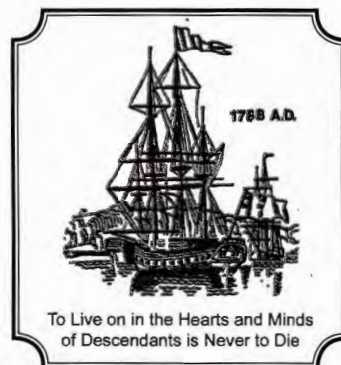


Founders

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 6 42nd Year of Publication November/December 2010



FELLOWSHIP PLAQUE DEDICATION HONOURS JOHN ALEXANDER HERBERT

The Fellowship has added to its recognition of the final resting place of First Fleeters by dedicating a plaque to **John Alexander Herbert** who was buried in the Parish of Westbury, Tasmania.

John Haxton, Bruce Arnett and Ron Withington, along with **Beryl Haxton** and **Marilyn Arnett** represented the Directors at the ceremony, and were joined by some thirty descendants of John Herbert and Hannah Bolton, together with local FFF members.

The location of John's grave within St Andrew's Anglican Cemetery at Westbury is not known, so the plaque was installed on a small plinth within the gravesite of his great-grandson, **Lewis Arthur Herbert** and Lewis' wife, Amy.

The dedication ceremony on Sunday 24 October 2010 took place on a fine day tempered somewhat by a lazy breeze. President John Haxton introduced the Fellowship, and one of the two members of the Clergy who serve the Parish of Quamby, the **Reverend Jo Pyecroft**, provided a brief history of St Andrew's and of the Cemetery. A eulogy to John Herbert and to Lewis Herbert, written by descendant **Ron Camplin** FFF#7817, was delivered by his brother, Harry, Ron being present but unwell.

Joan Midgley, great-great granddaughter of John displayed a silk handkerchief in recognition of a similar article, the theft of which brought John Herbert to Port Jackson and beyond.

The Queen Anne Jack was then raised over the plaque by John Haxton and descendant, **Hazel Hingston**.

In closing, the **Reverend Jo Pyecroft** and her associate, the **Reverend Marie Smith**, combined to conduct a moving dedication of the plaque, and invited the gathering to reassemble at the Church Hall for lunch.

There is no doubt that the research and persistence of descendant **Ray Bassett**, FFF#1137, (second from left) over a



The Descendants who attended the ceremony together with the Reverends Jo Pyecroft and Marie Smith.

number of years was the key to bringing this dedication to fruition. In recent times he has been aided in the confirmation of his findings by Board members, Bruce Arnett and Ron Withington. Ray was invited to raise the Flag at the ceremony, but modestly declined in favour of Hazel.

St Andrew's Church was convict-built. The foundation stone was laid in 1836 by Lt. Governor Arthur. (no one can find it today). The building was in full use, although unfinished, in 1841, but it was not until 1851 that it was consecrated, along with the Cemetery, which is some distance away, by the first Bishop of Tasmania, the Rt Reverend F. R. Nixon.

Lewis Herbert was born on 18 May 1879 at Longford. He left school aged nine and worked on the family farm. He enlisted in the First Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen and his troop of elite horsemen left for South Africa in January 1900. Lewis was wounded and later invalided home after bouts of enteric fever. He married Amy Louisa Causby in 1904 and they had family of had six children, of whom Joan Midgley is the only surviving member. Like John Herbert, Lewis joined the police force, and, over the years 1905-10, served bravely in many parts of Tasmania. In 1922 he moved to Beaconsfield, and in 1929 to Penguin, where he died in October 1941.

A pen portrait of **John Alexander Herbert** compiled from the documents of Danny Crothers and Ivan Badcock appears on page 8 of this issue. See also the photo on page 2.



Joan Midgley with hanky heirloom

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FFF Annual General Meeting
11.00am Saturday 27 November
2010 at FF House.
 - Annual Accounts enclosed -
Australia Day Luncheon
 - Booking Form enclosed -



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Founders

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From the President...

Saturday 27 November will be the occasion of our Annual General Meeting at 11am. Nominations are called for up to 14 Directors. Please advise if you need a form to nominate. Also please indicate if you propose to attend, for catering purposes.

As we approach the end of a busy year, our minds turn to sending greeting cards to friends and relatives, buying gifts for children and family. This is often the one time in the year that we make contact with people who have been of some help or close association to us. It is also the time of the year that we give our volunteers a well-deserved good rest; our activities go into recess. First Fleet House will be closed from Friday 17 December 2010 until Monday 10 January 2011.

Chapter requests have come in from Western Australia, and the Bankstown-Liverpool region of Sydney. Mailing has gone to those regions to gauge the likely response, and hopefully we will see in the new year those new groups meeting to form new Chapters. Included with this *Founders* is your invitation to attend the AGM, the Annual Accounts and a booking form for our Australia Day Luncheon on 22 January. The Board members join with me in extending to you all the 'Compliments of the Season'.



John, with Hazel Hingston, raising the Queen Anne Jack over our plaque to FF John Alexander Herbert at St Andrew's Cemetery in Westbury, Tasmania. In attendance, the Reverends Marie Smith and Jo Pyecroft, and descendant, Harry Camplin. (See pages 1 and 8).

PORT JACKSON WITH PISTOLS POISED

On a visit to Camden Park House on the Spring Open Day, I was favoured, though an associate, with an inspection of the colonial butler's pantry. No, we were not looking for Elizabeth Macarthur's party leftovers — unless such a term could be applied to pistols — for there in the cupboard, in a boxed brace, were the very same weapons used by John Macarthur in his regular duelling episodes during the early days of the colony...

In Europe of the 19th Century, a gentleman's honour was so sensitive that any insult, real or imagined, was likely to result in a duel. Whatever the issue or the combatants, duelling produces a romantic fascination. The most poignant, and wasteful was that involving **Alexander Pushkin**, the founder of modern Russian literature. In 1837, falling into greater and greater debt amidst rumors that his wife had started a scandalous affair, Pushkin challenged her alleged lover, his brother-in-law Georges d'Anthès, to a pistol duel which left both men injured, Pushkin mortally. He died two days later.

The **Duke of Wellington**, while he was Prime Minister, issued a challenge to the Earl of Winchilsea over a political issue. The Earl refused to raise his arm, and the Duke fired high to the right, possibly because he was a rotten shot. Anyway honour was satisfied. Of course the **Duke (Stephen Fry)** also fought a duel with **Edmund Blackadder (Rowan Atkinson)**. Wellington was a proponent of modern weapons, so that duel was fought with Vickers-Armstrong 4-pounder cannonettes. Blackadder survived the duel, as the cannonball the Duke fired at him merely bounced off a cigarillo case in his pocket.

Among the enshrined elements of British culture, the practice of duelling arrived in Australia with the First Fleet. On 12 August 1788, only six months after settlement, John Easty of the Marines reported in his journal: "Mr Wright, thee Surgoen Genl and Mr Balmain the 2d asstant fired thier Pistols att Each other and Slightly Wounded Each other."

~ CHAPTER CONTACTS ~

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Suzanne Cattel 9451 4415

CANBERRA

Geoff Cameron 6251 4095

CENTRAL COAST

Karys Fearon 4323 1849

EASTERN FARMS

Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY

Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Phil Foster 6360 2117

MORETON

Julia Cornford 07 5545 0474

NEW ENGLAND

Fran Newling 6771 5099

NORTH COAST

Jean Taylor 6658 1438

NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 6686 3597

NORTH WEST

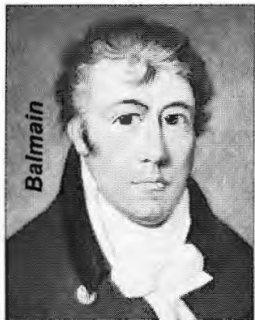
Jo Crossing 6766 8255

SOUTH COAST

Jean Mortimer 4257 5575

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Neville Usher 4869 1406



Balmain

Three years later Lieutenants William Faddy and Robert Kellow exchanged shots on Norfolk Island over an accusation of lying. Both men missed. Soon after another bloodless duel was fought between the quarrelsome Lt. Governor Major Robbie Ross and Captain William Hill. "Neither party was wounded yesterday," wrote Reverend Richard Johnson, and after two fires on each

side the seconds interfered and settled the differences."

Both these encounters contravened the Articles of War, which forbade duelling between officers, but the Articles were often ignored.

But back to Macarthur and Co. In 1796, William Balmain, guardian of the health of the colony, chanced his arm again following a quarrel with Captain John Macarthur whom he had called "a base rascal and an atrocious liar and a villain." The response must have been alarming as it was unsporting. It was signed by his fellow officers of the NSW Corps and invited him to meet one of their number and "if he shou'd fail in giving Mr Balmain the satisfaction requir'd, another and another will be fix'd upon until there is not one left to explain." Balmain wisely allowed the affair to fizzle out.

In 1801, the bad-tempered Macarthur was involved in possibly the most celebrated duel of colonial history. He was already an seasoned duellist, for apart from the Balmain fandango he had fought a duel in England in 1789. The only damage was a bullet hole in his opponent's coat.

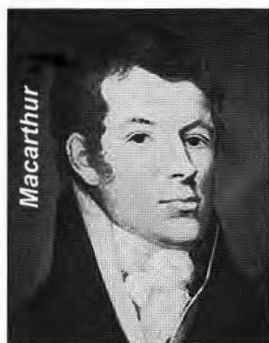
His new opponent was his commanding officer, Lt Col. William Paterson. Macarthur had become fiercely critical of Governor Philip Gidley King and in an attempt to isolate the Governor, he had persuaded his officers to have nothing to do with him, beyond official duties. There was to be no social intercourse at all with Government House.

Paterson however refused to be manipulated and continued to accept King's hospitality. Enraged, Macarthur set about "the disclosure of private and public correspondences on different subjects" obtained when he was living with Paterson.

The Governor was not impressed by Macarthur's machinations and remained on friendly terms with Paterson. Indeed King had already written to the authorities in London, sagely predicting "that the arts and intrigues of a man you will have heard so much about will one day sett this colony in a flame."

Thwarted, Macarthur then tried to drive a wedge between Paterson and the officers of the NSW Corps. This was altogether too much for Paterson, and as he later recorded, "...I called up Captain Macarthur for private satisfaction."

On 10 September, Paterson's second, Captain Neil McKellar went to Parramatta to deliver the challenge to Macarthur. The reply this time was brief, "Whenever he chooses."



Macarthur

A meeting was arranged for four o'clock the following day. However the weather was wet and the duel was postponed.

On 14 September at one o'clock the principals met, grimly ready to take each other's life. Macarthur loaded his own pistols, a task that should have gone to his second, the ubiquitous Captain John Piper, as the firearms were so sensitive that only their owner could handle

them with safety. Surgeon John Harris, was also in attendance. McKellar loaded Paterson's pistols, a distance of twelve paces was measured out, and a coin was tossed for first shot. Macarthur won, raised his temperamental piece and fired. The ball struck Paterson's right shoulder, causing him to drop his weapon. McKellar informed Piper that his principal would leave the field.

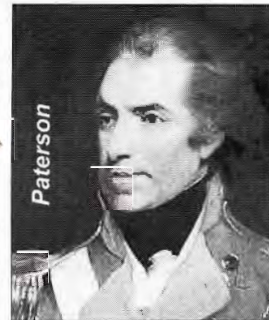
King was outraged when he learned of the duel. He ordered the immediate arrest of Macarthur and the two seconds, castigating Piper in particular for allowing Macarthur to load his own pistols in blatant contravention of the duelling code. Paterson, still under medical attention, escaped the Governor's immediate fury, although he was censured for "his calling an inferior officer out as being highly detrimental to His Majesty's service."

Eight days later King decided to release the culprits and bind them over to keep the peace. Macarthur refused the offer of freedom, claiming absurdly that he was the person who had been betrayed, and demanding a court martial. King had had enough and "for the tranquillity of the colony and the regiment" promptly ordered him to England for trial.

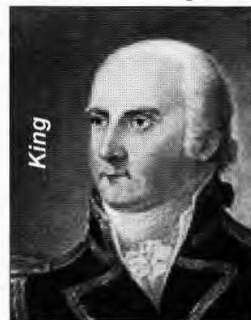
The Advocate-General in London declined to prosecute, and in due course Macarthur succeeded in persuading the authorities to allow him to return to NSW to develop its wool industry. Provided with a grant of 10,000 acres of land and merino sheep from the Royal flocks, he arrived triumphantly back in Sydney in 1805. Ironically Paterson's challenge had provided the impetus for John Macarthur's enduring fame.

However, Macarthur had still one further duel to fight. In January 1809 Major Joseph Foveaux accused him of failing to account for £500 after being relieved of his position as colonial secretary. The result was a challenge and a meeting at Annandale. For the second time Macarthur won the right to shoot first. At a distance of ten paces he raised his pistol and took aim at his opponent, "yet missed his object which was of no small magnitude." Foveaux declined to fire, and honour having been satisfied, both men were reconciled.

... I looked closely at the pistol box. Nestling in dedicated slots was the apparatus for cleaning the weapons. And in another corner was a cache of ammunition. The pistols looked deadly enough, even accurate, and in awe, I could not bear to touch them. Had one of those rough-formed balls, I mused, been plucked by Surgeon Harris from William Paterson's shoulder? Time to leave the scene, go visit the serenity of the library, then duel in the queue for a hot dog and Coke! RW



Paterson



King

AFTERMATH

Duels continued to occur sporadically in Australia until 1854 when the last recorded encounter took place at Wellington, NSW, between a Dr Samuel Curtis and a Mr B. Sheridan. It ended harmlessly. After one shot had been fired the police arrived and arrested the men of honour who were bound over to keep the peace. The site is marked today by a brass plaque on a cairn erected in Teamster's Park in Gibbs Street.

FF James Smith, Mystery Man

We all know at least one Jim Smith. However it is not common knowledge that a **Mr James Smith** was our first migrant. And thereby lurks a mystery.

It is **FF Arthur Bowes Smyth** whom we have to thank for bringing **FF James Smith** to our attention, otherwise he may have passed across the seven seas quite unheralded. James certainly escaped that attention of Captain Arthur Phillip until the fleet had reached Capetown, an extraordinary situation, given the fact that Smith was a free passenger, and witness to the regular interchange of senior personnel between the ships.

Bowes Smyth (1750-1790), known as Bowes, was born on 23 August 1750 at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex, the seventh child of Thomas Smyth. He lived in his home town at least between 1778 and 1783, and practiced as a surgeon. In 1787 he was appointed Surgeon on *Lady Penrhyn*, and later took charge of the prisoners when the female convicts' surgeon on board, Dr Alltree, fell ill at Tenerife. Arthur kept a journal which includes events prior to departure, during the voyage and over the first weeks at Sydney Cove.

Bowes' gossipy account lists the entire complement of *Lady Penrhyn*, wherein he simply nominates "**Mr J Smith** going to Botany Bay". Of course he may have compiled the list after he had completed the journal. Anyway, Bowes makes no reference to Smith from the time the former first went on board, 22 March 1787 until 23 August 1787, when in Rio de Janeiro, he writes, "This day **Mr James Smith** & I devoted in searching for Butterflies, Insects etc....I collected many natural Curiosities, spent the day very agreeably & returned on board in the Evening, wt. Mr Smith who was highly pleased with his day's excursion- Capt. Sinclair lent me his boat".

During this five-month period Bowes lists dining with such folk as Dr Balmain, Watkin Tench, Major Ross, Captain Sever, Lieutenant George Johnston and many other senior figures, often aboard *Lady Penrhyn*. So where was **Mr James Smith** eating, sleeping and disporting himself — not even a subject for gossip or comment despite his unique status as a voluntary passenger?

Bowes next mentions Smith on 1 December 1787, just after Phillip had separated the fleet off Capetown. "This day **Mr James Smith**, passenger on our Ship, made me a present of 4 Vols of the Dictionary of Arts & Sciences". Presumably then he was a cultured man with a cabin trunk and a fair bit of baggage.

On Christmas Day 1787, off south-west New Holland, Bowes lets us on the manner in which he passes the time on the voyage.

"As soon as breakfast is over I set abt. visiting my Patients first paying the Compt. to my own Ship's company. Then I visit the sick among the Convicts after wh. I put up such Medicines as are waiting — then fill up this Journal to the moment; lastly adjourn to the Round House or Poop, where I generally meet **Mr James Smith**, and tho' I had not the pleasure of personally knowing him before I met with him in this Ship, yet from his being a very intelligent good disposed Man and having a thorough knowledge and intimate acquaintance with the County of Essex I find in my conversation with him no small Abatement of that irksomeness wh. must otherwise have prevailed in a voyage of this kind where I was another stranger to

everyone on Board — Mr Alltree also, late Surgeon to the Convicts, generally makes up the Trio".

On 23 January 1788, arrived in Botany Bay, the Trio of Rio went fishing. "During our stay in B. Bay I one day went in the Long Boat wt. Downey (Capt. of her) attended by **Mr J. Smith** and Mr Alltree to the Extreme Southern part of the Bay wt. my Oyster Drudge hoping to get some Hamar Oysters wh. Cook mentions and are said to be so very valuable for the singular form of their shell....We caught one very large oyster with the Drudge & only one exactly like what we in England call Kentish Oysters. I opened it & was very good tasted".

Then on 15 February 1788, now in Sydney Cove, came a day of reckoning. "This day the Governor sent for **Mr J Smith** in our Ship — and told him that tho' he knew nothing of his being in the Fleet until he arrived at the-Cape of Good Hope, yet in consequence of what was urged on in the petition (The Governor having peremptorily refused his stayg. at B Bay, I draw'd up a petition for Mr S which was presented to the Governor by his Aid de Camp, Mr G. Johnston) and from the extra-ordinary good Character wh. Mr G. Johnston who came out in the same ship wh. him & Mr Bowes the surgeon of that ship & marines Capt. Campbell all joined in giving him, he has alter'd his mind & wishes him to go ashore on monday, by wh. time there shd. be a tent erected for him, a piece of ground shd. be allotted to him for a garden, he wd. be supply'd wh. every necessary sort of seeds — he was to officiate as headborough (*petty constable*) and the chief duty he wd. have to do at present wd. be to superintend the Convicts who were at work....he shd. in due time be further promoted".

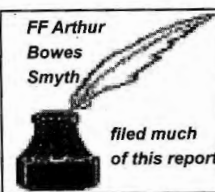
On 21 February, "**Mr J Smith** left the Ship, to continue on Shore, he had a Convict (black man, possibly *Jemmy Williams*) and a boy Joseph Harrison (*aged 16*) appointed to wait on him." The very next day the resourceful Smith presented Bowes with "a large Lizard".

On 25 February James Smith gave a character reference to Charles Clay, an able seaman on *Lady Penrhyn*, when Clay was charged with bringing a bottle of brandy ashore. On 2 March Bowes "went in our Jolly Boat wt. Capt. Campbell, **Mr J Smith** & Major Ross's Gardener up to a Cove some distance off to look at a spot of Ground wh. Capt. C & Major R. mean to fix upon to build a House and cultivate the land."

That appears to be the end of the Bowes-Smith association, as on 2 May Bowes set sail again in *Lady Penrhyn* on her voyage home to England via Tahiti and China.

On 14 June convict Ann Smith was charged by **Mr J Smith** with insolence and abuse to him while in the execution of his office. He had told her to put her fire out. She replied that she would do so if he would go to the Governor and get her a pair of shoes. She had said that he was "a very busy person" (*busybody*) and that, though on *Lady Penrhyn* she took him for a gentleman, she now found quite the contrary. She apologised, saying she would not have spoken in that fashion if she had not known him on the ship. She was sentenced to be flogged through the camp, but Phillip remitted the sentence.

On 21 August 1788, still looking out for the ladies of the *Lady Penrhyn*, Smith, the constable, found convict Ann Martin so drunk she



could hardly stand, throwing things about and shouting abuse.

In February 1789, **Mr James Smith** was appointed to assist the Commissary at Rose Hill and was sworn in as a peace officer. His knowledge of agriculture proved to be inadequate, and his advancing age and infirmity led to his dismissal. He returned to England

on *Gorgon*, leaving the colony on 18 December, 1791.

So what are we to make of all this? Was Smith a stowaway, or a paying passenger/entrepreneur seeking opportunities in New Holland, or if they were lacking, then in India or beyond.

Given his eventual social intercourse with the officers of the Fleet it is unlikely he was a stowaway. If he was a paying passenger, then who did he pay — not Phillip obviously, then no lesser figure than the Captain, William Sever — and probably the owners of the ship. In fact Sever was a part owner of the ship as was William Curtis, a London Alderman and later, in 1790, Lord Mayor. Curtis regularly sent ships to China, a fact that would not have been lost on Smith. But if the Orient was his preferred destination, then why did he consent to stay in Sydney Cove, when he knew that *Lady Penrhyn* was to proceed to China on her way back to England? Perhaps Phillip's offer was too attractive, perhaps he had indeed made firm friends en route and in the colony, and maybe, just maybe, a goodly number of the 101 ladies from his time aboard ship held sway over his affections. Quite a mystery. Upon reflection, although he was never a **Prisoner Of His Majesty** I prefer to style **Mr J Smith** our first **Ten Pound POM**. RW

Convict Wharf revealed in Sydney City Carpark at The Rocks

The remains of the first convict-built wharf used to welcome the Second Fleet and later ships to Sydney Cove have been rediscovered — under a car park.

The historical find is located next to the Museum of Contemporary Art and The Rocks Police Station at Circular Quay.

The site was actually unearthed in 1996 when the car park was constructed. However, the remnants were immediately sealed and preserved beneath the bitumen pavement without any publicity.

Archaeologists surveyed the area in July 2010 because the museum is building a \$53 million extension. They discovered the wharf piers which are mostly sandstone rubble.

Their professional recommendation was to reseal the site for preservation. But fortunately, we are told, the museum has decided to make the remnants feature in their new building. An artist has been commissioned to help create an interpretive display showing how the original wharf would have looked.

However, come September, when I visited the site, the area was being savaged by a demented mechanical rock breaker, and I was at a loss to imagine just how the foregoing preservation was to be achieved, other than by modelling. I guess we must just wait, and hope, and see! RW



The remains of the wharf before the arrival of the rock crusher. Dare not publish the photo of the 'aftershock'.

THE BURIAL PLACE OF FF JOSEPH TRIMBY

Our researchers have identified the burial place of yet another First Fleeter, **Joseph Trimby**, and work is being done to finalise Council and family approvals preparatory to conducting our 120th Plaque dedication.

Plaques Convenor, **Bruce Arnett**, located the grave of Joseph's son, James Trimby, in Glebe Burial Ground at East Maitland, NSW. He then further established with the assistance of Hunter Valley Chapter members, in particular, #3496 Ray Meredith, that James was initially buried on a property, and later re-interred at Glebe. Importantly, Bruce went on to confirm, in consultation with descendant, Sister Andrea Myers, and others, that Joseph was buried in the same grave as James, who predeceased him.

Bruce, along with John Haxton, John Boyd and Ron Withington visited the site in September, meeting up with Ray, Barbara Turner, Cynthia Huggup and Robert Huggup from Hunter Valley Chapter. The burial ground, otherwise known as St Peter's Cemetery, is in poor condition, unkempt apart from mowing, and unfenced. The Trimby headstone is crooked, and while the inscription is just legible, it is partially buried, indicating that the stone has been repositioned. Such is the state of most of the fallen headstones that studies by Council and the University of New England indicated that cemetery restoration was impracticable, and the best alternative has been to undertake a 'virtual reconstruction' of the masonry.

We hope that we can gain permission to dedicate our FF plaque on or near James' headstone, without in any way diminishing the archaeological value of the site. More later...



Robert & Cynthia Huggup, Ray Meredith and Barbara Turner with the Trimby headstone in Glebe Burial Ground.

MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

Valued donors to the work of FF House

M.Arch, A.Austin, G.Burgess, K.Carter, J.Cross, C.A.Eggleton, I.Foster, N.Foxover, K.Frame, D.Low, D.J.McLaggan, A.Monck, R.Morris, Northern Rivers Chapter, R.Richards, M.Talbot, J.Thomsett, K.Tymoc, G.Williams

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION ROSE COTTAGE

Rose Street, Wilberforce
20 March, 2011, 10 am - 4 pm
Entry Fee - Donation

Morning Tea & Lunch will be available
Drinks and Refreshments, Raffle,
Variety of entertainment on the Day
Do Join us for this Great Day

Louisa May Prince, FFF #890
for the Rose Family Society, 9144 1773

ON EXHIBITION

Sydney is rapidly asserting its birthright as the leader in the staging of colonial exhibitions. During the final two months of 2010 there are at least three new presentations worthy of members' attention.

CONVICT SYDNEY — Hyde Park Barracks — on for a year or three.

This is possibly the most absorbing non-permanent exhibition yet mounted by the Barracks. The most striking feature is an enormous painted mural depicting the full range of harbourside colonial activity — hangings, pick-pocketing, token bestowal, new arrivals, soliciting, and shop keeping. Then this is reflected in two table-top interactive screens which can be scrolled and clicked to provide requisite data on these many elements of life at Sydney Cove. The wall opposite contains a 'shadow board' of the work tools of the era, and nearby you can spot a full-size flogging frame draped with a cat o' nine tails, and a model treadmill.



Additional interactive data panels and models abound, along with a cyclorama of early Sydney. You can wander the streets of the town, try on a set of leg irons, dress in period clothing, lie in a convict hammock, hunt for your ancestors on a convict database and unearth intriguing stories of some of the 50,000 convicts who passed through the Barracks between 1819 and 1848.

FIRST GOVERNMENT HOUSE

It is not generally known that the Museum of Sydney in Bridge St, Sydney, sits partially on the site of the First Government House, and a permanent walk-around 1:30 scale model of that building has arrived at the Museum of Sydney without much fanfare. It sits at the top of the stairway to the first floor above a display of archaeological items from the excavations.

The Museum faced difficulty in sourcing reliable information about the construction of First Government

House. Not enough of the actual site has been excavated, and while there are many contemporary drawings and paintings that portray the building throughout its frequent alterations, they are mostly of the Bridge St facade. Details of the east and west sides can be interpolated from some paintings. There is also a paucity of information on the interior of the building. Colonial Architect Mortimer Lewis included a hastily-drawn floor plan in a September 1845 report (not long before demolition), but it gave no information as to the use of many of the rooms, and it does not correspond with the written accounts of contemporary visitors.

In the end, the Museum chose the Charles Rodius 1836 painting of the building in its final form as the most reliable template and used the Thomas Woore 1829 view of the rear of the house, the only such view available.

The abode of the first Governor of NSW Captain Arthur Phillip, was a structure made of canvas and timber brought from England. By 1789 the substantial "temporary" government house was built using English bricks, native stone and a quantity of convict-baked sandstock bricks from Sydney. It was supervised by convict builder, FF James Bloodworth.

The house suffered as a result of the poor mortar (made from the lime of crushed sea shells) and white ant infestations and rising damp in later years. Despite these problems, it was an architectural milestone for Australia, and the first proportionately classical building in the continent. It even included Australia's first staircase.

The initial building had to be adapted to the Australian climate. A verandah was added by Governor King circa 1800 and a drawing room was added in a side wing in the same year. By 1816 Francis Greenway was commissioned to construct a substantial extension and ballroom by Governor Macquarie, transforming Phillip's house into an Italianate cottage. The house was demolished in 1846, Governor Sir George Gipps being the final occupant.

Following demolition, the site was used variously as a carter's yard, a fruit shop, a confectioner, a tobacco shop, government offices, accommodation for nurses during World War II and a car park. Then in 1983 it became the site for a multi-storey skyscraper.

The remains of the First Government House were discovered in an archaeological dig, sparking debate on the future of the site, and leading to



rejection of planning approval. Soon after, an architectural design competition was held to create a development that would conserve and present the archaeological remains of the site while still enabling the construction of an office building. Further diggings uncovered the vestiges of drains, walls, privies and foundations. Artefacts were also found — Australia's first locally made bricks, window glass, roof tiling, china, bottles, broken tobacco pipes, and dog bones. Some of this material is on display under the House model.

MARI NAWI — until 12 December

Mari Nawi was the name given to the HMS Sirius by the Indigenous coastal clans, the Eora. It means 'big canoe'. The presentation at the State Library, *Mari Nawi — Aboriginal Odysseys 1790-1858*, features a 2010 full-size replica of a traditional aboriginal nawi, as a frontispiece to the exhibition documenting Aboriginal Australia's colonial maritime history. Aboriginal men, born into a canoe culture, accompanied the first ships taking colonists to establish new settlements. Their skills in finding water, fishing, hunting birds and kangaroos, and tracking escaped convicts were invaluable, and they contributed to sealing and whaling crews and the setting up of Newcastle, Hobart, Port Macquarie, Albany and Port Phillip. The exhibition records the names and something of the profile of 80 such Aboriginal voyagers.

Prominence is given to the rediscovery of the musical score of the song sung by 'emigrants' Bennelong and his kinsman, Yemmerwanne, at the regency home of William Waterhouse in Mayfair, London in 1792. William was the father of midshipman FF Henry Waterhouse (*Sirius*). The music and the words in Eora language were written down by Edward Jones (1752-1827), a neighbouring Welsh harpist and bard to the Prince of Wales (later George IV). Jones included Bennelong's song in a self-published volume of eccentric folk tunes in 1811. Forgotten for nearly 200 years, one of only four remaining copies of the 40-page book has been unearthed in the British Library by historian, Keith Vincent Smith. The song has been recorded at the Sydney Conservatorium by indigenous performers Clarence Stockee and Matthew Doyle and the performance will be re-enacted in England.



Extra Vista on Bella Vista

"I was excited to receive my latest copy of *Founders* and to see *Bella Vista* listed in the *Foundlings* Quiz as one of the 14 colonial homesteads pictured.

"You may be interested to know that there is another FF link with this site.

"The wife of William Thomas Pearce (who purchased *Bella Vista* site in 1842) was Eliza Fletcher whose mother was Henrietta Langley and whose grandparents were Jane Langley and Philip Scriven, all three of whom arrived on *Lady Penrhyn*. The Pearce family owned the site for over 100 years and all the buildings on the site today date from the period of their ownership.

"There are a couple of minor inaccuracies in the article. In 1838 there were no buildings on the current *Bella Vista* hilltop site at the time of its sale by James Robertson. So the homestead construction was not commenced until after that and may not have been until the 1850s. Also Matthew Pearce who settled at Seven Hills in 1794-5 never owned part of Macarthur's *Seven Hills Farm* although it was purchased in various lots by his descendants in later years.

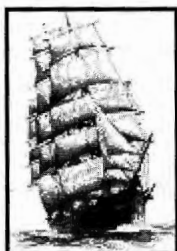
"*Bella Vista* is open to the public on the first Sunday of each month from 11.00am to 1.00pm."

Mark Pearce, FF Jane Langley, Philip Scriven, William Broughton

Meanwhile **Rob Ratcliffe**, FF James Bradley, generously remarked, "Your background removes the *House & Garden* association with the name."

Where was Caroline born?

Don Newbury, FF Frederick Meredith, has asked a simple question of the author of *Larcum's Longing for Longitude* (*Founders* 41.4, p2). Don says, "My grandmother, Caroline Elizabeth Leverett, was born at sea on board *Plantagenet* on 30 December, 1856. The ship sailed from Plymouth and arrived in Sydney on 13 February, 1857.



"Caroline greeted the world when the ship's coordinates were 40.37L and 19.12E. Where on earth would that position be?"

Well Don, the child arrived some 1000km

almost directly south of Cape Town, and getting perilously close to iceberg territory. For contrast, when Captain Phillip switched from *Sirius* to *Supply*, he was, according to Captain Hunter, in safer waters some 200km directly south of present-day Port Elizabeth.

More (?) on Edward Goodwin

To appreciate this story you will need to refer back to *Founders* 40.5, September/October 2009, on page 6, wherein something of the life of **Edward Goodwin** and his wife **Mary Jones** was revealed. **Philippa Fairbairn**, has responded, all the way from Canada.

For some time now I have been doing some long-distance research on my great grandfather, William Goodwin. William, who was born around 1828, married Maria Matilda Foster in Hobart on 10 July 1858. The maternal grandparents of her father were **First Fleet convicts Jeremiah William Thompson** and **Maria Hamilton**. My connection to William Goodwin is through his second wife—not through Maria Foster.

William and Maria ended up in a rural settlement outside Christchurch New Zealand. He became ultimately a wealthy farmer but I have always wondered why he went to Tasmania. William's death certificate states he was born in Shropshire. Five convicts with the name William Goodwin were sent to Tasmania between 1835 and 1844 but none of their details match closely enough to those of my great grandfather.

Recently, I dug up a newspaper report on the perjury trial of one of his sons and learnt that a nephew from Tasmania was staying with his uncle at the time. Further research led me to a possible brother – **Edwin Goodwin** who died, aged 59, on July 7, 1874 at his residence in Coal River, Tasmania. The nephew was I believe the grandson of Edwin Goodwin and therefore the great nephew of William.

All the above leads to the *Founders* story about Edward Goodwin and Mary Jones. Edwin's wife was named Mary. She died in 1899, which would give a birth year of approximately 1817. In your story, Mary Jones was 20 years old in 1835, which would give a birth year of approximately 1815. All very tantalizing close.

Shropshire is the other clue. My grandfather's first name was Erdington. It is an unusual first name and I had been told he was

named after the area in England where the family had come from. For a long time I thought it must be the Erdington that is outside Birmingham, even though it is Warwickshire, not Shropshire. Then I was forwarded a copy of Edwin's death notice in the *Mercury*, which states "Christchurch and Bridgnorth papers please copy." Just south of Bridgnorth I discovered a village named Eardington and I now believe that is where William and Edwin (who was 14 or 15 years older than William) were likely to have been born.

Now, could Edward Goodwin be Edwin Goodwin? Might he have changed his first name after he received a pardon? His eldest son was born in 1839, which does tie in with a 1837 marriage. The reference to Alton in your article is a bit of a distraction. Was he perhaps just living there at the time? If it is his birthplace then I think we must be dealing with two different individuals — and all my efforts at trying to tie them together are just a waste of time (and imagination).

Regardless of whatever light you can shed on all this, I found your story in the *Founders* quite fascinating. All the best, Philippa.

Such are the thrills, triumphs and setbacks of family history research — ever a Work in Progress!

Re Bastille Day 2011

Margaret Hogge, FFF Friend 28, of North Curl Curl, wrote:

"I enjoyed the La Perouse article in *Founders* 41.5 very much. This year I attended the Sunday Mass and Commemoration of the death of Père Reçevour at 11am on Sunday 21 February in front of the Museum. (first Sunday after the anniversary of his death). I also went, for the first time, to the Fort at Bare Island, and I agree, it is very interesting.

"I wish now to attend the **Bastille Day Ceremony** in 2011. Can you tell me any more about it? I tried this year to find out from French Consulate, but no luck."

Editor: The following organisations should be able to assist you: *Association des Anciens Combattants Français d'Australie* (AACFA). President: Denis Romano

☎ (02) 9636 6353

Friends of the La Perouse Museum President: Dr William Land

☎ (02) 9661 5431

FF John Alexander Herbert

FROM PICKING POCKETS TO PRUNING PINES

John Herbert (*Scarborough*) was born on 26 April 1767 in London, "in a narrow street called Long Lane which is situated in the District of Smithfield, Parish of St Andrew's, Town of Holborn." He was baptised John Alexander Herbert.

When almost 17 John was charged with Simple Grand Larceny and tried at the Old Bailey on 21 April 1784 for stealing, on 5 April, a silk handkerchief said at the trial to be valued at one shilling. He was sentenced to seven years transportation. The transcript of John's trial shows he was probably one of a gang of youthful pickpockets.

On 6 September 1784, now recorded as aged 17, John was sent to labour on the hulk *Censor*, moored on the Thames.

After two years of this life, on 24 February 1787, John was sent by wagon to Portsmouth, and three days later he was embarked on *Scarborough*. This ship, of 430 tons, the second largest of the six transports carried 208 male convicts, "including some of the most desperate felons in the fleet. A few days out of port, "an informer revealed to the captain that certain prisoners were planning to seize the ship. The ringleaders were flogged. There is no evidence that John was involved. Indeed, it seems that he was never again in trouble with the law, in any way worth recording.

In Sydney Cove John, over two years, evidently led a life as uneventful as was possible in a settlement struggling for survival. Then on 4 March 1790 he was sent on *HMS Sirius* to Norfolk Island.

PROGRESS, PRODUCE AND PROGENY

John was one of the 116 male convicts, along with 67 female convicts, 27 infants, 65 marines and 5 marines' wives, sent by Governor Phillip on the only ships remaining in Port Jackson, *HMS Sirius* and *HMS Supply*, to relieve pressure on dwindling food reserves and to foster an alternative source of supplies. *Sirius* was wrecked in Sydney Bay on 13 March 1790 after discharging all of its complement, but leaving John and his companions effectively marooned to make their best of their second emigration to foreign parts.

On 2 June 1790 *Lady Juliana* arrived at Sydney Cove having embarked 227 women convicts on the Thames. Among the convicts was **Hannah Bolton**, born in Birmingham and at the age of 18 transported for burglary, along with an associate, Elizabeth Richards. On 1 August both women were embarked on *Surprise* as part of a group of 194 convicts being transferred to Norfolk Island. Hannah formed a relationship with John Herbert and bore six children, with John probably the father of them all. They were Charlotte (1792), Elizabeth (1794), James (1795), Jemima (1797), Elizabeth II (1799) and Ann (1801).

Hannah died when Ann was just 3 months old, and at 32, was laid to rest in the Kingston cemetery on 4 September 1801. She had certainly fulfilled the role that the Government expected of her, in producing a family of six children. Descendants now extend into the thousands and reach the tenth generation born in Australia. Several have become prominent, including Rex Garwood who in 1987 was the first inductee into the Tasmanian Sporting Hall of Fame.

John remained on the Island for 23 years. He was allotted land from which in 1794 he began selling grain to stores. In 1802 he was named as a settler whose time had expired and as a constable. In the 1812 Muster he was noted as holding 12 acres, with 9 planted in grain. He had 72 sheep and 9 hogs.

THE PART OF A PLAINSMAN

John and two of his children, James (17) and Elizabeth (14), were evacuated to Van Diemen's Land aboard *Minstrel* on 18 February 1813. He left with a Class 1 classification, ascribed to those persons who were Old Servant of Government, ie, an emancipated convict and one who had proved to be "industrious and deserving of favour". He was paid ten pounds for his two-storey house, which measured 18 feet by 10 feet.

The trio arrived at Port Dalrymple on 4 March. On *Minstrel* there were 26 settlers, 15 prisoners, one wife and 9 children. These people were to be the core of a settlement at Norfolk Plains, southwest of Launceston, now known as Longford.

John was granted 50 acres at Norfolk Plains and James received an adjoining 60 acres. His Class 1 entitlement enabled John to have a house erected equivalent to the one he had left behind. It also entitled him and his family to the benefits of axes, shovels, nails and hoes and to be victualled for two years. Further, he was allowed the labour and victuals for four convicts for the first nine months and two for fifteen months longer.

Within a year or two John had built his home, which still stands, though renovated, on a hill above the South Esk River. The property is known as *Rocky Hill*. The land below the hill and the river became known as *Herbert's Hollow*, and the river crossing, where later a bridge was erected, was called *Herbert's Ford*.

PASSING OF A PATRIARCH

John and James evidently shared the growing success of farmers in the area. James married Ann Cox in January 1819. By October 1819 John Herbert was listed as having 26 acres of wheat, 24 acres of pasture, 2 horses, 100 cattle and 151 grain in hand. James was in residence with his wife, and their children, Susannah and William. There is no evidence that John ever had a wife living at Norfolk Plains. It is apparent that he was the patriarch and son James the family man. James and Ann were to have four more children, Mary Ann, John, James and Charles. Elizabeth had left, having married John Chapman in March 1814. John and Elizabeth had six children: Sarah, James, Thomas, Ann Jane, William Thomas and Susannah. Their family too prospered with properties around Launceston at Ravenswood, Invermay and Evandale.

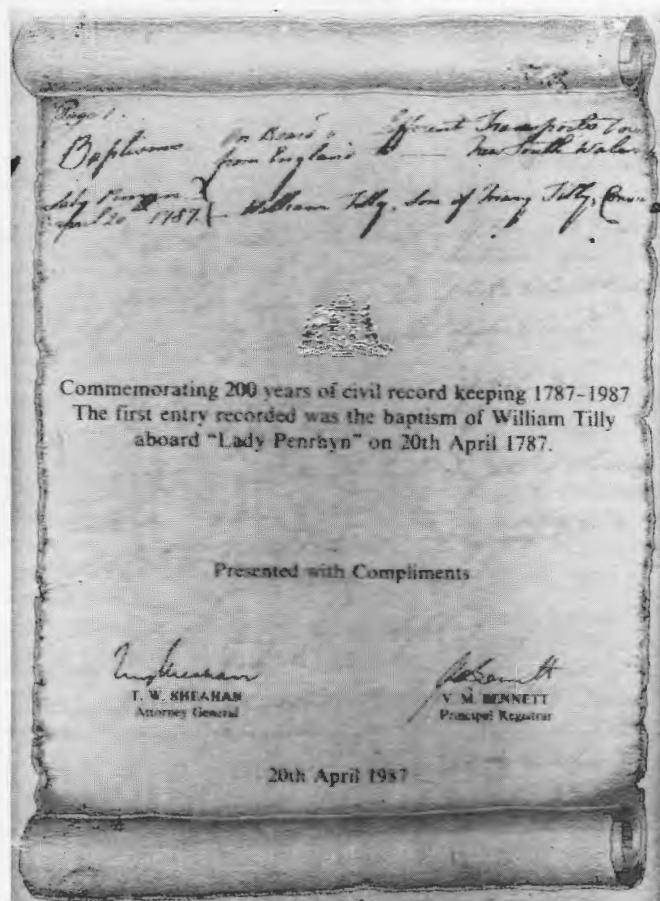
Ann Herbert died on 31 August 1827, aged 29, leaving a young family. James did not remarry, and with his father, now in his seventh decade, continued to work the land, while Susannah cared for her siblings.

FF John Alexander Herbert died at *Hope Inn*, Westbury, on 19 November 1846. There were then four generations of his family living in Van Diemen's Land. In 1964, the historian Isabella Mead wrote that she believed the Herberts were "the only descendants of the original Norfolk Islanders" still to own their property, 153 years after its occupation. **RW**



Rocky Hill, the Herbert cottage at Longford, before renovation.

The beginning of Civil Records



During the recent carpet laying and the concurrent furniture moving at First Fleet House this rather odd framed certificate came to light. It was presented in 1987 by the then Attorney General, Terry Sheahan, in commemoration of 200 years of record keeping in New South Wales.

Specifically it presents in facsimile handwriting the very first entry in the "BDM and Baptisms Registers" of the Colony and therefore of Australia. And the honour goes to William Tilly, for this record:

PAGE 1: BAPTISMS ON BOARD DIFFERENT TRANSPORTS DOWN FROM ENGLAND TO NEW SOUTH WALES: LADY PENRHYN, APRIL 20 1787, WILLIAM TILLY, SON OF MARY TILLY, CONVICT.

William was born on 13 April, Arthur Bowes Smyth recording that on 'This day Mr Balmain deliver'd one of the Convict women on board the *Lady Penrhyn* of a Boy who is likely to do very well'.

Mary Tilley, otherwise Abel, of Hanbury parish was sentenced at Worcester on 5 March 1785 to transportation for seven years for stealing three ells of hempen cloth, and sundry clothing. Aged about 30, she was held in Worcester gaol until 25 November 1786, and already pregnant, was embarked on *Lady Penrhyn* on 31 January 1787. William was born while the transport was anchored at the Motherbank in Portsmouth.

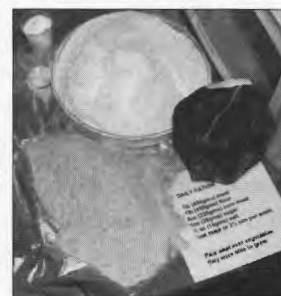
Mary brought William safely to Sydney Cove. On 4 May 1788 she married convict Thomas Tilley (Alexander), who indeed may have been William's father.

Sadly, Bowes Smyth got it wrong. William was to enjoy no further fame and leave no descendants: he died within months of arrival and was buried at Port Jackson on 19 May. Mary died soon after and was buried on 21 July 1788.

Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.17

- In his journal, FF Arthur Bowes Smyth explains that in 1787 a child born on a ship at sea belongs to the parish of:
a. Torbay b. Plymouth c. Stepney d. Exeter
 - In sight of the Lizard on 15 May 1787 Fishburn and Scarborough together picked up 60 casks of 'Geneva' floating on the water. Fine fare to go with the mackerel they had caught the day before. Geneva is a. rum b. peas c. brandy d. vinegar.
 - One of the First Fleet ships was part-owned by a sea biscuit manufacturer, Alderman "Billy Biscuit" Curtis who was later Lord Mayor of London. He was the first to describe the basic skills in education as *Reading, Riting and Rithmetic*. His ship was a. *Lady Penrhyn* b. *Charlotte* c. *Alexander* d. *Fishburn*
 - The photo depicts a 24hr convict ration — 1lb meat, 1lb flour, 8oz corn meal, 1oz sugar, half oz salt and quarter oz soap. This was the ration for:
a. chain gang workers b. Norfolk Island arrivals c. inmates of the Parramatta Female Factory
 - How many blankets did each get in winter. a. one b. two c. one plus a canvas sheet.
 - I work for wages for the employer of my choice, and I have to find my own lodgings. I must attend periodic roll calls. I hold
a. a conditional pardon b. a supervisor role c. a ticket of leave
 - Which of the following men did NOT write a journal of his FF voyage and his early years at Sydney Cove. a. John Easty, b. Jacob Nagle c. George Worgan d. Augustus Alt e. John White
 - William Grenville, Henry Dundas, William Bentinck, William Windham and Thomas Townshend were a. FF sea captains b. convict escapees from Port Jackson c. Secretaries of State for the Colonies d. all hanged for stealing food at Sydney Cove.
 - 'At Governor Phillip's table every man when he sat down pulled (what?) from his pocket and laid it by his plate.' W. Tench
- SCORES AND PRIZES:** *Answers on page 11. RW*
 8/9... A \$US10,000 stake in *Sea Biscuit*, sired by *Hard Tack*
 5/9... Four 24hr ration packs and a route map to China
 2/9... A packet of Alderman Curtis' crackers (+ mould)



* semaphore *

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

THIS MONTH'S CODE: Productions in Robert Sidaway's Theatre, Sydney Cove, 1796 to 1804.

THIS MONTH'S CLUES: ↗ = L ⊙ = A

□ ← * ↖ ← * ☺ ☺ ♥ ⊙ ☺ ☺ ☺

← * ← * * × ← ⊙ ☺ ×

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*Answers next issue.
RW/DA/SMH*

BOOSTING OUR IMAGE AROUND BUNDANOON

Founding member in 1968, #4 **Liz Williams**, FF William Nash/Maria Haynes, was the guest speaker at the Southern Highlands Chapter meeting on 13 October. Liz served as the Fellowship's first Secretary, helping to lay the foundation for an organisation that has grown to over 1300 active members. During her membership 7900 descendants have confirmed their lineage and joined the Fellowship, and links have so far been established to no fewer than 190 individual First Fleeters.

It is no surprise then the Liz was delighted when, in September, a profile of her ancestors appeared in **Jordan's Crossing Gazette (jcg)**, which is a non-profit publication of the Bundanoon Community Association. In the full colour, eight-page spread, the ancestors of six other members of the Southern Highlands Chapter were also featured. And they also scored exposure on the cover page!

John Kirkby, FF John Nichols, proudly displayed his FFF Membership Certificate, and detailed the complex paper trail he followed to confirm his link to Nichols. **Graham Anderson** told the tale of FF Frederick Meredith and contributed a photo of his scale model of *HMS Supply* to the article. **Joan Stubbings** introduced FF Mary Martin, née Allen, as a prelude to a September visit by the Chapter to Mary's grave in St Saviour's Cemetery, Goulburn, and to her final residence at *Riversdale*, also in Goulburn. **Linda Rees** photo appeared as an introduction to the colourful history of FF Henrietta (later Fletcher), born on the voyage to Jane Langley and Philip Scriven. **Carol Schillert** and **Cosette Morris** shared a page as they share their ancestry with FF Nathaniel Lucas and FF Olivia Gascoigne, who together had 13 children and began Australia's largest recorded family, now numbering more than 40,000.

Southern Highlands Chapter has been remarkably active in involving the local community in its activities, and this splendid recognition by Editor Pam Davies is a just reward (as well as being terrific publicity for the Fellowship! **RW**)



Jean Stubbings at the gravesite of FF Mary Martin in St Saviour's Cemetery, Goulburn. The FFF memorial plaque is visible on the altar stone at her feet.

CHAPTER HELPS FLOAT BOTANICAL GARDENS

The community activity of the Chapter was exemplified in its donation on 31 August of \$500 towards the new **Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens**, being established on the 'Old Skin Shed' site at the corner of Kangaloon and Old South Roads, Bowral NSW.

The Gardens project was launched by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales on 28 September 2010. Trees were planted along a Foundation Walk by the Federal Member for Throsby, the State Member for Goulburn, the Mayor of the Winecarribee Shire, the Native Plant Society and the Australian Garden History Society.

Species selected for the occasion included both exotic and native trees reflecting the four seasons of the Southern Highlands. There were six different crab apples, while the native trees were represented by a stand of *Eucalyptus amplifolia* which is endemic to the site.



Southern Highlands Chapter President, Pat Robinson, presenting the donation to the President of the Gardens Steering Committee, Charlotte Webb. Committee Secretary, Chris Webb is at right, and beside him is Chapter member, Neville Usher, who co-ordinated the Chapter contribution in honour of our First Fleet ancestors and was the invited FFF representative at the Launch.



Part of the new Arthur Phillip Chapter Executive with FFF President, John Haxton: Janice Bellette, Joy Zamiatin, James Kemsley, and Alayne Harrison-Thorp.

ARTHUR PHILLIP WRITES ANOTHER CHAPTER

The new Arthur Phillip Chapter centered on the North Shore of Sydney now has a fully-fledged executive and is up and running. The meeting on 10 September elected **Alayne Harrison-Thorp** as President, **James Kemsley** as Treasurer, **Joy Zamiatin** as Minute Secretary, **Suzanne Cattell** as Membership Officer, and **Janice Bellette** as Program Officer. Susan Meppem is also on the Committee. Thirteen members attended the meeting along with FFF President, John Haxton, his wife Beryl and Ron Withington. There were several apologies, significant among them Suzanne, who had just had a wisdom tooth extracted!

The occasional address was given by member Warwick Allen — a methodical and whimsical tracing of his ancestral line all the way from FF Edward Whitton.

The next meeting of the Chapter is at 10.30am in Ku-Ring-Gai Library, Gordon, on Monday 19 November, see page 11. This is a great opportunity for all members on the North Shore to help build their very own Fellowship network.

~ The Chapters in Action ~

~ A WELCOME TO COUNTRY ~

Members will be familiar with what still seems a new civic practice of opening a variety of functions and celebrations with a 'Welcome to Country'.

Indeed, some of us may not agree with the need for the ceremony. However, most will recognise the following welcome made at the 200th anniversary celebration of the death of FF David Collins as a particularly strong, and in fact beautiful, statement in support of reconciliation, a target that so often seems unreachable....



My name is Tereete Lore and I am descended from the Teen Toomele Menennye (Big River people). The land of my ancestors stretched from the East Coast to the back of the Stepps and through the Midlands and included the place known as Hobart Town. I am Cultural Custodian to the Lia Pootah Community.

In my other life my name is Kaye McPherson and I am descended from William and Francis Nichols' daughter, Maria, who at the age of seven arrived with Lieutenant Collins in 1804. When Maria grew up she married the convict John Pearsall who also arrived with Collins.

The area where Hobart stands was once an important ceremonial ground where my Teen Toomele Menennye ancestors held ceremonies and fished.

The part of my ancestral history which gives me great pride is the dual heritage of the place now called Hobart. My Aboriginal ancestors used the same beach which was in front of Collins encampment and so did my Nichols' ancestors. I like to think of Maria and her brothers playing as children on the same beach as where my Aboriginal ancestors played. There are few of us who have a dual heritage of such ancestral memories linking us to a single place in time, especially to a single beach of such historical importance.

After Collins arrival William Nichols became the Superintendent of Carpenters and John Pearsall was his blacksmith who made nails. I like to believe that my ancestor William Nichols made the coffin for Lieutenant Collins and perhaps it was my other ancestor John Pearsall's nails which held the coffin together.

On behalf of my Teen Toomele Menennye ancestors and my Nichols, Pearsall ancestors I would like to welcome you to the country of the Big River People.

ARTHUR PHILLIP: North Shore Sydney, Milson's Point to Cowan and surrounds

President: Alayne Harrison-Thorpe, Secretary: Joy Zamiatin, Treasurer: James Kemsley.

Membership: Suzanne Cattell, Program: Janice Bellette

Venue: Ku-Ring-Gai Library Meeting Rooms, Gordon. Contact: Suzanne Cattell, ☎ 9451 4415. Meetings each month on the second Friday at 10.30am.

Next Meeting: Friday 19 November. Chapter Members' Ancestor Roll Call.

CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Next Event: 5 December. Christmas BBQ, 12.30pm at 7 Portus Place, Bruce.

Contact: Geoff Cameron, ☎ 02 6251 4095 or cameron17@bigblue.net.au

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

Venue: Wyong RSL Club, corner Anzac Ave and Margaret St, Wyong.

Next Meetings: 13 November. Speaker: Philip Marston. Topic: *Free Software on the Web*. 11 December at 12.00 for 12.30pm. Christmas Luncheon at Wyong RSL. Bookings and money (\$25) to Beryl Haxton by 30 November. Contact Beryl on ☎ 43532524.

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 Meeting: 4 December. Christmas Meeting. Details from Robin Palmer, ☎ 9871 4102.

HUNTER VALLEY: Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds

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 Event: 15 November, 10.00am. Guided Tour of Goat Island. Joint outing with South Coast and Central Coast Chapters. For details ring Noelene Snowden, ☎ 4959 3702.

Next Meeting: 13 December. Christmas Meeting at Monet's Restaurant, Watt St, Newcastle.

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

Venue: Quarterly meetings at different venues. Next Event: 20 November, 12.30pm. Meet at Boree Cabonne Historic House for light lunch & guided tour. Then brief meeting. \$30pp. Please bring a plate for shared afternoon tea. Check BC website. Details from Judy Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234.

MORETON: South East Queensland

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

Next Meeting: 13 November, followed by Pre-Christmas Lunch at New Farm Park.

Contact Julia Comford, ☎ 07 5545 0474.

NEW ENGLAND: Armidale & surrounds

Venue: Quarterly, normally on the first Saturday at various venues.

Next Event: 4 December at 12.30pm, Christmas Lunch at Bistro on Cinders, Armidale.

RSVP to Robyn Crosslé, ☎ 6772 3140 or turnbull@northnet.com.au

NORTH COAST: Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga

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

Next Meeting: 5 December at 10.30am. Christmas Party at Mylestom Community Centre, River St, Mylestom. Fun and Festivities. Please contact Robyn Condliffe, ☎ 6653 3615.

NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds

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

Next Meeting: 28 November at 11.30am. Christmas Lunch and drinks. \$7 members, \$8 non-members. Snippets, poetry, singalong. All welcome. RSVP to Vilmai ☎ 6624 2972.

For more details, ring Margaret Soward, ☎ 6686 3597.

NORTH WEST: Tamworth & surrounds

Venue: Bi-monthly meetings, generally on the first Saturday at 1.30pm.

Next Meeting: 4 December. Christmas Party at Bob's Shed, Quirindi. Bus leaves Tamworth at 9.00am. 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 monthly on the 1st Tues, 10.00am to 1.00pm. Next Meetings: 23 November, 12.15pm. Committee Annual Lunch at the Aviator Lounge Restaurant, Airport Rd, Albion Park Rail. 4 December. Christmas Lunch at Dapto Leagues Club, Sinclair Room. Arrive early for 12 noon start. Cost \$28 for FFF Members, \$30 for Visitors. Ring Jean Mortimer ☎ 4257 5575 or Fae McGregor ☎ 4271 3762.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS: Mittagong, Moss Vale & surrounds

Venue: Usually Mittagong Community Centre, monthly on second Wed, 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Next meeting: 9 December, 12noon. Fitzroy Room, Mittagong RSL. Two-Course Christmas Dinner, \$36pp. Speaker: Sylvana Sturveska. Topic: *Georgian Jewellery*. Guests welcome. RSVP by Wednesday 1 December. Contact Neville Usher, ☎ 6624 2972.



A CHEERY GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

Here is Membership Co-convenor, Elaine Bennett, packing a batch of the new white and navy, men's, women's and kids' Fellowship Polo Shirts for posting. So far nearly one hundred shirts with their embroidered logo have been ordered. To get your own, or to buy one as a gift, please download the Order Form from the website or simply request a form by ringing FF House, 02 9360 3788.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

ELIZABETH YOUNGSON

#7870 Lindsay Mawson Short (Jnr)
 #7871 Alexander Edward Short (Jnr)
 #7872 Oliver William David Short (Jnr)
WILLIAM NASH / MARIA HAYNES
 #7873 Samuel Rhys Williams
 #7884 Margaret Ann Cusack
NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE
 #7874 Neville Robert Taber
EDWARD WHITTON
 #7875 Barrington Robert Peck
ELIZABETH THOMAS
 #7876 Robert James Cooper
 #7876.1 Eileen Monica Cooper
WILLIAM DOUGLAS / MARY GROVES
 #7877 Barbara Agnes Morrison
 #7877.1 Brian Morrison
PHILIP GIDLEY KING
 #7878 Catherine Miller
EDWARD RISBY
 #7879 John Charles Risby
JOSEPH WRIGHT
 #7880 Anthony Roy Phelps
 #7880.1 Rosemary Phelps
JOHN & HANNAH BARRISFORD
 #7881 Dianne Sylvia Hendrie
 #7882 Lynette Joan Stokes
EDWARD PUGH / HANNAH SMITH
 #7883 Terence Earle Lester
 #7883.1 Marilyn Lester

MEMBERS' MEMORANDA

FREDERICK MEREDITH

#7885 David Frederick Ebenezer Swinfield
JOHN RANDALL / JOHN MARTIN
 #7886 Maxwell Byrnes Coopes
WILLIAM TYRRELL / JAMES WILLIAMS
 #7888 Ian Frederick Riley
JAMES BRADLEY / JANE POOLE / JAMES McMANUS
 #7889 Jennifer Lynne Follers
 #7889.1 Phillip Jeffrey Goodacre
 #7890 Pauline Estelle Taylor
 #7891 Rani Nicole Goodacre
ZACHARIAH CLARK
 #7892 Margaret Heather Martin
ANN FORBES
 #7893 Raymond George Clifford
 #7893.1 Doris May Clifford
ROBERT WILLIAMS
 #7894 John Findlay Kell
 #7894.1 Sally Kell

NONEGENARIA Three cheers for:

JAMES RUSE
 Ted Springett, 90 not out, husband of Alexandra, father of #7466 Tony Springett, of Bowral, NSW.

MARRIAGE A golden life together for:

BENJAMIN CUSLEY
 6 November 2009, at Orchard Hills NSW, #6517 Rachel Maree Hargrave to Daniel Gill Bentham.

BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:

NATHANIAL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

Jemma Olivia Mason
 13 August 2010. First child to Alice and Jacob Mason, granddaughter for Tony and #7838 Lynne Pye, great granddaughter for #7743 Helene Harry.
NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE/SAMUEL MOBBES
Arlo Anthony Boaz Pye
 17 September 2010. First child to Deidre and Luke Pye, grandson for Tony and #7838 Lynne Pye, great grandson for #7743 Helene Harry.

THOMAS ACRES

Jackson Alexander Burden
 7 September 2010. Second Son to Nyree and Neil Burden of Terranora. Grandson for # 5810 Val and Fred Burden.

DEATHS Sympathy to the family & friends of:

JOHN McCARTHY/ANN BEARDSLEY
 #6285 Montrose L Emerson
 8 July 2010. Late of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Husband of #6285.1 Janet Emerson, and father of #7273 Gail Puddicombe, both of Ontario.

WILLIAM TUNKS

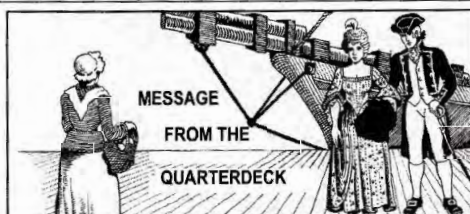
#3682 Barbara Thornthwaite
 2 September 2010. Late of Hunters Hill, NSW.

#1549 John Glenn Tunks

5 August 2010. Late of Condobolin, NSW. Husband of #1549.1 Ann Tunks.

WILLIAM BROUGHTON

#1660 Anne Davison
 9 September 2010. Aged 84. Late of Peter Cosgrove House, Narrabeen, NSW.



Exciting news! Michael Flynn, who is updating Mollie Gillen's book of First Fleeter biographies, *Founders of Australia*, has written to say that he expects to complete the project in the new year. He adds, "It's a massive task but I'm finding a large amount of new information on some individuals, so it will be worthwhile in the end. Much of the new information is fascinating. I wish Mollie Gillen was alive to see it. I've also been adding references and extra information found by Mollie, mostly in the early 1990s before she moved to Canada."

The FFF has been assisting Michael, mainly in identifying from our own records the list of First Fleeters who have descendants living in the 21st century.

A letter by FF Newton Fowell, one of the few FF letters in private hands, sold at auction on 14 August 2010 for \$55,000 to a private UK buyer in Melbourne. The *Australian Financial Review* says it was written near Brazil. It would be good to establish whether this letter is one that has already been published. A query has been sent to the State Library, who were unsuccessful bidders.

Over the weekend 15-17 October, 2010, I joined the *Around the Bay in a Day* fun bicycle ride from Sorrento, where FF David Collins landed, to Melbourne city. Over the same weekend folk were gathering in Melbourne for

the 133rd running of the Caulfield Cup. Over the same trifecta of dates, October 15, 17 and 19, exactly 200 years earlier, Governor Macquarie initiated the first racing carnival to be held in the colony. The thunder of hooves around Hyde Park in Sydney heralded not only the genesis of racing in this country, but realistically the birth of all organised Australian sport. Parties and a gala ball were staged, and the women of the colony decided to present a cup worth 50 guineas to the connections of the winner. Our current Spring Racing Carnival therefore celebrates its notional bicentenary in 2010. There is an unsubstantiated rumour that the trainer of the first winning horse was a Mr James Bartholemew Cummings, AM.

★ Why not send your friends a FFF Christmas Card? One style only, depicting the Tom Silk painting of the Fleet which hangs in First Fleet House. Just \$5.00 for 10 cards, postage paid. The message reads, *Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year*. To order ring our volunteers at First Fleet House on 02 9360 3788.



In the very early days of the Fellowship the Board decided to name its sundry portfolios after the ships of the First Fleet. For example — *Golden Grove* was the Speakers' Committee. This initiative lasted only a short while before being wrecked on the reef of dubious relevance between the name and the function.

In these latter days the Board has implemented a more enduring idea — simply to name the various rooms in First Fleet House after the self-same eleven ships. Nameplates in brushed copper aluminium composite, etched with gold lettering, have been prepared and displayed as follows:

The great cabin meeting room, wherein sits the President, is *Sirius*, the Library is *Borrowdale*, the cosy inner gallery is *Friendship*, the kitchen is *Supply*, the outside garden area is *Golden Grove*, the power base of the Secretary is *Prince of Wales*, the Treasurer carves into costs in *Scarborough*, while the Membership team do the muster aboard *Alexander*. The toilet is *Lady Penrhyn* after Phebe Norton's rescue when she fell overboard from 'the heads', while the Archivist trolls the depths of our records and artefacts in *Fishburn*. Finally the companionway linking the upper and lower decks of the building is *Charlotte*.

The idea came to us from Jean Mortimer via Archivist, Sharon Lamb. The signage was designed by Publications Officer, Ron Withington, and donated as a tribute to his late wife, Margaret.