



FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS NEWSLETTER

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Journal of the Fellowship of First Fleeters inc. NSW 1988

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

We were all delighted at the announcement that our member Rear-Admiral David Martin, A.O. R.A.N. (Ret) F.F. George Johnston| Esther Abrahams, is to be the next Governor of New South Wales. This exciting news followed closely upon the announcement that David Martin had been named Father of the Year. A congratulatory message was sent on behalf of the Fellowship and a fitting reply was received from our Governor-Elect.

The months of August and September have been fairly hectic. On the 4th August I represented the Fellowship at a special lunch in honour of the British Prime Minister, The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, at the Australian Pavilion at Expo 88 in Brisbane. At the request of the Executive, I presented the Prime Minister with an F.F.F. Bicentennial Medallion which was received with appreciation and much interest. Whilst my roots sink deep into British soil with at least eight convict descendants, I felt proud to be first and foremost an Australian on that day, and these sentiments were duly expressed to the Commissioner General of World Expo 88, Sir Edward Williams in my letter of appreciation to him as his guest on that day.

On the 10th August I unveiled a commemorative plaque in honour of the Bicentenary at Lugarno Public School on behalf of the Fellowship, whilst later in the month I spoke to the Lions Club, City of Sydney Branch. The Castle Hill Pioneers week-end was, like the curate's egg, good in parts. We were allotted two sites, one outside in the grounds for information on the Fellowship and First Fleeters, and a stall in a pavilion, mainly for selling goods. The uncertain weather and the downpour a few days previous to the event, must have had some bearing on the disappointing attendance, especially on the Sunday. However, the band of dedicated workers sold over \$1,000 worth of our goods, and I feel certain that our presence was a good exercise in public relations.

On Sunday, September 25th at the Windsor Community Centre it was my pleasant duty to launch "A Rich Inheritance" on behalf of the William Roberts and Kezia Brown Family Assn. This book is a history of the family of First Fleeter William Roberts and indeed it is a proud statement for posterity of a pioneer family. My personal thanks to the Editor of the book, Narissa Phelps Morrissey and the Family Association for their hospitality on that day. Details of the book will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter.

On September 27th I was invited to a reception on HMS "Sirius", hosted by the Commanding Officer, Commander Tom Morton. Whilst there, I presented an Australian Heritage Flag on behalf of the Fellowship of First Fleeters in addition to a copy of Joyce Cowell's book on Marine Pte. William Tunks, "A Memorial to A Marine", and a Tunks' Descendants Badge. Some artifacts of the first "Sirius" were on display and we were informed that another dive would be made on the wreck site at Norfolk Island in the near future.

PLAQUE SERVICE

ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cordeaux Street,
Campbelltown, N.S.W.

Sunday, 13th November, 1988 at 12 noon

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued

Our Plaque Ceremony at the Archives Building at the Rocks was not very well attended, but those present were treated to an intriguing exhibition of First Fleet history. On display was the original Convict Indent Book opened at a page which contained some well-known names, not in alphabetical order. This piece of our heritage, unfortunately, was not on display for long as the light would affect the ink, although even after 200 years the quality was excellent.

The Annual General Meeting was held on September 24th and an adjourned meeting will be held in November to receive the audited Annual Financial Reports and to complete some other unfinished business. Seperate reports will accompany this Newsletter. We are indebted to Eric Blair for auditing the Financial Report up to the period prior to Incorporation.

Miss Alice Clarke and Mr Doug Oakes were elected as Vice Presidents for 1988/89. We thank Mr Frank Everingham who steps down as a Vice President for past support and look forward to his continuing interest. We welcome back Miss Ula Clarke and Mrs Jean Monk.

To receive the new FFF Certificates you must fill in the slip provided. We will require correct details, also you will be required to be financial. Those members who have joined over the past few months have already been issued with the new Certificate.

IN FELLOWSHIP . . . PETER

BITS AND PIECES

TASMANIAN CHAPTER

Sunday, 31st July, 1988 was the day of the inaugural meeting of the Tasmanian Chapter of the Fellowship of First Fleeters. Roy Peck had previously accepted the Committee's invitation to be the Convenor. Mrs Kay Grice was appointed by the meeting as Secretary/Treasurer. The meeting was held at the War Memorial Hall, High Street, Launceston and was well attended.

Their first function was held on Sunday, 9th October, 1988 at the reading room at the Ross Library.

We look forward to meeting our Tasmanian friends on our Tasmanian trip.

FIRST FLEET RE-UNION TOUR

Led by Jonathan King

(24th April - 14th May, 1989)

This will be a smallish group of historical enthusiasts (max 37) keen to share a unique insight into Georgian England. We will visit Eighteenth Century landmarks in London, Bath and Portsmouth; attend Civic functions in commemoration of the departure of the Bicentennial Re-enactment Fleet, and of the return to England of the original First Fleet vessels in 1789.

A special feature of the tour will be Dr King's lectures and it is hoped that some of the accommodation will be in 18th century hotels.

Your best opportunity to go back in time, and in style! Approximate cost \$4,500 p.p. share-twin for 3 weeks bed and breakfast with top airline facilities.

We all leave Sydney together, but those wishing to return individually may do so by June 30th, 1989 at no extra charge.

Please phone soon for more details:

Jane King on (02) 918-8388

Wilbur Wright on (02) 944-5120.

NOW ON SALE

Don't forget — Christmas Cards are for sale — exclusive to the Fellowship is the design of Tom Silk's beautiful painting of the Fleet entering the Heads on 26th January, 1788.

The cards are also available with blank inside for your own message, birthdays, thank you, etc.

Price: \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00, 10 for \$8.00.

We also now have *Place Mats* made from the painting — laminated both sides — \$3.50 each. Laminated and foam backed — \$5.50 each.

Order now for Christmas.

GATHERING OF DESCENDANTS OF THE PIONEERS OF LITHGOW AND DISTRICT

Sunday, 27th November, 1988

Hartley Historical Village

all Welcome from 9.00 a.m.

Activities include: Family Reunions, Church Services (3 p.m.), Procession of Pioneer Families, Colonial Costume Parade and the Official Launching of "The Register of Pioneer Families of Lithgow and District (pre 1856) Vol. I. First Edition".

Also announcing the "Colonial Style" Dinner, for descendants of the Pioneers and Friends, Friday, 25th November, 1988, at Lithgow City Bowling Club. Adults \$16.00 each, Children \$7.00 each (under 12 years). Book early.

All enquiries contact: Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc. P.O. Box 516, Lithgow, N.S.W. 2790, or phone:

Yvonne (063) 55-6207

Keith or Helen (063) 55-2611

Fay (063) 51-4396

Kevin (063) 52-2380 or (063) 51-4458

Eleanor (063) 51-2574

APOLOGY: RE MEMBERSHIP LIST

To Mrs Raylee Annette Raddatz, No. 5492, FF's David Collins and Ann Yates. The "T" was omitted from surname.

PLEASE NOTE that the closing date for the November/December Newsletter is 16th November.

It should also be noted that the Newsletter is posted at the end of the second month, the next being the end of December, so make sure all Family Reunion notices etc. are in early. Don't forget to TYPE or PRINT any articles!!!!

"ONCE IN A LIFETIME"

Michael Hustone of Cremorne N.S.W. writes. . .

I am a descendant of William Tunks, and was pleased to read an article in "Tunks Talk" (Feb. 88), about Rod Sutherland, who participated in the First Fleet Re-Enactment.

I also took part in this historic voyage, sailing from Fremantle to Port Jackson, on board the "One and All".

The "One and All" is a "hermaphrodite brigantine" built in Port Adelaide, she is an all wooden ship made with Australian timbers (huon pine, tallowwood and white beech). The "One and All" was launched on 1st December 1985, and is 141 feet in length, 100 feet in height, carries 7,000 square feet of sail, and has a crew of 43.

The ship's Master is Colin Kesteven, a very experienced and resourceful sailor, formerly a captain with the Australian National Shipping Line.

On the 5th April, 1987 the "One and All" was commissioned by the Premier of South Australia, John Bannon, as a sail training vessel. On the same day the "One and All" departed Port Adelaide for the northern hemisphere, sailing through the Indian Ocean, Suez, Gibraltar, Teneriffe, and meeting the other First Fleet Re-Enactment ships off Rio De Janeiro (Aug. 87).

The sailing from Fremantle to Sydney was very exciting and challenging. Once the fleet rounded Cape Leeuwin (W.A.), we picked up the good tradewinds (30 knots plus), and hurtled along at a great pace.

The seas were very rough and cold, it was certainly no pleasure cruise, raising and striking the sails was hard work, the crew worked around the clock, in 4 hour shifts, steering, navigating, watching, cooking and cleaning. The roughest seas were encountered along the New South Wales coast, and few people escaped being seasick.

Some memorable stops along the way include Wilson's Promontory, Gabo Island, Twofold Bay, Wreck Bay, Jervis Bay, Botany Bay, and of course Port Jackson.

The accommodation was crowded, but quite comfortable, and there was a great comradeship between all the crew.

The "One and All" crew were very fortunate to have a ship with all the modern conveniences, such as a constant supply of electricity, fridges, freezers, microwave ovens, hot plates and electric oven, a laundry with washing and drying machines, 4 toilets, and 4 showers. The most appreciated apparatus was the desalination machine, which provided the ship with endless fresh water (and hot showers!).

Also my ship had a very good cook, Sylvia "Sly" Fox, who managed to whip up some terrific meals even in the roughest weather. No wonder many of the other ships were jealous of our high standard of living out at sea.

I will conclude by saying that sailing with the First Fleet Re-Enactment was undoubtedly a "once in a lifetime" experience, and sailing into Sydney Harbour was surely one of the greatest welcomes ever given to a fleet of sailing ships.

I would like to thank Dr Jonathon King, for his vision to initiate such an epic voyage, and also Mr Wally Franklin, for his determination to make this great maritime adventure a success.

The 26th of January 1988 is a day I will never forget, to see over three million people crowding the waters and foreshores of the world's most beautiful harbour, celebrating the Nation's 200th birthday, it made me feel very proud to be an Australian, and a descendant of a First Fleeter.

Marion Stuart, Member No. 2880 of Roseville,
N.S.W. sent in the following. . .

Copy of an account of the death of a First Fleet Convict found in the early newspaper 'The Colonist', Reel Years 1835/1837 of Thursday, August 6, 1835, as well as two other early Parramatta identities which may be of interest to readers:—

"LONGEVITY (From a Correspondent)

Died at the Governor's Dairy, Parramatta, on the 25th instant. Elizabeth Eccles, aged 105 years. She arrived in the first fleet at the age of fifty seven, and has resided ever since in Parramatta excepting the time of her going to England to see the Prince Regent, who settled upon her a small pension for life. She was born on the 18th of September, 1730, at Stratford-on-Avon, her maiden name was Bird, her conduct was honest and upright, and obtained the favour of all the Governors. She possessed her mental faculties till the last, and died respected by her numerous acquaintance. She was buried on last Monday week at the expense of Governor Bourke, and her funeral was attended by his Excellency's servants and many of the old inhabitants of Parramatta."

"At Toongabbie, four miles from Parramatta, on the 22nd instant, Catherine Deffney, in the 100th year of her age. Her husband was murdered about twenty years ago by his government-man.

And, some years since, at Seven Hills, near Parramatta, Wm. Marks in his 102nd year. He had been a soldier in the British Army, and fought at the memorable battle of Bunker's Hill in North America. It is evident from the advanced ages of these three persons deceased, and of many who are still in existence, that the air of Parramatta and its vicinity is conducive to long life."

Also while researching newspaper files at State Library, of New South Wales, found the following item in The Colonist, Reel 1834/1837 (years) of Thursday, August 20, 1835:—

"LONGEVITY

The following notice happened to fall aside at the time it was received; a paragraph on the same subject was inserted from another correspondent, but the present notice will not be found uninteresting even now:— Died, on Saturday morning last, in the Government Dairy, Parramatta, an old women well known by the name of 'Betty Hackells'. She came to the colony in the first fleet and, on account of her good conduct, was successively patronised by the different Governors. She was for many years servant in the family of Governor King, from whose lady she experienced much kindness and attention, which she remembered with gratitude to the day of her death.

The present Governor frequently visited her, and supplied her with provisions from his own table. She did not suffer any considerable pain during her last illness, and was perfectly sensible until a short time previous to her dissolution, observing to the person who attended her "I am going," . . . These were her last words. Her days were prolonged far beyond the usual period allotted to man, and to use the expressive language of the Scriptures, she "gave up the ghost being old and well stricken in years". Her age cannot be correctly ascertained, but it is conjectured that she was in her hundred and fifth year. Her remains, by order of His Excellency the Governor, were decently interred in the Churchyard, Parramatta, on Monday last."

Marion believes that the above mentioned Elizabeth Eccles and Betty Hackells are the one and same person. On the subject of Who Was The First to Land, Marion found the following two Obituaries to William Smith and Ann Smith of Seven Hills (her ancestor is Ann who had a child to Patrick Burn — Thomas Burn Smith 14/10/1889) and although Ann is purported to be the 'wife of William Smith' in Governor Macquarie's Letter of 1818 re sale of property to the Government of Parramatta, William's Will of 1820, and now in the Obit Notice, no actual marriage lines can be found. William is only ever mentioned in all her research as Thomas Burn Smith's 'father-in-law' relating to a court of Criminal Jurisdiction case of stealing by Thomas, for which he was sent up to Newcastle for four years, 'William Smith's stepson' by Macquarie in his letters abovementioned and 'my wife's son' in William's Will of 1820, she feels Ann's Obit Notice poses many new avenues of research.

Both Ann and William were on Norfolk Island, but not as she understands, together, that only happened when they came back to Sydney, presumably. Whilst other say there were other issues she cannot find any, nor does she know of any descendants.

Maybe Ann Smith was the first English female to land on our soil, if she was then Marion has something to live up

to!! However, like a death certificate, the information is only as good as the third person who gives it.

**OBITUARY NOTICE — THE SYDNEY MONITOR —
OCTOBER 4, 1839 — PAGE 3**

DEATHS:

At Seven Hills, on the 26th September, Mrs Ann Smith, Relict of Mr. William Smith, aged 88 years, she accompanied her former husband 3 years during the American War, arrived in this Colony in the first fleet and was the first English female who landed here, she has been blind eleven years, and confined to her bed nine. Too much praise cannot be given to her daughter-in-law, Mrs. R. Wall for her many years kind attention. Her remains were followed to the grave by a numerous circle of relatives and friends, especially all old hands who knew her.

**OBITUARY NOTICE — THE SYDNEY MONITOR —
JANUARY 20, 1830 — PAGE 3**

DIED — On the 11th January, at his residence, Seven Hills, after a short illness, Mr. William Smith, aged 80 years. This gentleman arrived in the Colony in the first fleet, January, 1788; the deceased formerly lived at Park Gate; he has left an aged widow 81 years of age, and family, to deplore the loss of the best of fathers and most affectionate of husbands, and was respected by all that knew him.

**Would Mr & Mrs G. Cranfield (William Tunks)
formerly of Brighton, Qld please contact
Rhonda Kroehnert C/- F.F.F.**

FUTURE FELLOWSHIP FUNCTIONS

**"CAMDEN PARK"
HOUSE INSPECTION AND PICNIC
Sunday, 20th November, 1988**

"Camden Park", the beautiful home of John Macarthur, is only opened to the public by the National Trust one weekend each year. The FFF has arranged a **private tour** for members, family and friends on Sunday, 20th November. We have exclusive use of the gardens and grounds for picnic lunches from 12 noon, and inspections of the house, **by ticket only**, will commence from approx. 2 p.m.

John Macarthur commissioned architect John Verge to draw up designs for a grand country house in 1831, and Camden Park was completed in 1835. Regency in style it is two-storeyed, flanked by single wings. It is built of sandstock brick, stuccoed on stone foundations. In 1895 another storey was added to the north-west wing. Most of the furniture in the house is early Australian colonial and the magnificent dining room features a collection of Macarthur family portraits round the walls. The joinery throughout is cedar. The house is still occupied by members of the Macarthur family, who have retained the original furnishings and character of the house.

'Camden Park' is one of Australia's grand country houses, and this is a wonderful opportunity to inspect the house and grounds. It is situated a pleasant drive from Sydney at Menangle, on the outskirts of Camden. Turn off Hume Highway, Camden, into Elizabeth Macarthur Avenue and follow into Belgenny Estate and "Camden Park". See UBD and Gregorys street directories.

Tickets for house inspection are \$6.00 each, no concessions. Send money and stamped addressed envelope to Functions Committee, FFF, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011

**CHRISTMAS DINNER
Friday, 16th December, 1988**

Our Christmas dinner will be held this year at The Governor on Crown Restaurant, Crown Street,

Woolloomooloo. Our dinner earlier this year at this Restaurant was a great success, the food and atmosphere is excellent, and we look forward to a big roll-up for our Christmas Dinner this year. Also this is a great opportunity for members and friends who have not seen First Fleet House to meet for drinks beforehand at the House.

The cost is \$28.00 per head, which includes pre-dinner drinks at First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral St, Woolloomooloo at 7 p.m. and choice of 3-courses and coffee at the Governor on Crown, diagonally opposite First Fleet House at 8 p.m.

Booking essential. send money to Functions Committee, 105 Cathedral St., Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011.

WEDNESDAY DAYTIME AUXILIARY

On Wednesday, 2nd November at 1.30 p.m., First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral St., Woolloomooloo we have arranged for a guest speaker from St. Marys Cathedral Archives. Come along and bring a friend.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Thursday, 8th December, 1988 at 12 noon
Centenary Room, N.S.W. Bowlers Club
95 York Street, Sydney

The Bookings for the luncheon are filling rapidly. Numbers are limited to 65 persons. Payments and stamped addressed envelope for the luncheon must be forwarded to the Auxiliary Committee by 18th November to enable us to finalize arrangements with the Bowling Club. Cost \$14.50.

Any enquiries contact:

N. Cunningham — (02) 774-3459
B. Smart — (02) 631-4865
M. Hope-Caten — (02) 407-1042

**FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS
AUSTRALIA DAY DINNER**

Australia Day Eve, 25th January, 1989
at Sheraton Wentworth Hotel; 7.30 p.m.

Keep this date for another night of dining and dancing to welcome in our 201st anniversary.

Make up a family table or come individually and meet other F.F.F. members. Single \$45.00. Double \$90.00. Send cheque and stamped addressed envelope to:

Miss A. Clarke
P.O. Box 328, Lane Cove, N.S.W. 2066.
Phone: (02) 428-4530.

BUSH DANCE

Macarthur Estate, Wilton, N.S.W.
Saturday, 19th November, 1988
at 7.00 p.m.

\$30.00 each person

S.A.E. Functions Committee F.F.F.

**OFFICIAL OPENING OF LIVERPOOL
CITY LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

Sunday, 18th December, 1988
from 10 a.m.

Cnr. Hume H'way and Congressional Drive,
Liverpool, N.S.W.

Any person or group wishing to join in by having a stall, etc. is most welcome.

All enquiries to Liverpool Historical Society, C/- Mrs Iris Wallis. Phone: (02) 602-2775.

BIRTHS

A warm welcome to the arrival of the following new First Fleeters . . .

EILY MARGARET STEVENSON, F.F. Thomas Acres, 12th July, 1988, daughter of Leanne and Peter Stevenson, 4th grandchild of Fay and Bert Golding.

THAI ANDREW PIDDICK, F.F. Mathew Everingham, 25th April, 1988, son of Kevin and Debra Piddick, grandson for Ron Piddick.

In the last Newsletter the birth of Brandon Mitchell Robins, F.F. John Nichols should have read, son of Rebekah Kym and John Robins, first grandson of Fred and Beth Croft.

21st BIRTHDAY

GUY HOWE, Member No. 5083, F.F. Ann Forbes. Congratulations for your 21st birthday on 7th September, 1988.

OBITUARIES

Deepest sympathy is offered to the families of the following . . .

MRS. PHYLLIS J. SPINKS, Member No. 531, F.F. William Nash. Mother of Mr Robert Spinks and Mr Edward Spinks.

MR HYLTON JOSEPH MOORE, Member No. 1477, F.F. Andrew Fishburn. Died 26th March, 1988, aged 82 years.

MR HARRY HYDE, Member No. 3170, F.F. James Wilson. Died 11th September, 1988 after a short illness, aged 74 years. Harry helped in the mailing of the F.F.F. Newsletter and was very well liked by the other helpers.

MRS NELLIE BEASLEY, Associate Relative, died 14th July, 1988. Mother of Samuel Alfred Beasley, Member No. 2898.

"To live on in the Hearts and Minds of Descendants is Never to Die."

AROUND THE TREES



EVERINGHAM FAMILY ASSOCIATION

A luncheon will be held at the Masonic Centre, Cnr Castlereagh and Goulburn Streets, Sydney on Saturday 19th November, 1988 at 11.30 a.m. Tickets \$25.00 per person including children 12 years and over. A wide variety of entertainment and books etc, for sale. R.S.V.P. no later than 14th November.

All enquiries to Mrs V. Frost, 104 Arcadia Avenue, Gympie Bay, N.S.W. 2227. Phone: (02) 524-2797.

JANE LANGLEY/HENRIETTA SHEWING

On Sunday, 13th November, the F.F.F. will be dedicating a plaque at St. Peter's Church, Campbelltown at 12 noon. Descendants of Jane Langley and her daughter Henrietta, who are buried in St. Peter's cemetery, will be meeting for a picnic lunch in the park adjacent to the Church. Further details, Pam Quick (02) 489-5772.

BOOKS

"Tasmania 1803-1820 The People and Their Families"
Edited by Jim Donohoe

This work indexes the people of Tasmania 1803-1820 in family groupings. Shipping, marriages and birth or baptisms are also mentioned. Due to likely limited demand it is available only in photocopied form. Cost \$15.00 plus \$1.50 postage.

Orders for copies can be made through the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

"First Fleeter John Herbert, His Life and Times" by Cecil Herbert.

Hard Cover, 91 pages. Cost \$14.50 plus \$2.50 postage. Available from F.F.F. Office.

"Nathaniel and Olivia — The Lucas Family".

Hard Cover, 370 pages. Cost \$30.00 plus \$5.00 postage. Now also available from F.F.F. Office.

"The Small Family in Australia 1788-1988".

Edited by Mr W. J. Pollock, this book is the culmination of over 40 years research by members of the family of First Fleeters John Small and Mary Parker.

The book contains over 800 pages; 120 pages of descriptive narrative; 36 pages of photographs; details of over 17,600 descendants and spouses and a comprehensive index.

The book was launched on 9th October, 1988 at the Bicentennial Family Gathering.

Cost: \$35.00 plus \$2.50 (per copy) postage within Australia. Overseas by arrangement.

All enquiries to Small Family Association, C/- Mr W. J. Pollock, 32 Wyralla Ave, Epping, N.S.W. 2121.

"He Leadeth Me", by Dorothy Mooney.

This book of 200 pages is a story of the ancestors of Dorothy Mooney, including First Fleeters Matthew Everingham and William Roberts. It tells of the struggles they endured through the years and the memories of the authors life.

All enquiries contact:

Mrs Dorothy Mooney, 6 Willow Close, Taree, N.S.W. 2430.

"My Mother Reread Me Tenderly — The Life of James Ruse" by Janice Ruse Israel.

This book is the most comprehensive record, to date, of the life of this First Fleet Convict and recipient of the first land grant in Australia.

Cost \$10.00 plus \$2.50 postage (up to 3 copies).

Available from Janice Ruse Israel, P.O. Box 50, Eastwood, N.S.W. 2122. Phone: (02) 683-4499.

**Donations of books are greatly appreciated
for our First Fleet House Library.**

BOOK REVIEWS

"OUR BEGATTINGS"

by Kathleen Elizabeth Tenthall

"Our Begattings" written exquisitely by Kathleen Tenthall to professional standards is an in depth study on a number of very early Australian Pioneer Families including Lyster, Cartwright, Foster, Crook, Powys (Powis), Bonner, Sadlier, Holmes, Riddley, Clegs, Coles, Cadby, Tippings, Cells-Perkins, Matteson-Vaughan and Tenthall.

This family group is not descended from any first fleeters, however a member of the extended family married a descendant of Eleanor Morgan (nee Redchester nee Fraser). The attention given to Eleanor and her family in the book is very sensitive and accordingly most interesting.

Jim Donohoe

"WHERE HONOUR GUIDES THE PROW"

by Elisabeth Curtis and Gillian Doyle

Although presented in an academic form, "Where

Honour Guides the Prow" is a fascinating work on the families of First Fleeter William Boggis and later arrival, Charles Thompson. The work is divided into two books to distinguish between both families.

Jim Donohoe

PLAQUE SERVICE REPORT

PLAQUES SERVICE REPORT FOR 1988

This has been the most active year for the plaques committee and there is still more to come. In August 1987 the Fellowship received a certificate of endorsement from the Australian Bicentennial Authority for our proposed Plaque Memorial Services in 1988. The Certificate reads:

"Awarded to Fellowship of First Fleeters for the Bicentennial Memorial Plaques at burial sites of First Fleeters in N.S.W. and Tasmania."

This certificate has been framed and is on display on the wall at our office in Sydney.

The first service was held on Saturday, 9th January, 1988 at First Fleet Park, Sydney. Mr Barrie Unsworth, then Premier of New South Wales unveiled a Memorial Plaque placed on the stairway from George Street to the Park, in memory of all those who came to this country with Captain Phillip on the First Fleet.

On Saturday, 30th January, 1988 we held our second memorial service at the site of the original Sackville Reach Church. This service was held in conjunction with the Ann Forbes Family reunion. Our third service was held on Sunday, 7th February, 1988 at St. Anne's Anglican Church, Ryde. The Mayor of Ryde, Alderman Mick Candelli unveiled the Plaque.

On Saturday, 5th March, 1988 our next service was held at St. Saviour's Cemetery, Goulburn, where a plaque placed on the tombstone of First Fleeter Mary Martin was unveiled by the Mayor of Goulburn, Alderman Tony Lamarra. It is fitting to note that two sisters, Mesdames Mary Polizzotto and Nora Kolmer, who live in U.S.A. and are descendants of Mary Martin, came all the way out here especially to be at this service. In the morning we had attended the dedication of the Bells by the Archbishop of Canberra, Dr Runcic at the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour's.

Our fourth Memorial Service was held on Sunday, 6th March, 1988 at Emily Bay, Norfolk Island, for a plaque installed in memory of the First Fleeters who journeyed to that Island. The Plaque was unveiled by Rhonda Kroehnert (Nathaniel Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne) in the presence of the Governor General of Australia, Sir Ninian Stephen.

The fifth memorial service was held at the Sydney Town Hall on Sunday, 27th March, 1988 after the morning service at St. Andrews Cathedral. The very Rev. Lance Shilton, Dean of Sydney dedicated the Plaque. On Sunday, 17th April, 1988 we held our sixth Memorial Service at St. Mathew's Anglican Church, Windsor, where there were two services held. The first service was for a small plaque placed on the tombstone of Daniel Barnett and the second service was for the memorial plaque placed at the gateway from Greenway Crescent. The next service was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church Cemetery, Richmond on Sunday, 15th May, 1988. Plaques were attached to the Bishop Family Vault for First Fleeters, Elias Bishop and Catherine, nee Smith, Bishop. A Memorial Plaque has since been placed on the Columbarium in memory of all First Fleeters buried in that cemetery. On Sunday, 5th June, 1988 we held our

seventh memorial service at St. John's Cemetery, Wilberforce, for a plaque installed on the columbarium wall. We were joined that day by the Everingham Family Association. The eighth memorial service was held at the Botany Pioneer Park, Matraville on Sunday, 26th June, 1988. The memorial plaque has been placed at the pedestrian entrance to the Park. We were joined that day by the Cape Bank Family Historical Society and members of the Botany Cemetery Trust. A small plaque placed on the tombstone of First Fleeter John Trace, who is buried in the Park, was also unveiled.

Since then, we have held memorial services at Lang Park, Sydney, Liverpool Memorial Park, Liverpool and the Archives office of N.S.W., Sydney. Services are programmed for Sydney Central Railway and St. Peter's Anglican Church, Campbelltown. These services will be detailed in next year's Annual Report together with our trip to Tasmania.

Our thanks go to the many people who have attended our services during the year and we look forward to seeing as many as we can at our remaining services.

DOUG OAKES — Convenor of Plaques Committee

LIVERPOOL PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK Sunday, 24th July, 1988

This plaque service was enhanced by the presence of the Liverpool City Brass Band. The Band entertained the crowd before and after the service with Australian theme music.

Members of the Liverpool City Historical Society and members of the Liverpool Family Historical Society as well as descendants of First Fleeters buried in the Park were present at the service.

Mr Keith Chilton, President of the City of Liverpool and District Historical Society spoke and congratulated the Fellowship on this Project. Alderman Ron Holland, Deputy Mayor of Liverpool City Council unveiled the Plaque and Rev. James Ramsay, Rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church gave the Dedication Prayer.

The service ended with the Liverpool City brass band rendering the National Anthem.

DOUG OAKES — Convenor of Plaques Committee

GEORGE GRAVES TOMBSTONE Archives Office of N.S.W., Sydney Saturday, 10th September, 1988

A small crowd was present to witness the dedication of one of our Memorial Plaques installed on the display stand containing George Graves tombstone. Mr John Cross, Principal Archivist of the Archives Authority of N.S.W., who was responsible for having the tombstone cleaned and installed inside a sealed glass case for permanent preservation, welcomed everybody. Mr Mark Bennett, Principal Registrar for the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, for the N.S.W. Government, dedicated the Plaque.

Very little is known of the life and trials of George Graves. George Graves came to the country as a Bosun's mate on the HMS Sirius with Captain Arthur Phillip on the First Fleet. On 10th July 1788, aged 48 years, he died of pneumonia and was buried in the Colony's first graveyard at lower George Street, Sydney. This tombstone can lay claim to being the first

tombstone made in this country. Its history and location over the years is surrounded in mystery.

In 1913 this tombstone is reported to have been in the Public Library. We do know that when they were restoring Cadman's Cottage at First Fleet Park, Sydney, the tombstone was found being used as a doorstep for the main entrance. The Authorities, realizing the stone's historical importance, had it removed to Vaucluse House. The Vaucluse House Management sent the tombstone to the Society of Australian Genealogists' office at Richmond Villa, Sydney.

In 1984 the stone was sent to the current location to be part of the Archives Authority's many historical artifacts. We are indebted to the Archives Authority of N.S.W. for allowing us to have one of our plaques installed on the stand, identifying the fact that the tombstone was made for one of our Country's Founding Fathers.

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MEMORIAL PLAQUE, ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY, PARRAMATTA

In May, 1986, we wrote to the Trustees of the numerous locations where we wanted to place our Bicentennial Memorial Plaques in 1988, seeking their approval and co-operation.

We are pleased to report that they all gave their approval, except the Trustees of St. John's Cemetery Trust, Parramatta. In November, 1987, we again wrote requesting the St. John's Trust to reconsider their decision on the following grounds:

(1) The Australian Bicentennial Authority had endorsed the project as a Bi-centennial event.

(2) All the other centres, including six in Tasmania and Norfolk Island, had approved our project.

The St. John's Cemetery Trust, under cover of their letter dated 21st July, 1988 stated in part:

"We cannot see any reason to change our refusal to your earlier request. Since each headstone marking First Fleeters' graves is already suitably inscribed, we do not believe that any further action is required."

We accepted their letter and thanked them for their co-operation in the past.

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MEMORIAL PLAQUES SERVICES IN TASMANIA

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the plaque services dates for two of our Tasmanian centres have to be changed. They are as follows:

1. St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Rokeby from 10 a.m. Thursday, 3rd November, 1988 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, 1st November, 1988.
2. Old Methodist Church, Lawitta Road, Magra from 10 a.m. Friday, 4th November, 1988 to 10 a.m. Thursday, 3rd November, 1988.

The other four services will be held on their original dates and times as previously scheduled. The amended plaque services dates and venues will now be as follows:

First Service: Saturday, 29th October, 1988, St. Mary's Anglican Church, Kempton, 11 a.m.

Second Service: Sunday, 30th October, 1988, Broadlands Park, Launceston at 12 noon.

Third Service: Sunday, 30th October, 1988, Christ Church, Longford, 3 p.m.

Fourth Service: Tuesday, 1st November, 1988, St. Matthew's Anglican Church, Rokeby at 4 p.m.

Fifth Service: Wednesday, 2nd November, 1988, St. David's Park, Hobart at 2 p.m.

Sixth Service: Thursday, 3rd November, 1988, Old Methodist Church, Lawitta Road, Magra at 10 a.m.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused to our Tasmanian friends and members and thank the church officers and local council wardens for their co-operation.

The Kempton Tourist Action Society have organized a return to "Kempton Day Celebration" for Saturday, 29th October, 1988 to coincide with our first memorial plaque service.

The day will take the style of a village fair, including stalls, entertainment, pipe bands, parades, crafts, blacksmiths and many other functions, including our memorial service. The local people will be in colonial costumes and we look forward to joining them.

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HISTORICAL SUBURBS OF SYDNEY

CASULA

(34 km South West of Sydney City)

The suburb of Casula occupies parts of what were originally grants held by Dr Throsby (Glenfield), Richard Guise (Casula), and Captain Eber Bunker (Collingwood). Throsby built his house near the boundary of his neighbour, Richard Guise, who has the doubtful distinction of being the first person buried in the old Liverpool Cemetery, now converted to a Pioneer Memorial Park. Any graves there of earlier date have been transferred from some other place. He is said to have been a member of the distinguished French family, the head of which was the Duc de Guise, and which suffered during the French Revolution.

The Guise family forms one of the links between Liverpool and the Australian National Capital. The little stone Church of St John the Baptist is often called a national church. Once the centre of activity in the Canberra Valley it is still the place of national celebrations or national mournings. Tourists both from other States and overseas visit it and walk about the beautifully kept churchyard reading with interest the inscriptions on the headstones of the country's pioneers. The earliest of its marked graves is the Guise family vault, 1844.

A well-known pioneer connected with Casula was Dr John Dunmore Lang, after whom Lang Road and Drummond Crescent were named. Dr Lang first visited Liverpool in 1823, where his brother lived in a brick cottage in the town. In the years that followed he frequently visited relatives there and preached in the Liverpool Presbyterian Church. He is said to have bought the old colonial brick and stone home at Casula from the Surveyor-General, P. J. Adams. Certainly it was owned by members of the Lang family until about 1925 when it was purchased by Colonel de Meyrick. It was then in a delapidated condition and was sold to Mr Hugh Jardine who used parts of the house in the construction of other houses on subdivisions of the property. The final subdivision took place about 10 years ago, when stone from the main part of the house was acquired by the military authorities and used to build a chapel and the old home was completely demolished with the exception of a portion that had been separated from the rest by the removal of a section by Mr Jardine for re-building elsewhere. The surviving part is the old home in Dunmore Crescent next to Dr Cook's residence, which stands on the site of the original house.

The northern part of Casula was originally included in Captain Eber Bunker's grant which he named Collingwood after his first wife's cousin, Admiral Lord Collingwood, who took part in the victory in the Battle of

Trafalgar, where Nelson directed him to lead part of the English Fleet in an attack on the rear ships of the French line.

"See how that noble fellow Collingwood carries his ship into action", was Nelson's comment.

Captain Bunker was 29 years of age when he arrived in Port Jackson in 1791, in command of the transport "*William and Anne*" and received "most honourable mention" for the healthy condition of the convicts in his charge. His ship was fitted out for whaling, for he intended, after landing the convicts, to go whale fishing off the coast of Brazil. However, so many whales were seen off the coast of Van Dieman's Land and New South Wales that he and several other captains whose ships were similarly equipped, began fishing out of Port Jackson. Bunker was successful in killing and securing the first whale to be got aboard. The oil of this fish was thought to be extraordinarily fine and worth £10 per ton more on the London market than that obtained on the Brazil coast. This was the beginning of Australia's first export industry.

Captain Bunker was also among the first to send cattle to the southern districts, and when he died at Collingwood in 1836, he had stock also at Keepit on the Namoi. He was thus one of the founders of Australia's primary industry upon which the healthy economy of the country still depends. His name is perpetuated by the Bunker Islands which he discovered off the coast of Queensland.

Collingwood was a combined grant of 900 acres, consisting of two grants, one of which was made by Governor King in 1804 and the other was confirmed by Governor Macquarie in 1810. It extended approximately from Georges River to the present Webster Road, and from Mill and Hoxton Park Roads to Kurrajong Road. Portion of this south of Liverpool Golf Links was sold after Bunker's death to T. H. Holt, later treasurer, N.S.W. and M.L.C. He was one of the founders of the A.M.P., and indeed the plan to form this great company was first discussed at his home here. This subdivided area was called Sophienberg by Thomas Holt and was later acquired, together with Collingwood, by J. H. Atkinson, a prominent business man. A substantial farming establishment was built at Sophienberg, and on the site of its home, Mr Randall later built his house, in what is now Marsh Parade. The estate was famous for its very choice fruit trees, some of which were destroyed in the devastating flood in 1860. There was a spacious scientifically planned piggery built to accommodate 500 pigs, and the attention given to the selected of the breeds and to their rearing achieved profitable results. The chief cultivation was of potatoes, 10 tons being yielded to the acre.

*With compliments of
Liverpool City Library*