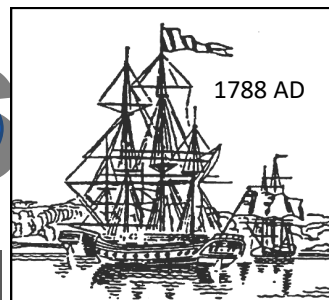


# Founders

Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

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Volume 53 Issue 2

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

## FIRST NATIONS AND FIRST FLEETERS ~ HOW GOOD IS THAT!

A perfect way to start a new chapter. A genuine Welcome to Country from the Kombumerri, the Salt Water People, warmly given by **Justine Dillon**, local teacher of Indigenous arts and culture. Justine is the granddaughter of an eminent Kombumerri Elder whose family links go back beyond the arrival of European settlers and their modern all-consuming infrastructure.

**Fellowship of First Fleeters Gold Coast Chapter**, the 21<sup>st</sup> to be inaugurated over the past 35 years, was officially launched on Wednesday afternoon 16 March 2022 by FFF President Jon Fearon in the Community Centre at Vantage Apartments, Benowa. Chapter Establishment Director, **Paul Gooding**, was unable to attend due to family commitments in South Australia. Not only did he send an apology, he rang at the close of the meeting with warm congratulations to the new team and wishing all well in the days ahead.

There were twelve local members in attendance and four visitors from Central Coast Chapter holidaying in the area. A quick survey of those present revealed descent from the following sixteen First Fleeters: Jacob Bellett, James Bryan Cullen, Ann Forbes, Robert Forrester, Andrew Goodwin, Henry Kable, Susannah Holmes, Edward Humphries, Lydia Munro, Elizabeth Pulley, Anthony Rope, Mary Parker, Mary Phillips, John Small, Thomas Spencer and William Tunks.

The meeting followed the usual format with a short address by President Jon, who was happy to hand over the meeting to the new President **#8163 Alison Anderson** once the election of the Committee had taken place. Into office came Vice President **#7007 Julie Webb**; Secretary **#9014 Geri Quilty**; Treasurer **#9017 Therese Thomp-**

**son**; Membership Officer **#8379 Julie Austin** and Committee Member **#9014.1 Russ Quilty**.

Also in attendance were #1379 and #1379.1 **Peter and Liz Bellette** who were thanked for their initial enthusiasm back in 2020 to get a new chapter under way and whose wishes were thwarted by the arrival of Covid-19 on our shores.

After Jon had congratulated the new officers President Alison was handed the new chapter scroll which was passed to all in attendance. She then presided over the

discussion as to the running of the chapter in the months and years ahead. It was decided to meet bimonthly on the third Saturday afternoon of the month with meetings probably timed for 3 pm. The next meeting was therefore tentatively set for 21 May, allowance thus being made to alternate the months so members could also attend Moreton Chapter's meetings if they so wished.

Justine Dillon, the new chapter's special guest made helpful suggestions as to a suitable venue for the

meetings and proposed that President Alison contact Ashmore Rotary Club with a request to use their meeting room at Ashmore Community Children's Centre – adjacent to the Men's Shed. Justine, a committee member of that club said she is looking forward to ongoing fellowship between the new chapter, the local Rotarians, the many schools in the area and her own indigenous community, the Kombumerri.

The wonderful start to the new chapter concluded with Justine's short presentations of local indigenous artifacts, books, the seeking of permission to use the recognised indigenous Kombumerri colours for a chapter banner and the taking of photographs. **[More Pictures on Page 3]**

Alison Anderson

Justine Dillon



## FOUNDERS

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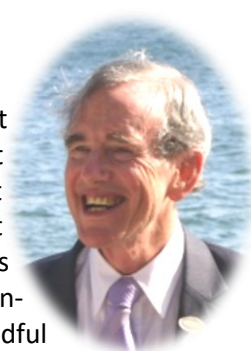
### Events/Plagues

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Psych

*Note: Other tasks are looked after by  
our team of faithful volunteers who are  
usually at First Fleet House on Mondays,  
Wednesdays and Thursdays.*



## PRESIDENT'S PEN



Our first fleet ancestors were indeed a resilient lot, making good when their world was not always a happy place. At the time nations were often at war, diseases were not always manageable and for most there was an ongoing struggle to keep ahead of the rigours of their new environment. May I suggest we in 2022 channel that resilience as we cope with the inexplicably dreadful situation in Ukraine, an ongoing pandemic and recurring flooding rains.

Do enjoy reading the five First Fleeter stories in this issue, one of them featuring **Lt Henry Lidgbird Ball**, newly in print and destined for our website.

The launch of the Gold Coast chapter was such a joyful occasion and a credit to the local planning team who worked to bring it about. Karys and I were privileged to be there to help it happen.

This issue we are delighted to feature a full-page Mail Bag from our members. *Founders* likes to hear from you. Too long for publication was the moving Welcome to Country given on Australia Day this year at Barangaroo by Sydney City Councillor **Yvonne Weldon**. Contact *Founders* if you would like a copy. **Jon**

## FROM THE JOURNALS

### DATA CLASS ACTION FILED AGAINST ANCESTRY

When you buy a genetic DNA test who owns your DNA data? What are they allowed to do with it? And what happens if the company is subsequently sold to a private equity firm? Many people have legitimate concerns about the privacy of their DNA data and a recently filed class action in the US state of Illinois could set a precedent for DNA data and genetic genealogy companies.

The class action, filed in October 2021, alleges that Ancestry has violated the Illinois Genetic Information Privacy Act (GIPA), by disclosing genetic information to an unauthorised third party, namely Blackstone Inc, the private equity firm that acquired Ancestry last year for US\$4.7 Billion.

The filing alleges that: Following Blackstone's acquisition of Ancestry.com, defendant disclosed on its website that plaintiff and the Class's genetic information would be released and/or disclosed to Blackstone for its use. However, defendant failed to identify any method by which plaintiff and the class could prevent such disclosure of their genetic information to Blackstone or any other party.

The principal plaintiff, a minor known only by the initials A.K., and his guardian used a DIY DNA test kit from Ancestry.com. AK, through his guardian, said he would not have provided genetic material if he knew it would be disclosed without his consent to third parties such as Blackstone. Lawyers are seeking an injunction requiring Ancestry.com to comply with GIPA, as well as an award of damages to the Class Members, together with costs and legal fees.

This action may go some way to clarifying the responsibilities of commercial DNA service providers in relation to how far privacy extends when one entity is sold to another. This is certainly one to watch

*(Kosher Koala, Journal of Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, March 2022)*

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## PHOTO GALLERY ~ GOLD COAST CHAPTER LAUNCH



**Pictured, clockwise, from top left:**

the two **Presidents**, Alison and Jon, with the new chapter scroll;

the **Committee** (from left): Julie Austin, Russ and Geri Quilty, Therese Thompson, Julie Webb and Alison Anderson;

the **gathering** in the Community Centre at Vantage Apartments, Benowa.

### FF THOMAS LUCAS *Marine 'Scarborough' (C1759-1815)*

Thomas Lucas enlisted as a private marine in the 23rd Portsmouth Company in 1786. He was a former glazier and he went to NSW on the *Scarborough*. He was noted during the voyage as leaving Marine John Easty's mess on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1788 and falling down a hatchway.

At Port Jackson in 1788 he served in the company of Captain John Shea (*Scarborough*) and also worked in the colony as a glazier. He was about 29 y/o.

On 29 December 1791, a son Thomas by Ann Howard (Convict- *Lady Juliana*), age given as 28 y/o in 1789 at embarkation, was born and baptised on 29 January 1792 in Sydney.

Ann Howard born in London in 1758 was indicted for stealing, on the 8th day of December 1787, one corded dimity petticoat, value 3 s. two muslin aprons, value 4 s. a child's laced cap, value 10 d. the property of John Reader. *The prisoner went to nurse the prosecutor's wife, and carried away the things the next day, and the petticoat was on her; she was taken directly.*

GUILTY. Transported for seven years. Tried by the first Middlesex Jury, before Mr. Recorder. Ann was transported on the *Lady Juliana*, part of the second fleet leaving Portsmouth during July 1789, arriving at Port Jackson during June 1790.

In December Thomas enlisted in the NSW Corps as a corporal and after several years of marine duty in Sydney he went to Norfolk Island in October 1794 by *Daedalus*, with Ann and son Thomas

They married on 17 August 1801, by which time they had four children. The reason why Thomas and Ann had not married earlier was that Rev Fulton did not arrive at Norfolk Island until 1801 when their marriage was legalised and their children baptised.

On the Island he worked as a glazier and painter. He also cultivated his 60 acre land grant, acquired live-stock and built a two storey shingled dwelling. In 1808 it was decided to abandon Norfolk Island and resettle the free settlers and convicts in Tasmania

So Thomas and Ann with their four children, Thomas, Richard, John and Nathaniel left Norfolk Island in 1808 on board the *City of Edinburgh* and settled at Browns River later named Kingston where they received a land grant of 42.25 acres cleared and 17.75 acres uncleared: later he held 530 acres.

Thomas aged 56 years died on 29 August 1815 and was buried at St David's Hobart. At his funeral the Masonic Lodge performed their ceremonies over a brother mason at the graveside.

Rev Robert Knopwood was the Officiating Minister who entered the following details in his diary for that day: '1815-1st September.

*At 3.00pm I buried Mr. Lucas from Browns River. He has been a marine that came out when the settlement at Port Jackson was formed, then became a settler and went to Norfolk Island. There he remained till the island was evacuated; most of the settlers came to this colony. He was a Mason, and buried by the Brothers in masonic form.'*

A few months later, on 14 December 1815, the eldest

son Thomas married Elizabeth Blinkworth. The following year, 1815, the second son Richard married Elizabeth Green, a widow with two children.

In this period Ann apparently ran the farm with the help of her sons, supplying wheat and meat to the Government stores. Ann lived to see John married to Sophia Sherbud on 21 July 1824, but Nathaniel was still single in 1832.

Ann died, on 10 June 1832, aged 74, and was buried beside her husband in St David's Cemetery, the inscription on the tombstone reading:

*THOMAS LUCAS, a Marine settler, who came from England With his Excellency, Governor Phillip, at the first forming of the Territory of New South Wales, who died 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1815, (aged 56 years).*

*ANN LUCAS, wife of the above, who died 10<sup>th</sup> June 1832.*

**Compiled by John Boyd 2020**

#### Sources

- The Founders of Australia by Mollie Gillen
- Nathaniel and Olivia written by Rhonda Kroehnert and Betty Taber
- Geoff GRANT (Descendant of Nathaniel Lucas) - Article featured in the First Fleet Folio October 2004

## FF GEORGE GREAVES/GRAVES Boatswain HMS Sirius (c1740-1788)

**George Graves**, able seaman aged 46 from Fife Scotland, 1788. joined *Sirius* on 28 October 1786.

He died on 10 July 1788 and was buried at Port Jackson, in Sydney's first cemetery, at Dawes Point, near the present site of the southern pylons of the Harbour Bridge.

On the day he died he made a will to **Abraham Kimmey**, pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Greenwich. The will of 'George Greaves' was proved to Kimmey on 13 June 1789, apparently with permission only to administer the probate. A fresh probate was granted on 29 January 1791.

A headstone erected to his memory was discovered in 1871 as a paving stone in Bethel Lane off George St in the Rocks.

It was then taken in the possession of the Archives of NSW and reads 'in memory of George Graves late boatswain's yeoman on *HMS Sirius* who departed this life ye 10<sup>th</sup> July 1788 aged 48 years'

**It is the oldest extant headstone in Australia.**

*HISTORIC TOMBSTONE. First Fleet Pioneer.*

*There has been placed on exhibition at Vacluse House a tombstone which marked the grave of **George Graves, Boatswain on H.M.S. Sirius, flagship, of the First Fleet** to arrive in Australia, which put into Port Jackson in January,*

*The tombstone records that Graves, who was 46 years of age, died on July 10, 1788, less than six months after the first settlement was formed at Sydney Cove.*



*The tombstone was unearthed in Lower George Street, Circular Quay, about 60 years ago, and for many years was stored under a staircase in the Public Library. The stone was sent to Vacluse House several years ago, and has now been made available for public inspection.*

*The discovery of the tombstone in Lower George Street is probably explained by the fact that the first interments in the colony were made at the rear of Campbell's Wharf.*

*That was before a burial ground was established on the present site of the Town Hall, which was known as the old George Street Cemetery.--[The Sydney Morning Herald \(NSW : 1842 - 1954\) Sat 29 Apr 1939 Page 4](#)*

The Fellowship of First Fleeters installed a FFF Plaque on George Graves's Grave on 10 September 1988 and rededicated it on 10 October 2012. The headstone and its plaque were placed on display at the Rocks Discovery Museum in 2007.

**Compiled by John Boyd 2020.**

**Source:-**The Founders of Australia by Mollie Gillen p14



## Lt. Henry Lidgbird Ball (1756–1818) Commander *HMS Supply*

Rear-Admiral **Henry Lidgbird Ball** (1756–1818) was a Royal Navy officer, best known as the commander of the First Fleet's *HMS Supply*, for the exploration of environs around Port Jackson and Broken Bay, helping establish the Norfolk Island penal settlement, and for discovering and naming Lord Howe Island.

Henry Lidgbird Ball was born in 1756 at Birkenhead, Cheshire, England, to **George Ball**, Gentleman, and his wife, **Lucy Stringer**. Henry was baptised on 7 December 1756 in Holy Cross Church, Woodchurch, Cheshire, one witness being John Lidgbird, a wealthy local property owner.

Ball joined the Royal Navy when quite young, serving on various ships: *HMS Venus*, *HMS Ramillies*, *HMS Raven*, and *HMS Lark*. On 23 April 1778 he was commissioned a Lieutenant from March 1783 until April 1786 and commanded the cutter *HMS Seaflower* off the northern coast of Ireland.

In 1787, Lieutenant Ball was placed in command of the armed tender *HMS Supply* as part of the naval escort for the ships of the First Fleet. *Supply*'s armament had been increased in 1786 with the addition of four twelve-pounder carronades; the crew was augmented to 55. Additionally, a detachment of 16 marines from the New South Wales Marine Corps, under command of **Lieutenant William Dawes**, was embarked. The *Supply* had orders to create a penal colony in Botany Bay, New South Wales.

With Ball as captain, *Supply* sailed from Spithead, Portsmouth, on 13 May 1787 with the fleet commanded by **Commodore Arthur Phillip**. On 3 June 1787, the fleet anchored at Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain. On 10 June they began their voyage across the Atlantic to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, taking advantage of favourable trade winds and ocean currents. The fleet reached Rio on 5 August and remained for a month while resupplying. The fleet departed Rio de Janeiro on 4 September to run before the westerlies, reaching Table Bay in South Africa on 13 October, the

last port of call before Botany Bay. On 25 November, Phillip transferred from *HMS Sirius* to the faster *Supply*, and with the fleet's faster ships raced ahead to prepare for arrival of the rest of his command. However, this "flying squadron" reached Botany Bay only hours before the slower members, so no preparatory work was done. *Supply* reached Botany Bay on 18 January 1788; the three fastest transports in the advance group arrived on 19 January; slower ships, including *Sirius*, arrived on 20 January.

On 14 February Ball on *Supply* sailed with **Lieutenant Philip Gidley King**, who was to establish a subordinate settlement on Norfolk Island. Ball learned the navigational and physical difficulties in approaching the island which were to affect future settlement there, but got ashore on 6 March.

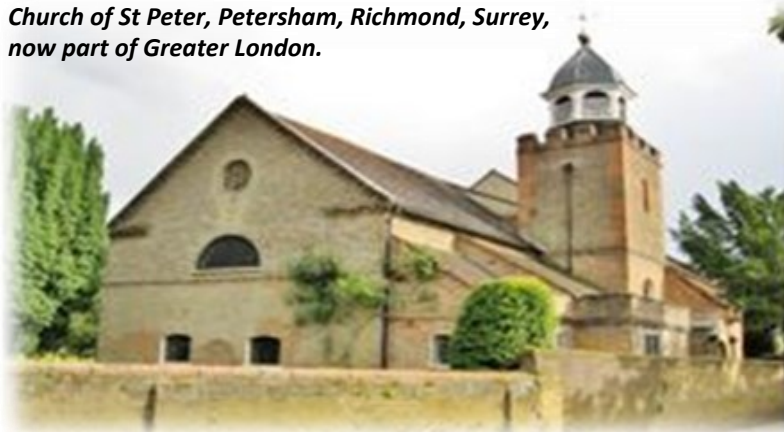
On the return voyage he explored a small island sighted previously, which he named Lord Howe's Island after **Richard Howe**, 1st Earl Howe; he also named Mount Lidgbird and Ball's Pyramid after himself. Ball's sketches, notes and descriptions of the landscape and fauna of Lord Howe Island and Ball's Pyramid were published in 1789 as a chapter in Phillip's book *The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay*.

On 6 May 1788 *Supply* left Port Jackson for Lord Howe Island to capture turtles, to supplement the food stores of the settlement, but discovered that the turtles were only present on the island in the summer. Phillip decided on an expedition to capture a native so as to learn their language and customs, so on 31 December 1788, Ball and marine **Lieutenant George Johnston** commanded two boats to Manly Cove where they captured Arabanoo. *Supply* made multiple voyages between the two settlements, Port Jackson and Norfolk Island, transferring men and supplies between them. She was also used to explore the waters and environs around the colonies.

*The Australian High Commissioner, Mike Rann, and Rev Canon Tim Marwood unveiling the memorial on 20 October 2013.*



**Church of St Peter, Petersham, Richmond, Surrey, now part of Greater London.**



On 5 March 1790 the *Sirius* and *Supply* left Sydney Cove to transport 300 convicts and marines to Norfolk Island, arriving on 13 March. Bad weather precluded landing personnel and provisions near the settlement, so the marines and some convicts were landed at Cascade Bay on the north-east coast. Here they had to jump individually from a boat to a rock; the jump was possible only when the tide was half out. By 19 March the weather had cleared and Ball and **Captain John Hunter** of *Sirius* started to unload the remaining convicts and provisions at the settlement on the southern shore. Ball noticed the current was pushing the ships towards the sunken rocks and signalled to Hunter before manoeuvring *Supply* away from the danger. Even though the *Sirius* was farther from the rocks than *Supply*, Captain Hunter was unable to save his ship from foundering. *Supply*, with assistance of the men on shore, was able to rescue every person from the sinking *Sirius*.

*Sirius* was supposed to continue on to Canton (present-day Guangzhou), to pick up supplies, so on 17 April 1790 *Supply* sailed with Lieutenant Philip Gidley King, who was to continue on to England with the Governor's despatches, to procure provisions from Batavia, Dutch East Indies.<sup>[12]</sup> Ball returned to Port Jackson 18 October, having chartered the *Waaksamheid* to bring the rest of supplies, which arrived 17 December. Ball became very ill with a fever that had originated in Batavia. In March 1791 he sought leave to return to England both to recover his health and to attend to family affairs. Sailing the 25 November 1791 via Cape Horn, arriving at Plymouth 21 April 1792, completing a circumnavigation with *Supply* and carrying the first kangaroo to arrive in England.

Ball was promoted to Commander on 28 April 1792 for his achievements in New South Wales. He returned to duty in December 1794 with his appointment to HMS *Flora*, and conveyed the new British ambassador, **Lord Bute**, to Spain before returning from the Mediterranean in June 1795 when he was posted captain on 9 July. In September he was appointed to command HMS *Ariadne*, serving for the next eighteen months in the North Sea and The Downs.

In March 1797 Ball was appointed to HMS *Daedalus*, serving initially in home waters, before being transferred to the East Indies station. Off the West African coast in early 1798, *Daedalus* with HMS *Hornet*, was involved in the capture of seven vessels. Ball was off the Cape Colony when he encountered the French frigate *Prudente* and, in the action of 9 February 1799, after an eighty-minute battle, the badly battered French ship surrendered. The *Daedalus* lost two men killed and 12 wounded in the engagement; *Prudente* suffered 27 killed and 22 wounded.

Ball commanded three more vessels, first, HMS *Zealand* 1806–1807 and then HMS *Gibraltar* 1808–1810. During this time, in 1808, he unsuccessfully applied for the Governorship of New South Wales. His last command was *Christian VII* 1812–1813. In 1812 he went onto half-pay in semi-

retirement.

In the summer, 1809 he was called as a witness at the Court-martial of **James, Lord Gambier**, which assessed whether Admiral Lord Gambier had failed to support Captain Lord Cochrane at the Battle of Basque Roads in April 1809. Gambier was controversially cleared of all charges. On 4 June 1814 Ball was promoted to flag rank as Rear-Admiral of the Blue.

During his time in Colony of New South Wales, Ball had a relationship with **Sarah Partridge** (also known as **Mary Stokes**), a convict who had been transported by the First Fleet in the *Lady Penrhyn*. They had a daughter, **Anne Maria Partridge Ball**, born 1789 at Norfolk Island. She was christened on 22 August 1789 at Sydney and travelled to England with her father in 1792 on his return voyage in *Supply*. Her mother Sarah stayed in New South Wales. No mention of Sarah or her daughter was made in Ball's will, but Ball's sister **Mary** made "my niece 'Ann Maria'" her heir in 1820.

On 17 June 1802 Ball married **Charlotte Foster** in London; she died a year later. He married again on 19 July 1810, at Kingston upon Thames, to **Anne Georgianna Henrietta Johnston**, who was 31 years his junior, she survived him and died in 1864.

He died on 22 October 1818 at Mitcham (then in Surrey and now in Greater London), England. He was buried in the churchyard at St Peter's Church, Petersham, in the family vault of his wife, Anne Georgianna Henrietta Johnston.

A plaque commemorating Ball was added to the Johnston tomb on 20 October 2013 at a service attended by the Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.

#### **–See Gravesite Plaques**

The Fellowship of First Fleeters added their Plaque on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 in recognition of Henry Ball. The Plaque was placed on the Churchyard Wall immediately above Henry's tomb. **–See Gravesite Plaques**

Ball's Pyramid and Mount Lidgbird on Lord Howe Island, Ball Bay, Norfolk Island, and possibly Balls Head on Sydney Harbour are all named after him.

Ball appears as a character in Evelyn Cheesman's 1950 novel *Landfall the Unknown: Lord Howe Island 1788*.

**Compiled by John Boyd January 2022.**

#### **Sources:**

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## FROM THE MAIL BAG ~ MEMBERS' LETTERS

### JAMES WALBORN, CHELSEA PENSIONER

I do like to solve a seeming mystery. Having read (*Founders* 53.1) that there was no further record of James Walbourne Snr after his departure from the colony, with the 73rd Regiment in 1814, I went in search of him in *Ancestry.com* and British India records. No success, until I thought he could have been in England and alive at the time of the 1841 Census. Unfortunately, this Census is not very detailed. However, I found James Walborn, Army Pensioner, aged 75, not born in the county, residing in Arthur Street, Chelsea, London (HO 107/688/3, District 6, Chelsea North West, Chelsea). Residing with him was Lydia Walburn, aged 45, born in the county. Subsequently, I found the burial of James Walborn at St Lukes, Chelsea, on 4 January 1848, aged 88. To confirm that this was our man, I searched further and found that he was a Chelsea pensioner, having been admitted to pension on 7 February 1822, aged 54, from the 73rd Foot, and that he was born in 'Philadelphia, America'. Thus, it seems to be clear that he was alive and living in England from 1822 until his death in 1848.

I hope this information fills in some gaps on another First Fleeter.

**#5614 Julia Kable**

### THE NAMING OF FREEMANS REACH

My family worked a farm on Freemans Reach Road, going down to the Hawkesbury River, from the mid 1840s to 1952. During my time there from 1941 to 1952 the naming of Freemans Reach was discussed often. The map on the front page of *Founders* 53.1 has prompted me to write to you and ask if you can help by printing what I know about the naming of Freemans Reach and what I would like to know.

I'm looking for real evidence of the origin of the name Freemans Reach which is the Reach today on the Hawkesbury River between Argyle Reach and Upper Reach [North Richmond] as shown on old maps. Today we spell the name this way: Freemans, but old maps show it as Freeman's Reach. Does this mean it was named after a Freeman family, or should it be Freemans', the area of free men? There is also a difference between 'Free Men' and 'Came Free'. Lower down the River at least one Reach was named after a family living near-by.

The dates for the naming of the Reaches on the River are not clear. Windsor and Wilberforce Reaches must have been named in or after 1810 when the towns were named by Governor Macquarie. But did these Reaches have different names or any name before 1810? By 1794-6 much of the land on both sides of the river at today's Freemans Reach was promised to soldiers, but was the Reach named, and who had the authority to name Reaches? Some old land grant maps drawn by historians in recent times can give the wrong impression about the timing of

the naming of Reaches, by showing Reach names that could not have existed at the time of the old land grants.

In 1929 George G. Reeve, a historian, writing in the *Windsor and Richmond Gazette*, offered the opinion that Freemans was named after Thomas Reib[e]y who was a 'Came Free' settler in the area, around 1796. An old map from 1794 shows a promised 30-acre grant to a Thomas Reibey on the Hawkesbury River between today's towns of Windsor and Wilberforce, well away from the Reach now called Freemans. It is not known, but doubtful, the Reach called Freemans was already officially named by 1794-6. The 1794 grant to Thomas Reiby predates the other family land which became Reibycroft, located between Blacktown Road and Bushells Lagoon in the now called village of Freemans Reach. Part of the Reibycroft grant remains today, but it is a long way from the river.

In the 1800s people living on Freemans Reach Road, Freemans Reach, considered they were the true Freemans Reach, and the area where the village is today was called Blacktown because of Aboriginal camps along Blacktown Road. The name Blacktown died out in the early 1900s, but was often used in the 1800s.

Today we tend to think of the Freemans Reach area as being on the north side of the river, but really, Freemans Reach could apply equally to the Cornwallis side of the river where there could have been 'Came Free' settlers from the late 1700s or early 1800s. Some historians have suggested that Freemans was named after two brothers who lived in Cornwallis on the upper end of Freemans Reach in the early 1800s, but there does not appear to be any firm evidence.

If we could nail down the date of the naming of the Reach on the River it might help with the origin of the name. It would also be good to know who had authority to name Reaches and where this information was recorded.

**#3244 Ian Nicholls**

### ISAAC FIRST? NO WAY.

I agree with Hendrika Johnson (*Founders* 53.1, p 6). As shown on page 305 of Cook's journal, there is no way he would have let Isaac anywhere near the shooting.

**#7264 Ted Westwood**

**EDITOR'S NOTE.** With the academic wrangling about the location of the remains of the *Endeavour* now resurfacing, *Founders* is at this stage not ready to make a definitive statement on the matter. However, Hendrika has advised that the **Peter Hibbs and the Endeavour Diaries** that were continuously published online for over three years are now available as printed and bound volumes. Contact the Johnsons on [ph.johnson@bigpond.com](mailto:ph.johnson@bigpond.com) or [hendrikamj@bigpond.com](mailto:hendrikamj@bigpond.com) for details.



## FF CONVICTS: THOMAS RESTELL CROWDER and SARAH DAVIES/DAVIS

**Thomas Restell Crowder** was born on 26 December 1757 in Bromley in Kent, the son of **Nathaniel Crowder** and **Susannah Ward**, and was baptised on 20 January 1758 in the Parish of St Martin in the Field, Westminster, London, England. His early life saw many brushes with the law.

Thomas was first tried on 4 December 1782 at age 25 years, and was indicted for 'burglariously breaking and entering the dwelling house of **John Bradford Esq**; about the hour of three in the night on 30 November, with intent, the goods, chattels, and monies of the said John Bradford, in the said dwelling house then and there being, burglariously to steal, take, and carry away'. He was tried by the second Middlesex Jury, before **Mr. Baron Hotham**, and sentenced to death. This was commuted to life transportation to the East Indies on 17 January 1783, and changed again on 12 September, this time to life transportation to America.

After the *Mercury* mutiny, at the time of his March 1785 trial, Thomas was also facing a charge of escape from the *Mercury* transport at Torbay.

Thomas Restell Crowder (indicted as Thomas Risdale otherwise Crowder) was tried at Bristol Quarter Sessions in March 1785 with **Aaron Davis** for grand larceny which netted them 'various goods to a very large amount' belonging to **James Cunning**. Both had been present at a public auction in a warehouse, but not seen together, and were convicted on the evidence of an accomplice deemed untrustworthy. Both Thomas and Aaron were found guilty, and Aaron was sentenced to seven years transportation, but the judgement was withheld for Thomas as he awaited trial on yet another indictment for burglary in the house of **John Thomas**. At this time, on 29 March 1785, Thomas was again sentenced to death.

However, on 22 April **Judge Richard Burke** wrote expressing doubts about the evidence given by the accomplice, but recommended transportation for life in view of the earlier robberies. Thomas was still facing charges of escape from the *Mercury*. Three days later Crowder was reprieved from that charge and sentenced to life transportation, and during 1785 he was placed on board the *Justitia* prison hulk. At the age of 30 on 6 January 1787 he was delivered to the *Alexander* for transport to NSW.

Thomas now 31, married **Sarah Davies** (Convict *Lady Penrhyn*) aged 28, in Port Jackson, Sydney on 7 June 1788. Sarah was a glove maker who had been convicted in August 1783 at Worcester for shoplifting and was sentenced to transportation for seven years. The marriage service was performed by the **Rev Richard Johnson**, probably under a tree or in a hut, as the first church, St Philips, was not yet built. One of the witnesses was **Samuel Barnes**, the servant to Rev Johnson.

Crowder was one of five who gave evidence on Friday 7 November 1788 at the trial of **John Thomas** (Convict *Scar-*

*borough*) for stealing, on 30 October, with force of arms, one pound of castile soap, of the value of one shilling and sixpence, the goods and chattels of one **Mary Hill** (Convict *Lady Penrhyn*). John Thomas was found guilty and sentenced to 'five hundred lashes thus: four hundred on his bare back and one hundred on his bare backsides in the usual manner'

Two weeks later, on 16 November 1788 both Thomas and Sarah themselves were before the court, accused of making a disturbance late at night. Thomas was reprimanded but Sarah had to work for one month.

On 17 February 1789 both were sent to Norfolk Island on *HMAT Supply*. There by 1<sup>st</sup> July 1791 Thomas was supporting them on 2 acres of land, with 10 rods cleared, and by 8 December 1791 he was marked as settled with 14 acres. Their sow had a litter of 9 in February 1792 and another 18 in the August. At that time Thomas was also in charge of the patrol watch for Sydney Town and had begun selling provisions to Government Stores

In June 1792, Crowder was recommended by **Lieutenant Governor King** for his honesty and activity '*employed before I left this island, during my absence and since my return, as a General Inspector of Convicts, and has been of the greatest service to the Publick*'. In November 1792 Thomas was recommended for an Absolute Pardon as long as he did not attempt to return to England.

On 7 September 1793 Thomas was sworn in as Constable for Grenville Vale, and at the time he had 8 of his 14 acres of hilly but ploughable land cultivated. A few weeks later he bought a further 60 acres for £60 and was elected as a member of the Norfolk Island Settlers Society.

The well-documented fracas during the performance of a play on 19 January 1794 arose from a disagreement between Thomas and **Sergeant Thomas Whittle** (Marine *Royal Admiral*) of the NSW Corps, in which Thomas was eventually exonerated, demonstrated the difficulties that arose when the authority of a soldier was countered by the authority of a constable who had been a convict.

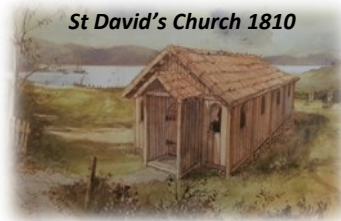
This issue was that Thomas was under orders to reserve seats for the Lieutenant-Governor's servants at the playhouse, while Whittle insisted on seating his own men.

Sadness came to Thomas in May 1794 when his wife Sarah died, so in June he hired the FF convict **John Barford** for 12 months and rented 10 acres to FF settler **Benjamin Wright**. For the next few years Thomas was busy buying and selling land on Norfolk Island.

Just before Christmas in 1799, on 22 December Thomas now aged 32, married **Mary Christmas** nee Smith/Coucher aged 21, a convict from *Lady Juliana*. Her trial proceedings indicate that she was indicted for stealing, on 26 September 1787, one silver table spoon, value 12 s. the property of **John Hooper**. and was transported for 7 years.



Mary already had three children from her partnership to Second Fleeter **Charles Smith** who had died on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1795 on Norfolk Island. They were **Charles** (1791), **Sarah** (1793) and **Elizabeth** (1794). By 1805, Thomas had



St David's Church 1810

14 acres cleared, with 7 acres in grain, nearly 2 in barley and the remaining 5 in pasture with 6 female hogs, also 150 bushels of maize in hand, recorded at the time with a wife and two children.

Thomas sold his 60 acres in December 1807 for 40 pounds and together with his wife Mary and two daughters, Elizabeth (1794) and **Mary** (1799) he left for the Derwent on 26 December by *Porpoise*. It's unclear what had happened to the two other children Charles (1791) and Sarah (1793). His two-storey house, 44x12 ft., boarded and shingled, his thatched, boarded and shingled barn 12x12ft and his two log and thatched out-houses were together valued at £90. Elizabeth passed away in 1808 aged 14 years.

Thomas was now 53 years old and, ready for a new life in Van Diemen's Land, took up farming at Sussex (in the Dodges Ferry area) on 120 acres. On 21 May 1809 Thomas signed an address to **Governor William Bligh** (it is noted *that he wrote in a good hand.*) A son, **Thomas Russell (sic) Crowder** was baptised at Hobart on 28 October 1810

In 1813 and definitely back in town he was appointed superintendent of convicts at Hobart Town at £50 a year, with two assigned servants and rations for his wife and child. As well as conducting regular convict musters, recording the names of assigned servants and attending the issue of their stores, he acted as master carpenter and bricklayer, assisting the colonial engineer in surveying leases resumed by the government and reporting on their value for compensation. In these duties he was well placed to observe the wily devices of commissary officials and landholders, but, although often required as a witness at inquiries, his evidence was always discreetly unrevealing.

In 1815 Thomas, as did many other settlers, signed the petition for a Court of Criminal Judicature in VDL. Later that year on 1 April Thomas gave evidence, as principal superintendent and as a constable, against bushrangers.

By 1818 his convict returns seldom tallied with those of the colonial secretary, and **Lieutenant-Governor William Sorell** found it necessary to appoint a second superintendent to assist the colonial engineer.

In 1820 when **Commissioner John Thomas Bigge** visited Hobart, Sorell praised Crowder's integrity, but soon afterwards recommended that he should be superannuated,

'being advanced in life'. With Macquarie's approval, Crowder was given a pension of £25 and became caretaker of St David's Church.

In 1822, aged 65 years Thomas retired as superintendent of carpenters. In his sixty-seventh year he died at his home in Elizabeth Street on 28 November 1824, and was buried at St David's Hobart.

*DIED-On Sunday last, in his 67th year, at his residence in Elizabeth-street, Mr. Thomas Restell Crowder, 36 years an inhabitant of these Colonies, and several years Principal Superintendent of convicts, much lamented and regretted by his numerous family and friends.* (Hobart Town Gazette 3 Dec 1824)

Mary Crowder, Thomas's wife, passed away nearly six years later on 28 May 1830 in Hobart Tasmania and was buried, 'widow of the late verger of the church' at St David's Hobart.

Daughter Mary married twice, first at the age of 16 to **Theophilus Mitchell** in 1815 in Hobart, then to **William Cook** in 1819 in Hobart after Mitchell had deserted her. There is no record of children from either marriage and, as Mary Cook, she died on 15 March 1827.

Son Thomas Restell Crowder married **Amelia Anne Beaumont** on 17 September 1833 in Hobart. They had nine children, three boys and six girls. The boys were **George Herbert** 1836, **Thomas Restell** 1839 and **William Charles** 1843. The girls were **Mary Elizabeth Beaumont** 1837, **Sarah Jane** 1841, **Amelia Annie** 1845, **Charlotte Virginia** 1847, **Emily Isobel** 1849 and **Eleanor** 1851.

Of the children, Thomas died on 14 October 1851 at Hollyrood House, Tasmania and his wife Amelia died on 25 November 1892 at Wattle Hill, Port Sorell.

**Compiled by John Boyd 2020**

#### Sources:

- *The Founders of Australia* by Molly Gillen p 88,89 & 96
- *Sydney Cove 1788 to 1800* in 5 Volumes by John Cobley
- *The Crimes of the First Fleet* Convicts by John Cobley
- Crowder, Thomas Restell (1758–1824) published in [Australian Dictionary of Biography](#), Volume 1, (MUP), 1966
- [www.convictrecords.com.au/convicts](http://www.convictrecords.com.au/convicts) risdale thomas - by Eric Harry Daly on 24th December, 2012
- [www.geni.com/people/Thomas-Restell-Crowder-Convict-Alexander-1788/6000000069157252076](http://www.geni.com/people/Thomas-Restell-Crowder-Convict-Alexander-1788/6000000069157252076)
- <http://www.tasfamily.net.au/~schaferi/index.php>



St David's 1823

St David's 1835



## NOVELS, SHORT STORIES and MEMOIRS of JOSEPH CONRAD

I have often wondered why so few of our 1788 First Fleeters actually returned to Britain when their sentences had expired. For most, life in the new settlements had proved superior to the poverty they had left behind, and what's more, many would not have wanted to brave the oceans again after surviving great storms at sea on their journey to Botany Bay.

For outstanding descriptions of the rigours of storm survival it is hard to go past the literary works of the writer, **Joseph Conrad**. He spent twenty years at sea and then put his own seafaring experiences into his outstanding works of fiction, both novels and short stories. His memoirs reveal the links between fact and fiction.

I can recommend such works as the novels, *Nigger of the Narcissus* and *Lord Jim* and his 'long short story' *Typhoon*, parts of which vividly describe the sea in all its fury. What makes these works so powerful is the interplay between the characters which are so finely drawn and the effects the wild weather has on their maritime duties under pressure.

My return to Conrad after marvelling at his non-maritime novel, *Nostromo* in my university days, and which resulted in my collecting most of the works of this, my favourite author, was occasioned by the recent 'Covid Christmas.'

Unable to travel far for a couple of months spent mainly at home allowed me to read my entire collection in the chronological order of their writing, eight novels, thirteen short stories and three memoirs. It was a 'labour of love' and worth every minute of adventurous reading.

Knowing that I was to hear the Sydney historian, **Ian Burnet** speak on Conrad at the Arthur Phillip Chapter meeting spurred me on in my reading endeavours. Ian's presentation focussed on the Conrad works set in East Asia, and followed the general outline of his excellent book, *Joseph Conrad's Eastern Voyages*, pictured below.

sailing clippers before they were ultimately replaced by steamships. During this period he worked his way up from apprentice, to third mate, to second mate, to first mate and finally the captain of one of these beautiful ships.

Joseph Conrad once said that everything about his life can be found in his books. Because the material for his first books are mainly autobiographical then Ian Burnet has been able to use a mixture of his own words, together with those of Conrad, to tell this story of Joseph Conrad's eastern voyages and his tales of Singapore and an East Borneo River. Conrad loved the 'mysterious East' and his first books—

*Almayer's Folly*, *An Outcast of the Islands*, *Lord Jim* and *The Rescue* were all set in Borneo and based on the people and places he encountered in his own voyages as first mate on a trading vessel based out of Singapore.

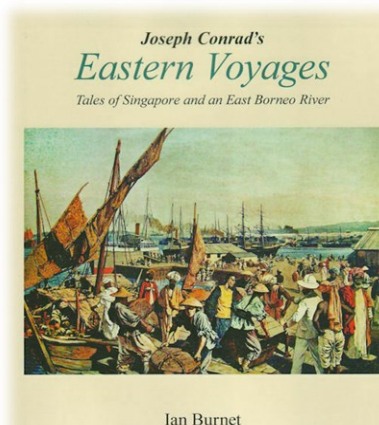
In the latter part of this book Ian Burnet has taken the liberty to place the parts of these novels into their proper narrative sequence and focus on the back-story of his characters, which will make it easier for readers to discover or rediscover Conrad's genius.'

As one who has lived in East Asia for several years and with a fair knowledge of its history and geography I found the settings and politics of Dutch and British colonialism and the interplay with the cultures of the various ethnic groups seeking to maintain a foothold on territory particularly intriguing.

Conrad develops his plots anecdotally and he makes much use of narrators to keep his tales flowing. One of these, Marlow, an ex-mariner, appears in several books as the main storyteller and his clever recounting of events holds the reader despite the multiple time sequences in many of the works. Some with only limited knowledge of Conrad's writing may remember Marlow in the African river tale, *Heart of Darkness*.

Many later works are set in London and Europe and the very last story I read, *Prince Roman*, concerns parts of Conrad's native Poland, now Ukraine, under attack by Russian empire-building incursions back in the 1820s to take over Polish territory. The role of Ukrainian peasant freedom fighters helping the cause and to drive out the invaders makes fascinating reading.

Two hundred years later, in 2022, the very day I'd read the tale, Putin's missiles destroyed parts of Berdychiv (Zitomir), the town where Joseph Conrad was born. **WJF**



The back cover of the book says it all: 'The life of Jozef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski reads like an adventure story that could be written by somebody like Joseph Conrad. The young Conrad dreamed of a life at sea, he eventually became a British merchant seaman and he spent fifteen years sailing on the classic three-masted, square-rigged



# OUR CHAPTERS IN ACTION

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

**Venue:** usually at Albury Library/Museum, Kiewa St. Albury, monthly meetings, third Saturday at 10:00 for 10.30 am. **Next Meeting:** 16 April: Ian Anderson, *Journey of the First Fleet*. **Next Event:** TBA. **Contact:** Ian Anderson 0426147365

## 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:** 22 April: Jenny Joyce, *Understanding DNA for Family Historians*; 20 May: Paul Ashton, *Planning Sydney since 1788*; 17 June, Speaker, TBA. **Contact:** Judith O'Shea 9797 0240

## BOTANY BAY – Southern Sydney, from Cooks River to Waterfall and west to Liverpool

**Venue:** Our Lady of Fatima Church, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst. Bi-monthly on third Tuesday 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 19 April: Gary Darby, *History of Sans Souci Peninsula*; 21 June: Gay Hendricksen, *Parramatta Female Factory*. **Next Event:** 17 May: Outing to Waverley Cemetery. **Contact:** Carol Macklin 0415376434

## CANBERRA – ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.

**Venue:** Various locations in Canberra. **Next Event:** There will be a luncheon to commemorate the First Fleet's Departure from Plymouth, with details still to be confirmed. **Contact:** Toni Pike 041 041 2778

## 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 Meeting:** 9 April: Jan Vickers, *FF John Nicholls*; 14 May: Ian Burnet, *The Tasman Map*; 11 June: (16th Birthday) Speaker, TBA. **Next Event:** 16 May: Combined Outing with HVC to Dangar Island. **Contact:** Jon Fearon 43116254

## DERWENT – Southern Tasmania

**Venue:** Bi-monthly, 11am, Old Sunday School, New Town Precinct. **Next Meetings:** 2 April. Kimbra Thomas, *Goodwin-Munro Muster*; 4 June: Speaker, TBA. **Next Event:** Paul Dobber 0401566080

## 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:** 2 April: Russell Workman, *60s and 70s Photos of Sydney*; 7 May: John Oakes, *Earliest days of the Australian Railways Historical Society*; 4 June: Cate Whittaker, *Elizabeth Fry*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Jennifer Follers 97991161

## GOLD COAST – Gold Coast and immediate hinterland.

**Venue:** To be confirmed, Ashmore Community Centre—Bi monthly meetings, 3rd Saturday, 3 pm. **Next Meeting:** 21 May, Julie Webb, *A Guide to DNA*. **Contact:** Geri Quilty 0412761661

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

**Venue:** Windsor Library, Penrith Library and Springwood. Presbyterian Church --Bi-monthly, third Saturday, 11 am. **Next Meetings:** 9 April: Note, second Saturday, at Windsor, Rebecca Turnbull, *Hawkesbury Heroes—the Great War*; 18 June, at Windsor: Carol Roberts, *The Pitt family of Sunnyside, North Richmond*. **Next Event:** **Contact:** William Hempel 0410950101

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

**Venue:** Teralba Community Hall Supper Room. 15 Anzac Pde Teralba—bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday from 10am-12.30pm. **Next Meetings:** 11 April (2nd Monday): Doug Saxon, *An Anzac from Hamilton*; 20 June: Ron Withington, *For a Pittance*. **Next Event:** 16 May: Outing to Dangar Island. **Contact:** Kerry Neinert 49615083.

## 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:** **Next Event:** **Contact:** Heather Bath 0427018566

## MORETON – Brisbane and South East Queensland.

**Venue:** St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on an available 2nd Saturday. **Next Meetings:** 9 April: Don Cornford, *Tasmanian Ancestors Part 2*. **Next Event:** Future chapter outings are being considered. **Contact:** Jan Grant 0754911891

## NORTH COAST – Nambucca Heads, Dorrigo, Boambee, Coffs Harbour to McLean.

**Venue:** Either Mylestom Hall or Coramba Hall, or at members' homes, Bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meeting:** 3 April: at home of Joe and Margaret Bass, Nana Glen, Speaker TBA; 5 June, at Coramba Hall, Speaker TBA **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 0420923140 or 66536315

## NORTH WEST – Tamworth and surrounds.

**Venue:** Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** 4 June at Family History Rooms, Speaker TBA. **Next Event:** 2-3 April: Weekend trip to Inverell, 21st Birthday celebration. **Contact:** Janet McLean 0438465529

## NORTHERN RIVERS – Ballina and surrounding districts

**Venue:** Ballina Cherry Street Sports and Bowling Club - bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 11.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meeting:** 22 May: Speaker and Topic TBA. **Contact:** Roddy Jordan 6687 5339

## PORT PHILLIP – Melbourne and Regional Victoria.

**Venue:** Various; quarterly meetings, on a Saturday, times vary. **Next Meeting:** Saturday 14 May: at Old England Hotel, Yarra St Heidelberg: 12 midday. Speaker, Tania Fanning, *First Peoples' perspectives on the Arrival of the Fleet*. **Contact:** Geoff Rundell 0429528502

## SOUTH COAST – Engadine to Burrill Lake.

**Venue:** Café Function Room at St Luke's Anglican Church, Moomba St, Dapto – monthly except Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm. **Next Meetings:** 5 April: David Christian, *Travelling across the Top of Arnhem Land*; 7 June: Greg Jackson, *Sydney Quarantine Station Archaeology*. **Next Event:** 21 May: Departure of the Fleet Luncheon, Venue TBA. **Contact:** Rob Ratcliffe 42321842

## SWAN RIVER – Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.

**Venue:** 16 Inwood Place Murdoch, bi-monthly, usually first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meetings:** 2 April: Julie Aitken, *My life; (If Covid restrictions remain, this will be held outdoors.)* 11 June: Annegret Hall, *In for the Long Haul, Rope and Pulley*. **Next Event:** 15-17 April: Heritage Week, Visit to Government House and other local events. **Contact:** Toni Mahony 0892717630

**PLEASE NOTE:** At the time of going to press we hope that none of the events on this page would need to be deferred or cancelled. However, just in case, please check with your listed contact.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Closing date for this page for the next issue is 23 May 2022

*Paul Gooding* Chapter Liaison Officer



## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

## DEATHS

## Ordinary and Pensioner Members

## ELLEN WAINWRIGHT

#9171 Gerard Alexander Bilston  
JOHN HERBERT/DEBORAH ELLEM  
#9174 Russell William Schmarr  
JANE POOLE  
#9175 Susanna Mary Harrison  
#9176 Roy Michael Cyril Harrison

## Associate Members

#9171.1 Rhonda Joy Bilston  
#9174.1 Judith Helen Schmarr

## Junior Members

## SAMUEL PIGOTT

#9172 Archer Gerard Murphy  
#9173 Boyce Michael Murphy

## Friend Members

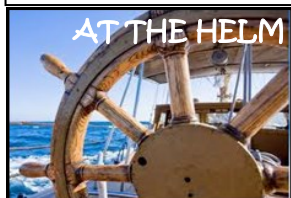
#F212 Lesley King


## WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES


#94 Nola Avis, of Dee Why, New South Wales, died on 21.12.21, aged 92. She was a proud founding member, having joined the Fellowship on the day it began, in 1968. Nola, a 6th Generation first Fleeter, was a keen member of Arthur Phillip Chapter.


## JOHN RANDALL/JOHN MARTIN

#7886 Maxwell Byrnes Coopes, of Woolloongabba and formerly of Arana Hills, Queensland, died on 22.02.22, aged 85. Max joined the Fellowship in 2011 and was a keen member of Moreton Chapter.



 Last issue we mentioned that outsiders, on hearing about the Fellowship, have often expressed their amazement that our national organisation has always been entirely run by **volunteers**. Your directors, volunteers themselves, are always conscious of the tireless work carried out by all those whose service has kept the Fellowship sailing smoothly over the years. The range is wide, not just at First Fleet House but also in the eighteen Chapters currently operating throughout the nation. Thank you all, and may many more join the ranks.

 A pressing need is for a **volunteer to head a small team** to keep first Fleet House open for another day each week. At present we keep house and phones manned between 10 am and 3 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays while those in attendance are busy with regular duties. Two days are not enough. Are you able to sign up for another day? Do register your interest by contacting us by phone or email as listed on page 1.

 The Fellowship keeps current our subscription to the Biographical Database of Australia. Their records are of great value, especially for our Membership Team, and new digitisations are happening all the time. These can be most helpful for individual researchers who have subscribed to the BDA. The **Biographical Telegraph Update #10**, announced this week, includes a NEW listing of landholders in NSW 1813, including a guide to land districts in relation to modern Greater Sydney suburbs; and NEW, the First Fleet victualling list 1788, effectively the 1st census of colonists arriving in Australia from Europe digitised for the 1st time. (See advertisement below)

The **BIOGRAPHICAL DATABASE OF AUSTRALIA** is a non-profit organisation with the only full online transcript of UNESCO nominated NSW 1828 census, 10,000 burials & inscriptions 1819-1901 from the Sydney Burial Ground, immigrants to Vic assisted/bounty 1832-1851, most convicts to NSW/Qld/Vic 1788-1840s, most Tasmanian colonists 1803-c1827, Norfolk Island 1792-1855, NSW muster/BDM records 1788-1830s+ most soldiers stationed in Australia 1788-1840, 160,000 NSW Colonial Secretary records + 31,000 full text biographies & full text of baptisms, marriages & burials 1788-1830s+ including marriage witnesses noting whether signed by name or X mark & names of Catholic baptism sponsors/godparents.

**ADVANCED SEARCH** is a finding aid allowing you to explore local history with a search by place & event year. A year search can be combined with birth, marriage, death, arrival, trial, ship of arrival, status (born in colony, free, convict, immigrant, military, seaman etc), ethnicity, religion, regiment or employment.

Click to [search](#) or [subscribe](#) today (only \$38pa)

## FREE FOR YOU

*The Journey of  
the First Fleet*

(PowerPoint Presentation)

Download from the  
Fellowship's website

## CHAPTER SECRETARIES

## ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT

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## ARTHUR PHILLIP

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## BOTANY BAY

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## CANNIBERRA

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## CENTRAL COAST

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## DERWENT

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## GOLD COAST

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## HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN

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## HUNTER VALLEY

Kerry Neinert 02 4961 5083

## MID NORTH COAST

Heather Bath 0427 018 566

## MORETON

Jan Grant 07 5491 1891

## NORTH COAST

Robyn Condliffe 02 6653 3615

## NORTHERN RIVERS

Roddy Jordan 02 6687 5339

## NORTH WEST

Janet McLean 0438 465 529

## PORT PHILLIP

Geoff Rundell 0429 528 502

## SOUTH COAST

Rob Ratcliffe 02 4232 1842

## SWAN RIVER

Toni Mahony 08 9271 7630