

Founders

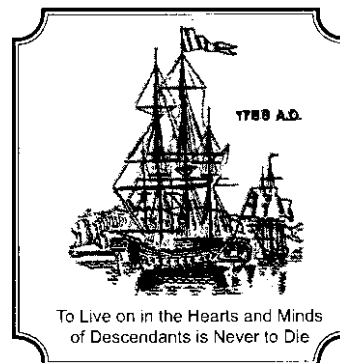
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PATRON: Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir, AC, CVO, Governor of New South Wales

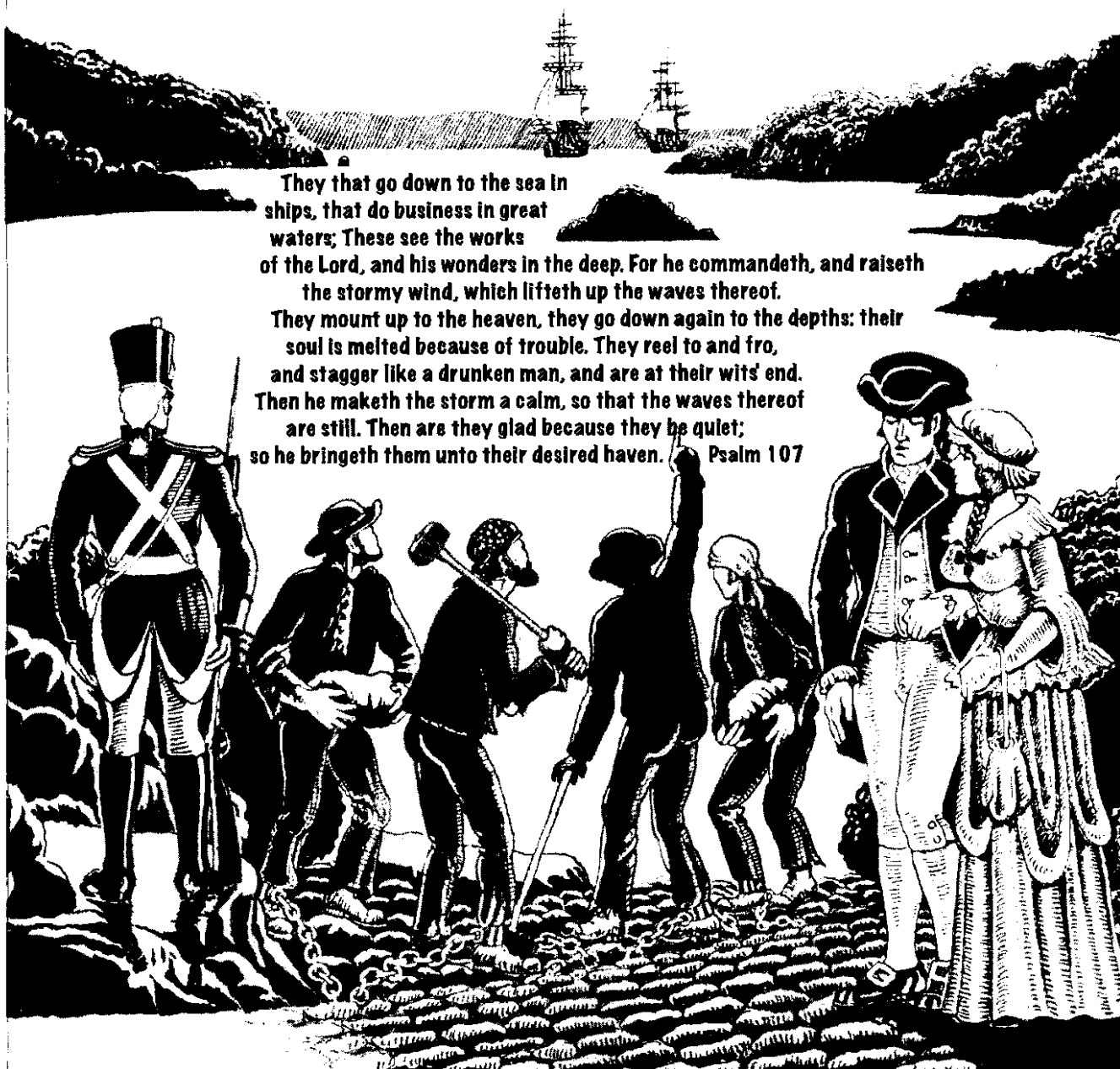
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A.S.M.



They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end. Then he maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. Psalm 107

NEW HORIZONS: The image is my departing tribute to Arthur S Mendel, the earliest illustrator in the quarterly magazine of the Fellowship. His drawings and spirit have been with me throughout the 26 issues as Editor. **RW**

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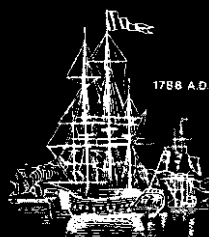
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**The Transit of Venus
6 June 2012
See page 11**



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Founders

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From the President

"Good grief Charlie Brown," Lucy taunts, "don't you know anything about life?" – It seems so easy for a comic strip author or illustrator to portray many human emotions in their characters day after day. Sometimes joy, exultation, winning, losing, trust, doubt, fear, pain and grief.

We all experience these and other emotions throughout life; the longer we live the more experience we have and hence the opportunity to share with others. The depth of these feelings often depends upon the closeness of the person we are relating to or associated with. We each express our feelings differently; hence if we suddenly choke up and cannot speak, our emotions have been reminded of something, some place, or some one that is close to us. My family and I are so grateful for the many cards and support we have received from Fellowship Members. Thank You.

225 years is but a short span of time when measured against the time of human existence on this planet that we inhabit. But it is of significance to us who are First Fleet descendants. Yes, leaving Portsmouth 13 May 1787, many of our forebears having been selected by the best legal minds of the realm, embarked upon an eight-and-a-half month journey to establish a colony, which in today's terms was fraught with danger, sickness, hunger, and yet they endured, and eventually established a new culture, in a new land. They encountered a different culture practiced by the indigenous inhabitants; which each did not understand, and tried unsuccessfully to change for the supposed benefit of those inhabitants. Let's hope that discussion about our two cultures is respected and built upon to produce a more understanding environment for the future.

We will be tracing the journey of the eleven First Fleet ships during the coming months as each port is reached, and eventually celebrate the landing at Sydney Cove on Australia Day in January 2013, and hopefully, as well as on Norfolk Island on 6 March which is their own "Commemoration Day".

In Fellowship, John Haxton

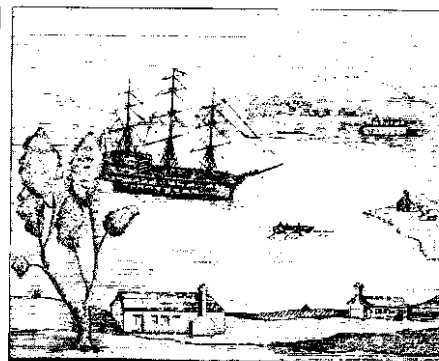
First Fleet Park Update

The Fellowship has been assiduous in following up with the State Government, the issues we have raised in respect of the revitalisation of First Fleet Park. Our suggestions, concerns and enthusiasms were set out last November on page one of *Founders* 42.6.

Shortly after the March 2012 issue of *Founders* was posted, our Community Advocate, Sharon Lamb, received this communication from **Ian Kelly**, the Director, The Rocks and Circular Quay, for the Sydney Harbour Fore-shore Authority.

"Any specific design work on the revitalisation of First Fleet Park, of the type the Fellowship has suggested, will be guided by the principles established in the proposed Circular Quay Strategic Vision.

"The Foreshore Authority and the City of Sydney are still finalising the scope and program for the proposed Circular Quay Strategic Vision, in which full community



Was it once like this?

consultation will be an essential component.

"I will ensure the Fellowship of First Fleeters is notified at the appropriate time of the community consultation on the Circular Quay Strategic Vision, and then the revitalisation of First Fleet Park."

So, it would appear that we are still in the mix!

RW

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The painting by a native artist in Canton (now Guangzhou) in 1788.

The Background

Michael Flynn, who was our guest speaker at the 2012 Australia Day Luncheon, and is writing the second edition of Mollie Gillen's book, *Founders of Australia*, has informed us of an exciting discovery. He was working on the life of First Fleeter **JOHN MARSHALL** and on the internet at www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/objects/qoHnxre5QjemCFC-Dbb7bg he unearthed an article on the man himself. Michael reported, "It includes a portrait of John Marshall I was unaware of. It was a stunning and pleasant surprise — portraits for First Fleeters are so rare."

The painting came with an account of his life written in 1901 by George Gisby, a grandson of John Campbell. It is also possible that Marshall left memoirs. Michael went on to say, "I've seen another posting from someone else named Yvonne which seems to be quoting from Marshall's own memoirs. I'm very keen to get to the bottom of this to authenticate both the picture and the memoirs, which would be of major significance, especially if he reminisces about the First Fleet."

"I've managed to get into contact with Mr Charles Marshall in the USA who has a family story about being descended from the discoverer of the Marshall Islands and has put out queries about Marshall."

"The memoirs themselves are said to have descended through Captain Marshall's daughter Dorothy, who married a man named Gisby. Charles Marshall corresponded with a woman who edited Marshall's Wikipedia entry who said she had a copy of the journal titled: *A Journal of the different voyages of Mr John Marshall written by himself*", but unfortunately she stopped replying to his emails and did not send him a

Tracking the Master of the Scarborough

copy of the journal. If genuine, these memoirs are the biggest First Fleet discovery since the Jacob Nagle memoirs emerged in the 80s."

Michael then asked us if we have had any contact from Marshall's descendants, and Records Officer Ian Palmer reports that unfortunately we have not. But maybe a member could provide some valuable input. Will you please check your records?

Captain John Campbell

Captain John Charles Marshall was born in Ramsgate, Kent, England on 15 February 1748. Having been bound apprentice at the age of ten, he spent his life at sea. In 1784 he replaced Captain Scordale as captain of *Scarborough*, and remained in that role until 1792, covering two voyages to Port Jackson. On the First Fleet voyage he was joined by Surgeon Dennis Considen and 1st Lieutenant of Marines, Robert Kellow.

The *Scarborough* owners, Thomas, George and John Hopper (or Hooper) chartered her to the Admiralty. She was the second largest vessel in the fleet and arrived with 201 male convicts, 30 crew and 50 marines. A marine private on board, John Easty, kept a Journal (1786-1793) that provides a valuable record of the people and events on the ship, both for the voyage and later in the colony.

Scarborough was cleared of her cargo of stores in Port Jackson on 25 March 1788 and discharged from Government service. On 6 May she set sail with *Charlotte* for China under contract to the East India Company to deliver tea to England. William Bradley wrote that Captain Marshall left his Newfoundland dog, Hector, with Mr Zachariah Clark, who had remained in the colony.

After meeting up on Lord Howe Island on 17 May for food supplies, *Charlotte* and *Scarborough* sailed sufficiently far to the east to avoid the archipelago of the Solomon Islands on the northward leg, although they did encounter a large group of Islands in the Central Pacific in June 1788 which were then largely uncharted. Mapping began under the direction of Captain Gilbert of *Charlotte* and Captain Marshall, for whom the islands were named. The Gilbert and Ellice Islands group of 16 islands now form the Republic of Kiribati.

The Marshall Islands, originally titled, "Lord Mulgrove's Range, consists of 29 atolls made up of some 1,225 islands and islets.

Both ships provisioned at the island of Tinian in the Marianas, and reached Canton in early September. The route they had pioneered was known for many years as The Easternmost Route to China.

After 13 months at sea *Scarborough* dropped anchor at Gravesend on 1 June 1789. *Charlotte* arrived 4 days later.

John Marshall captained *Scarborough* on a second voyage to Sydney Cove, having been hired by the new contractors soon after his return. In November 1789, many of the 259 male convicts coming aboard were in poor health and did not survive the voyage. This factor, combined with an attempted seizure of the ship by the convicts, deterred Marshall from any further voyages of transportation.

John and Elizabeth Macarthur were transferred to *Scarborough* on its second voyage. Elizabeth Macarthur wrote that Marshall had a wife and three children in England of whom he spoke in the tenderest terms. (*So he will have current descendants in the UK!*) She also described him as a plain and honest man who treated them well and amused them with tales of the First Fleet voyage and early days in the colony.

On the return of Captain Marshall to Sydney in June 1790, it was reported by David Collins that the dog Hector swam to the ship, "and getting on board, recognised his old master, and manifested, in every manner suitable to his nature, his joy on seeing him; nor could the animal be persuaded to quit him again, accompanying him always when he went on shore, and returning with him on board."

Scarborough sailed with Marshall for Canton on 8 August 1790, arriving safely in London some time between August and October 1791.

John Marshall continued his life at sea. He had seen action in the American War of Independence. In the Napoleonic Wars, aboard *Diana*, in beating off a French privateer of superior strength, he was twice wounded, one ball passing through his body, and another striking his watch, glancing off and passing through his thigh. He died in 1819 at the age of 71.

Can we find his gravesite? **RW**

Richard Atkins – a bit shady

Richard Atkins (formerly Richard Bowyer) left England on 20 June 1791, probably to escape his creditors, and arrived at Sydney on *Pitt* on 13 February 1792, aged 46. He remained in the colony for 18 years, and during that time held the positions of registrar of the Vice-Admiralty Court, inspector of public works, registrar of imports and exports and acting superintendent of police.

He first took office as Acting Judge Advocate in 1796, in place of David Collins. Atkins remained in judicial office until 1798, when he was replaced by the newly arrived Richard Dore, an attorney who became the first legally qualified judge in the penal colony. Dore died at the end of 1800, and Atkins was again appointed as Acting Judge Advocate, until his appointment was confirmed by the British government in 1802. He then remained in office as Judge Advocate until the end of 1809.

The military coup which deposed Governor Bligh also displaced Atkins from 26 January 1808. After a year, the unlawful government of 1808 and 1809 found that it could not do without Atkins' undoubted, if amateur, legal skills. He was restored to practical office for the whole of 1809. In 1810, Atkins sailed from Sydney on *Hindustan*, and returned to England where he entered retirement. He died insolvent on 21 November 1820, his debts in NSW unpaid.

Atkins was the most controversial judge in the most controversial period of NSW history. The controversy was based on three facts: his drunkenness, his lack of money, and his attachment to the governors whom the leaders of the coup disliked. Atkins clashed with the coup leaders, including John Macarthur. One of them described him as a man who "lies, cheats, drinks, forbears no Lewd Delights, a hateful Fiend by Day – a monster thro' the Night".

The argument about Atkins continues today. Some historians see him as a hopeless drunk, while others see a humane, sensitive, though weak, gentleman of his aristocratic background, fifth son of Sir William Bowyer, baronet.

He wrote a Journal covering the years 1792-1794 before he took office as Judge Advocate. It reflects his perhaps unusual attitude to law enforcement and his regard for the natural world around him, but also contains rambling, eccentric discourse on social and religious faith issues and on science and philosophy. Nevertheless, it is often wise and insightful and is another valuable source of information on the state of the colony in those days.

HERE ARE SOME EXTRACTS. The original manuscript is held by the National Library at MS 4039.

The Journal is a 'should-read' for FFF Members!

Twelve Angry Men?

This day the 9th April attended a criminal Court, composed of the Judge Advocate and Six commissioned Officers of the Navy or Land forces. It was for the Trial of a convict for robbing his Master; every thing was conducted with the greatest propriety, and except a jury (which is the great palladium of English Liberty) was conformable to the English Law and custom. An Englishman would with reason spurn the Idea of giving up life unless sanctioned by the verdict of an English Jury, yet I cannot but conceive strict justice may be done him as well by 6 officers whom we must suppose men

of some Education, attended by the Judge Advocate, as by a jury consisting of twelve Ignorant farmers or tradesmen who know nothing but what belongs to their own line of Trade.

Rendering the Law

To silence the voice of deception, to shelter the weak and innocent from the detestable attacks of fraud and calumny; to protect the poor and defenseless from the fatal influence of the rich and the great. In a word to render the Law, the certain, clear and disinterested safeguard of the honour, fortune and lives of mankind, is a glory, which a good citizen cannot purchase at too dear a rate.

Illness and Rations

The colony very sickley. Eighty Eight died in the course of the last month, and in all probability this will exceed it. It has pleased God Almighty to inflict on me these last three weeks, more sickness than I have experienced these last 30 Years. I have received good, tho' unworthily, and shall I not receive evil also? The ration for the week is 5 lb Flower and 4 lb Port or 7 lb Beef per man without distinction. The woman's is 1 lb port less and 1 lb Flower, a small allowance is made for children.

Half-cocked Banks' Botanist goes for a Burton

This morning died at Paramatta in consequence of his being shot, by his Gun going off at half coxh Mr Burton aged about 23, a young man of very promising talents; he was sent out to this country by Sir Joseph Banks as Bottanist, in which line he would have made a conspicuous figure had it pleased God to spare him; But he decreed otherwise, and what he wills is fate. What a field for reflection!

Planting the Seed

It is my intention to make as good a collection of Plants, seeds, Insects &c as I am able and send them home to George. The custom of Judges upon the circuit assisting at divine Service is wisely established, For what human Judge is there, who then prostrated before the Eternal Judge in his holy Temple, where every thing traces out to his imagination the picture of virtue, will not experience a salutary emotion, and be fill'd with that ardent Zeal which ought to animate him in the exercise of his important functions.

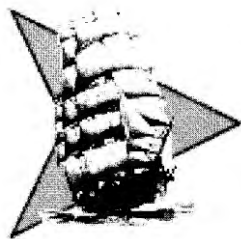
Rambling Road

This Evening I walked by myself to the Brick fields, about a mile from the Camp, for so Sydney is call'd, from its having been the Spot they pitch'd their tends on their first landing; A very good road is made the whole way to it through the wood, where trees of an immense size border it on both sides, their lofty and wide spreading Branches look beautiful. The timber is of no value but for burning, almost every tree is rotten at the heart, very hard and heavy and coarse grained, emitting great quantities of Gum like Dragon's Blood, but without its properties, and is totally useless.

The underwood is mostly flowering shrubs, some of whom are now in blossom of the most vivid and beautifull Colours imaginable, and many of them most delicately formed. An arm of the sea appears thro' the wood and beyond it another wood rising gradually to a moderate height which terminates the prospect.

Breakfast with Phillip

This morning breakfasted with the Governor who received me with his usual politeness. People may exclaim against him as much as they please, but I much doubt wether those who find much fault, would not run into much greater errors themselves; His situation is by no means a desirable one in point of duty, for except the civil and military departments he has nothing but a set of rascals to deal with who require



a watchful eye to make them do their duty. The Overseers are themselves convicts and not to be depended on. At Parramatta some of them are rigid to a degree, which proceeds from a fear of being thought too indulgent, and probably from what will almost universally operate

upon weak minds, a thirst for power and dominion over the rest of our fellow creatures. The lash is in their hands at present, they ought to use it with lenity, least they themselves should fall under it, for power here hangs by a thread.

Hungering

This day at 6 o'clock set off for Parramatta in the Governor's Gigg with the Judge Advocate. The feelings of humanity is sorely wounded to see the Number of poor wretches, whose emaciated looks, denote poverty and misery in the extreme, brought as prisoners, for stealing a few cobb's of Indian corn. Hunger is the general plea, but unfortunately in this country it cannot be admitted, for was it, no private property could be secure. Indeed, to act as a magistrate here with efficacy, you must in a great degree lay aside that Philanthropy and good will towards men that adorns human nature.

Why not go Fishing?

This morning went fishing and caught a sufficiency to last a day, If the poor convicts had but an opportunity to fish, it would be a great resource, but there is no trusting of them with a Boat. The quantities of fish in the harbour is amazing, mostly Mullet, I should imagine the fishery under proper regulations might be of great advantage, indeed if any thing has happened to the *Atlantic* (the Ship sent to Bengal for provisions,) or should they neglect to send us a Store Ship from England, something must be thought of for the support of the Colony which is at present in a very ticklish situation.

An Anniversary at Church

This day five Years Govr Phillip sailed from St Helens, with 11 Sail to form a Settlement in N S Wales. Went to Church, As I mean to make every person attend divine Service, I think it necessary to set the Example. It is proper every where, but more particularly so here. Dined with the Governor.

Man on the Land

This morning at day light set off with the Governor to visit the settlers at what is call'd the Ponds. The various accounts that have been given of this Country by Enthousiasts according to the different mediums in which they have seen it, some praising it as equal to any part of the world in point of goodness of soil &c while others say the very reverse are perhaps neither strictly true. If I confined myself to the environs of Sydney Cove I should say that it will hardly ever answer the purposes of extensive cultivation arising from the rocks and stumps of trees and a scarcity of mould which will certainly prevent it ever being of essential use to the colony in general but to individuals it turns to great advantage by giving great quantities of vegetables &c which grow very luxuriantly, but this place (Parramatta) is much preferable to the other with regard to soil and the extent of country cleared on which grows exceeding good Indian Corn, wheat, barley and in general every thing

put into it gives a good return... Indeed too much praise cannot be given to the Governor for (I may say) the paternal care and encouragement he give to all and each of them who deserve it. I have not but there are now some settlers who will in the course of three years make their lands fetch as many pounds, and that with the assistance at the first begging of a spade, saw and hoe.

The Blue Mountains

We walked up the hill from which we saw distinctly Mountains call'd the Blue ones at about 25 miles distance. The whole face of the country appears one artistic wood. It has twice been attempted the getting to them but the natural difficulties of the country and the necessity for every man carrying his own provisions they have never proceeded much further than a river call'd Hawkesbury, about half way.

Gouty, no Gallivanting

Hoar frost, fine weather, Was this day to have gone to prospect Hill with the Govr but found my foot so painfull with (as I suppose) the Gout as to prevent me. Great quantities of Quails are here, much the same as in England, but rather browner: Supt with the Govr.

Winter and Things Botanical

The Continuance of fine pleasant weather at a time of year (the beginning of Winter) shews the excellence of the climate, indeed every thing is in a continual state of vegetation, The Woods are in constant foliage for tho' they shed their leaves, yet they are only shoved off by the succeeding Leaves.

Justice for All

I find it requires a great deal of patience and perseverance to persist in doing what I think I am bound to do in my Judicial capacity, I mean to shew no distinction of characters, but to execute justice impartially, which by the blessing of God I will do, let the consequence be what it may. The difficulties, almost unsurmountable, of getting at truth among a sett of people used to every species of vice and Newgate chicanery is amazing; nothing but perseverance with a firm resolution of getting at it, if attainable can operate:

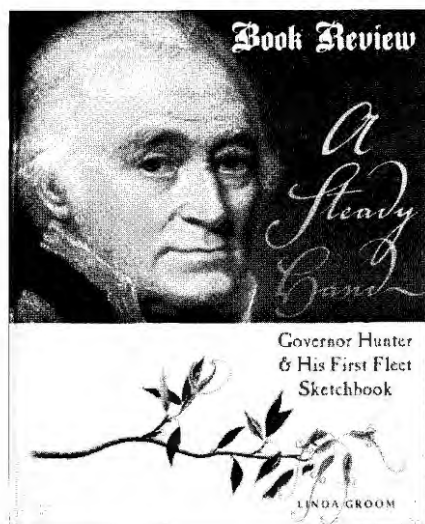
Some Physics and Zoology

All sounds wether acute or grave strong or weak move at the rate of 1142 feet in a second of time. Hence whenever the lightening of thunder, or the fire of artillery are seen, their actual distances from the observer may be easily ascertained by the vibrations of a pendulum. This velocity, it is true, may be a little augmented or diminished by favorable or contrary winds, and by the heat or cold. But the difference, even in high winds, is so trifling, that, for any useful purpose, it scarcely merits attention. The motion of Animals is proportioned to their weight and structure. A flea can leap some hundred times its own length. Were an elephant, a camel or a horse to leap in the same proportion, their weight would crush them to atoms.

Moonstruck

I was yesterday about sun set walking, till the Night insensibly fell upon me. I at first amused myself with all the richness and variety of Colors which appeared in the Wester most parts of heaven: In proportion as they faded away and went out, several stars and planets appeared one after another, 'till the whole firmament was in glow. The blueness of the Other was exceedingly heightened and enlightened by the season of the year, and by the rays of all those luminaries that passed through it. The Galaxy appeared in its most beautiful white. To compleat the scene, the full moon rose at length in that clouded Majesty, which Milton takes notice of and opened to the Eye a new picture of nature, which was more finely shaded, and disposed among softer lights, than that which the Sun had before discovered to us.

Extracts Headings by the Editor not Richard. RW



The loving family of John Hunter, on his death at 83 retained his sketchbook. It descended through his niece, Eliza Kemp, to her daughter and on through a further three generations to Julius Norton Goodwyn of Budleigh Salterton in Devon, England. He offered it to auction in 1953, the collector Sir Rex Nan Kivell purchased it and in 1959 sold it to the National Library of Australia.

Thus it that Linda Groom, working with the NLA, was enabled to compile a handsome companion volume to her 2009 publication, *First Fleet Artist, George Raper's Birds and Plants of Australia*. (see the review in *Founders* 40.4).

A Steady Hand, Governor Hunter & His First Fleet Sketchbook primarily contains the portfolio of full colour images from the sketchbook, which was a small volume 23cms high and 19 cms wide containing some hundred watercolours of birds, plants, fish, people and animals of NSW and Norfolk Island. But Linda's book also presents a warm, sympathetic but unbiased account of the long, steady, if chequered career of the artist as naval identity, musician and Governor, adding further dimensions to what we have recently learned from Robert Barnes' 2010 book, *An Unlikely Leader, The Life and Times of Captain John Hunter*. (see the review in *Founders* 41.1).

John Hunter has often been painted as the ideal second-in-command, but this book goes a long way towards dispelling the idea that he was meek and mild and lacking in personal initiative. He may have been a somewhat humble man, and very respectful of the chain of command, but he was still a crafty Scot, superb mathematician and skilled navigator. When *Sirius* and *Supply* separated in the Indian Ocean, it was Hunter

who took on the 'roaring forties' and in a slower ship matched the arrival time of the more conservative Phillip. It was Hunter who was charged with dealing with the incipient threat of the arrival of La Pérouse at Botany Bay, while Phillip kept out of the way. Again it was Hunter who captained the leaky *Sirius* around the globe to bring back stores to the colony, this time narrowly averting destruction rounding Tasman Head.

Of course he did lose a couple of ships, *Sirius* at Norfolk Island, and *Venerable*, his final command, at Torbay, but these instances, of which he was cleared of all blame, need to be measured against the enormous maritime and naval exposure of his long career: and in both cases his leadership in crisis was impeccable.

Hunter is seen at his best in the most exciting chapter of the book, the voyage home of the *Waaksamheyd* with the remnant of the *Sirius*'s complement, 123 people on board. It is a tale not often told in such detail. The hired vessel with a Dutch master, Detmer Smith, was a heavy sailer, with a Dutch-Malay crew, few provisions and leaky water barrels. Under Hunter's guidance the ship avoided a battery of perils: water spouts, uncharted sandbanks, shoal water, pirates and disease. It even fell to him to negotiate the purchase of *Waaksamheyd* from the Dutch Governor at Batavia, and then as the new captain to bring her home to Plymouth.

Linda Groom has further emphasised a beguiling aspect of the humility of Hunter. She has juxtaposed watercolours of George Raper and the copies painted by Hunter. It is apparent to all that the superior talent lies with Raper, but Linda makes the point that firstly, such copying was considered artistically permissible, and secondly, that Hunter, the 2nd Captain of the Fleet, had no compunction in having his work compared to that of a lowly midshipman.

Any 'life' of John Hunter must contend with the notion that his later Governorship was less than stellar. I am content to accept the argument of the book, and that of other commentators, that no one else could have been more successful given the lawless state of the colony that he inherited.

This is one of the most elegant and well-written books of its type that has come my way in a decade. **RW**

The Wallis Collection

An album of 35 watercolours and drawings, many depicting life in early Newcastle, was acquired at auction in October 2011 by NSW State Library for \$A1.72m. The collection, which was previously unknown, belonged to one of Lachlan Macquarie's senior officers, **Captain James Wallis**, who served as commandant of the Newcastle penal colony for repeat offenders between June 1816 and December 1818. The album was unearthed at the back of a cupboard after the death of an elderly Ontario man, who had no descendants.

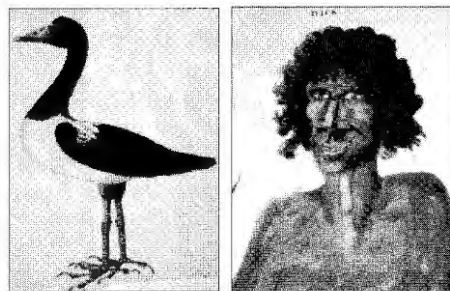
It contains rare watercolours of the Awabakal people, and landscapes from Sydney and regional NSW.

Mitchell Librarian Richard Neville was delighted to get it, and commented, "This remarkable find is without a doubt the most significant pictorial artefact to have been made in colonial NSW during the 1810s. What makes it even more unusual is that it has original watercolours of Aboriginal people who are named. That is very rare."

Captain Wallis commissioned the library's priceless Macquarie Chest, which he presented to the governor. He also commissioned 12 engravings of views of Sydney, Newcastle and Hawkesbury. The copy he gave to Macquarie is also in the library. But when he returned to London he had another set of the engravings made by a commercial printer for publication. "This album is that copy," Mr Neville said.

The discovery has also cleared up a mystery. The commandant was an amateur artist and the engraving plates claim to be taken from "drawings by Captain James Wallis". However, recent detective work has pointed to the convict artist, **Joseph Lycett**, a friend of Wallis, being responsible.

"This album confirms that," Mr Neville said. "Wallis has actually written on the original watercolours, which are apparently as fresh as the day they were painted, 'drawn by a convict'. Another Lycett drawing in the library collection has his signature visible only under a magnifying glass. He knew the gentlemen of the colony weren't beyond stealing credit for his work." **RW**



The Awabakal man is named as "Dick". Dunno who the bird is!

THE SECRETS OF SACKVILLE REACH

Having always been a keen amateur student of Australian history it was a marvellous revelation to discover my roots trace back to the First Fleet in 1788 and my subsequent acceptance into the Fellowship of First Fleeters (#7987) in August 2011.

My lineage began with **Ann Forbes**, *Prince of Wales*, and **William Dring**, *Alexander*, who married on Norfolk Island on 5 November, 1791. They apparently had three children, two dying at a very young age, however my lineage continued through Elizabeth the surviving daughter. The fate of William Dring is unknown, whether he died in Sydney or somehow made his way back to England is a bit of a mystery, (see *Founders* 42.2, Ed).

However, the life of Ann Dring (Forbes) is well documented. Ann eventually married Thomas Huxley who was awarded several land grants in southern Sydney and the Hawkesbury River area. The union between Ann and Thomas Huxley produced ten children. Ann died on 29 December, 1851, aged 81, and was buried at St Thomas' Church, Tizzana Road, Sackville Reach, on the Hawkesbury.



Matthew with Ann

During my research I also discovered that one of my GGGG grandmothers was Jessica Turnbull who was brought to Australia by her parents John and Ann Turnbull (nee Ann Warr) who migrated as free settlers on *Coromandel* in 1802. Jessica was two years of age and the youngest of the Turnbull's four children on arrival. John and Ann had three more sons after migrating to bring the total brood to seven, two

daughters and five sons.

On arrival at Port Jackson on Sunday 13 June 1802, the Turnbells and the other four free settler families, all of Presbyterian faith, who had also arrived on *Coromandel* were quickly sent by Governor Philip Gidley King to the area around Toongabbie in an attempt to create farms.

However this experiment lasted for only a few months and the group was offered individual land grants along the banks of the more suitable Hawkesbury River at Swallow Rock Reach, near Ebenezer. The Turnbells and the other families were extremely industrious and successfully built homes, a school for the children and a church for all denominations. Within a couple of years this small community became very successful farmers and supplied a large proportion of produce for the ever expanding colony.

At age 17 Jessica Turnbull married Denis Benjamin Kirwan who had been an officer in the British Indian Army prior to arriving in Australia. Denis Benjamin was born in County Carlow, Ireland, and was a carpenter before joining the army and being sent to India. In 1821 Denis was given a land grant of 40 acres at Upper Portland where he built a stone house and Jessica set up a Preparatory School for females, as the value of education was highly prized. Denis also built a mill to process grain from the farm and other farms nearby. Denis died aged 57 in 1851 and Jessica died in 1882 aged 82. Both are buried in the small graveyard of St Thomas' Church, Sackville Reach.

Although both Ann and Jessica at some stage of their lives lived in similar areas it is impossible to know if they ever met or knew each other. There was approximately a thirty-year gap between their birth dates and thirty-one years between their deaths. (Maybe someone with a greater knowledge of their history might be able to help). Elizabeth Dring's daughter Charlotte later married Jessica Kirwan's (Turnbull) son Hiram John Kirwan. Ironically, if they were unknown to each other whilst alive they are now related after death by marriage a generations later.

A few days before Christmas 2011 my daughter Belinda and I decided to make a pilgrimage to Sackville Reach to try and find the cemetery. After a few wrong turns we finally stumbled on our goal and began the search for



Belinda with Jessica

our distant female relatives. After reading the names on many of the headstones we found Ann Huxley (Forbes, with a FFF plaque attached) and in an extraordinary coincidence the headstone of Jessica Kirwan (Turnbull, in a family enclosure) next to it. We were gobsmacked and stood there for quite a while stunned at the odds that would prevail having the graves of these two ladies virtually side by side in this historic place.

Matthew Hogan



Calling expressions of interest from members for a TRIP TO NORFOLK ISLAND TO CELEBRATE FOUNDERS DAY 2013

I am organising a trip to Norfolk Island for the 225th Founders Day Anniversary (6 March 2013), of the arrival of the First Fleet at the Island.

There will also be an option for people to extend their holiday to include the 223rd Anniversary of the sinking of *HMS Sirius*, the Flagship of the First Fleet.

Please email Sharon Lamb at slamb1950@gmail.com if you would like to join the mailing list for updates of prices and information.

Derelict! — St John's Cemetery, Parramatta

Early in April 2012, Rod Best, former FFF President, and co-author of the Book, *Where First Fleeters Lie*, drew the attention of the Trustees of St John's Cemetery, Parramatta, to the overgrown, uncared-for state of this historic entity in the Cradle City of Australia. The cemetery is the final resting place of no fewer than 17 First Fleeters, and all of their gravesites have been memorialised by a Fellowship Plaque. So, it is very much in the interests of our membership to seek to safeguard these monuments. The First Fleeters are: Augustus Alt, Frances Clements, Henry Dodd, Thomas Eccles, Deborah Ellam, Edward Elliot, Thomas Freeman, John Herbert, Hugh Hughes, Mary Kelly, David Kilpack, Isaac Knight, Jane McManus, John Martin, Christopher Palmer, John Palmer and James Wright.

Trustee, Julie Apps, furnished this reply: "Presently the cemetery is overgrown. The Trustees accept this situation. For the quite a few years the Department of Corrective Services has been maintaining the cemetery using weekend detention offenders as part of their community service."

(a bit ironical in view of the number of convicts buried there. Ed.)

"The system of periodic detention changed at the end of last year and they ceased to do it. Unfortunately they failed to notify us of the change and we thought there had just been a change of personnel and that it would resume. Perhaps it will?"

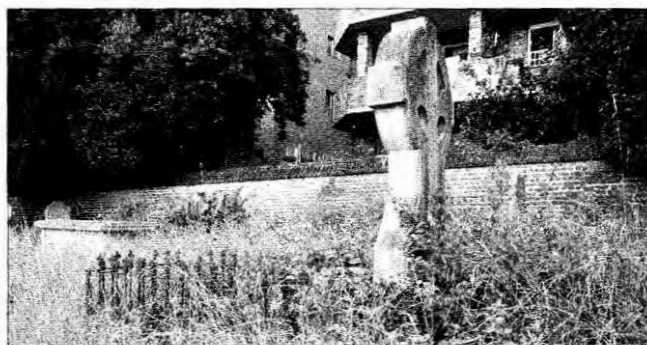
"But we are now left in the situation where we do not have the funds to have the cemetery professionally mowed and the changing nature of the Cathedral congregation (more multicultural, smaller numbers) means we no longer have the manpower to do it voluntarily. My late father Bill Apps used to mow and weed it in the 1980s after his retirement

but he's no longer here.

"The Trust is taking urgent measures to remedy the situation. We are arranging a working bee for Saturday 28 April open to anyone, to start restoring the grounds to parity. We are also in the process of seeking Heritage funds to fix some deterioration in the 1820 exterior wall."

The Fellowship became active, through our Community Advocate, Sharon Lamb, in promoting the working bee, which, under the auspices of Holroyd Local History Research and the Trustees, attracted a huge response. A representative of the Heritage Office attended to make sure that headstones were not damaged during the clean up.

Clearly this is only a beginning, and a permanent maintenance and management program is urgently required. The Fellowship will stay on the case, while the assistance and ideas of those members, in particular, whose FF ancestor is buried within, would be valuable. **RW**



The Cemetery is a State Listed Heritage Item. But, the walls are in disrepair, weep holes are blocked, lantana and blackberry abound, woody weeds are spreading, the gates have cracks and dry rot, there is no access for historians or the public, and interpretive information and any sort of map are missing.

Crowded Rookwood eyes Fairway to Heaven

Here is a lighter cemetery story, sourced by our Research Director, John Boyd.

A struggling Sydney golf club with a declining membership is considering joining forces with a cemetery that is overflowing. Cash-strapped Strathfield Golf Club has told its members it was approached by its neighbour, Rookwood Cemetery, about selling the fairways and greens as future burial grounds.

Under a proposal Rookwood, Australia's largest necropolis, would buy the entire course and give the club a long-term lease. For the next 20 years, golfers would notice no difference but after that the new owners would begin to make use of the land to cope with growing demand. After that a fairway could be taken out of play for a limited period but would be totally restored for play after use, the club has told members in a bulletin.

Players were assured their games would not suffer. "There would be no memorials, headstones or plaques on the course and suitable alternative fairways would be in play for limited periods."

The club disclosed the talks in a bid to dispel rumours that it had sold the entire course or the 11th fairway to the cemetery. Rookwood had been allowed to conduct a soil analysis and valuation of the course, although "no offer has been made and no agreement or commitment of any sort has been given," it said.

The general manager of the club, Neil Hardy, said it was simply looking at its options and talking to its neighbour.

"Rookwood said, 'We are going to run out of land in 20 or 30 years and you've got land - let's talk,'" he said.

The club signalled that declining membership was the main cause of its financial woes and said discussions to amalgamate with Burwood RSL or Strathfield Sports Club had fallen through.

"Golf clubs aren't doing it that easy at the moment. You've got to look at ways of making revenue," Mr Hardy said. "Derek Williams, the general manager of Rookwood Anglican and General Cemetery Trusts, said it was 'early days yet' with no plan of any kind in place.

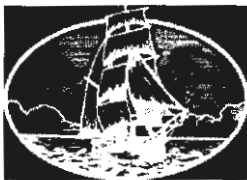
He was surprised the club had signalled the idea of reusing the course after burials as it was just an idea "being bandied around the room."

"No one has taken any of it seriously at this point," he said.

Soo Kyo, a member who spoke to the *Herald* after a round yesterday, said the thought of playing over the dead would put her off her game. "Isn't it a bit scary? I don't think I would make a shot," she said.

NOTE: There are no First Fleeters buried in Strathfield Golf Club Fairways, err, Rookwood Cemetery!





On the Right Tack – No.15

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

It may not be too late in this series to point readers to the 1867 publication by Admiral William Henry Smyth, *The Sailor's Word-Book – An Alphabetical Digest of Nautical Terms, including Some More Especially Military and Scientific, but Useful to Seamen; as well as Archaisms of Early Voyagers, etc.* In more than 744 web pages it contains thousands of entries. But in this issue we are looking at just one:

Weather a Storm... (survive in good condition)

A windward or weather side of a ship absorbs the main thrust of heavy seas in foul weather. Smyth explains a weather eye as the eye which is especially used for observing the state of the elements. Earlier Thomas Hood, in his 1839 book, *Storm at Hastings*, reported that "his weather eye the seaman aimed across the calm, and hinted by his speech a gale next morn."

So, to keep a weather eye open is to be on guard or simply alert for a change in circumstance. Not all usage of the expression has been meteorological. In his 1867 novel *She*, Rider Haggard wrote, "Job returned in a great state of nervousness, and keeping his weather eye fixed on every woman who came near him."

The antiquity of the usage of the term as coming through a period of trial and tribulation may be gauged by noting that in 1626 John Donne reflected that, "The soul which is but near destruction, may weather that mischief."

It is unsurprising that very many colloquial expressions in general use have been derived from tall ship sailors' reactions to tempestuous elements at sea.

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

Re: State Funeral for a Convict First Fleeter

James Bloodworth, 1759-1804, a convict, was the first master builder in the Colony, and a much respected literate citizen who became a sergeant in the Sydney Loyal Association, a volunteer company formed to counteract the threat of convict insurrection. In 1974 his vault was unearthed during excavations near Sydney Town Hall. George Howe, uncharacteristically sombre, but ever exacting, reported on what was the equivalent of a State Funeral:

On Wednesday last died, generally lamented, Mr James Bloodworth, for many years Superintendent of Builders in the employ of the Government...The first house in this part of the Southern hemisphere was by him erected, as most of the public buildings since have been under his direction. To lament his loss he has left a Widow and five Children, the youngest an infant now only one week old: the complaint which terminated his dissolution was supposed to proceed from a severe cold contracted about 2 months since.

The attention and concern which prevailed at the interment of the deceased were sufficient testimonies of the respect with which he filled, and the integrity with which he uninterruptedly discharged his duties during so long a period. His Excellency was pleased to order that the Funeral should be provided at Public Expense, and to show other

Foundlings

FIRST FLEET QUIZ NO. 26

1. Neither Phillip or Hunter had a consort when in office as Governor. Who then became the first to fill the social role of Australia's First Lady? a. Esther Abrahams b. Eliza Kent c. Elizabeth Macquarie d. Anna Combe
2. On 27 March 1791 the chartered ship *Waaksamheyd* set sail from Port Jackson with 123 people on board, mainly the complement of the wrecked *HMS Sirius*. This ship was nearly wrecked, when at New Caledonia it mistook a reefed island for the mainland. The Island was a. Isle of Pines b. Duck Island c. Loyalty Island Maré
3. The distinctive shape on the Sydney skyline in so many early paintings is the first windmill. In these pages we have mourned the fact that no facsimile has ever been constructed. When was it completed? a. June 1799 b. January 1794 c. January 1797
4. In 1798 artist and musician and naval genius John Hunter sent an animal to Joseph Banks preserved in spirits. The animal has been immortalised by taxidermy and in 2010 was on display at Newcastle's Great North Museum. It was a. a possum b. a platypus c. a wallaby d. a wombat e. a flying fox f. an echidna
5. The following luminous passage describes the fabulous ship in which was sailing: a. *Lady Jane Franklin* b. *Elizabeth Macarthur* c. *Cleopatra* d. *Queen of Tonga* e. *Ann Flinders*
The barge she sat in, like a burnish'd throne, burn'd on the water; the poop was beaten gold, purple the sails, and so perfumed that the winds were love-sick with them, the oars were silver, which to the tune of flutes kept stroke, and made the water which they beat to follow faster, as amorous of their strokes.
6. Das Voltas Bay on the south-western coast of Africa was significant because: a. *The First Fleet* landed there b. It was an alternative to a settlement at Botany Bay c. Matthew Flinders was imprisoned there
7. David Collins wrote: "The trees are unfit for large masts or yards, being shakey or rotten at thirty or forty feet from the butt. The wood is so brittle that it would not make a good oar, and so porous that the water soaked through the planks of a boat which had been built of it." He was writing of: a. Sydney eucalypt b. Parramatta cedar c. Norfolk Island pine d. Prospect acacia e. Botany Bay banksia
8. The name of the 1967 novel of the Colony by prominent Aussie author, Thomas Keneally is: a. *The Tree of Man* b. *For Love Alone* c. *Bring Larks and Heroes* d. *Happy Valley* e. *No Barrier*
9. Who wrote the trilogy *Sydney Cove, 1788 to 1792*, using a variety of sources to construct a daily diary? a. Robert Hughes b. Grace Karstens c. John Currey d. John Cobley e. Alan Frost

SCORES AND PRIZES:

Answers on page 11.

2/9.... Asked to google, type and print Admiral Smyth's Word Book.

5/9.... Gratis Vault in the Sydney Town Hall.

9/9... The Vault, plus preserved in spirits or taxidermited. RW

marks of attention to so old a Servant of the Crown.

Four in the afternoon of Friday being at the wish of the widow appointed for the Funeral, the Relics of the deceased were at that hour removed from his house in South Street, and conveyed to the place of interment, attended by a great number of friends, among whom were most of the Sydney Loyal Association.

Opposite to his old residence a Procession was formed, which moved in the following order: 12 of the Loyal Association, arms reversed; Sergeant of the Association, Drum and muffled Fife, THE BIER, Two sons, chief Mourners, followed by an Infant Daughter, Fourteen Female Mourners, Twenty-four Male Mourners, a number of respectable Inhabitants of Rank, the Non-commissioned Officers of the New South Wales Corps (*his former gaolers! Ed.*), and a crowd of spectators.

When near the Burial Ground the Association were obliged to file off, for the accommodation of the friends of the deceased, and the populace who had become very numerous; and when the remains were deposited approached the grave and performed Military Honours.

25 March 1804

NORFOLK ISLAND FOUNDERS' DAY 2012

During March eight members of the Eastern Farms Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters travelled on the inaugural Air New Zealand flight from Sydney to Norfolk Island and members from the Northern Rivers travelled on the inaugural flight from Brisbane to the island. All for the celebration of Founders' Day 2012.

In the course of the week of festivities, tours and presentations, approximately 75 descendants of First Fleeters shared their ancestors' stories. The highlight of the trip was the re-enactment of the arrival of the First Fleeters on the beach at Kingston. My husband Bob and I were dressed in colonial costume and displayed the Fellowship of First Fleeters' flag. After the formal speeches were completed the descendants were provided with a buffet lunch and entertainment on the hill overlooking Kingston, and on the site near the first Government House.

A special lunch was also held for all the descendants, on the property of John Forrester, who is a direct descendant of First Fleet convict Robert Forrester. The lunch was attended by Owen Walsh, the Governor of the island. After the meal, Government House at Kingston was opened for inspection.

During our visit the two banks on the island displayed artwork prepared by the Norfolk Island School children. The children were asked to give their interpretation of the arrival of the First Fleet through art. We were so impressed with the children's efforts that the Fellowship of First Fleeters presented the latest 'The Founders of the Nation'

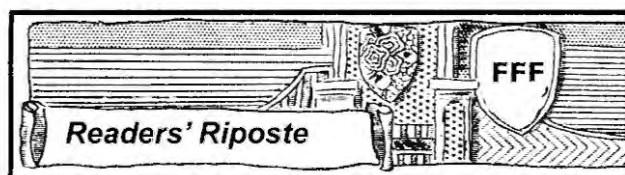


Elaine Young, Jenni Holden, Sharon Lamb, Lynne McDonald, (Eastern Farms Chapter), Sue King, Betty Harriman (Northern Rivers Chapter) and Bob Lamb (Eastern Farms Chapter)

chart to the Principal of the School. A chart was also presented to the Norfolk Island Pier Museum at Kingston.

Two members of our group discovered ancestry links to two residents living on Norfolk Island. There is now a distinct possibility that a Norfolk Island Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters will be created in the near future.

Sharon Lamb, Archivist and Event Co-ordinator



First Fleet Park to the Fore

Enjoyed the latest *Founders* as usual, particularly the reprint on Governor Arthur Phillip. I am so over "political correctness" and laughed out loud at some of the pithy and hard hitting comments especially those aimed at "academics and bureaucrats of varying candlepower". Thanks for including it. It's encouraging to know that people whose writings reach the general public can get it so right.

I have successfully contacted my local member and received a copy of Brad Hazzard's reply to him about keeping the Fellowship in the picture as regards First Fleet Park and am trying to damper down my cynicism. I included Lord Sydney in my request for a fitting recognition for both men. I'm not sure about a "King Kong-sized" monument though!

Judith Newell #7599



Many thanks to Marilyn Knight, Thomas Samuels, Leonie Talbot and Northern Rivers Chapter.

Parra-normal Activity

I would like to tell you how much I enjoy reading *Founders*. The magazine is full of interesting articles and information, helpful to members. Congratulations on such a great publication. I was most interested to read the article, *The Streets of Parramatta* in the March/April edition, taking note of Watkin Tench's description.

Pam Harvey #7455

A Nod from Norfolk Island

Let me say a huge thank you for your efforts last year in helping us promote our Foundation Day celebrations, as we had a terrific response to the advertisement in *Founders* I asked a few of this year's clients where they read about coming for the Foundation Day festivities on Norfolk Island and they said they read it in your magazine, which is wonderful. We appreciate all the assistance and encouragement you have given to us over the last few years in relation to this event.

We are now planning next year's Foundation Celebrations which promise to be even bigger, as 2013 is, as you know, the 225th Anniversary of our foundation.

Debbie Steven, The Travel Centre, Norfolk Island

Sharon Lamb's report on the 2012 celebrations is on this page. Ed

FFF Web Watch



Jon Fearon has sent out a plea to all Chapter members to visit the Ships pages on the website, and determine whether the relevant page carries a bio of your ancestor. If it does not then Jon urges you to compose one and send it in to the webmaster for uploading. This injunction is extended to ALL of our members!

www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au

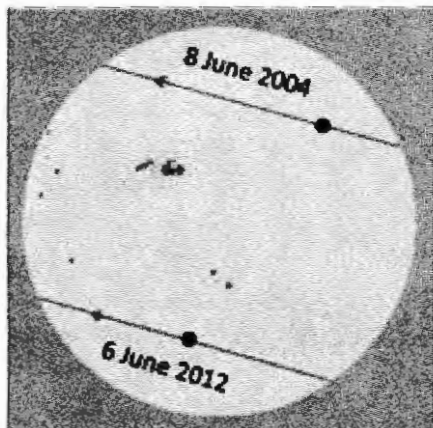
Follow your (Evening) Star

Viewing the Transit of Venus was the rationale for Captain Cook to voyage to Tahiti in 1769. Thereafter he followed his sealed orders to explore the South Pacific in search of the Great South Land. His discovery of the east coast of Australia led to the decision of the British Government to establish a colony at Botany Bay and the subsequent arrival of our ancestors on the First Fleet.

So what is the Transit exactly?

A Transit of Venus occurs when Venus is observed to move across the face of the Sun. Transits of Venus generally occur in pairs at intervals of 8 and then more than 120 years. Thus there was no Transit in the 20th century! But there is one this year!

Amazingly, the 2012 Transit of Venus will be only the 8th such transit ever possibly witnessed by humans – and probably only the 7th as nobody is known to have seen the 1631 transit. The first transit since 1882 occurred on 8 June 2004. The next transit will occur on 6 June 2012, and be visible in Sydney from beginning to end, starting at 8.16am (first contact) and ending at 2.44pm (last contact).



Venus' twin paths across the sun during the 21st Century

You can share with hundreds the thrill of safely viewing this 2012 solar phenomenon through projections from a solar telescope at Sydney Observatory. Book a session at www.sydneysunobservatory.com.au/transit-of-venus-at-the-obs/. You can even buy the T-shirt, and that wasn't available to Captain Cook or Sir Joseph Banks!

As First Fleeters we are deeply linked to this event. If you miss out you will need to come back in 2117 for the next one.

RW



~ Our Fifteen Chapters in Action ~

ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT: Both sides of the Murray River

Venue: Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St, Albury, monthly, third Saturday at 10.00am for 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** TBA. 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: 18 May. Speaker: Paul Fletcher MP. Topic: *Historical Processes of Federal Parliament*; 15 June. Speaker: Jo Harris from Ku-ring-gai Historical Society.

Next Events: Thursday 10 May. Outing to Parramatta Female Factory. Meet at Circular Quay, Rivercat Wharf, 9.15am. Thursday 28 June, Tour of the Great Synagogue. Meet at the Elizabeth St entrance at 11.45am.

Please contact Joy Zamiatin, ☎ 9451 8665 or Gillian Doyle, ☎ 9440 5340 for details.

CANBERRA: ACT, Queanbeyan & surrounds

Next Meeting: 14 July. AGM, 2.00pm at 14 Titherage Place, Chapman.

All 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: 12 May. Speaker: Dr Ibtihal Samaray. Topic: *From Refugee to Resident*. 9 June, 6th Birthday. Speaker: Lyn Fergusson. Topic: *Admiral Arthur Phillip*.

11th July. AGM. Speaker: Philip Morley of Wyong Historical Society.

Contact Raylee Jones, ☎ 4332 7773.

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: 2 June. Speaker: Kevin Shaw. Topic: *First Fleeters of Ryde*.

4 July. Speaker: Juli Anne Allcorn. Topic: *The Role of the Squatter's Wife*.

For details please contact Robin Palmer, ☎ 9871 4102.

HUNTER VALLEY: Hunter regions, Newcastle, & surrounds

Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunker Rd, Adamstown.

Chapter Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

Next Meeting: 18 June, 5th Anniversary. Speaker: Gianni de Gravio, Archivist. Topic: TBA.

Next Event: 11 May. Celebration Lunch, 225th Anniversary of the Sailing of the Fleet, 12 noon for 12.30pm at Kotara Bowling Club. Contact Yvonne Bradley, ☎ 4957 4758.

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

Venue: Quarterly meetings at different venues.

Next Meeting: Saturday 19 May at 2.00pm, Kinross-Wolaroi School Library. Speaker: TBA. Please contact 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 26 May, 10.00am. Celebrating the Departure of the Fleet, 1787.

Next Event: Sunday 17 June, 10.00am. Visit to Redland Bay Museum and Ormiston House. 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 and Event: TBA. 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 3 June, at 55 Charlton St Nambucca Heads. Speaker: June Mathews from Nambucca Historical Society. Contact Robyn Condliffe, ☎ 6653 3615.

NORTHERN RIVERS: Lismore & surrounds

Venue: Various locations, bi-monthly, fourth Sunday at 11.30am.

Next Meeting: Sunday 27th May, 11.30am at 43 Temple St Ballina.

Contact Margaret Soward, ☎ 6686 3597 for details.

NORTH WEST: Tamworth & surrounds

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

Next Meeting: 9 June. Trip to Nundle, meeting at the Anglican Church at 11.00am.

Speaker: Jeff Cummins. Topic: *Gold Rush and Mining Days at Nundle*.

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 Meeting: 5 June. Speaker: John Watson. Topic: *Banjo Paterson*.

3 July. AGM. Speaker: Warwick Grace. Topic: *Convicts and Cox's Road*.

Next Events: 12 May. Birthday Lunch at Dapto Leagues Club. 29 May. Museum Tour of The Oaks Heritage Centre, \$8 includes morning tea.

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: 13 June. Speaker: Dr Leah Day. Topic: *The Fitzroy Ironworks and the early Eastern Australian Iron Industry, 1829-1893*. Contact is Neville Usher, ☎ 4869 1406.

SWAN RIVER: Perth, Fremantle and surrounds

Venue: Various locations as arranged from time to time. **Next Meeting:** TBA. Please contact Toni Mahony, ☎ 08 9271 7630.

Jon Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WILLIAM ROBERTS
 #8063 Barbara Shirley Hawley
DANIEL BARNETT
 #8064 Leonie Faye Talbot
JOSEPH WRIGHT
 #8065 Mary Patricia Mowett
 #8066 Denise Anne Shaw
 #8067 Michael Treharne Mowett
JOHN CROSS
 #8068 Warwick Alan Ford
THOMAS ARNDELL
 #8069 Carolyn Ross Trabant
WILLIAM BAKER/SUSANNAH HUFFNELL
 #8070 Kenneth J Morley
 #8072 Samuel H Morley
ANN FORBES
 #8073 Evan D Fisher
FREDERIC MEREDITH
 #8074 Cecil William Edward Maddox
OLIVIA CASCOIGNE/NATHANIEL LUCAS
 #8075 Jody Lee Arthur
JOHN MARTIN
 #8076 Mary Ann Woodlands
MATTHEW EVERINGHAM
 #8077 Pearl Avis Bartley Jnr
 #8078 Saffron Agnes Bartley Jnr
 #8079 Esther Lea Bartley Jnr

NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE
 #8080 Ian Cameron Lucas
 #8092 Louise Mary Goold
 #8093 Isabella Louise Murray-Goold (Jnr)
JOHN NICHOLS
 #8081 Stuart Harley Smith
JOSEPH HATTON
 #8082 David C. McGrath
THOMAS SMITH / ANN COLPITTS
 #8083 Janice Isobel Dean
 #8084 Jamie Troy Dean
JAMES WILLIAMS
 #8085 Mark Rayner
EDWARD WHITTON
 #8086 Mary-Elizabeth Gill
ANTHONY ROPE / ELIZABETH PULLEY
 #8087 Marie Patricia Langhans
ANDREW GOODWIN / LYDIA MUNRO
 #8089 Paul McDonald Gooding
JOHN RYAN
 #8090 Warren Hedley Musgrave
EDWARD HUMPHRIES
 #8091 Barbara Jane Jones
ASSOCIATES
 #8068.1 Sharyn Faye Thompson
 #8070.1 Carmol Morley
 #8089.1 Dorothy Gooding
FRIEND
 F106 Christine Gissell
 F107 Barbara Hall

BIRTHS Congratulations to the families of:

JAMES WILLIAMS/JOHN RYAN
Eli Benjamin Grima
 14 January 2012, in Wollongong, first child to Carly and Nicholas Grima, first great grandchild for #6549 Robert Edward Harvey (FF James Williams) and #7455 Pamela Mary Harvey (FF John Ryan), both members of South Coast Chapter.

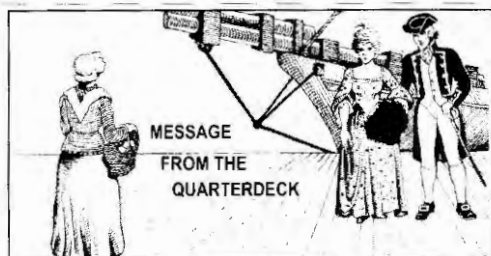
DEATHS Sympathy to the family & friends of:

JOHN WINTER/ANN SANDLIN
 #7058.1 *Beryl Haxton*
 21 March 2012, aged 75. Late of Wyong, NSW. Member of Central Coast Chapter. Wife of #7058 John Haxton, President of the Fellowship.

HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES
 #2429 *Isobel Thost*
 25 March 2012, aged 84. Late of Cook, ACT. Member of Canberra Chapter.

JOHN MUNDAY/ANN MUNDAY
 #7612 *Roma Florence Grace OAM*
 21 November 2011. Late of Emu Plains, NSW.

WILLIAM DRING/ANN FORBES
 #928 *Ronald John Morris*
 14 February 2012, aged 88. Late of Wallsend, NSW. Daughter of #7709 Lynne McDonald.



⚓ Vice-President **Ian Palmer** reports that his team has completed a **Family Tree** for all Fellowship members, stored under the application *Family Tree Maker 2008*. There is also an **Index** of all of the Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates held by the Fellowship. Ian has now begun in-house scanning of these certificates so that they may be viewed just a mouse click away from the Index. This process will take some time to complete. He is happy to demonstrate access to any aspect of these records. Call him for an appointment!



⚓ Ever heard of a **Convict Love Token**? Before being sent to Australia convicts engraved pennies with messages of love, loss, hope and fear and gave them to those they left behind. Inspired by such a love token from the Hyde Park Barracks Museum collection, Sydney jeweller, Kirsten Ash has collaborated with the Historic Houses Trust to create *Lost Love*, a handmade limited edition, four-piece collection, two pendants, a charm bracelet and earrings. All

around a hundred bucks. The HHT website is fertile ground for news of upcoming events, books and offerings of interest to FFF members.

⚓ Tasmanian academic, **Craig R Joel**, visited First Fleet House in February of this year and donated a copy of his book, *A Tale of Ambition and Unrealised Hope*, to our Library. The work deals with the clash between Tasmanian Governor Sir John Franklin (and inevitably his wife) with public servant John Montagu, a nephew of the former Governor, George Arthur.

They fought over a number of political matters, including education and the role of the Legislative Council. However, the issue of greater potential interest to FFF members was the fight by Montagu and his supporters to overthrow the Assignment practice of managing convicts and replace it with a Probation system.

Under the Assignment system, convicts were set to work for private individuals. Some contemporary abolitionists characterised the practice as virtual slavery, but modern opinion is divided. Under the Probation system, introduced in 1841, convicts spent 6 months on probation after arrival in the colony, and were then classified as probation passholders and hired out, for an annual wage, to employers.

The book, of 351 pages in soft cover with illustrations, is produced by Australian Scholarly Publishing, and retails for \$44.00, or why not read it in the comfort of *Borrowdale*, our Fellowship Library.

⚓ There is deep sadness in recording the passing of #7058.1 **Beryl Haxton**, the loved wife of our President. Beryl was a wonderful support and friend to her children and of course to John. She was renowned for her cheerfulness, creativity and finesse in presentation of handcraft and all things culinary. And she assisted John in so many ways in his presidency. The Central Coast Chapter has benefitted from Beryl's secretarial skills, such as the making of committee badges and ribbons, and fridge magnets as reminders of meeting dates, and of course the wonderful Fellowship birthday cakes each 13 May, celebrating the First Fleet's departure from Portsmouth all those years ago.



⚓ This is my final issue of *Founders*. It is time to kedge the keyboard to the next in the long array of editors who have traced our progress over the years, each with his or her own valued style. We have collected their every issue in a series of hard cover bound volumes, and the work of indexing is well under way. Ship-shape, you might say.

I wish to thank my contributors at FF House and from the membership at large for helping to make my editorship interesting, educational and enormously enjoyable. I will for a time very much miss their fellowship as I will that absorbing tussle with the two-monthly deadline.

Ron Withington