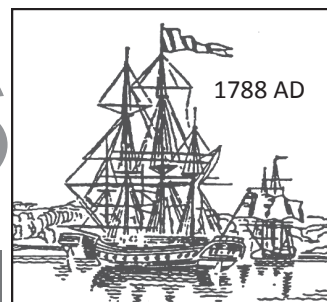


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc.

ACN 003 223 425

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



Volume 44, Issue 4

45th Year of Publication

August/September, 2013

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

SAILING OF THE FIRST FLEET - CELEBRATION LUNCH

This year began a little differently for the Fellowship when the usual Australia Day Luncheon had to be postponed due to the unavailability of the booked venue. A disappointment it was, for sure, especially for those who had booked from afar to spend some time in Sydney for their summer holiday and join other First Fleeters at the major get-together of the year.

The Pullman Hotel in College St., Sydney had finished their downstairs reservations by 11th May and so the celebratory gathering proceeded accordingly. With a change of title in keeping with the date, 226 years, almost to the day since the First Fleet sailed out of Portsmouth, 139 guests sat down to enjoy a delicious fellowship meal together.

Our patron NSW State Governor Professor Marie Bashir had been planning to attend in January, but due to the postponement, she was not able to be present on this occasion. On the same day she was crossing the Blue Mountains with other dignitaries and history-conscious souls honouring the explorers who had done that 200 years before. She joins us all in a love of matters genealogical and historical.

We were sorry too, that we missed out on the pleasure of the company of our South Coast chapter members who had already committed to their own Sailing of the Fleet luncheon on the same day. Perhaps a report on that event will find its way to Founders in due course.

As had become the custom on many such occasions, former President Rod Best was again our MC and was in fine form as he led proceedings. These began with the national anthem which was sung heartily and indeed masterfully by all in attendance. The second verse was a challenge for some though it is commonly sung in school assemblies these days throughout the country. The young folk obviously have something to teach us here and we would

probably all benefit by their running some workshops for us so we can master verse 2 off by heart. Like our ancestors, 'those who've come across the seas', albeit recently and ongoing, deserve to share our plains to keep our fair land 'renowned of all'.

Vice Patron Commodore Paul Kable, in saying 'grace', thanked the Lord for "our land and its bountiful provisions made available to us through the endurance, motivation and courage of our First Fleet ancestors." The Loyal Toast followed, led by Director Robin Palmer, and the President then proposed the Toast to our First Fleet ancestors, listing

the 78 names of those represented by the guests at the luncheon. This has long been a tradition at our annual luncheons and nicely bonds the fellowship together with a sense of unity.

A very pleasant activity was added to the occasion when Paul Kable was invited to present Certificates of Appreciation to John Haxton for his six years service as President and to Ron Withington for his Editorship of Founders over four years. The Acclamation that followed gave resounding approval

by all present of the honours thus bestowed.

The two-course meal with options of scotch fillet or chicken breast for the main and crème brûlée or chocolate trio for the dessert was much appreciated by all. Several directors received such warm compliments on behalf of the diners who, as well as enjoying the meal were most comfortable with the spacious layout of the tables and marvelled at the handsomely presented décor on each. Especially popular were the illustrated name cards featuring the ships and the Fellowship's thanks must go to Robin and Ian Palmer and the team for all they did in making the luncheon so successful.

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Founders

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President's Desk

Ian Palmer



No doubt you will have noticed that it is three months, instead of the usual two, since you last received a copy of Founders. **YOU ARE RIGHT.** Up until now Founders has been delivered to your letter box every two months, starting in January each year. However with printers on holidays in late December and early January the first issue each year has been difficult to produce. It has to be compiled and printed in early December before the holiday season starts or in mid-January after the holiday season finishes. Either way creates problems. **SO WE HAVE CHANGED THE SYSTEM.** From now on Founders will be in your letter box in alternate months beginning in February, then April, June, August, October and December. You will still be receiving six copies of your favourite, informative and interesting magazine each year.

HELP WANTED - To provide the best possible service to our Members, we like to have someone in attendance at First Fleet House from Monday to Friday each week. At present we do not have enough volunteers to do this. If anyone would like to join our regular volunteer team and attend First Fleet House on Friday each week, we would like to hear from you. Even if you can spare just a day a month we would still like to hear. To discuss the tasks involved please phone me on Thursdays at First Fleet House, 9360 3788.

FROM THE EDITOR

We trust you will enjoy some great reading again this issue. Thanks to our contributors there are reports on members' activities and also news of what is to come. Our Vice-President Denis Smith, who will represent the Fellowship, is busy with updates on the **Arthur Phillip Bicentenary** Memorial celebrations next year in London and at Bath and many of our members are also planning to be there. Please register your interest with Denis on denissmith@bigpond.com or (02) 99063579 and he will keep you posted on programme details and group travel possibilities.

The stone will be laid in the Abbey on 9th July and Denis advises that for those staying on in London, the bicentenary of the death of **Matthew Flinders** will also be officially remembered on 19th July.

Jon Fearon

NEW FELLOWSHIP BANNER UNVEILED

John Boyd was the guest speaker at the Central Coast Chapter Annual General Meeting. The banner is available from First Fleet House for Fellowship events.



Vale Beryl Joan Mobbs Lewis JP (1924-2013)

Life Member & former President, Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Beryl Lewis was uniquely Australian and yet had remarkable similarities to Baroness Thatcher. Beryl has been the only female President of the Fellowship, Baroness Thatcher the only female Prime Minister of that slightly larger enterprise known as Great Britain. Each was always immaculately coiffed and attired. Each dominated meetings and was a leader in their own fields. Like Baroness Thatcher, there was never anything out of place with Beryl. This was epitomised by her immaculate, clear, precise and flowing handwriting.

Beryl was a fifth generation First Fleeter from John Small, Mary Parker and James Bradley. John and Mary's son Samuel married the girl next door, Rachel Rebecca – who was the daughter of James Bradley. The Smalls were (and are) a Ryde family. Beryl's parents lived close by to Ryde with Beryl's mother being of the Catt family who were famous nurserymen from Carlingford – where Beryl attended Carlingford District Rural School from 1929-1937. Beryl's father was Eric Arthur Mobbs an Alderman for 40 years, Mayor of Dundas and then for 5 years from 1948 and again in 1959 the Mayor of the City of Parramatta. E A Mobbs was a stalwart of the Liberal Party under Sir Robert Menzies.

Public duty was core to Beryl and this duty centred on the Fellowship. In her Australia Day toast in January 1981 she said: "It becomes rather tiresome to hear what a wonderful country we have. Of course we have, but we all know, anything is only as good as its foundations. It has become fashionable to talk of our rights: but what of our duty – our duty to our country and its founders."

Elected to the Fellowship's Executive in 1972 she was Vice President 1973-75 and then President in 1975. She remarked in her first published words to members that she became the first female President in an International Women's Year. She worked extraordinarily hard as President – often at times when her own health was poor. She had regular and frequent speaking engagements and travelled across NSW, to Norfolk Island and twice to England. She moulded a Fellowship that had standing and was a voice for heritage and an Australia that remembered its past.

In writing of her school years Beryl said: "I was a 'talker' (and still am) and have strong recollections of standing in the corridor as punishment for talking in class."



During her Presidency Beryl used her skills as a talker well and she built the reputation of the Fellowship on her skills. It was now that the Australia Day celebrations were first regularly attended by both Governors and Premiers. Both these days and Argyle or Rocks Days were times members (including Beryl and her husband Howard) appeared in costume and were notable for making a statement about our ancestry. The birthday of Arthur Phillip was celebrated each October by public celebration, and Addresses of Loyalty, in the style of our colonial ancestors were prepared in beautiful calligraphy and presented to the Governor and at least once to the Queen.

Heritage was present in the commencement of placing plaques on the graves of First Fleeters and the book "Where First Fleeters Lie" was started. She was an active founding member of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations in 1978. But more than this, her sense of civic duty led her to champion the commissioning of the First Impressions Sculpture in The Rocks and the Bonds of Friendship – which was originally in front of the Customs House, Circular Quay. She campaigned and won the naming of First Fleet Park at the Quay. She led an ambitious campaign to have a large tapestry woven as the Fellowship's proposed gift to the State Library during 1988. Originally planned to cost \$20,000 in 1981, the cost had risen to \$38,000 by 1983 and this, at a time when the net worth of the Fellowship was just \$13,000 and it occupied rented premises above Scots Church, Jamieson Street. In two years Beryl raised just over \$20,000 towards this goal. Clearly she was a driving force.

In every step of her way, Beryl was always entirely supported and encouraged by her proud husband, Howard.

My comment (in the 1983 Annual Report) when I succeeded Beryl as President reads in part:

"It is of interest that amongst the first motions moved by Beryl after she joined the Executive were as to the purchase of an urn for the office, support for the preservation of Gore Hill Cemetery and to protest at the leaving out of religious affiliation from future death certificates. These early motions indicate the scope of her concern. Always wanting to give every assistance to the 'workers' in the office, ready to join a fray if it meant the preservation of our heritage and keeping abreast of recent changes which could affect the future."

Beryl had a vision for the Fellowship beyond a family history society – it was about a voice for what she regarded as the true makers of this nation: a voice and a duty to earn a place at the head table.

Continued over -->

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.

Sue Webb 6021 3727

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Joy Zamiatin 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 MAC-QUARIE

Judy Dwyer 6365 8234

MORETON

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

* **Vale Beryl Joan Mobbs Lewis - continued from Page 3.**

In 1982, in no small part because Beryl was a force to be reckoned with, the Executive was grappling with questions of the flag and republicanism. No one on the Executive actively promoted these causes (unlike the Fellowship's first President almost 20 years before) but Beryl sought to entrench a Royalist Fellowship with a flag containing the Union Jack and a total neglect of the Aboriginal people as if this was the only proper way forward for the Fellowship. She sought to have the Fellowship called the "Royal Fellowship" without first seeking the concurrence of the Executive. Her attempts to entrench this conservative stance led to disharmony and acrimony. She resigned in April 1983 but the Executive refused to accept her resignation. In May her supporter Ray Meredith (Treasurer since 1974) moved a censure of the person Beryl considered as epitomising her opposition the Secretary, Anne Campbell, but the censure was lost. Her next resignation in June 1983, which also followed the resignation of Vice President Roy Kable and happened at the same time as the Treasurer Ray Meredith, left the Fellowship bereft of its senior office bearers. The junior Vice President, was in New Zealand at



the time attending a history conference. She called for, and the remaining Executive agreed to, a Special General Meeting in July 1983 at which the members on a show of hands supported the moderate, liberal surviving Executive.

This was not divisiveness for the sake of creating disharmony. Beryl, while always formal and proper, had a good sense of humour and a great loyalty to friends together with her sense of duty to her country. But what she fought for, was to maintain a future of the Fellowship that was no longer shared by others – at least not to the same extent.

Apart from her work on the Fellowship, Beryl wrote two books "From Poverty to Mayor of a City" and (with A C Lemon) "Mobbs Muster."

Following Howard's retirement they moved to the Southern Highlands where Beryl became an active member of the local Chapter of the Fellowship: retaining to her last, a sense of duty and dedication to the Fellowship and a passion for

Australia's First Fleet heritage.

To Howard, her devoted and loving husband we offer all our condolences.

Roderick Best

NORTH WEST CHAPTER CELEBRATES 12th BIRTHDAY

On Saturday 6th April 2013, we celebrated our 12th birthday with a bus trip to the Koala Capital of New South Wales, Gunnedah. On arrival we shared morning tea in the park, finding out that the public toilets had recorded poetry and music. The National Anthem of England was playing God Save the Queen which made it rather hard to sit down, so to speak.

Dianna Harband met up with a young family who share the same First Fleeter, Ann Martin, as she does, and who expressed an interest in joining the group. After this we visited the Waterways Wild Life Park, meeting the most active koalas I have ever seen, red and grey kangaroos, dingos and lots more. Visiting a coal loader was interesting, a coal train passing us with 85 trucks.

Returning to the town park, we had lunch, then visited the rural museum. This was filled to overflowing with all kinds of things used in the past such as the chain measuring devices which have proved to be as accurate as anything up-to-date. We visited the Porcupine Lookout with panoramic views right down the Breezer Plain in the south-east and all the way to the Nandewar Range in the north-west. No wonder John Oxley was so impressed! What a wonderful country we have!

Patricia Worrad



WHERE IS THIS?

NO 2 in AN OCCASIONAL SERIES

Congratulations to **#F43 Joan Lawrence** who correctly identified the location of our first monument puzzle in this series.

Joan's response: 'Until recently I tutored for 26 years in Sydney history conducting lectures, walks and historic coach tours. The history of the site of Central Railway is full of interest and I feel these engravings are largely overlooked in the coffee shop. Recently going for a trip I had an early cuppa there and once again admired the craft of this series of depictions of our history.'

Editor's note: The murals date from 1951 when this room was officially opened as the Interstate Booking Office.

Hint for Number 2: This is **not** in New South Wales.



TRAVEL PLANS 2014

HISTORY LOVERS TOUR

Historian **Cathy Dunn** will be hosting the History Lovers Norfolk Island Tour March 14 - 21 2014

Cathy has published *Norfolk island Deaths 1st Settlement 1788 - 1814* which include many of our First Fleeters

Next March on Norfolk Island Cathy along with fellow historian will be launching *Rev Fulton Baptisms, Burials and Marriages 1801 - 1806*

Your registration fee includes the following:

- 'Discover Our World' half day island orientation tour: A perfect beginning to your History Lovers holidays as you marvel at the beauty and heritage of Norfolk Island
- Norfolk Island 1st settlement History and genealogy research session and workshops led by historian Cathy Dunn.
- Historic Cemetery tour with historian Cathy Dunn
- Twilight dinner and tour of world heritage area and the convict days of old, of historic Kingston settlement.
- History in the Making Tour with local historian Arthur Evans: experience a journey back in time and participate in recreating some of the tasks necessary for survival in Norfolk Island's early settlements.
- Norfolk Island History and Genealogy research resources.

Enjoy the beauty and heritage of Norfolk Island:

- a Walk in the footsteps of your ancestors
- a Discover the history of the Sirius shipwreck from 1790
- a Visit the Norfolk Island Museums
- a Discover Captain Cook's landing place

Additional options

- Dinner at Leagues Club on Friday night with fellow History Lovers
- Attend the launch of *Rev. Fulton's Baptisms, Burials and Marriages 1801 – 1806* by historians Cathy Dunn and Liz McCoy

Cathy Dunn (John Small – Mary Parker – William Broughton)

Ph: 02 44554780. - Bookings with the Travel Centre, P.O. Box 172, Norfolk Island 2899, South Pacific. Email: joyce@travelcentre.nlk.nf

FOUNDERS' DAY NORFOLK ISLAND

Norfolk Island is an integral part of First Fleet history. Each year the island celebrates the arrival of the First Fleet on 6th March with a re-enactment of the landing and special events throughout the week including a welcome dinner with local guest historian speaker, customised First Fleet settlement tour by Norfolk Island Museum, exclusive lunch at the home of a local First Fleet descendant and gala dinner with local entertainment. Phone [1800 1400 66](tel:1800140066) or email debbie@travelcentre.nlk.nf for more information www.travelcentre.nf

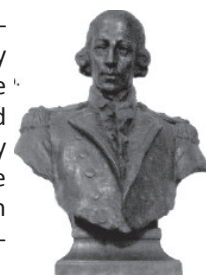


HMS SIRIUS REUNION

HMS Sirius family reunions on Norfolk Island: Descendants of Owen Cavanough and all other descendants with a connection to the *HMS Sirius* are invited to travel to Norfolk Island 14-21 March for a special family reunion timed to coincide with the anniversary of the wrecking of the *HMS Sirius* on Norfolk Island. Descendants are invited to come and see the place where the *Sirius* was wrecked on that fateful day. Program highlights include welcome twilight Kingston walk, talk and dinner, HMS *Sirius* presentation by Norfolk Island Museum followed by anniversary lunch & entertainment in historic Kingston area by the sea, customised First Fleet settlement tour and farewell gala dinner with local entertainment. Phone [1800 1400 66](tel:1800140066) or email debbie@travelcentre.nlk.nf for more information.

ARTHUR PHILLIP BICENTENARY 2014

Admiral Arthur Phillip Royal Navy (1738-1814) is an under-sung British hero. Widely admired in Australia as Commander of the First Fleet and first Governor, he founded New South Wales in 1788 and spent nearly five years establishing the new colony in the face of horrendous obstacles. It is more than time that Phillip was nationally and fully recognised in his own country.



Intended for the bicentenary of his death in 2014 are: a commemorative stone in the floor of the Nave in Westminster Abbey; a fine sculpture near Phillip's former house in Bath, his city of retirement and death; and an enduring bursary programme for Anglo-Australian higher education.

Phillip's leadership of the First Fleet was inspired: all on board were humanely treated and kept healthy and his navigation was superb. His establishing of the colony was an extraordinary achievement not recognised in a Britain preoccupied by the French Revolution and its threats and uninterested in the success or otherwise of a penal colony half a world away. Phillip recognised Australia's potential and made modern Australia a possibility.

Arthur Phillip was born in the City of London where he is commemorated in the church of St Mary-le-Bow at an annual service which is followed by a livery hall luncheon. There is a small, mostly unremarked, memorial to him in Watling Street in the City of London. In Bath, plaques have been affixed to his house and within Bath Abbey. In the village church of St Nicholas, Bathampton where he lies buried, he is commemorated in an Australian chapel, by a small tablet erected by his widow and an annual village school service of remembrance.

A century and a half after Phillip's death, former Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden described Arthur Phillip as one of the most eminent men of the eighteenth century. Phillip, a Captain Royal Navy in 1788, attained the rank of Admiral for his naval service but was otherwise unrecognised. We should properly honour this modest, self-made yet world class seaman, linguist, patriot, espionage agent against the French, sometime commodore in the Portuguese Navy, and above all, humanitarian and effective first Governor of New South Wales who deserves to be better recognised by his own nation. He overcame extraordinary odds to lay the foundation of the Australia we know today.

phillip@britain-australia.org.uk THE BRITAIN-AUSTRALIA SOCIETY EDUCATION TRUST www.britain-australia.org.uk SWIRE HOUSE, 59 BUCKINGHAM GATE, LONDON, SW1E 6AJ Tel: 020 7630 1075



For all present, the highlight was the excellent talk given by our guest speaker, Paul Brunton OAM, recently retired from his position as Senior Curator of the State and Mitchell Library of NSW.

Paul's topic was ***The Great What Ifs of Australian History*** and his focus was on James Cook, the transit of Venus and European Settlement of Australia. As we soon discovered this was a worthy topic for a gathering of First Fleeters and wonderfully presented with clarity, humour and worthy erudition.

Paul prefaced his talk with the exciting news of the recent successful acquisition by the Library, despite overwhelming odds, of the Bass Papers for \$1.1 million. Saved from foreign ownership for Australia for all time.

Three 'What Ifs' were chosen, each of them part of our history and which came about, as Paul said 'purely by chance'. The first one was linked to the happy combination of the need to find the riches of the Great Southern Land and to investigate and study the transit of Venus in 1769. ***What if James Cook had not been chosen to lead the expedition?*** After all, the Royal Society wanted Alexander Dalrymple and he was not a naval man. Cook was only a master but had friends in high places; Admiralty Secretary Philip Stephens and Admiral Sir Hugh Palliser and they were adamant that Cook was the best man for the job of tracking the transit and, as it turned out, carrying out the secret instructions of finding and mapping new territories for mother England.

The second was ***What If Samuel Wallis had not discovered Tahiti?*** At the time of the discovery of the island, 1767, one of Wallis's crew knew how to calculate longitude by lunar distances. He had learnt this technique from the scientist John Harrison who later perfected the marine chronometer or sea clock. Thus not only was Tahiti successfully found, but the movement of the moon, the transit, was correctly noted and as a result, navigation techniques made a great leap forward. The astronomical task was completed and Cook, at 40 years of age and now a Lieutenant, destination unbeknown to his crew, set off with Joseph Banks in on the secret, to 'sort out' New Zealand and to sail west and go 'farther beyond than it was possible for any man to go'. This took them to the eastern extremity of New Holland and the decision to go north from there.

FELLOWSHIP PRESIDENTS

With the recent death of Beryl Lewis and with four of the Presidents in attendance at the Luncheon, we thought it opportune to print the list that follows:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. John Lavett 1968-1970 | 7. Peter Christian 1986-1990 |
| 2. Frank Everingham 1970-1972 | 8. James Donohue 1990-1993 |
| 3. Fred Daniell 1972-1973 | 9. Peter Christian 1993-2006 |
| 4. Edgar Kable 1973-1975 | 10. John Haxton 2006-2012 |
| 5. Beryl Lewis 1975-1983 | 11. Ian Palmer 2012- |
| 6. Roderick Best 1983-1986 | |

The third chance came about when the the ship was nearly wrecked on the Great Barrier Reef. Was this to be the end of the voyage and the loss of life through drowning and/or eventual starvation? In other words, ***What if the Endeavour River had not been 'placed there by God' so they could careen the ship?*** Banks became the hero of the occasion with his knowledge of plants and languages and the fact that the crew could live off the land while repairs were being made. It seemed it was to be Banks's voyage, but Cook was recognised as the saviour of the expedition and given opportunity to make other voyages of discovery.



Guest speaker Paul Brunton is thanked by vice President Denis Smith

Paul concluded his talk with some details of the 'bust-up' between Cook and Banks as the second voyage was being planned. Banks wanted to go again and opted for a reconstructed ship. It, however, toppled over in the Thames. Cook wanted a Whitby Collier and in the end, the First Lord Sandwich agreed with Cook and not Banks, whose final words on the matter were "My grand tour will be one right around the world."

Vice President Denis Smith then, in presenting a gift to the speaker, gave a warm and appreciative vote of thanks for an excellent address. This was enthusiastically supported with acclamation by all present. Many commented afterwards on how enthralling and entertaining the talk had been and how it added significantly to the outstanding success of the gathering together.

To conclude the occasion, the Lucky Door Prize was drawn by Anne Kable, wife of our Vice Patron, Paul. She drew her own name out of the hat and under the circumstances, graciously declined the prize. In the second draw the prize, which was one night for two at the Pullman, including breakfast, was won by Life Member #2740, Joyce Pankhurst.



Ron Withington, Paul Kable and John Haxton after the presentation of their certificates of appreciation.

AND FOR NEXT YEAR!

Our **Australia Day Luncheon** will revert to its regular time slot.

Make a note for your 2014 calendar - Saturday 25th January at the Pullman Hotel, College St. Sydney, from 11.00 am.

Our guest speaker will be the acclaimed Australian author Carol Baxter. She will introduce us to the most influential convict ever transported to Australia!

Booking form in next issue of *Founders*.

CELEBRATING OUR BEGINNINGS - A Series for the 225th Anniversary

4 The Sesquicentenary and The Day of Mourning 1938

By 1938 Australians, still 98 per cent British in background, had, after almost one hundred years, found agreement on the name, timing and nature of the day's celebration they had come to share. All six state premiers were in Sydney, again very much the focus of the Australia Day celebrations. But Brisbane's Courier-Mail warned against seeing those celebrations as 'merely of local interest': 'Sydney has the pageantry, but the event it recalls and reconstructs is significant to all Australians. A nation was founded when

Governor Phillip landed at Port Jackson. To that nation we all belong'. The heading for the editorial was 'A dream that came true'. That nation now had its own capital, Canberra (in the Australian Capital Territory, cut out of New South Wales in 1908) and a provisional Parliament House. (The Northern Territory, controlled

by the federal government from 1911, was to gain self-government in 1978.)

The NSW government, seeking to match Victoria's celebration of its centenary in 1934, had chosen as its centrepiece the re-enactment of Captain Phillips' arrival and flag-raising at Sydney Cove, followed by a pageant. The 120 motorised floats, stretching 1.5 miles, took one and a half half hours to pass through the streets of Sydney. The pageant's theme, March to Nationhood, became the title of a film documenting the celebrations. The first float depicted traditional Aboriginal life, followed by the pastoral and other industries. There was no mention of convicts, following a decision of the executive committee of the Celebrations Council, endorsed by the president of the Royal Australian Historical Society.



Aborigines outside Australian Hall, Sydney, Australia Day, 1938. Source: *Man* (Syd.), March 1938, National Library of Australia.

The flyer, with resolution, advertising Australian Aborigines' Conference & Sesquicentenary Day of Mourning & Protest, 26 January 1938. Source: Broadside 405, National Library of Australia.

AUSTRALIAN
Aborigines Conference
SESQUI-CENTENARY
Day of Mourning and Protest
to be held in
THE AUSTRALIAN HALL, SYDNEY
(No. 148 Elizabeth Street — a hundred yards south of Liverpool Street)
on
WEDNESDAY, 26th JANUARY, 1938
(AUSTRALIA DAY)
The Conference will assemble at 10 o'clock in the morning.

ABORIGINES AND PERSONS OF ABORIGINAL BLOOD ONLY ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The following Resolution will be moved:

"WE, representing THE ABORIGINES OF AUSTRALIA, assembled in Conference at the Australian Hall, Sydney, on the 26th day of January, 1938, this being the 150th Anniversary of the whitemen's seizure of our country, HEREBY MAKE PROTEST against the callous treatment of our people by the whitemen during the past 150 years, AND WE APPEAL to the Australian Nation of today to make new laws for the education and care of Aborigines, and we ask for a new policy which will raise our people to FULL CITIZEN STATUS AND EQUALITY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY."

The above resolution will be debated and voted upon, as the sole business of the Conference, which will terminate at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

TO ALL AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES! PLEASE COME TO THIS CONFERENCE IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN! ALSO SEND WORD BY LETTER TO NOTIFY US IF YOU CAN ATTEND

Signed, for and on behalf of
THE ABORIGINES PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION,
J. T. PATTEN, President.
W. FERGUSON, Organising Secretary.

Address: c/o Box 1924KK, General Post Office, Sydney

But the organisers saw Aborigines as essential to the day's proceedings. They brought twenty-six of them from Menindee, a settlement of Wiradjuri and Barkendjii people on the River Darling, and from Brewarrina east of Bourke (the Murawari people) to act out Aboriginal resistance to the British landing, and to pose on the first float in the pageant. There were also about one hundred other Aborigines in Sydney on that day who had come to present a different view of the celebrations. Among their leaders pressing for Aboriginal rights were William Cooper, founder of the Australian Aborigines' League in Victoria in 1936, and Jack Patten, Bill Ferguson and Pearl Gibbs, who headed the Aborigines' Progressive Association, formed New South Wales in 1937. For them and those they represented, Australia Day was a 'day of mourning'.

The meeting of Aborigines at the Australian Hall on 'the 150th Anniversary of the Whitemen's seizure of our country' passed unanimously a resolution protesting at the whitemen's mistreatment of Aborigines since 1788 and appealing for new laws ensuring equality for Aborigines within the Australian community. Also endorsed was a list of ten points, suggesting ways of achieving full citizen status, for a deputation to take to a meeting with the prime minister on 31 January. Living conditions for Aboriginal people in south-eastern Australia had worsened as the economy deteriorated from the 1920s. Controlled by largely unsympathetic 'protectors', dependent on white charity, and without the right to vote, Aborigines struggled to improve their situation. They were out of sight of most Australians, who, living in the capital cities, knew or understood little of their plight.

There were some, like the reporter in Hobart's Mercury in 1935, who acknowledged 'the white invasion' as well as the '147 years of civilisation'. But most Australians assumed that Aborigines were 'a dying race', a phrase used in the foreword to the book commemorating the Sesquicentenary, Australians 1788-1938. Yet statistics showed that was not so. On the evening of Australia Day 1938 state presidents of the ANA broadcast their messages on the national network of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The organisation which had shepherded Australian natives towards a national day by 1935 could delight in their achievement. But how could they include the Aboriginal natives of the country? What place would there be for them at the Bicentenary in 1988?

Acknowledgement: *Australia Day Council*

ELIZABETH PARKER

Elizabeth Parker was charged with breaking and entering and stealing one linen gown and one shirt according to John Copley's book *Crimes Of The First Fleet* on the 31st October 1784. She was convicted at the Gloucester Lent Assizes on the 23rd March 1785 for grand larceny, and was sentenced to transportation for 7 years (1).

In Castle Gaol, Gloucester, Elizabeth met another convict, **Edward Pugh**, who was also convicted at the Gloucester Assizes. Whether they knew each other before they were both sent to gaol in Gloucester is not known as yet, but they were in gaol together and Elizabeth fell pregnant. It has not been established whether they were married at this time, but accounts of the time indicate that it was important for a female prisoner to be taken under the protection of a male prisoner, otherwise she was at the mercy of all around her.

Elizabeth and Edward, along with their baby daughter Ann and another convict **Betty Mason**, were ordered to Portsmouth to board the *Prince of Wales* on the 23rd March, 1787. Elizabeth, Edward and Ann were again transferred to the First Fleet vessel *Friendship* on the 10th April, 1787 (2) and the information recorded for Elizabeth by 2nd Lieutenant of Marines, **Ralph Clark**, was: female, occupation none, age 22, housebreaking, 7 years, child a girl.

During the voyage things did not go well for Elizabeth, and Lt. Ralph Clark states in his journal, date the 6th October 1787, "I almost forgot to mention Elizabeth Pugh and Rachael Harley were put in big irons together, the former for quarrelling and 'dirtyness' and the latter for 'dirtyness' and theft". On the 11th October he reports that the doctor found her (Elizabeth) to be very ill and ordered that she be put out of irons until she got better. She was accordingly put out, but the chains still remained on the other. Perhaps her ill health accounts for her conduct.

After the arrival of the First Fleet at Port Jackson the female convicts were not landed until the 6th February. It appears she may still have been ill when the fleet arrived in Port Jackson. Within a very short time after landing Elizabeth Parker died, and was buried on the 19th February according to the Mutch Index with her name being registered as Pue (3). It is mentioned in Dr. John Copley's book *Sydney Cove 1788* that 2 convicts died at this time, one being the first male convict to die in the colony. It would seem that Elizabeth Pugh nee Parker was

the first white woman to die in the colony. Sadly Elizabeth and Edward's daughter, **Ann**, died a short time later in June the same year. Her death is also registered in the name Pue.

Unfortunately it is not known what illness Elizabeth died from, but after reading the book *An Account of the English Colony in New South Wales* (Volume 1) by **David Collins** 1756 - 1810, we may take an educated guess at its being dysentery. In the following paragraph taken from this book it states:

"The women did not disembark until the 6th of February; when, every person belonging to the settlement being landed, the numbers amounted to 1030 persons. The tents for the sick were placed on the West side, and it was observed with concern that their numbers were fast increasing. The scurvy, that had not appeared during the passage, now broke out, which, aided by dysentery, began to fill the hospital, and several died. In addition to the medicines that were administered, every species of esculent plants that could be found in the country were procured for them; wild celery, spinach, and parsley, fortunately grew in abundance about the settlement; those who were in health, as well as the sick, were very glad to introduce them into their messes, and found them a pleasant as well as wholesome addition to the ration of salt provisions".

Elizabeth has no descendants but was known as the wife of Edward Pugh. It is, therefore, important that she be remembered in our family history. It seems Elizabeth Parker was the first female to die on Australian soil and this should be recognised and not forgotten. An early map of the first settlement shows the hospital and the cemetery: the cemetery was in the area near where the southern pylon of the harbour bridge is today, and hopefully there will one day be a plaque placed here to remember her.

An interesting footnote.

Edward Pugh's first daughter, Harriett, married a **Stephen Parker**. Their first daughter was named Elizabeth, and thus was another **Elizabeth Parker**, granddaughter of Edward Pugh and Hannah Smith.

Valerie Williams

1. From Mr. Cook's Papers NLA ref. Gaol Calendars, Epiphany 1785 – Epiphany 1787; Order in Council No. 7, Page 31, No. 8, Page 32, PRO Assizes 2/25 Gloucester Records Office.

2. Ralph Clark's Journal

3. Copy NSW Death Certificate Vol 46 No 2

WEBSITE NEWS

Our website has much information and is constantly updated. Have you looked at it lately?

Currently 64 **biographies** of First Fleeters are included in the Ships' section, so we are one third of the way there. We could also do with more updates for the **Photo Gallery**.

The Board is happy for the twelve Family Associations to have their own websites shown as **links**. The website addresses can be e-mailed to the Fellowship.

ANZAC DAY IN THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Vice-President Trish-Scott Wandmaker & President Pamela Cormick laid a wreath on behalf of the Chapter at the Mittagong ANZAC DAY 2013 MEMORIAL CEREMONY.

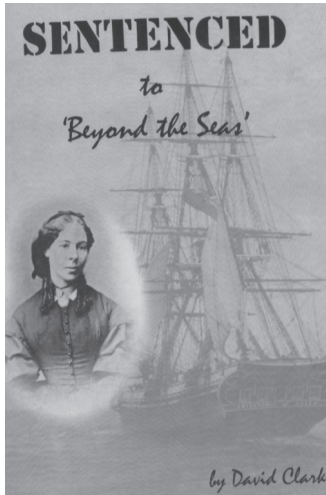
(We rotate between the towns of Mittagong, Bowral & Moss Vale – partly in line with our attempts to be seen as part of our local communities here in the Southern Highlands). It has also become a chapter tradition to take up a collection at our February Meeting, to send care packages to our troops deployed overseas. This year we collected \$160 resulting in four packages being sent away.



BOOK REVIEW

SENTENCED TO "BEYOND THE SEAS"

David Clark



This is a handsomely presented little soft cover book of 138 pages, telling the stories of the eight Worcestershire women convicts who travelled together on *Lady Penrhyn*, the newest ship of the First Fleet.

Descendants of these women, two of whom are certainly well known and documented elsewhere, will no doubt enjoy reading, perhaps again, some aspects of the lives of their hardy ancestors.

What makes this book so interesting and significant is that the eight women all spent time before transportation in the cells of the Worcester Guildhall.

David Clark, who has Australian citizenship and lived in this country in the 1960s, has perfect credentials to investigate the role of Worcester and particularly its magnificent Guildhall since he served on the town council for many years including a period as deputy Mayor. He explains in his foreword how his keen interest in the historic building and in those who had passed through its cells led him to research the women and put him in contact with some of their descendants.

This book deserves wide readership and one not just limited to the families of the eight women themselves. There is a balanced approach to all aspects of the First Fleet experiment, from the historic and social background at the time, particularly in Worcestershire through the trials and voyage to the success of the settlements in Port Jackson, Norfolk Island and Van Diemen's Land. Always the stories are told through the eyes of the eight women themselves, and the author, in telling these, often reflects on the possibilities of their sharing with and relating to each other in the events of their lives that followed.

Your reviewer was fascinated to read the history of the Guildhall and found that the colourful pictures, maps and diagrams that are included complement Clark's well written account most effectively. Of particular note, illustrated here, is the comment that appeared in the local newspaper, *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, 6 November, 1786, where the writer gives 'the populace an idea of what may await all deportees. Such coverage, possible in a provincial newspaper of the time due to local interest, gives added depth to our knowledge of the 'Botany Bay exercise' and its travellers. Clark points out that of the 194 female convicts on the voyage, 152 of them came from London – 'a renowned centre of crime, debauchery and general iniquity' and that the next biggest contingent were our eight from Worcester! He proposes that the lives of these women would, by contrast, have 'been relatively, if not completely free from such depravity' and that the contribution of women such as these had great significance in the successful establishment of the pioneer colony and eventual nationhood.

I really enjoyed reading this book. I quickly warmed to the style of writing, friendly and often humorous, and the scholarship of its research. Family folk love in the case of some of the women, does not always stand up to close scrutiny and the author's careful and investigative approach brings this out.

Descendants of Mary Abel, Sarah Bellamy, Mary Cooper, Sara Davies, Olivia Gascoigne, Susannah Hufnell, Ann Inett and Mary Turner will no doubt be pleased to add this book to their collection. I trust they will be forgiving of the few typographical errors and misstated dates and statistics that eluded the proof readers.

wright by trade.
It is said; that ships are to proceed annually to Botany Bay with convicts from the several gaols in the kingdom. — Those, who are in the high road to this new settlement, should be reminded, that no ale-houses, no gin-shops are to be found there. — No work or trade, will be the only alternative. Necessity will exact sobriety and industry in that desolate country. — If prudence could but supercede necessity, and teach the practice of industry and sobriety here, many would be rescued from the misery of this long voyage to a country from whence they never can return. It is imagined the ships will be nine months on their passage to Botany Bay.

Footnote: HOW TO OBTAIN A COPY:
The book will be available on Amazon, but may be bought at less cost direct from the author, including postage, for \$25.00. This can be sent to his e-mail address using Paypal <davidclark@sky.com>

PLEASE NOTE: Readers should not confuse the title of the book by David

Clark *Sentenced to 'Beyond the Seas'*, as reviewed above, with the project currently undertaken by State Records NSW to digitise and index Australia's earliest convict records. This project is named '*Sentenced Beyond the Seas*'.

An Owen Cavanough and Margaret Darnell Reunion

was held at Ebenezer on the 20th April 2013 at the United Church Pavilion which is erected on land donated by Owen. Two books; (1) *Owen and Margaret's Story* and (2) *Grace and Ralphs Genealogy* were launched on the day. Both were well received and congratulations to Sandra Woods for all her hard work in getting them published in time for the reunion. Book 1 has sold out. The day was a great success with people travelling from as far as Northern Territory, Western Australia, Queensland and country NSW. Numbers were down on previous years but considering the miserable weather the 62 brave souls that ventured out were well rewarded with catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. Information was swapped by family members updating family stories and adding to family trees. Browsing through the numerous displays set up by the committee, buying good old fashioned cakes and biscuits, sampling the delights of the Church tea rooms and wandering the old graves of pioneers (between showers) were enjoyed by all. The Owen Cavanough Family History Society wish to thank those that attended on the day and making it a success.

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 **Next Meetings:** 17 August- Annual General Meeting; 21 September: Mystery Trip; - 19 October - Workshop on Research Methods; **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: 16 August: Joe Kensell (Great Synagogue): *Jews in the First Fleet*. 20 September: Lt/Com Desmond Woods: *First Fleet Unit and Naval Review*. 18 October: Lynette Dudley: *Rose Cottage Wilberforce*. **Events:** Thursday 5 September: Belgenny Farm and Cottage Tour, Camden; Saturday 5 October: Harbour Cruise at Naval Review. **Contact:** Joy Zamiatin, 9451 8665

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations to be advised. **Next Event:** 24 August: Annual Dinner 7 pm, at Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden, **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 Meetings:** 14th September: Patricia Skehan: *The Elgin Marbles*; 12 October - Share a family letter. **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 Meeting: 7 September - Susan Butler: *Australian Slang*; 5 October: Liz Parkinson: *The Underwood Family*. **Contact:** Robin Palmer 9871 4102

HUNTER VALLEY – *Hunter Region, Newcastle and surrounds.*

Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Brunner Road, Adamstown - bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday from 10am – 12.30pm. But note changes this time: **Next Meetings:** 12 August AGM and Soup and Damper Day DVD from Phil Aubin *Wreck of the Sirius*, Delma Burns: *The 2013 Luncheon*; 19 October: Lorraine Valent: *FF Anne Smith and Patrick Byrne*. **Events:** 5 September: The Rocks Walking Tour with Liz Parkinson **Contact:** Yvonne Bradley 4957 4758

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

Venue: Kinross Wolaroi School Library - **Next (Quarterly) Meeting:** Saturday 24 August: Tour of Miss Trail's House, Bathurst, 2pm with afternoon tea. Cost \$16. RSVP Judy by 17th **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: 12 October: Speaker and topic to be decided. **Contact:** Don Cornford 04 5746 6020

NEW ENGLAND – *Armidale to Glen Innes and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations to be advised - five times per year, mostly second Saturday. **Next Meeting:** 12 October 11.30 am at History House, Glen Innes. **Contact:** Wal Whalley 6772 3499

NORTH COAST – *Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga.*

Venue: Often Mylestom Hall, Bi-monthly meetings, first Sunday at 11.30am. **Next Meeting:** Note date and venue change - 29 September: at 45 King Parrot Pde Gulmarrad: Scottish Talk from Chief Peter Smith. **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 6653 3615

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Lismore and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am;
Next Meeting: August 25th at 10.00am, we meet with Moreton Chapter at Tweed Heads Bowling Club for friendship and fellowship Lunch info- Margaret 6686 3597

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** 10 August – at Family History Group's rooms - 1 pm AGM. Speaker Greg Blaxland. **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 Meetings:** 3 September - Ghost Theme; 1 October: Peter Fackender - Bird Observation and Photographic display, **Event:** 3 October - Tour of Lady Denman Museum, Huskisson.; **Contact:** Dorothy Conkey 4261 2337

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS – *Mittagong, Moss Vale and surrounds.*

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre - bi-monthly - second Wednesday at 10.30am \$5 Admission. **Next Meetings:** 14th August - AGM - *Chapter Chats*; 9th October - Elizabeth Villy - *The Old Razorback Road* . **Contact:** Neville Usher 4869 1406

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Next Meeting: 2pm 24 August at Level 1, 14 Oatram Street, West Perth. **Contact:** Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630

NOTE: As we are only halfway through the two months of Annual General Meetings we will wait until next issue to list the four office bearers for each chapter.

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison officer

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

New Ordinary, Associate and Junior Members

GEORGE WOOD / JOHN & HANNAH BARRISFORD

#8245 Norman Francis Eastwood

#8257 Glenn Norman Eastwood

ANN MARTIN

#8246 Garry John North

JOHN GRIFFITHS

#8247 Ian Robert Hopwood

EDWARD WHITTON

#8248 Gwen Dolores Weule

JOHN SMALL / MARY PARKER

#8249 David Malcolm Graham

RICHARD PARTRIDGE / MARY GREENWOOD/

JOHN RANDALL / JOHN MARTIN

#8250 Thomas William Rolfe

#8250.1 Diana Rolfe

HENRY KABLE / SUSANNAH HOLMES

#8251 Jane van Woerkom

#8263 Norman Kable

JOSHUA PECK

#8252 Graeme John Peck

#8252.1 Irene Maria Peck

OWEN CAVANOUGH

#8253 Maurice Cavanough

JOHN CROSS

#8254 Nikkola Beuzeville Gibbes

PETER HIBBS

#8255 Dorothy Jean Spencer

#8001.1 Annette Lack

NATHANIEL LUCAS / OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

#8256 Geoffrey Keith Lucas

#8256.1 Rosalind Lucas

THOMAS LUCAS

#8258 Paul Bradley Simmonds

\$8258.1 Nicola Jane Simmonds

#8259 Kate Nicole Simmonds

#8260 Sinead Cassandra Simmonds

#8261 Susan Laura Simmonds

#8262 Abby Lee Etelaaho Simmonds

ANTHONY ROPE / ELIZABETH PULLEY

#8264 Rodney Leonard Frazer

SAMUEL PICKETT/PIGOTT

#8265 Matilda Rose Murphy

MICHAEL MURPHY

#8266 Imogen Eve Haigh

JAMES RUSE

#8267 Melva Lee

#8267.1 Allen Lee

Associate Member

#8058.1 Bruce Eric Hammond

Friends

#F125 Dr Robyn Ford

#F126 Marilla Lowe

BIRTHS

FF RICHARD PARTRIDGE/MARY GREENWOOD/JOHN MARTIN/JOHN RANDALL

Julius Leon Simmons, brother to Ulysses, son of Jordan & Samara, great grandson of #7734 Jeanette Westley, born 28..05.13

FF NATHANIEL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

Phoenix George Boaz Pye, born 10.5.13, grandson of #7848 Lynne Pye, great grandson of Helene Olivia Harry. Another 9th Generation Lucas.

FF BENJAMIN CUSLEY/ANN MARTIN

Alexander Sebastian Hargrave, born 17.3.13 at Penrith, third nephew of #6517 Rachel Bentham

DEATHS

FF FREDERICK MEREDITH

#5181 Henry Amesbury, of Caboolture, Queensland, died 18.05.13.

FF BENJAMIN CUSLEY

#7685 Herbert James Green, 05.03.13, 6th generation descendant; author of *Typical Australians*; long standing friend of Madeline Sheil.

FF PHILIP DEVINE aka THOMAS HILTON TENNANT

#1051 Betty Duns died 05.04.13

FF OWEN CAVANOUGH/MARGARET DARNELL

#7484 Janice Kay Jones 24.05.13, at home in Ontario, Canada, Overseas member of Central Coast Chapter

FF HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES

#261.1 Patricia Kable 24.05.13 Formerly treasurer of Central Coast Chapter. Wife of Roy Kable.

FF MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

#6858 Dorothy Wotherspoon, died 17.05.13

FF EDWARD MILES

#2360 Charles Lewis 22.06.13 Active member, sometime president of Buddong Society Family Group, uncle of Board treasurer, Kevin Thomas.



After reviewing *Sentenced to 'Beyond the Seas'* Founders was amazed to find that **only one** of the eight Worcester women convicts has had her story written by a descendant and **posted on our web-site**. Surely we of the Fellowship can do better than that. There should be 191 stories on our site! How about it? Send your story to *Founders* and we will do the rest.



At a recent meeting of the Board, author Ron Withington presented the final draft of *Dispatched Downunder*. Directors were most impressed and are excitedly looking forward to the publication of the book later this year and they know that it will be a much read addition to many bookshelves. Members may remember this book is a major update of *Where First Fleeters Lie*.



As this issue goes to press an exciting event is happening down south. Your President, Chapter Liaison Officer and Chapter Development Officer are all in Hobart to witness and attend at the birth of our newest First Fleeter - a whole **new chapter**. Look out for a detailed report next issue when the name and the vital statistics will be revealed.

VALUED DONORS TO THE WORK OF FIRST FLEET HOUSE

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