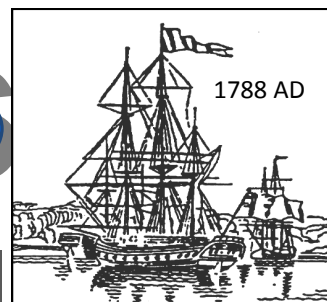


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc.

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PATRON: Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO



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October/November 2015

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

BARANGAROO RESERVE - the way it was?

After several years of deconstruction and then re-creation, Barangaroo Reserve was opened to the public on Saturday 22 August 2015. *Founders* was there on the day, eager to see how successful a team of landscape architects has been in restoring a Sydney Harbour headland to its former, natural glory.

For those of our readers who live in distant parts of Australia or are not familiar with the area, this new headland park, envisioned and championed for many years by former Australian Prime Minister **Paul Keating**, replaces well over a century of maritime enterprise on and around the shoreline of what became known as Millers Point.

What has been the busy locality of wharves and warehouses, and later turned into an 'aircraftcarrier-like' platform typical of a container port has now become a beautiful sandstone headland showcasing the native flora of the Sydney region.

The highlight for this reviewer and bush lover is the fact that the 1836 shoreline has been opened up and allows visitors to the park full access to the harbour at water level. For most of

the reserve, with the exception of the historical feature commemorating Hickson's Seawall, there are no stone walls or parapets to keep the public away from the water. Instead hundreds of sandstone blocks quarried and crafted from the remnant hill at the site have been placed in a gentle slope down to the water's edge. We understand that blocks were numbered as they were cut so they could be re-sited with the same configuration and pattern.

The concept behind the construction of this \$250 million reserve was to bring back the headland that was there the day the First Fleet sailed into nearby Sydney Cove. **Barangaroo** was the woman whose name is honoured in the naming of the park, a place that has already become a fitting tribute. She and her Eora women companions frequented the point, known to them as *Coolye*, and its adjacent stretch of water across to Goat Island, *Memel*, fishing usually with hook and line for the abundant seafood there.

As the Fellowship is an organisation made up of those with a keen sense of history, our members will no doubt have spent much time musing on what the land looked like before European settlement and how their ancestors adapted to making a living in what was for them an often harsh and unforgiving environment. This reserve predates all that and purports to take us back to a time when the land and its people lived and survived in harmony with each other in ecological balance.

What did Port Jackson look like to those 1500 whose ships sailed through the Heads early in 1788? It would have been seen as an extensive waterway surrounded by bushland right down to the shoreline. Today, an area that still may (*cont. P3*)



Barangaroo Reserve, looking north from Nawi Cove

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The
Barangaroo
Issue

Founders

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**PRESIDENT'S PEN**

Ian Palmer



It has recently been brought to my attention, yet again, that family history is nearly always a work in progress. The internet is a wonderful research medium as information, historical indexes and all manner of official records are regularly updated and made available on line. A more thorough and unbiased examination of events inevitably leads to a better understanding of many historical incidents. Authors keep finding new ways to retell stories when many of us feel we already know the true story. We should always keep an open mind to new information and not be so inflexible that we are unwilling to acknowledge a different view of a certain event.

This will be my last communication to you as your President. After ten years as a Board Member and the last three as your President I feel it is the right time for me to step aside. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the Board and have witnessed many changes and indeed improvements to the Fellowship over that period. I would like to thank all my colleagues on the Board for their combined support and teamwork during my tenure. Finally I wish the incoming Executive and all Members of the Fellowship all the very best for a bright future.

SYDNEY'S MILLERS POINT REVISITED

The focus on Barangaroo this issue has brought your editor some wonderful memories of school days at Millers Point in the late 1940s. Decades before he knew of his First Fleet connections he, as a ten-year-old, loved to explore the old precinct on his way to and from nearby Fort Street Public School.

In those years the emphasis was still, after 100 years, on the working harbour and matters maritime. Our readers may enjoy, below, two views of much earlier days. **Jon**

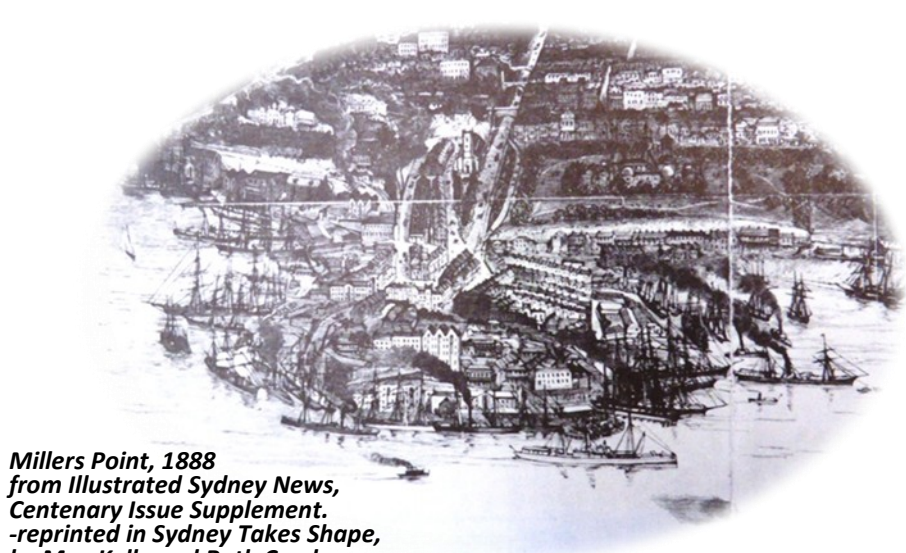


Looking north towards Millers Point in the 1820s

Cockle Bay, now Darling Harbour, from the original painting by Major James Taylor, 1821. Mitchell Library collection.

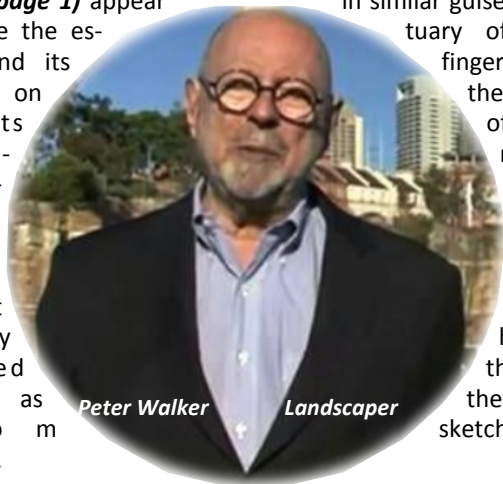
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Millers Point, 1888 from Illustrated Sydney News, Centenary Issue Supplement. -reprinted in Sydney Takes Shape, by Max Kelly and Ruth Crocker.

(from page 1) appear parts, be the es-Bay and its tensions on outskirts S u r - by n a - parks without o u s imprint area may fluenced scapers as f r o m creation.



Peter Walker

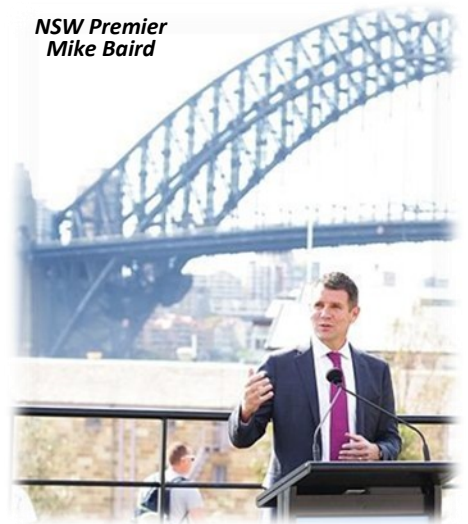
Landscape

Not all the early Port Jackson headlands may have supported a thick vegetation, however, particularly where sandstone outcrops dominated. In *Millers Point, the Urban Village*, 1992, writers **Shirley Fitzgerald** and **Christopher Keating**, describe Cockle Bay Point, as first named in James Meehan's *Plan of the Town of Sydney 1807*, as 'a 20 metre high cone of land fringed by low rocks and at low tide by exposed sand and mud. Its sandstone base supported a thin and patchy soil and, like the other elevated land around it, and was,' quoting **Ruth Park** in *The Companion Guide to Sydney*, 1973, 'scantily clad with a rufous fuzz, as though some prehistoric bushfire had flashed down the promontory and left it bare of all but wild flowers, grass, trees and sea stained scrub.'

in similar guise could, in tuary of Broken finger like ex-the northern of Sydney. rounded t i o n a l a n d an obvi-urban such an have in-the land-they moved sketches to re-

Some early maps of Sydney show **John Leighton** as the first settler to be occupying land on the rocky knoll of Millers Point. On 22 June, 1826, Leighton, ex-convict and known as **Jack the Miller**, exceedingly drunk at the time, left his small house perched high on this prominent hill and for reasons unknown, climbed the ladder up one of his three adjoining windmills. Alas for him that night he fell to his death. Leighton had owned several acres on what was officially known as Cockle Bay Point, since 1814. Records indicate that his purchase had been from the partnership of Lucas and Wall, but what official rights the latter two had to the land has not yet been ascertained.

In Surveyor **Ambrose Hallen's** 1831 sketch map most land holdings o w n e d o r 'permissively occupied' are already officially registered. The merchant, pastoralist and wharf owner **J B Bettington** occupied the south-west corner and next door was the shipbuilder and floating dock operator **James**

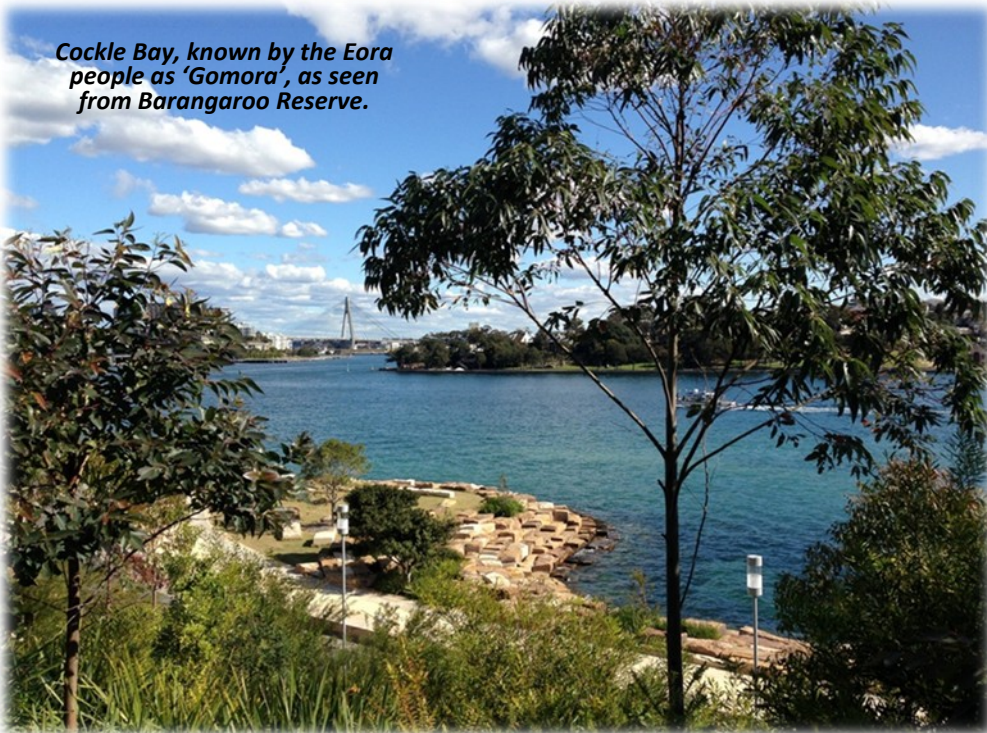
NSW Premier
Mike Baird

Munn. Leighton's allotment was by this time owned by the publican **William Long** and his partner, the wealthy brewer **James Wright**.

The new park was officially opened by the NSW Premier, **Mike Baird**, who in his address described it as 'the cornerstone of the city' and a world-class precinct. He said, 'A big part of that has to do with the vision of former prime minister Paul Keating who saw the opportunity to honour our history and restore this to its rightful position as it used to be and build an incredible shrine effectively to this city which recognises its Aboriginal culture.'

During the afternoon the very supportive public was able to sit on the grass of the Upper Bluff and take an active part in an interesting discussion on the making of the Reserve. Included on the speakers' panel was the the park's designer, US landscape architect **Peter Walker**.

Cockle Bay, known by the Eora people as 'Gomora', as seen from Barangaroo Reserve.



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FRANCIS GROSE - SOLDIER & GOVERNOR - Part 5, Final.

Grose departed Sydney Cove on 14 December 1794 confident that his replacement, **Governor John Hunter** would arrive shortly. Grose had received advice in October 1794, incorrectly as it happened, that Governor Hunter had already left England and therefore his arrival was imminent. Accordingly, Grose departed because he was plagued with his leg wound which caused him great discomfort in the hot and humid conditions of a NSW summer. **Captain William Paterson**, being the senior captain in the NSW Corps, became the acting Governor but it was not until September 1795 that Hunter sailed into Sydney Cove, his delay being occasioned by the hostilities with France.

Grose retained the posting of deputy Governor and upon reaching England in May 1795, discovered that he had been promoted to Lt. Colonel in mid 1794. He did not partake of any major activities in England though he was named as the principal reason for the mutiny on 1 August 1797 by the



The Camp at Vinegar Hill, by George Cruikshank, 1845, from History of the Irish Rebellion of 1798 by Wm Maxwell.

French and Irish soldiers he had recruited from the Savoy prison for service in NSW Corps in Sydney. The mutineers were led by the French **Lieutenant W. G. Thierry** who was a loyal Republican in the French army and they mutinied and killed the captain/owner of the *Lady Shore*.

Grose did not suffer any consequences for that mutiny and in January 1798 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel so that **Captain Philip Gidley King R.N.** could proceed to NSW as the governor designate in replacement of Governor Hunter. In June 1798 Grose was sent to Ireland on the staff of **General Peter Hunter** (no relation) following the *Croppies* uprising in Dublin and Wexford of May that year. Grose arrived at Wexford on 28th June 1798, one week after the massacre on Vinegar Hill when the English army put down the uprising in a co-ordinated attack with artillery and cavalry against pikes and some small cannon.

Grose was appointed the military commandant at Wexford and again this was probably due to the influence of **Henry Phipps**, now the holder of an Irish peerage as Baron Mulgrave of New Ross, a small town about fifteen miles west of Wexford. It would be too much of a coincidence for Grose to have received that appointment without Phipps's patronage.

Grose, now a Brigadier, conducted himself with his usual concern for those under his control and championed the Irish rebels upon whom the Irish yeomanry magistrates were exacting bloody revenge. In an act reminiscent of his order in NSW of December 1792, Grose stood down ten Wexford magistrates and ordered them not to take action without his specific approval. To emphasise that directive, he personally arrested a violent magistrate, **Archibald Jacobs** and dragged him back to Wexford tied to the tail of his, Grose's, horse.

Grose regularly supported the Irish *Croppies* both in court and in the towns giving them passes for travel without interference from the vengeful yeomanry. He even appeared in court as a

character witness for a rebel officer and was known to petition the Viceroy, **Lord Cornwallis**, on behalf of the rebels and their families.

He was promoted to Major-General on 1 January 1805 and posted as the military commandant at Gibraltar. His activities at that posting are unknown though he would have had a vital role to play in the defence of Gibraltar given that the Battle of Trafalgar took place in October 1805. Grose only stayed two years on Gibraltar and left because of ill health probably associated with his leg wound causing him difficulty in the warmer air of the Mediterranean Sea.

In 1808, whilst in England, he applied for the posting as Governor in NSW in place of the deposed **Governor Bligh** and then again in 1809 when **Brigadier Nightingall** declined the position. The English government did not respond to either of his offers but instead reappointed Grose as the military commandant at Wexford. In an extraordinary example of their appreciation, the *Croppies* held parties and laid on a warm welcome for Grose's return as commandant because of his previous kindness to them. It was a spontaneous act of affirmation of Grose's style of leadership where he had shown genuine compassion for people for whom he was responsible.

Grose retired from Wexford in 1811 and now a Lieutenant General lived his remaining years in Croydon, London. His first wife, **Frances** or Fanny, died in 1813 and in 1814 he married **Elizabeth Paterson**, the widow of Captain William Paterson whom he had left in charge in Sydney Cove in 1794. Grose died at Croydon on 8 May 1814, a month after his marriage.

Grose's career was unique among English officers. No other served in the American War of Independence, in NSW, in Ireland in the 1798 uprising, in the war with France and then again in Ireland. In Australia many historians castigate Grose for the military interregnum, for giving land to the officers, for establishing the rum trade, for allocating convicts to the officers and ultimately he is blamed for the Rum Rebellion of 1808 even though it occurred thirteen years after his departure.

It is difficult to find an Australian historian who will acknowledge Grose's achievements in establishing a viable agricultural industry that saved the colony from famine and dramatically improved the health of all colonists. For as much as Grose is vilified by those historians, Irish historians are fulsome in their praise for his fairness and for the protection he afforded the Irish Catholic rebels after the abortive uprising at Vinegar Hill.

In all his activities, Grose remained true to his training and was ever mindful of his responsibilities as the leader. He always exercised

personal care and protection for his soldiers, the convicts and then the Irish *Croppies* over whom he had command. His leadership skills learned in the heat of battle in the American War of Independence and honed in Sydney, Wexford and Gibraltar was the hallmark of his remarkable military career.

Stephen Cunneen



Enniscorthy Bridge, County Wexford, Vinegar Hill summit beyond.

5th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS for ARTHUR PHILLIP CHAPTER

On Friday August 21st, about 30 Arthur Phillip Chapter Members and Friends assembled together at the Roseville Memorial Club to celebrate five years of the operation of the chapter. Members gathered at the bar to buy their initial drinks and then proceeded to the tables. **Susan Meppem** and **Alayne Harrison-Thorpe** had decorated the tables with Australian wildflowers and Australian flags, making them look very festive.

MC, **Denis Smith**, opened proceedings and called for **Gillian Doyle**, the Chapter President, to welcome guests of honour, **Jennifer Anderson**, our patron and Mayor, the guest speaker, **Hon. Justice Michael Pembroke** and his wife **Gillian**, and other invited guests.



Mayor of Ku-ring-gai (L) and Chapter 1st President

Guests were asked to charge their glasses and Madame Mayor proposed the Loyal Toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Alayne Harrison-Thorpe, the founding President, then proposed the toast to First Fleet ancestors and settlers. Alayne presented her gift for the Chapter Library, a DVD called *Sailor Governor Spy*, based on the guest speaker's book.

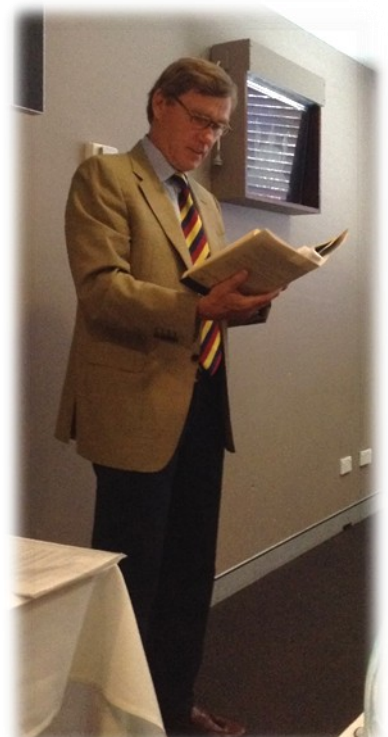
The President then called for a vote of thanks to the first com-

mittee, for their role in establishing the chapter which was inaugurated on 13th August, 2010 and acknowledged the supportive role that **Jo Harris**, of the Ku-ring-gai Historical Society, played especially in the early years.

After grace, and the first course which consisted of alternate dishes of salmon and cutlets, Hon. Justice Michael Pembroke paid tribute to Admiral Arthur Phillip about whom he had written a very comprehensive book entitled *Admiral Arthur Phillip, Sailor Mercenary Governor Spy*.

Michael spoke eloquently about Arthur Phillip's boyhood and experiences as a midshipman on a whaler, his marriage and life as a farmer, his experiences as a mercenary and spy, and the dedication of his skills to ensuring the First Fleet was well victualled, supplied and safe. The fact that all the ships of the First Fleet arrived safely in Botany Bay together in January, 1788, with little loss of life was extraordinary and very much due to Arthur Phillip's considerable skills gained over half a lifetime. In the five years he spent in the colony, he seemed almost perfectly suited to the role that history presented him. He also had intelligence, integrity, persistence and common sense, all qualities that helped him govern in his enlightened way.

Michael did not just speak about the man, but gave an insight into the flavour of Georgian society at the time, aided by some readings by his wife Gillian. Michael had copies of the book displayed for purchase.



Justice Michael Pembroke reading from his book

After dessert was served, Gillian Doyle presented a picture of the Chapter activities and events over the last five years, until the close of the meeting.

All agreed that this was a most enjoyable and successful lunch, thanks to the work put in by the hardworking President and Committee.

Jane Ann Tainsh, Secretary, Arthur Phillip Chapter



A happy group of members and friends

YOUR STORIES

Founders, we must remind you again, has run out of First Fleeter stories for the magazine and web.

The following guidelines are suggested:-

1. Include your name as the author.
 2. Only one story per FF. A new story could replace that existing with previous author so informed.
 3. The Fellowship deserves the right to edit.
 4. Biographies must contain facts.
 5. References are definitely preferred.
 6. Type in *Calibri*, size 10.
- Contact the editor for further information.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor will be pleased to have your items and stories for *Founders* 46/6, by **Monday 16 November** preferably as e-mailed attachments. Send pictures separately.

We often receive interesting news of chapter events through the year but are just as keen to hear from individual members out there with a story to tell.

Our readers may remember the very successful challenge mounted and won by Moreton Chapter in 2014.

We are still waiting for another chapter out there willing to continue the **story writing** fashion with a similar challenge?

JAMES BRYAN CULLEN - from Felon to Farmer

Little is known about the early life of **James Bryan Cullen**. The fact that at his trial, at the Old Bailey, (q.v. *Proceedings, Wednesday 6th April 1785 JAMES BRYAN CULLIEN*) he gave as his occupation, 'jockey and land owner', suggests he may have had rural and equestrian connections at some stage.

All the records referring to his age point to a birth year about 1742, making him one of the older convicts leaving for New South Wales on 13th May 1787. The court indictment was for 'feloniously stealing' clothing to a total value of 130 shillings, the property of John Crandell, coachman and John Shingler, servant, both in the employ of Mr Milbank.

It seems from one witness at the trial that Cullen often travelled between London and Northampton. Some of the stolen property was found by the foot patrols at William Barry's next door to the White Swan, King Street, Wapping. Others had been sent by **Eleanor Welch**, also on trial as a receiver of stolen property and known as Mrs. Briant, Cullen's wife, to a nearby pawn broker.

At the trial Cullen said that he and John Crandell had arranged to board a 'Greenland' Ship, the *William and Ann*, which was moored at Wapping. A literate man, suggesting he had an educated background, Cullen had written a note, tendered in court, with the travel arrangements. However, at the trial, Crandell denied all knowledge. Cullen's final statement was: "I have nothing further to say, I have lived with Captain Frederick and Lady Harris at the King's Palace."

The jury confirmed the guilt of Jacob Briant Cullen and he was sentenced to transportation for seven years to Africa and placed immediately on the *Ceres* hulk at Plymouth. His wife, Eleanor 'Lizzy' Welch was found not guilty. From the *Ceres* hulk James Bryan Cullen was moved to the *Censor* hulk on the Thames, but in the meantime, the African convict colony had failed. Many so directed were reassigned to Botany Bay and Cullen found himself on *Scarborough* when the fleet sailed.

The next record we have of him was of an altercation in May 1788 between him and the supervisor of a timber-getting work gang at the Sydney Cove settlement. He was charged with insolence to **Sergeant Thomas Smith** and sentenced to 25 lashes for using 'improper words'. Other than that, his activities during the rest of his two years at Port Jackson remain unrecorded. James Cullen was selected as one of the 183 convicts to go to Norfolk Island on the *Sirius* in March 1790, possibly due to his background as a land owner with farming experience.

The arrival of the *Sirius* at Cascade Bay under the command of **Captain Hunter** is well documented elsewhere, where we read of the difficulty of getting everyone, including the newly appointed Lieutenant Governor, **Major Ross**, safely ashore. Those who did reach land had then to walk overland to the settlement Sydney Town on the south side and these included all the women and children. *Sirius* eventually sailed round to the south side of the island and in attempting to land at Sydney Bay, was wrecked on the reef and she eventually broke up. Those convicts listed in the manifest as going ashore that day, 19th March 1790, James Bryan Cullen among them, did so without loss of life.

Altogether, Cullen spent nearly seventeen years on Norfolk

Island and the various records show that his farming endeavours were quite successful. His first two years were spent in the Arthur's Vale area, but once he was emancipated, on 7th December 1791, he was given a lease on lot 76 of 12 acres, one of one hundred such lots first allocated to the now free settlers. Later, for a time, he also had a lease on neighbouring lot 77.

Within two years he had three quarters of his lot cleared and under cultivation and assistance in that farming could have come initially from his de-facto partner, the widow **Ann Bryant**, nee **Coombes**. There is no mention in surviving records of any marriage to Ann and the partnership lasting about four years,



The White Swan, Wapping



Cascade Bay 1796

produced no children. These two elongated lots where Cullen built two two-storeyed timber houses, were in the district known as Queenborough Path, Grenville Vale and can be located today about halfway along the lesser airport runway on the south-eastern side and stretching down into the gully below.

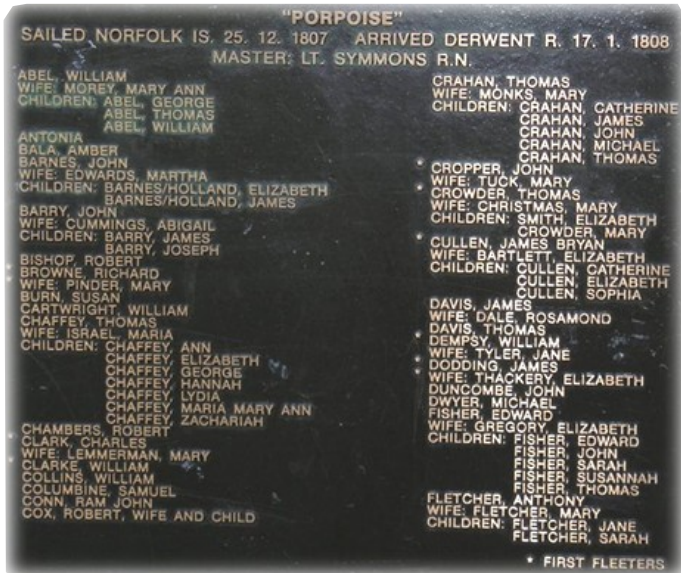
By the late 1790s, Ann Bryant was no longer living with James Cullen and a new partner, **Elizabeth Bartlett**, a native of Dublin and later to become his wife, was on the scene. She was 32 years his junior and she was already pregnant on her arrival on the island. This child, **William Bartlett**, was born on 16 July 1796 but died in infancy some time after October 1796. The next year a son **Stephen** was born to James and Elizabeth Cullen but he too did not survive. Three daughters followed, **Sophia** in 1798, **Catherine** in 1800 and **Elizabeth** in 1805.

The Cullen family, based on their now granted land at Grenville Vale, continued to farm successfully for several years, with grain regularly sold to the government and with a number of animals pastured and producing milk, wool and meat (goats, sheep and pigs). Records exist of several Cullen land trading deals during those years, perhaps in keeping with his originally stated profession back in 1775 as a land owner. James was appointed as a constable and overseer both at Creswell Bay and at Cascade, where he also had land on lot 111, so by this time he had obviously become a worthy free citizen.



Site of second Government House 1792

When the decision was made in England to close down the first Norfolk Island settlement, many of the older settlers complained that they were 'too old' to relocate and start again. Aged 65 when the first orders were given to move to the new settlement in Van Diemen's Land, James Cullen may well have been one who voiced such a concern. However, the Cullen family were on board *HMS Porpoise* for the twenty-two day journey to the Derwent when it left on 26 December 1807, the second of the five major voyages to clear the island of most of its inhabitants at the time.



The family were compensated for their stock lost at the move and also for the value of the cleared land and houses and out-buildings left behind. Like many others from Norfolk Island, the Cullens re-established themselves at New Norfolk on the Derwent where they were granted land on both sides of the river, their main farm being on the north bank, found today beside the highway and to the left of the main road bridge.

Details of life in New Norfolk for the Cullens can be gleaned from the chief secretary's records, including written submissions to and from **Governor Macquarie** and from other farm returns and musters. Movement between the new settlement and Hobart Town seemed to occur regularly, at first by river until roads improved. **Rev Robert Knopwood** officiated at the marriage ceremony of James and Elizabeth on 25th September 1809 at St David's church in Hobart and the records show that the parson became a friend of the family and on retirement, lived for a time on the Cullen estate at New Norfolk.

A stone cottage was built initially with the help of their convict servant **Robert Bishop** and it was later replaced by the construction of a magnificent Georgian mansion which still stands today. It is heritage listed as *Glen Derwent* and over the years has vari-

ously served as a hotel, a hops farmhouse, a dairy farmhouse and as quality accommodation for travellers.

At the time of his death in 1821, after fourteen years in Van Diemen's Land, Cullen's new mansion was heavily in debt and eventually had to be sold off by his daughters and their spouses. It had passed out of the family's hands by 1836.

An account of the coroner's inquest into the passing of James Bryan Cullen, aged 79, can be seen in the *Hobart Town Gazette* of Saturday 14 April, 1821. The previous Thursday afternoon he had been comfortably at home, sitting in the parlour reading a play. Apparently he rose from his seat, went alone into the bedroom and shortly after the family heard the report of a pistol! His daughter Elizabeth rushed in but found her father "breathing his last. The room was full of smoke and the blood was running off the bed profusely. Upon this awful sight the young woman fainted and fell down on the floor senseless and upon the family examining the unfortunate object of their anxiety, they found that the deceased had received the fatal wound close to his heart."

The jury and coroner found that the death was by accident, concluding that the deceased was 'much respected throughout his neighbourhood'. He was buried at St David's graveyard, Hobart, but there is no headstone. Cullen's widow Elizabeth, lived on in the house for some years and eventually died, aged 62, at the New Norfolk hospital on 5th March, 1836. As the certifying **Dr Officer** said, she was 'in a state of absolute dotage'. She is buried at the New Norfolk pioneer cemetery.

Many descendants trace their ancestry back to James Bryan Cullen and his wife Elizabeth Cullen. Sophia, who died young, but with ten children, married **William Rayner** who had also been born on Norfolk Island. Catherine married the convict **James Tedder** and later as a widow married **James Blay**. She had four daughters from the two marriages. Elizabeth married a ship's captain, **John Pearce** and they had four children.

Footnote: A full account of the life of James Bryan Cullen can be found in the 2007 booklet : *James Bryan Cullen 1742-1821 A Jockey's Journey*, compiled and edited by Jon Fearon and Stan Keough. Now out of print it can be accessed through libraries and/or inter library loan. There is also a copy in the library at First Fleet House. The booklet was revised in 2014 and is now available on email from jkearone@inet.net.au

Pictures: *Above:* Cullen family listed as arriving on HMS Porpoise 17.01.1808.
Left: The Cullen's original stone cottage at New Norfolk, circa 1808-9.
Below: Main Cullen residence dating from about 1817, now heritage listed as *Glen Derwent*. (veranda added late 19th century)



BARANGAROO and the EORA FISHERWOMEN

The article, below, is taken verbatim from Grace Karskens's entry in 'The Dictionary of Sydney' 2014, qv.

Barangaroo was one of the powerful figures in Sydney's early history. She was a Cameragaleon, from the country around North Harbour and Manly. The Cameragal group was the largest and most influential group in the Sydney coastal region.

Barangaroo was very likely present at the first meeting between the white newcomers and Cameragal women at Manly in February 1788, an event captured in William Bradley's watercolour. But she was probably also among the women who tried to lure white men ashore in North Harbour in November 1788 so that the Cameragal warriors could attack them.

The officers finally met Barangaroo in late 1790. They found her very striking but also a little frightening. She had presence and authority. They estimated her age at about 40, and this is significant. She was older, more mature, and possessed wisdom, status and influence far beyond the much younger women the officers knew.

By the time they met Barangaroo, the Eora world had changed. Smallpox had swept through the population and killed a disproportionate number of women and old people. But Barangaroo had survived. She was one of a reduced number of women who had the knowledge of laws, teaching and women's rituals and she exercised this authority over younger women. She had lost a husband and two children to smallpox, and she now had new younger husband: the ambitious Bennelong.

While other, younger, more bidable Eora women politely agreed to put on clothes, Barangaroo refused point blank. All she ever wore was a slim bone through her nose. When the whites invited her to watch a flogging, she became disgusted and furious, and tried to grab the whip out of the flogger's hands.

She was clearly unhappy about **Bennelong's** consorting with the whites. She was so angry with him on the first occasion he went to visit Sydney that she broke his fishing spear. Every time he tried to visit Rose Hill (Parramatta) she refused to allow it, and he wasn't permitted to go on the excursion to the Nepean River in April 1791.

Barangaroo and Bennelong were both determined and short-tempered. When he hit her, she hit him back. The officers were perplexed at this, because the couple were obviously so fond of each other and clearly delighted in one another's company.

But why was Barangaroo trying to stop Bennelong's politicking and movements? Was she just a 'difficult' woman? Was she different from all the other women?

The answer may lie in fish and fishing.

Eora fisherwomen

Barangaroo was a fisherwoman. Eora women like her were the main food providers for their families, and the staple food source of the coastal people around Sydney was fish. Unlike men, who stood motionless in the shore and speared fish with multi-pronged spears, or fish-gigs (*callarr* and *mooting*), the women fished from their bark canoes (*nowie*) with lines and hooks. They made their fishing lines (*carr-e-jun*) by twisting together two strands of fibre from kurrajong trees, cabbage trees

or flax plants. Animal fur and grass 'nearly as fine as raw silk' were also used to make lines. One observer described them as 'nicely shredded and twisted very close and neatly'. The distinctively crescent-shaped fish hooks (*burra*) were honed from the broadest part of the turban shell (*turbo torquata*).

These hooks were beautiful, and the lines well-made – First Fleet Surgeon **George Worgan** thought that they showed 'the greatest ingenuity' of all the Eora implements. Sometimes the women wore them around their necks like a necklace. But they were not decorative objects. They were Eora women's working tools and implements, essential for survival, and closely associated with their identities and power. The British officers quickly learned to respect the value of women's fishing gear – these were not female frippery, 'trifling things in a fishing way', but serious and important, like men's spears and clubs. The officers started collecting the hooks as well as spears and fish-gigs. Convicts caught stealing fishing tackle were severely punished.

Eora women's skills in fishing, swimming, diving and canoeing were extraordinary. The women skimmed the waters in their simple bark canoes with fires lit on clay pads for warmth and cooking. The officers were fascinated; they wondered how on earth the women could manage these 'contemptible skiffs', fishing tackle, onboard fire, small children and babies at the breast, in surf that would terrify their toughest sailors.

The women sang together as they fished and kept time with their paddles as they rowed. They were seen fishing all day, in all weathers, and at night too. Eora women dominated the waters of the harbours, coves and bays, and the coastlines in between. The men mostly only used canoes when they wanted to get from one cove to another.

Eora children grew up on the water from their youngest days, and the swell of the waves and

rocking nowie must have been just as familiar to them as the solidity of the earth or their mothers' heartbeat. The girls learned to line-fish as they grew – learning the fishing places and songs, how to burley with chewed cockle, how to lure and snag a fish, how to hone their burra from the cheek of a turban shell.

Eora women's control of the food supply would have been essential to their status and self-esteem, as well as their power in society. So, what may have triggered Barangaroo's anger on first meeting the whites was fish. This meeting, on the north shore at Kirribilli in November 1790, coincided with a massive catch of 4,000 Australian salmon, hauled up in two nets. Forty fish of five pounds (0.5 kilos) each were sent as a present over to Bennelong's group.

Two hundred pounds (91 kilos) of fish may well have been far more than the small group could eat – an extravagant, wasteful gift, given from men to men. As an Eora fisherwoman, winning fish one-by-one through skill and patience, Barangaroo may have felt insulted.

There were ominous implications too: future alliances with these food-bearing whites meant that women would lose their control over the food supply. Barangaroo must have observed the way the whites dealt with Eora men, not women. Living with them, relying on their food, plainly meant dependence on men, white and black.

continued on page 12.



PRESENTATION TO LIBRARIES

At the 12 September general meeting of the Central Coast Chapter at its Wyong RSL venue, a copy of **Dr Craig Smee's** recent book, *Births and Baptisms, Marriages and De Facto Relationships, Deaths and Burials, New South Wales 1788 -1800* was presented to the libraries of Gosford City and Wyong Shire.

Chapter President **Ken Morley** did the deed with suitable official remarks, and on hand to receive the donations were **Geoffrey Potter**, Local Studies Librarian at Gosford Library and **Michelle Goldsmith**, Reference Librarian at Tuggerah Library.

Such donations continue the chapter's tradition of making the First Fleet and early Sydney known in the local community.



Geoff Potter Michelle Goldsmith Ken Morley



Helen Hansen Pauline Walker Heather Bath

PORT MACQUARIE CONFERENCE

For several years state and national family history societies have held annual conferences. Many of those who attend are First Fleet descendants and whenever the Fellowship has arranged a table it becomes a real drawcard.

This year the new **Mid North Coast Chapter** did the honours on behalf of the Fellowship and *Founders* is pleased to report that a mighty fine job was done by the 'newcomers'. The table was manned for the Family History Fair on 11 September and for the two days of the NSW & ACT AFHS conference following.

Chapter secretary **Bev Williams** and her team prepared many new items for the event. Bumper stickers, fridge magnets and chapter cards were all available and the tall, 'Bali-style' banner drew conferees to the display.

All Fellowship books, charts, posters and Christmas cards were sold and the table and wall were decorated with First Fleet items supplied by chapter members. President **Malcolm Tompson** was there with his 'chapter on computer' and members took turns of duty at the table. Great work, MNC!

ARTHUR PHILLIP CHAPTER VISITS

Twenty-five Chapter members gathered on 10 September 2015 for the 10.30 am tour to hear the story of this most prestigious building with its fascinating history from early colonial times and much farther back for the Cadigal people. It is one of the oldest music schools in Australia, a faculty of University of Sydney which incorporates the community-based Conservatorium, the Open Academy and the Conservatorium High School, for 180 students.

'The Con' has been the focal point of Sydney's cultural history since its modest beginnings in the old Government House stables, originally built by **Lachlan Macquarie**, 5th Governor of NSW and which caused him so much controversy.

Our guide took us to 12 different locations where we viewed the architectural differences between the two complementary buildings - the original features of the Government stables including the arches and turrets and the modern light-

filled facilities that opened in 2001. We were taken to areas off limits to the public and viewed the remnant drains and cistern laid by early convicts. We were astonished by the underground maze that had been created underneath the Botanic Gardens – a popular lunchtime spot for students and teaching staff alike! –

for the High School's teaching studios, practice rooms, and the largest music library in the Southern Hemisphere.

After a quick lunch at the Music Café we went to the impressive Verbruggen Hall with its famous **Roger Pogson** Organ. The Dean explained that the gold coin entry fees collected will go towards purchasing much needed music material for vision impaired students. The jazz concert was performed by extremely talented and enthusiastic ensemble, proving that in the Con's 100th anniversary year:

The palace for horses is now a palace for music!

A great day out, very much enjoyed by everyone.

#3152 Gillian Doyle, President



CENTRAL COAST CHAPTER VISITS FIRST FLEET HOUSE

On Monday 7 September we travelled by train with fellow members from our chapter to Sydney where several more awaited us at First Fleet House.

This was one place that we were very keen to visit, having such an important connection to our ancestors and which still continues our discovery of things past and leads us into the future.

So much of old Sydney Town is right there and around the site. The building stands on the original grant to **John Palmer**. We were greeted by **Denis Smith** Vice President of Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Since our arrival coincided with traditional morning tea time it was decided that our tour could wait. Fellow Central Coast members, **Jon and Karys Fearon**, produced tea, coffee and dips and biscuits and other yummy foods. This was welcomed by the group as we had, after all, travelled that great distance, 1 ½ hours, from the Central Coast for this special visit. One can only imagine the hardships that were endured by our ancestors who travelled for so many months, locked down below, for a great deal of the trip. At least we could admire the passing scenery from our carriages in the train without the effects of seasickness. Also we had some kind of idea of what to expect at the end of our trip, whereas they would have had no idea what lie at their destination. Probably just as well.

Denis talked to us on the workings of the FFF and told of the amazing work that volunteers perform to keep the centre functioning so well. He then escorted us through the premises where we met **Tony**, who was trying to make the computers talk to each other, and **Judith** who was busy entering data from the paper files onto the computer. This will make it easier to access information in the future.

How amazing it was to wander through the rooms and let

our minds wander back through the ages. I bet there would be a story or two if only we could speak the language.

We then made our way back to the well-stocked library, which is provided for members' use.

Denis told us that even after all these years since the First Fleet information is still being discovered

One in particular is the grave of Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball who did so much to support the existence of the small colony. The grave was only recently located within the Johnston family vault in St Peter's churchyard, Petersham, in England.

Balls Pyramid, which he discovered in 1788, is named for him. He also discovered Lord Howe Island on the same voyage.

Then, all too quickly, it was time to reverse our morning journey and return home. Thank you so much Denis and team and Jon and Karys for providing this amazing opportunity for our first visit to First Fleet House. **#8135 Laraine & Ken Goodworth**



Their first visit: Wendy Condon, Ken and Laraine Goodworth, with directors Tony Holden Jon Fearon and Denis Smith

CHAPTER OFFICE BEARERS 2015-2016

NAME	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
ALBURY/WODONGA DISTRICT	Gaye Merkel #8095	Chris Power #8106; Paul Gooding #8089	Val Heel #8115	Mary Chalmers-Borella #8034.1
ARTHUR PHILLIP	Gillian Doyle #3152	Alan Beresford #7655	Jane Ann Tainsh #6992	James Kemsley #7895
CANBERRA	Geoff Cameron #2000	Gina Pinkas #6743	Brian Mattick #6077	Toni Pike #6981
CENTRAL COAST	Ken Morley #8070	Coraleen Barton-Bishop #7896	Jon Fearon #7141	Craig Jurd #8404
DERWENT	Judith Wood #7854	Dianne Snowden #2862	Marilla Lowe #F126	Greg Bell #8277
EASTERN FARMS	Neil Menger #7476.1	Judith Newell #7599	Jennifer Follers #7889	Rob Shipton #7981
HAWKESBURY NEPEAN	Sharon Lamb #1318	Pamela Hempel #6740	William Hempel #6740.1	Theresa Ewan #8486
HUNTER VALLEY	Jane van Woerkom #8251	Barbara Gow #8273	Barbara Turner #7220	Helen Pacey #5322
LACHLAN MACQUARIE	Phil Foster #7459		Judy Dwyer #7068	Amanda Foster #7459.1
MID NORTH COAST	Malcolm Tompson #7787		Bev Williams #2296	Helen Hanson #8464
MORETON	Gloria Wallace #7701	Julie Webb #7007	Mary-Joy Payten #1135	Barry Lack #8001
NEW ENGLAND	Robyn Crosslé #7442		Wal Whalley #7504	Bob Lemcke #7723
NORTH COAST	Margaret Bass #7324	Mal Dale #7216	Christine Ingram #7807	Pat Robertson #6948.1
NORTHERN RIVERS	Richmond Manyweathers #92	Betty Harriman #7938	Margaret Soward #7228	Stan Jenkins #7352
NORTH WEST	Barbara Hodgson #7424	Harold McLean #7439, Sybil Small #218.1	Diana Harband #7414	Colin Worrad #F42
SOUTH COAST	Kerrie Anne Christian #4858	Fay McGregor #7161	Warwick Grace #6496.1	Heather Paul #7995.1
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Pamela Cormick #1894	Rod Davis #6139	Wendy Selman #6558	John Kirkby #7137
SWAN RIVER	Bill Cutler #8024	Julie Aitken #7766	Toni Mahony #5525; Jodi Gratton #7767	Lynton Symington #7947

Our Eighteen 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 10.15 **Next Meetings:** ; 17 October: Howard Jones, *Local journalist/historian (to be confirmed)*; 21 November, *Meet My Ancestor*. **Next Event:** Outing and picnic to Eldorado or Beechworth, date and details to be confirmed. **Contact:** Val Heel 0357282613 or Gaye Merkel 6025 5747

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 October: Major Paul Irving (Ret), *Australian Army Reserve since 1788*; 21 November: Ian Thom, *Sir Henry Parkes KCMG*; 19 December: Meeting and *Christmas Party*. **Next Event:** 9 November: Historic Tour of Ku-ring-gai. **Contact:** Jane Ann Tainsh 94885453

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Meeting:** **Next Event:** 13 December: Christmas Barbecue at 7 Portus Place, Bruce, from 2 pm. **Contact:** Geoff Cameron 62514095

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

Venue: Wyong RSL Club, – monthly meetings, second Saturday at 10am for 10.30. **Next Meetings:** 10 October: Doug and Julia Roberts, *Mercy Ships*; 14 November, Peter Rea, *West Head Forts*. **Next Event:** 12 December Christmas Lunch at Wyong RSL, from 11.30 am. **Contact:** Jon Fearon 43231849

DERWENT - *Southern Tasmania*

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, first Saturday at Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. **Next Meetings:** 3 October: Members, *Historical Items Show and Tell*. **Next Event:** 5 December, Activity and Location still to be arranged. **Contact:** Marilla Lowe 0362602690

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 **Next Meetings:** 3 October: Ros Maguire, *People of Influence along the Parramatta River in the Nineteenth Century*; 7 November: Patrick Dodd, *John Macarthur Visionary or Villain*; 5 December: Dr Austin Mack, *Doc Martin*. **Contact:** Jennifer Follers 97991161

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN --*Western Sydney, Penrith to Windsor, Blue Mountains.*

Venue: Mainly Tebbutt Room, Public Library, 300 George St, Windsor , but occasionally in Penrith and elsewhere-- monthly, second Saturday, 11 am. **Next Meetings:** 10 October, at Penrith Library, Lorraine Stacker, *Tour of Library Archives*; 14 November: at Penrith Library, Steve Ford, *NSW State Archives*; **Next Event:** 12 December, at Windsor, Meeting and Christmas Party. **Contact:** William Hempel 47303527

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

Venue: Adamstown Senior Citizens' Hall, 153A Bruncker Road, Adamstown – bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday from 10am — 12.30pm. **Next Meetings:** ; 19 October: Jon and Karys Fearon, *First Fleet House/Midwifery* : **Next Event:** 14 December: Christmas Luncheon at Adamstown Hall. **Contact:** Barbara Turner 49439105

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

Venue: Kinross-Wolaroi Library, Orange. **Next Meeting:** 21 November: Speaker and topic, *TBA*. **Contact:** Judy Dwyer 63658234 or 0428 173213 or dyr.tara@bigpond.com

MID NORTH COAST -- *Taree and Surrounds, Bulahdelah to Kempsey.*

Venue: Presbyterian Church, 76 Albert Street, Taree, Bi-monthly on 4th Tuesday at 2pm.. **Next Meeting:** 27 October: Maurie Garland, *Early Manning Valley History*. **Next Event:** Tuesday 1 December: !0.30 Tour of Wingham Museum, then at 12.30 Christmas Lunch at Wingham RSL , *Show and tell - Oldest heirloom*. **Contact:** Bev Williams 65598912

MORETON – *South East Queensland.*

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, on an available Saturday. **Next Meetings:** 10 October: 10 am to Noon. Open Day for S E Qld Community and past and present members; Displays talks, information, morning tea. **Next Event:** 5 December: Christmas and End-of-year function. **Contact:** Mary-Joy Payten 0755320543

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

Venue: Various locations – five times per year, usually 12 noon at Anglican Parish Centre, Armidale. **Next Meeting:** 10 October: Excursion to Inverell, Meeting at Art Gallery, 5-7 View St, Speaker, Colleen Nancarrow, *First Fleeter Jane Langley*. **Next Event:** 12 December 12 noon, Christmas Luncheon at Saumarez. **Contact:** Wal Whalley 67723499

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

Venue: At Mylestom Hall, Bi-monthly meetings, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 4 October, Paul Wood, *Norfolk Island Visit*. **Next Event:** 6 December. From 10.30 Christmas Lunch at Mylestom Hall. **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 66533615

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Lismore and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am; **Next Meeting:** **Contact:** Margaret Soward 66863597

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meetings:** 3rd October: at Family History Rooms 62 North Street, Ron and Joan Ayton, *Life in Coober Pedy in the 1950s*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Diana Harband 67652122

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:** 6 October: Anne Sneddon-Mobbs, *Illawarra Convicts*; 3 November: J Shipp. *Illawarra Historical Society*. **Next Event:** 5 December: Christmas Party at Dapto Leagues Club. **Contact:** Warwick Grace 42727013

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

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre – bi-monthly – second Wednesday at 10.30am \$5 Admission. **Next Meetings:** 14 October: Lyn Fergusson, *Governor FitzRoy, Beyond the Rumours*; 9 December: 11th Anniversary and Christmas Lunch, Speaker, Robert Griffin, *The Hordern Houses*. **Next Events:** **Contact:** Wendy Selman 48624849

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Venue: 256 Stirling St Perth, quarterly, third Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meeting:** 21 November: Anthony Alborn, *WA History from 1827, Part 1*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Jodi Gratton 0893845944 or Toni Mahony 0892717630

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS		DEATHS
<p>Ordinary and Pensioner Members</p> <p>THOMAS ACRES #8516 Sharon Maree Crompton</p> <p>MARTHA KENNEDY #8517 Margaret Laura Pople #8518 Ronne Isabel Webb</p> <p>ANDREW FISHBURN #8519 John Robert Strange #8520 David William Strange</p> <p>FREDERICK MEREDITH #8521 Michaela Ann Inglis #8522 Kjerstine Elise Pickering #8523 Alicia Birgitte Brodersen #8527 Alan Ross Butler</p> <p>JAMES SHIERS/MARY SMITH #8524 Paul Joseph Robinson</p> <p>JAMES RUSE #8525 Margaret Patricia McLennan</p>	<p>Ordinary and Pensioner Members continued</p> <p>JOHN NICHOLS #8528 Sally Ann Northey #8532 Michael Richard Byrne</p> <p>OWEN CAVANOUGH/MARGARET DARNELL/ROBERT FORRESTER/ANN MARTIN #8526 Rebecca Turnbull HENRY KABLE/SUSANNAH HOLMES #8529 Julie-Anne Kenworthy #8530 Margaret Ann Quail</p> <p>ROBERT FORRESTER #8531 Margaret Rose Rozzoli</p> <p>Associates #7123.1 David Francis Condon #7655.1 Claire Beresford #8532.1 Judith Margaret Byrne</p> <p>#Friends F155 Joy Cordeiro F156 Clive Smith</p>	<p>JAMES SQUIRE/EDWARD GOODWIN #195 Wilma Diana Townsend, of Pymble New South Wales, (Life Member) died 17.08.2015. Former Director of the Fellowship of First Fleeters. Member of Arthur Phillip Chapter. Loved wife of Loch and mother of #196 Rachel Legge. Fond mother-in-law of James. Gma to Eleanor, Grace, Amy and Sarah. Funeral service held at St Anne's Anglican Church</p> <p>ASSOCIATE (ANN FORBES) #3363.1 Phyllis L Selby, of Jannali, New South Wales and long time and much appreciated volunteer at First Fleet House, died on 23.08.201, aged 86. She was the mother of #7250 Janet Selby</p> <p>FRIEND #F106 Christine Gissel, of Albury, New South Wales, died suddenly on 16.08.2015. She was the hard working archivist of Albury-Wodonga District Chapter.</p> <p>JACOB BELLETTE/ANN HARPER #6599 Gwendolyn Edith Porter, a proud Australian of Concord Community Hostel, New South Wales, died on 31.07.2015 aged 95.</p> <p>EDWARD WHITTON #6070 James Hillier Mayson, of Runaway Bay, Queensland, died peacefully on 08.08.2015, aged 96.</p> <p>FREDERICK MEREDITH #7422 Edith Vivian Packer, late of South Melbourne, Victoria, died late in August 2015, aged 96. She was a founding member of North West Chapter and was buried in Tamworth on 04.09 2015</p>



For several years now chapters and individual members have donated our *Founders of the Nation* charts to local schools. It has also been suggested by some librarians that the smaller **Route Maps** would be happily received and can be suitably stored in the schools as teaching resources. So, chart or map or both? Check with your school.



Have you marked the date and venue for the Fellowship's annual **Australia Day Luncheon** in your diary? It will be held at the Pullman Hotel, College St Sydney on Saturday 24th January 2016. The speaker will be David Hill whose recent book *First Fleet Surgeon* was reviewed in *Founders* 46/3. Several chapters and family groups are planning to be there and will be reserving tables. Your booking form will be available along with your December issue of *Founders*.



The Board is happy to report that every issue of **Founders**, since its inception, together with its predecessor, *FFF Newsletter*, has been **digitised** and individual copies will shortly be available in electronic form to members for research purposes. The **complete index** is coming soon and when it has been added to the website instructions will be given as to the method of accessing the copy you need.



An exciting and most generous proposal has been made by **Botany Cemetery** Trust to provide individual named **plaques** for all those First Fleeters whose remains were re-interred there after their removal from Sandhills (Devonshire St Sydney) Cemetery. Descendants of the 12 First Fleeters will no doubt be keen to know how the memorials will be installed and when the dedications will take place. *Founders* will monitor progress on this.



For those who have been unsuccessful in contacting First Fleet House by email in recent weeks the Board thanks you for your patience and advises that the **internet connection** should have been re-established by the time you are reading this.



Two NSW plaque ceremonies are planned for this year. On 21 November the Pugh-Smith Family will honour **Edward Pugh** at Windsor, and heritage permission has been granted for a plaque to be installed at Camperdown, the resting place of **Edward Beckford** who died on 2 June 1851.

VALUED DONORS TO THE WORK OF FIRST FLEET HOUSE

Bannigan P J, Bates A E, Bellingham A, Brodersen A B, Brown W F, Dingwall M I, Giles W A, Harris J, Mason F P S, Mayson J H, McDonald L, Mitchell E F, Monck R W, Morris R W, Pople M L, Stevens A L, Strange M, Woodbury A, Woodbury A J.



Barangaroo and the Eora Fisherwomen continued from page 8

Yet Bennelong's group did come in to Sydney at the end of 1790. Governor Phillip and the officers were relieved and delighted – though they remained wary and a bit scared of Barangaroo.

Barangaroo had a baby girl in 1791. Bennelong pressured her to give birth at government house – the child would then belong to this new country, Sydney. But Barangaroo refused. She gave birth alone, somewhere in the bush on the edge of the town. **David Collins** came quietly to see her afterwards and was astonished to see her 'walking about alone, picking up sticks to mend her fire', the tiny red-dish infant lying on soft bark on the ground.

But she did not live long after the birth. The officers were silent on why she died. She was cremated, with her fishing gear beside her, in a small ceremony. Bennelong buried her ashes carefully in the garden of Government House.

Aboriginal women continued fishing the waters of Sydney Harbour at least until the late 1820s. Forty years after the First Fleet arrived, you could still see their canoes skimming the waves, little plumes of smoke rising from the onboard fires.

We celebrate our harbours and coastlines in poetry, prose and art, in sculptures by the sea. But where in Sydney Harbour, our paradise of waters, are the great Eora fisherwomen remembered?

For author's references please contact editor.