

Founders

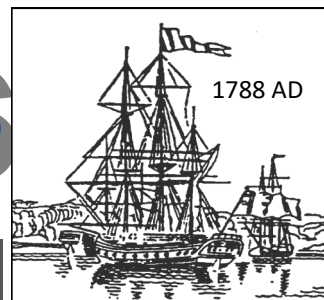
Magazine of the Fellowship of First Fleeters

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PATRON: Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC

VICE PATRON: Commodore Paul Kable AM RAN Retd



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56th Year of Publication

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

A Biographical Dictionary of First Fleet Ships—Part 4

Sirius (1781 to 1790)



HMS Sirius began her life as the *Berwick*, an 'east country ship', but was purchased by the Navy Board 'off the stocks', sheathed with copper and fitted out as a ship of war. She was sent to North America in the final stages of the War of Independence before being paid off. On being selected for the Botany Bay expedition, she was overhauled and renamed the *Sirius*, under the command of **Captain Arthur Phillip**, the commodore of the fleet and Governor elect of the new colony.

She was sent to the Cape of Good Hope in October 1788 when the settlement was short on supplies: this involved a voyage around the world, part of the way through fogs and icebergs, with men who were suffering badly from scurvy. On her return, Phillip planned on sending her to China for more provisions, but on the 19th of March 1790, she was driven onto a coral reef off Norfolk Island and wrecked. The crew made their way ashore without loss of life.

The remains of the *Sirius* have been closely studied by archaeologists, the site was heritage-listed by the Australian government in 2011, and in 2013, the HMS Sirius Museum was established on shore, 100 metres from the wreck.

Supply (1759 to post 1806)



An armed tender of 175 tons burthen, the *Supply* was the smallest of the First Fleet ships. She was built for the Navy in 1759 and over the first 27 years of her life, she was employed in shifting naval stores between the southern ports. The *Supply* was taken up for Botany Bay in October 1786, after the Navy Board rejected several other vessels as unfit for the expedition.

The loss of the *Sirius* in March 1790 meant that the colony was wholly reliant on this small ship for provisions: she was immediately dispatched to Batavia for much-needed provisions, although it was necessary to charter a Dutch vessel to bring back the bulk of the supplies. She was sent to England in November 1791 and auctioned off in July of the following year.

Her new owner named her the *Thomas and Nancy*, and she spent the next seven or eight years as a collier working between Newcastle and London. She was last surveyed in 1799 and disappears from the official record shortly thereafter.

Continued on page 4

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



As winter settles in, it's time to reflect on our recent activities and upcoming events. Here are some highlights and key dates for the Fellowship of First Fleeters community:

Historical Commemorations:

Norfolk Island Anniversary: Just six weeks after the First Fleet's arrival at Sydney Cove, a small contingent settled on Norfolk Island on 6 March 1788. The wreck of *HMS Sirius* on 19 March 1790 at Sydney Bay N.I. was a devastating blow, leaving the settlers on the Island and at Sydney Cove limited to only one ship for contact with the outside world – a very precarious position. This event is commemorated annually on the island with enthusiastic celebrations and interesting activities.

ANZAC Day: This remains Australia's most revered day, where we honour all who have served in the Armed Forces. The day's sanctity and importance continue to resonate deeply within the community.

South Coast Chapter has celebrated 100 issues of their bulletin *Colony* – congratulations on a continuous record of Fellowship and member activities in your area.

Commonwealth Updates:

King Charles III's Coronation Anniversary: The 6 May marked the first anniversary of **King Charles III's** coronation. We appreciate his earnest commitment to his duties, continued in spite of his recent cancer diagnosis, and wish him well for a full recovery.

Extension of Governor's Term: We are pleased to report that King Charles III has approved a two-year extension for **Her Excellency Hon Margaret Beazley** as Governor of NSW.

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC Governor of New South Wales and **Mr Dennis Wilson**, have accepted our invitation to attend a morning tea and see the operations at First Fleet House - on **Monday 1 July 2024**. This will provide an opportunity for her to meet our directors and learn more about our work, especially given her personal connection as a descendant of a First Fleeter and her Patronage. We made several attempts during Covid to hold this visit but were thwarted by outbreaks.

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Cultural and Educational Activities:

237th Anniversary of the First Fleet's Departure: On May 10, past FFF Vice President, **Denis Smith OAM**, chaired a meeting of the Sydney-Portsmouth Sister City Committee to celebrate this historical moment. Guest Speaker, Ian Burnet's presentation focussed on FF convicts **Susanna Holmes** and **Henry Kable** (the first couple to be married in the colony). Theirs was the first civil case in the colony when, as litigants, they petitioned to be heard before the Judge-Advocate about their lost or stolen goods. The case raised the quandary: How Governors were to govern the colonists – under military law or civilian law.

Scholarship and Essay Prize: We continue to offer a scholarship and an essay prize to students accepted into Australian universities.

The Board sincerely hopes that our members and friends are encouraging likely candidates to apply for either the Scholarship or the Essay prize.

Details are available in Founders magazine (55.2, page 5).

Direct your inquiries to fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Organisational Updates:

Monthly FFF Board Reports: Due to an operational glitch these reports went into hibernation. They have been reinstated as they are a means of keeping chapters informed about the directors' activities and significant organisational matters.

Upcoming Events:

Annual General Meeting: Hosted by North Coast Chapter: Booked for October 24, 2024 at 10am at the Coffs Harbour Surf Club where lunch will be served afterwards. More AGM details will be forthcoming by August. Hopefully you will attend and extend afterwards for a short holiday break.

Book accommodation early due to the popularity of the location.

Australia Day Luncheon 2025: The date has been booked for a Sydney Harbour cruise on Captain Cook 3 on Saturday 1 February, departing 12noon. Last year's event was highly successful, and we anticipate similar enthusiasm this year. Booking details will be included in a future issue of *Founders*.

New Members Morning Tea: Dates to be announced shortly.

We look forward to your active participation and engagement in these events and initiatives. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. If you wish to make contact to discuss a matter of special interest, please email to the attention of the Board: fffaus@optusnet.com.au

Gillian Doyle President

Alexander Aitken elected to the Fellowship Board

Born in Koorda in the northeastern wheatbelt of WA in 1947, I left school at 14 to go back to the farm where I took over after the death of my father in 1963.

Married in 1968 to Julie Anderson, we remained farming through a series of droughts starting in 1969 and left farming in the 1980's, moving to Perth in 1989.

I have since worked extensively in the Agricultural Chemical and Merchandise industries in sales, marketing, product development and agronomy. I moved on to Wesfarmers Rural Division and finally ended my career there as State Merchandise Manager for what was then Wesfarmers-Dalgety.

A family company formed in 2000, employing our daughter, and environmental scientist who worked in the Mining and Oil and Gas industries seconded me to work for the family company where my role mainly involves Land Access and Stakeholder Management and manager of the GIS systems we use.

In 2014 I co-founded Outback Grave Markers Inc and remain heavily involved as Chairman and acting Treasurer. Julie is the senior researcher and quality control for entries into the website that provides the public access to a database of more than 3,300 deaths of pioneers across WA, Qld and SA.

A Biographical Dictionary of First Fleet Ships—Part 4 (cont.)

Her new owner named her the *Thomas and Nancy*, and she spent the next seven or eight years as a collier working between Newcastle and London. She was last surveyed in 1799 and disappears from the official record shortly thereafter.

Summary

Six of these ships were of northern origin, four were River-built, and one of them was launched at Sidmouth on the south-west coast. The *Supply* was 27 years old, but the merchantmen were all new, with an average age of around two and a half, if the *Prince of Wales* is regarded as a new-build.

None of the merchant ships specialised in any one trade, and the *Supply*, built in the King's Yard at Deptford, was sold to the private sector and used as a collier when she was no longer fit for naval service. Other than her voyage to and from Botany Bay, the *Borrowdale* was only ever employed in the coal trade, but that is because she was wrecked so soon after her return. Three other merchantmen were engaged at one time as colliers, but they were also used for a variety of other cargoes.

The naval transportation service was a reliable source of revenue in time of war, yet only five of the nine merchantmen were used in that way at some stage throughout their lives (outside of the First Fleet, of course). Only one of them, the *Scarborough*, signed up for a second voyage to New South Wales.

Given the attention now being paid to Britain's long involvement in the slave trade, and the controversy surrounding **Camden, Calvert & King**, the contractors for Second Fleet, it is striking that the *Prince of Wales* was the only one of these ships that was ever employed in the Africa trade.

At the time the First Fleet was being commissioned, the merchants involved in the Southern Whale Fishery had only just turned their attention to the Indian and Pacific Oceans, which were still protected by the East India Company's monopoly. It seems likely, then, that the

Mather family was using the *Prince of Wales* to explore the possibilities.

Seven of the merchantmen undertook voyages to and from the West Indies at some point in their career, several of them as constant traders. This has been generally understood, but historians have not previously recognised the strong links to the Baltic trade – of the eight First Fleet merchantmen that had previously been to sea, half of them had undertaken a voyage into the Baltic immediately prior to being taken up for New South Wales. This probably tells us something about how **William Richards** sourced his ships, a subject that requires closer study.

Even more enlightening is how these ships ended their careers. The *Sirius* and the *Friendship* never made it home. The *Borrowdale* and the *Fishburn* were wrecked in storms off the east coast of England six months after their return. The *Alexander* and the *Scarborough* were destroyed at sea in 1805-06; the *Charlotte* ran aground in the St Lawrence River in 1816, and was sold to local interests.

Three of them were taken by privateers. The *Lady Penrhyn* was destroyed by her captors in 1811; the *Golden Grove* was retaken and sold in North America; the *Prince of Wales* was acquired by British investors and her maritime career was to last for another three and a half decades.

Only the *Supply*, auctioned off following her return to Britain in 1792 and dedicated to the quotidian trade of an east coast collier, enjoyed a quiet existence.

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

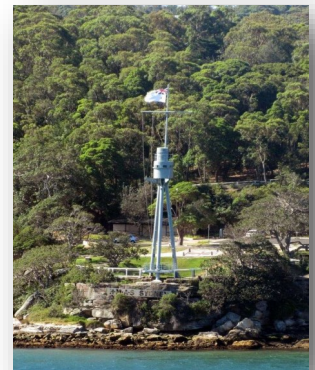
Correction

On page 3 in Founders 55.2 it was reported that the memorial mast was salvaged from the wreck of *HMAS Sydney 1*.

It was not taken from a wreck. The ship was victorious over the German ship *Emden* in World War 1. It was *HMAS Sydney 2* that was lost with all hands in World War 2 after action with the German *Kormoran*.

HMAS Sydney 1 Memorial Mast, Bradley's Head, Mosman, Sydney, NSW

The address given by Vice-Patron Commodore Paul at our celebration of Australia Day will be published in the next issue of Founders.



Are you planning to visit First Fleet House?

We are all volunteers at First Fleet House. There is usually someone there on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am and 3pm but not always.

If planning to visit FF House please telephone at least a week in advance. Leave a message with your name, phone number and planned date to visit. A volunteer at First Fleet House will get back to organise your planned visit. Telephone: (02)9360 3788 Email: membershipfff@optusnet.com.au

HMAT Supply and HMS Sirius

HMAT Supply was the smallest ship commissioned to accompany the First Fleet to New Holland - Australia. As a two-masted ship she was recorded as a 175 ton brig.

Built in 1759 as a yard craft she was designed by shipwright **Thomas Slade** for the purpose of ferrying supplies to naval/military installations along the coast of England. Her initial cost was 1,496 pounds and she measured 79 feet 4 inches (24.2 metres) with a hold depth of 11 feet 6 inches (3.51 metres). When supplying goods to the coastal installations of England she was armed with 4 X 3 pounder cannons and 6 X ½ pounder swivel guns. When assigned to join the other ships of the First Fleet that were to come here she was fitted with extra armaments that included a further 4 X 12 pounder cannonades. When initially coming into service in 1759 *HMAT Supply* had a complement of 14 men. When projected to come here as a supply and armed ship the complement increased to 55 men, most of them Marines.

When hearing of her inclusion in the fleet that was being garnered to come here **2nd Lieutenant Phillip Gidley King** was surprised. His initial comment was “her size is much too small for so long a voyage”. He added that he doubted her capacity to carry enough provisions to sustain this new colony. He had good reason to be sceptical – apart from being a small ship her bow was blunt as it was built to ferry goods in calm waters and not built for plowing through heavy seas. Built by a shipwright rather than large and more experienced shipbuilders, she was also not built for long voyages. As such she was a slow but steady ship. And yet...

The rule for measuring tonnage in shipping was complicated and took many turns over the years but very roughly it is the amount of water displaced and is measured in the difference of water displacement from an empty ship to a fully laden ship. There are a number of complicated formulas but roughly all come back to water displacement, taking into account a number of alternate and changing factors of different ships.

The question of whether this little ship was *HMS Supply* or **HMAT Supply** has recently caused some conjecture. The ship was initially commissioned as His Majesty's Armed Tender and not His Majesty's Service and when she arrived here she was again officially known and recorded as His Majesty's Armed Tender. Another ship, *New Brunswick*, was commissioned in 1793 in England and renamed *HMS Supply*. She also was sent to Australia and thus has caused some confusion in discussion of the ship *Supply*.

In the years after 1790 following the accidental sinking of *HMS Sirius*, until November 1792 when *HMAT Supply* sustained damage that required her to return to England, this ship was critical to the survival of the burgeoning settlement, repeatedly travelling to Cape Town and

Batavia for essential supplies. She was the only ship in the colony following the departure of the rest of the First Fleet until *Lady Juliana* arrived mid 1790. But *Lady Juliana* stayed here for only a matter of weeks as she had a commission from the East India Company to sail to China for a supply of tea for England following the discharge of the female convicts so was unable to assist with obtaining extra supplies for the colony. And the ships of the Second Fleet, arriving just after *Lady Juliana*, (*Scarborough*, *Surprize*, *HMS Guardian*, *Neptune* and *Justinian*) also had other commitments and were unable to assist. (Please note: *Lady Juliana* was not part of the Second Fleet. As stated only one of these ships carries the title of HMS, therefore it is only ships belonging to the government that carry these titles. The other ships that were rented by the Government are not entitled to carry these nomenclatures.)

There have been three ships named *Supply* but only the one that came to Australia in 1788, staying until 1792 carries the nomenclature of *HMAT Supply*. The second ship with this name came to Australia in 1793 but she was named *HMS Supply*. And a fourth ship named *Supply* has also been noted, operating as a Sydney Ferry for some years.

This little ship served the countries of England and Australia well, having given service of 26 years to England before giving 4 years and 4 months of service to Australia, possibly saving many lives in her delivery of essential supplies.

It is worth noting that another form of HMAT exists now – that of His Majesties Australian Troopships but this of course is recent and has nothing to do with *HMAT Supply*.

Elizabeth Warren #8793

Naming Protocol

The Fellowship plans, going forward, to name the ships the *HMS Sirius* and *HMAT Supply*.

On page 6 of his journal entitled *The Voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay with an Account of the Establishment of the Colonies of Port Jackson and Norfolk Island*, **Governor Phillip** refers to *HMS Sirius* and *HMAT Supply* in relation to the First Fleet.

Watch Out—Scammers Are About

Some members have reported that they have received emails which appear to come from a legitimate email address but are actually a scam. If you are unsure, do not reply to the email you are concerned about and contact the person directly. Don't open or download any suspicious attachments or apps. or click on any links.

Involvement of Junior and Student Members

Some time ago the Fellowship had a newsletter (separate to *Founders*) specifically for Junior Members. The Board has noted that the percentage of members who are Junior or Student members has declined over the last decade. A number of reasons why this might be the case have been discussed by the Board and to address this concern you will have seen in the last issue of *Founders* a proposal for a scholarship and an essay prize.

Another approach is to have a publication (possibly solely digital) that was just for junior and student members. This publication would contain items of interest to these classes of membership and to provide a forum where their voice might be heard and they could talk to each other.

Would one of our members be interested in being the editor/publisher of such an on-line newsletter/site?



If you are then please contact me Rod Best at membershipfff@optusnet.com.au or by mail to FF House.

Are you a member who is still in full time employment?

As part of the work the Strategic Working Parties we received a number of comments from Chapters that their membership was aging and they could not recruit younger members. In some cases this was because the Chapter met mid-week, but this did not apply to all Chapters – even though all Chapters seem to have the same problem.

Attendance at Chapter and FFF general events seems to also reflect this same issue.

The Board would therefore like to receive ideas from you, our members, as to what the Fellowship can offer to members who are still working so as to make membership more attractive and more accessible to this group. Do you think that this group would be interested in podcasts, a social media platform accessible just by this group (ie not public) or some other way of communicating and having fellowship?

All ideas would be gratefully received and can be sent to Rod Best at membershipfff@optusnet.com.au or by mail to FF House.

Engaging with interested people who cannot establish descent from a First Fleeter?

When the Strategic Working Parties were set up by the Board a number of people and Chapters said that one thing that should be considered was to tap into those people who weren't descendants of a First Fleeter but had an interest in early colonial history – not just in NSW but in any of the States or Territories.

The Fellowship has had a group of members since it was founded called "Friends." It seems to the Board that this class of membership was specifically designed to cover just the type of person that you and the Chapters have said that we are missing out on. The difficulty is that this class of membership has attracted less than 200 members as distinct from the almost 10,000 ordinary members over the same period.

Some on the Board have said that the reason why Friends are such a small group is because the name "Friends" puts people off.

Please have a look at our Constitution which is on our website and let us know if you think the name "Friends" should be changed (and if so, what should the new name be) or whether the description of this class of membership should be changed?

Please send your ideas to Rod Best at membershipfff@optusnet.com.au or by mail to FF House.

An Account of Australia Day 1988

I well remember Australia Day 1988. It began the night before when we celebrated with a dinner at the Wentworth Hotel. **Bob Hawke** was dining in a room next door and at 5 to 12pm rushed in and up on the stage. He gave a short talk and then disappeared again. We broke up and I called for our cars to be brought up. By this time it was very late (early in the morning). It took me 1 hour to drive over the bridge to Lane Cove. I no sooner got to bed and it was time to get up as we were invited to have some breakfast at a park. I met my sister on the train at about 6 o'clock in the morning. Then we went across to the Opera House. Members of the First Fleet had been given a pass which allowed them onto the steps of the Opera House. Eventually the arrival of **Prince Charles** and **Diana** with much cheering. They faced away from the steps towards the fixed seats where people who had been invited sat. After their speech they came into the Opera House and disappeared inside. We watched the arrival of the tall ships as they came in and sailed around. That night my husband and self and children (and dog) went down near



The replica of the gig belonging to Captain Arthur Phillip which was presented to the City of Sydney by the City of Portsmouth

the foreshore to watch the fireworks on the Harbour Bridge. If I had not been holding onto the dog I would have collapsed with fatigue.

There were many functions on that week. We met at St. Mary's Cathedral, dressed in our colonial costumes, and proceeded to march down George St. to Circular Quay. **Peter Christian** led our parade and we followed "The Long Boat" which was a present from Portsmouth. This was a replica of the boat that **Gov. Phillip** came ashore in.



June Bigham and Yvonne Bullock—Opening of FFH 1988

We had many functions. One day we went to Randwick Racecourse, in our colonial costume, and paraded in an enclosed cage. Every race that day was named after one of the First Fleet ships. It was a very busy time.

I won't be here for the next one, probably not even my grandchildren, but I carry great memories of Australia Day 1988.

Written by Yvonne Bullock #3503 25/1/2008. Yvonne died 21/12/17

Submitted by Yvonne Bradley #7241

Member Bill Hosking turns 100



New member **Bill Hosking** recently celebrated his 100th birthday. He led the ANZAC Day march through Kangaroo Flat, Victoria

Bill's First Fleet ancestor is **William Roberts** who was sentenced to seven years transportation for stealing five and a half pounds of yarn. He arrived in Sydney aboard the *Scarborough* in 1788 with the First Fleet. He married **Keiza Browne** in 1793.



Guide for Chapters

12 months ago, the Directors of the Fellowship of First Fleeters identified six projects, to be commenced in the short term, to help guide the Fellowship into the future. One of the Working Parties, Supporting Chapters, has created a guide for what a Chapter should do and how it should operate and has recommended changes to the by-laws.

The FFF Board welcomes your feedback on this guide for what a Chapter should do and how it should operate. Send feedback to fffaus@optusnet.com.au or to your Chapter secretary.

PURPOSE

By-Law 1.1 The purpose of a Chapter is to promote opportunities for strengthening fellowship, assisting research and building relationships among members and thereby more effectively promoting the purposes of the Company. This will include encouraging research, sharing information and promoting interest in the First Fleet and the descendants of those who journeyed on it. By-Law 1.2 A Chapter should also promote and participate in activities of the Company and of other Chapters where possible.

AGM

Chapters need to arrange an AGM in July or August of each year. Shortly after your AGM, a complete list of newly elected office bearers and committee should be emailed to the FFF Company Secretary at fffaus@optusnet.com.au. The list should include name, FFF membership number, committee office, address, phone number and email. A copy of the President's Annual Report presented at the Chapter AGM should be emailed to the FFF Company Secretary at fffaus@optusnet.com.au. This report usually covers the events of the past year and will suffice as the "Annual Report of Activities" as required in By-law 6.1. The Chapter's financial statements for the year ending June 30 are to be posted to First Fleet House, attention Treasurer, by 13th August, whether you have presented them to your Annual General Meeting or not.

ARCHIVING CHAPTER RECORDS

The keeping of Chapter minutes is a requirement under Company Law. You must keep minutes of all your general, extraordinary and AGM meetings. The minutes should be kept forever within the Chapter and sent to FFF in the event of Chapter closure to be archived at FF House. Agenda and correspondence can be destroyed after one year. All Chapter financial information should be kept for 7 years.

FOUNDERS/NEWSLETTERS

The sharing of Chapter Newsletters is done via the CLO. The CLO will distribute newsletters to every Chapter Secretary. Founders Editor deals directly with the Chapter Secretaries when requesting information for Page 11 about meetings, speakers, subjects and events for the three months ahead.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, OUTINGS

The Chapter Committee may meet at such times and places as it may from time to time determine provided however that an annual general meeting shall be held on a day in the months of July or August of each year.

Insurance By-Law 4.1 - All functions and activities of, and conducted by, the Chapter Committee are functions and activities of the Company and, to the extent permitted by that insurance coverage, covered by such insurance as the Company may hold.

Meetings For insurance purposes, an attendance book should be signed by each member and visitor on arrival at a meeting.

Events For insurance purposes a list of attendees at any outing or function must be kept by the event organiser. For an outing or function proof of attendance is required. Chapters do not require Enduring Indemnity forms to be completed.

Minutes You must keep minutes of all your meetings.

Fund Raising The Fellowship is not a charity and so cannot engage in charitable fundraising. This does not stop Chapters collecting moneys such as by: Charging to attend Chapter events, seeking donations, holding voluntary competitions or lucky door prizes amongst those who attend the Chapter event.

In each case the Chapter must only use the proceeds for Chapter or Fellowship expenses ie not for donating to worthy public causes, not engage someone to raise money, not raise funds from members of the public not attending the Chapter event and gives everyone who participates an equal chance in winning ie no lotteries or raffles where the chance of winning (in theory) increases by the number of tickets purchased.

MEMBERSHIP

Chapter Membership is made up of financial FFF members. There is no Chapter only membership. The FFF annual subscription paid direct to FFF covers Chapter membership as well. We do not impose stringent geographical boundaries on Chapter membership. Only financial FFF members are to attend Chapter meetings, however a prospective member may join a Chapter until proof is accepted by the Fellowship. A maximum attendance of three (3) Chapter Meetings without FFF membership is allowed. A Friend membership is available for people who have been unable to prove descent from a First Fleeter. The Chapter keeps a record of each member including the member's name, address, telephone number, email, FFF membership number, name of First Fleeter, name of ship, date joined the Chapter. Privacy must be maintained. Personal information is confidential and must not be used for any non-FFF purpose or outside person or group. However, it is essential to provide the Company Secretary and President with updated details. FFF shall continue to send you the details of new members seeking a Chapter after each Board meeting.

OFFICE BEARERS

The Chapter Committee must comprise 3 positions: President, Secretary and Treasurer. One of the executives can act in multiple roles e.g., Secretary/Treasurer”.

President The President and Vice-President as may be appointed must be an ordinary or associate member of the company. With this change it now means that the position of Chapter President (and Vice-President if there is one) may be filled by an associate member if the Chapter so wishes. All other Chapter positions are open to any currently subscribed Fellowship member of whatever status, excluding Student and Junior members. The President will chair Annual General Meetings, ordinary meetings and committee meetings, maintaining order and keeping to an Agenda. The President must be a member of the Chapter.

Secretary Manage the correspondence and record the minutes if there is no minute secretary. The Chapter Secretary is the official go-between to and from the Chapter and the Board, with all correspondence via the FFF Chapter Liaison Officer. A Chapter may need more office bearers e.g., Guest Speaker Coordinator, Outings/Events Coordinator, Newsletter Officer, Catering Convenor.

Treasurer Collect and accurately record all Chapter income and expenditure and co-ordinate all Chapter banking. An email will be sent to your Secretary by the FFF Treasurer during May each year asking you to complete and return to FF House the Chapter's financial statements for the year ending June 30. They are to be posted to First Fleet House, attention Treasurer, by 13th August, whether you have presented them to your Annual General Meeting or not. There are to be 2 signatories on bank accounts. At least one Chapter Executive Member and a second FFF financial member of the same Chapter being bank signatories as approved by the Chapter.

SUBSIDY

Towards the end of September, Chapters are requested by the FFF Treasurer to send a list of current active members from their Chapter. Remember to list the names in alphabetical order and include their membership number and category. Subsidies are paid during November to the Chapter for the number of financial members as at 31st August.

This usually involves the Chapter contacting their members beforehand to make sure they have renewed their subscription by the appointed date. A subsidy will be paid for current, financial members only, excluding life members, juniors and students.

CHAPTER LIAISON OFFICER

The Chapter Liaison Officer (CLO) will facilitate all communications between the Fellowship and Chapters unless otherwise noted in this guide.

Strategic Planning - Working Group 1 - Supporting Chapters

Committee – Warren O'Shea, Judith O'Shea, Paul Gooding.

Are you a Garth or Bellett descendant?

A gathering of the descendants of **Edward Garth**, **Susannah Gough** and **Jacob Bellett** will be held in Hobart in October 2025. It is proposed that the main event will happen on Saturday, 11 October. To provide your expression of interest to attend or for more information contact **Linda Waters** at hobartoct2025@gmail.com <https://garthbellett.wordpress.com/>

Outing to Evans Head

Two Chapters of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, Northern Rivers & North Coast combined outing visiting a private Fishing Museum and the Air Museum at Evans Head.



Pres Northern Rivers: Sue King, Owner Museum: Keith Alcorn, Pres North Coast: Pat Davis



A most enjoyable day was had by MEMBERS of the two Chapters when meeting together at Evans Head, Sunday 24th March 2024. It was a dull overcast day with patches

The next point of call was the Evans Head Air Museum where an F111 is on display as well as other various planes, stories and photos of WW11.

This was a very enlightening tour where a volunteer of the Museum conducted a tour for our members explaining the full operation and design of the F111 together with other associated stories. The Museum is housed in the old WW11 hangers at the Evans Head airfield.

A total of 24 members then gathered again at the Evans Head RSL Club.

Even though it was a bleak day the view from the balcony of the club over the Evans River was a good backdrop for members to enjoy a relaxed meal and conversation, even though the echo of many voices at once made it a little hard at times to hear what was being said.

I feel as the President of our North Coast Chapter the combined visit with the Northern Rivers Chapter was a good promotion in fellowship between chapters.

Pat Davis #7397.1



of rain but everyone managed to thoroughly enjoy themselves and learn new things about the fishing industry and the F111.

Firstly, members gathered at the residence of **Keith Alcorn** to view his private collection of all things imaginable in fishing and boy what a collection, evidence of it being well presented years ago was everywhere but like many of our Chapter members now aging could do with revitalisation. Keith stated he first started collecting anything to do with fishing around 1948; when as a young boy the family moved to Evans and his father gave him his first fishing kit.



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:** 15 June, 20 July, 17 August, Speakers TBA **Next Event:** Ned Kelly Museum visit—Glenrowan

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:** 21 June: YouTube broadcast *Lycett and Wallis: Unlikely Preservers of Aboriginal Knowledge*, 19 July: AGM, 16 August: Gavin Crawford *First Fleet Encounters with the Dharawal people*

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:** 18 June: Denis Smith OAM *Why the First Fleet was a Success*, 16 July: Ian Burnet *Sir Joseph Banks* 20 August: AGM

Contact: Carol Macklin 0415 376 434

CANBERRA – *ACT, Queanbeyan and surrounds.*

Venue: Various locations in Canberra. **Next Meeting:** AGM and afternoon tea, date to be announced

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:** 8 June: Show and Tell, 13 July: Short Meeting, No Guest Speaker, Lunch at Gosford RSL, 10 August: Paul Carroll *Kokoda Trail*

Contact: Margaret Morelli 02 4362 2042

DERWENT - *Southern Tasmania*

Venue: Bi-monthly, 11am, Lindisfarne Community Activities Centre, 37A Lincoln St. **Next Meetings:** 1 June: Ann Cripps *Colonial Horticultural Practices*, 3 August: Show and Tell **Next Event:** July: Mid-Year Winter Christmas Celebration

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: 1 June:** Ian Burnet *The Tasman Map*

Contact: Jennifer Follers (02) 9799 1161

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.

Contact: Kerry Neinert (02)49615083.

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

Venue: Hawkesbury Central Library, Windsor, second Saturday of each month , 10:30 for 11:00 **Next Meeting:** 8 June: Mark Bundy *Rookwood Cemetery*, RSVP, 10 August: AGM and meeting, Speaker John Lanser, topic TBA, RSVP **Next Event:** 13 July: Paddleboat Lunch Cruise, \$50, RSVP

Contact: William Hempel 0410 950 101

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 Meetings:** 8 June: Phillip Castle *The Hume and Hovell Expedition*, 10 August: AGM **Next Event:** Wolston Farmhouse, details TBA at next 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 Meetings:** 2 June: Coramba Hall, Coramba, 4 August: AGM, Mylestom Hall

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:** 28 July: AGM followed by General Meeting

Contact: Roddy Jordan (02)6687 5339

NORTH WEST – *Tamworth and surrounds.*

Venue: Family History Rooms – bi-monthly meetings, usually first Saturday at 1.30pm **Next Meetings:** 1 June, 27 July: AGM

Contact: Janet McLean 0438 465 529

PORT PHILLIP—*Melbourne and Regional Victoria.*

Venue: Glenferrie Room, Hawthorn Library or via Zoom, 11am, **Next Meetings:** 8 June, 17 August, 23 November

Contact: Peter Yates pyatesfff@gmail.com

SOUTH COAST – *Engadine to Burrill Lake.*

Venue: Artisan Room, Wests Illawarra Club, Unanderra – monthly except. Jan, May and Dec. – first Tuesday at 10am - 1pm **Next Meeting:** 4 June: Alternative AGM date—Ian Wilson, 2 July: AGM, Michael Traynor, Marine/maritime theme, Kiama Sea Shanty Club, 6 Aug: Chapter 23rd Birthday, Cake & Fellowship day

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 Meeting:** 8 June: Speaker TBA

Contact: Margaret Hutchinson
kimmandandmaggie@bigpond.com

EDITOR’S NOTE: Thank you to the Chapter secretaries who submitted details of their upcoming meetings and events. Closing date for this page for the next issue is **22 July 2024**

The Purpose of our **Chapters** is to provide present members and potential members the opportunity to become active in various locations throughout Australia. Many of the chapters conduct regular meetings and produce publications of interest as well as arranging various tours and excursions. We invite you to contact any of the above mentioned Chapters.

Welcome to New Members

Ordinary Members

THOMAS SPENCER/MARY PHILLIPS

#9277 Betty Joyce Davis

JAMES SPEERS/MARY SMITH

#9282 Louise Mary Romero

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM

#9286 Valma Jean Allen

WILLIAM TUNKS

#9289 Alison Ruth O’Sullivan

WILLIAM NASH

#9290 Peter Raymond Williams

ANTHONY ROPE/ELIZABETH PULLEY

#9291 Lucinda Jayne Garbutt

ANN FORBES/MATTHEW JAMES EVERINGHAM

#9292 James Edward Dolton

JAMES FREEMAN

#9293 Kerry Anne James

FRANCES WILLIAMS

#9294 Sandra Lynette Williams

JOSEPH WRIGHT

#9295 David William Fletcher

JOHN RAMSAY

#9296 Jennifer Robyn Wallbank

Additional First Fleeter

EDWARD GARTH

#8560 Lorraine Frances Polglase

Student Member

THOMAS ACRES/AKERS

#9287 Matthew Glen Cunneen

Junior Members

JAMES SPEERS/MARY SMITH

#9283 Flynn Geoffrey Romero

#9284 Bryce James Romero

JOHN SMALL/MARY PARKER

#9285 Bianca Grace Pye

JOHN PALMER

#9288 Charlie Franklin Green

Associate Members

#9286.1 Bruce Graham Allen

#3254.1 Geoffrey Laurence Pye

Friend Members

#F220 Robyn Lacy

#F221 David Neale Emerson

#F222 Abigail Butler

#F223 Robert Waterhouse

#F224 Louise Waterhouse

Death

#7880.1 Rosemary Phelps

The Butler Society

There were a number of Butlers on the First Fleet and the Fellowship has a number of members descended from **William Butler**. Another First Fleeter, **John Randal** married a **Mary Butler**.

The Butler Society (Southern Cross Branch) is holding its regular gathering in New South Wales next year, 2025 and the Butler Society would like as many Butlers as possible to attend.

Abigail Butler, who is President of The Butler Society in the Southern Cross Region (ie Australia, NZ PNG and various nearby islands), is a member of the Fellowship. This is a worldwide association of people who are, or are descended from, a person surnamed Butler.

Would everyone with Butler in their Family Tree check out www.butlersocietysoutherncrossregion.org and, if they think that it looks interesting reach out to that family group?

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

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