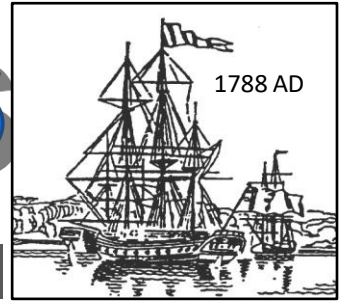


Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

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PATRON: Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO



Volume 48, Issue 3

49th Year of Publication

June/July 2017

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

HERITAGE LISTING of the LUCAS WATERMILLS

John Lucas's Watermill archaeological site at Woronora in Sydney's Sutherland Shire is being considered for NSW state heritage listing. The local Council is supporting the proposal by what was then known as the Office of the Environment and Heritage.

The Watermill was one of two set up in the area by early settler **John Lucas**, the son of First Fleeter **Nathaniel** and his wife **Olivia**. The first was the Brisbane Mill, constructed in 1822 and located on Williams Creek in Holsworthy. The Woronora Mill, pictured below, was constructed in 1825, and is located on the riverbed of the Woronora River, just downstream from *The Needles*. The site is under control of the council.

A Sutherland Shire Council report says the Lucas Mills are of heritage significance as two of the earliest and substantial watermills sites in NSW.

'They were constructed by convict labour and demonstrate the difficulties of food production and processing, converting grain into flour in the early colony,' according to the report. 'The two sites are a statement of early colonial entrepreneurial pursuits and the industrial development of the colony.'

The Office of the Environment and Heritage is seeking Council's feedback on the proposed heritage listing.

The Heritage Council were to review and recommend its listing late last year, a listing that includes associated infrastructure such as dams, flour processing machinery and accommodation.

The Woronora Mill is located on the Woronora River in a steep valley and rocky, open woodland between Barden Ridge and Engadine and can be accessed by foot on a fire trail upstream at the Pass of Sabugal.

Fires and floods have removed most of the mill but remains include cuts in the bedrock made with rock picks, holes drilled into the rock, remnant cement that outlines the dam and foundations of a rough stone structure.

Submissions on the proposed heritage listing closed on November 14, so we await further news.

An interesting Dictionary of Sydney article outlines recent investigations into the maritime cultural landscape linking the two Georges River mills beginning with the fact that the area had long been an important focal point for Aboriginal life and culture and a meeting place for several language groups.

(to page 3)



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**Anniversary -
help needed.
Page 2.**

FOUNDERS

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CONTENTS

1. Heritage for the Lucas Watermills
2. Directors; President's Pen; St Matthews Windsor
3. Watermills continued, From the Archives, Chapter Secretaries
- 4.-5 John Small and Mary Parker
- 6-7. Owen Cavanaugh and Margaret Darnell, Part 3; Three Generations
8. Chapter Visit to Vaucluse House; Membership via DNA?
9. John Small and Mary Parker (continued); Family History Diploma
10. A Guided Walk around Sydney Cove
11. Chapters in Action
12. New Members; Deaths; At the Helm; Message Board; Hobart Muster

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Jon Fearon



I trust by now you will have taken note that 2018 will be our year of **50th Anniversary Celebrations**.

Our main event, will be the Anniversary Luncheon, on 10 March at the Australian National Maritime Museum, along with some museum specials on the day. However there could be other ideas out there that you might like the Board to include in the year's activities.

If you are eager to give input and practical assistance for the luncheon or any other event we would be happy to hear from you. Contact me by phone or email with your ideas and/or availability to plan and serve.

I understand **Darling Harbour** will be abuzz with family historians on that very March weekend. The Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) will host the 12th Triennial Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry at the almost adjoining new International Convention Centre over four days from 9- 12 March so our main event will be nicely bookended.

St Matthews Anglican Church, Windsor Bicentenary Celebrations

In October 2017, **St Matthews Anglican Church, Windsor**, will be celebrating the bicentenary of the laying of the foundation stone by Governor Lachlan Macquarie on 11 October 1817.

St Matthews and its associated graveyard are historically significant to the state of NSW and to the Hawkesbury area. The church has been the centre of spiritual life in the district since it was consecrated by the Reverend Samuel Marsden in 1822, with many families marking marriages, baptisms and deaths over several generations.

The cemetery at St Matthews has been in use since former convict, later appointed Chief Constable and magistrate, Andrew Thompson, was buried there in 1810. Thirty-one First Fleeters are listed as having been buried in the graveyard, thirteen of whose headstones or memorial stones are marked with Fellowship of First Fleeters and/or family plaques. Members will no doubt be familiar with the following memorials:

ARNDELL, Thomas; ARNDELL, Elizabeth Burley; BARNETT, Daniel; BLADDY, Ann Green; CROSS, John; CUSLEY, Benjamin; FORRESTER, Robert; HOLMES, Susannah Kable; KABLE, Henry; MERRITT, John; MILES Edward; PUGH, Edward; and ROBERTS, William

During the lead up to the bicentenary, family societies and descendants of those who have current or former connections with the church are invited to celebrate their association with St Matthews by holding reunions, commemorative services or family get – togethers at the Church. Interested individuals, family groups or associations are invited to join the mailing list to be kept informed of events leading up to the bicentenary.

A commemorative service will be held on Sunday 8 October 2017. A community and schools service will be held on Wednesday 11 October 2017. Several concerts will also be held in the church, as well as open days for the whole of the church precinct ie, church, graveyard, stables and rectory.

Email stmatthewsbicentenary@windsoranglican.asn.au for updates.

(from page 1) Until 1832 there was no customs presence in Botany Bay. By operating his mills in the Georges River, Lucas avoided duty on all incoming wheat which was only collected at Port Jackson To avoid paying duty on the flour he produced, Lucas shipped his flour in small boats to Liverpool then used land transport to the markets in Sydney.

The market was unpredictable and susceptible to poor weather and wide variations in wheat prices. A succession of droughts dominated NSW in the 1820s and with wheat crops failing authorities had to bring in wheat from South America and India.

For some time prior to this import phase John Lucas had been able to bring in supplies from the Five Islands (Wollongong), a source much closer to his mills than the Sydney market, thus giving him an economic advantage over millers operating in Sydney.

Historian **Pauline Curby** (see Sutherland Shire Historical Society Bulletin 7/2), has suggested that due to the remote location of the Woronora Mill Lucas may have also been engaged in the production of illicit alcohol for the thirsty

settlers at Five Islands. Lucas owned the *Black Swan* inn in George Street Sydney at the time.

Another source of imported wheat was Van Diemen's Land via Port Dalrymple (Launceston) In some years half the islands crop went to Sydney and the wider Lucas family who were early VDL settlers had been heavily involved in the grain trade using the family schooner *Olivia*

In 2013 a team of researchers completed a successful voyage between the Woronora and Brisbane mills in a sail and oar driven craft to better understand the difficulties and time taken of river voyages between John Lucas' mills. The journey was completed in four stages, using a six metre craft similar to those used in the 1820s. The journey was made by working the tides and aided by oar and sail power, the methods most commonly used for moving small working craft in the nineteenth century.

The team concluded that further archaeological research and investigations at the mill sites may shed light on the operation of the mills and the transportation patterns of the people who lived and worked there. **WJF**

FROM THE NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES

(Volume 3, Number 1, March 1972.)

Forthcoming Functions

Argyle Celebrations: The Rocks, Saturday 15/4/72. The Fellowship will hold its annual stall to aid local charities. It will be situated on the George Street side of the Observatory steps, close by the Garrison Church. The tent will be manned from 10am, and we hope we shall see many members with cakes, biscuits, jams etc for sale on the day. Of course not only do the charities benefit but so also does the Fellowship. Added to this it is great public relations for us to be a part of this well established day. We have a place in the procession and those adventurous enough to wear period costume are welcome to join in.

Annual Conference - Port Macquarie: Sat/Sun 22-23/4/72. Arrangements are well in hand for the Conference and our local committee headed by Mrs Carita Naylor, 18 Hilltop Crescent, Port Macquarie, has obtained the RSL Auditorium for our meeting scheduled for 4pm on Saturday 22nd. Although we were unable to obtain sufficient numbers to fill a bus to travel to Port, many members are going privately by car and others who would like to go by private transport are very welcome. Please advise Vince Parker, 648.1072, who will arrange accommodation for you. Please do not leave it too long though as accommodation is becoming short I believe. Should members intend travelling to Port Macquarie on the Saturday please note that the main party

will be stopping for lunch at the Tucker Wagon Restaurant at Moorlands. You could well pick it up there.

Theatre Party: Music Hall Restaurant Neutral Bay: Thursday 18/5/72. A party has been arranged and those who went last year will remember how enjoyable it was. Approximate cost will be \$4.50 per head. More details later.

Picnic - Chinaman's Beach: Queens Birthday Holiday Monday. Our annual Queen's Birthday holiday picnic will again be held at Chinaman's Beach. This will probably be 12/6/72. Barbecues are allowed. More details later.

Annual Supper Dance: 18/8/72. Arrangements are in hand for our Annual Supper Dance in August. More details later.

Editor's Note. They were a busy lot in those days and it would appear that the Fellowship's Fleet (Social) Committee organised events in the same way as chapters do today.

The next newsletter in June of that year reported that over 150 attended the Port Macquarie Conference. the Argyle Day was a financial success (Mr D Jurd won the dressed doll) but the picnic attendance was disappointing for such a beautiful day. Sadly the Theatre Party was cancelled through lack of support, and the Supper Dance was called off due to the 'lack of strength' within the social committee.

CHAPTER SECRETARIES

ALBURY-WODONGA DIST.

Mary Chalmers-Borella
02 6025 3283

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Jane Ann Tainsh 02 9488 5453

CANBERRA

Brian Mattick 02 6231 8880

CENTRAL COAST

Jon Fearon 02 4311 6254

DERWENT

Marilla Lowe 03 6243 7726

EASTERN FARMS

Jennifer Follers 02 9799 1161

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN

William Hempel 0410 950 101

HUNTER VALLEY

Kerry Neinert 02 4961 5083

LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Judy Dwyer 02 6365 8234

MID NORTH COAST

Heather Bath 0458 572 644

MORETON

Gloria Wallace 07 3371 2551

NORTH COAST

Christine Ingram 0431 406 312

NORTHERN RIVERS

Margaret Soward 02 6686 3597

NORTH WEST

Diana Harband 02 6765 2122

SOUTH COAST

Kevin McGregor 02 4271 3762

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Wendy Selman 02 4862 4849

SWAN RIVER

Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630

JOHN SMALL AND MARY PARKER - PIONEERS OF RYDE

The information I, **Judith Newell**, have on John and Mary is scattered between painstaking research by others, books, printouts and scraps of information so I decided to pull it together and write a very simple short story about their lives. I realise that I may be preaching to the converted but hope you will enjoy it.

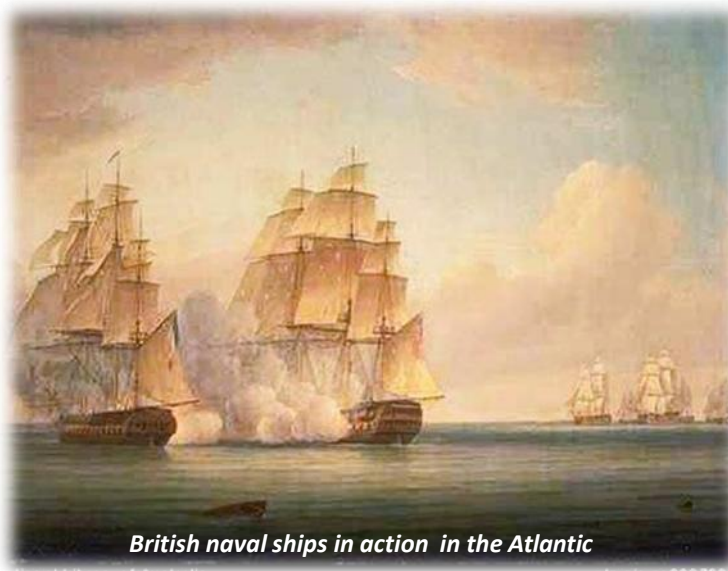
John Small, born 1761 and a bit maker from Birmingham, at aged 19 joined the Plymouth Marine Corps. His description was 'dark brown hair, five feet six inches tall, fair complexioned and with hazel eyes'. He embarked on *HMS Lively* sailing between New York and England with dispatches for the Admiralty. *Lively* lived up to her name and John travelled continually between England, New York, West Indies and the Caribbean sharing many adventures and mishaps during those travels with the most disastrous being the loss of the *Lively* when American prisoners held on board were able to take her over. As a result John finished up as a prisoner for at least four months in Havana Cuba but was exchanged for Spanish prisoners after peace was signed in 1783. He was discharged aged 22 years with 9 Pounds 16 shillings and 7 pence after quite an adventurous three years.

Now aged 24 - and like very many discharged marines unable to get work and running out of their severance pay - John turned to crime and was convicted with **Stephen Davenport, Robert Ellwood and John Herbert**. The offence was 'feloniously assaulting **James Burt** in the King's Highway, feloniously putting him in corporal fear and danger of his life and feloniously and violently taking from his person and against his will, one metal watch and tortoise shell case value 30 shillings, one pruning knife value 6 pence and five shillings his goods'. In other words Highway Robbery - a hanging offence. One of the offenders did actually hang, one set free and the other two transported. Royal Mercy was extended to John Small on condition of transportation for seven years possibly because of his services in the Royal Marines. He spent two years on the prison hulk *Dunkirk* before going aboard the *Charlotte* bound for NSW.

On arrival he was employed in the laboratory tent at Port Jackson with **Thomas Chadwick** and **Joshua Peck**. When Chadwick reported that the wine for the sick was getting low, **Surgeon White** had them refilled only to be woken at midnight by the sound of someone being violently ill out-

side his tent. Peck was found 'very much in liquor and unable to stand', Chadwick 'staggering with intoxication' and John Small in a 'state of beastly drunkenness and unable to speak'. **Dr Balmain** eventually found that 'someone' had put a kettle under a hole in the wine cask. At the trial John claimed he had been prevailed upon by the others to drink - well, of course! The authorities found it difficult to establish the facts of the case as each of the accused claimed innocence and as none of the accused had been in any trouble on the way out the verdict was 'acquitted, all and each of them'. However they were removed from the laboratory and employed in construction of a redoubt on the east side of Sydney Cove.

There are no records of how John Small met **Mary Parker** but this is her story. Mary was 27 and a Londoner when she was accused of stealing from her employer, who ran a laundry, two tablecloths valued at 5 shillings. She was held in New Prison Clerkenwell for 6 months before her trial and then sentenced to a further 6 months confinement. During this time she was employed as a prison nurse. On her release, and within a few weeks, Mary stole again from the same employer. This time she was in earnest and stole goods to the value of 112 shillings and 6 pence and was convicted of stealing but not of burglary. By comparison, John Small and his accomplices had to share a booty of only 35 shillings and 6 pence so Mary was in another class. She spent eight months in Newgate Prison, once again caring for the ill and



British naval ships in action in the Atlantic

dying, before embarking on the *Lady Penrhyn* to begin her seven years imprisonment.

With her good record on board and nursing experience it is possible that Mary was placed in the hospital at Port Jackson which could have been near to the laboratory tent where John Small was. The other strong possibility is that she was a servant at Government House. The 1788 Victualling List does not contain her name which could be an error, or a case of mistaken identity, or that she was employed at Government House and not recorded on the list because of this employment.

Mary and John were married on 12 October 1788 by **Chaplain Richard Johnson** probably under the 'great tree', the first place of worship for some time. The tree was located at what is now called Richard Johnson Square, at the corner of Hunter and Bligh Streets.

Their first two children were born in Sydney where they lived until at least 1791 and then probably in a hut in Parramatta for three years before John's grant at Eastern Farms in 1794. John was now 33 and Mary 36. His grant was part of the second series of land grants at Eastern Farms at an annual Quit Rent of one shilling after the expiration of ten years and that any timber growing on or to grow hereafter was reserved for the Crown for Naval purposes. The present Devlin Street leading to the Ryde Bridge would run right through his 30 acre grant.

Like many others, John faced a formidable task. He had probably been supplied with a tent and a few primitive farming implements of rather doubtful quality. The couple at this stage had no sons and two small daughters. I can't help mentioning here that Mary (as well as many other mothers) carried and bore their children during a time of a serious shortage of rations and in fact starvation. Her first two children, **Rebecca** and **Mary**, despite being born during these hard times lived to the ages of 94 and 88 years respectively. Five of Mary's seven children lived into their late 80s and mid 90s - obviously a sturdy and resilient brood - and their subsequent large families mostly benefited from these genes and the healthy Australian climate. In fact the 1822 Bigge Report recorded that the currency children were seven inches taller than children of the same age in England.

John was apparently a reasonably successful farmer. In the 1802 muster he now had five children, ten of his 30 acres under wheat and maize and kept 10 goats; however the family was still being rationed from Government Stores. Four years later he had 7 acres under wheat, 10 under maize, one acre of orchard and garden and 12 acres in pasture. He also had sheep and hogs and wheat and maize in hand.

John was 45 in 1806 and in just twelve years his family now consisted of seven children and an assigned convict - none of whom was victualled by the Government. Mary had delivered twins in 1804 and a segment from the Sydney Gazette stated 'The good woman is as well as can possibly be hoped and must doubtless be considered an estimable treasure to her husband whom she happily complimented with the exact same number scarcely eleven months before'. The first set of twins obviously did not survive and the second set was the last children born to the family.

In 1809 and now aged 48 years, John was appointed a Constable later to be a District Constable. Three of his sons were now 14, 12 and 7 and an asset to the running of the farm with the assistance of an assigned convict. His

older daughters had married well to much older and established men and were no longer dependent on their father.

John applied for a second land grant when the farm was no longer capable of producing as it should. **Governor Patterson** granted him acreage in the present Fairfield area however **Lachlan Macquarie**, when he became Governor, called in all grants by Patterson who apparently mismanaged their administration. John reapplied with a letter to Governor Macquarie stating that he had been in the colony upwards of twenty years, had a large family which he had supported by extreme industry and that his current land was nearly exhausted by constant tillage. He did eventually receive a second grant at Fairfield two years later but it is not known if John actually ever occupied this second grant. There is, however, a document dated ten years later transferring the land to another.

John's appointment as District Constable came with quite a few responsibilities and claimed a lot of his time and energy. As a result, the farm suffered from this as well as being over cultivated. He now received payment for his services from the military purse and also some rations and clothing.

The 1814 muster (John was now 53 and Mary 56) showed that John, Mary

and the twins were on stores. By 1820 all the Small children were married with the exception of 16 year old **Samuel**. Their son **Thomas Small** had married **Priscilla Devlin** and he continued to cultivate the farm possibly on some form of leasing arrangement. **James Devlin** (Thomas Small's stepson) subsequently acquired the land from Thomas through a family re-arrangement of property in 1828. James Devlin starting building *Ryde House* (later to be named *Willandra*) in 1841 from the proceeds of the sale of town lots that were part of the original land grant.

Tragedy struck the family in 1824 when Mary died by drowning in the property's deep well. Her sons, **John** and **William**, went to collect water from the well and found two shoes and a woman's cap floating on the surface which they feared were their mother's. After frantic unsuccessful searching of the property a long pole was used to investigate the contents of the well. Mary was brought to the surface but sadly she was lifeless. Because there were no witnesses there was an inquest which concluded that Mary 'accidentally, casually and by misfortune came to her death and not otherwise'. Her son William's statement at the inquest said that his mother had at times appeared childish but he had supposed it to be infirmity of old age and that his parents were 'as sociable yesterday as ever' - a statement I found quite touching.

(to page 9)



Richard Johnson Square, Sydney

OWEN CAVANOUGH AND MARGARET DARNELL - Part 3

It would seem that Owen later resided at Cattai (Caddai) as a transfer of land was made to **Elizabeth Giles** of 'all that farm & premises situate at Cadi together with the crops now growing and also all stock on said farm. Consideration £80'. This transfer was dated 1 September 1810 and refers to Owen as 'of Cadi'. In just three months time land settlement was to be regulated after a tour of the area by **Governor Macquarie**.

On December 6, 1810, Governor Lachlan Macquarie named five new towns - the Macquarie Towns of Windsor, Richmond, Castlereagh, Pitt Town, and Wilberforce. In a Government and General Order of 15 December 1810, the sites were formally designated. The Acting Surveyor marked out allotments so that settlers could commence 'with the least possible delay the business of erecting houses and removing thither'. Dwellings were to be of brick or weatherboard, to have brick chimneys and shingled roof. No abode was to be less than 3 metres high. A dwelling plan was to be lodged with the watch district constable.

Writing to Macquarie, Owen sought a land grant for his step-son **Charles Green**.

Owen and other members of the Ebenezer congregation formed the Windsor Charitable Institution in 1819 to assist each other in times of drought, flood and plague. In 1820 Owen sold his grant of land at Portland Head. This area, named for the Duke of Portland as a high rock bluff was said to resemble his head. It was renamed Ebenezer in 1887. **Grace Turnbull** was again with child. Baby Ann was delivered on 1 December 1820 and was to be Grace's last.

The 1822 census lists Owen and Margaret's sons **Owen Jnr** (22), **Richard** (20), **John** (18) and **George** (15) as landholders and farmers at Windsor each in their own right. Owen has 13 acres of wheat, 10 of maize, one of barley and half an acre of potatoes sown. Half an acre is given over to a garden and orchard. Twenty five of Owen's 80 acres are cleared and planted. Forty five hogs grunt in their sty. Seventy bushels of maize is held to guard against the ever-present threat of starvation should the crops fail or be inundated.

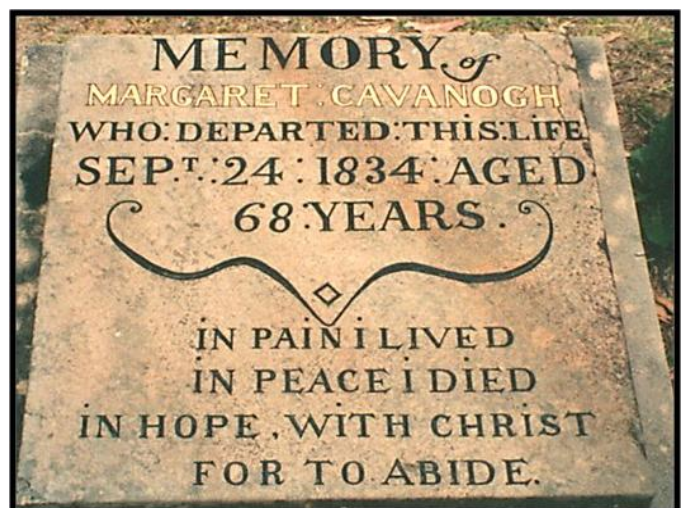
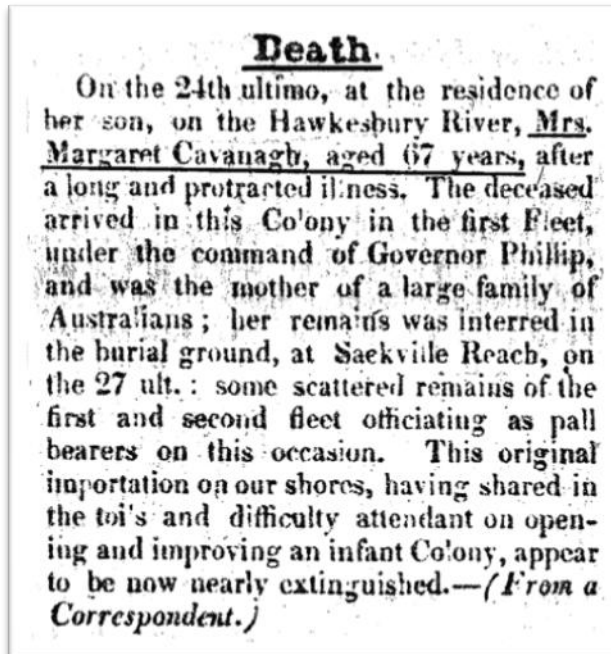
On the 17th of November 1824 Owen and Margaret celebrated the marriage of Owen Jnr to **Cecilia Collins**. The nuptials took place in St Matthew's Church of England at Windsor. Celia, as she was known, was the daughter of **Thomas Collins** and **Elizabeth Huxley**, being born on 6

April 1810 at Lower Portland Head. Celia's grandfather, **Thomas Huxley**, was also a First Fleeter farming at Flat Rock Reach, just beyond Paradise Point, downriver towards Wiseman's Ferry.

Margaret proved to be a good mother to all of her children; she died on Wednesday 24 September 1834, one month short of her 68th birthday and was buried at St. Thomas' Anglican burial ground at Sackville Reach on Saturday 27 September with the Rev. Matthew D Meares M.A. officiating. Owen and Margaret were about six weeks short of celebrating their 43rd wedding anniversary. Margaret had outlived three children; Owen (1792-1794), Grace (1794-1828) and possibly Elizabeth (1797-? 1828) who is rumoured to have died in India.

At present it is unknown if Margaret's eldest son Charles Green was still living or his whereabouts. Margaret had cradled 14 grandchildren: Mary Ann, Ralph, John, Elizabeth and Ann Turnbull (Grace and Ralph's children); James, Margaret and Matilda Cavanough (Owen and Celia's children); Richard, Grace and William Cavanough (Richard and Ann's children); Elizabeth, Sophia and George Cavanough (James and Esther's family). The peaceful sleeping face of a great-granddaughter in Elizabeth Dunstan had also been gazed on before life's end.

Although Margaret had passed from this life her spirit lived on as new members continued to be added to the family. Owen and Celia had another child on the way. When daughter number three was born on 21 December

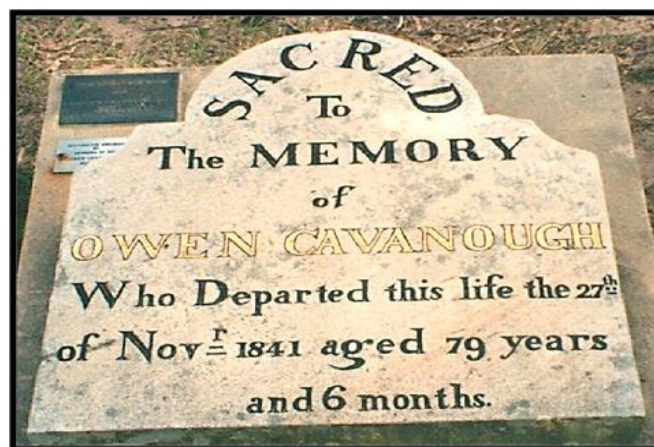




Original footer for Owen's grave in Sackville Reach

At the age of 79 years, the amazing life of Owen Cavanough came to a tragic end on the evening of Saturday 27 November 1841, when at dusk he went to pick some tobacco leaf for two of his sons, Richard and James, to use in their recently developed tanning business. The tobacco leaf was growing in a stream off Wheeny Creek which ran past Owen's property. The mighty Hawkesbury, Colo and Little Wheeny were all still in flood that year [1841] and it appears Owen, who was still quite an active man despite suffering some disability and aided by a walking stick, may have fallen in and was accidentally drowned. Thus ended one very interesting life.

An inquest was held into Owen's death in Windsor on 26 November 1841 with a verdict of accidental death handed down by the Coroner. Although a former seaman, it is unknown whether Owen could swim or not and in view of his age and disability he probably did not have enough strength to do so.



Owen was buried in the Wesleyan Churchyard at Sackville Reach. Owen and Margaret's headstones were later re-sited at Ebenezer Presbyterian (Uniting) Church, in Coromandel Road in Section 3 MA, Row 3, No2.

The little cemetery on the quiet river bank did not lapse into obscurity after Margaret and Owen's deaths. Family members continued to add to the number of early settlers interred there. Despite the absence of a church proper the congregation remained strong, eventually saving sufficient funds to build a strong stone church on a new site where the foundation stone was laid in January 1870

Note: (i) *The three-part article, now concluded above, has been edited for Founders from the 2013 second edition of 'Owen Cavanough & Margaret Dowling, First Fleet Settlers of Norfolk Island and the Hawkesbury.' The new edition was published by the Owen Cavanough Historical Society from the original text by author Peter M Pitts with compilation and editing by Sandra J Woods and has been contributed to Founders and the Fellowship website by members #7262 Alan and Sandra Woods.*

(ii) *Full references available from the book itself and also from the Owen Cavanough Historical Society.*

A THREE GENERATION MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATED

Central Coast Chapter has a tradition of presenting new members with their certificates when they attend their first chapter meeting. The new year in their new venue at Point Clare had the added bonus of having three generations of the one family there to have the honour bestowed.

Chapter President **Ken Morley** was pleased and privileged to present new member certificates to #8703 **Leanne Griffiths**, daughter, and #8704 **Lauren Griffiths**, granddaughter of #7123 **Wendy Condon** at the February meeting. The trio descend from First Fleeter **Joseph Wright**.

Along with certificates came the added benefit for all three to re-

ceive their pack of amazing historical images of Macquarie St, Sydney. This is the bonus special offer for introducing a new member to the Fellowship with the recruiter and new members all receiving this unique gift!



Arthur Hall produced this package as a printer but also as a historian especially for the period he was conducting history walks along Sydney's Macquarie Street.

Who are you going to encourage to join the Fellowship?

Pictured, from left, Leanne Griffiths, Lauren Griffiths and Wendy Condon, after receiving their gift packs.

CHAPTER VISIT TO VAUCLUSE HOUSE

President Gillian Doyle recounts the Arthur Phillip Chapter's 3rd March Visit.

Vaucluse House is one of Sydney's few 19th-century mansions that is still surrounded by its original gardens, on our visit looking well-kept and very lush after recent rain. It is in Gothic Revival style in the harbourside suburb of Vaucluse, which takes its name from the house.

When colonial explorer, barrister and politician **William Charles Wentworth** bought the house in 1827, it was a single-storey cottage in a secluded valley of partly cleared coastal scrub. Over the next

five decades, William and his wife **Sarah** developed Vaucluse into a large and picturesque estate, reflecting Charles's standing in the colony and as a person who had been introduced to Queen Victoria during a visit to London.

Our group boarded our coach at Bert Oldfield Park, East Killara, for a 9.00am departure for the drive to Vaucluse

House (via Kings Cross unintentionally!). We were met by two excellent guides, Liane commencing with a comprehensive outline of **Darcy Wentworth's** life of crime before leaving for the colonies, descriptions of William Charles Wentworth's life and that of his family. The tour was extensive and many of us commented on how much the house's presentation has improved since earlier visits; interactive displays were in the process of being installed.

We all agreed that it was a worthwhile and most informative visit.

On re-boarding the coach, we continued with a drive-by of Macquarie Lighthouse, with **Sally Kalina** giving us a

potted history of the peninsula. A heavy rain shower prevented our group from walking around this historic lighthouse - imperative to early shipping - so we continued on our way through the side streets of the Eastern Suburbs, with more commentary from Sally, before returning to where our cars were parked.

A most enjoyable day was had by all!

GD



Main, above, group photo, courtesy John Blair

At left, two pictures courtesy of Vaucluse House website:

(i) Western facade.
(ii) Interior.

FELLOWSHIP MEMBERSHIP VIA DNA?

The Board of Directors recently received an interesting note from the Membership Committee,. A would-be member submitted a request stating that he or she had had DNA done and this proved a definite link to a First Fleeter.

Directors were amazed to think that some clever Sydney settler of the late 18th Century had had the brilliant knowledge and foresight to identify and record for posterity the DNA of a fellow First Fleeter!

Well it seems that the link has been picked up through descent from a common ancestor listed on a FF family tree. The prospective member discovered that he shared DNA with a current member, both of whom had an identified First Fleeter in their tree.

Great forensics perhaps, just as those detectives do in your favourite crime show, but at the current stage of DNA science, **we still need the customary paper trail.**

(continued from page 5) Mary was 66 at the time of her death and was said to have been buried on the family property there being no churchyard for her to be buried in and no resident chaplain in the district. A grave was discovered 112 years after Mary's death by the Main Roads Department during road improvements in Devlin Street. It was believed to be Mary's grave and the remains were re-interred at the Field of Mars and a memorial tablet erected by her descendants in 1979.

Very soon after Mary's death John, now 64, retired from his position after 17 years' service and received a pension of two pounds two shillings and sixpence per annum with an extra 6d for each leap year. John probably lived with his son Samuel for a time and then later with son William who settled on a property in Bridge Street, Ryde called *Williamsdale* still accessed via Smalls Road. The family home of that name still stands in very much its original condition occupied by **Alan Small** with three other Smalls living on adjoining properties.

John died at Kissing Point aged almost 89 years and was buried in St Anne's Church, Ryde. His remains are still there but his tombstone was rescued and moved to the Field of Mars, thanks to **Doug Small**. The family then installed a vandal-proof headstone on John's grave at St

Anne's as well as for son William and his wife **Charlotte Melville**. It has been recorded that of all the convicts who landed at Sydney Cove on 26 January 1788, he was one of the last known survivors.

John and Mary's children mostly married into local families, to the children of both free settlers and convicts and also into some families much higher in the social structure of the day. As well as Smalls Road many of the streets in

Ryde bear the names of families into which the Smalls married.

John lived to see all but two of his 74 grandchildren born and would have been proud if he had known that in 1888 'every third person you meet between Gladesville and Ryde is named 'Small', the family being real 'sons of the soil' and dearly loving the birthplace of their forefathers'.

John and Mary were not entrepreneurs,

wealthy land holders, explorers or prominent citizens but they were well respected in the area and some of their descendants have been very prominent and well known in Australia and overseas. At the last count there are now over 25,000 of us recorded and I'm very glad to be one of them.

#7599 Judith Newell

References: p viii, The Small Family in Australia 1788-1988, pub, John & Mary Small Descendants Association Inc, 1988.



Small Family graves at Field of Mars Cemetery

University of Tasmania ~ Diploma of Family History - Course Review

After researching family history for forty years, I thought that I had a good knowledge and ability in this area. I have been pleasantly surprised by the extent of the topics covered by this course. It covers the basic areas of research, which is excellent for beginners while covering new areas of research. The strength of the course, I believe, is in the coverage of how to present research findings and making research available to other family members and interested parties.

This course, offered by the **University of Tasmania**, is an excellent course for anyone interested in family. It is not an 'academic' course requiring extensive studies and exams, but is more an 'interest' course where all one must do is complete the quizzes and submit a few essays to pass each subject. Newcomers to family history research will learn much, however, and experienced researchers will also learn much as well.

The study time required is not onerous, usually two or three hours each week for each subject. At one stage I was doing three subjects at one time and this was not difficult. Being totally on-line one can set one's own pace. Subjects usually run for six to eight weeks with new modules becoming available usually at 10am on Sunday. The course notes and lectures are very thorough with readings to provide more information and insights into the subject being addressed. Each subject has several discussion forums in which students can participate if so inclined. For students enrolled in the course, Ancestry is available for free. University support is excellent throughout.

In summary, an excellent course for family history researchers both new and old. If you have been doing family history research for years and think there is nothing more for you to learn, then this is the course for you. There is always more to learn.

#5219.1 Don Cornford

A GUIDED WALK AROUND SYDNEY COVE

On Monday morning 23 January 2017, **Rowan and Mary Chalmers-Borella** along with **Denis and Jeannette Adams** enjoyed a very informative guided walk by Jon and Karys Fearon around Sydney Cove and The Rocks area.

The Chalmers- Borellas and the Adamases had travelled to Sydney via the XPT on Friday the 20th to attend the annual First Fleet Australia Day Luncheon that was held on Saturday 21 January 2017. Other members of the Albury Wodonga District Chapter also attended the luncheon but were unable to stay for our walk.

Jon and Karys had kindly offered to show us around some of the interesting places that had links to our early settlers, so on the Monday we met them at Circular Quay at 10am for our much anticipated walk. Jon arrived armed with maps and books. One of his books contained old photographs of many of the early buildings and street scenes in and around Sydney Cove.

We walked to Loftus Street where we found the **Bonds of Friendship** memorial sculpture in the Jessie Street Gardens. This memorial commemorates the voyage and arrival in Sydney of the First Fleet. It consists of two large bronze rings joined together as in a chain. We were told that the plinth of the memorial had been donated by the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Also in Loftus Street is a sandstone plinth with a **flagpole** that commemorates the location where it is thought by some that the first ceremony of the saluting of the English flag by Captain Arthur Phillip and his company took place marking the foundation of Australia following the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788.

We walked along lower George Street to The Rocks area

the site where the first party stepped ashore to raise the flag in 1788.

Behind Lower George Street is **Kendall Lane** which leads to the back of The Rocks Discovery Museum. On a building along the lane is a handsome mural featuring a timeline



Rowan Chalmers-Borella

Jeannette Adams

of images from this historic precinct of Sydney, from the period prior to European Settlement right up to the present day. Seating in a small courtyard allows for contemplative viewing.

The walk continued on until we reached **First Fleet Park** and Circular Quay. The Fellowship has a commemorative plaque at the steps leading down into the park and there is an impressive historic round map monument set in the pathway at the south-eastern corner.

Along the eastern side of the Quay we followed the paving-markers showing the **original 1788 shoreline**. Jon and Karys then directed us into Customs House, where part of the entrance floor is transparent to reveal a spectacular scale model of 10 square kilometres of downtown Sydney.

Sydney's **Customs House** is an historical landmark and was first constructed between 1844 and 1845. Additions and alterations have occurred over the years. The Australian Customs Department occupied this beautiful

Georgian-style building from 1845 to 1990.

Our two-hour tour ended with lunch together at the food hall in the adjoining AMP building.

MC-B



Albury-Wodonga Chapter District members meet Patron and President

via the **Bethel Steps**. The Bethel Steps have historical significance, as they are part of a site first developed in 1797, and their creation is a part of the history of the Dead House, Morgue and Coroners' Court site. Historians have recently acknowledged that the steps are located close to

Our Seventeen Chapters in Action

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

Venue: Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury, monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10:45 for 11am. **Next Meetings:** 17 June: Ruth Ellis, *Thumbnail*, Mayor Kevin Mack, Speaker. **Contact:** Mary Chalmers-Borella 6025 3283

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 June: John Lanser, *The Sinking of the Dunbar*; 21 July: AGM, Members' FF stories; 18 August: Hon Julian Leaser, *The Charge of the Light Horse Brigade*. **Next Events:** 10 August: 7th Anniversary lunch at Sydney Rowing Club, Abbotsford. **Contact:** Jane Ann Tainsh 94885453

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **No Meetings or Events** until mid year. The AGM will be held on 12th August at 2 pm at Unit 106 15 Coranderrk St Reid. **Contact:** Geoff Cameron 62514095

CENTRAL COAST – *From Lake Macquarie to Broken Bay, highlands to coast.*

Venue: Point Clare Community Hall – meet monthly, second Saturday at 10 am for 10.30. **Next Meetings:** 10 June: Graham Wilcox, *Federation of Australia*; 8 July: AGM and members' *Bring and Brag (Historic Item)*; 12 August: Patrick Dodd, *Treasures of the State Library*. **Next Events:** 19 June: Walking Tour of The Rocks; 18 August: Tour of Government House. **Contact:** Jon Fearon 43116254

DERWENT - *Southern Tasmania*

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, first Saturday at Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Sandy Bay. **Next Meetings:** 3 June: Ros Escott *DNA in Family History*; 5 August: Brian Rieusset, *Hobart Penitentiary*. **Next Event:** 29 July: Christmas in July Dinner, at Rydges. **Contact:** Marilla Lowe 0362437726 or Judith Wood on 0404807338

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 June: Graham Wilcox, *Federation of Australia*. **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 Meeting:** 10 June: Linda Emery, *Who do you think you are?* 8 July: Kerima Gae Topp, *TBA*; 12 August: AGM Judith Dunn, *Convict Women and their Crimes*. **Contact:** William Hempel 0410950101

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 August: John Shortland, *My First Fleeter's links to Newcastle*. **Next Event:** 19 June: 10th Birthday Celebration Lunch, from 11 am, including a Blast from the Past. **Contact:** Kerry Neinert 49615083

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

Venue: Usually Kinross-Wolaroi Library, Orange; quarterly. **Next Meeting:** **Contact:** Judy Dwyer 63658234 or 0428 173213 or dyr.tara@bigpond.com

Editor's Note: Congratulations, Judy, on your winning Tewkesbury Historical Society's prestigious 2017 Woodard Award for research writing. This is the first time this award has ever been won by an overseas researcher. Judy's two stories were about a convict ancestor of hers who hailed from Tewkesbury, one Richard Staite, Highwayman.

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:** . **Contact:** Heather Bath 0458 572 644

MORETON – *South East Queensland.*

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on an available 2nd Saturday. **Next Meetings:** 10 June: Darcy Maddox, *Toowong Cemetery Headstones*. **Next Event:** In July (date TBC): Visit to Toowong Cemetery. **Contact:** Gloria Wallace 07 3371 2551

NORTH COAST – *Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Maclean*

Venue: Either at Mylestom Hall or at members' homes, Bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 4 June at Margaret and Joe Bass's home at Nana Glen. **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 66533615

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Lismore and surrounds.*

Venue: Alstonville Bowling Club - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meeting:** 23 July: AGM. **Contact:** Margaret Soward 66863597

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** 5 August at Tamworth Family History Rooms, AGM, Harold McLean. *Ebenezer Church*. **Next Event:** 3 June: 10:30 visit to Moonbi Museum with lunch at Kootingal Hotel. **Contact:** Diana Harband 67652122

SOUTH COAST – *Engadine to Burrill Lake.*

Venue: Laurel Room, Ribbonwood Centre, 93-109 Princes Highway, Dapto – monthly except. Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm. **Next Meetings:** 3 June: Anne Mobbs, *Bundle, a local aboriginal*; 4 July: *Members with American Heritage or a Speaker on the War of Independence*; 1 August: John Boyd, *Topic TBA*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Kevin McGregor 42713762

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

Venue: Mittagong Community Centre – bi-monthly – second Wednesday at 10.30am \$5 Admission. **Next Meetings:** 14 June: Paul Brunton, *The Portraits of Captain Cook*. **Next Events:** **Contact:** Wendy Selman 48624849

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Venue: 256 Stirling St Perth, bi-monthly, first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meetings:** 3 June: TBA. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Toni Mahony 0892717630

Please note: Because we have been away we haven't been able to collect information from all chapters. Please contact the relevant secretaries for events and meetings in July and August. These are the months for chapter AGMs.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Closing date for this page for the next issue is 24 July 2017

Karys Fearon, Chapter Liaison Officer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Ordinary and Pensioner Members

EDWARD MILES

#8737 Belinda Jane Ojerholm
#8738 Nicola Jayne Piggott Ojerholm

JACOB BELLETTE

#8739 Diane Carol Cowburn

ROBERT WATSON

#8740 Merellyn May Peter

STEPHENS/MORRIS JOHN

#8741 Martin Phillip Boyd

ANN FORBES

#8744 Annette Norma Hepburn

#8745 Maree Ellen Hepburn

THOMAS CHIPP/JANE LANGLEY

#8746 Pauline Lillian Felsman

#8747 Kerrie Lee Felsman

#8748 Michelle Pauline Felsman

Ordinary and Pensioner Members continued

JACOB BELLETT/THOMAS KIDNER

#8749 Rodney James Clifford

JOHN ROWE

#8750 Sharon Schaeche

DAVID KILLPACK

#8751 Janice Leslie Jalland

PETER HIBBS

#8752 Christine Clift

Junior Members

STEPHENS/MORRIS JOHN

#8742 Lili Lennox Boyd

#8743 Finn Robert Boyd

Associate Members

#8585.1 Kelvin Boyd

Friends

#Friend180 Mary Bluett

#Friend181 Wendy Favell

DEATHS

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

#3198 Dallas Mooney of Karingal Gardens, Taree, New South Wales, died on 25.03.2017, aged 98. Dallas was a member of Mid North Coast Chapter and a faithful member of the Fellowship for almost 32 years.

WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES

#2295 Charles R Williams of Dunbogan, New South Wales, died on 01.03.2017, aged 97. Charles belonged to Mid North Coast Chapter and was a faithful member of the Fellowship for over 34 years.

JOHN NICHOLLS

#3657 Jean Elizabeth Kitchen of Yeronga Village, Queensland, died on 24.02.2017, aged 86. Jean was a member of Moreton Chapter. She had been a faithful member of the Fellowship for over 30 years.

MESSAGE BOARD

Attention Descendants of FF THOMAS KIDNER

#7854 Judith Wood, President of Derwent Chapter advises Kidner descendants that the death details of **Thomas Kidner**, the son of the First Fleeter have been located. The registration is RGD35/1/52 no 831 and is backed up in Trove with an article in the Mercury on 28 May 1883. He died on 27 May 1883 in the Sorell Municipality.

Calling all Members of the Australian National Maritime Museum

If you as a FFF member are also a current member of the ANMM, we understand you will be entitled to a small discount when attending events at the Museum. Director Sharon Lamb is compiling a list of such dual memberships. Let her know at slamb1950@gmail.com or by phone on 0279030771



Several members of the fellowship are descended from **six First Fleeters**. We are still wondering if there is anyone out there who can lay claim to more than six in their ancestry?



Members have asked for an update on the health of our former President **Peter Christian**. Peter has now had to go into more specialised care and is currently at Chesalon, Cheltenham. He is in good spirits but needs a wheelchair and walking frame to get about.



The Fellowship has been commended for the latest edition of our FFF war service **Nominal Roll**. Remember it is now on our website for you to download.

HOBART MUSTER - 2017 STYLE

#8380 Tony Williams, Muster Caller, writes:

After receiving the April/May issue of *Founders* I was immediately reminded of my oversight in not letting you know of the success of the **Goodwin-Munro Muster** held in Hobart 10-12 March 2017, which you kindly mentioned in the prior issue of *Founders*.

There were many highlights and much fun as those attending found connections of which they had no knowledge, from the 80+ in attendance.

At the Celebration Dinner on the Saturday evening, two questions were posed: first, 'should we do this again?' - cheers and applause in affirmation; secondly 'should we aim to do it on Norfolk Island?' - lusty cheers in affirmation, with a time in early 2019 to be selected.

Thank you, *Founders*, for helping us have an excellent family history event.

Sincerely,

Tony

Photo (Paul Gooding): Goodwin-Munro descendants.

