



FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our 199th Anniversary celebrations made for an extremely busy week-end, and, as a prelude, the Treasurer, Mrs Shirley Beale and myself represented the Fellowship at the Women's Pioneer Assn Australia Day luncheon on January 21st. At the Manly Colonial Day parade on Saturday January 24th the Fellowship was fairly well represented and was given a good reception by those lining the route. Again a fairly good representation was evident at the Garrison Church on Sunday 25th Jan. John Mortimer, representing the 1788-1820 Pioneer Assn and myself took part in the service of Morning Prayer, each reading a lesson.

Monday January 26th, was by far the busiest day the Fellowship has encountered for many years. The programme for the day included four separate engagements The presentation of the Memorial to His Excellency the Governor, a shuttle bus to the Flag Raising Ceremony at Mrs. Macquarie's Point, the Fellowship stall at the Argyle Centre and the dinner in the evening at the Menzies Hotel. Although our man power (and woman power) resources were stretched to the limit the day went off remarkably smoothly. Firstly there was a grand number of First Fleeters to accompany myself and our Vice-Patron, Capt, Paul Kable R.A.N. to attend upon our Patron, the Governor of N.S.W. and to hear a well documented speech on Jane Langley F.F. and some of her descendants, given by Shirley Beale.

The Sydney Festival Committee had placed a bus at our disposal at Government House gates to take the members to the Flag Raising Ceremony. Although only fifty seats were allocated at least seventy members turned up and made a grand entrance in procession led by the Fellowship banner carried by a number of the Stanton Family resplendent in Marine garb. We were accorded a warm welcome by the fairly large crowd. Whilst the Executive had some reservations re the change of venue from Macquarie Place in the city to the eastern point of Farm Cove, there was no doubt that it was an ideal site and, if one was to be pedantic about the whole aspect of the site and ceremony we should have all crowded into a small area at the corner of Loftus St and Circular Quay !!!!! However the Fellowship has given the new harbour site for the Flag Raising ceremony its imprimatur by being there in force and obviously enjoying the day. It is indeed a pity that the media as a whole more or less ignored the ceremony.

Whilst all of the above was eventuating a few sturdy souls led by Len Chalmers, manned our booth inside the Argyle Centre at The Rocks. Appreciation is due to not only those who worked on the stall during the day but also to those who loaded, unloaded and re loaded our stock for sale from the Fellowship rooms and back again.

The Annual Australia Day Dinner at the Menzies Hotel in the presence of our distinguished member Rear-Admiral David Martin and his lovely wife, Susie, was extremely well attended. Delegates were in evidence from other societies and the Master of Ceremonies, Doug Oakes made sure that the evening ran smoothly. The tables were decorated with our National Flag and Alice Clarke is to be congratulated on the wonderful effort she put into the evening.

At its February meeting the Executive decided not to go ahead with the proposed ceramic art work for the Rocks area. The site as suggested by the authorities was considered most unsuitable by all on the committee, that being the new Overseas Terminal on the western side of Circular Quay. However, we will have a Bicentennial Project, it will affect all members and it will be something worthwhile to work for. Details of this and our calendar for 1988 will be mapped out at an all day meeting of the Executive early in March.

Another matter discussed was the venue of this year's AGM. It was felt that whilst Bowral's meeting last year was a resounding success, the Hunter area has a good nucleus of members and potential members, therefore we are looking into the possibility of holding this year's meeting in Newcastle.

The matter of the setting up of a Committee or Chapter of the Fellowship in Canberra was discussed and the go-ahead was given subject to certain guide lines as laid down in our present Constitution. Members residing in the Canberra area will be sent a questionnaire to seek their expression of interest. I think it will prove of benefit to the Fellowship as a whole to have some kind of presence and voice in the Nation's Capital.

The Executive was most concerned that a letter was forwarded to an authority in Portsmouth whilst I was overseas, last April, contained derogatory remarks about the First Fleet Re-Enactment. This letter was not authorized by the Executive although unfortunately it was written on our official paper, nor was it the view of all members of the Executive present at the February meeting. It is official policy that we do not disassociate ourselves (nor have we ever done so) from the Re-Enactment, nor do we regard it as a gimmick. The view of the Fellowship in regard to this whole venture was not to give it financial support. This did not give anyone the right to express personal views and embarrass the Fellowship. If we ignore this event we might as well throw in the towel as far as our official Bicentennial involvement is concerned. Six members of the Executive will be in Portsmouth on the day the Fleet sails and they will be headed by Joyce Cowell our official representative, and will be accorded due honour and recognition as being representatives of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Publicity on the Fellowship was beamed to millions of Americans early in February, during the visit of the NBC newsteam from the United States. We are indebted to Jonathan King who steered the media in my direction and, as a result, a number of members spoke about their First Fleet ancestors in a most articulate and interesting manner. Some favourable feed-back has already been received; the NBC were delighted with the end result as were the Channel 7 people here in Sydney who are keen to contact us again for 1988.

Appreciation is due to Joyce Cowell (William Tunks), Mary Hope Caten (Rope/Pulley), Rhonda Kroehnert (Lucas/Gascoigne), Capt. Paul Kable RAN., (Kable/Holmes), The Rev. John McKnight (Shiers/Smith) and Jonathan King (Philip Gidley King), all of whom were a credit to the Fellowship.

The Fellowship is to become a Godfather. The executive decided to contribute the sum of \$100.00 toward the peal of bells to be installed in S. Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn. There are to be 13 bells in all and 11 are to be named after the ships of the First Fleet. Naturally we chose the "Sirius" and as sponsor, will be invited to the naming ceremony sometime in March 1988. If there are any Family Name groups who may wish to help sponsor another "ship" please contact the president at the FFF office.

A report of the Liaison Committee's Project re plaques to be carried by the Re-Enactment Fleet will be found on another page. I apologize for this rather lengthy report but I feel it is important to get as much to the members as possible.

IN FELLOWSHIP

Peter Christian

AROUND THE TREES

THE BLOODWORTH ASSOCIATION ... The Annual gathering will be held on **Sunday, March 8th** at noon, at Nell and Eric Sansom's, 43 Ultimo St, Caringbah. For further information phone (02) 524-4255. Bring your own meat.

William Nash/Maria Haynes Family Group

Reunion was held on Sunday 22nd February. This took the form of a Service of Commemoration at St. Phillips, Church Hill at 10 am.

JOHN PALMER SOCIETY.

Membership is open to descendants of John and Susan (Stillwell) Palmer. Further information to Mrs. Ian Palmer, Hon. Sec. "Palmhurst" 4 The Knoll, Miranda NSW 2228. Phone (02) 522 8317

TO ALL FAMILY GROUPS ... Remember the Fellowship's Family Picnic Day on Sunday, 17th May next. The venue will be the Eastern part of the Gardens at Farm Cove near Fleet Steps. Bring your Family Identification Banners etc. We will celebrate the sailing of the First Fleet, in style.

COWRA PIONEER REGISTER. If any of the family groups have known pioneers in the Cowra district and wish to register their name, forms may be obtained by contacting Cowra Pioneer Register, P.O. Box 495, Cowra NSW 2794.

Artist's comments on the Watercolour
presented to the Fellowship of First Fleeters
at History House, Macquarie St., Sydney
on Wednesday, September 10th 1986

Artist ... Mr Thomas Silk F.F. Thos. Chipp/
Jane Langley

Unveiled by ... Mr Evan Williams Director of the Office
of the Minister of the Arts (N.S.W.)
F.F. John Nicholls/Maria Hynes

"THE BEGINNING"

6.00 pm 26th January 1788"

"I would have liked to have done this painting in the manner of an allegory; not pragmatic, not too concerned with detail - or of fact for that matter; mystic in quality - symbolic in expression - something like a cathedral window.

I wondered if an event of this moment, I dare to say - solemnity, could be adequately portrayed in a representative way. This would have meant, of course, doing the painting as an abstract: Few would have understood it, and besides, it did not seem quite appropriate for this purpose.

The fact that the First Fleet, and it was a fairly large fleet, arrived as a single entity - not over a period of days or weeks - seemed to be of monumental significance; in other words, obvious as it may seem, ships had to be in the picture.

But make no mistake, it is not a painting of ships as such; and if you look for authentic detail, I doubt if you will find much here.

Well, there are ten ships, mustering off the Heads, entering or preparing to enter - the "Supply" of course, having entered a little while previously - and against an evening sky. The suggestion of a Queen Ann flag might also be found on the stern of one of the ships.

But it is not a painting of ships - it is a painting of a beginning!

It is said that before commencing a painting, an artist should have empathy with his subject; that is, he should be living and knowing and experiencing his subject from within the subject;

So I suppose I could talk about the hardships that these people endured; indeed; one of my own forebears was pregnant on this journey - she bore a baby off the Cape of Good Hope.

Can you imagine the appalling, crowded, unsanitary conditions on a heaving sea?

Cruel, bitter days to endure.

Long, bitter, humiliating days for all of those human beings, whichever way you look at it -- many merely victims of the system -

Caught in a social upheaval, where land had been taken away from its traditional caretakers -

Caught in the turmoil of the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution

Caught in the bitter hypocrisy that invariably attends large-scale change and the consequent exploitation of others.

**BUT THIS IS NOT A PAINTING ABOUT THAT, AT ALL!
THIS IS A PAINTING ABOUT --- A BEGINNING, which is why I have called it "THE BEGINNING"**

These, more than eleven hundred sturdy, stalwart souls-in their ships, the first, these elite, the privileged, favoured by history, are about to begin a nation - our nation AUSTRALIA

A nation made great by our forebears -- and ourselves & I dare to say -- much, much greater yet to come.

TOM SILK

The Executive, on behalf of all members, extends its appreciation and congratulations to Tom for the magnificent gift of this creative work. It hangs, resplendant in all of its glory, in the Fellowship rooms and by the end of the year it is proposed to have prints available to members.

PGC.

Speech given by the President at the
Fellowship's Australia Day Dinner

Menzies Hotel Sydney
26th January 1987.

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE

Mark Twain, the famous American Author and idol of every school boy at least in my generation, penned in his book "Following the Equator", the following words

"Australian History is almost always picturesque, and indeed, it is so curious and strange that, it, itself is the chiefest novelty the country has to offer - it is full of surprises and adventures and incongruities and contradictions and incredibilities - but they are all true - they all happened"

These words were written at the turn of the century and the author was no doubt alluding to the fact that the land was born as a penal settlement and by 1901, when Mark Twain's book was published, Australia was in the throes of a nationhood - Surprises - adventures - incongruities - contradictions - incredulities ... Yes they are all there ... they would fit most of our pioneers to a tee!!!

To-Day is the first time for some years that we have actually celebrated our Nation's birthday on the very day. It is to be hoped that from next year Australia Day will always be celebrated as a Public Holiday on the 26th January - away with long week-ends !!!!! Since I wrote these words the Premier of New South Wales, this very morning announced that legislation would be passed by both State and Federal Parliaments promulgating the 25th day of January each year from 1988 to be a Public Holiday - we congratulate both Governments on this step and a telegram will be sent this week conveying the pleasure of your Fellowship on this move. I think every President since our inception has been pushing this point now all we need is a little more patriotic fervour in the nation.

I spoke last year of the lack of maturity apparent in some Australians; perhaps one hopes they constitute a vocal minority - letters regularly appear in our dailies about the British "Invasion" indeed the latest was a letter to the Sydney Morning Herald re changing the name of this our state of New South Wales ... where will it end?

I think that some of our Universities could come in for a share of criticism. Recently I was informed by a graduate who majored in History, towards an Arts degree, that the importance of the arrival of the First Fleet must be played down as it undoubtedly minimized the part played by later immigrants both bonded or free.

What utter rubbish !!!!! How can a significant, or indeed, the most significant fact in Australia's history be tossed so nonchalantly into limbo? This is what we are up against, but we - all of us assembled here this evening join in the one creed. We are proud of the part played by our own pioneer ancestors regardless of warts, large or small, and we especially accord the honour due to them at this time.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I quote from a poem written by Dame Mary Gilmore entitled "OLD BOTANY BAY"

"I am old Botany Bay, stiff in the joints, little to say
I am he who paved the way that you might walk at your ease to day,
I was the conscript sent to hell, to make the desert the living well,
I bore the heat, I blazed the track ... furrowed and bloody upon my back;
I split the rock, I felled the tree

THE NATION WAS BECAUSE OF ME"

The nation was because of me ... Advance Australia Fair Ladies and Gentlemen - Friends in Fellowship, I give you the toast ...

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1987

We extend a warm welcome to the following 53 new members, 15 junior members and 20 spouse associates.

Thomas Acres: Mr Arthur Edward Ring

Thomas Arndell-Elizabeth Dalton: Mr Robert Stephen Davis (sp Mrs Vicki Davis); Miss Caroline Jean Davis (Jnr); Alexander Robert Davis (Jnr).

William Baker - Susannah Huffnell: Mr Henry Alfred Ryan; Mr Henry Gordon Morris (sp Mrs Joan Margaret Morris)

Thomas Chipp + Jane Langley: Mr Allan Alexander Howard Jenkins; Mrs Carol Ann Strachan (sp Mr Gordon Edward Strachan)

William Douglas - Mary Groves: Mr Frederick William Hitchins; Mrs Dianne Margaret Bampton.

Andrew Fishburn: Mrs Anne Sophia Nielson; Dr. Allan George Smith (sp Mrs Leslie Smith); Barnabas Smith (Jnr); Miss Abigail Helen Smith (Jnr); Mr Ian Charles Anderson; Miss Elizabeth Mary Anderson (Jnr); Daniel Ian Anderson (Jnr); Mrs Herberta Lilian Anderson; Mr Frederick Roland Robinson

Ann Forbes + Thomas Arndell: Mr Peter David Mulholland.

Eleanor Fraser: Mrs Eva Marie Morris.

John Gowen: Mr Ronald Edwin Gowen.

John Gowen + Thomas Acres: Mrs Kathleen Mary Yates.

Henry Hacking: Mr Warwick William Adams (sp Mrs June Esme Adams).

William Hambley - Mary Springham: Mrs Dagmar Ross Sevil.

John Herbert - Deborah Ellam: Mrs Myrtle Joan Pearson; Mrs Robyn Hannah May Johnston.

Peter Hibbs: Mrs Joan Laurel Eisenhuth; Mrs Joyce Mildred Mason; Mr Mervyn Tracy Kemm (sp Mrs Ivy Doris Kemm); Mrs Dawn Josephine Cleary; Mr Vincent John Byrnes (sp Mrs Joan Barrington Byrnes).

Nathaniel Lucas - Olivia Gascoigne: Mrs Rita Madge Peck; Mr Keith Thomas Peck (sp Mrs Doris May Peck); Mrs Reba Wentworth Caris; Mrs Dorothy Lucas Hall.

John Martin + John Randall: Mrs Pamela Joy Francis.

Frederick Meredith: Mr Matthew Robert Burrows (sp Mrs Kim Allyson Burrows); Mrs Katherine Ann Morse (sp Mr Colin Robert Morse); Miss Elizabeth Rose Morse (Jnr); James Robert Morse (Jnr); Mr Robert Leslie Burrows (sp Mrs Stella Mary Burrows); Miss Rosemary Stella Burrows (Jnr).

William Nash - Maria Haynes: Mrs Janette Stanford.

John Nichols: Mr Gilbert Huia Nichols; Mr Ross Ward Nichols; Mr Raymond Robinson (sp Mrs May Therese Robinson).

Henry Parsons: Mrs Veronica Keighran Flint (sp Mr Brian A. Flint); Isaac Luke Flint (Jnr); Miss Rachel Keighran Flint (Jnr).

Anthony Rope - Elizabeth Pulley: Mr Geoffrey Castle McVey (sp Mrs Kay McVey); Miss Linda Jean McVey (Jnr); Andrew Charles McVey (Jnr); Mrs Beatrice Jennette Page.

John Small - Mary Parker: Mrs Melba McNamara; Mrs Lucy Jane Austin; (sp Mr Reginald Austin); Miss Natalie Frances Austin (Jnr); Miss Stephanie Jane Austin (Jnr).

William Tunks: Mr Bruce Liebau (sp Mrs Sandra Olwen Liebau); Daniel Charles Liebau (Jnr); Miss Catheryn Ellen Liebau (Jnr); Mrs June Searle (sp Mr Jack Conrad Searle).

Joseph Tuzo: Mr Warren Albert McPhee Bulloch (sp Mrs Leone Robyn Bulloch).

Ellen Wainwright: Dr Leslie Gordon Wheeler (sp Mrs Dorothy Jacobena Wheeler); Mr David Hollis Wheeler (sp Mrs Dawn Lorraine Wheeler).

James Walbourne - Sophia Lewis: Mrs Louise Marie Ellis.

James Wilson + William King: Mrs Eileen Helen Waters.

John Winter - Ann Sandlin: Mrs Winifred Mabel Bolton Milson; Mr John Howard Milson.

Associate Relative: Mrs Doris Jean Claughton, widow of Noel Reginald Claughton and mother of Mrs Pamela Francis.

New First Fleet Ancestors: Henry Hacking, Q.M. "Sirius" William Baker, Marine Sgt; William King, Marine; Susannah Huffnell, Convict "Lady Penrhyn"; Sophia Lewis, Convict, "Lady Penrhyn"; James Walbourne, Convict, "Scarborough"

FROM THE MAILBOX

We are still trying to catch up on letters to the Editor and somehow will hopefully acknowledge all who have written (some may have gone astray!!)

Dorothy Matthews of Nambour, Qld, a keen genealogist, is interested if any members of the Fellowship live close by . . . perhaps a Fellowship get-together may be arranged in Brisbane. In reply, Dorothy, may I say that under the new constitution and proposed by-laws of the Fellowship, the Executive envisages that some form of decentralization on a limited scale will have to take place if the Fellowship is to survive after 1988. Wheels have been set in motion for a "chapter" of the Fellowship to be formed in the ACT, naturally centred in Canberra. Under our present Constitution we are restricted but the Executive is looking ahead.

Hazel Tresidder, FF Matthew Everingham, of Lennox Head writes in much the same vein. Not only must there be quite a number of the Everingham clan in the Northern area of NSW but also other First Fleeters . . . and you all have something very special in common.

From Mudgee, David Garland, FF Wm Broughton, sends the idea of the publication of new members' addresses on a separate sheet, not sent to Libraries etc. (I think it is up to the members, themselves, to send requests in for information of a reasonable nature. Many thanks, David.)

Eleanor O'Brien has written from Cooparoo, a suburb of Brisbane, and she would like to know if the new members are from her state or city. In reply may I say the Membership Committee Members have this on their plate. Queensland has the second largest membership of the Fellowship outside of NSW and indeed we have quite a number in groups around the Gold Coast, Toowoomba, and Brisbane. Looking to the near future the Fellowship will need catalysts to get things going up there.

From Dubbo, Mrs Maisie Fardell is in favour of the publication of names and addresses. Dubbo, in the west of NSW has a nucleus of Fellowship members, an excellent Historical Museum, a keen Historical Society and Family History Group. We are indebted to Maisie for her interest. An old friend Betty Duns has written from Port Lincoln in South Australia. She is a descendant of Philip Devine and is a keen Family Historian.

Indeed, she seems to be chasing Devine descendants from Tasmania to Queensland.

Constance Perkins (F.F. John Palmer) takes us to task re poor identification of the Membership Badges. Whilst the Executive sympathises with her, it decided that to change the format of our badge at the moment would not be desirable. However there has been some criticism of the name bars not having First Fleet identification on them and this possibly could be looked into.

More letters in the next issue of the Newsletter, but may I say tha if you are at all passing through Sydney, or are on a holiday here, please make contact. Either ring the office on 29 8007, or call in or ring the President on 868 3063. I assure you he would like to hear from you personally . . . if he is not home please leave a message where you may be reached.

ADVANCE NOTICE

As Wednesday 13th May this year is the 200th Anniversary of the sailing of the First Fleet, it has been proposed that we have a grand rollicking evening at the Rocks. Tentative bookings to the Office or 29 8007.

WEDNESDAY DAY TIME AUXILIARY

The first meeting for 1987 of the afternoon auxiliary will be held on Wednesday 4th March at the earlier time of 1.30 p.m. at the Fellowship office. The committee for 1987-88 will be elected, and the programme for the coming year will be discussed. All suggestions for guest speakers, outings etc. welcomed.

The Xmas luncheon held at Grace Bros. was a happy occasion attended by 60 members. Our fund raising efforts enabled us to purchase John Cobley's latest edition "Sydney Cove 1795-1800" for presentation to the Fellowship, which is now in our library.

TUESDAY 5TH MAY. 10 A.M. no meeting Wednesday.
A tour of Sydney Town Hall has been arranged, which should be most enjoyable. Duration 1½ hours and the number of persons limited to 30. \$1.
Bookings 407 1042.

Mary Hope-Caten
Social Secretary

REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE

This Committee consists of representatives from the Australasian Pioneers Club, Womens Pioneer Society of Australasia, The Fellowship of First Fleeters, The 1788-1820 Pioneer Association and the John Palmer Society. For some time the deliberations of the body have been taken up with the idea of placing plaques at the various ports of call of the First Fleet namely, Tenerife, Rio de Janeiro, and Cape Town. It was finally decided that plaques both in English and the language of the country concerned would be prepared. The first of these (in English) was handed over in a small ceremony on January 14th last, on board the "Bounty" (Capt. Ken Edwards) prior to that ship sailing to the United Kingdom to prepare for the Re-Enactment. The plaques are inscribed thus ...

To the people of ...

IN APPRECIATION FOR THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO THE FIRST FLEET ON ITS JOURNEY TO THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES IN 1787-1788.

THE AUSTRALASIAN PIONEERS CLUB, THE WOMENS PIONEER SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA, THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS, THE 1788-1820 PIONEER ASSOCIATION, THE JOHN PALMER SOCIETY.

Arrangements are in hand for a ceremony of handing over of the plaques, both English and Foreign Language to a member of the Royal Family, who will in turn pass them on to the Fleet Captain for safe keeping and instructions for their eventual distribution. Joyce Cowell, our Fellowship representative, has been chosen to hand the plaques over at Portsmouth.

PGC.

ATTENTION PHILATELISTS

The Bicentennial National Stamp Exhibition Council will have covers tracing the Re-Enactment of the First Fleet. These will only be sold in sets (Five in a set at \$25.00 per set) and will be cacheted and post marked on arrival. Further information to ...

SYDPEX 88 Covers
P.O. Box 1988 OATLEY NSW 2223



This association proposes to make commemorative plaques for relatives of the original First Fleeters. The plaques will be carried by the First Fleet Re-enactment Company which leaves Portsmouth on 13th May, 1987. Those interested please contact Mr. Wilbur Wright, (02) 94 4512.

Australia Day, 1987.

It was very gratifying to have so many of our members attend the F.F.F. Australia Day functions, - a good omen for 1988.

At Government House, H.E. Sir James Rowland received an Address of Loyalty from President Peter Christian and Mrs Shirley Beale spoke on the life of F.F. Jane Langley. It was a well laden bus that conveyed our members thence to Mrs Macquarie's Chair where we attended the Flag Raising Ceremony.

Our thanks to Len Chalmers and those who assisted at the F.F.F. Stall at the Argyle Centre with the sale of souvenirs and the dispensing of information.

We were honoured to have both Vice Patron Captain Paul Kable and Rear Admiral Martin and Mrs Martin at our Australia Day Dinner as well as members from Canberra, Goulburn, Campbelltown and Morrisset, and Representatives from the Women's Pioneer Society, the Australasian Pioneers' Club, the Governor Phillip Bi-Centenary Committee and the Friends of First Government House Site. It was an excellent dinner and we hope to have an even larger attendance for our 200th Anniversary in 1988; our Birthday.

The table decorations consisted of our National Flag an appreciation is due to Bob Hope Caten who provided the flag holders at such short notice.

AC.

COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES REPORT

by Doug Oakes

Nineteen centres have been visited since we started placing plaques on First Fleeters' tombstones. Of these centres, eight have other First Fleeters buried there without tombstones. These centres are: Sackville Reach, St. John's Wilberforce, St. Peter's Campbelltown, St. John's Parramatta, Liverpool Pioneer Park, St. Matthew's Windsor, St. Peter's Richmond and Norfolk Island.

Other centres that we have not visited have First Fleeters buried there. They are: St. Anne's Ryde, Botany Pioneer Park, Sydney Square and Central Railway.

Letters have been sent to the custodians of these centres seeking permission to place a commemorative plaque on an appropriate place in memory of all First Fleeters buried there.

We have received the following replies: **Sackville Reach** and **St. John's Wilberforce** - Hawkesbury Council has given its permission. **St. Peter's Campbelltown** has given its permission. St. Peter's Richmond - letter not yet answered. All the others have requested further information. Most have agreed to our request on principle. Letters have been sent to these centres with further information.

The plaques at Botany, Wilberforce, Norfolk Island, Windsor, Ryde, Richmond and Sydney Square will be cast bronze plaques, 10 inches X 10 inches (26 cms X 26 cms) with the Fellowship's logo on them, with the following wording:

"This plaque is dedicated to the memory of those who arrived in this country with Captain Arthur Phillip on the First Fleet in 1788 and buried nearby"

FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS
1988

The plaques at Parramatta, Liverpool, Sackville and Campbelltown will be the same size and materials as plaques already there, with the same wording as the other plaques already mentioned. Kevin Tyrell Pty Ltd has been requested to quote on these plaques.

The Norfolk Island plaque will have different wording and it is also hoped that our commemorative plaques will be placed at Sydney Square, (close to the site of the Old Sydney Burial Ground), Central Railway, (the site of the old Sandhills or Devonshire St Cemetery) and St Phillips Church (which played such a large part in the lives of quite a number of our First Fleet ancestors.)

EARLY SYDNEY

Research by Mary Hope Caten

Extracts from the Sydney Gazette. 1805-6.

March 17th 1805.

Mr. Nathaniel Lucas, formerly superintendent at Norfolk Island, came passenger in the Investigator, and obtained permission to bring with his other property most of the wood work for a wind mill, which will probably be erected at Farm Cove. He brought also several pair of capital mill stones, those of Norfolk Island being allowed superior in point of durability to any that can be produced here.

June 23rd 1805.

An excellent post mill, the first that has been erected in this settlement, is now completed by Mr. Nathaniel Lucas, behind the Back Row East. It was undertaken and finished within the space of six weeks, and has been several weeks at work, and is found capable of grinding with a sufficiency of wind, upwards of six bushells per hour, which was last week accomplished for twelve hours successively.

February 16th 1806.

The frame of an octagon smock mill was last week erected by Mr. Nathaniel Lucas for the use of the Government, near the Esplanade of Fort Phillip. The height of the frame is 40 ft. and the diameter of the base from opposite angles 22 ft. It is to work two pairs of mill stones, which are the best that could be procured at Norfolk Island, and every possible attention has been bestowed on its formation to the leading objects, real use and durability.

Nathaniel Lucas, a convict came on the Scarborough in the First Fleet.

THE FELLOWSHIP FAMILY PICNIC DAY

This picnic day held on 18th January last and commemorating the 199th anniversary of the landing of Arthur Phillip at Botany Bay, was a huge success. Despite cloudy skies and intermittent showers, about 100 First Fleeters, their families and friends came to Yarra Bay Reserve for a day of fun, games and prizes. The day started with a spectacular show of strength by the FFF ladies in the Rolling Pin Throwing match. Watch out Olympic Shot-Putters!!!! The contest was won by Sue Peck with a magnificent throw. Had she practised on her husband? The Mens' Thong Throwing Contest, a most popular event, was won by Cameron Stanton. The Potato Peeling Race was officially won by the Men . . . only after the Mens' Team held back Naida Jackson during a valiant sprint for the line. (The President refutes this as Naida had given the men a blunt Potato Peeler) Naida Jackson again showed athletic talent by romping in the Egg and Spoon race for Ladies (obviously super-glue was used . . . these Tunksies get up to all sorts of tricks . . . Ed) Doug Oakes won the Mens' Egg and Spoon race though some spread the nasty rumour that his egg was stuck on with cellotape!!

The Boys' Egg and Spoon race was won by Steven Peck. THE PRIDE OF THE FIRST FLEETERS was won by Cameron Stanton in a close fought finish in this 100 Metre Classic. Thanks to Joyce Cowell for the donation of the prize. The childrens' events were also a great success with every contestant winning a prize.

Thanks to all for coming along, joining in the games and at the same time, catching up on family gossip and information. The next Family Picnic Day will be held in the Botanical Gardens, Farm Cove on the 17th May next. We shall be celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the sailing of the First Fleet from Portsmouth. More details in the next Newsletter.

S.B.S.

NORFOLK ISLAND TOUR NEWS

From Rhonda and Wynne

The pilgrims have received some good news. As we are such a large group we have been granted two discount tickets to the value of \$520. each, for the tour. So, in the middle of the year we will draw one ticket from those who are travelling in each plane. This will be done at one of the Wednesday Daytime Auxiliary meetings we will ask either

our President, or the Convenor of the Wednesday group to draw the names of the two lucky prize winners. Watch the Newsletter for further developments.

FRIENDS OF FIRST GOVERNMENT HOUSE SITE

Heritage Week Lecture; Wednesday, 8th April, 6.15 p.m. at History House, 33 Macquarie Street, Sydney;

Guest Speaker, Dr. Joan Kerr
"Images of First Government House"

Government House was a favourite subject of Colonial Day Artists.

Admission \$3; Pension & Student \$2

FRIENDS OF FIRST GOVERNMENT HOUSE SITE

Foundation Day Lecture: Friday, 15th May, at 8 p.m.

Dr. T.G. Parsons

"Soldiers and Governors - N.S.W. Corps
& First Government House

in Hall of Assembly, Sydney University Law School,
Corner, Phillip and King Sts. Sydney

N. Sansom

CONDOLENCES

We offer our sympathy to those who have lost loved ones recently.

NORMAN CLYDE COX (F.F. Rope/Pulley)
and

Constance Weston (Associate Johnston/Abrahams)
Constance was the wife of well known member Bert Weston and after a slight stroke she died peacefully on 29th December last. Their 60th wedding anniversary was to have been celebrated on January 22nd.

BIRTHS

To the Flannery Family of Bexley a daughter Bridget Elizabeth, our latest potential junior member and descendant of Henry Kable and Susannah Holmes.

CONGRATULATIONS

To our Patron, His Excellency Air Marshal Sir James Anthony Rowland KBE, DFC, AFC, Governor of NSW on his award as a Companion in the Order of Australia for service to the Crown and the people of New South Wales.

To Air Commodore Ian Hamilton Whisker, FFF descendant of James Squire, awarded the honour of a Member of the Order of Australia, for service to the Royal Australian Air Force as Officer Commanding RAAF base, Darwin.

To First Fleeter Robert Waldon on his award of the medal of the Order of Australia for service to swimming. Robert, a cerebral palsy victim holds six world records and was recently the recipient of an Advance Australia award.

To Roy Kable, a former Vice-President of the Fellowship for his National Australia Day Council award for outstanding service to the community in the cultural field through his association with, and service to, the Scouting Movement within NSW. Roy is the Branch Commissioner for Jamborees and is Assistant Director for the World Jamboree 1987/1988. Roy is a descendant of Henry Kable and Susannah Holmes.