

# Founders

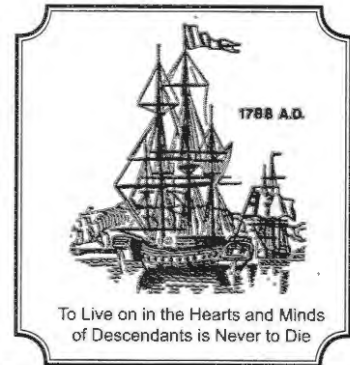
Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc. ACN 003 223 425

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

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## Roses from the Heart Project reaches the High Distinction Mark



**C**hristina Henri, Artist in Residence at the Cascades Female Factory World Heritage Site in South Hobart, has in fact in recent years spent little time in residence. She has been constantly travelling across Australia and the globe in the promotion of her now famous *Roses from the Heart Project*.

The Project, as scores of our FFF Member participants well know, seeks to pay tribute to the 25,566 women transported to Australia as convicts. The mechanism she has chosen is the sewing of just that many convict-style



*Christina Henri — a bit of a visionary*

cloth bonnets, all of identical cut, but individually embellished and dedicated by name to one of the convicts (with duplication of names of course allowable). Upon completion, the plan is for an installation of the bonnets at Cascades.

So how is the Project progressing?

As of mid-October 2011 Christina has received over 20,066 bonnets, which represents nearly 80% of her target, with no sign that her relentless enthusiasm is abating.

Most recently, at the Oatlands Spring Festival in Tasmania on 16 October, the Premier, Lara Giddings, opened yet another display of Bonnets, this time put together by the women of the region, who had been assisted by an earlier workshop in which Christina had participated. It was housed in the Supreme Court Museum, one of the many colonial attractions of the town, with the brief stories of the convict women accompanying the bonnets they commemorate.

Any Fellowship member who would like to add his or her bonnet to the closing 5500, may obtain the simple pattern with instructions from the Editor and thus give rein both to decorative instincts and the enjoyment of a satisfaction that comes from recognising the part these women played in the early life of our nation. **RW**

### OUR LATEST CHAPTER



*Keith Crossley, President of Albury-Wodonga District Chapter. See page 6.*

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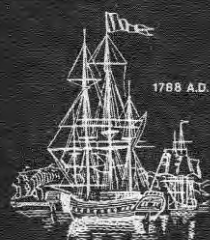
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Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011

Phone: 02 9360 3788

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

**Celebration of the First Christian Service in Australia**  
See page 12



Founded 1968

## Founders

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

## OFFICE BEARERS 2011-2012

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## From the President...

**2012**; how hard it is to change the new year number in your mind when dating letters or cheques. I really am showing that I am not up to the minute in 'computer speak', email or Google, etc. It's not that I don't trust the operators of the Internet as regards banking and paying accounts; but it is reassuring to have a receipt in my hot little hand that says I have paid. Now that we have had closure with the BPay people, we look forward to doing more transactions on line so that our members will know indeed that we have moved into the 21st century.

**Change** is happening all around us and I am afraid that it is taking a lot of effort for me to stay focused. **Change** in our organisational structures has occurred also, as at our AGM we removed the clauses in our 'Memorandum and Articles of Association' in regard to having a qualified Auditor sign off on our Annual Financial Report. And also in November we saw the establishment of a new Chapter in the Albury-Wodonga District, which heralded a move by the Fellowship into Victoria for the first time. See page 6.

Some **change** occurred in the Board membership, with Bruce Arnett not standing for election. Thank you Bruce for your solid, methodical approach to the Board's discussions over the eleven years you have been a member, as well, as Secretary for the last three, and Vice President during 2006.

A new Board member, **Lynne McDonald #7709** has been elected. Her profile appears on page 4 of this issue. Welcome Lynne!

Some of you will have been aware that my wife Beryl has been in and out of hospital since July last. She is currently being cared for in Bethshan Gardens Village at Wyee. If I am not prompt in replying to emails and letters, I ask that you will give me a little space and time to respond while things work themselves out.

I hope that you and your families had a great Christmas, and that the New Year finds you all in good health.

*In fellowship, John Haxton*

## THE SEARCH FOR EDWARD BECKFORD

**There is no doubt that First Fleet convict Edward Smith arrived on Scarborough. But was he really Edward Beckworth, father of Elizabeth Beckford, who was a daughter of Catherine Johnson? Member #7348 Marilyn Long, FF Catherine Johnson, marshalls some intriguing arguments in support of the proposition.**

**E**dward Smith was tried and sentenced to seven years transportation at the Old Bailey on 15 September 1784, his crime being the Theft and Grand Larceny of a cambric handkerchief which happened at Bow Church door. Smith was ordered to be transported to Africa but aged 28 years was sent to *Ceres* hulk on 5 April 1785, and dispatched 24 February 1787 by wagon to Portsmouth to embark on *Scarborough* on 27 February. **The proposition is that he was the Edward Beckford who later frequently appeared in colonial records, and that Smith was his alias.**

There was an **early Elizabeth Beckford** with the First Fleet on *Lady Penrhyn*, recorded as 70 years of age on boarding, and so born c.1718. She died at sea en route on 12 July 1787 from dropsy. England and Wales Christening Records 1530-1906 from ancestry.com show an Elizabeth Beckford christened on 11 July 1719 at Downton, Wiltshire, to Gabrill (Gabriel) and Elizabeth Beckford. This appears to be the same woman.

There is some circumstantial indication she may have been Edward's mother. The Burney Newspaper Collection (SLNSW website): 11 August 1779 Lloyds Evening Post (London): Intelligence from the Public Office, Bow Street, Wednesday August 11: Four people including an Elizabeth Beckford and her brother E Beckford charged with High Treason for counterfeiting. Elizabeth was discharged. Her son Edward Beckford.....the boy, Edward Beckford, was called forward....was committed as an Accomplice.

In a 25 February 1784 trial of an Elizabeth Beckford at the Old Bailey charged with grand larceny (ref t17840225-56) she says, "I came out that day, I heard my boy was come from the sea, and I came to the Minster at St Gile's to get his register". Could

## CHAPTER CONTACTS

### ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT

Gaye Merkel 6025 5747

### ARTHUR PHILLIP

Gillian Doyle 9440 5340

Joy Zamiatin 9451 8665

### CANBERRA

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### CENTRAL COAST

Jon Fearon 4323 1849

### EASTERN FARMS

Robin Palmer 9871 4102

### HUNTER VALLEY

Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

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Judy Dwyer 6365 8234

### MORETON

Don Cornford 0457 466 020

### NEW ENGLAND

Robyn Crosslé 6772 3140

### NORTH COAST

Mal Dale 07 3283 4485

### NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 6686 3597

### NORTH WEST

Jo Crossing 6766 8255

### SOUTH COAST

Dorothy Conkey 4261 2337

### SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Wendy Selman 4862 4849

### SWAN RIVER

Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630



this be the same Elizabeth Beckford tried 10 January 1787 (ref t17870110-67) and sentenced to transportation to NSW and on *Lady Penrhyn*? Her crime was felony for stealing 12 pound weight of Gloucester cheese. Was she a habitual criminal or was she trying to join up with her son, Edward, whom she may have discovered was bound for Botany Bay?

Mollie Gillen in *Founders of Australia*, page 514, has **Smith, Edward**. Scarborough. Age 31 on arrival (in 1788, so born c.1757). On page 334 – Edward Smith ....from Port Jackson on 2 October 1788 Smith was sent to Norfolk Island by *Golden Grove*. He was one of four young single men “used to the sea” mentioned in a letter by David Blackburn requesting that they be kept on board the ship to help unload stores.

By July 1791 Edward was subsisting himself on a one-acre lot at Sydney Town (Norfolk Island). On 15 December he was settled on 12 acres at Grenville Vale. *Forgotten Generations of Norfolk Island and Van Diemen's Land*, by Reg Wright, page 60, Table 5 of Occupations of NI Residents recorded with land grants at 1794 – includes under Sailor – Edward Smith.

Catherine Johnson, a 17-year-old First Fleet convict on *Prince of Wales*, had a daughter Elizabeth, in either 1788/89 or 1791. By 1808 this daughter was calling herself **Elizabeth Beckford**. The daughter Elizabeth was listed on the Norfolk Island Victualling List in August 1791 with a blank where “born” or “ship” is entered. Who was her father? Catherine Johnson was on Norfolk Island March 1789 to November 1794 and Edward Smith from October 1788 to March 1795. Was he the father of both Elizabeth, and William Johnston who was born in January 1792?

Catherine and her two children left Norfolk Island on *Daedalus* on 6 November 1794 and on 5 March 1795 Smith left Norfolk Island by *Fancy* and seems to have been on stores at Port Jackson in October 1795. What did Catherine, Edward, Elizabeth and William do between 1795 and 1800? Did Catherine live with Edward from his return to Sydney four months after her? She lived in and had property in the Rocks from about 1802. At NSW State Records Catherine Johnson's Memorial of 16 February 1810 to Governor Lachlan Macquarie requesting that her grant or lease of 1809 and that of her daughter be re-granted to them has on the cover page the names C Johnston and E Beckford – was this **Elizabeth Beckford**, Catherine's daughter? They were both named on the same 1809 list of grants and leases. Where did Elizabeth's name Beckford come from and was it a birth or a marriage name? There is no record of either in NSW BMD for Elizabeth. What evidence is there that she was the daughter of Edward Smith/Beckford?

The first evidence found of **Elizabeth using the name Beckford** is in a NSW BDM record for a 5 June 1808 Baptism at St Philip's Church of England in Sydney for Adeline Louisa born to James Ceronio and Elizabeth Beckford (birth was 18 March 1808). Another was of 20 August 1809 for a Baptism at St Philip's, Sydney, for James William born to James Ceronio and Elizabeth Bedford (birth was 21 July). James Ceronio was an Italian American seafarer and captain from Philadelphia who seemed to visit Sydney between 1807 and 1810, possibly from a base in Calcutta where he was domiciled till he died in 1860. Another reference was for a marriage of Richard Ridge and Margaret Foster (Forrester, daughter of Robert) at St Phillip's, Sydney. Witnesses were Tristram Moore and Elizabeth Beckford. Tristram Moore had fathered three children with Catherine Johnson,

mother of Elizabeth Johnson/Beckford, and they stayed together until death. Elizabeth was likely to be a friend of the bride. The Moores/Johnsons and the Forresters lived at Wilberforce or had property in the area.

In Colonial Secretary Correspondence 1788-1825 at NSW State Records there is a listing: **SMITH, Edward (sawyer and mariner)** See **BECKFORD, Edward**. Edward is recorded in various Musters: in 1800 Edward is Smith not Beckford (possibly because that was the name he was transported under) ref AE333, Scarborough, (sentence) expired. In 1805-06 – Beckford, Edward, #0481, page 16, no ship named. Conditional Emancipation (CE), Sealing, Kable's employ. In the Muster of 1823/4/5: S11616 Edward Beckford C Scarborough 1788 Life Govt Servant to Thomas Street, Sydney. (Street was a ship owner of Market & Sussex Streets). If Edward was born c.1757 then at about 68 years he was still going to sea.

In Colonial Secretary's Correspondence and the *Sydney Gazette* there are many references for Edward Beckford being on various ships leaving the Colony between 1802 and 1831. His extensive and almost continual seafaring included sealing on such ships as *Elizabeth and Mary*, 1817-1819, when he would have been about 63 years, and took him to such places as Macquarie Island and New Zealand. The DVD of Old Registers has two references (5/164/842 & 841) for March and November 1812 regarding Bills of Sale for 7343 sealskins between Henry Kable Sr, Joseph Underwood and James Underwood and the skins were on Macquarie Island in the possession of Edward Beckford. References into the 1830s have him going to the Hawkesbury, Brisbane Waters, Newcastle, Port Stephens and Port Dalrymple, sometimes as a captain. An affidavit in 1823 re the loss of his Certificate of Freedom 59/983 at Port Dalrymple shows Edward Smith alias Beckford, mariner, his mark (so he couldn't write).

*Sydney Gazette* notices of 6 and 13 June, and 4 July show Elizabeth Beckford and her two children being about to leave the Colony in the Brig *Margaret*, which sailed for Calcutta on Tuesday 23 July 1812.

NSW BDM V1851 243 37B has for 3 June 1851: Burial of an Edward Beckford, Parish of Camperdown, Beckford Edward Age 97 Abode Balmain. The Burial Butt #1187 shows he was buried in a common grave at Camperdown Cemetery at four o'clock on 3 June by Curtis, Undertaker. Could he be the longest known surviving male convict of the First Fleet, so far claimed to be John Small who died 2 October 1850 at 89 years?

In October 1874 Elizabeth Beckford Vickery died on Jersey, aged 82, and was still using the name Beckford.

The grandchildren of Edward Beckford, James and Adeline Beckford/Ceronio remained in Calcutta when their mother returned to Australia, and spent the rest of their lives in India. James died in Calcutta in 1839. His son, James, died in Calcutta in 1883 and that was probably the end of his line. Adeline (renamed Adelaide) married William Davis in Calcutta in 1824. They had at least 11 children and she died in Calcutta in 1850. A 2 x great grandson of Edward Beckford, William John Davis, was born in 1875 and married in 1922 in Calcutta, date of death unknown. Could there still be any descendants of Edward Beckford, convict in the First Fleet, from his two grandchildren who settled in India, either still in India, or if they left India at Partition now settled in England?

#7348 Marilyn Long, FF Catherine Johnson



## FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FELLOWSHIP

It's the same for BHP Biliton as it is for your tennis club and indeed for the Fellowship — members do not turn up for Annual General Meetings — and this year apologies outnumbered attendees at the meeting on 26 November at First Fleet House. **But the Business got done!** Last year's minutes were approved. The President's Report, as contained in the Notice of Meeting mailed to all financial members with the previous issue of *Founders* (the violet document), was accepted with acclamation, and no one found issue with the set of numbers prepared assiduously by our Treasurer.

The **Special Resolution** for a change in our Constitution which is set out on page 4 of the violet document was adopted. What does that mean? It provides that following changes in company law, the Fellowship is no longer obliged to appoint an Auditor, although it may do so if the Directors at any time so decide. The current Board decision is that, given the expertise of our current Treasurer, we have dispensed with the services of our professional Auditor, generating a saving to the Fellowship of \$4400 per annum. If we do decide to appoint an auditor the first recourse will be to seek the services a Member with the requisite financial savvy who would be prepared, as so many of us are, to act on a voluntary basis. Please regard the clauses set out on the above page 4 as your update of the Fellowship Constitution. These clauses will be incorporated in a revision to the Constitution document, which is distributed to all new members.



**Bruce Arnett**  
Eleven years on the Board, three years of sterling service as Secretary.

member **Lynne McDonald #7709** (FF William Dring/Ann Forbes) accepted appointment to the Board.



**Secretary, Therese Luck**

As he has done so often, our Vice-Patron, **Commodore Paul Kable AM** took the chair as returning officer for the election of the Board for 2011-12. The meeting was delighted to acclaim **John Haxton's re-election**, unopposed, as President for a further term. Among the previous Board members, only **Bruce Arnett**, our Secretary, did not offer for another year, and hence all the others were returned unopposed. In addition

### New Director

**Lynne McDonald #7709** (FF William Dring/Ann Forbes) spent her school days at Mt Colah and worked in the Rural Bank and the NSW Permanent Building Society. She graduated as an external mature-age student, BA in Ancient and Modern History and English from the University of New England in Armidale.



Lynne shares a blended family of six adult children and ten grandchildren. She has travelled widely, keen to explore the history of places visited — from Anzac Beach to Cape Horn, from Edinburgh Castle to Tintern Abbey, and over to Ireland, her ancestral home.

Yes, on the family history front, Lynne has spent four years looking for FF ancestor William Dring's family in England. She not only hopes to track down his origins, but to find out what happened to him after he left the colony sometime between 1796 and 1798. Of the life of her other FF Ancestor, Ann Forbes, she is grateful for the work of Professor Doug Huxley in his book *Transported to Paradise*. Lynne says she has recently driven to Paradise Point, and visits Ann's grave at Sackville Reach every Australia Day.

Lynne is a member of Eastern Farms Chapter and the editor of their newsletter. Aroused by the kerfuffle over mooted changes to First Fleet Park, she decided to get further involved with our aims and our advocacy, by becoming a Director of the Fellowship. So here she is, "in my element, with much to learn and a wonderful group of people to support and teach me, looking forward to a long association with the First Fleeters".

The AGM ended on a familiar and happy note with the re-appointment of Paul Kable as Vice-Patron, a role he has carried out with devotion and distinction since 1988.

Following the Annual General Meeting, the new Board proceeded with the allocation of portfolios, and these are set out in the black box on page 2 of this issue of *Founders*, and in greater detail on the website. The only significant changes to the crew are the appointment of Therese Luck as Secretary and the formalisation of Sharon Lamb in the role of Community Advocate, where she will continue to deal with Fellowship publicity and such matters as the reinvigoration of First Fleet Park.

**RW**

### Am I Really Me?

Dedicated to our FFF Family Tree experts.  
Author unknown in 2001 and still a mystery.

I started out calmly, in tracing my tree,  
To find if I could, the makings of me.  
And all that I had was my Great-grandfather's name,  
Not knowing his wife's, or from whence they both came.

I chased him across a long line of states,  
And came up with pages and pages of dates.  
When all put together they made me forlorn  
Proved poor Great grandpa had never been born.



One day I was sure the truth I had found,  
Determined to turn this whole thing upside down.  
I looked up the record for one Uncle John,  
And he was much younger than his only son.

But then when my hopes were growing quite dim,  
I came across records that must have been him.  
The facts I collected — they made me quite sad,  
Dear old Great-grandfather was never a Dad.

I think someone surely is pulling my leg,  
I'm not at all sure I'm not hatched from an egg.  
After hundreds of dollars I've spent on my tree,  
I can't help but wonder if I'm really me.





## FOUNDERS, BEHIND THE SCENES

On 17 October 2007 I wrote to the new President of the Fellowship to express concern at the overall editorial and presentational standard of the publication, *Founders*, and to propose some innovations. **Bad move, I got the job!** Four years and 24 issues later, Vice-President, Ian Palmer, wrote in with this to say: **RW, Editor**

Like all Members of the Fellowship of First Fleeters I look forward, with anticipation, to receiving the bi-monthly magazine, *Founders*. The variety and standard of the printed articles is outstanding and is due entirely to the work of one man, our Editor, Ron Withington. Ron is a one man band when it comes to *Founders*. He selects or writes nearly all of the articles. He decides the format and presentation of each story and carries out the desk-top publishing. He travels widely to report on the activities of the various Chapters of the Fellowship. He compiles the *First Fleet Quiz*, *On the Right Tack*, *Semaphore*, the book reviews, the Chapters in Action and *Message from the Quarterdeck*. He lists the new Members, Births and Deaths. Ron also arranges the printing of any Flyers that accompany *Founders* as well as the Annual Financial Reports.

Not satisfied with just the preparation work, Ron also delivers the document to the printer and when ready collects the finished product, generally on the first Thursday of alternate months, and personally delivers the many boxes that contain *Founders* to First Fleet House. No small task as his journey takes him from the Blue Mountains west of Sydney right into the heart of the city to Woolloomooloo.

Prior to May 2009 there wasn't a dedicated team arranged to post out *Founders*. The regular volunteers at First Fleet House fitted this task into their day along with their regular duties. As a result of this procedure the mail out often took several days and on at least one occasion considerably longer. This ad hoc approach was very unsatisfactory and the Directors decided that a team dedicated to performing this job in a timely manner should be formed. Eastern Farms Chapter was contacted and they arranged for a group of volunteers to attend to this task.

On the day following Ron's delivery, the team, usually six people, meet and over a period of several

hours prepare *Founders* for Australia Post to collect. Firstly the mailing labels are printed and then fixed to the envelopes. To comply with Australia Post requirements the envelopes are sorted into four separate destination categories, New South Wales, Interstate, Overseas and Asia Pacific. Once the envelopes are sorted, the magazine is inserted and then the finished product is stacked in special mailing trays, supplied by Australia Post. The destination of each tray is clearly marked so there is a minimum of further sorting to be done at the Australia Post mail sorting centre.

Australia Post collects the trays on the following Monday and if all goes well our Members receive their *Founders* from Tuesday onwards. Each First Fleet Family receives a single copy of *Founders* even if there are multiple Fellowship Members within the family. At present the Fellowship posts around 1400 copies of *Founders* every issue.

Ian Palmer

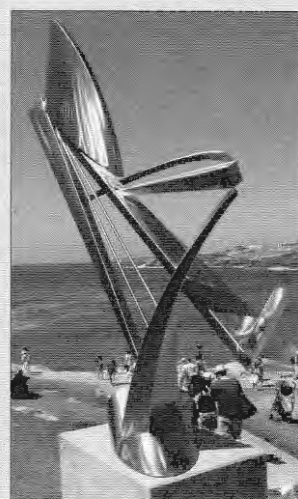


ABOVE: The Mail Out team: L to R around the table: Barry Peck, Harry and Helen James, Elizabeth Graham and Robin Palmer. Ian Palmer is behind the camera. BELOW: Jeanette Roberts, Celeste and John Mullan, regular volunteers who were rostered off on this particular day.

## Journeying to a place called home...

Regularly in southern Spring, *Founders* has paid a visit to ***Sculptures by the Sea*** on the Bondi to Tamarama Foreshore. The aim has been to seek out, in this maritime setting, an image that somehow embodies the life and mission of the Fellowship. On one occasion, the sculptor whose offering was chosen for this special exegesis, remarked that the FFF interpretation of her work was better than her own! This year the nominated work is Robert Hague's ***aporia II***, a title that should connote puzzlement, doubt or confusion.

But the handsome work in stainless steel clearly conjures up the images of a sextant-like instrument, a figurehead for the prow of a ship, and perhaps the harp for a Siren's song. Robert says in his accompanying statement, "**We dream of navigating a great ocean to a place called home.**" It is difficult for this First Fleeter to improve on that interpretation.



# ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT CHAPTER

## A New Chapter on a New Page in the life of the Fellowship

Most readers enjoy having each new chapter of a book start on a fresh page. It seems to give momentum to the reading journey. And so it is with Chapter 15 of the Fellowship — taking us to fresh settings, new characters and undiscovered stories, while opening up a fresh page in our history: **our first venture into the state of Victoria.**

The launch of what was to become the *Albury-Wodonga District Chapter* took place in the Meeting Room of the Albury LibraryMuseum at 10.30am on Saturday 19 November 2011. **Keith Crossley** was the Convenor, and the rock solid work he had done in promoting the cause and the meeting produced a gratifying attendance of 44 people, including Jon and Karys Fearon and Ron Withington representing the Board of Directors. Perhaps the chosen venue was also auspicious: a graven plaque at the entrance to the new LibraryMuseum intoned, from the 2007 poem, *Living Rivers*, by Bruce Dawe:

Here in this place both past and present meet  
And in the living present join their power,  
And, as in every union that's replete,  
There is a richness that transcends the hour  
And makes it memorable for years to come  
— So time will add its own encomium...\*

However, in the meantime readers must be content with the report that follows!



*The Meeting Room of the new Albury LibraryMuseum, a building of quite diverse aesthetics, if not genuinely postmodern.*

It was apparent that not all the folk in attendance were yet members of the Fellowship and therefore in touch with our promotions and publications. So set up around the Queen Anne Jack was a display of books on colonial topics from the Central Coast Chapter Library, a painting of the First Fleet ships in Sydney Cove, a copy of the First Fleet Route Map, a pile of back copies of *Founders* and a sample of our new Wall Chart which lists all known personnel arrivals with the First Fleet.

Jon Fearon, our Chapter Liaison Officer, who had done much of the coordination with Keith, opened proceedings with a welcome and a congratulatory letter from President Haxton. John, of course is usu-

ally a fixture at such events, but was unable to attend due to family needs.

David Cavanagh moved, and Fiona Edwards seconded, a motion that a Fellowship Chapter, of a name to be decided, be formed in the region, an initiative that was carried unanimously and with great enthusiasm.

The meeting then moved swiftly to the appointment of an executive, and the following officers were elected unopposed to the warm acclamation of the gathering:

### PRESIDENT

**Keith Crossley**

#2554 FF Thomas Chipp / Jane Langley

### VICE-PRESIDENTS

**Stewart Ross**

#3021 FF Edward Miles

**Malcolm Ross**

FF George Johnston / Esther Abrahams

### TREASURER

**Anne Simmonds**

#7111 FF James Williams

### SECRETARY

**Gaye Merkel**

FF James Ruse

The President indicated that he will seek to appoint other members of the Chapter to the full committee following the inaugural meeting of the Executive.

Other than the appointment of Officers, the prime focus of such inaugural gatherings is the choice of an appropriate name for the Chapter. Obviously, in the past names have been chosen either for regional or historical relevance. The discussion ranged up and down the Murray, crossing and recrossing the border and hitting the hinterland, but a selection was ulti-



*The elected Executive members: Malcolm Ross, Gaye Merkel, Keith Crossley, Anne Simmonds and Stewart Ross.*





mately not resolved at the meeting. However, Keith took the matter on notice and followed up with a mid-December plebiscite of all FFF Members and intending Members and Friends of the Chapter. The name *Albury-Wodonga District* won out by a clear majority as best representing the dual-state region the Chapter is seeking to service.

The meeting went on to express a unanimous preference that Chapter meetings be held on Saturdays in daytime, the precise time and place to be decided by the Committee along with any meeting levee that may be necessary for hiring of premises and/or refreshment costs.

In regard to Chapter finances in general, Jon Fearon pointed out that as soon as a Chapter name had been decided and a corresponding bank account opened, then the traditional seeding grant of \$200 would be deposited by the Fellowship. This was another matter that the gathering was happy to endorse!

So came the adjournment to the LibraryMuseum grounds for the historical photo, with a clearly elated founder and President, Keith Crossley, expressing the hope that on its first page the Chapter might mount a celebration and display for Australia Day, 2012. Bravo!

RW

*The full complement of those who attended the Chapter launch, assembled outside the LibraryMuseum, and appropriately in an historic precinct.*

*St Mathew's Church in the background is arguably Albury's most significant entity of architectural and historic interest. The church combines Edmund Blacket's original west wall and tower base of 1857-59, William Boles' chancel completed in 1876 and the rebuilt church designed by Ian O'Connor after it was gutted by fire in September 1991.*

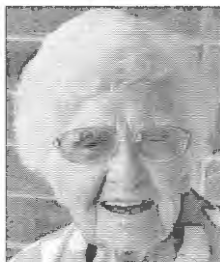
*Edmund Blacket (1817-83), the original designer of the church, was a noted Colonial Architect who also designed Sydney University, St Saviour's Cathedral Goulburn, St Philip's Church Hill and St Andrew's Cathedral Sydney. It has been said that he was the Wren of Sydney!*



*The Meeting Room packed to overflowing, both in numbers and enthusiasm.*

## OBITUARY

Florence Denning, #445, FF John Small/Mary Parker at 106, was our **OLDEST MEMBER**. This tribute was compiled by her son, John Denning.



**F**lorence (Flo) Roadley McPherson was born to John and Agnes in a Balmain house on 24 July 1905. It was a dramatic birth. In those days babies were born into a crockery birthing bowl. Agnes fell, the bowl was broken and Agnes was severely lacerated. Mother and baby were conveyed to Balmain Hospital. Picture in your mind how all this may have all transpired, Agnes would have been in a room in the presence of other women assisting her, John would have been in an adjacent room in the company of other men. The door would have burst open, the women would have alerted the men to the accident. One of the men would have pulled out a mobile phone, dialled 000, and within minutes an ambulance would have arrived. No, it didn't happen that way! If she had been conveyed to hospital she would have been physically carried or placed in a horse-drawn ambulance. This was the era she was born into, no phones, no cars, no planes, no electricity, no radio, no TV, no computers and no kids' playstations.

Flo's first memories were of walking herself to pre-school from Balmain to a private home in Rozelle. She was probably around three years old and carried a slate and slate pencil.

In 1908, sister Thelma was born, followed by the twins Winifred and Wallace in 1910. Eric came in 1911, Clive in 1912, Ivy in 1913 and Roy in 1914.

John spent extended periods of time away from home due to work commitments with the result that Agnes was unable to cope and finally to relieve the situation, Flo and Thelma were placed in a government home. This lasted for approximately six months.

Agnes had itchy feet and continuously moved the family from suburb to suburb between 1914 and 1918. When they were living in the Strathfield area, Flo remembered her school class being taken to a paddock beside the railway line to wave to the troops on the train as they were being sent off to the European war. For many it would have been their last memories of home.

On the 11 November 1918 John took the kids up to Strathfield train station

and as a special treat and to celebrate the end of the war placed them all into a horse drawn handsome cab for a drive around the district.

Agnes as often as possible took the family on holidays. In the summer of 1915, she organised a horse and dray to transport the family to Freshwater Beach, they left early in the morning and after being ferried across the Harbour and Middle Harbour by punt, arrived at their destination after dark. The beds in the holiday house had bed bugs, so Agnes heated a needle over a candle flame and attempted to kill them individually. She moved the family into another house the very next day. It was during this holiday Flo witnessed a well-proportioned Hawaiian man by the name of Duke Kahanamoku ride a surf board at Freshwater Beach.

Immediately after the war Agnes took the family for holidays into the Blue Mountains. While she was there she received a telegram from John advising them not to come back as the flu pandemic had commenced in Sydney. They stayed for six years with John visiting at weekends!

On the return to Sydney they moved to Bellevue Hill where Wallace, who was an electrician, became friendly with a workmate by the name of Norman Denning. Norm used to join the brothers and sisters when they went bushwalking or boating on weekends. It was not unusual for them to walk from the station at Royal National Park to Wattamolla and back.

On 6 June 1933 Flo and Norm were walking across the then new Sydney Harbour Bridge when her brother Clive was killed in a fall at Taronga Park Zoo.

In 1937 Flo and Norm married and settled into a rented house in Austral St, Penshurst. Warren came along in 1939, John in 1942 and Margaret in 1945.

Flo was a great Mother. Each year in December she took us kids to the Department stores in the city to go through all the Christmas displays. These were quite often mechanical working models and were fascinating for us as children.

Flo became interested in her family history but could get no information from her mother, aunties or uncles who tried to dissuade her from forming the family tree. It turned out they were embarrassed at being related to two convicts, John Small and Mary Parker, who sailed her on the First Fleet. Flo's research into the couple has been included in a book of the family history, *The Small Family in Australia*. During her

life her family expanded to ten grand children and thirteen GG children. She loved every one of them and was always enquiring as to their wellbeing.

Florence Denning has been on every Australian Census since Federation. She with Norm loved travelling and visited many parts of the World. She played bowls until 99 years of age and only gave up because she had difficulty seeing the Jack. She was a lifetime member of Mortdale Bowls Club, but outlived the Club. She was a member of Hurstville Probus. She had stomach cancer removed at 95 and bone cancer in her leg removed at 100. She lived in her home at Penshurst till she was 101. Each year she would cut the ribbon for the commencement of the Sutherland Shire Cancer Council Relay for Life. She was their oldest cancer survivor. In 2009 she had her first motorbike ride at the Relay.

Flo lived her last five years in Frank Vickery Village Hostel in Sylvania. She was fiercely independent and would insist on showering and dressing herself. She always spoke highly of Vickery and made many friends of the staff and residents. She loved the bus outings and woe betide anyone who tried to sit on her seat. During the past few years Flo was continually asked as to what she attributed her longevity. I have a theory on that. In 1908 Flo's aunt Constance died. It was customary in those days for the body to be laid in the front room of the house. The child Flo was made to kiss her aunty goodbye and was traumatised by the event. All her life after that Flo avoided going to funerals and that is why she lived to a ripe old age!

The highlights of our childhood included family gatherings. Whenever her brothers and sisters got together they radiated fun and excitement, you can see it in the photos. That happiness is happening right now and I wish I could be there to witness the reunion.

*John Norman Denning #7499*

### WHAT SUPER GENES HAD FLO!

Her ancestor FF John Small was 89 when he died. FF Mary Parker drowned at 63. But two of their children, Rebecca (93) and William (95) were the oldest native-born white persons in the colony at the time of their deaths in 1883 and 1891 respectively.

Flo died on 8 October 2011. Her funeral, on 12 October 2011 was the anniversary date of the marriage of John and Mary Small.





### On the Right Tack – No.14

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

**STINKPOT:** noxious, foul. Used as an personal insult.

A stinkpot (from the old English *stincan* to disperse or emit), was an incendiary and suffocating weapon of great antiquity, used in naval operations and by buccaneers. An earthenware pot was filled with powder, sulphur and chemicals and a slow burning fuse was inserted.


British Admiral Sir William Robert Kennedy recorded the use of the stinkpot in his 1856 book, *Hurrah for the Life of a Sailor* — One man ascended to a cage, one at the foremast and one at the mizzenmast. Two men stood at the foot of each mast and hauled up baskets containing stinkpots by means of a pulley. Each basket contained at least ten stinkpots. The men at the mastheads then applied matches, and the pots were instantaneously dropped onto the decks of the enemy, or into the boats attempting to board. The attackers would certainly have to jump overboard or be stifled.

The early 19th century critic, John Ring, writing of the *Edinburgh Review*, expostulated, "Such are the Edinburgh Reviewers: they relish only the garbage and excrements of literature and science. It has become fashionable of late to publish books under the title of *Beauties*. Were the *Edinburgh Review* to adopt a name according to the same plan, it might be termed **the Stinkpot of Literature.**"

**Snippets from Sydney Gazette.**

Re: BATTERING THE BACON

Readers may remember George's story of the pig that ate the Babe (*Founders* 40.3). Pigs were rampant in the streets: by 1808 there were 19,388 in the Colony. The exploits of these omnipresent omnivores constantly hogged Howe's journal columns. Here is another typical boaring bit, ending with a more dreadful pun than either of the foregoing:



Last week a very fine sow that had strayed from its master's premises with a numerous litter of pigs, was inhumanely assaulted by some unfeeling villain with an axe, the iron of which had apparently buried in the forehead, and occasioned its almost immediate death. The atrocious *bi-ped* has passed undiscovered and must have been unnoticed, as no-one would have concealed the barbarous crime, committed in direct violation of the most salutary Regulations for the breeding stock of the Colony, and which indicates a total extinction of feeling in the breast of the brutal *sow-icide*. 1 July 1804

1 July 1804

## FFF Web Watch



**WE NEED STILL MORE FIRST FLEET  
ANCESTOR PROFILES FROM  
DESCENDANTS FOR POSTING  
ON THE 'SHIPS' PAGES.**

[www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au](http://www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au)

## Foundlings

## FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO. 24

1. Queen Elizabeth was here for CHOGM in October 2011. Who was the first royal visitor that the colony entertained?  
**a. Prince Albert, Duke of Edinburgh b. Prince George, Duke of York c. Prince Albert, Duke of York d. Prince George, Duke of Kent**  
 BONUS point for the date within five (5) years.
2. Born Staffordshire, 1774, became a painter, then in 1811 a convicted counterfeiter, two years on hulks, arrived Sydney in 1814. Got a ticket-of-leave. In 1815, convicted of printing 5s bills. Sent to Newcastle, drew plans for Christ Church. Pardoned in 1818, went to VDL as itinerant artist. Worked for Macquarie. In 1822 left for England. Published his paintings. Moved near Bath, forged some notes and said to have fatally cut his throat. He was **a. John Lewin b. Augustus Earle c. Thomas Wainwright d. Joseph Lycett**
3. Lady Juliana and the ill-fated HMS Guardian together carried a large quantity of osnaburghs (sic) That is: **a. dried meat b. textile fabric c. musket shot d. hammocks e. white onions**
4. The last ship of the Third Fleet to arrive in Sydney Cove was:  
**a. Britannia b. Albemarle c. Gorgon d. Admiral Barrington**
5. Which ship, in 1791, brought the first convicts from Ireland to Sydney? **a. Active b. William and Ann c. Queen d. Salamander**
6. After the Third Fleet debacle, East Indiamen ships of the merchant navy were often used to transport convicts. Which was the first such ship to take convicts to NSW?  
**a. Dutton b. Pitt c. Royal Admiral d. Kitty e. Earl of Mansfield**
7. In 1793, free settlers arriving on *Bellona* included two First Fleeters. One was Frederick Meredith. The other was an able seaman on *HMS Sirius*. He married a fellow *Bellona* passenger on arrival, and after a life of turmoil eventually died of spear wounds. He was: **a. Thomas Webb b. William Welsh c. John Ward d. Robert Wescott**
8. At the Cape of Good Hope, FF women and children were transferred from *Friendship* to other ships to make room for what?  
**a. pigs b. sheep c. goats d. cattle e. whale meat**
9. Arthur Phillip brought some dogs with him to Port Jackson. They were: **a. dalmations b. collies c. dachshunds d. whippets**
- SCORES AND PRIZES:** **Answers on page 11.**
- 2/9.... Two weeks labour in the Admiralty stinkpot factory.
- 5/9.... A month's supply of A grade swill for your swine.
- 10/9... A case of fruit from the 7th Semaphore clue below. **RW**

**\* semaphore \***

**WHAT YOU DO:** Each symbol stands for a different letter.

Just decipher each of the eight lines. *Answers next issue. RW/DA*

**THIS MONTH'S CODE:** The Second Fleet 'would-be saviour', *HMS Guardian*, in 1789 was wrecked carrying more than 150 different sorts of trees, plants and shrubs. The task is to find just eight.

**THE CLUES:** \* = C, plus this curious leaf of one of them.

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A row of 18 icons: a solid black circle, a five-pointed star, a sandglass, a circle with a star inside, a solid black triangle, a square with an arrow pointing up and to the right, a square with a smaller square inside, a five-pointed star, a gear-like shape, a hand making a peace sign, a five-pointed star, another five-pointed star, a heart, an inverted triangle, a circle with a star inside, another inverted triangle, a solid black circle, and a hand with fingers spread.



## Central Coast Chapter Creative Writing Awards

This magazine, in *Founders* 42.3, carried a report of an outreach program to Schools in the region by our Central Coast Chapter. Hoping to capitalise on the fact that Years 3 and 4 usually study the First Fleet and Convict Era as part of their curriculum, the Chapter, under the guidance of Board member, Jon Fearon, challenged the children to write, in competition, a first-person story set in the years 1788-1790 at Sydney Cove. Submissions duly arrived and Jon, together with Chapter President, Margaret Tomlinson, visited the winning schools to present the awards.



Above: CCC President, Margaret Tomlinson, with Wyong Creek School Representatives, Alexandra Jones and Lauren Reynolds, following the prize presentation at the whole school assembly. Top Right: Jon Fearon with Valley View winner, Amelia Johns.

Victoria Holmlund of Kariong Public School received a \$50 individual prize, along with Amelia Johns of Valley View Public School. The two-teacher school, Wyong Creek Public, was awarded the prize for Participation, as all of the children in the upper grades, Years 3 to 6, had submitted entries.

Amelia's story, of some 1200 words, was published in the Chapter newsletter. She assumed the guise of ten-year-old Lucy Sarah Ross, daughter of an settler surgeon in Sydney, and related the happenings of a day in her life during 1790. So we had Lucy rising with dread from her straw pallet bed on the first day of her departure to Dame School with Miss Isabella Rossen (see *Founders* 42.4, page 3). There are no slates and chalk, so she writes her Biblical texts and numbers with a stick in the dust. Teacher Isabella is pretty, a girl is friendly, a boy gets lost, an "Indian" spearing an echidna provides a scare and a thrill. A stumble produces a cut knee and a close encounter with a frill-necked lizard. Back home in the mud hut with its reed-thatched roof, Mother dresses the wound and from the stone hearth produces an evening meal of wild spinach soup and salt pork bones with rice. Father arrives, exhausted from his medical labours, to help consume it. Still hungry and unsleeping, Lucy rises to look outdoors at the stars in "a sky so much bigger than in England" and the anguish of homesickness reinforces her tummy rumbles. Will she ever return "home"?

The Chapter is to be congratulated, along with the participating teachers and schools, for helping to plant within our youngsters a deeper understanding and sympathy with the life, times and travails of our First Fleeters than can be gained through wider community attitudes and from mainstream media. **RW**



## NORTH WEST CHAPTER IN RELAY FOR LIFE

Over the weekend 15-16 October twelve members of the North West Chapter joined with the Tamworth Family History Group in a *History Alive Team* for the annual *Relay for Life* project at Riverside Sports Complex in Tamworth, raising funds and awareness for research into the cure for human cancer.

Over 2000 walkers took part and some \$137,600 was raised. It was gratifying to see the number of young people involved, all thoroughly enjoying themselves in the process.

The base for the operations was a series of tents and canopies which also contained bedding for the team members to rest on between their walking "shifts". A stage was set up at one end of the ground and entertainment and loud, loud, music blasted out day and night when no musicians or dancers were on stage. We were treated to an example of the new Latin and international music cum workout system, **Zumba**, with heaps of young and not so young people joining in the dancing.

Tents and stalls were set up all around the grounds selling cakes, sausage sizzles, sweets, nail paintings and even a hug for a dollar. All money raised went towards the cancer research fund.

The Candlelight Ceremony of Hope was very moving. Candles were lit to remember those who had passed away due to cancer, and then a fireworks display, again to the loudest of music, kept everybody awake and walking and showed that life must go on.

Chapter President, **Pat Worrad**, said she was very pleased with the roll-up of members and their enthusiasm to support the cause. The Chapter raised \$378.

**Warren White, participant**





## New Members' Morning Tea

By an initiative of the Board an invitation to attend a Morning Tea at First Fleet House was extended to around 70 Members who have joined the Fellowship within the last twelve months. Some 24 folk from as far afield as Newcastle and Wollongong accepted the invitation and rolled up to headquarters on Saturday morning, 29 October. On hand to meet and greet the new Members were Directors, Robin Palmer, John Boyd, Sharon Lamb, Therese Luck and Ian Palmer. Also present were Elaine Bennett and Lois Cook from the Membership Committee.

On arrival the new Members were taken on a conducted tour of First Fleet House, the function and facilities within each of the rooms being explained. You may recall that the rooms at First Fleet House are named after each of the ships of the First Fleet. Many of the folk had a chuckle over the naming of some of the rooms: such as *Borrowdale* for the library, *Supply* for the kitchen and *Golden Grove* for the outdoor 'garden' at the rear of the building.

Vice President Ian Palmer gave a short welcoming address and also related a little of the history of the Fellowship. Refreshments followed, after which many of the new Members perused the library for information about their particular family or took the opportunity to look at their Family Tree on one of the computers. Some were happy to chat and explore family connections with other Members.

Many of the Members commented that they appreciated being given the opportunity to come to First Fleet House and found the atmosphere very friendly and welcoming. Judging by the reactions I am sure this function will become an annual event of the Fellowship.

*Ian Palmer*

**Dear Fellowship of First Fleeters,**  
I just wanted to thank all those involved in arranging such a welcoming gathering last Saturday 29 October.

I met a member whose ancestor travelled on the same ship to Australia, spent years on Norfolk Island and then transferred to Tasmania as did my own family.

To realise that our First Fleeters would have known each other through those early years in Australian history was very special. And the morning tea was delicious. Thank you indeed,

*In Fellowship, #7959 Sue Halcrow*



## ~ Our Fifteen Chapters in Action ~

**ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT:** *Both sides of the Murray River*

**Venue and First Meetings:** To be advised. Please contact Gaye Merkel, ☎ 6025 5747.

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

**Venue:** Meeting Room, Old Gordon Public School, 799 Pacific Hwy, Gordon, monthly, third Friday, 10.30am to 12 noon. **Next Meetings:** 17 February. Speaker: Joan Lawrence. 16 March. Speaker: tba. **Next Event:** Thursday 9 February. Trip to Cockatoo Is. Meet at 10.30am at Circular Quay. Contacts: Joy Zamiatin, ☎ 9451 8665, Gillian Doyle ☎ 9440 5340.

**CANBERRA:** *ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds*

**Next Event:** Australia Day, 12 noon, Lunch at Southern Cross Yacht Club. Please direct enquiries to Geoff Cameron, ☎ 02 6251 4095.

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

**Venue:** Wyong RSL Club, corner Anzac Ave and Margaret St, Wyong. Meetings each month on second Saturday at 10.00am for 10.30am.

**Next Meetings:** 11 February. Speaker: Jon Fearon, Topic: *FF James Bryan Cullen*. 10 March. Speaker: Zillah Campbell. Topic: *The Early Days of the Fellowship*. Please contact Jon Fearon for details, ☎ 4323 1849.

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

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

**Next Meetings:** 4 February. Speaker: David Mason. Topic: *Farming Development in the Parramatta Area*. 3 March. Speaker: Robert Curran. Topic: *Newington Armoury – Storage and Handling of Explosives in Colonial Times*. For details please contact 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 10.00am to 12.30pm.

**Next Meeting:** 20 February. Speaker: John Risby. Topic: *FF Edward Risby*.

**Next Event:** Monday 19 March. Outing to Mission for Seafarers, 96 Hannell St, Wickham. Meet at 10.30am. Lunch afterwards at Olive Tree Cafe. For details please contact Yvonne Bradley, ☎ 4957 4758.

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

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

**Next Event:** Saturday 18 February. Walking Tour of Historic Carcoar. Meet at Carcoar Court-house at 1.30pm. Afternoon tea at Stokes House Cafe. (\$8.00). RSVP on or before Monday 13 February to Judy Dwyer, ☎ 6365 8234 or 0428 173 213.

**MORETON:** *South East Queensland*

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

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 11 February. Speaker: Julia Webb. Topic: *Ancestry.com*. Please contact Don Cornford, ☎ 0457 466 020 for details.

**NEW ENGLAND:** *Armidale & surrounds*

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

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 11 February. Venue and time tba.

**Next Event:** 26 January, First Fleet Display at local Australia Day Celebration at Armidale Showground, 10.30am to 2.00pm. Contact Robyn Crosslé, ☎ 6772 3140.

**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:** Sunday 5 February, at Mylestom Hall. Speaker: Paul Woods. Contact Mal Dale for details, ☎ 07 3283 4485.

**NORTHERN RIVERS:** *Lismore & surrounds*

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

**Next Meeting:** Sunday 25 March. Venue tba. Details from Karin, ☎ 6682 5338.

**NORTH WEST:** *Tamworth & surrounds*

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

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 4 February at the Family History Rooms, North St, Tamworth.

**Next Event:** 26 January, BYO Picnic Lunch at First Fleet Gardens, Wallabadah, after official Bicentennial Park celebrations, breakfast and award ceremonies. Contact Jo Crossing, ☎ 6766 8255.

**SOUTH COAST:** *Engadine to Burrill Lake*

**Venue:** Laurel Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto. Meetings monthly except January, May and December on the 1st Tuesday, 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Next Meetings:** 7 February. Speakers: Numerous. Topics: *Introductory Talks by New Members of the Chapter*. 6 March. Speaker: John Boyd. Topic: *Family Research*. Details from Stan Keough, ☎ 4232 1060.

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS:** *Mittagong, Moss Vale & surrounds*

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

**Next Meeting:** 8 February. Speaker: Chris Thompson. Topic: *Fact, Fiction and Story-telling, Bringing Harpers' Mansion to Life*. Details from Neville Usher, ☎ 4869 1406.

**SWAN RIVER:** *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds*

**Venue:** Various locations as arranged from time to time.

**Next Meeting:** Saturday 18 February, 2.00pm, at the Church of the Resurrection Community Hall, Swanbourne. For details please contact Toni Mahony, ☎ 08 9271 7630.

*Jon Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer*

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS



### WILLIAM NASH / MARIA HAYNES

#8012 Elizabeth May Lowe

### JOHN MUNDAY

#8013 Beverley Davis

### JAMES BLOODWORTH / SARAH BELLAMY

#8014 Shirley Gwenith Tunnicliff

### JAMES SQUIRE

#8015 Antonin Pieter Rodolphe Genevois

#8016 Marcello Rubens Goncalves Jnr

#8017 Lloyd Karel Williams Student

#8018 Oliver George Williams Jnr

#8019 Imogen Mary Williams Jnr

#8020 Tamasin Emma-Lee Schmiga Jnr

#8021 Benjamin Richard Schmiga Jnr

### NATHANIAL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#8022 Joy Cecelia Goold

#8024 William Thomas Ian Cutler

### JOHN MARTIN / JOHN RANDALL

#8023 Jeannette Ethel Adams

### EDWIN GOODIN

#8025 Dorothy Joan Massie

### FRIEND

#103 Marie Heilbrunn

## MEMBERS' MEMORANDA

### BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:

#### JOHN NICHOLLS

##### Tobin Arthur Pearce

23 August 2011, son to Scott & Rochelle Pearce, grandson for #6944 John and Lorna Pearce.

#### THOMAS ACRES

##### Alexandra Lilian Marie Saulnier

25 May 2011, daughter to Stephanie and Romain Saulnier, great granddaughter for #5409 Lilian and Ronald Noonan (dec.). Ninth generation.

##### Tarragon Elizabeth Susanne Menger

19 October 2010, in Melbourne, second daughter to Tim and Joanna Menger, fifth grandchild for #7476, Susanne and Neil Menger of Eastern Farms Chapter. Fourteenth great grandchild for #3707 Mabel Pearce.

##### Sophie Emma Chapman

22 February 2011, in Newcastle, third child to Emma and Andrew Chapman, sixth grandchild for #7476 Susanne and Neil Menger of Eastern Farms Chapter. Sixteenth great grandchild for #3707 Mabel Pearce.

##### Amelia (Milly) Valerie Menger

26 August 2011, in Burnie, Tasmania, second child to David and Melanie Menger, seventh grandchild for #7476, Susanne and Neil Menger of Eastern Farms Chapter. Eighteenth great grandchild for #3707 Mabel Pearce.

### JACOB BELLETT/ANN HARPER

#### Amelia Leigh Flanders

5 October 2011, at Wahroonga, NSW, daughter to Karen Vanessa Pang and Ryan Damian Flanders, granddaughter for #6600 Janice Bellette. Ninth generation.

#### ANN FORBES

##### Daniel McKeown

12 September 2011, in Perth WA, son to #2669 Wendy and Ian McKeown. Third grandchild for #1888 Bruce and Marilyn Arnett.

#### JAMES PEAULET

##### Max Benjamin Richards

11 November 2011, at Hawkesbury Hospital, first son to Sarah and Ben Richards, fifth grandchild for Ann Burke (awaiting membership certificate), sixth great grandchild for Mary and #8011 Des Burke.

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

#### ANN FORBES

##### #6776 Beverley Stockley

19 August 2011. Late of Bowral, NSW. Wife of #6776.1 Cecil Stockley.

#### JOHN NICHOLLS

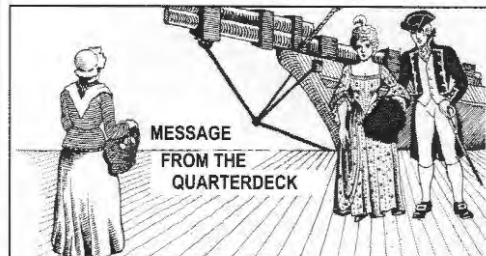
##### #3117 Leslie Allen Findlay

26 October 2011, aged 90. Late of Ballina, NSW. Member of Northern Rivers Chapter.

#### FRIEND

##### #71 George Neil Wilson

29 November 2011, aged 88. Late of Newcastle East. Former husband of #7965 Wilga Ramsay. Member of Hunter Valley Chapter.



On 25 October 2011 the Minister responsible for the National Heritage Register under the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the Hon. Tony Burke MP, added the First Fleet Flagship, *HMS Sirius*, to the National Heritage Register. The date was the 225th anniversary of its commissioning. *Sirius* was wrecked at Norfolk Island in 1790. The wreck site is the only one known of the First Fleet ships and has also been protected under the Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.

*HMS Sirius* is the first of a new series of watercolour paintings of all eleven ships of the First Fleet commissioned in October 2011 by the Board. It appeared as a small grayscale scan on the advance notice and booking form for our Australia Day Luncheon. The artist is FFF member #1726 Tom Silk, who previously gave us the painting *The Beginning*. That image has appeared at regular intervals in Fellowship publications. It is planned that the eleven paintings will be scanned in full colour and prints made available for purchase early in 2012, individually or as a complete set.

Many of our Members and Friends are now participating in the Fellowship through membership of a Chapter, and have access to the meetings and events as set out each month in *Founders*. This is a reminder to those who are not in a position to join a Chapter — you may attend any of these occasions as a guest. You can do so

on impulse, unless prior booking for a specific event is indicated, or you can ring ahead anyway for details. You may be asked for a small donation for refreshments and/or to defray the cost of the meeting premises, but a warm welcome is guaranteed. That's it, chapter and verse!

The first Christian Service in Australia (indoors) was conducted by Richard Johnson on 3 February 1788. St Philip's York St Sydney holds an annual commemoration. If you wish to attend please ring the Church on 02 9247 1071 to establish the Sunday date and the time to this year's service.

*Founders* Editions 2008-11 are now available for reference in a bound book at FF House.

The year 2013 will herald the 225th Anniversary of the arrival of the First Fleet, and the Fellowship is certain to be marking the event. However the THOMAS ACRES SOCIETY already has plans underway. Descendants are being asked for an expression of interest and a deposit for a reunion luncheon at Campbelltown, NSW, on Saturday 2 February, 2013. Seating at the venue is limited to 240, so an early commitment is desirable. Please contact the President, #7127 James Bruce, 4/182 Leacocks Lane, Casula NSW 2170, email jrbruce68@yahoo.com.au, or mobile 0438 163 710.

Apparently the USA is to adopt a military presence in northern Australia. As an American media jokester remarked, "Quagmire again, 223 years later and the English still haven't withdrawn!" RW

## MORE ON FIRST FLEET PARK

Further to our advocacy for greater recognition of our colonial history in First Fleet Park, Circular Quay (see *Founders* 42.6, page 1), there are indications that the Minister, Brad Hazzard, may be taking our letter and those of our members seriously. Sharon Lamb received this reply from the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority on 14 November 2011:

*At the Minister's request the Foreshore Authority is currently discussing with the City of Sydney the preparation of a master plan encompassing Circular Quay, from the Sydney Opera House on the east to the Harbour Bridge on the west. Consequently, while this work is in progress the Foreshore Authority has put on hold the proposed revitalisation of First Fleet Park, apart from the work required in front of the MCA. The numerous issues raised in the Fellowship's submission (28 September 2011) will be taken into account at such time as the revitalisation of First Fleet Park is again under consideration.*

The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore MP, has also replied sharing our concerns, offering quite specific support and facilitating our ongoing access to the Council officers concerned — Public Art Program Manager, Eva Riestra, and the Program Manager Urban Design Strategic Projects, Michael Harvey, who is in charge of the proposed redesign of FF Park. RW