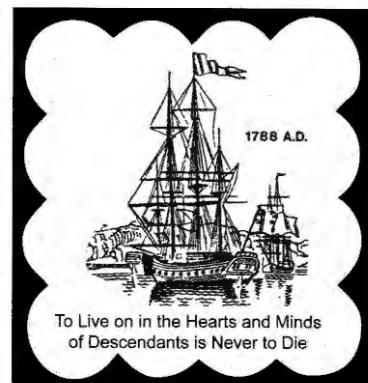


Founders

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 3 42nd Year of Publication May/June 2010

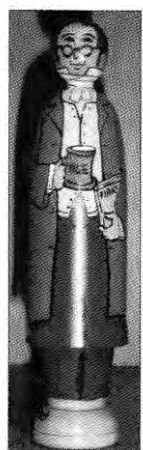


DAVID COLLINS: Commemorating 200 years since his untimely death

On Wednesday 28th March 1810: at day break, the Colours at Hunter's Island and those on board the ship 'Union' and Brig 'Cyclops' lying in the Cove were hoisted half staff high: At 3 o'clock (57) Minute Guns from the Parade and shipping began to fire, and the procession moved from Government House, through the Barrack Square, towards the Burial Ground, to the solemn dirge of the Dead March in Saul. The Rev. Knopwood read the funeral service in a very impressive and affecting manner... and the Remains of the Governor were deposited in a brick vault built purposely on this spot he had frequently pointed out as the site of a Church. — so reported the *Derwent Star* and *Van Diemen's Land Intelligencer*, 3 April 1810, on the funeral of Lieutenant-Governor David Collins who died suddenly on 24 March aged 54, and was laid to rest in what is now St David's Park in Hobart.



The Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers Association commemorated the



200th Anniversary of Collins' death on the very same day of the month, with an evening reception on the Hobart Town Hall in March 2010. Foremost in the display was a miniature representation of the funeral procession modelled in hand-turned wooden figurines from *Deeping Dolls*. (e.g. Rev. Knopwood at left). It was fascinating to see the make-up of an 1810 burial with full military

honours. First came Lieut. Breedon and the detachment of Royal Marines, then the Undertaker and Two Mutes,

followed by Knopwood with Surgeon Bowden. The pall bearers were Messers Cummins, Clark, W. Collins, Fosbrook, Loane and L'Anson. Then came Chief Mourner Lieut. Lord, with his supporters,

G.P Harris and S. Bate, Officers's Wives, Domestic of the Governor, Wives of the Military, Eighteen Superintendents, Overseers and Constables (with silk hatbands), all followed by about 600 Settlers with their wives and families and a 'numerous attendance of male and female prisoners'.

The President of the Association, Warwick Risby (FFF #4608) described the funeral, but the commemoration also required a eulogy. This was delivered in breezy, intimate yet learned style by His Excellency, the Hon. Peter Underwood AC, Governor of Tasmania, before the Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Rob Valentine and some 110 guests, who were also celebrating the 36th anniversary of the formation of the Association.

The Governor spoke of this decent, complex man, who with determination, skill and optimism, and empowered by his experience at Sydney Cove, where he was Judge Advocate, kept his settlement alive. He said that Collins' job description positioned him against bushrangers, escapees, distressed settlers, corrupt officers, unusable supplies, inadequate tools, and a central office half a world away. Over his small but growing community he was headmaster, mayor, gaoler, health inspector and father figure. He determined the hours the convicts rose, slept, laboured and rested. The regulation of bakers, the placement of privies and the preservation of native swans were just a few of his printed edicts. Given, His Excellency said, the present hung Parliament situation in Tasmania, for a fleeting

moment he had been moved to take a leaf out of Collins' book, to stride down to Parliament House, pronounce both houses dissolved and declare all powers vested in himself as Governor. *Applause!*

In the end, the strain of six years of this command, compounded in March 1809 by the brazen arrival of William Bligh, and the tensions caused by that gentleman's uncertain situation (and his habit of commandeering supplies from visiting ships) proved too much, and David Collins died prematurely in 1810, probably, the Governor said, of a heart attack.

As a finale to the commemoration, organist David Featherstone played G.F. Handel's *Dead March in Saul*, and His Excellency, obviously a man of the people himself, essayed a brief Slow March as he and his party left the Hall.

CODA: In discussion the next day with Warwick Risby, I was directed to an unsettling report by historian Reg Watson — that David Collins was disinterred 115 years after he died!

In 1925 while the Hobart City Council was renovating St David's Park, Collins' coffin was discovered (but not under his 1838 monument!). The governor, Sir James O'Grady, and Alderman John Reynolds had it brought to the surface, and a decision was made to have a plumber open it, as folklore said that it contained revealing historical documents.

Reynolds later recalled that the outer part of the coffin was of oak, the inner lining of Huon pine, and all was completely encased in lead. The body had been embalmed, and it had not deteriorated at all. Collins was over six feet tall, handsome with sandy hair. He was clothed in his scarlet dress uniform with medals, decorations and sword. But no papers!

Reynolds added that he had grown a slight stubble and his hair was longer. Nothing was touched — the body was reburied minutes after the opening.

Makes my hair stand on end. **RW**

More on Collins' Hobart Era, see page 4.

Registered by Australia Post Publication No. NBH 1271 Price 50c

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

Phone: 02 9360 3788 or 02 9360 3988 Fax: If faxing, please phone first.

Email: fffaus@optusnet.com.au Website: www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au

**2010-11 Fellowship
Subscription Renewal
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Founded 1968

Founders

is the magazine of the
Fellowship of First Fleeters

Editor, Design & Artwork
Ron Withington 02 4757 3984
email: ronwit@ozemail.com.au

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The late John ROBERTS

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From the President's Desk...

This month sees the release of the Fellowship's **Nominal Roll**. In it, the Board has set out to record the names of those First Fleet Descendants who have served in the various theatres of War and Peacekeeping from 1899 to 2007.

Of course the Roll is not exhaustive. Its content relies on the input we have invited and received from close relative members over the past year. I also want to emphasise that those service folk on the roll, although descendants of a First Fleeter, may not be, nor have necessarily ever been, themselves members of the Fellowship. The roll is in the form of a soft cover 12-page A5 booklet, published in-house. **It is available free-of-charge to Members and Friends.** If you would like a copy, please email or write to the Secretary. Naturally I will be sending a copy to all contributors. It is our intention to update the roll on an annual basis as additional contributions are received. I would like to think that this is done for Anzac Day each year.

SUBSCRIPTION FORMS FOR 2010-11 HAVE BEEN ENCLOSED with this issue of *Founders*. It would be of great assistance to the Board in its financial management of the Fellowship if you would renew your membership as soon as possible but not later than 1 July. Of course a donation is always welcome too!

You will be aware that along with our Patron, we have been keen to see the John Dowie FAI bronze statue of Governor Macquarie returned to the street in Sydney which bears his name. I have tracked down a press release by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Richard Torbay, which says that the Governor will be set up on a plinth, either in Queens Square or in the forecourt of the Lands Titles Office. An accompanying plaque will pay tribute to his contribution to NSW. A good outcome!

On Saturday 29 May the Board will be staging our second bi-annual Chapter Conference at Scots Church Hall in Sydney. I am looking forward to meeting with Chapter delegates, and hearing first-hand accounts of activity and progress in their Chapters over the past couple of years. The conference will be preceded at 3.00pm on Friday 28 May by a 'cut-the-ribbon' celebration of the completion of the FF House facade renovation, which encompasses a new photo mural with the names of the Ships and all First Fleeters and the new hanging sign. You are all invited to attend. *Yours in Fellowship, John Haxton*

OUR NEW ARCHIVIST: Sharon Lamb, FF Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes/Joseph Tuso

As a graduate in Land & Engineering Survey Drafting, Sharon (#1318) has mapped the opal fields at Lightning Ridge, and with Landcom has been responsible for the design and development of new suburbs. She worked on the south coast suburb of Flinders, retaining its historical links with pioneer Caroline Chisholm by recommending that the new streets be named after the twelve emigrant families that Caroline introduced to the area.

Now retired, she is transcribing over 300 letters her grandfather wrote from the trenches of WW I, and plans to compile them into his biography, presenting a copy to the Australian War Museum in time for the centenary of the end of the war in 2018. Sharon is a member of Nepean Family History Group, The 1788 to 1820 Association, the Friends of St Bartholomew's and Blacktown Historical Society. Living at Blacktown, she has discovered that she is a descendant of James Manning, the first licensee of the *Royal Cricketers Arms* (1880) at Prospect. She is married to Bob, with two children, Craig and Michelle, and two young grandchildren. We are indeed fortunate that Sharon is eager to apply her enthusiasm and professional discipline to the vacant but essential Board position of Archivist for the Fellowship. **RW**



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 1439

NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 6686 3597

NORTH WEST

Jo Crossing 6766 8255

SOUTH COAST

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Neville Usher 4869 1406

A Seventh First Fleeter at St Anne's

In 1988 the Fellowship placed a commemorative plaque at St Anne's, Ryde, dedicated to five First Fleeters – James Bradley, Edward Goodin, Joseph Hatton, John Small and Richard Hawkes, all of whom were buried in the churchyard.

Ryde District Historical Society has further deduced that First Fleeter, Ann Colpitts, later known as Ann Smith, the common law wife of Joseph Hatton, was also buried there, on 5 August, 1832, aged 77.

Recently, Kevin Shaw and his wife, Janice Eastment (John Small/Mary Parker), discovered that Elizabeth Jackson, buried at St Anne's in August 1840 was in fact the First Fleeter, Betty Mason.

Kevin takes up the story of Betty, the seventh First Fleeter known to be interred at St Anne's, and that of her two husbands, the above Richard Hawkes and her later spouse, Barrow Jackson:-

Elizabeth Jackson was born Elizabeth (or Betty) Mason. She was recorded as 22 when she received a death sentence at Gloucester, England, on 23 March 1785, for the theft of a leather purse containing fifteen gold guineas. The sentence was commuted to transportation for fourteen years. Betty had a son Thomas around Christmas of 1786 and he went with her on *Friendship*. He died on 29 September 1787. In November Betty and some other female convicts were transferred from *Friendship* at the Cape of Good Hope to make way for sheep, and so she arrived in Sydney, childless, on *Prince of Wales*.

In 1788, Betty shared a hut in Sydney Cove with Anthony Rope and his wife Elizabeth née Pulley. Betty was accused of stealing a shirt belonging to the mate of *Borrowdale* and using it as a bedgown. In 1789, she was charged with making a frivolous complaint against one of the marines and sentenced to twenty-five lashes for 'prevarication'.

On 14 February 1790, Betty married Richard Hawkes. He was one of the first settlers at Kissing Point (Ryde), a recipient of one of the land grants of February 1792. He was tried at Reading in Berkshire on 28 February 1784 and convicted of the theft of three pounds of hempen yarn, but acquitted of breaking and entering. After a number of years on *Ceres* hulk, he was transported to NSW on *Alexander*.

Richard's land grant was 50 acres including what is now Ryde Park and Ryde Public School. It stretched from Tucker St to Princes St and from Blaxland Rd to Buffalo Rd. By 1802, 40 acres were cleared, 10 were sown with wheat or maize, and he had 16 hogs. The three people on the land were off stores.

Richard and Betty must have been disheartened in 1804 because they placed the following advertisement in *The Sydney Gazette* and *New South Wales Advertiser* on Sunday 22 January, page 1: *To be disposed of by Private Contract, A Valuable FARM situate at KISSING POINT, consisting of 50 Acres of excellent Land, 40 in cultivation, and 16 at this time planted in Corn, the standing crop of which may also be taken. The Building consist of a Farm House, excellent Barn, &c. with convenient Stock-yards, an excellent Garden comprising about an acre,*

and an abundant supply of water at all seasons of the year; the Property in the occupation of RICHARD HAWKE. Of whom Particulars may be had. Apparently no sale was made.

In the 1805/6 Muster, the Hawkes were assisted by convict James Sedgeley and in the 1822 Muster, by William Frost. Also in 1822, Richard was one of the signatories to the petition for a burial ground at Kissing Point, in which, in due course, he ultimately lay. In the 1828 Census, Richard 'Hawkes' was 78, his wife Elizabeth was 64, and they were living at 'Hawk's Farm', which was 50 acres, 40 cleared and 14 cultivated. Perhaps because of their ages, the Hawkes had the assistance of James Roe, a 22-year-old convict, and John Stilwell, a 12-year-old servant. Richard died four years later at 81 and was buried at St Anne's on 15 March 1832.

Mollie Gillen in 1989 concluded her entry on Betty Mason as follows: 'Betty Hawkes's life in the colony thereafter is linked with that of her husband, living with him on his farm at Kissing Point, and still with him in 1828, aged 64 and childless. No date for her death has been found.'

Since that time my wife and I have uncovered a little more of Betty's life. According to the Colonial Secretary's Correspondence, a Mrs Hawkes, an elderly woman, had her eyesight restored by Simeon Lear. Simeon was an unqualified medical practitioner who was ordered to desist from practising his arts. In his memorial to Governor Brisbane, Simeon wrote: 'Mrs Hawkes an Elderly Woman has been blind for many years, and before Petitioner's practise was discontinued, she was able to work with her needle.'

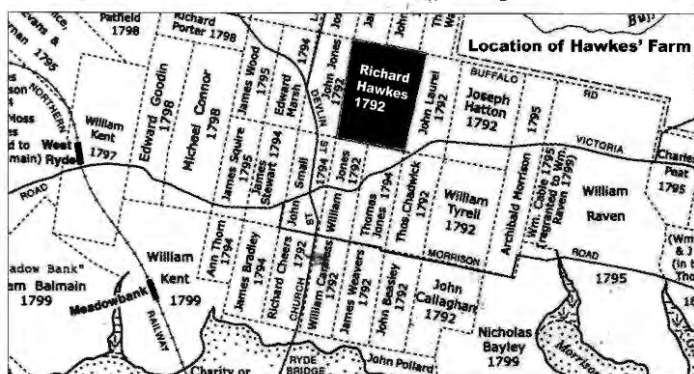
Following Richard's death, in November 1832, E Hawks of Kissing Point was assigned another convict farm labourer, one Patrick Matthews off *Dunvegan Castle*. Betty must have felt the need for companionship as well as for help on the farm, because on 19 March 1833, she married Barrow Jackson at St Anne's, Hunters Hill. Barrow was 67 and Betty was 68, both of 'this parish'. Barrow Jackson 'of Liverpool' had applied for permission to marry in 1821. Either he was unsuccessful or he got cold feet, because he was still a 'bachelor' when he married Betty.

Barrow had been christened on 31 March 1766 in Duffield, Derbyshire, the son of William and Fanny Jackson. He was convicted in 1791 at Derby Borough of Quarter Sessions for a term of seven years and was transported on *Royal Admiral*, departing England in May 1792. In the 1800/02 Muster, he was farming a 25-acre plot with five acres cleared, three sown with wheat or maize and two people off stores. In the 1805/6 Muster, he had become a self-employed shingle-splitter. Despite being given a 34-acre grant of land in 1812 (Portion 13, Parish of Narellan), Barrow was still a shingle-splitter ten years later, working for John Macarthur.

According to the 1822 Muster, Barrow had two convicts assigned to him, William Harris (*Prince of Orange*) and William Quick (*Surry*). It is not clear whether they were farming or making shingles for Macarthur. In the 1823/4/5 Muster, Barrow was described as a 'housekeeper' but by the 1828 Census, he was living at Bathurst on Andrew Gardner's 'Berry Farm' of 640 acres, with eight cleared and 145 cattle. He was employed as a carpenter. Both Barrow and Gardner were 'free by servitude'.

Less than two years after the marriage to Betty, Barrow was dead and he too was buried at St Anne's, on 2 November 1834. Betty was a widow once more. She died at 76 and was buried on 24 August 1840 as Elizabeth Jackson. Her headstone has not survived. The message of this story for family historians is that one should search for women in the marriage indexes as well as the births and deaths, because even a widow of 68 can find love again.

Kevin Shaw #3253.1



Prospect for a Memorial

Part 5 of 5 of the Vignettes, Voyages and Vindications of my FF ancestors, William Parish & Phebe Norton

WILLIAM AS CONVICT OVERSEER IN VDL

At first everyone in David Collins' new settlement at Hobart Town was housed in tents. Collins placed his shelter, 'Government House', at the southern end of Elizabeth Street about where the Hobart Town Hall now stands. It consisted of a prefabricated canvas-covered single-room structure that had been brought from England for the purpose. He moved into it on 9 March 1804.

Crudely-made wattle and daub cottages with earthen floors soon replaced the tents, turf chimneys and grass thatched roofs. Most were shared. The first private dwelling to be completed was that of Adolorius Humphrey and Lt Edward Lord. It was located opposite what is now the Tasmania Club in Macquarie Street. The Marines' barracks were located where Murray Street is now and west of what is now Franklin Square. The area was vegetated by tall wet forest with towering blue gums more than a metre in diameter. Most convicts were housed to the east of the Marines' barracks, between the civil officers on the bank of the River and the thickly wooded scrub-bank of the Hobart Rivulet. The hospital tent was placed on the other side of the rivulet where the Hobart general hospital is still located.

Ocean had departed on 24 March 1804 and finally returned to Sullivan's Cove on 25 June carrying the remainder of the European population from Port Phillip. This brought the strength of the Governor's establishment to 433 persons – 358 men, 39 women, and 36 children.

Although the cemetery was by necessity an immediate priority for the new settlement, no time was given to building a church. Collins was an attractive, charismatic and polite man but his leadership lacked grand visions or ambitions where Hobart Town was concerned. He applied his energies to the most pressing issues but was resigned to an existence of isolated poverty and being neglected by those in power in London and Sydney Town.

Little idle time was allowed. The bell rang at five in the morning, and the convicts proceeded at once under their overseers (one of whom was William Parish) to their various employments. Work was continued, with intervals of an hour for breakfast and an hour and a half for dinner, until six o'clock in the evening. On Tuesday an extra hour was allowed for the issue of rations. Saturday was a half holiday. Labour was generally not required on Sunday.

The Marines were deployed much as they had been at Port Phillip. Each was rostered into shifts around the clock for sentry duty. They also attended drill, ceremonial parade and of course Divine Service. Due to the limited number of Marines, Collins reinstituted the night watch of trusted convicts and civil officers to protect the food supplies.

Sickness from scurvy, diarrhoea and catarrh, exacerbated the labour shortage and reduced the number of Marines available for duty. Nine convicts died within four months of arriving at the Derwent. Illness was a reflection of the lack of fresh food in the early months. The stores were often all but exhausted and weekly rations were reduced to quantities that could have been consumed within a day and a half. At times the spirits too ran out.

Clothing shortages were also a problem. Everyone in the settlement whether military, bond or free depended very largely on the irregular clothing supplies sent from England. Despite these many problems and privations William Parish evidently found Hobart Town very much to his liking. And after all he had spent 17 years with and

around David Collins, and had travelled from England via Port Phillip with Knopwood, and other men who were the key office holders at Hobart. And he had a responsible job as convict overseer. It was time to collect the family in Sydney and emigrate to Van Diemen's Land. William was on *Ocean* when it left Hobart bound for Sydney on 9 August, 1804.

PHEBE PARISH COMES TO HOBART TOWN

Within six months William returned to Hobart to acquire a dwelling, bringing Phebe and his family with him on *Sophia*, arriving on 5 February, 1805. This was the real beginning of my family's association with Tasmania!

Governor King sent 26 female convicts with him, and appointed him overseer at the Government Farm in New Town, north of Hobart. Robert Knopwood records in his diary that, on 26 February 1805, "At 11 by request of the Lt Govnr I went to New Town where I examined Wm Parish etc. The Lt Gov came to the farm with me." They were in all probability visiting William to see how he was faring in his new role. And it is further evidence that William was well known to David Collins. William remained in this role at least until December 1805.

On 1 January, 1806 William received a land grant of 70 acres on the eastern shore of the Derwent, at the head of what is now Geilston Bay. It was rectangular and intersected the present day Geilston Creek. His neighbour to the west was Michael Mansfield. On this site there is no plaque or park to William, as there is at Prospect NSW, but simply a tired water course emptying into the Bay via a mess of boats.

The grant seems to have been in return for William's services as convict overseer. The rent was two shillings per year after five years. In October 1806 he is recorded as having his acreage under cultivation of wheat, barley and garden, with one bull, three female sheep, one male goat and two female goats. William, Phebe, one child (James who was only 12) and a convict were victualled by the Government.

On 14 July 1807 William is recorded as having five acres in wheat, two acres in barley, two acres fallow and one-tenth of an acre in garden. He had two cows, one bull calf, one cow calf, five ewes, three ewe lambs and one female goat, William, his wife and child were still being victualled by the Government. Things were not going too badly, but they were about to get worse. From November 1807 to October 1808 the population of Hobart doubled as the exodus from Norfolk Island saw the arrival of 568 souls for whom Collins had to find food, clothing, housing and/or relocation.

THEIR TIGHT SQUEEZE WITH LEMON AND BROWN

After just two years occupancy on his land, in February 1808, William was once more robbed, this time by the bushrangers Lemon and Brown. They even took his boots. Richard Lemon and his cohorts, Irishmen, John Brown and Richard Scanlon were violent outcasts. Their crimes included the murders of three privates from the NSW Corps, John Curry, Robert Grindelstone and James Daniels.

The bushrangers were all to meet a violent end. Lemon shot Scanlon. On 1 March 1808 emancipated settlers Michael Mansfield (William's neighbour on the Derwent), James Duff and John Jones (all of whom had travelled under William as convicts on the voyage to Port Philip in 1803) overpowered Lemon and Brown. Lemon resisted and was shot dead. Brown was captured and forced to carry Lemon's head to Hobart where it was exhibited on a stake.

Brown was sent to Sydney on *Porpoise*. He was tried on 30 May, and sentenced to hang, his body to be dissected and then suspended in chains on a small island in Sydney Cove.

Richard Lemon, despite, or because of, his infamy, is immortalised in the names of landmarks near Oatlands in Tasmania, among them Lemon Springs and Lemon Hill.

WILLIAM GIVES UP THE GRANT TO GEILS

In 1810 William's mentor, David Collins died suddenly, and we must assume that William and Phebe attended the funeral procession along with some 600 settlers with their wives. In the 1811 Muster Phebe was shown alone in Hobart, but William most likely was elsewhere in the colony.

Farming life once again proved too much of a trial for the family and after more than six years of ownership, on 27 July 1812 William reassigned his 70 acres for an undisclosed sum to Andrew Geils. The transfer was witnessed by John Clark, John Campbell and John Conliffe. This time he had exceeded his rent-free time allocation, but only by a bare seven months.

Geils had arrived in Sydney in July 1811 in charge of the guard in the convict transport *Providence*. In February 1812 Macquarie had appointed him the third of a series of commandants who administered the Hobart Town settlement after the death of David Collins. Until 1818 he held substantial lands on the Derwent, and the area of his holdings (including that acquired from William) is now named Geilston Bay.

ROBBED AGAIN AND BOTH ASSAULTED

By 25 September, 1812, having sold his land at Geilston Bay, William was living in a house in Hobart, probably again as a Convict Overseer, with wife Phebe, sons James and Charles and a Charles Clark, who was a convict labourer. A local sergeant recorded statements taken after a robbery by three soldiers, Poney, Gorrie and Connors and transportee and bushranger, James McCabe, which occurred on that night:

Parish house, three quarters of a mile from Hobart Town (probably in New Town) was attacked between 9 and 10 o'clock at night on 25/9/1812. William Parish saw Thomas Connors and Jos. Poney once before 25 Sept. Parish swears to Thos Connors being one of those who broke into his home but cannot swear to the persons of the other two soldiers.

Mrs Parish swears to the persons of the three robbers having been in the house on the night of 25 Sept and robbing and assaulting her. Connor was the only one of the three who struck her.

James Parish swears to the person of Joseph Poney as one of the robbers who attacked his father's house on 25 Sept 1812.

Charles Parish cannot identify any of the prisoners.

Charles Clark cannot swear to the persons of the men who committed the robbery excepting McCabe's.

The clothes taken from Parish's house were found in the barracks occupied by Connors and Gorrie by Sergeant Toane.

Phebe lost three pints of blood during the attack. McCabe later boasted that he had "killed and slaughtered and beat him (William Parish) with an old musket til he bent like an old iron hoop." William in fact sustained chest injuries.

Subsequently McCabe was captured by James Carrett and Thomas Tombs at Oyster Bay along with associates John Townshend and Peter Geary. In 1813 these three desperados were placed on trial before the Court of Criminal Jurisdiction in Sydney. Charles Clark appeared as a witness, as did Phebe, who identified thirty-seven stolen muslin and chintz gowns, as well as thirteen petticoats and twenty balls of cotton. (Phebe seems to have been a seamstress of some industry.) All three prisoners were executed.

These events may well have been the trigger for the permanent return of William and Phebe to Sydney, without their family, as they were both domiciled there in 1814.

PHEBE FINDS A DEAD MAN ON HER DOORSTEP

In 1803 Governor Hunter had ordered a fort to be built on the site of Windmill Hill to defend the colony from convict rebels and possible French attack. Fort Phillip was never completed and so never fired a single shot in anger. Only the eastern ramparts now remain. Maps of the time show a row of housing below these walls, probably along the park which itself is adjacent to the Sydney Harbour Bridge approaches.

Here Phebe and William were living in 1816, as this Enquiry at the Coroners Inquests on 13 August testifies:

Hannah Pleasant rose early to make bread, heard groans, saw man, asked him to go home if he was drunk as it was light enough to see, told Sentinel at Fort Philip – suggested he come and warm himself. Edward Timon, private in the XX Regiment said between 12 and 2am 13th inst. Being on his post as sentinel of Fort St Philip – heard man groan – went to see who it was – man lying on his side, clapping the ground, talking of his mother and sister. Man never stirred again.

Mrs Phebe Parish – Free woman, Sworn deposes and saith that from between 9 o'clock in the evening on the 12th instant until 3 o'clock this morning the 13th August she heard a continual noise near her home, but would not open her door. About daylight this deponent opened her door and at about 6 or 8 yards from the door she saw a man lying. She went up to him and looked at him, saw his eyes open, put her hand on him and found it cold. Deponent then went to the Sentinel and said here is a dead man: but does not know whether the deceased is the person she heard in the night or that the deceased person was in the same state he now lays. Signed Phebe Parish X

She was still signing with a mark. After 28 years in Sydney and Van Diemen's Land Phebe had not mastered her letters! It appears that William was not available to consult, comfort or confront the drunk or dying man. He may have been ill and incapacitated.

DUAL DEMISE, BURIAL AND EXHUMATION

William died just six months later, on 11 February, 1817. He was 66. His funeral took place in St Phillip's Church, conducted by the Reverend William Cowper and he was buried in the Old Sydney Burial Ground on 12 February 1817. **There he lay for 52 years.** The burial ground was closed by Governor Macquarie in February 1820, and was exhumed in 1869 to make way for Sydney Town Hall.

Before construction of the Town Hall commenced, any remains that had not already been relocated, were exhumed and re-interred in Rookwood, then known as Haslams Creek. Like so many other First Fleeters buried there, neither his grave nor his headstone has ever been identified.

Phebe died on 18 October 1820 also aged 66. Married as Potter, she was buried as Parish, the funeral again being conducted by the Reverend William Cowper.

Phebe was interred in the new burial ground which had been consecrated on 27 January, 1820. This was the Sandhills Cemetery lying south of the Brickfields from which it was separated by a valley known today as Belmore Park and the Haymarket. **But it was not to be her last resting place either.**

By 1901 Sandhills Cemetery was designated for construction of Central Railway Station. The headstones and the remains of some 2,285 persons were moved to Bunnerong Cemetery (now known as Botany Cemetery on the shores of Botany Bay) which had been dedicated in 1888. Phebe's remains were reinterred there, as were those of many other First Fleeters, such as James Squire, William Tyrell, Thomas Prior, Mary Marshall, Frances Mintz (née Davis), John Nicholls, Robert Watson, Isaac Archer and Sarah Archer (née Burdo).

In time, this area containing the old graves became derelict. In 1976 the Botany Cemetery Trust decided to create a Pioneer Memorial Park within the precincts of the cemetery adjacent to Bunnerong Road. All the stones were collected and moved. Many fragmented and illegible ones were discarded. There were 746 stones in reasonable condition and these were erected in uniform rows around a memorial block. The headstone of John Trace was the only First Fleeter stone to survive.

So William and Phebe, after so many adventures together, found their bodily remains set well apart, his at Rookwood via Town Hall, and hers via Central Station on the shores of Botany Bay. Such is life.

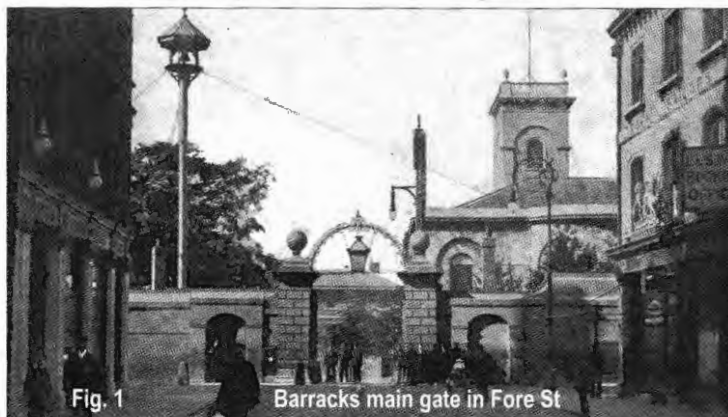
#5527 Ron Withington

Boarding the hulk *Dunkirk* in Plymouth

Paul Kable AM RAN (Rtd) traces the footsteps of those of our forbears who joined *Friendship* and *Charlotte* in Plymouth before the rendezvous with the other First Fleet ships at Mother Bank off Portsmouth.

I recently returned from a holiday in Europe, after spending some weeks near Plymouth, where I decided to find the spot at which Henry and Susannah Kable, and other convicts bound for NSW, stepped from the shores of England to spend months aboard the hulk *Dunkirk* during 1786 and 1787.

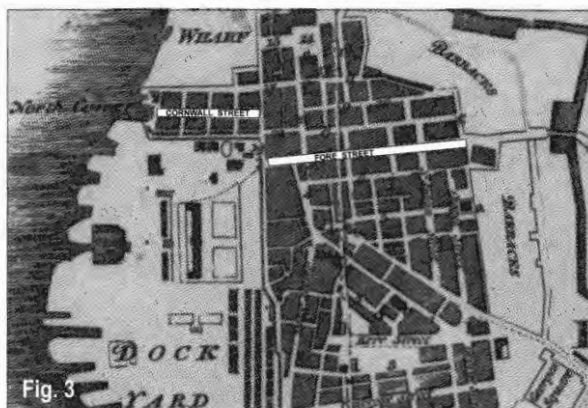
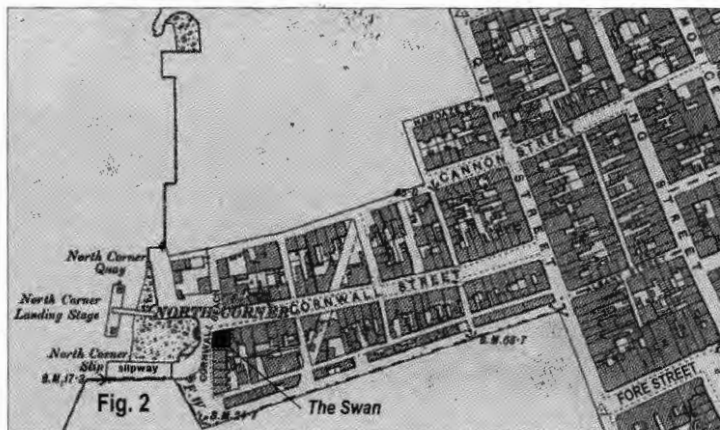
The initial clue came from the front page of "The return of Convicts confined onboard *Dunkirk*" an extract of which is Plate C9 in the book *Damned Rascals?* Part of the heading reads "Dunkirk Hulk in the Harbour of Hamoaze, Plymouth". The *Hamoaze* is that section of the Tamar River west of Stonehouse and Devonport which have now merged together with modern Plymouth.



Another clue was the November 1786 letter confirming the delivery of Henry Kable and the baby aboard *Dunkirk*, written by a Henry Bradley, which is Plate C5 in the same book. That letter is headed Plymouth Dock. My enquiries at Plymouth Library informed me that in 1786 Plymouth Dock was not in Plymouth. In the first decade of 19th Century the people of Plymouth petitioned Parliament to have Plymouth Dock renamed. Parliament agreed and changed it to Devonport, which encompassed His Majesty's Dockyard.

So now I was looking for some 1786 boat boarding steps in Devonport, adjacent to the *Hamoaze*.

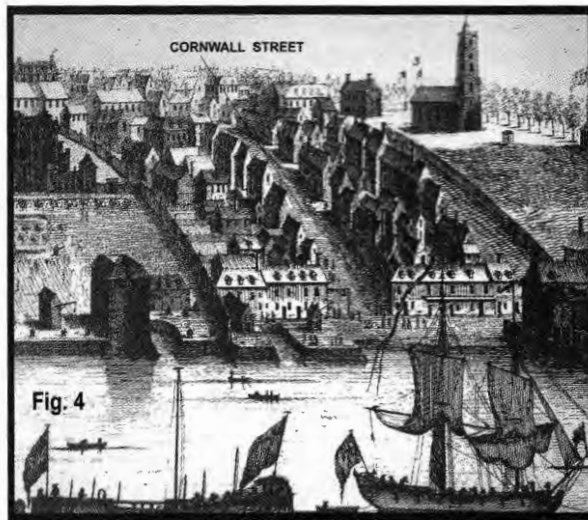
I walked all around the 18th Century Naval Dock, particularly Mutton Cove to its south and North Corner to the north. Whilst at North Corner I went into the *Steam Packet* and found that the landlord had a booklet about his 19th Century pub written by a local historian. He said the home on the opposite corner was the 18th Century pub, *The Swan*.



We know from the journal of Lieutenant Ralph Clarke that the marines marched from the Barracks to the Naval Dockyard on 9 March 1787 to board the First Fleet ships, *Friendship* and *Charlotte*. In a postcard (Fig. 1) the nearest main gate to the Barracks at Fore Street is shown. Two 19th Century maps (Figs. 2 and 3) show the North Corner area. Cornwall and Fore Streets are named on both maps and the Barracks location is shown on Fig. 3. Also we know from the ship's logs of *Friendship* and *Charlotte* that the transports had been moored in the *Hamoaze* since early January. These officials would have boarded a boat out to their ships at North Corner Steps within the Dockyard.

However, the convicts had boarded Prison Hulks, sitting in the mud, in the *Hamoaze* in small groups the previous year 1786. It seems to me that they could have boarded the hulks at the end of Cornwall Street as the merchant contractor to the Home Office, Henry Bradley, was based at Devonport. Alternatively they might have also boarded through the Naval Dockyard Fore Street Gate. When they eventually joined the transports on 11 March 1787 it required just a boat trip within the *Hamoaze* from hulk to transport. The logs report gales and heavy rain on 9 and 10 March but moderate winds and clouds on 11 March.

The sketch (Fig. 4) shows how the area looked in 1736 some fifty years earlier. Note the close by Dockyard wall to the right before the Dockyard facilities were fully developed. The wharf facilities and crane, at the end of Cornwall Street were for providing coal to local industry including the Dockyard foundries. If Bradley wanted to send convicts to the hulk *Dunkirk*



without going into the Dockyard he might have brought boats into there. The large structure on the right foreground was within the Dockyard; you can see the jink in the wall in Fig. 3.

In the following two photos, one mid 19th Century (Fig. 5) and one taken by me (Fig. 6), the hotel *The Swan* is the prominent corner building and the original corner pub door alcove can be seen. If John Simpson, the turnkey, was looking for an initial rest stop after returning ashore with the Kable baby and to await a coach to London, then this was a pub at hand. The semi-circular boat steps shown were not there in 1786. Note the Dockyard Wall, near the parked car, is still there.

This 19th Century photo (Fig. 7) of children joining boats shows the slip at the end of Cornwall Street and the Dockyard Wall. If the convicts were rowed to the hulks from within the Dockyard then there was a boat pound and steps around the corner behind the wall called North Corner Steps. This is an issue I am still researching and hoping some contemporary newspaper accounts will



Fig. 5

help as the movement of convicts for Botany Bay created a public spectacle wherever they travelled.

Fig. 8 is the modern Cornwall Street showing the view over the Hamoaze, and beyond the mud spit is St John's Lake where the convict hulks lay and that area dries out at low water. That crane ship is actually alongside North Corner of the Dockyard and protrudes across Cornwall Street just as the Royal Navy cruiser does in Fig. 7.

In the city at the Barbican in Plymouth, overlooking The Sound and opposite the Mayflower Steps, where the Pilgrims finally set off to the New World in 1620, I found the plaque commemorating the sailing of *Friendship* and *Charlotte* a full 167 years later.

#514 Paul Kable



Fig. 6



Fig. 8



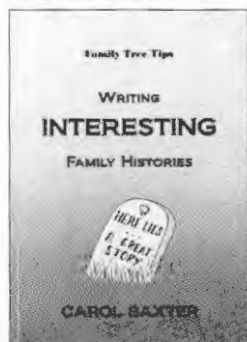
Fig. 7



Book Review Carol Baxter's Family Tree Tips

WRITING INTERESTING FAMILY HISTORIES

This 100-page monograph has been devised to provide those of us who set out to write a family history with a number of techniques for turning our piles of notes, photocopies and web downloads into a true but riveting yarn. The author has the vital credibility of an professional genealogist who has evolved from self-publishing to having two 'popular histories' picked up and distributed by a commercial publisher.



So let's look at some of her tips that will spice up your story.

All of us know that establishing the dates when things happened is essential to our research. But Carol's message is not to give them overbearing prominence. Try instead to reflect your protagonists 'dates' in

other well known events that happened at the time. This will bring enhanced empathy and understanding for the reader. For example, instead of saying, 'Eloise Entwistle was hanged in 1816', write something like, 'Despite the euphoria which gripped England in the year after the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo, the law was ever as grim and unyielding in sentencing Eloise to the gallows.'

Then Carol says it pays to research the meaning of the surnames of your protagonist and of those who play upon the same stage. Baxter, she says, derives from baker, usually a female baker, just as spinster derived from female spinner. So you can play on names and nicknames, to reveal trades, and locations. Beware, she says, some like Deathridge, a tinker, no longer exists and Lister is no longer a dyer.

Most of us find the nexus between fact and fiction intriguing. Carol's take on this is to advocate neither. Rather she asks for reasonable association. Say for example, your protagonist is crossing the Line on a tall ship en route to Botany Bay. Although there is no report that he or she took part in a King Neptune Ritual, you know for sure that one must have happened and he or she would at least have witnessed the event. So it is perfectly reasonable to enliven your account of the voyage by describing the ceremony (from other detailed descriptions) and interpolating his or her participation and reaction. That is NOT fiction.

There are many more tips in the monograph, seasoned with Carol's own examples. Nor are they all focussed on literary style — due advice is given to the mechanics of starting and structuring a family history, to titling, researching, footnotes, bibliography and indexing.

This is a little booklet, read and digested in about an hour, that could save you publication rejection and months of rewrites. On the other hand it could bring your readers enhanced joy, and you perhaps some extra recognition. **RW**

FFF Web Watch



- ◆ The schedule of Gravesites of First Fleeters where the Fellowship has conducted a Plaque Dedication has been upgraded to include all 116 plaques from 1976 to 2009.
- ◆ More Links have been added.
- ◆ 17 more First Fleeter profiles have been added to Ships pages.
- ◆ Contacts have been updated.

Providential Capture & Providential Escape

The NSW Mitchell Library, on 9 March 2010 celebrated its centenary with an exhibition titled *ONE hundred*. Librarian, Richard Neville, said it contains items from the library's extensive collection which will "help future generations reevaluate where we have come from and where we are going to".

His choice for the cutest object is a circa 1790 watercolour of a young Mount Pitt bird (*Providence Petrel*) on Norfolk Island by that famous but elusive gent, Unknown Artist.

After the wreck of *Sirius* in March 1790, the population swelled by 400 to 497 and food was short. The petrels (a species of mutton bird) nesting on Mt Pitt and Mt Bates, were fine eating, and with no instinct for self preservation, became the saviours of the colony. The birds dug their ground nests like rabbit warrens. Settlers, free and bond, would climb the hills soon after dusk, and light small fires to attract the birds as they dropped from the sky. They did not rise easily from flat ground and could not escape the slaughter. The eggs in burrows were also easily plundered. Lt Ralph Clark kept a daily tally, and when counting stopped on 16 July 172,184 birds had been killed.

On 19 April, the birds became so very plentiful (and the Store so lean) Governor Ross "issued out a condition that if every person would give up half a pound of his salt meat they might kill and bring home as many birds as he pleased (as long as it did not interfere with their Work)." Amazingly this proclamation has often been referred to as Australia's first environmental legislation. On 5 June alone 6125 birds were taken.

By the time *Justinian* and *Surprise* arrived with supplies on 7 August, 1790, the numbers had collapsed to the point where the bird became extinct on Norfolk Island. The good news is that in recent years a small colony of petrels has re-established itself on Phillip Island, seven kilometres to the south of Norfolk. And the chicks are still cute.



Neville's choice for the oddest object again relates to the earliest days of the colony — the wild sarsaparilla leaves from Botany Bay used as tea by the convict Mary Bryant, in her oft-recounted sensational escape to Timor in an open government boat in March 1791.

The leaves were found at Yale University Library in the papers of James Boswell, the famous lawyer and biographer of Samuel Johnson. In London in 1793 Boswell had successfully defended Bryant, who gave him the native tea out of gratitude. Apparently he didn't drink it.

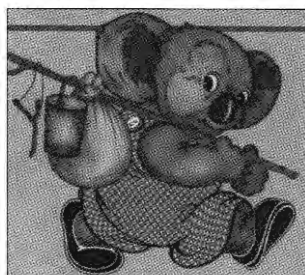
Possibly the most rewarding item is the Macquarie Collector's Chest of 1818, displaying rocks and natural history specimens as colourful and vibrant as the day the Governor caused them to be collected. And its decorative lid is masterful.

These items and the 97 others in *ONE Hundred*, are on display at the Library until 15 June 2010. **RW**

"INSPIRATION IS WONDERFUL WHEN IT HAPPENS, BUT THE WRITER MUST DEVELOP AN APPROACH FOR THE REST OF THE TIME...THE WAIT IS SIMPLY TOO LONG."
LEONARD S. BERNSTEIN

Snippets from Sydney Gazette, the Colony's first newspaper, edited by George Howe

BLINKIN' OBVIOUS, AIN'T IT, BILL



21 August 1803:

An animal whose species was never before found in the Colony, is in HIS EXCELLENCY's possessions. When taken it had two Pups, one of which died a few days since.--- This creature is somewhat larger than the Waumbat, and although it might at first appearance be thought

much to resemble it, nevertheless differs from that animal. The fore and hind legs are about of an equal length, having five sharp talons at each of the extremities, with which it must have climbed the highest trees with much facility.

The fur that covers it is soft and fine, and of mixed grey colour; the ears are short and open; the graveness of the visage, which differs little in colour from the back, would seem to indicate a more than ordinary portion of animal sagacity; and the teeth resemble that of a rabbit. The surviving Pup generally clings to the back of the mother, or is caressed with a serenity that appears peculiarly characteristic; it has a false belly like the opossum, and its food consists solely of gum leaves, in the choice of which it is excessively nice. *from Janet Selby*



Readers' Riposte

• A tardy response from the 40.3 Cover Story: Anne Barrett of Spenser wrote to say that her family lived in The Manse at Mt Druitt (now renovated) from 1949 to 1953 when her father the Rev. A.J. Barrett was the local minister. She remembers the old beehive well in which she used to cool cordial. Her brother knew of the William Dean beehive on Gt Western Highway, and his brother-in-law once trained a trotter named *Lumpy Dean*!



On the Right Tack – No 9

Words or expressions our FF ancestors heard or used aboard ship, carried ashore and bequeathed to us. Derivation, literary and present usage.

Waister or Waster (a less-than-competent individual)

This term for a 'loafer' stems from two words: *waist* and *waste*. The Old English *waest* was a reference to the shape of fruit, particularly the narrow end of a pear. It evolved to include the middle of the human body. In 1579 Edmund Spenser in *The Shepheardes Calender: April*, wrote, "And gird your waste, For more finesse, with a tawdrie lace."

Stephen Maturin, in Patrick O'Brian's *Post Captain*, wistfully remarks, "Your mariner is an honest fellow, none better; but he is sadly given to jargon." And sure enough, sailors expanded the meaning to include the middle of a vessel. *Waisters* were greenhands or broken-down seamen placed in the waist of a ship of war to pull on ropes and do unskilled menial tasks.

Herman Melville, in his novel *White Jacket*, referred to *waisters* as the "tag-rag and bobtail of the crew" who "haul aft and fore and main sheets, besides being subject to ignoble duties such as drainage etc."

Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.14

1. Of the *Bounty* mutineers, only three, Thomas Ellison, John Millward, and Thomas Burkitt were finally convicted in England and hanged. The executions took place at: **a.** Newgate **b.** the Tyburn Tree **c.** Wandsworth **d.** HMS *Brunswick* **e.** Plymouth
Incidentally, the modern expression Gala Day is derived from the Anglo-Saxon Gallows Day. Gruesome!
 2. In 1800 a 60-ton brig was the first vessel to pass through Bass Strait. Over the next 24 years she played a very prominent part in the expansion of the colony. She was: **a.** *Investigator* **b.** *Lady Nelson* **c.** *Mermaid* **d.** *Norfolk*
 3. In 1820 at Port Macquarie, the place of banishment, an exotic plant was introduced. After 11 years it failed totally but was later elsewhere to become a staple Australian export. It was: **a.** apple **b.** sugar **c.** avocado **d.** cotton **e.** banana
 4. Who had his 'vest and pistol' stolen while he slept with Tahitian Queen Oberea in her double canoe? **a.** Fletcher Christian **b.** William Bligh **c.** Joseph Banks **d.** Samuel Wallis
 5. Major Ross placed Watkin Tench (and three other officers) under arrest for: **a.** refusing to lead a revenge attack on Aborigines at Botany Bay **b.** handing down an alternative sentence on a wrongdoer **c.** misrepresenting the acreage under cultivation at Prospect **d.** going fishing
 6. St John's Parramatta Cemetery is the oldest existing European burial ground in Australia. The number of First Fleet-ers known to have been interred there is **a.** 64 **b.** 48 **c.** 28
 7. Of those First Fleet-ers at St John's, the number of Fellowship plaques placed on the gravestones is **a.** 9 **b.** 12 **c.** 17
 8. The oldest grave at St John's is that of **a.** Henry Dodd **b.** Augustus Alt **c.** Thomas Eccles **d.** Frances Clements
 9. St John's contains the gravesite of a cleric who was a key figure in the early life of the colony. He was: **a.** Richard Johnson **b.** William Cowper **c.** Robert Cartwright **d.** Samuel Marsden
- SCORES AND PRIZES:** *Answers on page 11. RW*
 9/9 ... Two barrels of salted mutton birds, circa 1790.
 6/9 ... A CD of the compleat adventures of Blinky Bill.
 3/9 ... Sentenced to dig a grave at the 1810 going rate of two shillings and sixpence (25 cents).

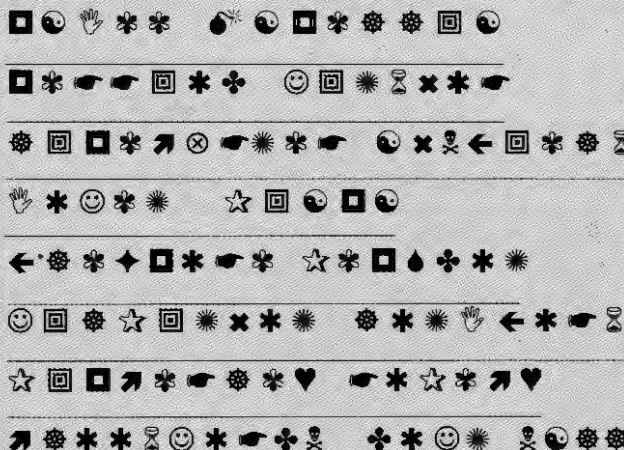
* semaphore *

WHAT YOU DO: Each symbol stands for a different letter. Just decipher each of the eight lines.

THIS MONTH'S CODE: FF Surname and Gravesite where we have dedicated a FFF Plaque: Example: Isaac Parramatta

THIS MONTH'S CLUES: None are supplied. It's too easy!

Answers next issue. RW after DA/SMH



Solution to * Semaphore * in Founders 41.2

vinegar hogshead, bread puncheon, pork tierce, oxbow dozen, brandy gallon jar, butter frinkin, oatmeal cask, coal chaudron

WEDGING WITH WEDGWOOD

The scene was a cocktail reception in the foyer and bookshop of the Museum of Sydney on the Site of First Government House on Saturday evening, 6 March 2010.

In his address to the gathering, Lord Wedgwood of Barlaston made a veiled reference to the tricky times Wedgwood had gone through in the past 23 years. In 1987 Wedgwood merged with Waterford Crystal to create Waterford Wedgwood, an Ireland-based luxury brands group. But in January 2009, after losses and a share placement failure, the company was placed in administration on a 'going concern' basis. The very next month Waterford Wedgwood's receiver Deloitte announced that the New York-based private equity firm KPS Capital Partners had become a 100m euro white knight and Wedgwood emerged scarred but unbowed for its 250th anniversary later in 2009.



In celebration of its survival since 1759 Wedgwood, in association with Perth Mint, has released a commemorative 1oz silver coin and a blue and white Wedgwood fine bone china Plate in a limited edition set. Lord Wedgwood, a direct descendant of the company founder, Josiah

Wedgwood, was in Sydney to officiate at the launch.

Both the coin and the plate are renditions of the well-known and much-copied allegorical medallion, *Hope encouraging Art and Labour under the influence of Peace*, which was fashioned by founder Josiah Wedgwood in 1789 from white clay found near Sydney Cove. The design of the medallion and the circumstances surrounding its manufacture and issue have most recently been covered in *Founders* editions 39.5 and 40.6. Paul Brunton, Senior Curator at the Mitchell Library, rather astounded the capacity crowd of invited guests by revealing that the Library holds no fewer than five of the original medallions.



It was barely possible to grab a glass of wine and a peeled prawn in the heated crush, but I wedged an elbow onto the shop counter, VisaCarded a set and darted out to the courtyard.

FF Member and regular volunteer at Cathedral St, Denis Smith, was more resourceful – he queued patiently to have his plate autographed by Lord Wedgwood. With typical generosity, Denis subsequently placed the set on loan to the Fellowship for display in FF House. Bravo! **RW**

LEFT: Lord Wedgwood of Barlaston, and Ron Currie of Perth Mint with the boxed gift set. **ABOVE:** The 205mm fine bone china plate and the 30mm 'high relief' silver coin – in limited edition of 5000. The opening lines of Erasmus Darwin's ode to the Medallion (see *Founders* 40.6) appear on the plate.

To purchase the set, see details below.

BOUNTY & GUARDIAN: CENTRE STAGE

We are used to the dramatic happenings of the past being translated into theatre and cinema offerings, but tend to regard this as 20th Century (Fox) phenomena. It is salutary therefore to discover that only seven weeks after the return of William Bligh to England in 1790 to face his Mutiny court martial, the *Royalty Theatre* of Ralph Wewitzer was running the *Calamities of Capt. Bligh*, advertised in the London Dailies as: *Exhibiting a Full Account of his Voyage, from his taking leave of the Admiralty, and shewing the Bounty falling down the River Thames – the Captain's reception at Otaheite, and exchanging the British Manufactures for the Bread Fruit – with an Otaheitan Dance – an exact representation of the Seizure of Capt. Bligh, in the cabin of the Bounty by the Pirates, with the affecting scene of forcing the Captain and his faithful followers into the Boat – their Distress at Sea, and Repulse by the natives of the Friendly Isles – their miraculous arrival at the Cape of Good Hope and their friendly reception by the Governor. Dances and Ceremonies by the Hottentots on their Departure, and their happy arrival in England.*

This production was a 'Fact, Told in Action', a series of mimed scenes with no spoken text, the reason being that Wewitzer did not have a licence for his theatre.

At the same time the *Royal Circus* was playing the *Siege of Quebec*, the death of James Wolfe and *Vive La Liberté*, a patriotic English take on the 1789 'Destruction of the French Bastille, the cannonade, the massacre of citizens, the descent into the dungeons in discovery of unfortunate objects'.

And again, ironically, in June 1790 while the Sydney Cove First Fleeters were still awaiting relief food and other items from England, the destruction of the ship *Guardian*, which should have arrived with supplies during the previous March, was being played out on stage in London. The advertisement for *Sadler's Wells* in *The Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser*, 19 June 1790, read: *English Heroism: In which*

is particularly and correctly given A Living Picture of the *Guardian Frigate* (Commanded by Lieutenant Riou) In her perilous situation in the South Seas, employed amongst stupendous Floating Islands of Ice: descriptive of the several agitations among the Crew on her first striking on the Ice, the full Discovery of their imminent Danger, the uncommon exertions of the officers and crew, the magnanimity of the Commander, the final departure of the boats, with the providential arrival of the launch, and afterwards at the Cape of Good Hope.

In a further link, the men who had been cast adrift with Bligh were in Cape Town en route to England, and helped Lieutenant Riou to unload all that could be salvaged from *Guardian*.

So we see that while 'true stories' have ever been portrayed in the theatre world by high-flying entrepreneurs and opportunists, few have been so fast off the mark as these 18th Century impresarios.



Guardian: the icy aftermath.

ELIZABETH'S 'CELLO



Elizabeth Henrietta Macquarie is all ears as Daniel Yeadon prepares for a Bach Sonata. She was not an accomplished player herself, and of course her rank would have denied her any chance to perform in public.



Open Day at the Sydney Conservatorium on 28 March 2010 provided the opportunity for visitors to enjoy the first public outing of Mrs Macquarie's 'Cello for 196 years. Well, the instrument is said to have belonged to Elizabeth, as on 9 February 1822 she bestowed it on her friend Mary Ann Piper, daughter of FF James Sheers, and wife of jolly Captain John Piper. It may in fact have been brought into the Colony as a gift by Naval Officer John Piper himself, he having ordered it when in England in 1813. The label inside the instrument reads 'Thomas Kennedy, Maker, 16 Nassau St. Middlesex hospital, London 1814.'

In 1827 the 'cello went with the Pipers to Alloway Bank near Bathurst. When they left the district it passed to the Ranken family of Westbourne, thence into the nearby Pryor/Nettle family, finally surfacing with a Nettle descendant at Narooma in 1992. It was then acquired at Sotheby's Melbourne auction by the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, and is now held at the Museum of Sydney on the Site of First Government House. After a long sojourn in the country, not much played, it is back where it began its life in the colony.

This account was just part of the scintillating hour-long lecture at the Con by Nicole Forsyth. She also took her place in a string ensemble, *Ironwood*, to intersperse her talk with period musical interludes, where Daniel Yeadon had the honour of playing the restored, but still largely original 'cello.

It was easy to be charmed by the brief sonatas, minuets, tarantellas and country dances, even if one lacked the knowledge to assess the quality of the instrument. Elsewhere on the day, Emma-Jane Murphy was to premiere *'Cello Dreaming*, a recital I was very glad to miss. Even the prospect of hearing more historical chords from Elizabeth's 'cello would not overcome my lifelong antipathy to the compositions of Peter Sculthorpe. Heresy, I know. **RW**

~ The Chapters in Action ~

CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Next Event: AGM, 2.00pm Saturday 3 July, at 14 Lawrence Crescent, Kambah. Contact Geoff Cameron. ☎ 026251 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 10.00am for 10.30am.

Next Meetings: 12 June. Speaker: Margaret Meyer. Topic: *FF Charles Peat & Hannah Mullen*. Also our 4th Birthday celebration, bubbly & juices. **AGM** 10 July. Let's look at our *Library Day* – book reviews by members. Contact Karys Fearon ☎ 4323 1849.

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: 5 June. Speaker: Andrew Tink (Author & former MLA). Topic: *W.C. Wentworth*. 3 July. Speaker: Anne Henderson (Author). Topic: *Dame Enid Lyons*. **AGM** 7 August. For details please contact the Secretary, Robin Palmer, ☎ 9871 4102.

HUNTER VALLEY: Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds

New Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunner Rd, Adamstown. Chapter Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Next Meeting: 21 June. Speaker: Sue Ryan, History Research, Newcastle City Library.

Next Outing: 17 May. Postman Cruise on the historic Hawkesbury River. **AGM** 16 August. 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: 15 May: Tour of Oxley Downs Station (scene of *Outback House*) together with the Chapter **AGM**. Meet 12.00 noon at Oxley Downs. Bring picnic basket lunch. Tea/coffee provided. For more details please contact Judy Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234.

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

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

Next Meetings: 15 May at Hamilton. 23 May. Stall at History Q'ld Event at Donald Simpson Leisure Centre, Bloomfield St, Cleveland. **AGM** 17 July.

Contact Mary-Joy Payten ☎ 07 5455 3905

NEW ENGLAND: Armidale & surrounds

Venue: Quarterly, normally on the first Saturday at various venues. **AGM** 14 August.

Next Event: 1 May at 12 noon. 9th Birthday celebration at McCrossins' Mill in Uralla.

Next Meeting: **AGM** Saturday 14 August. For details 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 6 June at the home of Jeanette & John Williamson, Ulmarra. Sunday 18 May. Social outing with overnight stay at historic Coach House, Nymboida. **AGM** 1 August. Contact Jean Taylor ☎ 6658 1439.

NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds

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

Next Meeting: 23 May. Mystery Speaker. BBQ lunch & drinks. \$7 mbers, \$8 non mbers. RSVP to Vilmai ☎ 6624 2972. **AGM** 18 July. Contact Margaret Soward, ☎ 6686 3597.

NORTH WEST: Tamworth & surrounds

Venue: As advised from time to time. Bi-monthly meetings, on the first Saturday at 1.30pm.

Next Event: Saturday 5 June at 1.30pm at Old Tamworth Cemetery main gate. Walk Leader: Sybil Small. Topic: *Victorian Cemetery Symbolism*. (ie. symbols on headstones) **AGM** 7 August. For details please contact 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, (not in May) 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Next Event: Saturday 15 May. Luncheon to commemorate the Departure of the First Fleet. Venue: Sinclair Room, Dapto Leagues Club, 11.40am for 12 noon. Speaker: Margaret Hogg of Portsmouth/Sydney Sister City Committee.

Next Meetings: 1 June. Speaker: Carol Herben. Topic: *Changes to Crime & Law 1788 to 1900*. **AGM** 6 July. Speakers: South Coast Chapter Members. For details please contact Jean Mortimer ☎ 4257 5575.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: Moss Vale, Mittagong & surrounds

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre, on the second Wednesday each month, 10.30am to 12.30pm. **Next meeting:** 9 June. Speaker: Leonie Knapman, Historian. Topic: *Non-British Convict Departures – linking the FF Convicts with their origins*. **AGM** 11 August. Contacts John or Rosemary Kirkby ☎ 4883 6523

With every good wish for the Chapter Conference on 29 May. Health permitting, I hope to be there to meet with your Chapter representatives.

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



NW Chapter 9th Birthday Picnic at Tamworth Botanic Gardens on 10 April. Joan & Ron Ayton cut the cake. Members checked the pulse of the Wallangarra White Gum they had planted as a FF memorial 5 years ago.

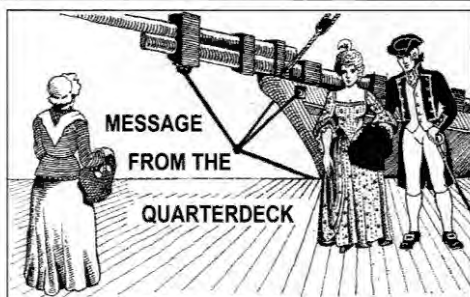
WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WILLIAM TUNKS
 #7740 Jack Manning Singleton (Jr)
 #7741 David Bartholomew Singleton (Jr)
 #7748 Kenneth Mervyn Lapworth
PHOEBY FLAHERTY
 #7742 Lee De Bono
NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE
 #7743 Helene Olivia Harry
WILLIAM NASH / MARIA HAYNES
 #7744 Karen Evelyn Cluley
JOHN WINTER / ANN SANDLIN
 #7745 Myles Alan Murray
WILLIAM DOUGLAS / MARY GROVES
 #7746 Carol Wilson
 #7747 Matthew Craig Wright
WILLIAM BOGGIS
 #7787 Malcolm Frederick Tompson
ELIZABETH THOMAS
 #7785 Steven Mario Lorenzon
 #7786 Helena Angela Lorenzon
JOHN CROSS
 #7791 William James O'Loughlin

MEMBERS' MEMORANDA

EDWARD WHITTON
 #7788 Joanne Maree Hunter
 #7789 Karyn Margaret Garner
 #7790 Steven John Bowen
WILLIAM PARISH / PHEBE NORTON
 #7792 Michael John O'Keeffe
THOMAS CHIPP / JANE LANGLEY
 #7793 Delma Eileen Burns
 #7793.1 Malcolm Burns
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
 718.1 Dominicus Adrianus Johannes Swinkels
 7584.1 Joseph Samuel Santa Maria
 6776.1 Cecil Sydney Stockley
 7465.1 Patricia May Dudman
 7563.1 Cornelia Andersson
 6658.1 Bruce Alan Brown
 7127.1 Lorena Bruce
 1318.1 Robert James Lamb
MARRIAGE A golden life together for:
BENJAMIN CUSLEY/ ANN MARTIN
 6 January, 2010, at Orchard Hills NSW, #6517
 Rachel Maree Hargrave to Daniel Gill Bentham.

BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:
BENJAMIN CUSLEY/ ANN MARTIN
 Nathaniel James Hargrave
 10 January, 2010, nephew for #6517 Rachel Bentham, Ninth generation
PATRICK BURN/ANN SMITH
 Zachary Julian Cook
 6 January, 2010, at Newcastle, a son to Julian and Natalie Cook. Brother for Kaitlyn and Lachlan. Fifth grandchild for # 2726 Lynette Russell and the late Peter Russell. Ninth generation.
ELLEN WAINWRIGHT
 Julien Don Cumming
 2 March, 2010, in Sydney, a son to Robert and Nataliya Cumming. Second grandchild for Donald and #1041 Cherie Cumming. Seventh generation.
DEATH Sympathy to the family & friends of:
JAMES SHIERS/MARY SMITH
 #5749 Ronald George Maguire
 19 March, 2010, aged 82. Late of Springwood, NSW. Husband of the late #5749.1 Zona Maguire.



Not on every trip to Lot 1 Mamre Road, St Marys, do you expect to have the chance to photograph Mamre Homestead with a half-day-old foal in the foreground, especially one named *Epiphany* in celebration of the 6 January Magi Day on which she was born. The sight seemed like a throwback to the 1000-acre South Creek Farm of colonial chaplain, magistrate and pastoralist, the Reverend Samuel Marsden, who from 1804 owned this busy model holding, farming orchards, pasture, wheat, hay, goats, Merinos and of course fine horses.

Marsden built the gracious Georgian style homestead for his son Charles in 1820. It now sits on just 210 acres, and has been renovated near to its original state, with shuttered windows, verandahs, iron roof and sandstone flaggings.

Accessible in five minutes from either direction on the M4 it presents a superior stopover to Maccas or Hungry Jacks. The cafe within serves tasty home-cooked fare and fine coffee, and after a snack or a meal you can explore the home and take



a stroll in the gardens.

In thus restoring your spirits you will assist the work of the Sisters of Mercy, who since receiving a 1984 NSW Government grant of the homestead and surrounding acreage have conducted training programs and set up retail gardening for the unemployed of the area – an distant echo of the days when Samuel worked the farm and orchards with some thirty assigned servants. Don't wait for the Kings of Orient to lead you – follow your star! ☎ 02 9670 6178 for details.

Ron Maguire, #5749 who was for nigh on 16 years Editor of the Fellowship magazine has died, aged 82. It was Ron who named the magazine *Founders*, in his makeover of the newsletter in January 1999. Ron's memorial service at Springwood was attended by the President, the current Editor, and former Director, Elaine Bennett, who later had this to say: "I was saddened by the death of Ron, but then my thoughts turned to happy days we spent together as volunteers at FF House on Wednesdays. I often came across Ron and his wife Zona walking hand in hand through Hyde Park on our way to 'work' – in the early days stepping it out, and later walking slowly and supporting one another. I was the 'new girl' in 1998, but with great patience he taught me to print the magazine address labels while Zona explained the workings of the office. If we finished early Ron would suggest lunch at Cellos in the Masonic Club – what a treat! I will always cherish their memories."

As we approached the Heads in the wake of the convoy, I was pathetically feeding the fish over the gunwhale of the hired launch. Up ahead the Commodore of the First Fleet Re-enactment was standing magnificent on the quarterdeck of the flagship *Soren Larsen* leading

the 11 square-riggers into a flotilla-paved Sydney Harbour before three million landed spectators. Surely this Australia Day 1988 was the highlight of a long seafaring career for **Michael Kitchenside**, who had overcome so much commotion at sea and on land to bring the Fleet home in the seaboots of Arthur Phillip. Michael has died at the age of 77. A memorial service was held at The Garrison Church on 29 March before a wake at the *Lord Nelson*.

Stewart Ross #3201, FF Edward Miles, retired pharmacist of Corryong, Victoria, has been honoured with an Order of Australia Medal for service to the community, particularly through the Upper Murray Historical Society. Stuart was a Shire Councillor 1986-1992 and has been Secretary/Manager of *The Man from Snowy River Museum* since 1968. The Museum and Riley's Village tell the story of Jack Riley, the real man from Snowy River, who inspired Banjo Paterson's poem. That epic tale is celebrated and re-enacted in Corryong each April as the *Man from Snowy River Festival*.

Edward Miles was a hard-working and respected member of his community and would surely be proud of the contributions made to the honouring and perpetuating of our history by his descendants, among them, the writer Miles Franklin and Stewart Ross, OAM.

Roses for the Heart Bonnet Project creeps ever closer to its target. On 14, 21 and 28 May, 2010, Christina Henri will be at the Matron's Cottage, Cascades Female Factory Site, Hobart, to further promote the endeavour. She will be joined by Site volunteer Margaret Benham, who prepares bonnet kits for sale at the shop, and skilled embroiderer Liz Price, offering decorating ideas. Meantime our members may contact the Editor for the pattern, and a number are still doing just that!

