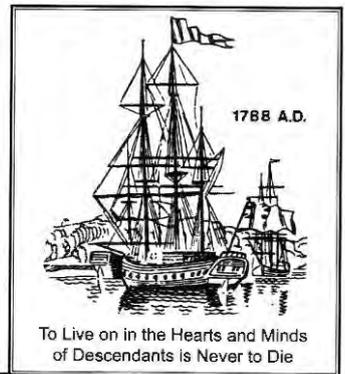


Founders

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

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

Volume 41, Issue 2 42nd Year of Publication March/April 2010



EASTSIDE, WESTSIDE, ALL AROUND THE PARK

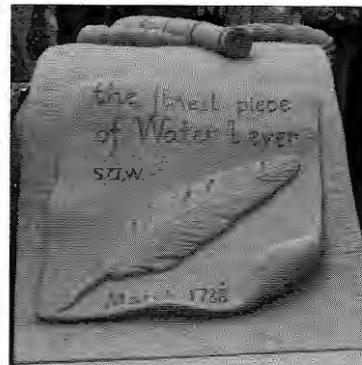
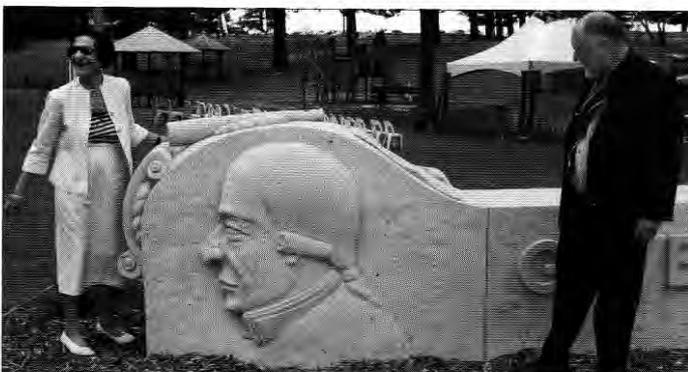


Above: Sculptor Chris Bennetts with his wife Karen Harper. Below: Clr Rose and a clearly delighted Governor, at the moment of the unveiling.

Governor Phillip Park is located on a sandy tombolo which links the mainland to Barrenjoey Headland, with the Tasman Sea to the east, and to the west, in Phillip's own words, "the finest piece of Water I ever saw, and which I honored with the name of Pitt Water". As part of its new Master Plan for this Palm Beach heritage area, Pittwater Council has put in place two low-level curved sandstone entrance walls, incorporating sculptures memorialising Governor Phillip, one at each end of the Park's loop drive off Beach Road. The sculptures were unveiled on 13 January 2010 by the present Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO, and the Mayor of Pittwater, Clr Harvey Rose. Our President Mr John Haxton and his wife, Beryl, were in attendance among other dignitaries including the President of the Palm Beach Whale Beach Association, Mr Bryce Ross-Jones.

The west entrance sculpture features a profile of Phillip, along with a rope, a telescope, a 1788 scroll and a parchment inscribed with part of the quotation set out above. The east entrance sculpture depicts a cabbage tree palm leaf celebrating the Guringai people, traditional custodians of the Pittwater area. This palm is endemic to the region and was a popular traditional fishing implement. Three shells represent the local non-seasonal food, while the wave form morphs to a line, hook and net ensnaring a passing fish. Chris Bennetts, of Ishi Buki, was the sculptor, aided by Karen Harper as researcher and draughtsperson. Both works were carved at nearby Ingleside from massive blocks of Colo River sandstone and then trucked to the site. The work took just four months.

Governor Phillip Park was named in his honour but these sculptures are the first official statement to that effect. *RW*



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Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011

Phone: 02 9360 3788 or 02 9360 3988

Fax: If you wish to send a fax, please phone first.

Email: fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Website: www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au



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Founders

is the magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters
Editor, Design & Artwork
 Ron Withington 02 4757 3984
 email: ronwit@ozemail.com.au
Editor-in-Chief John Haxton

OFFICE BEARERS 2009-10

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From the President's Desk

ANNIVERSARIES: We celebrate them enthusiastically over and over again. We have just celebrated the 222nd year of the landing of the First Fleet, at our Australia Day Luncheon. (See page 4). The Fellowship will be 42 on 27 March, although we hold an anniversary party only at five-yearly intervals.

Founders Day on Norfolk Island was celebrated on 6 March. This year Norfolk Island Museum compiled a history of the First Settlement, to which our Board agreed to contribute and to part-sponsor. The booklet was handed out at the Celebrations.

During the next few years the Anniversary of many Norfolk Island people moving to Tasmania will be prominent in Family History records. Some returned to Sydney and some stayed in the Colony. Those Pioneers had a hard time in the early days, and if it was not for the contribution of food made by the Norfolk Island settlement, Sydney would also have suffered greater hardship. Over one period, when their food supply was endangered by the wreck of *Sirius*, Norfolk was kept alive by the gathering of sea birds that nested on Mt Pitt.

So as we move towards the closing of the settlement of Norfolk in 1814, many stories will emerge from our members bringing to life the day-to-day activities and movements of convict and free who have built the foundations of our vibrant Nation.

Will you share with us those stories? We would like to have your contributions for future *Founders* articles.

In Fellowship John Haxton



A Whitton and Miles Table at the FFF Australia Day Luncheon. Rear: Mary-Anne Boyd, Claire Boyd, Kevin Thomas (FFF Treasurer), John Boyd (Luncheon Co-ordinator), Pat Boyd, Marilynn Thomas Seated: Pat Bowen, Rex Gibson, Warwick Allen, Jan Allen. See p.4.

AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON RAFFLE WINNERS

Many folk bought tickets with their Luncheon booking or from Bonnie and Phyllis at the door on the day, but the Board was pleased that members who could not attend the Luncheon nevertheless handsomely supported this fundraiser.

So it was hardly surprising that only one of the three winners drawn by Foundation Member, #13 Joan Ross, was present at the event.

1st PRIZE: *First Fleet 1788 220th Anniversary Commemorative Silver Coin and Medallion Set, courtesy of Perth Mint and the FFF, to:*

#7720 PETER MOULD of Cowra, FF James McManus/Jane Poole, a new member. What a start! He may care to share the prize with his wife #3255 Jennifer Mould, FF Anthony Rope/Elizabeth Pulley, a member of Lachlan Macquarie Chapter.

2nd PRIZE: *Two Days/One Night Stay in the Deluxe Harbour View Room at the Bayview Boulevard Hotel with Breakfast for two, courtesy of the Bayview, to:*

#709 BERYL LEWIS of Bowral, FF John Small/Mary Parker/James Bradley, former President of the Fellowship and now member of Southern Highlands Chapter, wife of #709.1 Howard Lewis. Beryl had in fact booked to attend the Luncheon, but had to apologise due to ill health.

3rd PRIZE: *Dinner for two at 'Your Favourite Restaurant', courtesy of the FFF, to:*

#6503 SUSAN MEPPM of Roseville, FF Daniel Stanford/Alice Harmsworth, who may well plan to invite husband, Bruce, to accompany her.

CHAPTER CONTACTS

CANBERRA

Geoff Cameron 6251 4095

CENTRAL COAST

Karys Fearon 4323 1849

EASTERN FARMS

Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY

Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

NEW ENGLAND

Fran Newling 6771 5099



MORETON

Mary-Joy Payten 07 5455 3905

LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Phil Foster 6360 2117

NORTH COAST

Jean Taylor 6658 1438

NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 6686 3597

NORTH WEST

Jo Crossing 6766 8255

SOUTH COAST

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Neville Usher 4869 1406



Rebirth of Barangaroo



THE SITE AND THE PROJECT

Barangaroo comprises the now defunct shipping port and parts of the Sydney suburb known as Millers Point. The area had been nicknamed the Hungry Mile by harbourside workers during the Great Depression as during that time workers would line up along the road opposite the wharves while foremen chose the casual labourers for the day. Those who were left without work often remained hungry.

As stevedoring operations moved to ports at Port Botany and Port Kembla, in 2009 the NSW Government determined that this 22ha precinct should be renewed as an extension of the Sydney CBD with a significant new foreshore park providing recreational areas for a growing inner city population and returning this part of the harbour and its foreshore to the community after more than 100 years of industrial use. Lend Lease was chosen as the developer. Construction is expected to commence by 2011.

The \$6 billion project will feature canals, coves and, at the southern end of the site, a fan of towers. The famous 1.4km stretch of concrete wharf will be no more. The most dramatic building is a planned hotel, with a striking red exoskeleton, which juts out into the water, acting as a gateway to Darling Harbour. This is predictably very controversial. Stage One buildings will house 22,000 workers and residents. The first tenants of the 30,000 square metres of retail space are due to move in during 2014.

Premier Keneally has called the design which unfurls towards the harbour, 'bold and inspiring', and reminiscent of Sydney's tall ships. Paul Keating has commented that with its open spaces and phalanx of surrounding buildings, and more than 50 per cent parkland, the development could be likened to New York's famous Central Park. Full transport access is still unresolved but the site will have a foreshore walk, the CBD's second ferry terminal and a pedestrian tunnel to Wynyard.

THE HULLABALOO ABOUT BARANGAROO

The name was chosen in competition by public nomination against such other proposals as Argyle Cove, Hungry Mile, Millers Cove and Waratah Cove. Barangaroo, a Cardigal woman, was the second wife of Governor Phillip's indigenous confidant, Bennelong. Not surprisingly, disputation and acrimony have ensued concerning the naming of a prime Sydney location after an Aboriginal woman. **Apart from the usual complaints that the name was chosen in compensation for perceived guilt on the part of 'invading' Europeans, the debate seems to swing on an analysis of the character of the lady in question. So this is worth examining.**

BARANGAROO, THE WOMAN

Barangaroo was known to be determined and feisty. She and Bennelong often dined with Phillip, but she refused to settle permanently in the Colony. She was totally opposed to Bennelong's conciliatory efforts-with

the Governor. In 1790, although encouraged to drink wine and dress in European clothes she refused, being violently chastised by Bennelong for doing so. She saw a convict being flogged and menaced the soldier administering the punishment. She was a loner, a rebel, violent and touchy, a woman with attitude. But she had presence, wisdom and an authority attained by her survival from smallpox, thus becoming one of few older women with knowledge of Law and women's rituals. She impressed Watkin Tench, over and over again, despite himself.

Finally, in 1791, Barangaroo (or was it Bennelong?) wanted their child to be born at the Governor's House to establish kinship with the Governor. Phillip denied her the right, suggesting she go to the hospital. Barangaroo regarded that facility as a place of death, and chose to have the baby alone, in a secret place in the nearby bush. Barangaroo did not live long after the birth. She was cremated with her precious fishing gear beside her. Bennelong buried her ashes in the garden of Government House.

Considering the earth-shattering dislocation to her way of life caused by the arrival of the First Fleet, one can only admire her strength and independent spirit, certainly more noble than that of her husband's. **Thus, there seems to be every good reason why the name Barangaroo at Millers Point should bookend Bennelong Point on the other side of the Harbour Bridge.**

FRUITS OF THE RESTORATION

In 2008, Barangaroo, the bare concrete apron, was a World Youth Day site for the opening mass for an estimated 150,000 people, for concerts, a re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross and for the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI.

It is to be hoped that upon completion, Barangaroo, the park, like its 'consort', the Opera House and its steps, will be the site of any and every possible celebration of the wonderful and colourful life of our Nation. **RW**



Impression of Barangaroo development from the harbour.



Part of the cleared apron, formerly Patrick Stevedores

Australia Day Luncheon

The Australia Day Luncheon for 2010 on 23 January was exceptional, in that our Patron, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of New South Wales, was unable to attend due to a longstanding commitment elsewhere. She had been Guest of Honour at the Luncheon in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and also at our 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2008. Her devotion to the recognition of the importance of early colonial days in the history of our land is truly heart warming.

This year we again met at the *Bayside Boulevard* near First Fleet House, and were pleased to find that after the 'rehearsal' of 2009, the hotel provided a pretty sensational performance for our 170 guests, the food, decor, service and timing all being spot on.

The Official Party was greeted with the singing of the National Anthem, and Mr Peter Christian, OAM, our Vice-President, as MC for the Day, welcomed the guests. Grace was pronounced by Mr Brian Bennett, and Mrs Jean Mortimer led the gathering in the Loyal Toast.

Mr Ian Palmer proposed the Toast to Our First Fleet Ancestors, 71 of whom he recounted were represented by their descendants at the luncheon, 138 by our members who were not in attendance, and some 1160 for whom, sadly, we are yet to record descendants (if any).

The President, Mr John Haxton, added his welcome, and took the opportunity of further encouraging members to contribute to the Nominal Roll of wartime service which is now in its final prepress stages. John then presented Mrs Jean Mortimer with her Certificate of Life Membership, as conferred by the Board at the AGM in November. Notes of Jean's outstanding contribution to the Fellowship are set out on page 12 of *Founders* 40.5. She is pictured at the extreme left of Table 8 on page 5 of this edition with her husband and Fellowship helpmate, Terry.

The Occasional Speech was delivered by Ms Gay Hendriksen, Curator of the Parramatta Heritage Centre, and in particular curator of the *Women Transported - Life in Australia's Convict Female Factories* Exhibition, which is touring 10 venues in NSW, Tasmania, ACT and Queensland. It was reviewed in *Founders* 40.4, page 8.



THE OFFICIAL PARTY Seated: Peter Christian OAM (Past President & MC), Joy Christian, Beryl Haxton, John Haxton (President), Gay Hendriksen (Guest Speaker). **Standing:** Bruce Arnett (Secretary), Merrilyn Arnett, Paula Bosman, Louise Bauer, Rod Best (Past President).

Gay, (pictured seated top at right) provided a lively insight into the essential research supporting the Exhibition. There were 12 female factories in Australia operating in the first half of the 19th century. Their roles were varied but included a weaving factory, accommodation for transported convict women, places for assigning convict servants to masters and mistresses, a hospital for convicts and free settlers, a penitentiary and a marriage bureau. While in the factory these pioneering women did spinning, weaving, laundry, oakum picking, rock breaking, sewing, straw plaiting and domestic duties. After leaving the factories they went on to work the land, run the businesses and became the mothers of a nation.

Mr John Boyd, the principal organiser of the Luncheon, proposed a vote of thanks to the Speaker, and our Vice-Patron, Commodore Paul Kable AM (RAN Rtd.) rose to congratulate the members of the Board, not only on a successful function, but on a commendable performance across the range of their responsibilities over the past twelve months.

By now, the excellent Angus Scotch Fillet, the Chicken Kiev Florentine, the Strawberry Tart and the Apple & Cherry Strudel had given way to steaming brews of tea and coffee with 'First Fleet Rock' lollies on the side, and all that remained was the drawing of the Australia Day Luncheon Raffle — for the results of which you will have to excitedly turn back to page 2!

RW



L-R: Mavis Coughlan, Leone Vuke, Joan Ross, Karen Lovett, Joan Charlton

Cute slices of this 'First Fleet Rock', the traditional boiled sugar confectionery, decorated each table, along with a Union Jack napkin, a menu and a souvenir program depicting the raising of the Queen Ann Jack in Sydney Cove on 26 January, 1788.





First Fleeters represented by their descendants at the Australia Day Luncheon 2010

Thomas Acres, Thomas Arndell, John & Hannah Barrisford, James Bloodworth, William Boggis, James Bradtley, Patrick Burn, Thomas Chipp, John Cross, James Cullen, William Eggleton & Mary Dickinson, Matthew Everingham, Ann Forbes, Andrew Fishburn, Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Robert Forrester, James Freeman, John Gowen, Mary Greenwood, Alice Harmsworth, Joseph Hatton, John Herbert & Deborah Ellam, Peter Hibbs, William Hubbard, Henry Kable & Susannah Holmes, David Kilpack, Edward Kimberley, Nathaniel Lucas & Olivia Gascoigne, John Martin, Edward Miles, Richard Morgan, William & Maria Nash, John Palmer, William Parish & Phebe Norton, Richard Partridge, Mary Phillips, John Randell, Bartholomew Reardon, Edward Risby, Anthony Rope & Elizabeth Pulley, James Ruse, Philip Scriven & Jane Langley, James Shiers & Mary Smith, John Small & Mary Parker, Ann Smith, Daniel Stanfield & Alice Harmsworth, William Stanley, Thomas Spencer, James Squire, William Tunks, Joseph Tuzo, William Tyrrell, Ellen Wainwright, Edward Whitton, James Williams, John Winter & Ann Sandlin, Joseph Wright and Ann Yeates
Ian Palmer (FF John Palmer), our Records Officer, proposing a toast to Our First Fleet Ancestors.

These photos are a random selection. Other group photos were taken on the Day. Colour prints of most Table groups may be obtained by contacting Ron Withington on 02 4757 3984, or ronwit@ozemail.com.au. If you cannot remember your Table number we do have it on file. Preference is for delivery by email, but hard copy prints (in limited numbers) can be supplied.

Dickens Down Under

Great Expectations fall on Hard Times



Last December the Genesian Theatre in Kent St, Sydney, mounted a world premiere Victorian Vaudeville musical, *Dickens Down Under*. A somewhat misleading title, as Charles Dickens never visited Australia. He came close. In 1862 he was very nearly persuaded to do a reading tour of all the main cities. But he said the months away from England and his new actress 'friend' Ellen Ternan would be "a penance and a misery".

So the musical title in fact refers to two of Charles' sons, Alfred and Edward, who rather than merely visiting, actually emigrated to Australia. The author, Melvin Morrow, discovered that Alfred had given lectures on his father's work across the country. On this peg he mounted an hilarious show, in which Edward, Alfred and his busty pianist wife Connie Desailly, travel the colony and act out excerpts from Papa's works, with rip-roaring ballads to close each episode. A tiptop bit of theatre, and not only for Dickens' cognoscenti.

Charles Dickens had considerable knowledge of the colony. In 1850 he met Caroline Chisholm and was impressed by her work with immigrant girls to NSW. In some fifty articles in *Household Words* and *All the Year Round* he encouraged emigration, giving the image of Australia as having "vast tracts of country where no man who is willing to work hard.... can ever know want".

Then of course he packed off to Australia no fewer than eight of his fictional characters. Among the miscreants the most well known is Abel Magwitch, the escaped convict of *Great Expectations*, who is transported, generates a



fortune in the colony, makes Pip a gentleman, and returns to England. The other two 'crims' are not so lucky. The Artful Dodger, associate of *Oliver Twist*, is finally charged with stealing a snuffbox and transported for life. The schoolmaster, so brutal to *Nicholas Nickleby*, Wackford Squeers, is caught suppressing vital documents and cops a seven-year sentence.

In *David Copperfield*, Dan'l Peggotty rescues Little Em'ly

after she is discarded by the dastardly Steerforth and they emigrate along with Mrs Gummidge. Wilkins Micawber in the same book, broke, but "always waiting for something to turn up", also emigrates to Australia, where he makes good and becomes a magistrate. That unprincipled rascal Alfred Jingle, who plays several scams against *Mr Pickwick* and his friends, is forgiven by the rotund gent, cleared of his debts and has his passage paid to the colony for a fresh start in life.

It is not surprising therefore that Charles Dickens supported Alfred in his wish to emigrate and planned that Edward should also experience the good life in Australia. However, the real-life stories of the brothers were neither the stuff of novels nor the jousting of jaunty, bodice-ripping vaudeville. Both were battlers of a kind.

Alfred d'Orsay Tennyson Dickens, his father's fourth son to wife Catherine, was born in 1845. He embarked on *The London* on 3 June 1865 and arrived in Melbourne on 8 August, just before his 20th birthday. Soon after his arrival he was in contact with a mentor, George Rusden, who had forged his way up to become Clerk of Parliaments in the colony of Victoria. Rusden had begun his rise as a teenager working on outback stations and believed that Alfred should also start his career on the land. Dickens agreed, provided his son felt he could "face it manfully".

Alfred was offered a position on a station north of Hay in western NSW, and made a success of his first job. Then at just 22 he was appointed manager at *Conoble*, a property carrying 40,000 sheep.

In the light of Alfred's success, Dickens now planned that his youngest son, Edward Bulmer Lytton Dickens, born in 1852 (and always called Plorn), should also find his opportunities Down Under. Plorn was clearly his father's favourite son, but Dickens was concerned by his "want of application and continuity of purpose" and thought he might find more happiness in Australia with its "freedom and wildness".

Plorn arrived, aged 16, in 1869 to be met by Alfred. Rusden found him a position as assistant manager on *Eli Elwah* station near Hay. Within ten days Plorn was back on Rusden's doorstep having fallen out with the station manager. Rusden told Dickens, "As far as I can judge your son's predilections and temperament and habits (drinking wine in the early hours of the day) are ill-adapted to success in this country." Dickens called for a second chance, and Rusden found Plorn a position on *Momba* station at Wilcannia, where he gradually seemed to settle into station life.



In his last letter to Alfred, Dickens wrote that he had always been "hopeful of you two becoming proprietors and aspiring to the first position in



Young Edward (Plorn) Dickens



Alfred Dickens



Edward's Monument at Moree

the colony". Charles died suddenly in 1870. Each son received £7000 from his father's estate, and both purchased property, Alfred near Forbes and Plorn near Bourke.

However, neither son seems to have been successful in choosing good land. Alfred was soon back in Melbourne working for a London-based corporation, There he met Jessie Devlin whom he married at St John's Church in Toorak. Shortly after the wedding the corporation went into liquidation.

In 1875 Alfred, Jessie and their baby Kathleen moved to Hamilton, Victoria, to take up a partnership in a stock and station agency. By 1878 Alfred owned a large house in town, had purchased 320 acres, had a second daughter, Violet, was a founder of the Hamilton Club and a keen member of the local cricket team.

Then disaster struck. On 14 December 1878, Jessie was driving through Hamilton in her carriage when the horses took fright and bolted. She was thrown out and died of a fractured skull. Heartbroken, Alfred lingered on in the town for a just a further three years.

Meanwhile Plorn at Momba was constantly in debt. He was unable to take control of his inheritance until he was twenty-one and had borrowed money to buy property. Things improved when he was promoted to manage Mount Murchison station, of about half-a-million acres, nearer to Wilcannia, by then a prosperous inland port on the Darling River.

Over the next twelve years he made a success of his role, became a Justice of the Peace, involved himself in horse racing and captained cricket teams from nearby stations. He married **Constance Desailly (great-granddaughter of FF Daniel Stanfield and FF Edward Kimberly)** whose father owned a station west of Wilcannia. With a further inheritance from his mother, all seemed to be going well, just as it had for Alfred.

However, things turned sour for Plorn too. Connie suffered miscarriages, the Mount Murchison management changed, and within six months of his marriage he left the station.

By 1882, the brothers were both in Melbourne, where they set up a business, EBL Dickens & Co, Stock and Station Agents.



The enterprise was not a success. Plorn made a very unwise investment in some desert land near Lake Eyre and could not keep up the loan repayments. Within a year he was back at Wilcannia, just in time for one of the worst droughts in history. He opened branches of EBL Dickens in

Wilcannia and Silverton. But business was poor, and he sought a loan of £800 from brother Henry in England. Alfred continued to manage the Melbourne branch, although from this time on the brothers led separate lives.

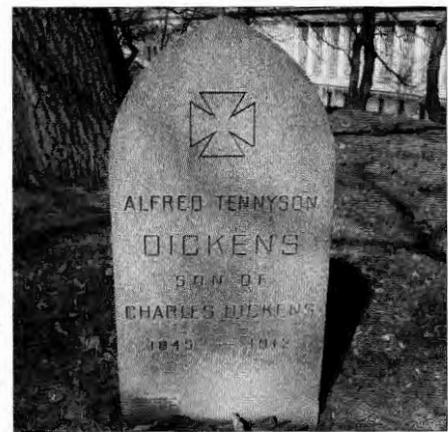
Alfred remarried in 1888, and struck by the depression of the 1890s, he began to use his father's name (and something of his talent) to make some money, by giving the series of lectures titled *A Night with Charles Dickens*.

The lectures, performed in Melbourne, country Victoria and Sydney, contained personal anecdotes and included readings from the novels. The *Ballarat Star* reported, "Mr Dickens is a gentleman of capital elocutionary power, he has a pleasant and effective style of delivery and he is destined to win success on lecture platforms." In 1910, now a man of 65, he undertook a successful reading tour of Britain and then embarked, just as his famous father had done, on a tour of America. However, at the Hotel Astor in New York, Alfred suddenly became ill with "acute indigestion" and died.

On 28 May 1922 the *New York Times* reported, "The grave of Alfred Tennyson Dickens has been kept green. A stone has been brought from Rochester Cathedral, England, which is intimately associated with Charles Dickens, and placed in the altar of the Church of the Intercession, standing directly across Broadway. The stone was consecrated a few days ago. After the ceremony the grave was decorated with wreaths sent by chapters of the Dickens Fellowship from all parts of the country."

Alfred's two daughters moved to England where they both died, having never married. **Alfred Dickens left little in Australia; there are no descendants and no tangible memorials except for Jessie's grave in Hamilton.**

Plorn's fortunes returned when the drought of the 1880s broke. He went back to Wilcannia, bought a small property, became a town Councillor and entered State politics. In 1889 he was elected as the Protectionist Party Member for the new seat of Wilcannia on the NSW Legislative Assembly. Plorn had an excellent grasp of the local landowner problems. He argued in favour of new legislation for the sinking of wells, the eradication of rabbits and (without success) for the extension of the railway to Wilcannia. He was an impressive orator and knew his *David Copperfield*. Once when Mr Willis, the member for Bourke, was constantly



Alfred's Gravestone in New York

interjecting: "Mr Speaker," he said, "my late honoured father once wrote 'Barkis is Willin'. If he had been here tonight, he would have said 'Willis is Barkin'." Sustained laughter...

Plorn lost his seat in 1895. He was once again strapped for cash, and to make ends meet Connie set up a typing service in Sydney. By 1900 he was working as a land inspector in Moree. However, his health failed as he struggled with tuberculosis and he died, aged 49. Plorn was buried in an unmarked grave in Moree cemetery, but in 1960 one of Connie's relatives paid for a stone monument to be placed on the site. Connie herself, after a childless life, died of alcoholism in Melbourne. **With her death, all direct links with Charles Dickens in Australia died out.**

These 'Personal Histories' of Alfred and Plorn feature a number of triumphs and crises, not unlike the lives of Nicholas, Oliver, Martin, David, Esther and Little Dorrit, but whereas those fictional folk lived happily ever after, the brothers remained forever in Struggle Street. Of Charles Dickens' fervent wish that they become "proprietors" and attain a "first position in the colony", both achieved the former, and as an MP Plorn achieved something of the latter. However, Dickens the omnipotent author would have been disappointed that he was unable to prevent his bodily creations from making poor judgements which resulted in continual financial worries and personal upheavals.

So it has been left to Melvin Morrow and the cast at the playhouse of St Genesius, Patron Saint of Actors, to create on stage an alternative destiny for the brothers, full of the father's proprietorial, theatrical, comedic (and profitable) exuberance. Dickens, dedicated writer and performer, would surely have given this construct "first position in the colony". **RW**

Sticks and Stones...

Many of us have attended or read papers on the given names of our First Fleet ancestors, and been struck over and over again by the conformity, tradition and lack of imagination that produced dozens of Elizabeths, Marys, Anns, Williamses, Thomases, Jameses and Johns.

But perhaps we should be glad that the complement of the eleven ships consisted of seasoned sailors, doughty marines, conservative naval officers and largely impious convicts.

It could have been different...



Pietism, originated by one Philipp Jacob Spener (pictured), was a movement within Lutheranism in the 17th and 18th Centuries stressing good works, Bible study, and holiness in Christian life. It was a reaction against rigid Protestant dogmatism, and influenced other groups, such as Moravians, Methodists, and Evangelicals. It had its greatest strength around the 1760s, when most of our First Fleet ancestors were being baptised.

The Reverend John Frewen, pietist vicar of Northian in Sussex, named his sons, **Accepted** and **Thankful**. Both did well in ecclesiastical life. Indeed some of the oddest pietistic names that broke out over England are to be discovered in the Sussex registers.

There will be found **Stand-fast-on-high** Stringer of Crowhurst, **The-Peace-of-God Knight** of Burwash, **Weep-not Billing** of Lewes, **Fight-the-good-fight-of-Faith White** of Ewhurst and Master **More-Fruits Fowler** of East Hoathly. It all got too hard for the family and friends of **Performthy-vows Seers** of Maresfield: he was buried as 'Vowes' Seers. Of course the daddy of them all was **Fly-fornication Richardson** of Waldron, an appellation for which no possible contraction can ever be contemplated!

Pause to consider, gentle reader, the embarrassment of having to print such names on your Fellowship membership application, or the chaos they would create on your tightly-draughted Family Tree — and be Thankful.

Eschew-Graven-Images Withington of Wenty



Readers' Riposte

- Yvonne Bradley of Hunter Valley Chapter took up the challenge of attempting to discover whether John Hunter ever visited Newcastle and the Hunter River. She reports that the Archivist at the University of Newcastle, Gianni Di Gravio, has no record to prove that such a visit had been made, but he will "keep an eye out".
- After reading the Squire/Boston article in the last issue and its reference to beer labels, a member emailed to claim that he was a 'cerevisaphile – a devotee to the decoction of barley infused with hops and fermented'. A much more trendy term than 'beer-lover'.
- Wow! Three members have already indicated an interest in compiling an Index to *Founders*. It is desirable that we start with Issue 1 in 1970 and work through to 2010. A big job that can probably be shared, as the *Founders* copies are now bound in eight hardcover volumes. To make real headway and to co-ordinate the work we will need to use a computer indexing application. The choice falls on 'Cindex', PC and Mac. If you know it and can help, please call Ron Withington 02 4757 3984.

Reading between the lines of history

Joseph Wright, *Scarborough 1788* and Eleanor Gott, *Neptune 1790*, my GGGG grandparents, are little mentioned in the histories of the early colony of NSW. They do not appear in the indexes or the stories. They would be forgotten but for "living on in the hearts and minds of (their) descendants".

Joseph Wright's name appears first on the list of convicts of *Scarborough*. There is no mention of him on the journey to Botany Bay and no public mention in Sydney until 1794 when he was one of the 22 emancipists granted 30 acres each at Pitt Town on the Hawkesbury.

So we need to 'read between the lines' about him when reading publications. One of the latest of these is Grace Karskens' book, *The Colony*, reviewed in *Founders* 40.6. Let me reveal such reading between the lines with the following extract from page 120 of the book, using quotations for Karsken's words, and brackets for my words.

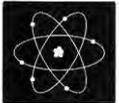
"Among the 22 men" (emancipists in 1794 who were granted 30 acres each by Acting Governor Grose) "who must have walked overland" (to Pitt Town to take up land grants) "with their tools, seeds, food and other goods, or sailed the winding reaches in small boats, fourteen were First Fleeters," (Joseph Wright was one of these 14) "seven were shipmates of Ruse's from *Scarborough*," (Joseph Wright was one of these) "four were from *Alexander* and another three were from *Friendship*. Giles Mower, whose farm lay the furthest up South Creek, was a soldier but he was a *Scarborough* man, too," (a *Scarborough* Man! First time I've read this term used as part of personal relationships – how romantic) "and he and Thomas were evidently friends, as they later applied to farm together." (I've been to South Creek at Pitt Town where these 22 men and their families settled. I've seen the creek and touched the waters and I've looked out on the vision splendid and saw with my eyes what their eyes may have seen and I felt a part of this event that took place 224 years ago – it's in my veins!)

Karskens goes on – "Shared voyages created bonds between men which so often played out on land – shipmates remained mates, and became neighbours. Only nine women came as wives, an early sign of the gender imbalance which would plague the Hawkesbury settlements and have serious consequences for its social well-being." (Eleanor Gott, who married Joseph Wright at St Phillips, Sydney, in 1790, was one of these women. Maybe the gender imbalance was one of the reasons why she was able to remarry so soon after Joseph's death in 1811 – in the following year.) "Seven children, all under six years old came with their parents" (one of these children, Joseph Wright Junior, born 1792, was the son of Joseph and Eleanor) "and two more were born on the river during 1794." (One of these, Robert Wright, was the second child of the Wrights)

Karskens' record in inverted commas provides a general historical account. She makes no mention of my GGGG grandparents. That has been left to me to reveal by way of the brackets. No doubt this reinforces how others may 'read between the lines' too as they seek to understand the part their ancestors played in the establishment of the early colony of NSW.

Tony Negline

Solution to * Semaphore * in *Founders* 41.1
 bloodied back, Pinchgut Island, ipecacuanha, Hyaena, companion ways,
 flying fish, Santa Cruz, Bussole



Fascinating FFF Tour of ANSTO Lucas Heights, 6 May, 2010

The Fellowship is conducting a tour of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation based at Lucas Heights, NSW.

The site is part of a land grant to John Lucas, who was the son of FF Nathaniel Lucas.

Our host & guide is #76431 Paul Miskelly, formerly a member of staff at Lucas Heights.

He will be supported by #7643 Glenda Miskelly, FF Nathaniel Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne/James Squire.

THE TOUR IS OPEN TO ALL FFF MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Travel is by private car or car pool, with adequate parking. A bus may be provided by Southern Highlands, Central Coast, or Eastern Farms Chapters depending on demand. The fare would be not less than \$15 pp.

THE PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS:

11.30am Arrival

11.45am - 1.00pm Lunch at the ANSTO Bistro

A two-course buffet lunch - 2 x hot savoury dishes and boiled rice, dessert and unlimited tea and coffee - for \$15 per head. A single course is around \$8.

Alternatively, sandwiches are available (prices vary). Tea and coffee can be purchased for around \$3.

During the lunch break, Glenda will speak on the FF Nathaniel Lucas connection to the site.

1.30pm Tour commences at the Visitors Centre.

An introductory talk followed by an ANSTO bus tour to the REACTOR, and other facilities as time permits.

4.00pm approx. Return to the Visitors Centre.

NOTES: It is required that everyone including bus drivers carries photo identification such as a driver's licence, passport etc. Sturdy footwear is required. Sandals, thongs or high heels are NOT permitted.

If you are going by private car, you need to notify John Boyd, Paul Miskelly or John Haxton not later than 29 April 2010. Contact these men also in regard to possible car pooling or buses.

To get there turn off New Illawarra Road at the ANSTO Sign. Turn into the first road on the left and then into the car parks either right or left. Then proceed to the Visitor Centre which is painted green.

Paul Miskelly 02 4872 3031 SHC

John Boyd 02 4261 6893 SCC

John Haxton 02 4353 2524 COC

FFF Web Watch



◆ More LINKS to Family Associations have been added. If you want to add your Association, or amend existing details, email ronwit@ozemail.com.au It is best if our Link is to a web page, rather than the phone no. of an individual
 ◆ There are now five group photos from the 2010 ADL.

RE-ENACTMENT AT WALLABADAH

Twenty-three members of the North West Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters gathered at the First Fleet Gardens, Wallabadah, on Australia Day. There, they had lunch together and joined in presenting a Re-enactment of the First Fleet Landing at Sydney Cove.

Our President, **Diana Harband**, gave a short speech about the history, and the significance of Australia Day for First Fleet descendants, and this was followed by six male members of the Chapter staging the Re-Enactment. They were joined by the rest of the Chapter in a toast to Australia. Among the large group of spectators was **Mary Moody**, Australia Day Ambassador for Liverpool Plains Shire, accompanied by the Mayor, **Clr Ian Lobsey**.

Afterwards, **Mary Moody** opened the **Turning Point Art Gallery & Café**, located in the cottage next to the Gardens. It will be open at weekends and will be a welcome adjunct to the Gardens.

The Chapter is very pleased that **Ray Collins** has received an Order of Australia Medal. This is an honour well-deserved, for all the hard work that he has put into establishing both the First and Second Fleet Gardens. (See below) *Jo Crossing, Secretary NMC*



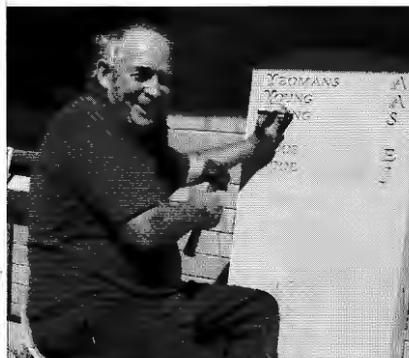
Colin Worrad (Arthur Phillip), Graham Harband (Marine), Graham Tydd (Philip Gidley King), Maurice Miller (Convict), Ron Ayton (Marine) and Harold McLean (Convict). Graham Tydd is a descendant of Ann Forbes/William Dring. Harold McLean is a descendant of Owen Cavanaugh/Margaret Darnell. Jo Crossing is descended from Philip Gidley King.

Ray Collins-Cross OAM

In the Australia Day 2010 Honours, **Ray Collins-Cross**, FF John Cross, has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his services to the Quirindi District, particularly for his effort in designing, planning and constructing First Fleet Gardens at Wallabadah NSW with its recent Second Fleet extension. The Fellowship, which had already granted Ray honorary membership in recognition of his incalculable contribution to our objectives, congratulates him on this new honour, and also thanks the

Liverpool Plains Shire for the longstanding support given to Ray in pursuit of his dream.

All *Founders* editors have keenly followed the progress of Ray's work over the years. Recent Issue 39.2 covers First Fleet Gardens and something of Ray's career. Issue 40.1 reports on the Official Opening of the Second Fleet Gardens.





~ The Chapters in Action ~

CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Next Event: Saturday 27 March at 2.00pm. Visit to the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House.
Contact 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 each month on second Saturday at 10.15am for 10.30am.
Next Meetings: 10 April. Speaker: Geoff Cannon. Topic: *Early Landholders in our area.*
14 April. Tour of newly refurbished Sydney Town Hall. Meet there at 1.00pm. Cost \$5.00 pp. Limit 35. Other Chapters invited to join us. Contact Pauline Walker ☎ 4358 3180.
8 May. Speaker: Debbie Krantz. Topic: *Preserving Keepsakes.*

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

Venue: The Hall at Brush Farm House, 19 Lawson Street, Eastwood from 10.00am to 12.00 noon on first Saturday of the month.
Next Meetings: 3 April. Easter Saturday – no Meeting.
1 May. Speaker: Laurie Facer. Topic: *Events leading up to Macquarie's arrival.*
For details 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.
Next Outing: 15 March. Fabulous history day at several venues at Port Stephens.
Next Meeting: 19 April. Speaker: Sue Ryan, History Research Librarian, Newcastle.
Next Outing: 17 May. Postman Cruise on the historic Hawkesbury River.
For details please contact Yvonne Bradley, ☎ 4957 4758.

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

Venue: Quarterly meetings at different venues.
Next Event: Mid-May: Either an AGM at Kinross Wolaroi School Library OR a tour of Oxley Downs Station (scene of *Outback House*) together with the Chapter AGM.
For resolution please contact Judy Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234.

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

Venue: Bi-monthly on the 2nd Saturday at St Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton.
Next Event: 10 April. 10.00am Tour of Royal Historical Society of Qld Commissariat.
Next Meeting: 15 May, not 8 May, at Hamilton. Contact Mary-Joy Payten ☎ 07 5455 3905

NEW ENGLAND: Armidale & surrounds

Venue: Quarterly, normally on the first Saturday at various venues.
Next Event: 1 May. Chapter Birthday Meeting. Venue to be decided.
For details please ring Fran Newling, ☎ 6771 5099.

NORTH COAST: Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga

Venue: Meetings bi-monthly are at various locations on the first Sunday at 11.30am, unless otherwise notified.
Next Meeting: Sunday 11 April at the residence of Margaret & Joe Bass, 95 Ferretts Rd, Nana Glen. For more information please contact Colin Robertson, ☎ 6654 1528

NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds

Venue: 269 Richmond Hill Rd, Richmond Hill, bi-monthly, fourth Sunday at 11.30am.
Next Meeting: 28 March. BBQ Lunch and Drinks. \$7 members, \$8 non-members. Ring Vilmai, ☎ 6624 2972, for catering by 25 March. Speaker: Margaret Soward (FF John Ryan). Topic: *Her Three James Frazers.* Contact Margaret Soward, ☎ 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: Saturday 10 April. Ninth Birthday Meeting at Tamworth Botanic Gardens, 11.00am. BYO Picnic Lunch. Contact is Jo Crossing, ☎ 6766 8255.

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, May & January) 10.00am to 1.00pm.
Next Meeting: 6 April. Speaker: Jan Pascoe. Topic: *Sir Edward (Weary) Dunlop.*
Next Event: Saturday 15 May. Luncheon to commemorate the Departure of the First Fleet, 13 May 1787. Venue: Sinclair Room, Dapto Leagues Club, 11.30am for 12 noon. Speaker: Margaret Hogge, Portsmouth/Sydney Sister City Ctee. Topic: *Amazing Adventures of K1 the Copy Cat Clock.* (Greenwich, UK research). All FFF members and friends welcome. For further details re luncheon please contact Fae McGregor, ☎ 4271 3762.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre, on the second Wednesday of each month 10.30am to 12.30pm. **Next meeting:** 14 April. Speaker: Dr Paul-Alan Johnson, Architect, Visiting Fellow, UNSW. Topic: *FF Augustus Alt, First Surveyor General of the Colony of NSW, who once declared that his life was 'chequered with Vicissitudes and oppressed by unmerited Calamities'.* For further information, please contact Neville Usher, ☎ 4869 1406.

Congratulations to you all on the vitality of your Australia Day Celebrations and thanks for your personal good wishes.

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



Hunter Valley Chapter – their new banner

Hunter Valley Chapter goes recruiting on Australia Day

The setting was Newcastle Fore-shore on a fine Australia Day. This was our first attempt at mounting a Chapter Display Booth. We had no idea how it would go, but were overwhelmed with the interest we received.

We were fortunate to have our new banner finished in time and also our new Queen Ann Jack had arrived. The QAJ sparked some curiosity. People were not familiar with it and we had to quickly put a sign to explain its origin.

The reaction to the Ship's Passenger Manifest was exciting. It became so popular we had to erect another copy on the opposite side so people would not have to line up. **Judy Pepper** had one of her *Roses for the Heart* bonnets on show and she took several orders. Other people wanted copies of the pattern. **Beth Brooker** brought a few of her information books and helped people look up their ancestry, which created a few surprises.



At the back of our booth we had family histories displayed and passersby came into our tent to examine them. Members brought their families and friends in as well and we picnicked around the booth. Even 90-year-old Mum was there with all my family and my ex-bosses to lend support.

I photocopied over thirty membership forms to take with me and came home with two. Other members had also taken forms. It will be fascinating to see how many new members we get!

John, my husband, has not been involved in the Fellowship but helped with the display. He enjoyed himself so much he has decided to join the FFF as an Associate.

One thing I am very proud of is the way our Hunter Valley members pulled together as a team. We let Newcastle know, "The Fellowship of First Fleeters is here in Newcastle, come and join us, learn and have some fun as well."

Barbara Turner– HVC President

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- JOHN CROSS**
#7749 Carol Blackwell
- MATTHEW EVERINGHAM**
#7750 Allan John Woodbury
- THOMAS ACRES / JAMES BRYAN CULLEN**
#7751 Lynette Ann Venn
#7751.1 Bob Venn
- GEORGE JOHNSTON / ESTHER ABRAHAMS**
#7752 Paul Tyers Wood
#7752.1 Claire Wood
- JOHN BARRISFORD**
#7753 Michael Robert Stevens
#7754 Hamish Michael William Stevens
#7755 Harriet Amelia Lee Stevens
- JOSHUA PECK / JOHN HERBERT**
#7756 Robin Ann Walker
- WILLIAM FRAZIER / ELLEN FRAZIER**
#7757 Gwenderlyn Jean Ling
- JOHN SMALL / MARY PARKER**
#7758 Leanne Elizabeth Wicks
- ELIZABETH THOMAS**
#7759 Barbara May Lorenzon
- ANDREW GOODWIN / LYDIA MUNRO**
#7760 Richard Thomas Leech
- RICHARD PARTRIDGE / MARY GREENWOOD**
#7761 Dorothy May Conkey
- FREDERICK MEREDITH / ELEANOR FRAZER**
#7762 Richard Venn Pickering
#7762.1 Helen Elizabeth Pickering

MEMBERS MEMORANDA

- THOMAS, ALICE, ANN HARMSWORTH**
#7763 Beverley Patricia Chatt
- WILLIAM NASH / MARIA HAYNES**
#7764 Shirley Mavis Cridland
- ANN FORBES**
#7765 Ronald Ayton
#7765.1 Patricia Joan Ayton
- THOMAS CHIPP / JANE LANGLEY**
#7766 Julie Aitken
#7766.1 Alexander Charles Aitken
#7767 Jodie Anne Hayes
#7768 Imogen Anne Hayes (Jr)
#7769 Robert Symington
#7769.1 Aileen Symington
#7770 Alex John Godfrey (Jr)
#7773 Ben Robert Godfrey (Jr)
#7771 Caitlin Elizabeth Wedgewood (Jr)
#7774 Aimee Louise Wedgewood (Jr)
#7772 Darcy Rae Symington (Jr)
#7775 Crawford George Symington (Jr)
#7776 Deacon Jack Symington (Jr)
#7777 Dior Amber Symington (Jr)
- WILLIAM HAMBLY / MARY SPRINGHAM**
#7778 Diane Audrie Golden
#7779 Justin Jay Turner
#7779.1 Nicole Turner
#7780 Caitlin Rose Turner (Jr)
#7781 Riley Jay Turner (Jr)
- WILLIAM BROUGHTON**
#7782 Renyl Elizabeth Willard

WILLIAM NASH / MARIA HAYNES

- #7783 Neville Alan Smith
#7784 Lachlan James Charles Smith (Jr)

BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:
JOHN HERBERT/DEBORAH ELLAM (from the FFF Record). **WILLIAM TUNKS/MARY PHILLIPS/THOMAS SPENCER** (as advised by #1443 Marie Fardell)

Jhett Selby Spittles

18 September 2009 at Rockhampton, a daughter to Melinda and Guy Spittles, great grand daughter for Jack and #1443 Marie Fardell. also:

Benjamin Jaimes Reichelt

22 October 2009 at Dubbo, son to Sonja and Lloyd Reichelt, first grandchild for Peter and Brenda Lesueur and great grandson for Jack and #1443 Marie Fardell.

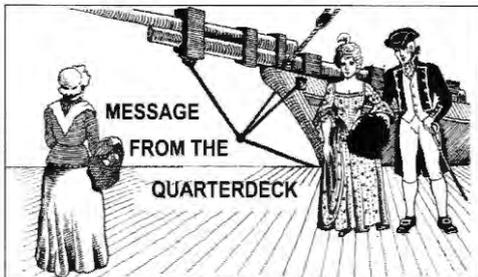
HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES/ JAMES BLOODWORTH/SARAH BELLAMY

Richard Ransom Wilson
25 September 2009, in Sydney, son to Bruce and #7399 Caroline Wilson.

DEATH Sympathy to the family & friends of:

GEORGE JOHNSTON/ESTHER ABRAHAMS # 5602 Robert Stanly Johnston

5 January 2010, aged 91. Late of Burwood NSW. Husband of #5602.1 Dorothy Johnston.



● The Federal Government has announced the closure of the Adelaide, Darwin and Hobart Offices of the National Archives of Australia (NAA), starting in less than 10 months with Darwin.

This contravenes the Service Charter of the NAA, viz: "We have reading rooms in each capital city in Australia where you can research Commonwealth Records held there." It contradicts the Government's stated commitment to more openness in government in relation to changes in the Freedom of Information regime. It is a withdrawal in the three states of help pledged by the NAA to "Australian Government Agencies (to) create and manage their records". And from our particular FFF point of view it disadvantages all people in the three States who wish to attempt to trace their families.

FFF President John Haxton circulated a University of Sydney Archives petition opposing the closures at the Australia Day Luncheon in Sydney. It was well supported by those present, and was sent to Parliament early in February.

But stand by! It is not too late for individual members and our Chapters to also register opposition. The Board suggests that members should write to or email their local Federal member expressing some or all of the points set out above.

● Oral evidence before Commissioner John Bigge in 1820 produced these startling exchanges in relation to the design of the Rum Hospital in Macquarie Street.

With William Balmain:

Were you consulted respecting the plan of the present Hospital, when or before it was undertaken?

The plan was shown to me about the time it was begun.

Did you conceive that the plan was a good one?

I can't say that I made objection to the Plan at the time, but I do not think now that it was a good one.

In what respect was it defective?

I think it wants the convenience of a wash House, Store room, and water closets...

With D'Arcy Wentworth:

Were you consulted by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in the plan of the present Hospital?

I was.

Did you approve of it?

I did, subject to certain conditions.

Did you not conceive that water closets were an important part of the accommodation of the Hospital as well as of any Hospital?

They were not thought of, or I daresay they wd. have been put up.

Perhaps Bigge should have interviewed WC Wentworth...

Anyway, these exchanges may well reveal the hidden reason for the naming of the adjacent area of Sydney: 'WoolLOOmooLOO!'

● Hawkesbury City Council is launching a new rose to honour Governor Macquarie and a new iris in honour of Mrs Macquarie, who, according to her husband's journal, used to hand out irises to Campbelltown locals as small gifts. Governor Bashir planted the Governor Macquarie Rose in the garden of Deerubin Centre, Windsor, in July 2009, to be in bloom for its launch at 2pm on Wednesday 14 April 2010. It will then be on sale at Swanes Nurseries, 490 Galston Road, Dural. The Governor is also lobbying hard to get the FAI Lachlan Macquarie statue back into its true home in Macquarie St.

● Taree resident, #226 Nellie Sansom, James Bloodworth/Sarah Bellamy, who is nearing her 97th birthday, kindly sent the Fellowship a handwritten Christmas Card, with the news that she is aiming to do more family research in 2010.

● Judith Dunn has written *Colonial Ladies: Lovely, Lively and Lamentably Loose* – a study of the crimes most committed by colonial women from 1831 to 1835 with reference to that place of secondary punishment, Paramatta Female Factory. What was the worst crime? Why, "violent and riotous behaviour", of course! The account provides insight into the shape of their lives and the flavour of their vocabulary. Cost \$20.

Call Judith on 02 9686 6861 or email pasttimestours@optusnet.com.au

MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

valued donors to the work of FF House

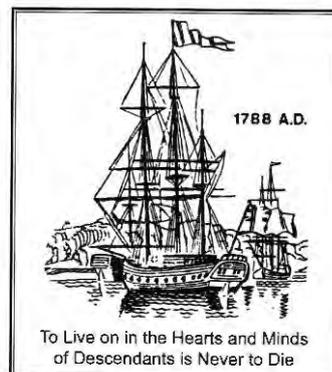
A & J Aitken, R Dearden, J Green, J Huntington, M Low, A Symington, M Walsh

Founders

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

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

Volume 41, Issue 2 42nd Year of Publication March/April 2010



EASTSIDE, WESTSIDE, ALL AROUND THE PARK

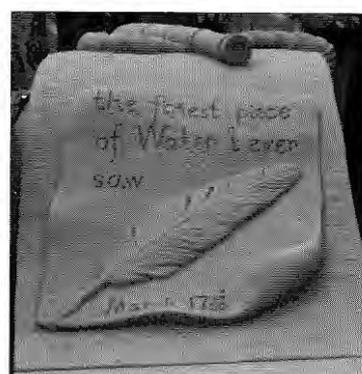


Above: Sculptor Chris Bennetts with his wife Karen Harper. Below: Clr Rose and a clearly delighted Governor, at the moment of the unveiling.

Governor Phillip Park is located on a sandy tombolo which links the mainland to Barrenjoey Headland, with the Tasman Sea to the east, and to the west, in Phillip's own words, "the finest piece of Water I ever saw, and which I honored with the name of Pitt Water". As part of its new Master Plan for this Palm Beach heritage area, Pittwater Council has put in place two low-level curved sandstone entrance walls, incorporating sculptures memorialising Governor Phillip, one at each end of the Park's loop drive off Beach Road. The sculptures were unveiled on 13 January 2010 by the present Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, CVO, and the Mayor of Pittwater, Clr Harvey Rose. Our President Mr John Haxton and his wife, Beryl, were in attendance among other dignitaries including the President of the Palm Beach Whale Beach Association, Mr Bryce Ross-Jones.

The west entrance sculpture features a profile of Phillip, along with a rope, a telescope, a 1788 scroll and a parchment inscribed with part of the quotation set out above. The east entrance sculpture depicts a cabbage tree palm leaf celebrating the Guringai people, traditional custodians of the Pittwater area. This palm is endemic to the region and was a popular traditional fishing implement. Three shells represent the local non-seasonal food, while the wave form morphs to a line, hook and net ensnaring a passing fish. Chris Bennetts, of Ishi Buki, was the sculptor, aided by Karen Harper as researcher and draughtsperson. Both works were carved at nearby Ingleside from massive blocks of Colo River sandstone and then trucked to the site. The work took just four months.

Governor Phillip Park was named in his honour but these sculptures are the first official statement to that effect. RW



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Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011

Phone: 02 9360 3788 or 02 9360 3988

Email: fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Fax: If you wish to send a fax, please phone first.

Website: www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au