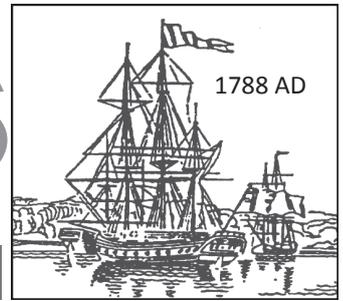


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc.

ACN 003 223 425

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



Volume 45, Issue 2

46th Year of Publication

April/May 2014

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

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR OUR PATRON

'My cup runneth over' was the delighted response by our patron, Her Excellency Professor The Honourable **Marie Bashir**, AC CVO Governor of new South Wales, on being awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Fellowship at the Australia Day Luncheon in Sydney on 25th January this year.

President **Ian Palmer** indicated that the presentation was first suggested by our Southern Highlands Chapter and it needed a tweak in the by-laws to create this new category of membership. He then went on to say, 'We have a deep affection and respect for this woman. She is a student of history and has been a regular attendee at our Australia Day lunches. Her presence always adds something special to our celebrations'.

Then, in his own moving introduction, the Master of Ceremonies, Mr **Roderick Best**, PSM, called on Professor Bashir to address the gathering. As he did so, he spoke lovingly of his own dear mother who in the later stages of her dementia, could not recognise him, her own son, but was able to give him a full account of the Governor, by name, office and achievements.

Rod Best then drew our attention to some of these, commencing with Professor Bashir's proficiency in music and her professional training in medicine and psychiatry. Her key interests, he said, have been many and varied, including refugee and immigrant children, juvenile justice and Aboriginal health. He referred also to her links with Camperdown and Westmead hospitals.

Her Excellency told how honoured she was to be present at the luncheon and how surprised and overcome she felt to be receiving the award. She said it 'ranked up there with the finest' she had been given over the years and particularly as, on this occasion, all were gathered, 226 years on, to celebrate our founders, the 'finest stream of resilient people on the planet.'

Resilience was the key to this country's achievements. So much has been accomplished, not only because of that founding band of settlers, but also through the equal resilience shown by those fine indigenous peoples whose

land it was. We are indeed blessed, she added, through the efforts of those who have gone before.

In referring, also, to those who have come from across the seas to add to the mix, Professor Bashir gave us some interesting anecdotes from her own family treasury. Her own people could trace their lineage back to the Phoenicians, those intrepid seafarers who, two millennia ago were trading Tyrean purple cloth for Cornish tin. Closer to the present day, her father, a University of Beirut medical graduate, was sent to Australia by his parents to put a stop to a romantic attachment of which they did not approve. On the day of his arrival Victoria, the younger sister of his 'on board' carer, was there to meet her sister, met this handsome young Lebanese doctor, and the 'rest is history'.

Her Excellency then returned to her theme, paying tribute to the stroke of genius shown in the selection of **Arthur Phillip** as leader of the venture into the Great South Land. With a Huguenot father from Germany who was a teacher of French and German and now living in England, Phillip became our first multicultural governor.

As well as having a significant naval career that began with his training at Greenwich, Phillip's background in farming also made him an excellent choice. In relocating from the

unsuitable Botany Bay to Port Jackson, he was also following the advice of **Joseph Banks's** friend **James Matra** who had travelled with Cook some eighteen years before. Professor Bashir has always expressed strong interest in our early governors and told us that when she first moved to Government House, she noticed that Governor Hunter, who followed Phillip was the only one not represented amongst the portraits on display. An earnest plea to the Commonwealth soon rectified the situation and the Hunter portrait from Admiralty House was transferred across the harbour on permanent loan.

The address ended with a special challenge to Fellowship members everywhere: 'Make sure your children and grandchildren carry on the memory of those who have gone before, whose resilience and endeavour set our country along the path to what it is today. Promise me?!' **To page 7**



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Fellowship of First Fleeters, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, NSW 2011 Email: fffaus@optusnet.com.au
First Fleeters on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FirstFleeters
Membership Enquiries: membershipffff@optusnet.com.au WEBSITE: www.fellowshipfirstfleeters.org.au

Letter from our Patron and Honorary Life Member. Page 3

Founders

The magazine of the
Fellowship of First Fleeters
Editor, Layout and Artwork
Jon & Karys Fearon
Ph. 02 4323 1849
E-mail: jkfearon@iinet.net.au

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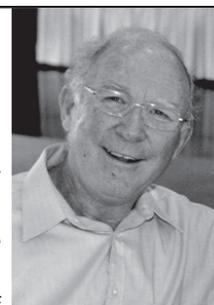
CONTENTS

1. Australia Day Luncheon Report
2. President's Pen; 1788 and All That
3. From our Patron; Alaskan Visitor; Australia in 1545; Chapter Secretaries
4. Fortifications of Sydney Cove Part 1
5. continued
6. About a Barn - Richard Morgan
7. Australia Day Luncheon, concluded; Where Is It No 6
- 8-9. Luncheon Gallery
10. Book Review; Coming Events
11. Chapters in Action
12. New Members; Births & Deaths; Maintain a Brick; At the Helm; Message Board

President's Pen



Ian Palmer



Recently the Fellowship received a gift of a number of books for our library. We are very fortunate that our Members choose to favour us in this fashion. The library is a wonderful resource for Members who are researching early Australian history or family history in particular. Among our reference books we have the Historical Records of Australia series of books, early muster records for NSW and Norfolk Island as well as the 1828 Census. We also have copies of the early Sydney newspaper 'The Sydney Gazette', information on shipping and land grants in NSW and many cemetery records for both Sydney and interstate.

However the section of the library I like best is the individual Family Histories that have been written by our Members about their own First Fleeter Families. Many of these books are self-published and not available in any public library. They are unique insights into our early colonial history and written by the descendants of those hardy and resilient pioneers. They make wonderful reading. Next time you are in Sydney and have some spare time, do call by First Fleet House and explore this great collection.

1788 and All That

Australia Day has come and gone once again, accompanied as ever by the usual rants and raves. Some of the former have been noised abroad by those in high places who should know better.

Founders has discovered that every year in the last weeks of January we whose ancestors' resilience set this country on the path to greatness always seem to be showered with guilt because of who we are and what our founding fathers achieved.

The 'I' word - invasion - has worked its way into more conversations, whether it is in letters to the editor, over shock-jock radio, in feature programmes in the visual media, by passers-by to First Fleeters gathered for a barbecue, and, sad to say, even in the acceptance speech by the Australian of the Year.

In an open letter to the recipient of Australian's top award, and which came across our desk, we read, in part 'You have won your award based on a fight against racism, yet your acceptance speech wasn't free of racist remarks. Today you referred to Australia Day as Invasion Day. I suggest you perhaps nominate a day that you feel all of us Australians should celebrate, a day where we can all live as one, regardless of background, race, religion, I would never trace your family heritage to see if you were less Aboriginal than another person, so why would you see me as less Australian than you? We are all proud of our heritage and my heritage is my parents, grandparents and great grandparents who were all born on the shores of this great country I call home.'

Responses to the issue of the actual date to celebrate being Australian have been many and varied. Several have preferred January 1st, being the date in 1901 when the colonies became federated into one nation, the Commonwealth of Australia. They maintain, in so doing, that the 26th January honours the founding of the colony of New South Wales. Others felt, somewhat facetiously, that to do so would further encourage what, according to Jacqueline Maley, in the Sydney Morning Herald of 18.01.14, 'has, over the last decade, taken on a boozy jingoistic sheen, with young people literally wrapping themselves in flags, drinking and fighting in the name of the nation:' Two days of drunken revelry no less, and much of it 'driven by marketers who have gotten their sticky fingers on our national day'.

We of the Fellowship this year noted with dismay one editorial that even suggested our forefathers were 'British baggage'. This seems a far cry from the honour we rightfully bestow when we toast our ancestors, whether at a formal luncheon, a chapter celebration or even a birthday of a First Fleeter, from that of Arthur Phillip himself to that of the humblest and youngest convict or cabin boy.

Whatever may become of Australia Day in its seemingly downward spiral we make some observations on the way the Fellowship observed it this year. Canberra chapter planned a special lunch at a yacht club, while Moreton and Northern Rivers enjoyed a barbecue and a salad lunch at their respective president's homes. .. **Continued Page 12**

GOVERNOR'S DEEP GRATITUDE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SYDNEY 2000

Wednesday, 5 February 2014

Dear Mr Palmer,

It was indeed a happy occasion to join the First Fleeters for their commemorative gathering recently to mark that great day in the history of modern Australia, when your ancestors arrived on these beautiful shores.

I often find myself reflecting upon those courageous and resilient individuals who set the foundations for the development of the great nation of today.

Therefore, you will know that I speak with deep gratitude and sincerity in thanking you and the Council and members for bestowing upon me the great privilege of being an Honorary Life Member of the Fellowship.

I would indeed be grateful if you would convey these enduring sentiments to the Fellowship members.

My best wishes are with you all.

Yours sincerely

Professor Marie R Bashir AC CVO
Governor of New South Wales

Alaskan Visitor

Late last year the Fellowship received an email from Alaskan author Dani Haviland. Dani has written a number of children's books, all fairy stories. In her next book in the series, one of the characters, James Melbourne, is a time traveller who joins the First Fleet on its way to the Penal Colony of New South Wales. In an effort to make her story as historically accurate as possible Dani was planning a trip to Australia to research her new book, hence her effort to contact us.



On the 16th January Dani duly visited First Fleet House anxious to delve into our library to find out as much as she could about some of the people who arrived in the First Fleet and more especially the conditions under which they lived, their clothing, what they ate, their housing arrangements and 1001 other details to make her story more authentic. A couple of hours passed very quickly and after numerous photographs and some photocopying Dani decided she had all the material she needed.

Dani has a web site at www.danihaviland.com and we wish her well with her new book.

Ian Palmer

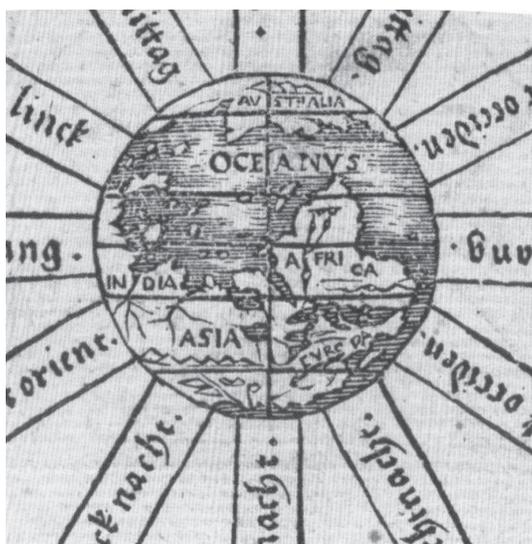
AUSTRALIA IN 1545

First time in print

Shown here is a detail from a larger diagram entitled *Sphere of the Winds* by Cyriaco Jacob zum Barth in his *German Astronomy* published in Frankfurt in 1545.

Actually for his 'simplistically presented' map of global wind systems and compass points, Barth has used the less conventional method showing south at the top.

And there, in print and admittedly tiny, is the name **AUSTRALIA**, the unknown and imagined land mass of the southern hemisphere, believed at the time to balance the extensive land masses of the north.



So when Matthew Flinders wrote down, in 1804, the name for our country: 'Australia ... more agreeable to the ear than Terra Australis', he was echoing a suggestion already 250 years old.

As an explorer/navigator himself he may also have been quite familiar with the rather grand name *Australia del Espiritu Santo* given by the Spanish explorer Pedro Fernandes de Queiros in 1606, believing that his discoveries in Vanuatu to be part of the mythical south land.

The publisher James Wilson produced a map in 1799 that showed James Cook's depiction of our east coast as 'Greater Australia'

Damian Cole, concluding his catalogue entry for this exhibit in the recent Australian National Library's *Mapping our World*, puts it thus: 'it is intriguing to recall that the name began as a minor reference in a book about the stars'.

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.
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THE FORTIFICATIONS OF SYDNEY COVE - A BRIEF HISTORY

This is the story of the early fortifications built to protect the settlement at Sydney Cove. It also relates to one of those who manned the forts, a Royal Artillery gunner, my great great grandfather **John Roberts**.

But what were the circumstances that necessitated fortifications in such a remote place as Sydney Cove and therefore needing the services of professional Royal Artillery Gunners? Taking a few liberties, the story begins with the First Fleet.

The conventional wisdom suggests that, with the loss of the American colonies in 1776, a new location was needed to reduce the overcrowding of the prison population in the English hulks and gaols. The west coast of Africa was examined and rejected essentially because of its unhealthy environment so the choice became Botany Bay. However we must look to contemporary European events to explain such an expensive solution.

Britain in the 18th century was in competition for global trade with the French, Spanish, Portuguese or Dutch, which resulted at times in bloody conflict. For the British it follows that, after **James Cook's** accurate charting of the east coast of New Holland and named by him New South Wales and his botanist **Joseph Banks'** assessment of its potential, it must have seemed to the British Government executive (Prime Minister **Pitt**, Home Secretary **Sydney**, Under Secretary **Evans**) a reasonable decision to secure this southern land. European conventions of the time considered any lands, even when inhabited, as available for colonisation if the land could be shown to be undeveloped, meaning lacking settlement and cultivation. Thus it was not enough to place a flag to claim ownership as Cook had done back in 1770.

Many advantages for Britain might follow: a safe haven and docking facilities for their expanding merchant fleet on the far side of the globe; a non hostile coast-line for their tea ships plying to China, a new market for things industrial in the newly possessed land and the potential for resources to replace those lost from the Americas.

It was a time when the brutalities of slavery were being recognised as abhorrent. In due course these were abolished, but not just yet. It was a time when man-power truly meant that, so what better resource than to draw it from the overflowing gaols and hulks and at the same time provide a deterrent to the criminally inclined of the nation..

The First Fleet departed Portsmouth on 13th May 1787 with its motley 11 small ships and for additional naval protection on the first leg through the dangerous waters adjacent to France, escorted by the warship *Hyaena*.

Using the easterly driven currents and winds of the Southern Ocean to advantage, the speedier ships of the First Fleet anchored in Botany Bay on the 18th January, 1788 with the slower complement arriving more quickly than expected, two days later. **Captain Phillip** with some farming experience quickly recognised that Botany Bay was not a desirable place for a successful settlement, being sandy and arid. Duly, a little further north was found a remarkable harbour (to be known as Port Jackson)

and then fortuitously a fresh water source flowing into a natural and deep water cove (which Phillip named Sydney Cove).

On 24th January, two large French Royal ships, *Astrolabe* and *Boussale* under the command of Comte de la Perouse were identified at sea. (It might be supposed to be a remarkable coincidence but Phillip, already skilled in intelligence gathering could hardly have been deceived). History confirms that just a few months after the First Fleet was conceived and sanctioned, **Fleurieu**, the French minister of Marine sent a communication dated 15th December, 1786 via dispatch riders no less than 4000 miles across Russia to the far eastern port of Petropavlovsk on the Kamchatka Peninsula with instructions to La Perouse to change his exploration plans and sail south to check out the British activities and intentions at Botany Bay.

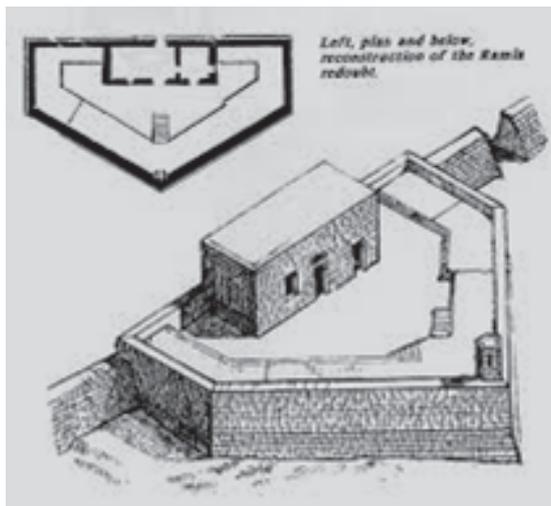
On 25th January the advance party on *HMS Supply* moved north and anchored in the evening of that day. On the 26th no doubt under the observation of the French the remaining 10 ships up-anchored and reached Sydney Cove. The two French ships, when the weather was suitable, entered and anchored in Botany Bay. Here they made naval repairs, set up botanical & geographic studies and made contact with the Aborigines, the latter according to the records somewhat frictionally. Cordial contact was established when **Philip Gidley King** visited and reciprocal attention was given when one of the French officers, **Captain Clonard** visited Sydney Cove by boat from Botany Bay delivering communications that the now Governor Phillip had agreed could be couriered to Europe by one of the returning First Fleet ships. Thus France was to receive early confirmation of the settlement's existence and its true location in Port Jackson.

The two French ships departed early March 1788 and disappeared from history. It was not until 1827 that it was discovered that they had foundered on a reef off the island of Vanikoro in the Santa Cruz Group. It seems many crew survived and came ashore, however none were alive on the island some 39 years later. Their demise does not bear reflection.

Probably prompted by the French presence and knowing they could potentially get there first, Phillip hastily instructed Philip Gidley King together with a small party to found a settlement on Norfolk Island. Once suitably provisioned, *HMS Supply* departed Sydney Cove on the 14th February, 1788. Norfolk Island was, falsely as it turned out, thought to be a suitable source of naval necessities such as timber for masts and flax for sail making as advised by Cook & Banks. Nevertheless in due course Norfolk did turn

out some worthwhile vessels including **Mathew Flinders'** sloop the 25 ton *Norfolk* which he used in 1798 to prove the separation of Van Diemen's Land from the mainland. Unfortunately the island's pine was again found wanting, being too soft and flexing and therefore not so watertight in rough weather.

From the 5th May, 1788, the chartered ships began to depart Sydney Cove. First to depart were the East India ships; *Lady Penrhyn* on the 5th May, *Scarborough* on the 6th May and *Charlotte* on the 7th May.



On the 27th June, 1788 during the middle of the night, a group of 20 to 30 Aboriginals came ashore on the east side of Sydney cove and stealthily moved within the settlement, only withdrawing when disturbed by a sentry presence. The purpose of this visit is unknown however **Watkin Tench** recognised the vulnerability of the settlement and noted 'Amidst our public labours, that no fortified post, or place of security, is yet begun, may be a matter of surprise. Were an emergency in the night to happen, it is not easy to say what might not take place before troops, scattered about in an extensive encampment, and could be formed, so to act.'

The vulnerability and isolation of the settlement prompted Governor Phillip in July 1788 to direct **Lieutenant W. Dawes**, an officer of the Royal Marines, to construct a small redoubt on the eastern shores of Sydney Cove at a place we now know as Benelong Point and the present location of the Sydney Opera House. These rather primitive defences were completed by November 1788 with a flagstaff and two six-pounder guns on standby.

The remaining chartered ships of the First Fleet began departing Sydney Cove from 14th July 1788. October saw *HMS Sirius* dispatched to Cape of Good Hope for supplies while the last two transport ships departed 19th November 1788 leaving at Phillip's disposal only the minor naval warship *HMS Supply* to maintain a link to Norfolk Island.

Soon after in February 1789 another redoubt on the west side of the cove known as the **Dawes Point Battery** was established.

1789 was not a good year for the settlement either with poor outcomes from the infertile soil and non arrival of the expected re-provisioning ships. With starvation staring the settlement in the face Phillip in mid March 1790 transferred 116 convict men, 67 women and 28 children to Norfolk Island. More disaster was to follow when the settlement's primary warship, the nominally 6th class rated *HMS Sirius* while off-loading its passengers and stores suffered a wind shift that drove it onto the reef where it subsequently broke up. With the *Sirius* crew now stranded on Norfolk that population rose to 418 while Sydney cove reduced to 591

One of Governor Phillip's briefs required that he make every attempt to befriend the Aboriginals. This he did with diligence and great forbearance even when he was himself speared at Manly Cove. Understandably aggrieved by the loss of their traditional lands and food sources as well as other provoked irritations, some Aboriginals resorted to sporadic payback spearing attacks on mostly solitary unarmed convicts. That said not all spearing attempts were lethal or hit their mark. Otherwise the soldiers' guns were an effective deterrent to any serious confrontation. The records do suggest that there was mostly a sense of curiosity and wariness rather than belligerence by the aborigines.

Significantly debilitated by reduced rations and facing the prospect of starvation, only the smaller lightly armed *HMS Supply* could provide advance sea protection and a link to Norfolk Island, but it had to be sent urgently north to Batavia to purchase provisions. The settlement was now at its most vulnerable. No aggressive escalation of Aboriginal hostility occurred such that might have required a stockade to be built to protect the settlement.

On the 6th June, 1790 a glimmer of hope appeared with the arrival of *Lady Juliana* and on the 20th June 1790 the store ship

of the Second Fleet *Justinia* arrived. With them came the news of the tumultuous times caused by the French revolution of 1789. Finally in October 1790, the Supply returned with a ship load of provisions. The settlement would survive

Phillip with so many pressures and by now troubled by his own ill health must have been near breaking point when, in December 1790, he lost his gamekeeper **MacEntire**, in what appears to have been a deliberate execution style killing using a cannadial. This was an Aboriginal death spear studded with lethal jagged stones, which would cause a lingering death.. This suggests payback for some serious offence against the known assailant (Pimelwi or nowadays **Pemulway**) or his tribe, perhaps persistent intrusion on their traditional hunting grounds.

Outraged by this event and previous spearings, Phillip ordered retaliation to get the message across that it was unacceptable and, to demonstrate the point, ordered the killing of ten Aboriginals and their subsequent beheading and the capture of two of the Botany Bay tribe for later execution. In further discussions, Tench suggested that the capture of six and their removal to Norfolk would be sufficient. Phillip relented somewhat and reduced his order to the capture of up to six aborigines (two for hanging and the rest to be sent to the island for a period) or, if that was not possible, the killing of six. Those charged with carrying out this order were seemingly ill disposed to its implementation & probably realised the injustice and potential consequences. Under orders a party of about fifty militia marched off to Botany Bay, a show of strength no doubt, indeed a strong message but exactly the opposite of a stealthy operation. Fully kitted, they could not easily negotiate the rough and rocky terrain and at one time, wrongly guided, became bogged. The upshot - few Aboriginals were sighted and none killed. Possibly Phillip when his ire abated might have been satisfied with the outcome.

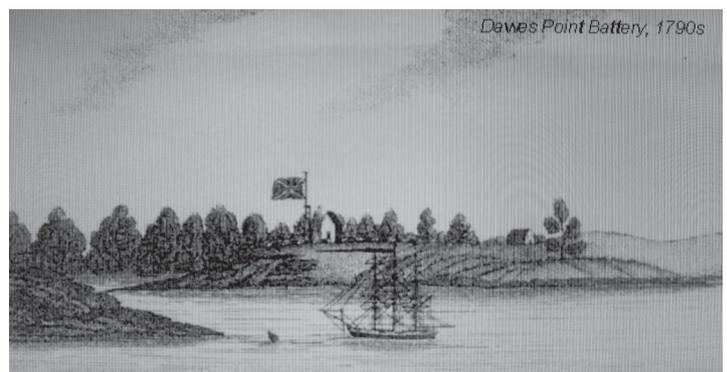
In 1791 the eastern cove redoubt was demolished and the guns transferred to the more robust Dawes Point Battery.

For more detailed information, check out the following:-

- i) Internet sources: *Malaspina, Baudin, la Perouse I*
- ii) *Fort Macquarie photo from the NSW State Library Collection, slightly retouched.*
- iii) *Selected reports from newspaper items such as the Sydney Morning Herald & the Empire newspapers.*
- iv) *"Fort Macquarie – Old Harbour Defences" - C.P. Nolan published in the Cairns Post – Friday February 8, 1935. A very comprehensive article.*
- v) *"The First Settlement" - Jonathon King.*
- vi) *"Francis Greenway" – M.H. Ellis.*
- vii) *"In Her Own words – Elizabeth Macquarie" – Robin Walsh.*
- viii) *"Sydney Cove 1788" - John Cobley*
- ix) *"Arthur Phillip – Sailor, Mercenary, Governor, Spy" - Michael Pembroke.*
- x) *"1788 – Watkin Tench" by Tim Flannery.*

Prepared by Bruce Arnett – FF1888

To be continued next issue



ABOUT A BARN

Next to the busy commercial centre of Eastlands, Rosny, Tasmania is a building belonging to the past. Situated amongst the golf grounds, the Historic Barn is possibly the oldest building on the eastern shore to Hobart and certainly one of the oldest buildings in Tasmania. It dates back to c1813 and was built for an early settler at Kangaroo Bay, **Richard Morgan**.

Richard arrived with his family on 7th October 1806. He was a First Fleeter and Norfolk Islander. Richard was sent as a convict to Sydney and then to Norfolk Island. He married **Elizabeth Lock** in Sydney, but it was a short-lived union as he took up with **Catherine Clark** on his 50 acre farm on Norfolk. Catherine became his common-in-law wife and together with seven children arrived on the *King George* to Van Diemen's Land after being removed from the South Pacific Island. In 1815 he was a constable at Kangaroo Point, a post that he was dismissed from in July 1817. In that year he was also Commissioner for wheat. Nonetheless, the Morgan family prospered even though there were problems with bushrangers and the natives. His 130 acres at Kangaroo Point was not large enough to run the number of cattle which he needed to supply the Government store with meat, so Morgan also had land at Buckland where the **Rev Knopwood** recorded (November 1815) *"the natives had killed and destroyed 930 of his sheep and had piled them up together and burnt them."*

Richard Morgan has often been – what I would consider unfairly maligned pertaining to his character. He was arrested for running an unlicensed slaughter house, but he was exonerated. There were rumours that he was involved in sheep rustling, which certainly one of his sons, William was, but he was not the worst and probably better than many characters of the time.

Richard died 26th Sept 1837 and wife Catherine July 27th 1828.



I am not sure where their burial places are, but they are listed in *"Burials in the Parish of Clarence Plains and Kangaroo Point."* The Morgan family tombstone in the Rokeby cemetery is to the memory of the various children of the couple, including **Richard Morgan junior** who built the *Bellerive Hotel* in 1858.

The barn and property was sold to **Algernon Sidney Montague** in 1831. The barn would have been used for multiple purposes other than just storing things. It could have been a place of worship and where Morgan's servants slept.

The barn is well worth a visit being located in a peaceful environment; a rural plot now surrounded by intense modern development with its commercialism and the accompanying hectic pace and noise.

MATERIAL RELATING TO THE MORGAN FAMILY

"Profiles of Norfolk Islanders to Van Diemen's Land. HMS Porpoise 1807-8, Volume 2. Part 2. Pages 4 & 5.

"Stock Thieves and Golfers" – Peter MacFie. (Clarence City Council 2002)

"The Eastern Shore" – a history of Clarence. Alison Alexander. (Clarence City Council 2003) – This material cites the **incorrect** story that Richard Morgan was flogged after felling a tree and killing the occupants of a house.

Family History work which includes The Morgan and Graves family by Cecil (Bruzz) Quinell. 10 Hudson Street, Seven Hills NSW 2147). Excellent source for details on Morgan's children

"Tasmania! – a Saga of a Pioneering Family" – by Reg. A. Watson. Living history of the Morgan-Wade-Wentworth (Watson) families. This was launched on the 200th anniversary of the coming of the Morgans to Tasmania. Launched 6th October 2006.

"Mystery, History and Intrigue..." by John Sargent. 2006

"Sydney Cove 1788: by John Cobley. (P.113 mentions Morgan's marriage to Lock.)

"The Forgotten Generation" – by Reg Wright. (Library of Australian History, 1986)

"Island to Island" –Published (2007) by the Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers' Association. Supplement, Vol 6. By Reg. A. Watson

"Norfolk Island – its first settlement". By Raymond Nobbs. Briefly mentioned on page 198. He writes: *"Morgan's Run was in the west towards Headstone Point"* This statement is repeated in Jack McCubben's work, "Norfolk Island and its first settlement 1788-1814" on page 117.

"From Norfolk Island to Van Diemen's Land" by Reg. A. Watson. Australian Heritage magazine, Autumn 2008

"Pioneers of Van Diemen's Land" by Reg. A. Watson. Mentions Richard Morgan and his father-in-law John Wade of Sorell.

Richard Morgan mentioned in an article on John Wade published in the Hobart Town (1804) First Settlers' Association *"History of Sorell"* Part 1. Released 27th March 2009, 200th anniversary of the Pitt Water district. By Reg. A. Watson.

"Walk around Historic Bellerive" by Eve Gibson (2010). Richard Morgan in mentioned in this book, but what I would consider unfairly, puts him in a very bad light.

"The Founders of Australia" by Mollie Gillen. Library of Australian History Sydney. 1989.

"Loath to be Tasmanians". By Reg. A. Watson. The Mercury Newspaper. .Sept 29th 2007, page 12.

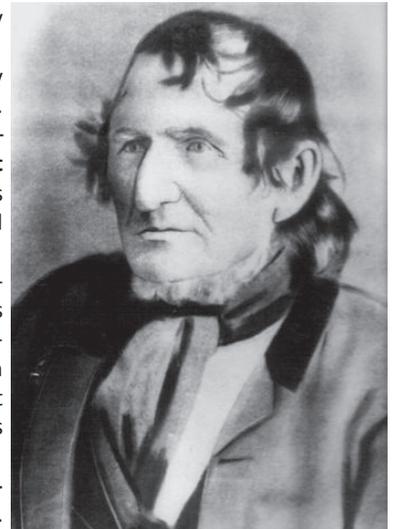
"Bequest from the Past". By Reg. A. Watson. The Mercury. Sept 23, 2006.

"Spirit of Clarence" City of Clarence 1989. Richard Morgan, both senior and junior is mentioned quite a few times in the book.

"Richard Morgan" by Reg. A. Watson. Lindsfarne Historical Society Newsletter. July 2011

"Baptised in Blood" by Robert Cox 2010. Brief mention on page 329

by **Reg. A. Watson.** www.regwatson.com



EDITOR NEEDS HELP. He has **lost a story!** Recently one of you members e-mailed him a great story. It was an interesting re-think on your first fleeter and was submitted as part of our challenge. **Please send it to him again.** Thanks.

AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

Continued from Page 1

After such an address, the acclamation was loud and long and a presentation of flowers to Her Excellency followed. Vice President **Denis Smith** responded with warm and appreciative sentiments on behalf of all present.

It had been mentioned from the podium that this would be the last luncheon to be attended by the Governor as her tenure would end later this year. However, many of the guests commented later that now she is a life member of the Fellowship, we could happily expect to see her at many of our functions in years to come.

The luncheon of course included all our time honoured elements, with the toasts to the Queen and also to our First Fleet ancestors. As is usual, the names of the latter were read out as having their descendants at the lunch. We seem to be improving with our anthem singing, particularly verse 2, although we did manage to beat the recorded choir to the end of that verse by a couple of seconds.

The Pullman hotel, our venue again this year, provided excellent meals and speedy service and there was plenty of assistance for those with special dietary needs. The same unfortunately cannot be said for the pre-dinner drink table where one barman was fully occupied serving the alcohol and no provision, despite the contract, was made to have the advertised soft drinks on hand for those who opted for them. Reinforcements had to be called for!

With the special focus on the Governor’s award, it was fitting that the table decor this year included ten portraits of all our early governors! Thank you Ian and Robin and the team for your thoughtfulness and indeed prescience in having them in place. A worthy talking point on many tables, we believe.

We must not fail to mention the other award that was presented at the dinner. **Ron Withington**, the writer of *Dispatched Downunder*, was honoured for his work with Life Membership of the Fellowship. Our MC advised all present that Ron would be available after the luncheon to sign copies of the book and it was good to note, as he did so, that he was wearing his new badge, an honour so well deserved.

For those readers who were unable to be present on the day, you may be thinking that the foregoing is an account of a wonderfully successful event. You would indeed be right - but wait - there’s more! We were then entertained with the enthralling tale of *The Peculiar Case of the Electric Constable* by its author, member #1567 **Carol Baxter**, our guest speaker for the occasion. Her talk was presented in gripping style, true to its theme and once we listeners were totally drawn in to 1845 London and the train trip from Slough to Paddington, Carol said: “If you want to know what happened next, read the book”. And judging by the line up at the sales table after the meal, many of the guests were planning to do just that. Carol had already told us how she had moved from being a 15 year old eager to engage in ‘the thrill of the hunt’ after reading mystifying tales about the Princes in the Tower and the Bermuda Triangle to becoming a qualified family historian and now a professional writer with four historic crime biographies written and more on the way.



Director **Jon Fearon** was called on to pass our thanks on to Carol. This he did, with the suggestion that the entertainment style of story telling so wonderfully utilised by Carol should be the way we pass on family history to our children and grand children, in keeping with our promise made to the Governor just a short while before.

Soon came the time to conclude the gathering which Master of Ceremonies Rod Best did in his usual fine style, calling us to enjoy the books, continue the fellowship and come again next year.

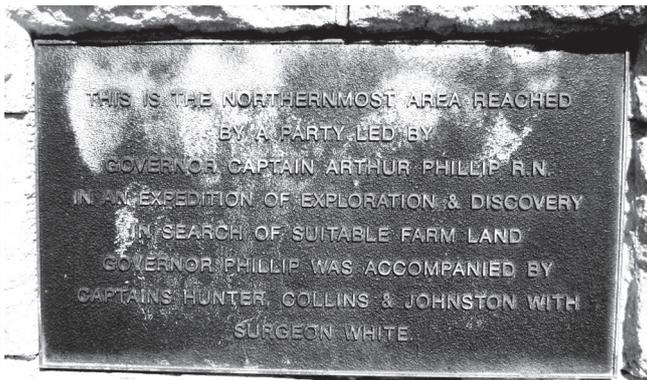
[Editor’s note: Carol Baxter’s book, *The Peculiar Case of the Electric Constable, a True Tale of Passion, Poison and Pursuit*, is reviewed in this issue on page 10]



WHERE IS THIS? NUMBER 6 IN AN OCCASIONAL SERIES

*Congratulation to Glenn Brown # 3304 for identifying **Where Is This? Number 5**
It is in the Yarra Bay Bicentennial Park in Phillip Bay near La Perouse*

This is the northernmost area reached by a party led by Governor Captain Arthur Phillip R.N.
In an expedition of exploration and discovery in search of suitable farm land Governor Phillip was accompanied by Captains Hunter, Collins and Johnston with Surgeon White.



AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON





Book Review **THE PECULIAR CASE OF THE ELECTRIC CONSTABLE** by Carol Baxter

Storytelling is definitely not a lost art, despite what you may have heard, and the events recounted in this wonderful book deserve to be treated with style and finesse.

Those who attended our Australia Day Luncheon this year were given just that and a perfect introduction to this 'true tale of passion, poison and pursuit'. And none better to tell us the story than the author herself, Carol Baxter, our guest speaker. Carol is an experienced family historian and Fellowship member and her rigorous and painstaking research for this, her fourth in the genre she calls narrative non fiction, has produced a masterpiece of historic crime writing.

Unlike the author's earlier published stories, we are not in Australia for much of this intriguing tale. Rather, the account begins at Paddington Station, London, on New Years Day, 1845 when a new-fangled device, the electric telegraph, blurts out a message: 'A murder has just been committed ...at Salt Hill and the suspected murderer was seen to take a first class ticket for London by the train which left Slough at 7.42pm.'

With these intriguing words the author, as our storyteller, introduced her main characters, those who sent and those who received the message and the suspected murderer himself. John Tawell, a convict who had made his fortune in Sydney and had now returned to his homeland as a philanthropist and sincere Quaker.

As we sat enthralled at the unfolding tale we were inexorably drawn into the mystery itself, interpreting the message, hearing from eye witnesses and following the suspect through London streets and lanes. Then came Carol's words: 'if you want to know what happened next, read the book!'

Your reviewer has done just that with great delight as no doubt have many of Carol's listeners who visited her table at the end of the luncheon and purchased a copy.

How the story is put together, its structure, is what makes the

book so successful. Having searched through newspapers of the time with their full coverage of both inquest and trial, Carol has used the actual words spoken by those involved to create a real crime thriller.

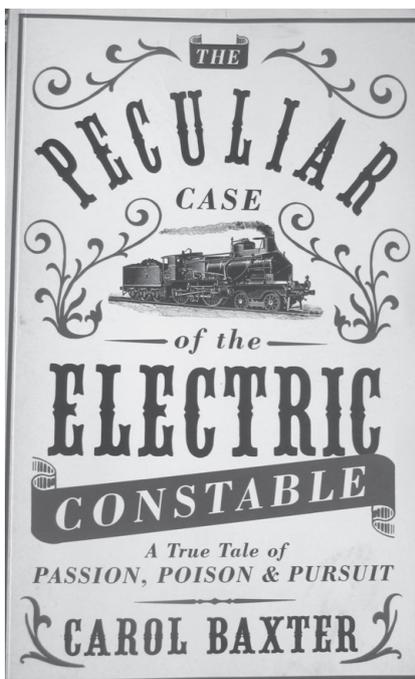
Nothing is revealed in advance and the reader continues through the twists and turns as more and more details come to light, keeping an open mind and wondering: did he or didn't he do it? Suspense is maintained as the author breaks in with extensive background to the times. Forensic Science is just beginning, transportation is moving from the coaching era to the dominance of the railways and the public's attitude to Quakerism and other Christian groups is clearly outlined.

We meet the significant lawyers, police officers and chemists of the day, along with extended family and friends, all of whom have important input into the unfolding tale. Carol's prose is both entertaining and engaging and her background in family history shines out as she outlines the interplay amongst the characters. We get to know them all really well.

This book is highly recommended, not only because it is a very readable account, but also because of how much can be learned about mid-Victorian England's attitude to crime and the class system. Spoiler alert: if you like to fully immerse yourself in crime detection, solving the mystery yourself, do not look at the picture pages and certainly do not read anything else, factual or otherwise, about John Tawell. For those who want to know more and to extend their historical knowledge, Carol has provided more in an extensive

bibliography and a helpful index.

Footnote: Members may well emulate Carol's historical writing skills by making use of the suggestions she makes in her book, updated in 2010 'Writing Interesting Family Histories'. She also produces a regular newsletter, The History Detective, which can be found on the website.



Save the Date

In honour of the bicentenary of Captain Arthur Phillip's passing the Liverpool Plains Shire Council is hosting a **First Fleet Descendents Reunion Picnic** at the First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens in **Wallabadah** on Sunday, 31 August 2014. The day is all about meeting and greeting, finding family members, exchanging information and stories, and reminiscing about our ancestors. More information about catering, accommodation, time and entertainment will be in the next newsletter! For further information call the Liverpool Plains Information Centre on 02 6747 1226."

Plaque for the Abbey



An artist's rendition of the planned stone to be set in the nave of Westminster Abbey supposedly released by the Britain-Australia Society and the Dean and Chapter of the Abbey. *Founders* finds it hard to believe that the kangaroo is for real! Fanciful, surely.

Brisbane Water Historical Society Inc.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Saturday 5 April 2014
is the *Quartoseptcentennial Gala Day, celebrating the 175th year of Henry Kendall Cottage and the 175th birthday of Henry Kendall*

10.30am to 3pm
set on 2 acres of picturesque parkland

Henry Kendall Cottage and Historical Museum
25 Henry Kendall St West Gosford

Our Sixteen 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 Meeting: 17 May: Speaker *TBA*. **Next Event:** 21 June: Visit to Jindera Museum. **Contact:** Val Heel 03 57282613

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: 11 April (1 week early): Members *How did you learn you were a First Fleeter?* 16 May: Stephen Szabo, *Australian Heraldry Society* ; 20 June: *TBA*. **Events:** Tour; 3 April: Tour of Parramatta, the Inland Port, 10 June: Tour of Sydney Hospital Museum. **Contact:** Joy Zamiatin, 9451 8665

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations to be advised. **Next Event:** *TBA*. **Contact:** Geoff Cameron 6251 4095

CENTRAL COAST – *Gosford, Tuggerah Lake, Wyong, Budgewoi and surrounds.*

Venue: Wyong RSL Club, Anzac Ave and Margaret St, Wyong - monthly meetings, second Saturday at 10am for 10.45.

Next Meeting: 12 April (at Evergreen Life Care, West Gosford) Victor Grant *Matthew Flinders*. 10 May: 2 members, on 3 *First Fleeters*. 14 June: Barbara Scott: *TA Scott and Family*. **Next Event:** *TBA*, **Contact:** Jon Fearon 4323 1849

DERWENT – *Southern Tasmania*

Venue: Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. **Next Meeting:** 5 April: Reg Watson, *First Fleeter Richard Morgan*. 7

June: Alison Alexander, *Norfolk Islanders in Tasmania*. **Event:** . **Contact:** Cecily Dougan 03 6231 1256

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: 5 April: Mark Dunn, *Joseph Fowles the artist*. 3 May: Lyn Fergusson, *Governor FitzRoy*; 7 June: Rob Sipton, *History of Clocks*. **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. **Next Meeting:** 14 April: Athol Searston: *FF John Nicholls*; **Next Event:** 5 April: Wallabadah Picnic with NW Chapter. 13 May: Sailing of the Fleet Lunch, Venue *TBA*. **Contact:** Raymond Green 4964 1328

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

Venue: Kinross Wolaroi School Library, Orange - **Next (Quarterly) Meeting:** 17 May in Bathurst at a historic site (Note change of venue) For details, **Contact:** Judy Dwyer 6365 8234 or 0428 173 213 or dyr.tara@bigpond.com

MORETON – *South East Queensland.*

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

12 April: Julie Webb: *Advances in DNA technology*. 14 June : Dr Marion Diamond, *Author and early colonial historian*. **Next Event:** Tuesday 6 May: Visit to Queensland State Records. **Contact:** Don Cornford 04 5746 6020

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

Venue: Various locations - five times per year, **Next Meetings:** 8 February: Bob Lemcke, *FF Lt George Johnston*. 12 noon

at Anglican Parish Centre, Armidale. 5 April: Combined meeting and picnic lunch with North West Chapter at First Fleet Gardens, Wallabadah. **Events:** . **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 Meetings:** 6 April, at the Bass home,

Nana Glen, *Radio Communications*. 1 June, at Mylestom Hall: Harry Mills: Lions Hearing Dog Programme **Next Event:** 6 May: Overnight trip to Nymboida and local museum .**Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 6653 3615

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Lismore and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am; **Next Meeting:** 25 May, at Alstonville Bowls

Club, 11.30 am. Speaker: *TBA*. **Contact:** Margaret Soward 6686 3597

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** 5 April: Combined

chapters meeting 11 am at Wallabadah Hall and picnic lunch at First Fleet Gardens; 7 June: at Tamworth Croquet Club, Members: *Facts on Arthur Phillip*. **Contact:** Barbara Hodgson 6766 5355

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:** 1 April: Cecily, *Living with Blindness*: 3 June: Ron Withington, *Dispatched Downunder*. **Events:** 10 May: Sailing of the Fleet Lunch, 12 noon, Dapto Leagues. **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:** 9 April:

Vic Grant, *Matthew Flinders bicentenary*. 11 June: Lyn Fergusson: *Admiral Arthur Phillip, the Man*. **Next Event:** 7 May: 2pm at Bowral Library: Afternoon Tea with Roxanne. **Contact:** Neville Usher 4869 1406

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Next Meeting: 31 May: 2 pm at 14 Oatram Street, West Perth. **Next event:** 4 May: Afternoon Tea at on Tranby on

Swan. **Contact:** Jodi Gratton 08 9384 5944

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison officer

A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

New Ordinary and Associate Members
OWEN CAVANOUGH / MARGARET DARNELL
 #8318 Neryl Olwen James
 #8323 Megan Hutchins
ANTHONY ROPE / ELIZABETH PULLEY
 #8319 Margaret Louise Silvy Organ
 #8334 Colleen JeanPower
 #8341 Garnet Brian Jones
ANN FORBES
 #8320 Logan Ross Markuse
 #8326 Heather Welsh
 #8331 Caitlin Alexandra Markuse
WILLIAM SALTMARSH
 #8321 Denis Graham Saltmarsh
THOMAS LUCAS
 #8322 Beverley Carol Beaver-Neal
 #8329 Caroline Lucy Rex
 #8330 Robert Richmond Rex
OWEN CAVANOUGH/ MARGARET DARNELL/ MATTHEW EVERINGHAM/ JOHN CROSS/ WILLIAM DRING/ ANN FORBES
 #8324 Sandra Edith Norman
JOHN SMALL / MARY PARKER
 #8219 Terence Henry Musgrave
 #8325 Roger Hardinge Braham
EDWARD MILES
 #8327 Virginia Ruth O'Keeffe
FREDERICK MEREDITH
 #8328 Winston John Reynolds
 #8336 Amanda Bronwyn Sparkes
JANE LANGLEY / THOMAS CHIP
 #8332 Neil Douglas Symington
WILLIAM WALL
 #8333 Toby Edmund Cooper

EDWARD HUMPHRIES
 #8343 Wallace Andrew Carter
THOMAS/ALICE/ANN HARMSWORTH.
 #8344 Kathleen Louise O'Dea
 #8344.1 Daniel Joseph O'Dea
CATHERINE JOHNSON
 #8345 Thomas Darliston Davies
NATHANIAL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE
 #8335 Barry Francis Rogers.
 #8335.1 Sandra Rogers
 #8342 Yvonne Dawn Elizabeth Murray
 #8342.1 Denis W. Murray
JOHN NICHOLS
 #8337 Austin MacCauley Corcoran
 #8337.1 Patricia Ann Corcoran
WILLIAM TUNKS / JAMES ODGEN
 #8338 Peter Mark Warren
ANN MARTIN
 #8339 Carol Ann Goodwin
ROBERT FORRESTER / ANN MARTIN
 #8340 Dorothy Jean Miller
Additional First Fleeters
WILLIAM DRING / ANN FORBES/ JOHN CROSS / MATTHEW EVERINGHAM
 #8219 Terence Henry Musgrave
JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER
 #8147 John William Kennedy
Friends
 F 137 Denise Jelbart
 F 138 Yvette Reeve
 F 139 Jill Wood
 F 140 Elizabeth A. Harris
Associates
 #1379.1 Mary Elizabeth Bellette
 #8085.1 Dianne Raynor

BIRTHS

PETER HIBBS
Jett Joel Graham and Azaelea Autumn Graham born 27.12.2013, twin grandchildren of #7360 Lynne and #7360.1 Rob Graham of South Coast Chapter. New parents are Joel Graham and Melissa Dunlap.

DEATHS

WILLIAM DOUGLAS/MARY GROVES
#7903 Joy Pinkerton and husband **George FF7903.1** popular members of Hunter Valley Chapter suffered the loss of their son-in-law, widely acclaimed viticulturist Kym Ludvigsen, husband of their daughter Donna on 3.12.2013 as a result of a tragic accident on their property in Victoria.
WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES
#704 Joyce Rixon passed away on 13.09.2013. Joyce was a life member and proud to be an Australian and spent many years working as a volunteer for the Fellowship.
JAMES BRADLEY/JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER
#4343 Joan Lois Adams of Thirroul, NSW, died late in 2013. Her passing was reported by her daughter #4858 Kerrie Christian and granddaughter #6320 Katrina Christian at a South Coast Chapter Meeting.
EDWARD MILES
#3206 Barbara Alderson late of Galston, NSW, died on 27.11.2013. Her passing was reported by her daughter #4747 Caroline Mitchell of Bomaderry.

MESSAGE BOARD

#8147.1 Pat Kennedy would like to hear from descendants of FF Andrew Goodwin and FF Lydia Munro. She is writing a book on them and their descendants E-mail: wayfarer3@bigpond.com Address 277/25 Mulloway Rd, CHAIN VALLEY BAY 2259



-  • While celebrations in England for the Arthur Phillip bicentennial are moving closer, plans are also being made to recognise the occasion in Australia. President Ian attended a meeting at the Museum of Sydney and *Founders* hopes to inform you of various events next issue.
-  • You will notice listed amongst the New Members on this page, one who is descended from six First Fleeters and another who has just added four more to his ancestral pedigree. Do we have anyone out there with **more than six** in their lineage? Let us know.
-  • Last year the Directors were asked how many **10th generation** First Fleeters there were and whether any would be available for an interview. It was felt at the time they would all be too young. However we have been reliably informed that 8 year old Kaylee Holley, 10th generation descendant of four First Fleeters and great granddaughter of John and Pat Kennedy of Chain Valley Bay would happily respond to an interview at any time!
-  • While deliberations continue as to where the Arthur Phillip Statue (bust) should be returned, the Fellowship has stressed our preference to be First Fleet Park. Members might like to look at the **Statement of Significance** for the Park as on the website of the **Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority** <https://www.shfa.nsw.gov.au/> and be encouraged. Will it help our cause?

From page 2

Albury-Wodonga and Arthur Phillip had a presence at local council park celebrations whereas Hunter Valley and Central Coast cancelled theirs! Arthur Phillip chapter was represented at a Citizenship ceremony, while Central Coast's request to do the same was ignored.

Our final comment is a pictorial one. Observe the picture supplied by Swan River Chapter - the juxtaposition of barbecue and ball and chain says it all.



VALUED DONORS TO THE WORK OF FIRST FLEET HOUSE

Cherie Cumming, Margaret Francis, Pamela Lindsay

