under

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc.

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To live on in the hearts and minds of Descendants is never to die

1788 AD

TREMENDOUS TRIMBY TRIBUTE

After two years of discussion and negotiation with family members, heritage consultants, the local council and seemingly countless others, the Fellowship can happily report that the dedication of the plaque on the grave of First Fleeter, Joseph Trimby has finally taken place.

A magnificent late Spring day, with cloudless skies and pleasant warmth, greeted the morning gathering of over eighty five First Fleeters and community representatives at the St Peter's East Maitland Old Glebe cemetery on Monday 12th November, 2012. It is believed that this was the largest attendance ever recorded at the dedication of a gravesite plaque and was no doubt the result of eager expectations on the part of over thirty descendants of Joseph Trimby who were present and the excellent organisation and hosting of the event by the Hunter Valley Chapter under the guidance of President Barbara Turner.

After all, it has been over two years since Founders, Volume 41, Issue 6 excitedly announced that the Trimby burial place had been identified and steps were being put in place to recognise the find with the Fellowship's signature plaque dedication. No small amount of effort has been put in since then by former Board members Bruce Arnett and Ron Withington, and with the guidance of descendants Ray Meredith and Sister Andrea Myers, to negotiate the obstacle course of heritage and bureaucracy and arrange, install and dedicate the plaque.

Mr. Terry Maher, owner of the land adjoining the cemetery, kindly allowed vehicles access to the site so that those in attendance did not have to negotiate on foot, the steep road and rudimentary bridge which form the official 'way in' to this heritage location.

The service began at 11am with an acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the land by the master of ceremonies, the Fellowship's Research Officer, Director and Plaques convenor, John Boyd, who then asked all to join in singing the national anthem.

John acknowledged the special guests present and made mention of the fact that the thirty Trimby descendants represented the sixth to tenth generations and that many had come from Sydney and from as far as Moree to honour their ancestor. The Canadian contingent offered their apologies, but sent a special tie which Ray Meredith, responsible for the locating of the grave, wore in their hon-

The newly appointed President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, Ian Palmer, was then called on to give his opening address. As a foundation member, Ian told the audience that the Fellowship's original formation, in 1968, focused on the finding of descendants prepared to join the group and 'make a viable organisation'. Once established the Fellowship was then able to fulfil one of its basic objectives which was to "ensure the accurate and authentic recording of the history of the members of the First Fleet".

Identifying the final resting places of our ancestors, said Ian, may sound easy but in reality it has been a difficult and often time consuming task. The Joseph Trimby plaque installation and dedication is the 119th in the series which began in 1976 and reached a peak around the time of the nation's 1988 bicentenary. By way of contrast in the last five years, not many more sites have been identified. After all, nearly 1500 people travelled on the First Fleet and most of them remained for the rest of their lives in the country not of their choosing! After thanking those whose work made the day's dedication possible, Ian reminded his listeners that "we are here to honour the memory of Joseph Trimby and this was a perfect way to introduce

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First Christian service in Australia remembered: 3 Feb, 2013 : See P 9

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Founders

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A COLO

President's Desk

Ian Palmer

We welcome our new President -

Ian is a Foundation Member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters and has had a lifelong interest in family history. During his working career and with family commitments, free time was rather scarce, and it has only been in retirement that he has been able to pursue his interest with vigour. All those scribbled notes saved over time have all been sorted and researched, and his own family's story is slowly taking shape.



lan has been helping, one day a week at First Fleet House for the past nine years, and has been one of the volunteers responsible for compiling family trees for the membership data hase

The Fellowship's office at Woolloomooloo sits on land that was once granted to his ancestor, John Palmer who was the Purser on the 'Sirius', the flagship of the First Fleet.

HE WRITES: Welcome to the first edition of Founders for 2013. I trust all members and their families enjoyed a happy and healthy time over the Festive Season.

At this time of the year it is appropriate to reflect on the accomplishments of the Fellowship over the past twelve months.

Chapter activities have been many and varied and it is gratifying to see the number of members who are now able to participate in these events throughout Australia. Of particular note is the work of Moreton, Albury - Wodonga District and Swan River Chapters. In the past Fellowship members outside of New South Wales have been at a disadvantage in not having the opportunity to meet with others and be involved in Fellowship activities. However these chapters are overcoming this imbalance.

There were two plaque ceremonies last year, the first one on the 10th October held at The Rocks Museum in Sydney where a plaque was refitted to the headstone display of George Greaves and the second was held on the 12th November at the Old Glebe Cemetery, East Maitland where Joseph Trimby is buried. The Trimby family gave great support as there were over 80 people present on the day.

The 2012 Australia Day Luncheon was well attended and was a most enjoyable function. At the new members morning tea held on the 24th November, over 20 new members availed themselves of the opportunity to attend and see first-hand the facilities available for use at First Fleet House and to meet the Directors.

I encourage all members to participate in as many Fellowship activities as they can this year and to continue with their family research.

I look forward to seeing many of you on the 19th January 2013.

Ian Palmer

EDITOR'S Note — Two and a quarter centuries on and our country must continue to acknowledge the part played by our founders in making Australia what it is today.

I count it a privilege to be descended from that tough band of settlers who landed at Sydney Cove on 26th January 1788. Perhaps I will need such toughness as I oversee their efforts being honoured through the pages of *Founders* our member magazine, now in its 45th year.

In this issue you can read about two more plaque ceremonies and learn of changes to the Board of Directors, farewelling the old and welcoming the new. And we start a new series on the way the foundation of our land has been celebrated over the years.

Thank you for your willingness to trust me with the editorship and for answering the call for articles, corrections and suggestions.

Founders is our flagship. May she sail soundly into future, perhaps uncharted, seas, a worthy successor to the fleet that gave us our name.

Jon

(continued from page 1)

7th generation descendant, Sister Andrea Myers who then delivered an amazing and most memorable eulogy. Our readers are warmly invited to go to pages 6-7 in this issue and join Sister Andrea as she shares Joseph's story.

Sister Andrea really set the scene with her excellent coverage of Joseph's life and times and as her listeners sat there on that hallowed ground, with his descendants gathered in his honour, a sense of peace, presence and belonging was truly in evidence for all.

As the plaque was at ground level, Ray Meredith had prepared an innovative wooden 'Trimby frame' to hold the draped Union Flag. The unveiling of the plaque with the lifting of

Joseph Trimby descendants

that flag was carried out by two of Joseph Trimby's 8th

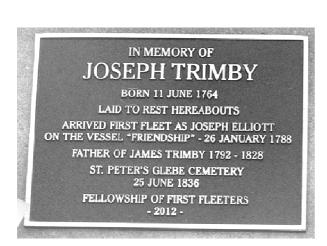
generation descendants, Mr Barry Chaff and Mrs Maureen MacNaughton, with the assistance of the President of Hunter Valley Chapter, Barbara Turner.

Ray then placed a small posy of flowers by the plaque which was then blessed by Rev. Jim Hudson, currently the locum at St Peter's Church, East Maitland. Another prayer followed, this time for all First Fleeters, past and present, and was said by Rev. John Brooker, now retired from clergy responsibilities, but very much part of the Hunter Valley Chapter.

Eager to include a thorough pictorial record of the event for the final chapter of the new edition of Where First Fleeters Lie, Ron Withington hustled the large crowd together for some historic photos, first the key movers and shakers of the event, then the entire body of Trimby descendants.

A final gathering shot of everyone present completed the proceedings after John Boyd thanked everyone for their attendance and invited them to partake of a light lunch together back at St Peter's Hall, a historic building, once a school hall, in its own right.

All agreed that the day had been most memorable and worthwhile and the warm fellowship shared together made that all the more so. Guests from afar were able to chat with Hunter Valley Chapter and other local worthies over the delicious lunch provided. The Trimby family then celebrated with the cutting and sharing of two special cakes honouring their First Fleeter ancestor Joseph Trimby, late of Wallis Plains.





Ray Meredith, Sister Andrea Myers, Barbara Turner, Yvonne Bradley, Val Crane

Founders January/February, 2013

Arthur Phillip – Where Are You?

For many years a small monument dedicated to Arthur Phillip, our first Governor, stood in a picturesque garden at the northern end of the Museum of Contemporary Art on the western side of Circular Quay. When the work to expand the museum began the monument was taken away, presumable for safe keeping.



The extension to the museum has now been completed and the area of grass and garden that once was home to the monument is now a sea of featureless, uninteresting concrete. It appears that the monument is in such safe hands that nobody can recall exactly where it was stored! An informed source has advised that all enquiries as to the whereabouts of the monument have been in vain. It is a disgrace that such an oversight could occur. I wonder what the master plan was for displaying the monument? Obviously the old location is out of the question.

If the design of the area in front of the extension to the museum is the best that the architects and landscapers can come up with I fear for the plans that are in the pipeline for First Fleet Park!!!

Ian Palmer

Lost the Plot

60 Minutes, Channel 9 Sunday 22nd April, 2007

You could say he was the first great Australian, our founding father. Governor Arthur Phillip was certainly the first to see that New South Wales could be anything more than a convict settlement, a dumping ground for the dregs of society.

So you'd think he'd be a revered figure, a national treasure. Well he's certainly not in Britain. His last days there were dismal, his death suspicious and then there's a deep, dark mystery. A scandal.

Put bluntly, the Poms lost the plot. Somehow, through carelessness, incompetence, or both, they've lost Governor Phillip's remains. But fear not, there's a dogged Aussie sleuth on the case.





In 2007, Geoffrey Robertson QC alleged that Phillip's remains are no longer in St Nicholas Church, Bathampton and have been lost: "...Captain Arthur Phillip is not where the ledger stone says he is: it may be that he is buried somewhere outside, it may simply be that he is simply lost. But he is not where Australians have been led to believe that he now lies." Robertson also believes it was a

"disgraceful slur" on Phillip's legacy that he was not buried in one of England's great <u>cathedrals</u> and was relegated to a small village church. Robertson is campaigning for a rigorous search for the remains, which he believes should be re-interred in Australia.

Editor's note: When we were in Bath Abbey we were told by the guide that there was just a memorial on the wall for Phillip because he 'committed suicide', therefore he was not be buried in a church!

THE OWEN CAVANOUGH FAMILY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Would like to invite all descendants of Owen and Margaret (nee Darnell) Cavanough to a family reunion celebrating 225 years since their arrival with the first fleet. The reunion will be held at Ebenezer Uniting Church pavilion (built on land donated by Owen) on 20th April 2013 commencing at 10 am to 4pm. Entry is free. Bring a picnic lunch and sit on the lawns overlooking the riverbank enjoying the sunshine. The church's coffee shop will be open for light refreshments but they don't do lunches. On the day there will be displays and a chance to look up your family history. Hope to see you there.

For more information email Sandra on alan.woods1@bigpond.com

ON BOARD WITH THE BOARD

Each issue *Founders* lists the names, numbers and First Fleeters of the new members accepted into the Fellowship. Some of our readers will know these folk and may have encouraged them to join or have met them at Chapter meetings.

Well, on November 24th 2012, the President hosted at First Fleet House, the annual 'Morning Tea' to welcome new members into the ship's company. Twenty new crew responded to the invitation and were shown over the various rooms (ships) of the building (fleet) by the directors.

As usual, all sorts of family and First Fleet connections were discovered as the morning proceeded and a delectable morning tea enjoyed. Founders found the scones particularly delicious and trusted that the visitors experience was the same as they partook of the culinary delights on offer.



Karys Fearon and Joanne Massey 8054 .1 Arthur Phillip Chapter

President lan Palmer gave the official welcome to the building as the gathering got under way, with one or two directors cheekily suggesting that his role was particularly apt. After all, lan's First Fleeter, John Palmer, was the original grantee of much of Woolloomooloo and the land on which First Fleet House stands. Was this a new spin on 'Welcome to Country?"

The new members were introduced to each director in turn and the particular roles of the latter were outlined. Ian invited all present to visit the House whenever they are able, checking beforehand by phone to make sure it is staffed on the day of that visit and to make use of the excellent library for their on-

going research.

No one seemed to be anxious to leave so the event must once again be voted as an outstanding success and a worthy activity befitting the charter of our First Fleet Family.



John Boyd chats to Wendy & Terry Nunan -FF SPENCER/PHILLIPS -SOUTH COAST CHAPTER

BOARD GOES BUSH

Well, not quite. But the recently held 44th Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship was hosted by the Central Coast Chapter in their meeting room at Wyong with minutes confirmed and reports RSL. The meeting took place on Saturday 27th October 2012 and its success was in no small way due to the excellent organisation of the venue and the programme arranged by retiring President John Hax- was elected unopposed as the new ton on behalf of the Board. The delicious President and three new directors joined morning tea, tastefully titled a Civic Re- the team: Karys Fearon, Denis Smith and

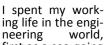
ception and prepared by the committee of the hosting Chapter proved to be an excellent way to begin proceedings and the fellowship shared by the 35 members in attendance was followed by messages of welcome from the two invited 'men of note' - the Wyong Shire Mayor and the local State Member of Parliament.

With the tasty delicacies consumed and the friendly chatter dwindling to a whisper, the meeting itself was underway, led as has been his custom for the past six years, by President John Haxton.

A special welcome was given to members who had travelled from afar to attend, one of whom being Mary Kell, the president of North Coast Chapter. Later in the meeting Mary was able to formally move the nomination of Lionel Phelps of Northern Rivers Chapter as a life member of the Fellowship, the installation of

TONY HOLDEN

am not descended from a First Fleeter, to my regret. I was born in Northwest England and have lived in Sydney for over 40 years.



first as a sea-going engineer and later as a project manager in ship repairing. am now retired.

I have been interested in genealogy for about 30 years and have traced various branches of my family back to 1850s. This combined with a keen interest in history encouraged my wife Jennie and me to join the Fellowship.

For the last three years I have assisted Ian Palmer with the indexation of BMD certificates, and construction of members' family trees each Monday at FF House. I also have other interests including various forms of transport and photography.

which, the gathering was told, would be formally carried out at the that chapter's 25th anniversary on 25th November. (details next issue)

The usual procedures took place received and with Peter Christian appointed as Returning Officer, the election of Officers proceeded apace. Ian Palmer, who had been Vice President,



Tony Holden.

Ian Palmer then took the chair and conducted the rest of the meeting. He thanked the membership for electing him President and also paid tribute to the two outgoing directors, John Haxton and Lynne McDonald.

Commodore Paul Kable was reappointed as a Vice-Patron of the Fellowship & he was joined by Peter Christian appointed for the first time at this meeting.

DENIS SMITH

Joined FFF in 1987 after my mother had been researching back for details on her Grandfather, and kept going back until s h e discovered we were descendants



of FF John Barrisford (marine) who came out on HMS Sirius with his wife Hannah.

They had two children in Sydney, Then went to Norfolk Island and took a up a land grant. Had three more children, and then to Hobart VDL.

In 2008 we stayed overnight in their house built in 1820 now a B & B.

Member of the Arthur Phillip Chapter.

My other Historical interests:

President of the Lane Cove Historical Public Relations/Memorabilia Society; officer Spitfire Association Australia; Member of Sunderland Squadrons RAAF;

Member Military History Society; Member Royal Australian Historical Society; Member 1788-1820 Pioneer Association; Member The Catalina Flying Memorial Ltd



Business items from the floor which will be taken up by incoming directors, included the ongoing saga of First Fleet Park and the possibility of an online version of the current Founders as it is published, either on the website or through members e-mails. Ian congratulated those directors who had overseen the replacement of the Fellowship's plaque at Lang Park in Sydney, the site of the original St Phillip's church.

The meeting closed at 11.50am but the happy conversation did not, as there were still plenty of light refreshments to be partaken and some folk, along with the newly elected Board, then continued on over lunch in the club's cafeteria.

KARYS FEARON

While I am not directly a First Fleeter, great-great my grandfather' brother married Eliza Randall, a descendant of Anthony Rope and Elizabeth Pulley. He and therefore my father was also descended



from one of my three convict forebears. Another connection is with the niece of my second cousin who married descendants of Jon's FF James Bryan Cullen!

Apart from taking time out to raise our five children and 12 years working with a mission in Papua New Guinea, I have spent my working life as a nurse but primarily as a midwife. This remains my passion and I never lose that wonder and amazement in caring for mothers and having a brand new life in my hands as a child emerges into this world in Australia, England and PNG. I have had the privilege to deliver 2 of my grandchildren too.

Since living on the Central Coast for 10 years, Jon and I have worked together on all our eight family lines, helping publishing a book on Jon's FF James Bryan Cullen and I've had several articles about my forebears published here and in English Family History journals. Interests are many and varied including photography, travel, choir, church and being creative with calligraphy and computer skills.

Jon and I have spent 45 years of happy marriage together, enjoy our children and eight grandchildren.

FIRST FLEETER - JOSEPH ELLIOTT

(alias Trimby)

Eulogy presented by Sister Andrea Myers

Today, where Joseph Trimby once stood, sorrowing, I now stand rejoicing, and I call "Joseph, Josh, Jas, Elliott, Tremby, Trimby", you certainly served your full convict "time" - but today is- "Trimby Triumph Time". Your

name and life are historically significant. Destiny names you, not only convict but ultimately – one of our nation's founders. "Trimby Triumph indeed!"

Let's ponder the *unique person*, the distinct **character**, behind those names woven into the Trimby life tapestry of 72 years.

Joseph and twin brother Benjamin were born 11 June 1764 in Wiltshire, England,- middle children of five sons born to parents Richard Trimby and Christian Elliott. Twin Benjamin did not survive.

Aged 20, Joseph, a gardener, was convicted – stealing, a pouch. Indicted as **Joseph Elliott** . Sentenced to be deported for seven yearrs. In what was to be **true Trimby "luck"**, reportedly- the stolen pouch was "empty"!

Joseph <u>Elliott</u> was sent to prison on the "*Dunkirk*" and described as "tolerably decent and orderly".

Two years later he's transferred to the "Friendship" finally- May 1787, embarked in the first fleet for that mysterious Great South Land.— I refer to this as <u>his first travel ticket!</u>. A lovely long voyage half way round the globe. Off to Botany Bay!

Over three years since convicted, **Joseph <u>Elliott</u>** arrived at Port Jackson on 26th January 1788. Now 23, he stepped for the first time onto N.S.W. soil. Even if he had been allowed, I don't think he would have kissed the ground.

Two and a half years later at Port Jackson <u>Elliott (alias Trimby)</u> was accused - stealing - 1¼ lbs of potatoes worth two pence halfpenny. Yes, he was honest, pleaded guilty, said he had worked very hard and was hungry - punishment -300 lashes, on bare back with Cat of Nine Tails, then for the next **six months** no flour ration & chained to two public delinquents at work on roads. Capt. Phillip, later, did allow the flour ration - a little mercy –maybe – !!

After his six months' punishment, in late 1790 <u>Elliott</u> receives – <u>His second travel ticket</u> (and I presume, another seven years added). He is sent sailing off - on that lovely voyage from Port Jackson to Norfolk Island.

Records state <u>Jas Elliott</u>, soon after, shirking his work-punishment- 100 lashes (could only cope with 73 this time) no wonder! Later <u>Jas Elliott</u> seriously injured by a falling tree. Some months later however, Joseph Elliott is settled on a Phillipsburg Lot, No 51 with partner, Elizabeth Seine.

From June 1794 <u>Elliott</u> disappears from records, from now on our Joseph is known as <u>Trimby</u>, possibly because he now has a son, James. See -he didn't really plan to disown his family name altogether.

Later Joseph and Elizabeth were leasing 6 acres, What more could one want? - living on beautiful Norfolk Island with partner, **two** small sons now, J and J, surrounded by evidence of diligent work – cultivated leased land and food! Joseph must have enjoyed it. He remained there twenty-two years! Rent free! How much would one **pay** for that privilege now, I wonder?

Reality however, let's feel for the young man spending _____ the best years of his life, aged 26-48, on

convict Norfolk Is. After his young Elizabeth died and it seems a third young son also, Joseph spent fourteen years a widower rearing two sons- a second class settler with his acres cleared, --grain ---pasture, swine & hogs ---signing with a mark for grain sold.

1813, Joseph now 48 was issued with <u>a</u> <u>third travel ticket</u>. Evacuated from Norfolk Island to Norfolk Plains in Van Diemen's Land. The three Trimbys were *each* granted a farm on the west bank of the South Esk River.

For the next five years they lived as Norfolk Plains *first settlers- land owners. Utopia perhaps!?* Oh No!

Van Diemen's Land became known as "a bandit society." When James couldn't *continue* supplying his contracted quota of mutton in *Jan 1818 –The Trimbys* <u>were</u> *caught stealing sheep.* James the culprit -

father and brother accomplices. Poor Jo! *That Trimby luck again*!

What a debacle! Their accuser was not above the law either, however. They <u>were</u> guilty!--victims of the time - little bandits caught stealing from bigger bandits.

Etched into the Tasmanian history pages are graphically descriptive words ... "one famous case, The Trimbys and that incorrigible family of sheep stealers, the Trimbys" and "Their renowned sheep stealing activities." Historical facts! Truth! But -Desperate behaviour. Struggle against social inequality an and unjust system.

Another travel ticket "time"! – <u>his fourth</u> – in June that year, 1818,- from Van Dieman's Land to Sydney for trial.

Sadly the Trimbys were **convicted and sentenced** – Fourteen years imprisonment at the place first called Coal River, then Kings Town and by 1818 Newcastle - to convicts it was **no "new castle"** they termed it "**the Hell of NSW"**. Convicts were bitter and angry about being sent there for reoffending—it was a harsh existence,- ten hours daily work, inadequate diet, and often short of clothing.

My heart feels the dejection - that must have been Joseph's, resulting from inhumane, unjust treatment from those better off. No doubt great resilience to keep on hoping for a better life!

54 year old Joseph left Sydney 30th June 1818 on board the "Lady Nelson" on route to Newcastle. <u>His fifth</u> <u>travel ticket</u>. The Trimby Tapestry now stamped with *the stigma of re-offender*. **Poor father Jo!**, his sons now recorded as convicts also.



Arriving in Newcastle 30 June 1818 the Trimbys worked as shingle splitters and carpenters for the first six months under the humane Captain Wallis who had set up improvements and allowed the well-behaved to cultivate land or food both at Newcastle and here at Wallis Plains.

Next five years they <u>survived</u> under "the notorious Major Morisset" known as "King Lash", who used strict rule and harsh punishments, <u>but</u> continued the farm and building programmes.

Lastly from 1823 they served under Capt Francis Allman. So! **Early Novocastrians indeed!**

I believe Joseph experienced *some* real **Living** under Allman, a kindly considerate man it seems, who respected persons. He supported Joseph's application to return to their V D Land property <u>but</u> Tasmania was, that year, becoming a separate colony, and no one was interested in the Trimby's request. *Trimby luck again!* Their request shelved & ignored!

Sometime that year, 1823, Joseph and his sons were farming here at Wallis Plains. So! <u>sixth travel ticket</u> for Joseph, from Newcastle to Wallis Plains either by boat up the river, bullock dray, or walking.

This Wallis Plains I believe, became "a haven" for Joseph. At last some joys and peace. No more travelling. This was to be- "home". The *authentic Trimby "time"*.

A written statement signed by both the Commandant and Chaplain in Jan 1825 declared Joseph "an honest and industrious character who had not been convicted of any misdemeanor since coming to Newcastle."

Now wait for it! <u>Another ticket for Jo!</u> Not a travel ticket this time but "<u>TICKET of LEAVE"</u> for 61 year old Joseph and each of his sons dated 5 May 1825. What a treasured possession! A little satisfaction, a little justice, and a little freedom, - <u>at last!</u>

1828 Wallis Plains census reads <u>Trimby Joseph</u>, a farmer, **TOL** under Capt Allman, with two sons. On 30 acres, 10 cleared, 10 cultivated, with horses, cattle, sheep and other.

That same year, on 10th March, Joseph's eldest son, 35 year old James, died. Joseph himself buried him in the farm land at Lochend not far from here. Probably Allman's land. This very headstone perhaps organised with the help of Capt Allman. *Burials started here in Glebe land the next year.*

Three years later, finally, - Joseph's last ticket-- a ticket of pardon, 2nd May 1831. Joseph, 66, son Joseph, 36. Their supporter Capt Allman, left the district the following year 1832. Newcastle penal settlement was closed.

Here in his Wallis Plains "haven", FF convict/ survivor, sailor/traveller, farmer/settler, Joseph, spent his "free" "time", his last five years of life, with family, seeing three Australian grandchildren born here.

Golden threads now worked into the often tainted, torn and grubby Trimby life tapestry.

Seven years after James died, an application submitted on behalf of Joseph Trimby, for a warrant to rebury his son was approved, November 1835.

In the letterbook papers of the Archdeacon we read.

"Where buried: Lochend, near Maitland. Where to be removed: To consecrated ground."

I like to believe this is further evidence of the real character of Joseph Trimby - arranging for his son's reburial in this church land grave 28 Nov 1835.

He also may have realized *his own death* was near.

FF Joseph only lived another seven months. He died in 1836, 25 June (176 years ago this year 2012) and was buried here near son James in this his pastoral Wallis Plains "haven". His certificate and burial records state

Trimby Joseph- FREE - arrived in one of the First Ships

Free – such a small word encompassing such enormity of life's frustrations and pain.

Stealing a pouch, seven years conviction for 20yr old Jo became 47 years enslavement, struggling to live his own distinctive individuality, with a yearning, I'm sure, to choose his own travel tickets!

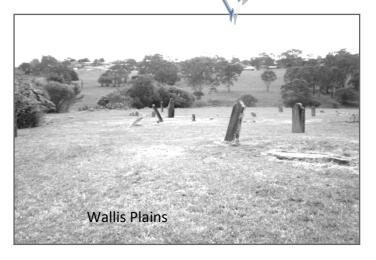
I was born Free and Live Free in this great Nation. I am so grateful to my ancestors. My heart's tears are for Joseph who didn't have such luck - basic human rights. He paid a very high price for my Australian freedom. His "life time" gift to me. How could I not pay heartfelt tribute to him!

He would be satisfied/proud I'm sure, of his long descendancy line of ordinary, decent, well behaved, honest, industrious, patriotic Australian citizens. (For the most part anyway.) The real Trimby character, I believe. (probably with similar Trimby luck as well!)

Standing here where Joseph stood all those years ago, on behalf of Joseph, I express deep gratitude, to my Australian people for acknowledging with respect the persons behind the name "First Fleeters", and giving due honour to each no matter what their status, crimes, or "names".

"Joseph Trimby, your Australian soil has lovingly enfolded you here in this sacred tranquil resting place *in this your Wallis Plains "haven"*,. You, one of her very first sons. Never to be forgotten.

Truly -- You are Australian.'



Founders January/February, 2013

Re-Dedication Plaque No 61 -

FF Able Seaman George Greaves HMS Sirius

On Wednesday 10th October 2012, a small group gathered at the Rocks Discovery Museum, Kendall Lane, The Rocks at 10.00am to witness the re-dedication the First Fleet Plaque No 61 for FF

George Greaves. His headstone, dated 10th July 1788 is the oldest extant headstone in Australia and is on display at the Rocks Discovery Museum, near the site of George's burial at Dawes Point.

Those present were FF President John Haxton, FF Research Director John Boyd, South Coast Chapter member Mrs Joan Phipps, Hunter Valley Chapter Secretary Yvonne Bradley, Janette Pelosi Manager Archives Control State Records Authority of NSW and a descendant of FF John Nicholls. Chris Murphy, Manager Discovery Museum & Erin Towns Guide Discovery Museum.

John Haxton, Yvonne Bradley, John Boyd (back), Janette Pelosi & Joan Phipps

The dedication opened with a history of First Fleeter George Greaves presented by Janette Pelosi from State Records - in it Jeanette outlined the long journey of the headstone from its discovery in 1871, passing thru many hands, until its now permanent location at the Rocks Discovery Museum.

FF President John Haxton spoke about the Fellowship's program of placing Plaques on or at the final resting place of First Fleeters commencing in 1976 under the direction of the Plaques Convenor the late Doug Oakes, until 2012 with 118 Plaques installed to date.

John advised that the Plaque for George Graves was No 61, originally installed with the headstone on 10th September 1988 (see 'Founders' September/October 1988 Vol 19 No 5) when the headstone was located at the Archives Office, 2 Globe Lane the Rocks. Among those present on that day were Mr John Cross, Principal Ar-

chivist, Archives Authority of NSW and Mr Mark Bennett, Principal Registrar NSW BDM who dedicated the plaque.

South Coast Chapter Member, Mrs Joan Phipps alerted the Fellow

-ship on Monday 19th March 2012 that the Headstone and were Plaque nο longer at the Archives Office, and in fact that office was scheduled to be closed on 30th June 2012.



FFF Research Director John Boyd then contacted State Records at Kingswood and was advised that the headstone had been 'on loan' to the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority for

> some 4 to 5 years, and was on display at the Rocks Discovery Museum. Further investigation revealed that the original Plaque No 61 had possibly been misplaced.

> A Chapter outing by the Central Coast Chapter led by FFF CLO Jon Fearon to the Rocks Discovery Museum on Friday 30th March 2012 confirmed that the Headstone was on display and alerted Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority staff that the Plague No 61 was not with it.

Several months of ongoing

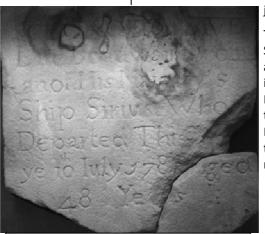
contact with State Records and in particular with Jeanette Pelosi led to State Records agreeing to replace the missing/ misplaced Plaque.

FFF President John Haxton and Janette Pelosi from State Re-

cords, then dedicated the plague iointly.

The Fellowship would like to thank South Coast Chapter Joan Phipps who alerted us in March 2012 to the missing Plaque, Janette Pelosi from State Records for her dogged follow-up of the missing Plaque and Erin Towns Discovery Museum Guide who hosted the rededication Ceremony. The Ceremony closed at 10.45am.

Tohn Boyd Plagues Convenor



George Greaves headstone discovered in 1871

Headstone of George Graves, 10 July 1788

This headstone was discovered in the vicinity of Campbells warehouses in the 1870s. George Graves. a bosun's mate on HMS Sirius, died just six months after the arrival of the First Fleet. (A bosun, or boatswain, was traditionally in charge of rigging, anchors, cables and the like.)

The headstone is believed to have been set up in the colony's first cemetery (1788-92), probably on the northern side of Campbells Cove. The inscription reads:

"In memory of George Graves late boatswain's yeoman of HMS Sirius who departed this life ye 10th July 178(8) aged 48 years."

On loan from NSW State Records

A Gathering on the Norfolk Plains 2013

Tasmania's Norfolk Plains were named to acknowledge the Norfolk Islanders expelled from the island in 1813, and resettled in this part of Tasmania (the area comprising the towns and rural properties around Longford, Cressy, Bishopsbourne, Illawarra and Perth).

A full program of events is planned over the weekend of 1—3 March, 2013. 'A Gathering on the Norfolk Plains' will be held to commemorate 200 years since the Norfolk Islanders settled the plains.

Descendants Day

The feature event being a Descendants Day on Saturday March 2nd. Families descended from one of the original Norfolk Islanders are invited to set up a family history display and across the day, interact with other families/community members, share their family history, network, buy and sell family books, scan and exchange articles, photos etc. The venue utilised for the Descendants Day will be selected once we know the number and size of displays to be accommodated.

PROGRAM

Friday 1st March

Evening

• Music Hall, by G-String Productions at the Longford Town Hall

Saturday 2nd March

All day

- Descendants Day, venue in Longford TBA
- Display of the local schools' student work on 'Discovering the Norfolk Plains': the outcome of a year's study of the area's heritage and people.

From 10 am

• Old time music and dancing on the Village Green, Longford

11 am

- Official launch of the Gathering by the former Governor of Tasmania, the Hon W J E Cox, AC, RFD, ED, QC, including the launch of the 200 years book and medallion. (To secure your medallion or copy of the book, please contact us. Medallions can now be pre-ordered & pre-paid. You'll be kept informed of production progress).
- "Voices from the Graves" theatrical performance in the adjacent Christ Church graveyard
- Community photograph on the Village Green

Early afternoon

• Matinee: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall

Evening

- Colonial themed dining experiences in local eateries
- Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall

Sunday 3rd March

Morning and early afternoon:

• Guided bus tours of Pateena Road

10am - 3pm

- Longford Blessing of the Harvest Festival with a colonial theme on the Village Green
 Afternoon
 - Matinee: Music Hall, by G-String Productions at Longford Town Hall
 - Interdenominational church service at Christ Church, followed by farewell function.

in participating in Descendants Day Through

please contact the Northern Midlands Council's Tourism Officer,

To register your interest

Fiona Dewar, on email: fiona.dewar@nmc.tas.gov.au or phone: 03 6397 7321.

This program is current on 5 September 2012. It's a work in progress and may be updated. Please stay tuned!

Throughout the weekend

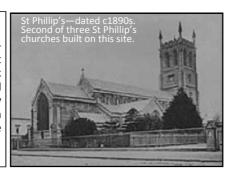
- Self-guided tours of the Norfolk Plains: maps and booklets available to guide you to historic graveyards, churches and heritage Norfolk Plains attractions
- Norfolk Plains themed art exhibition at Eskleigh Home, Perth (open early February to 3 March)
- National Trust Heritage Centre in Longford, open 10am 4pm Saturday and Sunday
- Woolmers, Brickendon & Clarendon open for guided or self-guided tours
- Toosey Resident's Memories of the District & Photo Display, 10am 2pm, Toosey, Longford
- Christ Church open Sunday for services and viewings
- National Trust Properties in close proximity are well worth a visit (Clarendon & Franklin House)

TASMANIAN MEMBERS:-

Please support the Fellowship and go along to the gathering at Norfolk Plains in early March, especially Descendants' Day on the 2nd. Don & Julia Cornford will be there representing the Fellowship, Contact Don at djjmcorn@bigpond.com to lend your support.

225th Anniversary Service

The 225th Anniversary of the New Settlement's first Church Service will be held at 10.15am at St Philip's Anglican Church York St Sydney (opposite Lang Park) on the 3rd February 2013. The sermon will be given by the Rt. Rev'd Peter Jensen, the Anglican Archbishop of Sydney. Her Excellency the Governor will be in attendance.



COMING NEXT ISSUE

* A Chapter celebrates its 25th birthday and honours one of its own with a life membership.



- * A book and film review with First Fleeter links.
- * Was there an orgy at Sydney Cove?
- * Australia Day Luncheon and celebrations.
- * The 1838 Jubilee of Settlement.

Founders January/February, 2013

A CHAT WITH JOHN HAXTON

Founders is pleased that our outgoing President, John Haxton, has been willing to face the editorial third degree and submit himself to cross examination! Read on and be encouraged.



ED: How and when did you discover you were descended from a First idea that your term would last that long? Fleeter and who was/were she/he they?

JH: I joined Wyong Family History Group (WFHG0 in 2002 and while attending a series of lectures "How to Conduct your Research" found out that I had two First Fleeters—Far Out! No one else in the family had any idea that we even had a convict ancestor. She was Ann Sandlin who arrived on the Lady Penrhyn. When convicted and sent to the hulks in the Thames she had a

twenty month old son, Hugh, with her. Sadly he died there before she was transferred to the FF ships.

The other Fleeter was John Winter who was a seaman originally on the Alexander but transferred to the Sirius when that vessel went to get supplied at Cape Town in 2789. He is recorded as meeting with a fellow countryman, John Gewait, who had come on the Scarborough, on the second fleet. They met on Norfolk Island after the Sirius was wrecked there. He returned to Sydney on Supply, returned to England in 1790, and was discharged at Deptford 1791. No further research has been done by me as yet.

ED: It sounds as if you have done much of this research yourself. So, what helped you the most?

JH: After the initial discovery at the workshop with WFHG I started collecting certificates, church record entries, etc. to prove the family

The WFHG had a set of discs with BDM information which pro-vided the names of ancestors and sparked off my proving this information with certificates. In this way I made sure that the connections back through each generation were factual.

ED: It seems you knew right from the outset the way the Fellowship of First Fleeters likes its prospective members to do their research. You must have heard about the Fellowship at Wyong.

JH: Yes, I did. I joined FFF in 2003 after attending the seminar/ lectures at Wyong.

ED: From just being a new member to becoming elected as a director did not take very long. What led to your joining the Board and what jobs did you have during that time?

JH: Peter Christian came to Wyong early in 2004 and spoke at Wyong Family History Group. He indicated they were looking for an assistant treasurer so I put my hand up. I was elected onto the Board late in 2004 as assistant treasurer from 2005 -7 and then as president from 2007 to 2012.

ED: That's six years as President. When you started, had you and

JH: Taking over from Peter Christian was a big role to till. I was very fortunate that he stayed on the Board as Vice-President for another three years, thus helping me settle in a he did a large number of speaking engagements, especially in the Sydney area.

ED: What role did you and your wife Beryl have particularly as a couple during your time at the helm?

JH: Beryl was a great help-checking my prepared speeches/talks/ Founders articles -- for grammatical errors and suggesting alternative ways of expressing my thoughts. She was very positive and creative and was active in the Central Coast Chapter from the very beginning. She was also very involved at stat and national levels with the VIEW clubs of Australia.

ED: What have you learnt about family history and research during that time?

JH: I would say three main things: Always verify the information from as many sources as possible; never accept or trust hearsay; and wait until verified from other proved sources.

ED: What would you say would be some of the highlights of your presidency?

JH: I think the commencement of the Chapter Conferences would be at the op of the list. I certainly recommend that they continue. I have greatly appreciated helping get new chapters established and also being part of the drafting of the chapter by-laws.

ED: Do you have any pearls of wisdom to pass on to you successor Ian Palmer?

JH: The best advice from my perspective is to encourage the Board to work as a team as they look for ways to promote the Fellowship. I believe he should keep focused on the issues and not get sidetracked onto peripheral projects like "Lord Sydney's Statue" and heritage issues of a regional nature.

ED: Do you feel that the Fellowship remains a strong body of research and endeavor? Where would you like to see it heading in the years to come?

JH: I leave happily assured that we have maintained our re-search integrity due to the tireless research work done by Ian Palmer and John Boyd. We have stayed true to our principles. In future I would like to see better working relationships being developed with the many family associations, some of them long established, other relatively

ED: Thank you, John, for giving us your time and wisdom. In expressing our appreciation for your years as President, Founders also wishes you every success in your ongoing membership and chapter involvement in the years ahead.

CELEBRATING OUR BEGINNINGS— A Series for the 225th Anniversary

1. FIRST LANDING DAY—This was the name, along with Foundation Day, given in early nineteenth century almanacs to the 26 January. Some early immigrants, especially those who had prospered, began marking the beginnings of the colony with an Anniversary Dinner- `an emancipist festival' to celebrate their love of the land they now lived in.

Governor Macquarie made the 30th anniversary, in 1818, a public holiday, with thirty guns counting out the years of British Civilisation.

In 1826 the dinner featured the first toast to Australia, the name for the country that had been recommended by the circumnavigator Matthew Flinders in his 1814 publication "Voyage to Terra Australis".

Gradually more celebrations of the day were added to the calendar and in 1837 the first Sydney Regatta was held on the harbour. There were five kinds of races, including one for whale boats, and crowds were attracted to the shore to watch. The Sydney Gazette reported the occasion as a 'day entirely devoted to pleasure'. Acknowledgement: Australia Day Council website.

Our Fifteen Chapters in Action

ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT - Both sides of the Murray River.

Venue: Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury -monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10am for 10.30

Meeting: 3rd Saturday: 16th Feb. & 16th March — Topic: TBA with presentations and events.

Contact: Sue Webb 6021 3727

ARTHUR PHILLIP - Milsons Point to Brooklyn and across to all northern beaches.

Venue: Meeting Room, Old Gordon Public School. 799 Pacific Highway, Gordon - monthly meetings, third Friday at 10.30. Next Meetings: Friday 15 February Speaker: John Vaughan, Topic: *The History of Flags*. Friday 15 March Speaker: John Flint Topic: *The Macquaries and Friends*

Events: Sunday 24 February Tour to Australian Pioneer Village and Ebenezer Church Meet at 8.45am at Gordon Station

Contact: Joy Zamiatin, 9451 8665 or Gillian Doyle 9440 5340

CANBERRA - ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations to be advised. Next Meeting: Contact: Brian Mattick 6231 8880

CENTRAL COAST - Gosford, Tuggerah Lake, Wyong, Budgewoi and surrounds.

Venue: Wyong RSL Club, corner Anzac Ave and Margaret Street, Wyong - monthly meetings, second Saturday at 10am

for 10.30. Next Meeting: Saturday 9 February, Speaker: TBA Contact: Jon Fearon 4323 1849

EASTERN FARMS - Ryde, Eastwood, Parramatta, Kings Langley, Pennant Hills and surrounds.

Venue: The Hall at Brush Farm House, 19 Lawson St. Eastwood -monthly meetings, first Saturday from 10am - 12.00 noon

Next Meetings: 2nd February - TBA

2nd March - Lyn Fergusson: Arthur Phillip - (her biography) Contact: Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY - Hunter Region, Newcastle and surrounds.

Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunker Road, Adamstown – bi-monthly meetings, third Monday from 10am — 12.30pm. Next Meeting: 18th February – Kevin Short, Topic: History of Maitland. Event: 25th March Cockatoo Island Convict Trail. Contact: Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

LACHLAN MACQUARIE - Orange, Bathurst, Parkes, Dubbo, White Rock, Cowra, Kelso.

Venue: Kinross Wolaroi School Library - Next (Quarterly) Meeting: Saturday 16th February 2013 from 2 - 4 pm

Contact: Judy Dwyer 6365 8234 or 0428 173 213

MORETON - South East Queensland.

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton - bi-monthly meetings, on an available Saturday.

Next Meeting: TBA Contact: Don Cornford 04 5746 6020

NEW ENGLAND - Armidale to Glen Innes and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations to be advised - first Saturday. Next Meeting: 9th February 2013 12 noon at St. Peter's Parish Centre, Tingcombe St., Armidale.

Contact: Wal Whalley 6772 3499

NORTH COAST - Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga.

Venue: Mylestom Hall, courtesy Mark & Gina Troy. Bi-monthly meetings, first Sunday at 11.30am.

Next Meeting: 3 February 2013. Speaker: Marilyn McKnight from Cavalcade of History & Fashion Topic: - Old aprons.

Contact: Contact Robyn Condliffe 6653 3615

NORTHERN RIVERS - Lismore and surrounds.

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

Next Meeting: Monday 28th Tibouchina Room, Alstonville Bowling Club, Alstonville.

Contact: Margaret Soward 6686 3597 as this is a change from previously announced Australia Day event.

NORTH WEST - Tamworth and surrounds.

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, first Saturday at 1.30pm

Next Meeting: . Saturday 2nd February, Bus trip to Sheeba Dam at Hanging Rock. Meet at Tourist Information

Centre to leave at 9am

Contact: Jo Crossing 6766 8255

SOUTH COAST - Engadine to Burrill Lake.

Venue: Laurel Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto - monthly meetings except. Jan, May and Dec. -

first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm Next Meeting: 5 February

Contact: Dorothy Conkey 4261 2337

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS - Mittagong, Moss Vale and surrounds.

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre - bi-monthly meetings - second Wednesday at 10.30am - 12.30pm.

Next Meeting: 13 February: speaker John Boyd. Contact: Neville Usher 4869 1406

SWAN RIVER - Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.

Next Meeting: 23rd February, 2.00pm. - 1/14 Outram St., West Perth (steps to negotiate). Events: Australia Day

brunch on the banks of the Swan River at Burswood. Contact: Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WILLIAM HAMBLEY/MARY SPRINGHAM

#8172 James Andrew Price

HENRY PARSONS

#8173 Rosalie Gardiner

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

#8174 Penelope Ann Haire

JOHN NICHOLLS

#8175 Ruth Floyd Ellis

#8176 Kenneth John Smith

ELEANOR/ELLEN FRASER/REDCHESTER

#8177 Dorothy Joan Mortimer

ANN FORBES

#8178 Judith Hilary Briscoe

#8180 Gary Ronald Haspell

#8181 Dean Peter Haspell

#8182 John Bradley Haspell

#8183 Stuart Mitchell Haspell

#8184 Katrina Elizabeth McGuiness

NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#8179 Joshua Angus Perry

JAMES WRIGHT

#8185 Josephine Kennedy

Associate

#7816.1 Frances Smith

#8156 Graham Norton Lambert

Friend

#F 115 Margaret Moulston

THOMAS KIDNER

#8186 George Stephen Norton

NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#8187 Richard Harte Keatinge

JOSEPH HATTON/ANN COLPITTS

#8188 Martaret Iren McGrath

THOMAS CHIPP / JANE LANGLEY

#8189 Glen Robert Cherry

#8190 Jillian Peta Cherry

#8191 Angela Toni Cherry

#8192 Adam Robert Cherry

#8193 Elizabeth Jane Cherry

WILLIAM BAKER / SUSANNAH HUFFNELL

#8184 Allen Arthur Heathcoat

OWEN CAVANOUGH / MARGARET DARNELL

#8195 Susan-Gai Hudson

JOHN NICHOLLS

#2952 Reginald George Wadsworth

#8196 Christopher Alan Deagan

#F 116 Joan Emily Riches #F 117 Jennifer Hatcher

BIRTHS

None to report.

DEATHS

JOSEPH WRIGHT

#7448 Mrs Lyn (Effie) M Walker aka Skin-

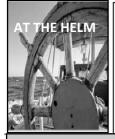
ner October, 2012 aged in her 70s. Late of Mardi, both husband & subsequent partner who have predeceased Effie. Member of Central Coast Chapter.

JOHN NICHOLLS

#2953 Reginald George Wadsworth

1st November, 2012 Bangalow Feros Care Home after a short illness. Husband of Pat Wadsworth from Northern NSW.

NOTE: There are new membership forms. Please download these if you are encouraging family members to join. Chapters are asked to remove anything not current from their files and print off these new materials.



WE GOT IT WRONG OOPS: Missing from the list in Founders 43/6 -

Ann Colpitts, James Bryan Cullen, Olivia Gascoigne, Edward Goodwin, Andrew Goodwin, Susannah Gough & George Johnson. Thank you to all those readers who 'lost' their First Fleeter and told us so.

WEB SITE NEWS: Director John Boyd coordinates the Fellowship's website and works with Webmaster, Bob Rickards, to keep the site up to date and relevant. Do make a habit of checking the site regularly and let John know your responses to web material and if changes need to be made.

Profiles on First Fleeters that appear in Ship's Lists on the website will in general be first printed in Founders before they go on line. Please send you stories to the Editor, along with pictures if you have them.

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.

Sue Webb 6021 3727

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Joy Zamitiatin 9451 8665

CANBERRA

Brian Mattick 6231 8880

CENTRAL COAST

Jon Fearon 4323 1849

EASTERN FARMS

Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY

Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Judy Dwyer 6365 8234

MORFTON

Don Cornford 0457 466 020

NEW ENGLAND

Wal Whalley 6772 3499

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



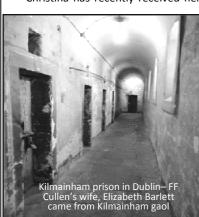
VALUED DONORS TO THE WORK OF FIRST FLEET HOUSE

J M DRUMMOND; M L FRANCIS; L A GOODWILL; D C McGRATH; J E PALEY; J L PELOSI; L A VENNELL; R D WHITE.

ROSES FROM THE HEART — Latest News.

Founders has received a personal update from Christina Henri, whose project is now, with much excitement, moving into the final stages. (See earlier issues such as 39/3 and 43/1).

Christina has recently received her doctorate and as this issue goes to press, she is visiting Arbour Hill



Prison in Dublin to be presented with 800 bonnets made by male prisoners at the gaol and embellished by the female prisoners at the Dorchas Centre of the Mountjoy Prison. The bonnets will be travelling through the Irish Prison System and then become part of Roses from the Heart, representing women who lived in and around Dublin before being transported.

ceremony she plans to hold in London in September 2013.

Christina anticipates that the media publicity thus engendered will ensure that all 25,566 bonnets will be received in time for the major Blessing of the Bonnets

In 2015, after Roses from the Heart has finished its planned travelling exhibition schedule the Memorial will become a permanent public art installation in Australia, most likely, Tasmania.

A recent note from the Roses from the Heart office in Hobart informs us that a permanent on-line memorial is to be set up as well, featuring a page for each woman convict with interactive opportunities for her descendants. One in four Australians have convict heritage and many of them are unaware of it. Founders will endeavour to keep you informed.

