

Founders

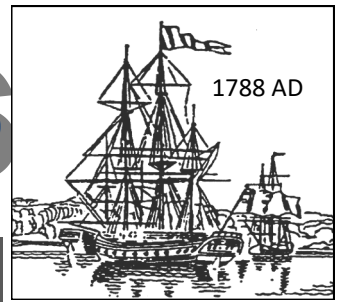
Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

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PATRON: Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC

VICE PATRON: Commodore Paul Kable AM RAN Retd

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

Volume 55 Issue 1

56th Year of Publication

February 2024—March 2024

FF FRANCES MINTZ (nee Davis) Convict 'Lady Penrhyn' c1764–1828

Frances Davis, late of Little Ilford, Essex, was sentenced to death at Chelmsford on March 8 1786. Frances was sentenced for breaking into a house and stealing a canvas bag containing £178.12s.6d in money and bills totalling £654.14s. She was reprieved to 14 years transportation on April 10 1786. Frances was ordered to Southwark on November 25 1786; she was embarked on *Lady Penrhyn* at Gravesend on January 31 1787. **Bowes** said she had been in service and was aged 22.

At Sydney Cove on October 24 1789, after the death in childbirth of **Susannah Allen**, care of the child **Rebecca** was given to Frances. The baby died on February 1 1790.

On March 4 1790 Frances was sent by *Sirius* to Norfolk Island and left the island in March 1793 by *Kitty*. In 1801 she was listed as 'gone to England'. Back in the colony, she married (as a widow) **Martin Mintz**, a widower, at Sydney on January 10 1811, with **Mary Marshall** as witness. Frances died on November 11 1828, aged 62, said to have gone back to England three times. She was buried in the same grave as her friend Mary Marshall in the Sydney Burial Ground.

FF MARY MARSHALL Convict 'Lady Penrhyn' c1757–1849

Mary Marshall (Senior) was brought from the Clerkenwell Bridewell to Newgate on January 4 1787 and sentenced at the Old Bailey to seven years transportation on the 10th for stealing ten linen handkerchiefs from a linen draper at 205 Piccadilly. "I perceived the prisoner fumbling about her coat, and under her apron". She refused to return when accosted, but the goods were seen to drop from her. She was delivered to *Lady Penrhyn* on the 26th, her age given by **Bowes** as 29.

At Port Jackson from the time of landing Mary seems to have lived with **Robert Sidaway**, her name was associated

with his in various records. It is not likely that she was the **Elizabeth Marshall** who was sent to Norfolk Island by *Golden Grove* on October 2 1788 (this was probably **Elizabeth Cole**, wife of **Joseph Marshall**): the Mary Marshall with Robert Sidaway was giving evidence at port Jackson on November 21 1789 at the trial of **Ann Davis** (**Judith Jones**).

In the colony Mary earned respect and respectability by her own behaviour and by her association with Sidaway. With the latter she was praised by the *Sydney Gazette* on October 5 1806 for the loving care given to a retarded orphan girl. Mary appeared in records from time to time as a witness at weddings, signing her name and she lived with Sidaway until his death on 3 October 1806. She was granted administration of his estate and effects, advertising for debtors and creditors at the end of December 1809, but her petition to be granted his lease in Sydney on the grounds that she had lived with him for 20 years and was his residuary legatee was marked by **Governor Macquarie** as inadmissible. She took a lease on a town lot on Pitt Street on October 20 1809, where she operated a public house.

When Mary died at *Bray Grove*, Concord on April 29 1849, her age was given as 93. She was buried in the Sydney Burial Ground, Elizabeth Street, with her friend **Frances Mintz** who had died in 1828.

Her will dated July 1 1843 was signed with her mark. The chief beneficiary was **Thomas Bray** of Concord, her executor, and his children to whom she left a house at Pitt Street, Sydney and 30 acres of land near Newtown known as Siddaway's Farm.

From *The Founders of Australia: A Biographical Dictionary of the First Fleet* (1989) - Mollie Gillen

Note: "Arthur Bowes Smyth (1750-1790), known as Bowes while in the colony, sailed with the First Fleet as Surgeon on board the *Lady Penrhyn*. SLNSW

Refer to page 12

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

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Judith O'Shea

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From the President's desk

Dear Members,

As your new President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters (FFF), I am taking this opportunity to outline my business background and other credentials that I bring to the position.

My long-time interest in Australian and family history led to the self-published book "Where Honour Guides the Prow", the story of my First Fleeter **William Boggis**, released for the Bicentenary in 1988. Since then, I have published several other books on our family history.

With my professional background as a personal assistant in both legal and business domains, I transitioned to the Macquarie University Library before embarking on a 10-year tenure in a challenging role in the Production Department of a prominent American textbook publisher.

Subsequently, I was very thrilled to join the staff of the iconic Sydney Opera House, where I served as a tour guide for 13 years, delivering detailed presentations on the institution's rich history and the magic of live theatre.

About this time, I started a small business in tourism, introducing an innovative travel experience for time-strapped adventurers by chartering small aircraft through local operators. With my unique itineraries and by personally escorting small-group safaris, my clients experienced exciting travel to lesser-known destinations in the remote Australian outback.

Before assuming my role on the FFF Board, I served for seven years as President of the Arthur Phillip Chapter. My association with the Board commenced in 2018; I was elected as Vice President in 2020; and elected as President at the Annual General Meeting 2023.

Through *Founders* and other selected media, we will continue to share the Fellowship's profoundly relevant narrative and broadly promote the First Fleet's significant historical legacy over the 236 years since foundation.

Gillian Doyle

President

Fellowship of First Fleeters

Member #3152 since 1985



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Botany Bay Chapter Luncheon

In January 1788, the eleven ships of the First Fleet arrived at Botany Bay. On 18 January the *HMAT Supply*, carrying **Captain Arthur Phillip**, was first ship to arrive. The anchorage was named Phillip Bay. The Botany Bay Chapter celebrated the arrival with a luncheon at the Yarra Bay Sailing Club in Phillip Bay, Sydney, on 18 January.2024.



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The Supply at anchor and the Sirius with her convoy coming into Botany Bay 20 January 1788. By Charles Gore (SLNSW).



The monument commemorates the place where Captain Arthur Phillip first set foot on Australian soil-Phillip Bay, NSW

Julie Webb and Therese Luck, both former Directors, elected to the Board

Julie Anne Webb

Julie's career path began at Royal North Shore Hospital in Sydney where she spent time in cardiac research and theatre, then followed many years in pathology labs all over NSW. After initially qualifying as a Medical Scientist with majors in Microbiology, Immunology and Transfusion, her work and expertise provided a pathway to the purchase of her first company Veterinary Lab Services, which was responsible for the blood testing and diagnosis of animal diseases. Subsequently, Julie moved to northern NSW and purchased a property, raising beef cattle and race horses which allowed her firsthand experience in animal husbandry. She was then given the opportunity to design and setup a new science block at St Hilda's School on the Gold Coast, as Laboratory Manager she was instrumental in developing a new Practical Biology curriculum for Senior School students. Other appointments included



neuroscience research, operations coordinator for Macquarie Pathology and as a consultant and Quality Manager in Aged Care. Her final business venture was as coordinator and managing director of AustAsia Pacific Health Services providing medical care to patients in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, closing the business in 2021 due to the Covid restrictions.

Julie's greatest strengths are her creativity, drive and leadership. She thrives on challenges, particularly those that expand her knowledge and utilise her entrepreneurial flare. Julie holds Bachelor degrees from USYD/UTS in Microbiology, Genetics and Transfusion, UNE in Geography, Archaeology and Anthropology, as well as the Diploma of Family History at UTAS. In addition she holds the Certificate of Genealogical Research from SAG and has completed her Master of Arts degree in History from UNE

last year. In her free time, Julie likes to travel, write books, research family history, genetics and war history. She is a member of the advisory board of the Kokoda Track Foundation as well as former Vice-President of the Pacific Islands Business Council and current President of Helensvale Probus. Her passion is molecular and anthropological DNA research.

A Biographical Dictionary of First Fleet Ships—Part 2

Charlotte (1784 to post-1816)

The *Charlotte* was built in the River in 1784 for a London financier. In addition to his other clients, **Robert Matthews** was the friend and agent of **Matthew Boulton**, the Birmingham engineer who commercialised the ground-breaking improvements to the steam engine made by **James Watt**, which helped to power the Industrial Revolution. The ship was named after his wife, **Charlotte Marlar**, a remarkable woman who would take over the management of the business following his untimely death in 1792.



Before negotiating the contract for the First Fleet, Matthews sent the *Charlotte* to St Petersburg twice, and once to Antigua. She was one of the three Botany Baymen taken up by the East India Company to backload with tea from China. On her return in June 1789, she was sold, and for the next decade and a half, she was a constant trader between London and Jamaica, sailing out with dry goods and plantation stores, and coming home with sugar and rum.

From 1805, she was employed by government as a naval transport, carrying troops to the Cape of Good Hope in support of yet another invasion, when the British captured that strategically important colony from the Dutch. In these years, she was one naval transport among many, and it is difficult to follow her movements. But in October 1816, she ran aground in the St Lawrence River (in Canada), losing her rudder and suffering other damage. Her captain took her to Quebec for repairs and sold her there. Her ultimate fate is unknown.

Fishburn (1780 to 1788)

Three colliers, all owned by the **Leighton** brothers of Sunderland, were taken up as storeships for the expedition to Botany Bay – the *Borrowdale*, the *Fishburn* and the *Golden Grove*.



The *Fishburn* had been constructed at Whitby by the legendary shipbuilder, **Thomas Fishburn**, who was also responsible for the *Earl of Pembroke*, a collier acquired by the Navy in the 1760s and renamed the *Endeavour*. In the six years prior to her being contracted for the First Fleet, the *Fishburn* was employed as a naval transport and an east country collier, and she undertook one voyage to Riga for lumber.

She arrived back from New South Wales in May 1789, one of four ships which returned home by rounding Cape Horn. In October of the same year, as she was making her way down from Newcastle with another cargo of coal, the *Fishburn* was wrecked on Gunfleet Sand, in the northern approach to the Thames. The crew were all saved but the ship was lost. It was probably her first commercial voyage after returning from New South Wales.

Friendship (1784 to 1788)

Built for the **Hopper** family at Scarborough, the 278-ton *Friendship* was launched in late 1784 and immediately sent to Antigua for a cargo of sugar and rum. After a short time in the coastal coal trade, she was dispatched to St Petersburg in June 1786, for iron, hemp and timber. She returned to the River in October, four days before she was offered to the Navy Board by **William Richards**, the First Fleet contractor.



The *Friendship* sailed from Port Jackson in July 1788, in company with the *Alexander*, the *Borrowdale* and the *Prince of Wales*, under the command of **Lieutenant John Shortland**, the agent for transports. They were to make their way through the East Indies and return home direct, but the *Borrowdale* and the *Prince of Wales* were separated in a storm shortly after sailing.

Having had almost no fresh fruit or vegetables for eight months, the crews of the *Alexander* and *Friendship* were suffering terribly from scurvy, and by the time they blundered into the Little Paternosters (the Balabalagan Islands) in the Macassar Strait, the *Alexander* had lost 10 men out of 30, and the *Friendship*, one out of 17. A number of those who remained were incapable of keeping a watch – and some of them would die shortly thereafter.



Exhausted from negotiating the shoals and the shallows of the Little Paternosters, Lieut. Shortland was (rightly) worried about an attack by pirates. He ordered the crew of the *Friendship* to be transferred to the *Alexander*, and on the evening of October 27 (October 28 by sea time), four holes were bored on either side of the bow, and she was cut adrift.

The coordinates given for the *Friendship*'s whereabouts were 2°36' South, 117° East: a chart drawn by Shortland's son showed her physical location.

Golden Grove (1780 to post-1805)

Designed for the Baltic trade, she began her life as the *Russian Merchant*, shuttling back and forth through the Danish Sound, twice a year. She was renamed the *Golden Grove* in 1782 and sent to the West Indies several times, before settling into the coastal coal trade, sailing between Newcastle and London.



On her return from New South Wales, she was briefly returned to the coal trade, and then spent most of the decade and a half that followed sailing between Liverpool and Riga (now the capital of Latvia) and Pärnu (in Estonia), to bring back masts and spars. There was the occasional mishap, but for the most part, under successive owners and masters, she had a workmanlike career.

However, in May 1805, as she was making her way home from Virginia, the *Golden Grove* was intercepted by a Spanish privateer and taken into Florida, where her captors fitted her out with six-pounders and swivel guns, for use as a privateer. Two months later, she was retaken in a daring raid by a group of British mariners and marines who had sailed up the St Marys River (which lies between Georgia and Florida) and attacked the privateers' base on the southern side of the water.

Her ultimate fate is unknown, but she was almost certainly sold in the Americas.

From: 'A Fine Passage': Insights into Early Australian Convict Transportation. A periodic newsletter publishing new research into early Australian convict transportation Gary L. Sturgess, Sydney, Australia. +61 (0)419 734180. gary@sturgess.org

*Gary L. Sturgess AOIA+

*Paintings of the First Fleet Ships by Frank Allen

To be continued

Yvonne Bradley—Hunter Valley Chapter Member

First Fleet Ancestor-Matthew Everingham Member No 7241

I was a child of perhaps 10, sitting on the back steps of our home in Adamstown, chatting to my Father while he rested after working around the house on a sunny weekend.

Dad was **Hillery Andrew McDonald**, a leading Hand Electrical Linesman, and Union Rep for NSW Railways.

To me, Dad was a handsome, quiet and kind Father and husband to my Mother **Agnes** previously **Kellett**, a young Seamstress from Stockton Newcastle. I could not have adored anyone more than my Dad.

I had heard at school Australia was an Island, inhabited by the Aboriginal race and that's the main thing I remembered.

How did we come here? I asked Dad, secretly, as an only child I had a very healthy dose of imagination. I was convinced I was an English Princess either lost or whisked away for my own safety.

Dad rolled his cigarette slowly, "all in bloody chains". They are the words I will always remember.

He told me the story of the myth of the Everingham millions and some fellow had gone to England to find proof of this story. He never returned. Probably had a lovely holiday then scampered off on the money raised to send him overseas to search for Matthew's non-existent millions. **Matthew Everingham's** name was really never discussed again to my memory. No existing Land Grants of Matthew Everingham are still held in my family. Nor do I have any memorabilia of interest to First Fleeters.

I was educated at Newcastle Hunter High School to Intermediate level. I first worked as a junior in the legal office, **Armstrong** and **Randall** for about 2 years, but happily found my niche in Retail Ladieswear starting as a salesgirl, ending up as Company Buyer for 2 of Newcastle's larger Stores, Newcastle Co.Op and Johns Limited. then sole trader in my own business "The Junction Lingerie Boutique" in Newcastle.

By 2006, with time on my hands after my second husband's early passing, I joined the Fellowship. **Ray Meredith** asked me to join his Hunter Valley Chapter. The problem was Ray always phoned me on the day they were meeting on a Saturday and I could never attend.

On May 19 2007 **John Haxton** put an ad. in the Newcastle Herald for interested descendants of First Fleeters to attend a luncheon at Butlers Function Room on the May 19 to re-establish the Hunter Valley Chapter. The **Rev. John Brooker** and his wife **Elizabeth, Rhondda Glass**,

Irma Foster, **Bruce Donaldson's** interest by phone and myself attended. **Jean Mortimer** CLO ably assisted John Haxton.

Our second meeting was exciting, we had 16 show up, all keen to take office, we were on our way!

I have served from the beginning, as minutes secretary to Beth Brooker, then as Secretary, Vice President, lastly Guest Speakers and Outings Officer.

I think the huge benefit of belonging to a Chapter for me was meeting other descendants of convicts, sharing stories and knowing others have felt the grief for a relative who had suffered so much. Matthew Everingham was an orphan, he said his relatives did not want him. A boy of perhaps 14 years when he was arrested for theft. He had been educated by the Bluecoat School in London, first set up by Edward V1 as a foundling hospital in Newgate Street London. He would possibly have been sent to the lawyer Samuel Shepherd to work as a copywriter from the school. He became very ill with a flu like illness and his landlady threatened to turn him out of his room, for not paying his rent as he was too ill to work. He was alone and just 14!

Matthew borrowed some legal books from another Law firm pretending his Master needed them, then he pawned the books after forging a letter from Samuel Shepherd pretending ownership.

On July 17 1784 he was sentenced to transportation for 7 years He arrived on the Censor hulk probably in chains on September 6 aged then 15 years. He spent 3 years working and living on the stinking hulk before being sent to Portsmouth on February 24 1787 to wait for the sailing on 27th

Where is there not grief in this story?

I've heard worse stories from incoming members of the Hunter Valley Chapter. I think many convicts who arrived later than the First Fleet had a much harder time assigned to some of the free landowners.

One part of Matthew's life was indeed joy. His former employer **Samuel Shepherd** regretted the whole episode, becoming Matthew's best friend. They corresponded from the time of his conviction until 1792. Samuel also supported Matthew financially.

The placing of the First Fleeter plaque on the grave of **Joseph Trimby** at the Glebe Cemetery was my reward of service to the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

My children and grandchildren are not interested in any association with the Fellowship. That is no reflection on their respect or feelings for Matthew Everingham or his fellow Convicts.



A costumed Yvonne Bradley at the grave of FF Joseph Trimby in Glebe Cemetery, East Maitland.

A message from Hunter Valley President, Terry Musgrave. "I owe my membership of our Foundation to cousin Yvonne (Everingham). We met at a First Fleeter exhibition on the foreshore of the Hunter on January 26 some years ago. Our committee refers to Yvonne on many matters."

Articles for Founders

You might have noticed that some of our Chapter members have been interviewed for articles in Founders. **Ray Morgan** 54.5 (Botany Bay), **Colin Robertson** 54.6 (North Coast) and **Yvonne Bradley** 55.1 (Hunter Valley).

This came about following a suggestion from **Carol Macklin**, Botany Bay Chapter secretary. Carol wrote:

"I am writing with a suggestion for a possible regular article in Founders. I know we do include some brief details of members who have recently passed on, but I would like to suggest we feature an article about a current ageing member, their memories of being a First Fleeter and about their own life and achievements. In this way we can capture some of these histories before they are gone.

Reasons for the suggestion:

- Capture the "old" stories/memories/family connections of current older members before they are lost.
- Help provide more connections between members and Chapters through seeing new links.
- Add a human interest factor to editions of Founders
- Help highlight the personal characteristics/contributions through the generations
- Focus on/record the achievements/personal characteristics of current descendants
- Foster even more pride in our ancestors down the line
- Record a chain of achievements of families where this does not exist?"

Founders is keen for more articles to be submitted for publication.



Tuesday, February 6 2024 | 12 pm | \$95 per person

In conjunction with the Royal Automobile Club of Australia

89 Macquarie St, Sydney

Guest Speaker: **Roderick Best** (FFF Director)



Judge Advocate David Collins

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL—
Please RSVP at your earliest

BOOK THROUGH THE RACA
WEBSITE

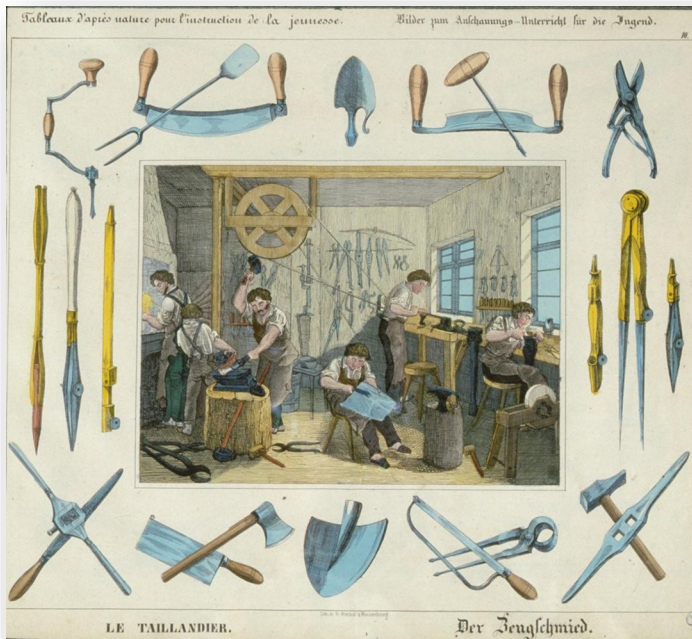
<https://www.raca.com.au>

FF JAMES WILLIAMS Marine 'HMS Sirius' (c1760–1820)

James Williams was born in Wrexham, Denbighshire, Wales, c1760.

The U.K., Registers of Duties Paid for Apprentices, 1710–1811, records.

June 8 1774 — **Daniel Roberts** of Wrexham, edge tool maker — Apprentice, James Williams. Unfortunately Daniel Roberts, now or late of Wrexham in Denbighshire, Edge Tool Maker, is in the list of bankrupts published in 'The Gentleman's Monthly Intelligencer' Vol. 49 1780.



An Edge-Tool Maker's Workshop ("Le taillandier = Der Zeugschmied," 1847 drawing or painting by Jean Frédéric Wentzel, Bibliothèque nationale de France)

James would have been looking for another job, so perhaps this is the reason he joined the marine corps on March 16 1782. James was about 21 years of age and soon left Great Britain to serve in the East Indies from 1783–1785. He then returned to England and became a private marine of the 23rd Portsmouth Company.

When James was near 27 years of age, he joined *Sirius* as part of the ship's complement on February 24 1787. He was described as being 5ft 8ins (173cm) tall, with a long, dark complexioned face, black hair and hazel eyes.

Sirius was the Flagship of the First Fleet and was under the command of **Captain Arthur Philip**, who was to become the first Governor of New South Wales. It sailed out of Portsmouth along with the other ten ships on May 13 1787 in what was to become an historic voyage, arriving into Port Jackson after an eight-month passage on January 26 1788.

James may have wondered if he would survive the harsh life in the early days of the Colony, because he made a Will, signed by him and witnessed by **John Hunter** and **John Palmer**, which is kept in the National Archives in Britain. It states:

*In the Name of God Amen. I James Williams Private Marine onboard His Majesty's Ship Sirius, No. on the Marine List 12, being in bodily health and of sound and disposing mind and memory, and considering the danger and perils of the seas and other uncertainties of this transitory life, do for avoiding controvercies after my decease, make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner following (that is to say). First I recommend my Soul to God that gave it, and my body I commit to the earth or sea, as it shall please God to order, and as for and concerning all my worldly estate, I give bequeath and dispose thereof as followeth, that is to say, all such wages, sum or sums of money whatsoever, as shall be any ways due owing or belonging to me at the time of my decease, for my service onboard His Majesty's Ship Sirius I do give devise and bequeath the same unto my beloved friend **William Standley**, Private Marine onboard His Majesty's said Ship. And I do hereby nominate and appoint the said William Standley the sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former and other wills, testaments and deeds of gifts by me at any time heretofore made. And I do ordain and ratify these prescents to stand and be for, and as my only last will and testament. Revokable from and in my name, in witness whereof to this my said will, I have set my hand and seal the thirtieth day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty eight, and in the twenty eighth year of the Reign of his Majesty King George the third over Great Britain etc.*

Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of

Jno. Hunter 2nd Captain

Jno. Palmer, Purser

(signature) James Williams

James was sent to Norfolk Island soon after, on October 2 1788 by *Golden Grove*. He was one of the marines who guarded the convicts to ensure law and order in the settlement. All was going well for James until April 26 1789, when he became involved in a quarrel with a convict and then fought with another marine. He received 24 lashes by order of **Lieutenant King** and was given extra duties. The following month James had his shirt stolen by the convict **Thomas Watson**.

He left Norfolk Island on February 11 1791 by *Supply* and on March 14 was discharged from the ship's books to the Port Jackson detachment. Deciding to become a settler he returned to Norfolk Island by *Atlantic* on 26 October 1791 and was granted 60 acres on the left side of Cascade Road, Phillipsburg, selling grain to the stores. James again left the island in September of 1792 on *Atlantic* and joined as a soldier in the NSW Corps. He soon returned to Norfolk Island with the Corps, leaving Port Jackson on *Kitty* on January 21 1793.

Rachael survived another twenty years, dying on February 10 1840, aged about 80, at Botany, where she lived with her daughter Susannah and son Michael. Following a Service at Christ Church St Laurence C of E in Sydney, Rachael was probably buried with her husband, James Williams, at Sydney Burial Ground.



James met **Rachael Watkins**, convict, on Norfolk Island, and they probably had a common law marriage, as no marriage record has been found. Rachael was born in Hereford c.1759, but little of her early life is known. Aged near 26 years, Rachael was convicted and found guilty of breaking and entering and sentenced to 7 years transportation. She sailed on *Neptune* in the Second Fleet, arriving in Sydney on June 28 1790. One month later, Rachael was placed on board *Surprise* and transferred to Norfolk Island on July 28 1790.

Rachael bore two children, **Susannah** and **Ann**, on Norfolk Island and left there with them sometime between 1795 and 1798. After returning to Sydney, James and Rachael had two more children, **Sarah** and **Michael**, making a family of three daughters and one son. They lived at 28 Cumberland Street, The Rocks, in a house James had earlier acquired. It was sold in 1803, when they moved to another residence.

James enlisted in the 102nd Regiment and joined the Invalid Company, also known as the Royal Veterans, on March 25 1810. He continued working for this Company until he died on March 16 1820, aged about 70, whilst on guard duty at South Head. After a Service at St Philip's Church of England James was buried in the Sydney burial ground.



Soldier of the Royal New South Wales Veteran Regiment

Joan Phipps # 6854

Note: Companies of Invalids and Veterans had been formed from the earliest years of the British Army. Their members were men considered unfit for active service but fit for guard duty. The first to serve in NSW was raised in 1810 at the instigation of **Governor Macquarie** and consisted of men from the 102nd Regiment (formally the NSW Corps) which returned to England in 1810. Members of the Regiment were old soldiers who had been from 20 years or more in Australia, many had married and received land grants. The Commander was **Captain John Brabyn**. Soldiers joined from 1810 to 1817 and remained, if fit, until the Regiment was dispersed in 1823.

<http://www.bda-online.org.au>

Information written by **Mal Sainty**

The Fellowship and the Museum of Sydney

A number of members have asked why the Fellowship is involved with the future of the Museum of Sydney when the Fellowship is an Australia wide organisation that has grown beyond its origins in Sydney.

The Board felt that it might be helpful to set out our connection with the Museum.

The involvement of the Fellowship.

In 1983 plans were announced for the building of a multi-storey building on the corner of Bridge and Phillip Streets Sydney. A meeting was held between the Fellowship and one of its connected family associations, the **James Bloodsworth** Family Association, with officers of the State Superannuation Board and Northpoint Holdings being the owners of the land and the proposed developers. That meeting failed to gain any assurance of an archaeological dig prior to building or the preservation of the footings of the building once on the site.

As a result, a public meeting was held where the Fellowship (and others) spoke. This gained national media coverage. One result of this public meeting was the formation of the Friends of First Government House Site. The Fellowship gave in kind assistance to the formation of this association by making available its legal representative to help draft the Constitution.

In September 1983, Sydney City Council refused development approval for the site. The Australian Heritage Commission registered the heritage significance of the site and Conybeare Morrison were appointed to prepare a conservation management plan.

In 1986 the then Premier, **Neville Wran**, announced a competition for the best design for the site.

As part of that development a museum was incorporated to provide interpretation of the site and its importance. This was done against the opposition of the then director of what was a predecessor organisation to the current Museums of History, NSW. The Museum was also to highlight aspects of the history of Sydney generally, in the manner of equivalent museums in London, Paris and elsewhere. The Museum was called the Museum of Sydney on the site of the First Government House.

So why is this site important?


On this site was built the First Government House. The builder was the First Fleeter, James Bloodworth. The first occupants were First Fleeters like **Arthur Phillip** and **David Collins**.

It is the only piece of land containing tangible remnants that go back to the times of the First Fleet. It was the epicentre of the colonial world of eastern Australia and of the British Empire in this part of the globe. Our ancestors received their first land grants, went to petition for redress or to help build their lives and their families.

The land has significant relevance to the Colonists. It is important as a site where the Colonists reached out to Aboriginal people and in particular **Abaroo**, **Coleby** and **Bennelong**.

This site has a continual connection with our families from 1788 to the present. This connection is as strong now as it was in the 1980s.

Roderick Best #1116




A Salute to Jacob Nagle:

American Patriot and First Fleeter

Saturday, May 18, 2024

11:00am Memorial Dedication
Westbrook Veterans Memorial Park, Canton, Ohio

1:00pm Luncheon
MAPS Air Museum, North Canton, Ohio



The celebration begins at Westbrook Veterans memorial park in Canton where the memorial plaques for the DAR, SAR and Fellowship of First Fleeters will be dedicated. A lunch and program at the MAPS Air Museum will follow.

For information on reserved seating, lunch tickets and preferred accommodation please contact:
jacobnagleproject@gmail.com

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 Meetings:** 17 February, 16 March
Next Event: **Contact:** Ian Anderson 0426 147 365

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 February: Sue Williams *Elizabeth and Elizabeth*, 15 March: TBA
 19 April: TBA **Next Event:** **Contact:** Judith O'Shea 0448 252 167

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

Venue: Our Lady of Fatima Church, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst. Monthly on third Tuesday 10.30am. **Next Meetings:** 20 February: Anne Fields *Moorefields Racecourse*, 19 March: Bill Phippen *The Search for the Morse Photos*, April 16: Ian Burnett *Sir Joseph Banks*
Contact: Carol Macklin 0415 376 434

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Event:** **Contact:** Toni Pike 0410 412 778

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:** **Next Event:** 10 February: Coffee Catch Up, March 9: Stephanie Wood *French in the Early Colony*, April 13: KerrieAnne Christian *DNA* **Contact:** Margaret Morelli 02 4362 2042

DERWENT – *Southern Tasmania NB: New Venue*

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37A Lincoln St. **Next Meeting:** 3 February: John Stephenson *Bushrangers and Town Name* **Next Event:** **Contact:** Lorraine Polglase 03 6225 5221

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 Meeting:** **Next Event:** **Contact:** Jennifer Follers (02) 9799 1161

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

Venue: Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor, second Saturday of each month **Next Meeting:** 10 February: 10:30 for 11am Steve Ford *Land Records* RSVP, 13 April: Ron Moore *Kokoda Track Walk* **Next Event:** 9 March: Visit to the “Tannery Museum” Windsor, 10:45, RSVP required
Contact: William Hempel 0410 950 101

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

Venue: Teralba Community Hall Supper Room. 15 Anzac Pde Teralba—bi-monthly meetings, usually third Monday –9:45 for 10am start -12.30pm. **Next Meeting:** 19 February: John Shortland, lunch to follow at a local hotel **Next Event:** **Contact:** Kerry Neinert (02)49615083.

MORETON – *Brisbane and South East Queensland.*

Venue: St. Augustine's Anglican Church Hall, Hamilton – bi-monthly meetings, at 10 am on 2nd Saturday, unless otherwise advised **Next Meeting:** 17 February: (Please note change of date for this meeting only) Julie Webb *Viking Genealogy and DNA Triangulation* **Next Event:** March—details TBA at February meeting **Contact:** Jan Grant 0403 193 647

NORTH COAST – *Nambucca Heads, Boambee, Coffs Harbour, Dorrigo to Woolgoolga, Clarence Valley and surrounding areas.*

Venue: Either at various Halls or Members' Homes, bi-monthly, usually first Sunday at 10.30am. **Next Meeting:** 4 February, Mylestom Hall, 18-20 River Street, Mylestom, Speaker TBA, 13 March: Committee Meeting, Sawtell Bowling Club. 1 Lyons Road, Sawtell, 2 June: at the home of Margaret and Joe Bass, 95 Ferretts Road, Nana Glen, Speaker TBA **Next Event:** **Contact:** Robyn Condliffe 0420 923 140 or (02)6653 6315

NORTHERN RIVERS – *Ballina and surrounding districts*

Venue: Ballina Cherry Street Sports and Bowling Club – bi-monthly meetings, fourth Sunday at 10.30am followed by lunch; **Next Meeting:** **Contact:** Roddy Jordan (02)6687 5339

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meeting:** **Next Event:** **Contact:** Janet McLean 0438 465 529

PORT PHILLIP—*Melbourne and Regional Victoria.*

Venue: Various; quarterly meetings, days and times vary **Next Meeting:** **Contact:** Peter Yates pyatesfff@gmail.com

SOUTH COAST – *Engadine to Burrill Lake.*

NB: New Venue: Artisan Room, Wests Illawarra Club, Unanderra – monthly except. Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm **Next Meeting:** 6 February: Show and Tell, 5 March: Robyn Menghi *Ned Kelly or alternative* 2 April: Lorraine Neate *Illawarra Historical Society's new book—"Misfortune or Fraud? Illawarra and the 1840s Depression"* **Next Event:** **Contact:** Tony Burns scoastcfff@gmail.com

SWAN RIVER – *Perth, Fremantle and surrounds.*

Venue: 16 Inwood Place Murdoch, bi-monthly, usually first Saturday, at 2pm. **Next Meetings:** 3 February: Richard Offen, 6 April: Speaker TBA **Next Event:** **Contact:** Margaret Hutchinson kimandandmaggie@bigpond.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you to the Chapters who submitted details of their upcoming meetings and events. Closing date for this page for the next issue is **18 March 2024**

Welcome to New Members

Ordinary Members

JACOB BELLETT

#9274 Donna Hazel O'Shea

ELIZABETH THOMAS

#9275 Denise Mary Lay

Friend Member

F219 Heather Caroline Hicks

Birth

JAMES BRADLEY

Luna Wave Brown born November 26 2023, great granddaughter of #6658 Viva Brown.

Death

FRASER/REDCHESTER ELLEN/ELEANOR

6468 Raymond Victor Morgan died on September 4 2023.

From page 1.

The stories of Frances Mintz and Mary Marshall, based on research by Mollie Gillen, are among the stories of 12 First Fleeters inscribed onto plaques on at the First Fleet Memorial Garden at Matraville, NSW. Their remains were transferred to Botany Cemetery in 1901 after the cemetery at Devonshire Street, Sydney, was resumed to allow for the development of Central Railway Station.



Statues of Arthur Phillip and one of his greyhounds make up part of the First Fleeters memorial at Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park. Picture: John Appleyard The Southern Courier (Daily Telegraph)

From the Mail Bag

Thank you very much for the article on **John Gowen** (August and October 2023). I am a direct descendent of John Gowen through my mother's side, **Janice Christian** (nee Husband). My mother's cousin, **Sid Norris**, completed an impressive amount of research on John Gowen, in the 1990s, when information was not as easy to come by as it is today, with the internet, DNA testing kits and family tree sites.

I really enjoyed reading the extra information your article supplied on John Gowen. We had a reasonable account of his life but this has filled in some gaps including why he moved to Kiama. I just wanted to express my thanks to whomever wrote the article on John Gowen.

In response to your query back in August 'Which FF had the longest lifespan?' John Gowen was 74 when he passed. These were pretty good ages to reach at a time when life was tougher and medical knowledge was limited.

Kind regards **Linda Holloway** (nee Christian)

The late Mary Kell in the Australia Day Honours list

FFF Life Member, the late **Mrs Mary Isabel Kell**, has been posthumously awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division for service to the community through a range of volunteer roles. You will find a tribute to Mary in Founders 54.6.

Chapter Secretaries

ALBURY-WODONGA DISTRICT

Ian Anderson 0426 147 365

ARTHUR PHILLIP

Judith O'Shea 0448 252 167

BOTANY BAY

Carol Macklin 0415 376 434

CANBERRA

Geoff Lamb 02 6231 5548

CENTRAL COAST

Margaret Morelli

02 4362 2042

DERWENT

Lorraine Polglase 03 6225 5221

EASTERN FARMS

Jennifer Follers 02 9799 1161

HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN

William Hempel 0410 950 101

HUNTER VALLEY

Kerry Neinert 02 4961 5083

MORETON

Jan Grant 07 5491 1891

NORTH COAST

Robyn Condliffe 02 6653 3615

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