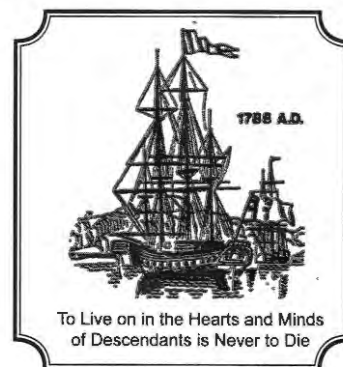


# Founders

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 42, Issue 1    43rd Year of Publication    January/February 2011**



## AS THE IMAGES UNWIND, LIKE THE CIRCLE THAT YOU FIND...

In 1836 Charles Darwin sailed up the Sydney harbour and saw 'in the distance, stone houses, two and three storeys high, and windmills standing on the edge of a bank'.

Many people today would be surprised to hear of windmills in Sydney. Yet windmills feature in many of the early paintings and drawings of Sydney Town. They were strung out along the ridges and provided the colony with both distinctive landmarks and a source of renewable energy. In parts, they dominated the landscape, and were an important part of the city's early history. They were both an economic necessity and a cultural link to 'home'.

While they are long gone, their memory lingers on, in those paintings, in a few scattered heritage items, in some of Sydney's road names, and, not to be overlooked or forgiven, as a forelorn bit of non-functional pseudo street sculpture, in company with a metal moo-cow and a bronze baa-lamb, in the heart of Cathedral St, Woolloomooloo.

**But down Oatlands way, in the Tasmanian Midlands, things are different.**

The town's major attraction is **Callington Tower Mill** on Old Mill Lane which was built in 1836 by John Vincent. Vincent, with his wife and seven children, had arrived in Hobart Town in 1823 with £869. He was an entrepreneur who established the Norwood Inn in Bothwell and the Bothwell Castle Inn at York Plains.

Vincent's enthusiasm for the mill was short-lived. In 1839 he tried, unsuccessfully, to sell it, and in 1840 he handed it over to his son John Jubilee Vincent. At the time the mill was producing 20-30 bushels of flour an hour.

By 1850 the mill had been sold to Thomas Jillett who established a steam mill and production rose to 5-7 tons of flour a day. By 1862 the property comprised a two-storey flour mill driven

by steam and wind, a two-roomed cottage for the miller with a large store, a three-stall stable, a house, a baker's shop and two cottages fronting the main street with stable and coach house adjoining, a house of twelve well proportioned rooms, a four-stall stable with hay loft, cow shed, piggeries and yard.

The mill continued to operate until 1892, when it fell into disrepair. In 1909 a storm blew the sails away. In 1913 it was being used as a blacksmith's forge, leading to a fire that destroyed the cap and internal structures. It was then adapted for use as a reservoir by applying cement render to the interior walls. For the past 40 years it has gradually been restored through the enthusiasm of Community groups, the National Trust, corporate sponsors and Local, State and Federal governments.

Complete restoration of Callington Mill as a working colonial tower windmill, unique in Australia, was celebrated at an Official Opening on 28 November, 2010. Standing fifty feet tall with walls two feet thick, it is fully operational as a wind-driven mill, once again grinding flour for an associated bakery to make bread in a wood-fired oven, using the ancient organic grains, rye, spelt and quinoa as specialty products.

Oatlands itself was established as a military post 1821 and named by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. It functioned as the control base for management of convicts because of its central location between Hobart and Launceston. Convicts were assigned to nearby farms and properties, and also worked on public buildings, roads and bridges.

The town's authentic 'colonial' character is reflected in 87 original sandstone buildings along the town's main street. Built by convict labour in 1829, the Oatlands Court House is the oldest supreme court house in rural Australia and the oldest building in the town.



**Callington Tower Mill, a superb restoration.**

Oatlands is now a tourist town as the residents seek to recover from the economic slump of the 1990s and a highway bypass.

BUT, if such a town can muster the determination and funding to bring the Callington so proudly back to life, surely the burghers of Sydney could do more to acknowledge the debt to its millowners of old who risked all in brief booms, and often lost all in savage busts, while striving to make a living and keep the colony alive.

**Let's have a windmill in Sydney! RW**

**...IN THE WINDMILLS OF YOUR MIND.**



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**Australia Day Functions  
around the Chapters.  
- See page 11 -**



Founded 1968

### Founders

is the magazine of the  
Fellowship of First Fleeters

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## From the President...

It's 2011, welcome to the New Year! This year will be a very different one to the past; firstly because of the departure of our long-serving Past President Peter Christian. (see page 6). And secondly with the influx of three new Directors (see below). We will be organising an in House 'Farewell for Peter', possibly in March, where members can come and have a 'cuppa' with him and say thank you for such a dedicated time of service to the Fellowship.

Exciting news from Western Australia – the first gathering of interested members will be held early in March under the leading of our Secretary, Bruce Arnett, who will be visiting Perth during that month. Our Chapter numbers continue to grow, showing that the sharing of history amongst our members is still popular and is great publicity for the Fellowship.

The implementation of a new accounting system will possibly see a change in the form of your 'Subscription' notice this year, due to be in your hands late June. It will be in the form of an invoice and hopefully will include your FF number for identification. This will be dependent upon the banks' system to recognise the new identification numbers. If the trials expected to be completed by June do not work, then we will revert to the form used as of last year.

*In fellowship, John Haxton*

## From the Annual General Meeting...

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc. was held at First Fleet House on Saturday 27 November 2010. The audited statutory accounts prepared by the Treasurer, together with a review of operations, had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. This document and written reports distributed at the meeting from the President, the Secretary, the Vice-President and the holders of portfolios for Events, Archives, Minutes, Membership, Office Management & Maintenance, Research, Family Tree Preparation, Publications and Website were accepted by acclamation.

The essential content of these reports has been covered in successive editions of *Founders*, and requires no repetition here, except to emphasise that following a year of expansion of the Fellowship and a wide-ranging upgrade of First Fleet House, both the level of membership and the financial position of the organisation remain very sound indeed.

**John Haxton** was re-elected President. **Ian Palmer** was elected Vice-President, taking over from **Peter Christian**, who did not seek re-election. The existing directors were returned unopposed. Two new Board members were elected, **Jon Fearon**, and **Bob Lamb**. Jon subsequently accepted the vacant role of Chapter Liaison Officer. **Therese Luck** was coopted after the meeting. The resulting composition of the new Board for 2010-2011 is set out in the panel at left. There are still several Board vacancies that we would like to fill.

**Commodore Paul Kable**, AC, RAN, Rtd. was re-elected Vice-Patron.

The meeting declined to re-appoint the auditors, J K Tompsett & Co, instead giving the Board approval to investigate a reduction in the costs of the audit fees in light of changes in current legislation.

**RW**



#### ROBERT (BOB) LAMB

#1381.1 ran his own Design Engineering Company for over 20 years, being responsible for designing materials handling equipment for the mining and food industry throughout Australia. Now retired, he enjoys researching family history and is involved with the Blacktown and

District Historical Society, the Friends of St Bartholomews Church, Prospect, and the Probus Club of Prospect. Bob also assists his wife Sharon, with the archiving of the Fellowship's records and is looking forward to helping other Directors as required. Bob and his wife Sharon are members of our Eastern Farms Chapter.

#### JON FEARON #7141, FF

James Bryan Cullen, is a retired secondary teacher in Social Science with experience in a number of NSW regional centres and in Tasmania. For a number of years he lectured at a Mission Teachers College in the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Jon is married to Karys, a midwifery nurse, and they have four adult children. Jon & Karys now live at Tascott on the Central Coast, where his interests include bike riding, bushwalking, distance running, music, choral singing, family history and volunteer Scripture teaching. Jon and Karys are members of our Central Coast Chapter.



**THERESE LUCK** #6742 FF Anthony Rope/Elizabeth Pulley, self-effacingly declares that she is a piece of string from the Rope and Pulley tackle. She has worked for EBSCO Australia Subscription Services in North Sydney for 22 years, and, although a member of the new Arthur Phillip Chapter has not yet been able, through employment commitments, to attend her first meeting. Therese is a member of the Historical Houses Trust and Art Gallery Society of NSW. A Sydney city girl, born and bred, she enjoys going to movies, notably SciFi, dining out with friends and following many different styles of music, from Opera in the city to concerts at Enmore Theatre.



## AUSTRALIA – More agreeable to the ear, and an assimilation to the names of the other great portions of the earth.

One of the most poignant monuments that I have seen (if only in print) is that to **Matthew Flinders** on Mauritius. It depicts him stiffly upright at the table in a stone pavilion at *Le Refuge* at work on his chart. Here is the supreme navigator, a prisoner of his ego and a litany of bad luck.

His homeward-bound ship, *Cumberland*, had leaked and a pump had failed. He had put in to Île de France (Mauritius) on 17 December 1803 unaware that Britain and France were at war again. His great rival Baudin had died, but his ship, *Le Géographe* had parted the day before. While waiting to see the French Governor, General Charles Decaen, Flinders chatted with some officers in broken English. They asked if he had news of 'Monsieur Flinedare', an English explorer. Not recognising his name he said no. Bad move. Then in interview with Decaen, feverish and thirsty, he failed to remove his hat. This further upset the Governor who noted that his passport was for HM Sloop *Investigator* (Flinders' earlier ship). The General then declared that the esteemed Flinders would not have sailed in such a miserable vessel as *Cumberland* and so the man before him was an imposter and a spy. Flinders' books, charts, papers and despatches were seized and he was placed under arrest.

Next day, he further protested his innocence to Decaen's secretary and later received a note from the General inviting him to join him and his wife at dinner. Incredibly, Flinders, thinking he was being taunted, refused, answering that he had 'already dined'. Worse move: the General refused to see him again. And so began six-and-a-half years of house arrest in the Garden Prison, during which any diplomatic resolution was hampered by the island blockade and the steady resolve of the Governor.

However, Flinders was given access to his charts and voyage records, and had time and 'leisure' to develop

them. He completed his Gulf of Carpentaria chart and set to work on the most important of all – a general chart of the continent. He had surveyed the south and the east coasts and much of the north, had copies of the early Dutch charts of the west and north, and had seen Baudin's drafts of the west and north-west. On 23 August 1804, two former prisoners returning home took the duplicated 92cm x 72cm chart to Sir Joseph Banks, with a letter, which contained this plea:

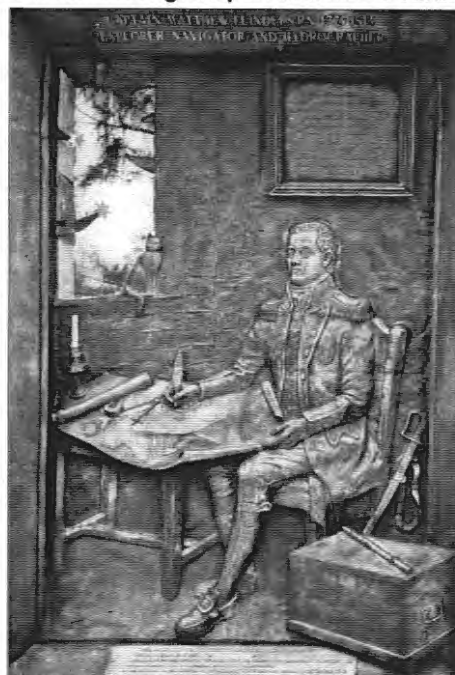
*The propriety of the name Australia or Terra Australis, which I have applied to the whole body of what has been generally called New Holland must be submitted to the approbation of the Admiralty and the learned in geography.*

Such was the saga that initiated the naming of our land.

Flinders had not invented the name. The word is derived from the Latin *Australis*, meaning 'Southern'. Legends of an 'unknown land of the south' (*terra australis incognita*) date back to Roman times and were commonplace in medieval geography, but were not based on any documented knowledge of the continent. The first use of the word *Australia* in English was in 1625, in *A note of Australia del Espíritu Santo*, by the English writer Richard Hakluyt, published by Samuel Purchas in *Hakluytus Posthumus*. The Dutch adjectival form *Australische* was employed by Dutch East India Company officials in Batavia to refer to the newly-discovered land to the south in 1638.

*Australia* was used in a 1693 translation of *Les Aventures de Jacques Sadeur dans la Découverte et le Voyage de la Terre Australe*, a 1676 French novel by Gabriel de Foigny under the pen-name Jacques Sadeur. Geographer Alexander Dalrymple then used it in *An Historical Collection of Voyages and Discoveries in the South Pacific Ocean* (1771), to refer to the entire South Pacific region.

Flinders owned a copy of Dalrymple's book and it seems likely he bor-



The monument, unveiled in 2003. Just Trim, the famous cat and charts for company, and wife, Anne, waiting for him in England.

rowed the name from it, but he applied it specifically to the continent, not the whole South Pacific region.

On his release and return to London in 1810 Flinders found that Banks did not approve of the name and had not unpacked the chart he had sent him, and that 'New Holland' and 'Terra Australis' were still in general use. As a result, a book by Flinders was published under the title *A Voyage to Terra Australis*. The final proofs were brought to him on his deathbed, but he was unconscious. The book reached the public on 18 July 1814, and Flinders died the next day without regaining consciousness, and never knowing that his name for the continent would be later accepted.

In this book, however, Flinders wrote: "The name Terra Australis will remain descriptive of the geographical importance of this country... [but] had I permitted myself any innovation upon the original term, it would have been to convert it into **Australia**; as being more agreeable to the ear, and an assimilation to the names of the other great portions of the earth."

Flinders' book was widely read and gave the term 'Australia' general currency. Governor Lachlan Macquarie became aware of Flinders' preference for the name and used it in his dispatches to England. On 12 December 1817 he recommended to the Colonial Office that it be officially adopted. In 1824 the British Admiralty agreed that the continent should be known officially as Australia.

26 January, 2011, AUSTRALIA DAY!

### ~ CHAPTER CONTACTS ~

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## ~ Karskens Colonial kaleidoscope takes kitty ~

Dr Grace Karsken's remarkable book, *The Colony: A History of Early Sydney*, has won the 2010 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Non Fiction. It carries a prize of \$100,000. The book was reviewed in *Founders* 40.6, November 2009, page 10, as a sensational read — a must for all First Fleeters.

This recognition given to the period and the place so close to our hearts and minds is a cause for joy — all too often every effort has been made by our governments to avoid the truthful reporting and consequent celebration of the founding of our country. Karskens, through her work and its winning reception, has gone a long way to confounding that attitude.

Here is an unedited transcript of the report by Literary Editor, Susan Wyndham, in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Tuesday 9 November 2010.



Grace is Senior Lecturer in History & Philosophy at the University of NSW

**D**espite the volumes written about the colonisation of Australia, Grace Karskens knew her book would be different.

Using a "deep history" approach, she drew on many disciplines, including settler and Aboriginal history, environmental history, ecology and architecture.

Many of the accepted stories of our past fell over under the weight of new evidence. "The old ball-and-chain story doesn't fit," Karskens said. "This was a very dynamic place before Macquarie was governor."

She found the first convicts had established families, businesses and a town, contrary to the British government's plans for a simple agrarian economy.

"Sydney wasn't meant to be there," she said.

Most historians have portrayed the early penal colony as a harsh place peopled by intractable convicts lashed by brutal guards. Robert Hughes bestseller, *The Fatal Shore*, reinforced this picture. "These things did happen and we should never forget the brutality. But they didn't dominate the first 30 years," Karskens said.

Widely praised by reviewers, *The Colony* received some criticism for romancing the convict experience but Karskens said she made it clear they were working-class people with a fondness for drinking and gambling.

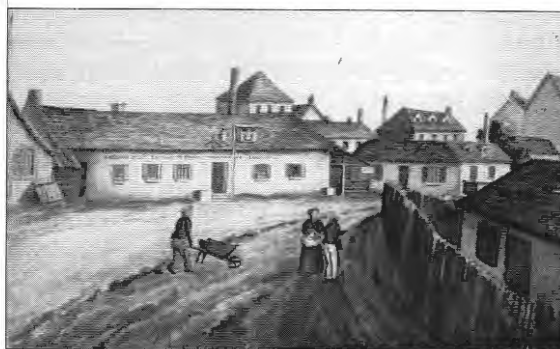
She found the Eora Aboriginal people did not disappear but became part of the town along with their laws and customs.

And far from hating the environment of their new home, the settlers were filled with wonder at this strange place. Karskens has written

about Sydney since the mid-1980s and worked on this book for 10 years.

She did not know until she won that the Prime Minister's Award carried a prize of \$100,000. She plans to give some of it to the Indigenous Literacy Appeal because "reading and literacy are the key to so many things".

***The Colony: A History of Early Sydney***, hard cover, 696 pages, colour and grayscale illustrations, \$60.00, available at all booksellers.



An illustration from the book: The pubs and houses of the early town. The Punchbowl Hotel in Gloucester St on the Rocks was opened by Irish ex-convicts Andrew and Charlotte Coss.



### Goodwin: Edwin is Edward

This is of course a person-to-person dialogue. However the discussion was begun from these pages and contains some information of general interest. It also represents the judicious public interaction between members that we would like to see more of in *Founders*. So here is the latest round:

Dear Philippa Fairbairn,

I am writing about your article in the November 2010 issue of *Founders*. It caught my eye because Maria Matilda Foster was my great-grandfather's eldest sister. I knew very little about her except that she went to New Zealand with her husband. This I found out

from the Rates Assessment notices in the *Hobart Gazette* as she owned a small property near the family farm at Dysart.

Your conjecture that Edwin Goodwin and Edward Goodwin are one and the same is correct.

The newspaper death notices and the death registration both say Edwin but his Will says Edward Goodwin — all of *Rosebank*. The farm is variously described as being at Jerusalem (later called Colebrook), Green Ponds (the early general district), Campania (the nearest town to Richmond), or Coal River (the name used by the Lands Department). The Will can be read on the website [www.archives.tas.gov.au/nameindexes](http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/nameindexes).

The rates assessments for *Rosebank*, 1864 and 1869, show the occupier as Edwin Goodwin and the owner as Ed-

ward Goodwin; (son Edwin Walter is renting 1,000 acres at Staffa). In 1874 the occupiers are E.W. and R.C. Goodwin and the proprietor is Edward. The following year the owner changes to H. Ashton executor estate of Edward Goodwin. Perhaps he was known as Edwin and used Edward on legal documents.

It certainly seems very likely that he was the convict from *Aurora*.

One final comment. Maria Matilda Foster's great-grandfather was William Thompson of *Scarborough*. There were two convicts named William Thompson on the First Fleet, both sent to Norfolk Island. One was known as Jerry, the other sometimes called John. Some list compiler saw Jerry on his marriage entry and incorrectly assumed his name was Jeremiah.

Kind regards, Margaret Watts



## Lachlan Macquarie returns to The Mint

*After many months in limbo, the statue of Lachlan Macquarie, which was removed by the Government without warning or explanation from the forecourt of Parliament House, has been relocated in the forecourt of the Mint building. We are now being told that the change was made because of the need for the new (Guantánamo Bay-type) security in front of the Parliament. An alternative view is that pressure applied by the Fellowship, other historical groups and by Vice-regal circles may have expedited his resurrection barely within the span of his bicentenary year. Anyway we welcome the Governor back to his rightful post in the street which bears his name.*



The Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, unveiled the relocated statue at high noon on Thursday 19 November 2010 in a brief ceremony attended by some thirty guests, most of whom, quite curiously, had received an invitation only on the previous day. John Haxton and Peter Christian represented the Fellowship.

The statue is now within grounds administered by the Historic Houses Trust, and Director, Kate Clark, welcomed its arrival. "We are delighted that Governor Macquarie will be located here at our head office in front of The Mint – the 'Rum Hospital' that he built between 1811 and 1816 in his attempt to give the fledgling colony the public buildings it deserved," she said.



*Tony Kelly and Rodney Adler, son of Larry Adler, after the unveiling. Rodney had unveiled the statue at its 1998 inauguration. The pedestal at bottom right displays a biography of Macquarie. It has been angled such that it can be read from outside the fence as well as from within the grounds, an inelegant solution architecturally, and one for which the Governor may well have deposed on the designer a dozen or two brisk lashes.*

Tony Kelly commented that the statue is "surrounded by iconic buildings from his period of governorship. These fine buildings and built landscapes that we see around us today in Sydney, and in towns such as Windsor and Richmond, are testimony to what he achieved. Macquarie played a pivotal role in exploration, surveying and land management. He revolutionised colonial architecture, revived commerce, and promoted education and social welfare."

The bronze statue of the Governor in uniform and draped in a cloak was designed by John Dowie in 1973 and cast in the FJ and I Lemon Foundry in Victoria. It was donated to the State by FAI Insurances Limited in 1998 in memory of the former chief executive, Larry Adler, who originally commissioned the work.

Members of the Fellowship may be saddened to know that this was the final appearance in his formal capacity by our Vice-President and former long-serving President, Peter Christian. Peter did not stand for re-election to the Board at the Annual General Meeting held eight days later. RW

## New Spire to admire on St James, Sydney

**A report by George Howe, aka Ron Withington, of Sydney Gazette. See comment on page 9.**

The ecclesiastical edifice known as the Anglican Church of St James, has been awarded a new item of millinery, in the form of a cupric Top Hat: this essential capping bearing no discernible relation to the perpetration of culinary endeavours, but rather to the essential elimination of the ingress of vaporous fluids to its interior, a process deplored by priest and parish alike, the baptismal receptacle being full to its ceremonial capacity. The revitalised pinnacle was given its introductory blessing at appropriate ceremonies on 20 October 2010, presided over by the mitred sacerdotal functionary from the congregation of South Sydney. The kirk has been in unbroken spiritual succour to the populace since 11 February 1824, on an allotment defined in 1812 by that heroic incumbent in the role of leader of the dependency, who, with the efflux of time was to earn the undeserved disapprobation of a man whom many see as too Bigge for his footwear. The aforesaid spire, at the pinnacle of its fame, provided a landmark for visiting mariners, an accolade no longer available to it, nor indeed it must be said, to the restored twin steeppling appendages on the nearby cathedral of the Church of Rome, both having been subsumed latterly by the arrival of an aborculture of lofty landscape occlusors, colloquially known by some as skyscrapers.



## MAINTAIN-A-BRICK

Valued donors to the work of FF House

T.De Groot and J.Madden



**UNABLE TO MAKE IT TO OUR OFFICIAL AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON IN 2011?**  
Consider attending, as a guest, one of the many other celebrations of the founding of our Nation being arranged by the various Chapters of the Fellowship.  
**FOR DATES AND TIMES SEE PAGE 11**

~ THE END OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA ~

Long-established members will not be pleased to learn that **Peter Christian LOAM**, after 30 years service to the Fellowship, 22 years as President, decided in November not to re-nominate as a member of the Board. He has had a rough year with his health, although now has obtained a good diagnosis and treatment and is on the mend. Peter has not only been a much-loved fixture at the heart of our activities over that period, but very tangibly the visible face of the Fellowship in the community.

Peter's most recent writing for us was his whimsical *Some Thoughts on a Short History of the Fellowship* 68-93. It was published in *Founders*, over two issues, 39.6 and 40.1, and I urge you to thumb back for a second reading. (For newer members, I can supply a copies on request). However, in pursuit of a more personal note I sought an interview with Peter and was invited to beard him at home in his den in the early days of December.

It needs to be said right away that no, Peter is **not** connected to that controversial figure, Fletcher Christian, although he does now have a grandson of that name. "My Christians were Irish, he said, and I know when they came out, in 1840, and they settled in Liverpool. My forebear Christian's father-in-law was a convict and he got a grant of land and called the rest of the family out from Ireland."

In regard to the discovery of his First Fleet ancestor, William Tunks, a Marine, Peter said: "I always knew when I was younger that there was a First Fleeter in the family — his name was Tunks — my grandmother was a Tunks. I didn't feel anything about it. Then one day a first cousin of my father's came into the pharmacy and said they've just started a Fellowship of First Fleeters and you can join if you like. It was the year 1980 and I was recovering from an earlier cardiac arrest and subsequent heart by-pass operation. Having disposed of my Pharmacy which had been a family business for nearly half a century, I was doing mainly locum work, and was at a loose end for a couple of months.

"My wife's sister had previously done some intense work on her family tree and had discovered a First Fleeter, convict Matthew Everingham. My dear wife, Joy, came up with the suggestion that to fill my time I should 'do my dead people'! Little did I know that it would open up a completely new phase in my life.

"Early in 1981 I contacted the Fellowship and to my surprise the Membership Committee consisted of about five Tunks descendants, Joyce Cowell, Naida Jackson, Hazel Liebau, Elizabeth King and Len Chalmers. I was hooked from that moment, line, and sinker! A decade and a half after Fred Daniell, third President of the Fellowship and a Tunks descendant passed to his eternal reward I stepped into the shoes of Rod Best and commenced the first of two stints as President. Nearly 30 years later I was to hand over to the capable hands of John Haxton and indeed, I feel that I can rest on my laurels."

Once having had aspirations to become a journalist, over those years Peter has given an extraordinary number of diverse speeches on the FF theme. I asked him how many? "Can't really say," he replied, "but I know that in 2008 I had forty-three, and that's about average, nearly one a week. In January 1988 I don't think I had a spare day or a spare night."



At the Official Opening of FF House in July 1988, with Joy, the Governor, Sir James Rowland, and Lady Rowland. A proud moment.

Peter said that in those days he often felt that the press used to make fun of the Fellowship, and of course we were hardly known. "They wanted us to dress up for photos — aren't they cute — odd people. That was something I was determined to overcome, and I did. We said that while we gave due credit to our ancestors we belong to the present generation are serious in our celebration of the rôle of the First Fleeters."

In the early days the Fel-



lowship was quite centralist, most activities taking place around FF House. I asked him how he felt about the expansion into regional Chapters. "It was an enormous change and for the better. We were finding that people weren't going to come to FF House for anything. In the seventies we had an organisation in Queensland that was more or less a Chapter. In 1987 a Canberra Chapter formed— now it has ballooned and the Chapters are the heart and soul of the Fellowship."

I asked Peter to speak about his time with our queen of FF research, Mollie Gillen, author of *The Founders of Australia*. "Yes, when Mollie came out I was armed with the news that she would be made a Life Membership of the Fellowship. I met her in 1988 at the Menzies Hotel. She was a lovely person. She was losing her sight then. I didn't realise it then but I also had in my library two earlier books of hers — one of them about the Queen's naughty uncles. A very definite woman, and she had two very good people working with her, Michael Flynn, who is now revising *The Founders of Australia* and Yvonne Browning.

"Another thing I enjoyed doing was launching books, usually with great gusto. Yvonne's book, *St. Peters Richmond: the early people and burials 1791-1855*, was one of them. I liked to concentrate, not so much on the First Fleeters themselves, who may not have done much, but on the achievements of the descendants who came after them."

"We first started putting plaques on gravestones early in the 1970s before I joined and it always seemed to be a pet thing of Doug Oakes. He was terrific. In 1982 when I came in as Vice-President I gave him a hand with it."

I queried Peter about his rather special



relationship with our eventual patron, Rear Admiral David Martin. "Yes, David rang me prior to 1988 and said he had just joined the Fellowship and he would like to meet with me to work out a re-enactment of the First Landing. The scheme was that some 12 prominent people would come ashore on the day. I agreed, but then he rang to say that the government had wiped the idea. In 1988 the Australia Day Council asked me if I had any ideas for Father of the Year. I nominated David, who of course had two First Fleeters and was very keen. Among my many treasures is a note from Sir David Martin, then Governor of New South Wales, and our patron, written just three days before he died. He was a fine man."



At the grave of his great, great, great grandmother in Castlereagh Cemetery.

One of our ambitions as First Fleeters is to make a pilgrimage to Portsmouth. I asked Peter for the highlight of his visit.

"The main event, for Joy and myself, was meeting the Lord Mayor with all his robes and gold hardware, and sharing with him, in 1988, the unveiling of the memorial plaque to the First Fleet sailing. It was interesting in that they had a timeline of the important dates in the history of Portsmouth, but 1787 had



In his den, December 2010. Memoirs ahoy?

been left blank, in anticipation of such an event."

What books have most influenced you? I asked. "Well, of course Mollie Gillen, then Huxley's *Transported to Paradise*, that Ann Forbes book, Val Ross's Matthew Everingham work, the Small family books and The Rocks tomes of Grace Karskens. Again, books following the path of the descendants rather than concentrating on the First Fleeters themselves."

Peter said that he feels that we are making progress in having the country adopt a rightful recognition of the role of the First Fleeters and their descendants. He says that we should take up the issue of reconciliation, and not be defensive, mindful of the fact that any one of five European powers would have settled our continent. Although we generally have a leaning towards a monarchist stance, we should not adopt a dictatorial attitude to those members, or prospective members, who have a contrary view. Peter remains ever grateful to those who in the past have serviced the Fellowship with such enthusiasm and diligence, and confident in the direction being taken by the present executive.

I asked him what sort of gap in his life his retirement would cause.

"Well, I used to work three days a week as President of the Fellowship, but that has been much reduced in recent years. I conduct weekly classes at Computer Pals, a group teaching oldies to handle emails and surf the Net. And, as a JP, I spend two hours a week at the local library signing documents for folk and having a chat. But there is no doubt that I shall miss getting all the info from John Haxton and Secretary Bruce Arnett, contributing my little asides, and being around the wonderful people of the Fellowship."

Peter closed his *Short History*, referred to above, at the end of 1993. Let us hope that he can find the time and the health to update us on the past 17 years! **RW**



A rather surreal image. Speaking on the shores of Botany Bay for the unveiling of the monument to the First Fleet, now at Brighton-Le-Sands, December 1988. The Chief Justice, the Premier, and the Mayors of Rockdale and Kogarah attended at a time when the Fellowship was not well known. Member Warren Bulloch, now of Central Coast Chapter, designed the monument.

## RECORDING 'ORDER OF AUSTRALIA' HONOURS

It is the policy of the Fellowship to record the names of members who have received an Order of Australia medal, such as the OAM that was conferred on #4721 **Adair Bunnett**, FF John Harris/Mary Green in the Queens Birthday Honours List of 2008. Unfortunately, we sometimes overlook the awards when they are granted due to the density of the listing in the press and the modesty of recipients.

Adair, of Albert Park, in Melbourne, received his award for "services to the community particularly through the preservation and promotion of local history and as a proponent of responsible urban development", and we offer belated congratulations.

This award and our recording of it becomes a testimony to the way in which descendants of FF convicts have flourished in the land they settled in such privation. Adair himself has commented that, "In so many ways the unique culture that is Australia is the result of the compromises and cooperation between the keepers and the kept in those early days — compromises that ensured that people would be judged by what they did in the new country, rather than where they came from. As a result, no caste of descendants of convicts has arisen, as in the case of many countries in Europe where origins from generations back continue to determine acceptance in contemporary society." Wise words to embrace with pride. **RW**



## Tamworth Cemetery Tour

*This is a report on Sybil Small's guided tour of Tamworth Cemetery with North West Chapter. It is compiled by Warren White. The information provided on gravestone symbols could be of help to FFF Members when cruising graveyards in any location in search of ancestors...*

On Saturday 9 October, sixteen members of the North West Chapter of the Fellowship, based in Tamworth, were treated to a fascinating walk around the Tamworth Cemetery which is situated on Showground Road.

The excursion was conducted by Mrs Sybil Small B.A. (Archaeology) who has recently completed her study thesis on Victorian era Cemeteries as part of her Archaeology Course conducted through the University of New England. She said that the original Tamworth Cemetery was located between Ebsworth St and the Peel River on the banks of the river, but the exact location is unclear. The original headstones were moved to the site of the present cemetery and a few were relocated on the eastern side of St Pauls Church in Church St in the mid 1850s.

The original cemetery also contained over 200 bodies of convicts who were labourers on the Australian Agricultural Company properties around Tamworth. They were buried in unmarked graves and no records have been found to indicate who they were.

A search was made to try to locate the oldest grave in the Tamworth Cemetery. A James Robson died in 1845 and a Mr Wilson died in 1879. Sybil said this discovery proved that the Tamworth Cemetery was in fact older than Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney. These two headstones had fallen down and were buried under grass and rubbish and it took quite an effort to uncover them and clean them enough to decipher their inscriptions. In the original cemetery the headstones were constructed of sandstone and were subject to weathering. Later headstones were carved from granite or marble which are longer lasting. During the 1930s headstones were becoming quite expensive, particularly during the Depression, and so cheaper materials, such as Terrazzo, a mixture of chicken wire and concrete, were used. These fell to pieces quite quickly.

Sybil said that Tamworth Regional Council administers the cemetery but does not interfere with individual graves: that is the prerogative of family members. She added that it would be a wonderful project for a service organisation to form a "Friends of the Cemetery" group to protect and upkeep this important part of our history.

Susanne Turner, Yvonne Frost and tour leader, Sybil Small, reflect on the symbol of devotion and blessings conveyed by the sculptured image of an angel at prayer.

Sybil pointed out the various types of symbols found on headstones. She said that they usually followed on from the Victorian habit of applying descriptive symbols throughout a person's life. The symbols fell into one or more of five main groups:

**Symbols reflecting Lifestyle.** e.g. The use of horses or horseshoes usually depicted someone connected with horses, a blacksmith or a horse trainer. An Anchor could represent a sailor or it could also have religious symbolism or a spiritual meaning.

**Symbols reflecting Wealth.** e.g. Vaults, urns or obelisks. Although obelisks could have other meanings including Pagan or other references.

**Symbols reflecting Allegiances:** e.g. To Masonry or Manchester Unity or some similar organisation.

**Symbols reflecting Service:** e.g. To an association with such organisations as the Army, Airforce or Fire Brigade.

**Symbols reflecting Religious Devotion.**

Sybil distributed a paper setting out the interpretation of symbols. Hands pointing upwards suggest life after death but hands pointing downwards signify a sudden death. A handshake means a farewell to earthly existence and hands clasped means devotion. A descending dove means peace, or a message from God. An angel flying means rebirth and an angel weeping means grief. Altogether the paper contained 45 common symbols representing stars, animals, birds, reptiles, flowers, cherubs and many more.

Chapter President Diana Harband thanked Sybil for her very enlightening tutorial. The Chapter members were enthralled with the discovery of the symbols. Several remarked that they had often roamed through various cemeteries, seen the symbols, but had never dreamed that they had specific meanings.

The Tamworth Regional Council no longer has the burial records of this cemetery. Persons requiring information on the location of individual grave sites should contact the Tamworth Family History group through the President, Anne Ware, ☎ 6765 6372 or Shirley Cridland, ☎ 6760 8181.



*A very intricate and unusual combination of a shrouded urn, symbolising sorrow, and a handshake, indicating a farewell.*

**BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**  
**ROSE COTTAGE**  
Rose Street, Wilberforce  
**20 March, 2011, 10am - 4pm**  
**Entry Fee - Donation**  
**Morning Tea & Lunch available**  
**Drinks and Refreshments, Raffle,**  
**Variety of entertainment**  
**Do Join us for this Great Day**  
Louisa May Prince, FFF #890  
Rose Family Society, 9144 1773

### FFF Web Watch



**THE  
LATEST**

- Events updated
- Contacts updated
- Frontispiece updated
- John Herbert biog. added





### *On the Right Tack—No.10*

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

**Pooped...** (overwhelmed or exhausted)

The word derives from the Latin *puppis*, meaning the stern or aftermost part of a vessel. The poop is the name given to the short deck raised above the quarterdeck of a sailing ship. William Falconer (1732-1769), a Scottish poet, was also a sailor and so more than competent to describe the manouevring and fate of a storm-tossed vessel. He does this in his poem *The Shipwreck* (1762). "High o'er th' poop audacious seas aspire", he wrote. And in his seminal work, *The Universal Marine Dictionary*, he described "pooping": "The shock of a high, heavy sea upon the stern of a ship when she scuds before the wind in a tempest. The vessel is thereby exposed to having her whole stern beat inwards... and of course to foundering or being torn to pieces."

Cheekily, the writer Patrick O'Brian, who has often been quoted in ***On the Right Tack***, used *The Shipwreck* poem in his Aubrey/Maturin series. Lt Mowett is a fictional nautical poet but the above quotation and his verses are Falconers. Ironically, Falconer, a purser on various ships, was drowned when his vessel, *Aurora*, foundered off Cape Town on a voyage from London in 1769 — possibly pooped!

The word *pooped* stormed into the English vernacular. It is used to describe a person who has taken a figurative beating and is overwhelmed by exhaustion. Somewhat like an editor on completion of an edition of *Founders....sob.*

**Snippets from Sydney Gazette.**

the Colony's first newspaper, edited by George Howe

## ~ THE ANATOMY OF INTERIOR DECORATION ~

**Edward Lutterell, (1756-1824)**, surgeon, arrived at Port Jackson in June 1804 in *Experiment* with his wife and eight children. In June 1805 he was appointed Assistant Colonial Surgeon with duties at Sydney and Parramatta.

Earlier, on 10 March 1805 he advertised a reward of one guinea for the recovery of three books stolen from his residence, in particular **"One quarto volume of coloured plates of the Arteries of the human body, by Bell of Edinburgh, very highly finished."** Some months later he discovered bits of the books when he made a house call.


**George Howe made this report on 10 November 1805:**

**J**ames Newt was sentenced to three years public labour on a charge of stealing a number of books of science, the property of a Medical Gentleman. There was certainly a presumption of wantonness difficult to be paralleled. The prisoner had never enjoyed scholastic **discipline**, and could neither write nor read, so that as all authors were equally unintelligible, the **size** alone could stamp the value of each work. A female acquaintance just as learned as himself had passed her opinion on the volumes; and was complimented for her trouble with a valuable set of **plates** mercilessly torn from a book of Anatomy, which served to decorate her apartments conformably to her eccentric taste. In every corner the Gentleman had the mortification to be presented with a mutilated relic of his irreparable loss.

Sometime, one must attempt a report on FFF affairs in emulation of dear GEORGE. **HEY, GO TO PAGE 5!**

## Foundlings

**FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO.18**

1. *Lady Penrhyn* was first of the FF ships to return to the River Thames in London? She arrived around:  
a. Christmas Eve '89 b. Mid-August '89 c. Early June '89
2. Our ancestors were all bound for *Botany Bay*. But James Cook first called it by another name: It was: a. Endeavour Bay b. Smoky Bay c. Stringray Bay d. Reassurance Bay
3. Seven free men were among Philip Gidley King's first settlers on Norfolk Island. Two were to soon return to England. Four had died before the end of 1788. One was to head a prominent family in Sydney. The deaths were caused by a. house fires b. drowning c. logging accidents d. food poisoning
4. Name the above patriarch. He was a surgeon and later Acting Surgeon General in NSW. He opposed Bligh, siding with George Johnston. He acquired extensive properties.
5. This figurehead, now in Sydney, is from which of the following vessels: a. HMS Supply b. HMS Victory c. HMS Nelson d. HMS Neptune
6. A FREE Q & A. It is difficult to believe that in and around March 1788, when Phillip was setting up his inspired, and for the times, egalitarian society in Sydney Cove, there was a law being enforced in England which decreed that for equal guilt in a specific crime, a man should hang, but his woman accomplice should be burnt at the stake. The crime was: coining (or counterfeiting!) So what price white-collar crime in 2011?
7. In 1787 street argot, what were 'curls'. a. wigs of the high born b. human teeth to replace lost molars c. purloined pigs
8. The FF colony's prize Africaner bull strayed off with four female companions and was lost. His name was a. Gorgon b. Minos c. Marduk d. Apis e. Ferdinand
9. King George III was regularly toasted and honoured in the colony, despite being 'mad'. What was the name of his illness?
- SCORES AND PRIZES:**
- 8/9... A herd sired by Gorgon/Minos/Marduk/Apis/Ferdinand
- 4/9... Figurehead for your boat in tricolour papier mâché.
- 2/9... Loose coinage from the Snaleham's *Wheatsheaf* hotel.
- 



**\* semaphore \***

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

**THIS MONTH'S CODE:** Places touched by *Lady Penrhyn* on her return voyage to London. Authority: Arthur Bowes Smyth

**THIS MONTH'S CLUES:**  = L     = T



✕ ✓ ⊗ ✓ ☠ 💣 ☀ ⬅ ♣ ♠ 💣 ✓ 😊 ★ ⊗ ☠

Answers next issue.  
RW/DA/SMH



## THE HEALTH OF THE FLEET

John Boyd, our Research Officer, has done an excellent new analysis of the number of First Fleet arrivals, and hence departures. It appears on our website, on our First Fleet Route Map and significantly in the photo mural on the facade of First Fleet House. The fact that some 1530 souls left England and 1483 reached Sydney Cove is an 'undying' tribute to the health management of Arthur Phillip, his Officers and staff. In a series of articles, beginning here with PART 1, we focus on the health aspects of the voyage, across its preparation, its several stages, its ports, and its destination. **RW**

### INTRODUCTION

While the conditions in the gaols and hulks from which the convicts were embarked are important in trying to assess factors which influenced their well-being, it is useful to consider the living conditions of the labouring people who provided most of the First Fleet convicts. Convicts-to-be lived in appalling squalor in tiny overcrowded lodgings, where personal hygiene, immorality and depravity differed little from that prevailing in the prisons. William Hogarth has left us with vivid engravings of London slums in the mid-eighteenth century, graphically illustrating the drunkenness, squalor and unsanitary conditions in which people lived.

But the prisons of England were in fact sinks of every conceivable iniquity and vice and permeated with all the foulest diseases of an unsanitary age. Before the American War of Independence (1775-1783) the situation was relieved by transportation of offenders across the Atlantic, but this ceased in 1775. The Hulks Act was introduced in 1776 as a temporary measure, and hulks were used until 1875, to accommodate those sentenced to transportation. In theory, with more freedom of movement, even though chained, more fresh air and exercise and better food, health should have improved, but in fact conditions in the hulks were revolting.

### PREPARATION FOR THE VOYAGE

From January 1787, until the fleet sailed on 3 May 1787, Arthur Phillip was occupied for much of his time writing to members of Government trying to improve accommodation, food and medical supplies, and much of the eventual success of the voyage can be attributed to his meticulous attention to detail.

Phillip complained of overcrowding on *Alexander* and the lack of surgeon's instruments, pointing out "it will be very difficult to prevent the most fatal sickness amongst men so closely confined." He was successful. He asked that *Friendship* should be employed as a hospital ship, anticipating more sickness than in fact occurred. He requested antiscorbutics for both marines and convicts, protesting "the garrison and convicts are being sent to the extremity of the globe as they would be sent to America, which is only a six-week passage." He also asked for fresh meat for the convicts whilst in port as well as wine for the sick, when convicts were allowed only water. He requested that all the convicts should be washed and clothed before leaving the prisons or hulks, adding: "the situation in which magistrates sent the women on board *Lady Penrhyn*, stamps them with infamy - tho' almost naked, and so very filthy, that nothing but cloathing them could have prevented them from perishing, and which could not be done in time to prevent a fever, which is still on board that ship, and where there are many venereal complaints that must spread in spite of every precaution I may take hereafter, and will be fatal to themselves". His complaints were redressed.

Major Robbie Ross, of the Marines, also complained of the sickness on *Alexander*, as sixteen of his men had to be sent on shore, and there had been some deaths. He pointed out that his marines had been allotted a place on the deck immediately under the seamen's berths where they were excluded from air but what



Hogarth's famous 'Beer Street and Gin Lane'

passed through the hatchway leading from the seamen's berths, "which must in some degree render it putrid."

John White, the Principal Surgeon, also addressed himself to Phillip and Nepean. He asked for "necessaries", a term which included such items beyond standard rations as sugar, currents, rice, sago, barley, wine, portable soup, tea and spices, for both marines and convicts; and he asked for a servant, and those descendants of William Broughton will know that he was appointed the servant and as such came free to Botany Bay. White visited all the transports in early March and "was really surprised to find the convicts on board them so very healthy". But when a medical gentleman from Portsmouth got on board *Alexander*, he complained there was a dangerous malignant disease amongst the convicts. William Balmain, *Alexander's* surgeon, showed White they were not as bad as reported, except for their morale which had been shattered by the medical gentleman's assuring them that they must "inevitably fall a sacrifice" to their malignant disorder. White said that some were in bed with slight inflammatory complaints, but others were there to avoid the cold which was intense and because they were so inadequately clothed; others were in bed through the effects of long imprisonment, a weakened habit, and lowness of spirits, "not a little added to by the medical gentleman".

White ordered clothes for those who needed them, and fresh food, as they had been nearly four months on board on salt provisions. He also suggested they should be allowed on deck "in order to breathe purer air." This was done and their health improved. He also advised Hunter, in Phillip's absence, to whitewash with quick lime those areas where the convicts were confined to prevent "the unwholesome dampness" occasioned by "the breath of the people". White's actions were typical of the commonsense he was to show throughout the voyage.

Another problem encountered on the ships with female convicts was the keeping of sailors away from the women by separating them with thick bulkheads, which was about as effective as trying to stop goanna oil from penetrating glass bottles. Lieutenants George Johnston and William Collins went down to the women's berths, finding 5 missing, 4 to the sailors and one to Mr Squires, the second mate. All the women were put in irons. The same thing was happening on *Friendship* as Ralph Clark, Lieutenant of Marines, related later.

It was from these situations and places of confinement that convicts on the First Fleet came, embarking on a voyage of 15,900 miles which was to take 184 days with a complement of 1530 sailors, marines and convicts, to be exposed to the perils of the sea, and the ships' diseases of scurvy, flux and fever. **PART 2 NEXT ISSUE**



## Member Profile:



## DO YOU REMEMBER THE TEA LADY?

**Jean Mary Reppun (née Blake) #5094**, was born in Sydney on 28 July 1924, daughter of Henry Blake and his wife, Mary Byrnes. She attended school in Homebush, then went on to secretarial studies. Determined to be a model, she took her own promotional photographs, soon finding work with advertisers, particularly David Jones.

Jean became well known as a Bushells Tea model and was very popular for modelling millinery. That was in the days when models had to do their own styling, and on location were expected to change in cars, phone boxes or behind a tree, if necessary. She was a finalist in the Miss NSW section of the Miss Australia contest, and a favourite of the fashion photographer Ray Leighton.

In 1947, Jean married Arthur Reppun, the son of a Latvian doctor who had escaped from the Russian revolution and settled in Hawaii. Arthur, was a manager for Pan American Airways and over the years Jean followed him around the world – Honolulu, Seattle, Washington, Tokyo, New Delhi and Fiji, always with regular visits back to Sydney.

She was very proud when she became interested in genealogy and traced her family back to **Edward Whitton**, visiting ancestral homes in England, Ireland and Guernsey. Although living in the US, Jean maintained her active membership of the Fellowship into her eighties.

Jean died in 2009 in the US, but a memorial Mass and gathering was held at St Ives Corpus Christi Church, Mona Vale Road on 18 December 2010. She is survived by her children Susan, Jeffrey, Frederick and Diane. Arthur died in 2007.



## ~ The Chapters in Action ~

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

**Venue:** Ku-Ring-Gai Library Meeting Rooms, Gordon, on the third Friday of each month at 10.30 am.

**Next Meeting:** Friday 18 February. Topic: To be advised. Contact: Joy Zamiatin, ☎ 9451 8665.

**CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds**

**Next Event:** Wednesday 26 January, Australia Day Luncheon, Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club, at 12.00 noon.

For details contact Geoff Cameron: ☎ 02 6251 4095 or [cameron17@bigblue.net.au](mailto:cameron17@bigblue.net.au)

**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 February. Speaker: Paul Brunton. Topic: *Macquarie's Last Days*.

12 March. Speaker: Jon Fearon. Topic: *A Beechworth Pioneer Connection*.

Contact Beryl Haxton on ☎ 4353 2524.

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

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

**Next Meetings:** 5 February. Speaker: Trevor Patrick. Topic: *Surgeon John Harris*.

5 March. Speaker: Peter Bradley. Topic: *Ben Hall*. 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:** Wednesday 26 January. Australia Day stall on Newcastle Foreshore.

**Next Meeting:** 21 February. Speaker: Helen Pacey. Topic: *Anthony Rope*. For details please ring Noelene Snowden, ☎ 4959 3702.

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

**Venue:** Quarterly meetings at different venues.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 19 February, Kinross Wolaroi School Library, Orange at 2.00pm.

Please contact Judy Dwyer for details, ☎ 6365 8234.

**MORETON: South East Queensland**

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

**Next Meeting:** To be advised. Please contact Julia Cornford, ☎ 07 5545 0474.

**NEW ENGLAND: Armidale & surrounds**

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

**Next Event:** 26 January. Information stand at Armidale Australia Day Celebrations. Also represented at St Peter's Cathedral Service at 9.00am.

**Next Meeting:** 12 February at 12.00 noon. Venue and speaker to be advised.

Contact Robyn Crosslé, ☎ 6772 3140 or [turnbull@northnet.com.au](mailto: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 Event:** 26 January, from 8.00am, a Table at Australia Day celebrations at Bellingen Council Grounds.

**Next Meeting:** 6 February, 11.30am at Mylestom Community Hall.

Please contact Robyn Condliffe for details, ☎ 6653 3615.

**NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds**

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

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 26 January at 11.30am, Australia Day Lunch Meeting in air-conditioned room at the Pioneer Tavern, Wollongbar. Order from the menu. Prices reasonable.

Topic: *What did convicts wear?*

For further information please contact Margaret Soward, ☎ 6686 3597.

**NORTH WEST: Tamworth & surrounds**

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

**Next Event:** 26 January. Australia Day, Bicentennial Grounds, Tamworth. 7.30am Church Service, followed by message tree and awards. Later, a lunch for members and concert at night.

**Next Meeting:** 5 February, 1.30pm at the Family History Rooms, North Tamworth.

Members to speak on their First Fleeters. 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 Tuesday, 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Next Meetings:** 1 February. Topic: *Life Stories*. 1 March. Speakers: Wendy and Terry Nunan.

Topic: *St Paul's Catholic Cemetery, Albion Park*. Details from 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 February. Speaker: Robert Griffin. Topic: *The Rum Hospital and the Mint*.

Contact Neville Usher for details, ☎ 4869 1406.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

## THOMAS ACRES

#7895 James Ernest Kemsley  
#7908 Michael John Ryan  
#7909 Shannon Louise Ryan  
#7910 Christian James Ryan

## ANTHONY ROPE / ELIZABETH PULLEY

#7896 Neil Alan Pacey  
#7900 Fletcher Christian Pacey (Jnr)  
#7899 Samuel Nelson Pacey (Jnr)  
#7901 Andrew Arnold Pacey  
#7902 Brittany Jade Pacey (Jnr)  
#7906 Isabella Kate Pacey (Jnr)

## JOHN NICHOLLS

#7897 Annette Miller

## PETER HIBBS

#7898 Coraleen Rose Barton-Bishop  
#7912 Phillip Laurence Mitchell

## WILLIAM DOUGLAS / MARY GROVES

#7903 Joyce Pinkerton  
#7903.1 George Pinkerton

## JANE LANGLEY / THOMAS CHIPP

#7904 Verna Mary Charlotte Bode

## MICHAEL MURPHY

#7905 Jennifer Anne Selth

## MEMBERS' MEMORANDA

## JOHN HERBERT / DEBORAH ELLEM

#7907 Anthony David Newling  
NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#7911 Alexandra Grace Stone (Jnr)

## MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

#7913 Carol Doreen Almond

## CHARLES PEAT / HANNAH MULLINS

#7914 John Bryce Peat Campbell

## Associates

#7220.1 John Turner  
#7485.1 Joyce Ann Blair

## BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:

## WILLIAM TUNKS/MARY PHILLIPS/THOMAS SPENCER

## Harrison Kane Glenn

3 September 2009 at Benowa, Qld. Fourth son to Angus and Kaylene Glenn, 16th grandchild for #6850 Brian Heldon. Ninth generation.

## NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

## Alexandra Grace Stone

8 August 2010. First child to #1378 Jennifer and Adam Stone. First grandchild for #1376 Nanette and John Cornish. Ninth generation.

## THOMAS ACRES

## Lachlan James Douglas

2 October 2010 at Wollongong. Son to Catherine

and Martin Douglas. Seventh grandchild for Trevor and #7269 Jeanette McBeath. Twelfth great grandchild for #3707 Mabel Pearce.

## DEATHS Sympathy to the family &amp; friends of:

## JOSEPH WRIGHT

## #2326 Audrey Patricia McGarvey

13 September 2010. Aged 85. Late of Richmond, NSW. Wife of Trevor McGarvey. Descended through Robert Wright, first European child born in the Hawkesbury Valley.

## JAMES WILLIAMS

## #6853 Keith William Phipps OAM

14 November 2010. Aged 80. Late of Fig Tree, NSW. Husband of #6854 Joan Phipps. Both descended from FF James Williams, a marine on HMS Sirius.

## ANNE FORBES

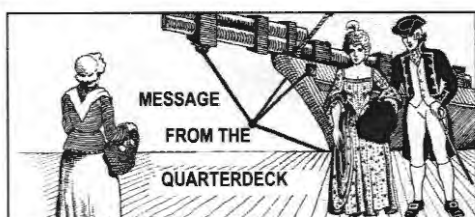
## #6621.1 Geoffrey S Morton

15 November 2010. Aged 84. Late of Lismore, NSW. Husband of #6621 Betty Morton.

## BENJAMIN CUSLEY

## #7415.1 John (Jack) Carruthers

5 December 2010. Late of Macksville, NSW. Husband of #7415 Patricia Carruthers. Member of North West Chapter.



Remember, if you know any of the new members listed above or would perhaps just like to welcome a member into your FF family you may contact him or her through First Fleet House. We will advise such members of your interest and ask them to get in touch with you. You would understand that under our privacy provisions, we do not issue addresses directly to those who may ask for them.

Quarterdeck has ever kept a weather eye on the progress of Christina Henri's *Roses from the Heart* Bonnet Project, not least because so many of our members have contributed bonnets for the honouring those 25,566 female convicts transported to our shores. Well, Christina reported in mid-November that "some 19,500 bonnets have been made in workshops, in community spaces, in homes and in schools."

In August 2010, Christina exhibited 6000 bonnets at the UK Festival of Quilts in Birmingham. In a flood of response, offers to make the symbolic headgear have come in from all over Europe, South Africa, Kuwait, Malaysia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States.

At the newly-recognised Woolmers World Heritage site in Longford, Tasmania, a special Henri permanent installation is being set up to highlight the convict women who spent time on the property as assigned servants. Yes, the astounding bonnet mission goes on and on.

This is the calendar year which is an exact match with the post code of First Fleet House. It will not happen again for another 1751 years. Discuss!

Following a request at the 2010 Chapter Conference the Board is investigating the design for a bronze medallion to be fixed to future and existing headstones to carry the message that the deceased is descended from a First Fleeter. The same medallion, necessarily small in size, is also to be suitable for integral casting into future plaques in columbariums and memorial gardens.

Bruce Arnett has obtained approval in principle for the placing of a plaque to FF Joseph Trimby adjacent to the weathered headstone of son James at the Glebe Cemetery in East Maitland. We expect to be able to announce a date for a dedication ceremony in a month or so.

As the search goes on for graves of First Fleeters, an occupational hazard is the illegible inscription. John Pascoe Fawcner, one of the founders of Melbourne, writing his memoirs of Hobart in the period 1804-1810, reported a neat solution: "One tomb erected around 13 October 1808 was upon Mary Mack, the mother of Betsey Mack, the orphan adopted by the Reverend Robert Knopwood. A head board of blue gum was three inches thick by a foot wide and about four feet long. One foot of this was fixed in the ground, and the name and the date of burial cut into the wood. In 1863 the head board was still sound and good, and the letters quite as legible

as when first cut. The timber of Van Diemen's Land has thus given good proof of its durability."

With reference to the tribute to Captain Matthew Flinders on page 3 of this issue, a new memorial in his honour was unveiled at the Square Tower in Old Portsmouth on 19 November, 2010. It celebrates his return to Portsmouth 200 years ago. The city has been working with the Society for Nautical Research (South) and the Association of the Britain Australia Society (Portsmouth Branch) and the Portsmouth-Sydney Sister City Committee and has placed a plaque upon the wall at the Sallyport adjacent to the memorial recording the departure of the First Fleet from Portsmouth en route to Sydney in 1787.

*They only deserve a monument who do not need one: that is, who have raised themselves a monument in the minds and memories of men.*

William Hazlitt, 1778-1830

The Female Factory Precinct Action Group has discovered that there is a renovation being carried out at the Parramatta site that is altering the fabric of the buildings and will result in parts being totally closed to public access. Formal permission on heritage aspects from the relevant government departments has not been obtained. The Group wants work stopped until and appeal can be lodged, and ultimately the precinct returned to the people and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The site predates all but two of the eleven convict sites recently so listed. For more information visit [www.parragirls.org.au](http://www.parragirls.org.au), where there is also a link to an online petition. RW

Then rising with Aurora's light, the Muse invoked, sit down to write; Blot out, correct, insert, refine, Enlarge, diminish, interline. The Editor's Lot, as interpreted by Jonathan Swift, 1667-1745, author of *Gulliver's Travels*.



