bid team; then contract negotiations with Defence Procurement to arrive at a fully compliant *HMAS Sirius*. Of course I was delighted with the name chosen."



#3642

FF Edward Kimberly
FF Daniel Stanfield

Bonney Savill (at left) has retired after some 24 years participation as a part-time FF House volunteer in the affairs of the Fellowship, ranging from the initiation of the Day-Time Fellowship in 1985 and Ladies Auxiliary in 1988, to the humblest of office tasks, along with invaluable assistance to both the Treasurer, Roy Morris, and the incumbent President across the decades.

On 24 June 2009, Board members, old friends and new, gathered at FF House and later over lunch up the road at the Bayside Boulevard to give Bonney a rousing farewell. Tributes to her work were paid by President John Haxton, Vice-President Peter Christian and Roy Morris. John presented Bonney with a Certificate of Appreciation and a tidy little sailing ship paperweight as a memento. Phyllis Selby, for many years a co-worker with Bonney, presented her with a floral tribute. Phyllis, when asked if she too is retiring, said that she will be around until she is ninety. But the final word, ever so welcome, went to Bonney: "You haven't seen the last of me yet!"



A section of the Thomas Arndell Association Triennial Family Picnic Reunion at Cattai National Park on Sunday 21 June, 2009. These members are gathered in a grove of trees planted in 1994 to honour their First Fleet surgeon ancestor and his wife, Elizabeth. What the plaque (front and centre) sensibly does not reveal is that the grove contains a twenty-five-year time capsule.

For some members the day began with a service at Ebenezer Church and terminated with an inspection of the Arndell homestead, the substantial two-storey Georgian cottage built on land which was granted to Thomas in 1799. The Cattai Farm was home to seven generations of the Arndell family until 1980, and the house (once extended, and now undergoing ground floor repair to combat dry rot) displays the life of a single family group, spanning the first 180 years of Australia's modern history.

Cattai Farm was sold by the Arndell family to the NSW Government to be managed by the NPWS for its conservation and heritage values. In 1992 it became a national park. It was then merged with a smaller parcel of land to the north, known as Hope Farm, and thus all of the land originally granted to Thomas in 1799 became the Cattai National Park.

Bonnet Bustle here and there

New Member, **Wilma McCubbin**, writes: "The textiles curator at the Temora Rural Museum, Mrs Gay McGeorge, decided in April 2008 to begin a project for the Museum's Annual Exhibition held on the second Saturday of March each year. Gay 'adopted' the Second Fleet ship *Neptune* and aimed to create a bonnet for the 109 women listed (they did not all arrive) as well as research their stories.

"With the help of 45 women from Temora and the surrounding area, she reached her goal and in 2009 mounted a perfectly splendid exhibition, complete with a boat, stories and a blessing service in the beautifully decorated little church in the Museum grounds. The church has pews to seat 32, but over 100 gathered outside to listen to the service conducted by Pastor Matt Mitchell, the local Presbyterian minister.

"Temora woman, Nina Flack, a descendant of Sarah Griggs, a convict on *Neptune*, took great pride in creating a bonnet for Sarah, with the help of a friend, Jean Bornen.

"The display created great interest, many women travelling from surrounding towns to see the bonnets, which after Easter were forwarded to Christina Henri in Hobart for her collection."



Temora Rural Museum Bonnet Display
Photo: Ken McCubbin

Meanwhile **Christina Henri** herself has sent a note to *Founders*, hugely pleased that she is well past the halfway mark with her *Roses from the Heart* Bonnet project. Christina went on to say: "There may be First Fleeters interested to see this photo of the *Vessels of Hope* exhibition at the Fremantle Prison Gallery. Bonnets have been placed in an Irish carragh in the centre of the installation surrounded by a number of cabinets of bonnets. The bonnet tributes in the boat and the two glass cabinets in the background commemorate the women who were transported on the ship *Hope*. Other bonnets within the exhibition represent a variety of women transported on a number of different ships.

"Please note that there will be a *Blessing of the Bonnets* in Windsor NSW at the St Matthew's Anglican Church, on Sunday 2 August at 2pm. After that ceremony there will be a major exhibition of the bonnet tributes at the Hawkesbury Art Gallery, Windsor."

Remember, if you would like to become a first-time bonnet maker, ring Ron Withington for the pattern and details on 02 4757 3984 or email ronwit@ozemail.com.au



Vessels of Hope
Fremantle Prison Gallery

Convict Sites for World Heritage Listing?

In 2007 the importance of the Australian convict memory to all humankind was recognised when some of Australia's convict records were included in UNESCO's *Memory of the World Register*.

Now in 2009 Australia has nominated its most important convict sites for World Heritage listing.

The 11 nominated sites are:

Tasmania: Port Arthur Historic Site, Cascades Female Factory, Darlington Probation Station, Coal Mines Historic Site, Brickendon-Woolmers Estates.

NSW: Old Government House and Domain, Hyde Park Barracks, Cockatoo Island Convict Site, Old Great North Road.

Norfolk Island: Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area.

WA: Fremantle Prison.

Each of the 11 sites is listed on national and State or Territory Heritage registers which ensure their protection under the various laws and policies. These are pre-eminent examples, but of course there are over 3000 convict sites remaining around the nation, all of which represent different aspects of the story of convictism.

The 11 sites fully meet the requirements of the UNESCO Operational Guidelines to the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Together they have outstanding universal significance as an exceptional example of the forced migration of convicts – one of the greatest penal experiments in history. British transportation to Australia was the world's first conscious attempt to build a new society on the labour of convicted prisoners, and around 166,000 men, women and children were transported to Australia over the 80 years from 1787 to 1868.

UNESCO will make its final decision on the nomination in mid 2010.

If successful the Australian Convict Sites will join Australia's other 17 places on the World Heritage List, which include Uluru, the Great Barrier Reef and the Sydney Opera House. Let's hope they make it!

RW



BRUSH FARM RENDEZVOUS

Eastern Farms Chapter has found the quintessential venue for a FFF group meeting. It is a hall on Brush Farm Estate in Eastwood, an adjunct to **Brush Farm House**, which was so brilliantly restored by the City of Ryde in 2007.

The house is one of the most architecturally pretentious of extant colonial houses from the Macquarie period. Its siting complements the original Georgian structure which incorporated a raised platform and semi-detached Palladian side wings. The interior retains some examples of Regency joinery and the 1880s alteration of the building provides examples of late Victorian features such as the two-storey cast-iron verandah, internal timber joinery, staircase, ceilings and cornices.

For many years the Brush Farm Estate, through its elevated position midway between Sydney and Parramatta, operated as a facility known as *One Tree Signal Station*, to relay messages from vessels on the Parramatta River to the township at Parramatta.



The early ownership is significant. In 1794 Lt-Governor Grose granted land in the region to ten settlers, including Thomas Bride and Zadoc Pettit. In 1800 William Cox consolidated the land grants into the area that became known as Brush Farm.

Gregory Blaxland purchased 455 acres of the estate in 1807. He built Brush Farm House in c1819. This noted explorer was also interested in viticulture, experimenting with different grape varieties resistant to fungal diseases. He submitted wines to the Royal Society and was awarded a silver medal in 1823 and a gold in 1828. His experiments with cattle and sheep fodder resulted in the Estate being the first farm in the colony to cultivate buffalo grass for fodder. He and his brother John may be the real founders of the nation's cattle and wine industries.

Blaxland lived at Brush Farm until 1831. In serious debt, he sold the house and estate to his son-in-law, Dr Thomas Forster, and moved to rented premises at the Mill Farm, North Parramatta, where he died in 1853. What a place to meet!

WHAT'S ON ROUND THE CHAPTERS

CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Next meetings: AGM: Saturday 4 July at 2.00pm at 14 Lawrence Cres, Kambah. **Annual Dinner:** 7.00pm Saturday 25 July at Southern Cross Restaurant, Woden. Please contact the President, Geoff Cameron, ☎ (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 10am for 10.30am.

Next Meetings: AGM: 11 July. Bring your oldest photograph. 8 August.

Speaker: Pam McLinn, local author and semi-historian. Topic: *My Family Tree*.

For details call Beryl Haxton, ☎ 4353 2524.

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

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

Next Meetings: 1 August. **Speaker:** Elizabeth Matthews, Parramatta Family History Group. Topic: *Stories of Female Factory Girls*. 5 September. **Speaker:** Dr Bill Greenhaigh. Topic: *Dr Thomas Parmeter, a convict doctor at the Castle Hill Lunatic Asylum*.

For more information 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 at 10.00am.

Next Meeting: AGM: 17 August, followed by Soup & Damper. For details contact the Secretary, Beth Brooker, ☎ 4926 5535.

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

Venue: Quarterly meetings at different venues.

Next Meeting: AGM: Saturday 1 August: at Kinross Wolaroi School Library, Bathurst Rd, Orange at 2.00pm. Contact the Secretary, Judy Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234.

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

Venue: Bi-monthly on the 2nd Saturday at St Augustine's Anglican Church Parish Hall, Hamilton Qld.

Next Meeting: 11 July: Visit to State Library of Qld, followed by a meeting in a room at the Library. Meet at the entrance at 9.45am. For further information contact Mary-Joy Payten ☎ 07 5455 3905.

NEW ENGLAND: Armidale & surrounds

Venue: Quarterly on the first Saturday at various venues.

Next Meeting: AGM: Saturday 1 August at 12.30pm at Judy Whites's home.

Please contact the Secretary, Fran Newling, ☎ 6771 5099 for more details.

NORTH COAST: Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga

Venue: Meetings bi-monthly are at various locations on the first Sunday at 11.30am.

Next Meetings: Outing 15 July 12pm at JJ's Lagoon Café, Sawtell Nursery, Hogbin Drive, Toormina. **AGM:** Sunday 2 August at Colin & Pat Robertson's home, 21 Queen Street, Woolgoolga. Members to bring art and craft. Details from Robyn Condliffe, ☎ 6653 3615.

NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds

Venue: 269 Richmond Hill Rd, Richmond Hill, bi-monthly, fourth Sunday at 11.30am.

Next Meeting: AGM: Sunday 26 July. **Speaker:** Jennifer Sonego. Topic: *John Small/Mary Parker*. Contact Margaret Soward for more information, ☎ 6686 3597.

NORTH WEST: Tamworth & surrounds

Venue: Family History Group Rooms in the V. Guy Kable Building, Marius St, Tamworth. Bi-monthly meetings, normally on the first Saturday at 1.30pm.

Next Meeting: AGM: Saturday 1 August. Contact Jo Crossing, ☎ 6766 8255 for details.

SOUTH COAST: Engadine to Burrill Lake

Venue: Laurel Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto. Meetings held monthly on the 1st Tuesday (except December & January) from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Next Meetings: AGM: Tuesday 7 July: **Speaker:** Pam Harvey. Topic: *FF John Ryan*. Tuesday 4 August at 3.00pm: Winter Warm Day and SCC 8th Anniversary. Tuesday 1 September. **Speaker:** Rev. Les Hewitt. Topic: *A 95-day Historic Motor Tour Round Australia*. Call John Boyd, ☎ 4261 6893 or Secretary, Jean Mortimer, ☎ 4257 5575.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre, Cnr Albert Lane & Queen St on the Second Wednesday of each month 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Next meeting: AGM: Wednesday 8 July, followed by Chapter Chats and our Soup & Damper Day. Saturday 15 August: Spring Event commemorating the FF's time in Rio de Janeiro. Meet at 12 noon at Southern Highlands Wines, Cnr Olbury Rd / Illawarra Hwy, Sutton Forest. For more details contact Vice-President Neville Usher ☎ 4869 1406.

CHAPTER NEWS

I just had to attend the Eastern Farms Chapter's June meeting at their beautiful venue with Trevor Patrick speaking on the intriguing topic, *Arthur Phillip, Spy?* South Coast Chapter's overnight trip to historic Windsor in March was an outstanding success, as was their lunch on 16 May for the sailing of the First Fleet. Congratulations to North Coast Chapter newlyweds - Ivan (Smidt, #4578, and Carol Harvey. More Chapter news elsewhere in this issue.

Margaret Withington, Chapter Liaison, 4757 3984, margaretwith@ozemail.com.au

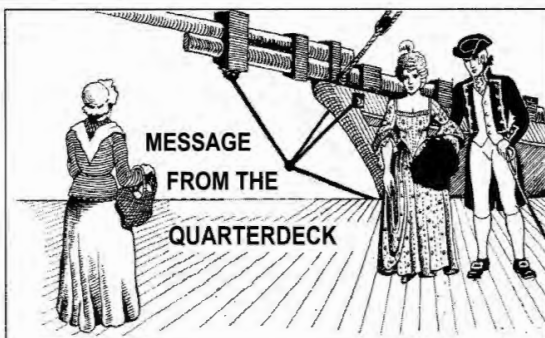
WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES
 #7671 Stephen Jeffrey Caskey (*amended*)
 #7672 Gwendoline Rita Caskey
THOMAS ACRES
 #7681 John Anthony Mullan
 #7681.1 Celeste Annette Mullan
ANDREW FISHBURN
 #7682 Kerrie Ann Mann
JOHN WINTER/ANN SANDLANDS
 #7683 Leon Charles Douglas Haxton
EDWARD HUMPHREYS
 #7684 Colleen Patricia Wootton
BENJAMIN CUSLEY
 #7685 Herbert James Green
 #7686 Sarah Jane Pratt (Jr)
JOHN CROSS
 #7687 June Paul
JOHN and HANNAH BARRISFORD
 #7688 Cassidy Ailan Le Page (Jr)
ANTHONY ROPE / ELIZABETH PULLEY
 #7689 Kerry Lynne Carter
 #7689.1 Kevin Bruce Carter
 #7690 Kimberley John Pett
 #7691 Lincoln James Carter
 #7692 Mitchell John Carter
 #7693 Chelsea Grace Carter
JAMES WILLIAMS
 #7694 Lorayne Norma Baxter

MEMBERS MEMORANDA

GEORGE JOHNSTON / ESTHER ABRAHAMS
 #7695 Isabella Clair Smith
JOSEPH WRIGHT
 #7696 Robert Anthony Curtis
 #7697 Christopher John Curtis
FFF FRIENDS
 Rhonda Freestone, Janis McKinnon,
 Jeanette Roberts, Suzanne Turner
BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:
JAMES WILLIAMS
Hunter James Phipps
 17 June, 2009, in Geelong, son to Graeme &
 Magda Phipps, tenth grandchild for #6853 Keith &
 #6854 Joan Phipps. 8th generation.
ANN FORBES
Lexie Lily Grace Moon
 20 March 2009, in New Zealand, daughter to
 Kerrie & Rob Moon, granddaughter for Ian &
 #7041 Jillian Wilson.
ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY
Ember Page Macare
 29 April 2009, second daughter to Terina & Mark
 Macare, second grandchild for Noel and #7550
 Anne Ferris.
Thomas Walter Henry
 8 May 2009, first grandchild for Thomas &
 Rowena Henry, first great grandchild for #7405
 Annette Henry.

Isaac David Potter
 8 June 2009, third child to Matthew & Naomi
 Potter, eighth grandchild for David & #5897
 Pamela Potter, fourteenth great grandchild for
 #5825 Stella Minter.
WILLIAM TYRELL/JAMES WILLIAMS
Samuel Robert Mackellar
 22 October 2008, second son to Linda & Angus
 Mackellar.
Henry Robert Chatfield
 9 February 2009, son to Kate & Tom Chatfield.
Grace Mya McDonald
 17 May 2009, daughter to Mya & Paul McDonald.
 Note: These three infants are the second, third
 and fourth great grandchildren for #3759 June
 Burnett. 9th generation.
DEATHS Sincere sympathy to the families of:
JAMES WILSON
 #6842 Robin Thomsen
 20 May 2009, aged 76. Late of Sawtell, NSW.
EDWARD HUMPHREYS/MARY WILLIAMS
 #3763 Susanna Payten
 30 April 2009, aged 67. Late of Balgowlah, NSW.
 Sister of #1135 Mary-Joy Payten.
WILLIAM STANDLEY
 #7145 Patricia Heathfield Bailey
 26 March 2009, aged 92. Late of Victoria Pt, Qld.
MATTHEW EVERINGHAM
 #862 Valerie Ross
 May 2009, aged 76.



Any editor of *Founders* worth his tierce of salted pork must from time to time look at past issues of the Fellowship Newsletter. In so doing he cannot avoid spotting a number of essays and reports of particular interest which merit a rerun in a similar or fresher context. He or she would also be mindful of the fact that over the many years the reading membership will have

changed markedly. The first of such articles (from 1989) is set out on page 6 of this issue.

North Coast Chapter has now celebrated two weddings in three months! This time **Ivan Smidt**, #4578 FF John Nicholls, started a new page with **Carol Harvey** on 9 May 2009. Congratulations, but do tell, what sort of meetings are you having up there? – I am getting very short of unused book-and-chapter puns!

Robyn Condliffe wrote of the sad passing of long-time member and Honorary Auditor for North Coast Chapter, **Robin Thomsen**. "Robin died as a result of a fall during our last floods. She loved history and was very proud of her First Fleet ancestor, James Wilson. We knew her as a very private, caring, kind and strong lady, passionate about the welfare of all birds and animals – a member of the RSPCA for many years and an active member of Wires. The great loves of her life over the years were her beautiful cats and devoted friends."

Peter Christian wrote to say, "We were all saddened to hear of the passing of #862 **Val Ross** in May. She had been an early member of the Fellowship but concentrated her efforts in the writing and publication of a number of books not only on her First Fleeter Matthew Everingham, but of the Hawkesbury area in general. Her last book was entitled *The Everingham Letter Book*, a detailed account of Matthew's attempt to cross the barrier of the Blue Mountains from Richmond in 1795. The final volume on the Everingham Trilogy written by Val was the massive family tree effort, *Cornstalks: a genealogy*, which has become a definitive line of descent for the many thousands of Everingham descendants.

"Val was very supportive of the Fellowship. She urged all members of the wider family to join the Fellowship and to take pride in their distinctive heritage. Unfortunately time was not on Val's side as her health started to deteriorate some ten years ago and she passed to her rest this year at the age of 76."

Jo Crossing reports that on 13 June North West Chapter toured the old part of the Tamworth Base Hospital visiting their collection of historical equipment, books, photos and nurses' uniforms. **FF Friend Suzanne Turner** (who cares for this collection) was on hand in her period outfit to greet her arriving Chapter members.

RW



MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

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