

FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS NEWSLETTER

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Journal of the Fellowship of First Fleeters inc. NSW 1988

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November / December 1988
Volume 19 No.6

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A delegation consisting of myself, Miss Alice Clarke, Mr Doug Oakes and Mrs Pam Quick was received by His Excellency The Governor at Government House on the 16th November last. A presentation was made to Sir James Roland in the form of 3 First Fleet Diaries - "The Journals and letters of Lt. Ralph Clark 1787-1792"; The "Journal of Philip Gidley King, Lieut. RN 1787-1790", and The "Journal of Arthur Bowes Smyth 1787-1789". Suitable sentiments of appreciation were expressed to His Excellency on your behalf, for his patronage and interest in the Fellowship over the past 8 years and he and Lady Rowland were wished a long and happy retirement. The books were most beautifully inscribed by one of our "Calligraphy" experts Lee Bullock.

The pilgrims have returned from Tasmania - a wonderful trip and so well organised - the plaques, so dedicated were all in their correct places and not a hitch! Although I was not technically part of the tour, I was able to be present at each of the plaque ceremonies. A report of the pilgrimage is in this issue.

I was privileged to represent the Fellowship at a number of ceremonies in Oct/Nov.

The Descendants of GEORGE JOHNSTON /ESTHER ABRAHAMS held their reunion on October 8th at Newington College Stanmore, Sydney. A family Bicentennial Medallion was presented to the Fellowship on behalf of the Johnston family.

On Sunday 9th Oct, I had three engagements. The first was at St. Phillips Church Hill to represent the Fellowship at a service organised by the Arthur Phillip Bicentennial Committee. I then attended my own Tunks Family Picnic at North Sydney at 2pm. My wife and myself were official guests of the John Small/Mary Parker Family Association at the Ryde Civic Centre. This ceremony was one of the best organised family gatherings I have had the privilege to attend. The family publication "The Small Family in Australia" was presented to the Fellowship on that day.

On Monday 10th October I spoke to members of the Queen Victoria Club in the City about the Fellowship and in particular some women of the First Fleet. A donation by this club was made to our Buy a Brick Fund.

Tuesday 11th October was the 250th Anniversary of the birth of our founding father, Arthur Phillip RN. I represented the Fellowship and laid a suitable floral tribute at the base of his statue and afterwards attended a luncheon at the Intercontinental Hotel.

On Sunday 16th October I read the lesson at the Eucharist at Christ Church St Lawrence Railway square and later participated in the plaque ceremony at Central Railway itself. We were indeed fortunate to have the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth, the Rt. Rev Timothy Bavin to dedicate the memorial to those First Fleeters buried on the Railway site, then known as the Sandhills Cemetery.

The Bicentennial Family History Congress opened at Darling Harbour on the 18th October. We were able to man a stall for four days during the Congress and although we only grossed some \$400.00, it was a good PR exercise. Our thanks to those who helped in particular June Bigham who organised collation and transport of our goods for sale.



**The FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS office
will be closed from Wednesday 21st December, 1988
and reopening on Tuesday 3rd January, 1989.**



The first week of November saw 16 of our members in Tasmania. On Sunday 13th November we held our final Bicentennial Plaque ceremony at St Peters, Campbelltown, a report of which should be in the next issue of the Newsletter.

On Saturday 19th November last, Lady Rowland unveiled a statue at Gateway Park, Circular Quay on behalf of the Womens Pioneer Association. It is a beautiful monument and a most fitting one to our pioneer women. Our congratulations to all concerned with this project.

Later I chaired the adjourned meeting from the A.G.M. to consider and accept The Financial Statements for 1987/1988. Congratulations to our Treasurer, Brigadier Roy Morris for the work put in to having a Balance Sheet prepared both for the Incorporated Body and the Unincorporated Body. Special thanks to Eric Blair for auditing the "old" Fellowship's books at such short notice.

From this report you can see that whilst the Bicentennial Year is fast slipping away, there has been no let up in functions. Indeed we shall celebrate right up to January 26th, 1989. Please consider joining with us at our Annual Australia Day Eve Dinner - we will celebrate the end of a year of celebrations and propose a toast to the beginning of our 3rd Century. The Governor Designate Rear Admiral David Martin and Mrs Martin will be guests of Honour. He will be sworn in as Governor of New South Wales on 19th January. It will not only be an Honour to receive the New Governor but also our new patron and his wife.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you and yours a happy and holy Christmas and best wishes for the new year.



IN FELLOWSHIP . . . PETER CHRISTIAN



FELLOWSHIP BICENTENNIAL PILGRIMAGE TO TASMANIA OCT 28 - NOV 5 1988.

Sixteen members including spouses and friends led by our President Peter Christian journeyed to Tasmania for the dedication of six Bicentennial First Fleet Plaques in addition to dedicating 10 individual plaques on the tombstones of First Fleeters.

We arrived at Hobart early Friday afternoon only to find that our Banner and Flags were still in Melbourne. Luckily they were re-united to us in time for our first dedication service.

St Mary's Kempton.

Kempton is a village North of Hobart just off the Midland Highway and is in the Municipality of Green Ponds. It was first settled in 1818 and each year from 1980 Australia Day is celebrated in a special way, not only to honour our pioneers but to celebrate our nations founding in a befitting manner. The Parish Church of St Marys was built in 1841. Elizabeth Flexmore (Bruce), a First Fleeter is buried in the Church yard.

Our Fellowship members arrived at Kempton in two cars and an 8 seater bus in time for the Back to Kempton celebrations, unfortunately the weather was not kind to us on this occasion and the celebrations at the local oval were curtailed. Prior to our plaque ceremony in the church itself our 8 seater bus complete with F.F.F. Banner was given a pride of place in the opening procession.

The church itself was packed for the dedication ceremony. The warden (Mayor) of the Municipality Cr. Anthony Bisdee acted as MC and the principal speakers were Mr Bob Mairwaring M.H.A., the local member of Parliament and our President Peter Christian. We were also honoured by the presence of the Lord Mayor of Hobart Cr Doone Kennedy. The chaplain of Hobart Hospital the Rev. A. Cave, dedicated the plaque to the memory of all First Fleeters in the area. The Padre also dedicated the smaller memorial on the tomb of Elizabeth Flexmore after the Lord Mayor had spoken a few words and a wreath had been placed on the grave by one of Elizabeth's descendants Stephen Kennett.

We were then guests of Cr. Bisdee at a luncheon in the historic "Wilmot Arms". With us were members of the Tasmanian Chapter, Chairman Roy Peck, his wife and daughter. Our thanks to Tony Bisdee and the Municipality of Green Ponds for the hospitality on this, our first full day in Tasmania. A small book on the history of the area was presented to us for inclusion in our library.

Having lingered much too long over lunch we decided to move in convoy to Launceston via The Lakes Road on the central plateau - a scenic route made all the more beautiful because of the light snow shower on the way. We reached our hotel in Launceston before din-

ner. Sunday was to be a full day with 2 plaque services and an overnight stopover at Scamander where more of the pilgrims joined the coach tour. The 2 cars and 8 seater bus was exchanged for a larger bus for this exercise, and Peter, who was not joining the tour bus, was to drive the hired bus back to Hobart by himself on the Monday.

Jean and Roy Peck were our dinner guests at Launceston on Saturday evening and we eagerly looked forward to having a fine day on the Sunday. It was - a beautiful fine day and we met with quite a number of First Fleeters at Broadlands Park, Cypress Street Launceston which was the old burial ground of the city. Our plaque was unveiled by the Mayor of Launceston Cr. Jimmy Tsinoglou. A welcome was given by our President and two students from Launceston Grammar School, Michael and Gillian Peck who spoke of the history of the cemetery. Roy Peck then spoke. Although the plaque is attached to the wall of this park, now used as a Church School playing field, unfortunately it was not dedicated. One of a number of First Fleeters buried here was Olivia Lucas (Gascoigne).

The Tasmanian Chapter then entertained the members of the Fellowship to a luncheon in Launceston before proceeding to Longford for our second ceremony of the day.

Christ Church Longford

Longford is situated in one of Australia's great pastoral areas and originally known as Norfolk Plains. This is one of a number of areas where our First Fleeters fore bears settled having left Norfolk Island after the first settlement there.

The church itself is a magnificent colonial Gothic monument with a breathtaking west window, something which is more in keeping with the stained glass of the English Parish Church than one would think of gracing a far away colonial church. It is of interest to note that the family of Mary Reiby settled here and had some First Fleet connections at "Entally" the magnificent colonial home of the Reiby Clan. It is also of interest to note that the peculiarly Australian word "Brumby" originated near here. Brumby's Creek which carries the tail Race-Waters from the giant Poatina power station gains its name from the pioneer family Brumby whose horses went bush and became known by the locals as "brumby's" - the term has certainly stuck!!

Back to Longford and its cemetery. Some years ago in this newsletter a former Vice President Geoff Squires reported that the condition of the cemetery at Longford was in a disgraceful state. The grave and headstone of Mary Phillips First Fleeter were vandalised

and neglected - perhaps after the number of years Geoff pricked the conscience of the "powers that be". Today the church yard of Christ Church is gradually being restored. Whilst the actual burial site of pioneers is lost for eternity the tombstones are being restored and placed in some decent order.

The small delegation assembled in this churchyard for the unveiling ceremonies. First of all there was the Main Bicentennial Plaque - this had been affixed to the wall of the church hall built from bricks of the original church and was dedicated by the vicar of the parish Canon C. Holmes after speeches from John Grunnell, President of the Tasmanian Genealogical Society, Cr Breece Warden of Longford and our President. We then proceeded to the memorial wall where the head stone of Mary Stevens (Phillips) had been installed and a smaller First Fleeter plaque was dedicated. Carmel Pitt, a descendant of Mary Stevens gave an outline of the life of her First Fleet ancestor Mary Stevens. It was a fitting moment to also remember Thomas Spencer and the descendants of him and Mary - we felt that many of you were with us in spirit on that day. In retrospect it was quite strange to be part of a ceremony in remembering this First Fleeter when earlier this year and many many miles away we had placed a plaque on a grave at St Peters Richmond, NSW - that of another man in Mary's life.

We were then treated to afternoon tea after a tour of the church and made our way over to the east coast of Tasmania to Scamander, a quaint fishing village where we spent the night.

The detailed account of the Tasmanian tour will be resumed in the next newsletter.

PETER & DOUG



SPEECH GIVEN BY MICHAEL AND GILLIAN PECK,

DESCENDANTS OF JOSHUA PECK AT
BROADLANDS PARK, LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA.
SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER, 1988

The Anglican Church has a long history in Northern Tasmania. The first incumbent to the parish was the Reverend John Youl who took up the position in 1818. The foundation stone for St. John's Church was laid on the 28th December 1824 and the church was consecrated in March 1828. At the time the parish was part of the Diocese of Calcutta in India.

The park we see behind us was the cemetery for this Anglican church and began operation in 1826-27. We know that the Reverend John Youl was buried in the cemetery in 1827.

Unfortunately there are no public records prior to 1851 as to the burials here. The only records we have are the ones which the Church itself kept and they are in no way exhaustive.

The cemetery was closed around 1900 when Carr Villa opened. For many years after the cemetery lay in a disused state until the early 1950's when the Launceston City Council decided that it was time that the cemetery was cleaned up as it was an eyesore. It advertised that the cemetery people had thirty days to come and put a claim on any headstones they felt that they had some link with those buried here. As a result some were saved and are now to be found safe in people's homes. Others were sent to Carr Villa and laid out flat for some years.

In the end they were put up for auction and were bought to be crushed up for bluestone metal and marble chippings. An inglorious ending to an important part of our heritage.

The City Council had done all that it could do to make sure that people had a chance to claim what was theirs. It is unfortunate that

the historical awareness of people at the time was so much lower than it is today.

SPEECH GIVEN BY CARMEL PITT,
DESCENDANT OF MARY (PHILLIPS) STEVENS AT
CHRIST CHURCH LONGFORD
SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER, 1988



We gather here today to commemorate Mary (Phillips) Stevens among the last of the surviving members of the First Fleet.

Mary was committed for trial April 1786 at Taunton Somerset. She was found guilty for breaking into the home of Nathaniel Shorney in 1785 and stealing goods to the value of 18 shillings. Sentenced to be hanged but she was reprieved and then sentenced for transportation for seven years. Mary sailed aboard the "Charlotte" for Sydney Cove with the First Fleet.

After arrival at Sydney Cove, Mary found herself involved with several incidences. She found herself in a magistrates court once again but this time giving evidence concerning the stealing of a quart tin pot but also found herself in trouble for baking flour over a fire on an iron spade and received 25 lashes.

Mary was the mother of five children - 1789 James MacDonald was born, son of Mary and Alexander Macdonald, Marine. In 1791 Sarah Phillips was born daughter of Mary and Thomas Spencer. In 1793 John Phillips Stevens, 1796 Elizabeth Phillips Stevens and 1809 Mary Phillips Stevens were born. Their father was Thomas Stevens who was tried at the Old Bailey in 1789 for stealing 90lbs weight of copper valued at 40 shillings and sentenced to seven years transportation.

James MacDonalds life is not known after 1812, Sarah Phillips Spencer married Charles Hadley in 1812 and settled in N.S.W.

In 1813 Thomas, Mary and their 3 children embarked on the "Minstrel" for Port Dalrymple along with other Norfolk Islanders making the first settlement at Norfolk Plains East (Now Pateena). After arriving at Pateena, the Stevens family prospered. They received several land grants, including one of 85 acres, along with stock and Thomas was appointed District Constable.

Their original land grant is now part of the "Bowthorpe" property, the entrance being the lane near Jordans Creek Bridge. Thomas and Mary's children also prospered.

John Stevens and his wife Mary Trimby lived their lives at Norfolk Plains. Elizabeth married William Saltmarsh, son of another First Fleeter William Saltmarsh. The name of Saltmarsh is still in this District today but that is another story. Mary married Richard Ruffin and lived at Norfolk Plains before settling at Perth, Tasmania.

Thomas lived to the age of 68 and died at his residence in 1831. Mary Phillips Stevens survived her husband by 19 years and died in 1850 aged 81 years. A grand age considering the hardships our earliest settlers must have endured in establishing a new colony.

It only leaves me now to on behalf of the descendants of Mary Phillips Stevens to thank the First Fleet Association for coming here to Christ Church Cemetery, Longford to honour her by placement of this plaque. To Canon Holmes for allowing the tombstone of Mary to be shifted from the decaying pile behind the church and have it located on the original burial site and to the Longford Council for making this an official occasion.

I only wished that my father Rennie, who died only a few months ago could have been here today as it was he who encouraged me to compile our family history.

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

BITS AND PIECES

Four descendants of the First Fleeter James Bradley 'Scarborough' have reason to celebrate our Bicentenary year.

Seventh generation John Collins and his wife Jeanette celebrated their 25th year of marriage in March 1988. Eighth generation Jennifer Collins celebrated her 21st birthday on 8th August, 1988 and is home after having been in eight different countries since her 17th birthday. Eighth generation Margot Beech and her husband Alex celebrated their 2nd anniversary in September, 1988. Sixth generation Mr Ken Collins and his wife Ella will celebrate 50 years of marriage in late December, 1988.

All are very proud First Fleeters. Congratulations from all to Ken and Ella.

We wish to thank the Warden Tony Bisdee, whom we met on our pilgrimage to Tasmania, for donating to our Library "A History of Green Ponds 1862-1987" by T.R. MacLeod. This is a soft cover book of 48 pages and was produced for the Bicentennial year by the Municipality of Green Ponds, Tasmania.

"CAMDEN PARK"

A most enjoyable day was had by the many members and friends who attended the picnic and house inspection at "Camden Park". The lovely weather and most interesting tour was so successful that we may hold it again next year for all those who missed out.

We hope to convene a meeting in the new year of the Computer Users Group. It is envisaged that our records of First Fleet families will be computerised eventually - our first priority is to computerise membership.

Some old friends popped up in Tasmania - The Cress family was seen in St David's Park - Jean Monk made a "flying" visit - the Barisford Clan were proud participants.

We were surprised to learn that over 10% of First Fleeters ended up in Van Diemens Land - 45 First Fleeters were buried in St David's Park - about 100 others were settled over the Island.

We acknowledge the gift of the following books for our Library:

- "The Small Family in Australia"
- "John Herbert His Life and Times"
- "He Leadeth Me" (Everingham)
- "Her Blood in Our Veins" (Ellen Wainwright)
- "History of Green Ponds 1862-1987"
- "My Mother Reread Me Tenderly" (Ruse)
- "The Women of The House" (Devine) by Wilma Strudwick.

Keep your requests coming in for the new certificates but please don't expect them to arrive by return mail. You will receive the certificate sometime in 1989.

FUTURE FELLOWSHIP FUNCTIONS

"FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS AUSTRALIA DAY DINNER"

Will be held on WEDNESDAY 25th January, 1989 at 7.30pm, at the Sheraton Wentworth Hotel, Sydney.

A grand finale to our Bicentenary. Single \$45 Double \$90.00. Send cheque, (made out to Fellowship of First Fleeters) - with a stamped, self addressed envelope to:

Miss A. Clarke Phone (02) 428-4530
P.O. Box 328
Lane Cove
NSW 2066



TANK STREAM INSPECTION TOUR

A tour of the Tank Stream has been organised for March 1989. Details in the January/February Newsletter.

BIRTHS

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

TEGAN MARIA MOORE, F.F. William Nash/Maria Haynes, 2nd March, 1988 daughter of Ian and Sandra Moore, sister for Allirra and 2nd granddaughter of Beryl and Raymond Williams.

EDWARD JOHN MAKEPEACE, F.F. Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes, 15th October, 1988 first child for Anne and John Makepeace. First grandchild of the late Lola Wilkinson, a well remembered and loved Life Member of the F.F.F.

ERIN MELISSA WILLIAMS, 4th September, 1988 daughter of Melanie and Steven Williams, granddaughter of Alice Holmes and great granddaughter of Blanche Dean.

STUART DEAN RAVEN, F.F. Thomas Arndell/Elizabeth Burley/John Nicholls, 20th October, 1988 son of Lindsay and Suzanne Raven, grandson of Marge and Ken Raven.

WEDDING BELLS

After their engagement announcement at the Bicentennial Australia Day dinner, Bob Bullock and Wendy Maslin were married at the Japanese Gardens, Auburn, Sydney on 22nd October, 1988.

Best wishes for a long and happy life.

GOLDEN WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to Dorothy and Harry Herbert Tunks on the 50th Anniversary of their marriage.

The happy occasion was celebrated by a family gathering organised by their son Mr Graham Tunks, on 11th November, 1988. 50 years to the day.

OBITUARIES

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

PHILLIP THORNE, Member No. 1409, F.F. Nathaniel Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne. Died 16th September, 1988, aged 80 years.

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

BOOKS

"My Mother Reread Me Tenderly - The Life of James Ruse"

by Janice Ruse Israel.

AVAILABLE FROM:

Heritage Book Shop, the Rocks, Sydney
Macquarie Book Shop, Parramatta, Sydney
Parramatta Tourist Office and
Church St. Mall Kiosk, Parramatta, Sydney.

OR DIRECT FROM:

Possum Records, P.O. Box 50 Eastwood N.S.W. 2122. Phone 683-4499

Recommended retail price \$10. Add \$2.50 for postage and handling if ordering direct.

"THE SIRIUS LETTERS -

The complete letters of Newton Fowell, Midshipman & Lieutenant, Aboard the Sirius, Flagship of the First Fleet".

Edited with commentary by Nance Irvine.

This book is lavishly presented with over 70 watercolours, drawings and engravings. Newton Fowell's letters are transcribed in full with an accompanying narrative by Nance Irvine. Historical notes to the work have been written by Canberra Academic Victor Crittendon.

COST \$29.95 PLUS \$2.50 POSTAGE.

POST ORDERS TO:

The Library Shop
State Library of N.S.W.
Maquarie St
Sydney
N.S.W. 2000

Make cheque payable to "State Library of N.S.W."

PHONE ORDERS:

The Library Shop
(02) 230-1611
Credit Cards Accepted.

"FIRST FLEET FAMILIES OF AUSTRALIA"

Compiled by C J Smee

Containing the genealogical details of Four Hundred and Fifty Six First Fleeters who arrived in the colony of New South Wales to begin the foundation of Our Nation, plus their children and grandchildren.

Some 430 pages, 235mm x 165mm, handsomely bound hard cover, gold blocked on face and spine.

A limited print run of 1,000 copies

cost \$25.00 plus packing and postage:

NSW :	\$4.00
QLD, VIC :	\$5.00
SA, TAS :	\$6.00
WA, NT :	\$7.00

TO: FIRST FLEET FAMILIES OF AUSTRALIA

P.O. Box 712
Artarmon
N.S.W. 2064

"SOLO AROUND THE WORLD"

By PETER NORVILL

In May and June of 1988, Peter Norvill, a F.F. Descendant made the first solo flight around the world by an Australian Born pilot in a fixed wing aircraft.

This is the story of that flight from the first idea, through the planning stages, then from the start from Sydney on the 7th May, 1988 stopping at Indonesia, Singapore, India, Egypt, Crete, Portugal, Canada, United States and the Pacific Islands, returning to Australia at Brisbane on the 9th June, Sixty years to the day to when Kingsford Smith touched down after making the first Trans-Pacific flight.

The story concludes at Sydney on the 11th June after a flight of 35 days.

The book contains 45,000 words and 97 full colour photographs taken around the world.

COST \$27.00 (Includes packing and postage)

ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

Peter Norvill
"Rock Dhu"
Murrurundi
N.S.W. 2338

"HER BLOOD IN OUR VEINS"

by IRENE DONALD.

A family history of F.F. Ellen Wainwright (alias Esther Eccles) and her descendants.

Soft Cover 147 pages.

COST \$10.00 plus \$3.00 postage per copy.

ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

Irene Donald
45 Pauls Cres
Wendouree
VICTORIA 3355



PLAQUE SERVICE REPORT

PLAQUE SERVICE -- SYDNEY CENTRAL RAILWAY, FORMERLY SAND HILL CEMETERY OR OLD DEVONSHIRE STREET GROUND. SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER, 1988.

This cemetery was bounded by Elizabeth Street, Devonshire Street, Pitt Street and Eddy Avenue. Total area of 11 acres, 3 roods and 11 1/2 perches. The site is now fully occupied by Sydney Central Railway Station.

The first interment took place in 1819, just after the Town Hall cemetery was closed. Approximately 5000 memorial stones, ranging from humble markers to lavish and ornate monuments were erected in the various portions of the Sand Hill Cemetery, during the fifty years 1819 to 1868. It is reported nearly 30,000 were interred in this cemetery. The last burial occurred in 1868 and the cemetery was officially closed in 1888.

In 1901 the New South Wales Government invited descendants and relatives of the interred to relocate the memorials and remains elsewhere. They were moved to Rockwood, South Head, Gore Hill, Waverly and the majority to Botany. Some of the tombstones and memorials were transferred to Goulburn, Cootamundra and Kinross.

The known First Fleeters buried at Sand Hill Cemetery are:

Phoebe Flaherty, John Redman, Hannah Smith, James Squires, Robert Watson, William Hubbard, Elizabeth Beckford and Thomas Prior. This commemorative plaque is in memory of these First Fleeters buried here and nearby in recognition of the contribution they made to the establishment and development of this country. "To live on in the hearts and minds of descendants is never to die."

We started the day with a Eucharist Service at the Christ Church St. Lawrence, George Street Sydney. The visiting Preacher was Bishop Timothy Bavin of Portsmouth, England, the city from which our First Fleet fore fathers set sail in 1787 for this country. Bishop Timothy Bavin was visiting this city as a Bicentennial quest.

The Bishop joined us at our memorial service by dedicating and blessing the plaque. Father Austin Day, Rector of St. Lawrence unveiled the Queen Anne flag from the memorial plaque.

The plaque is situated at the main pedestrian entrance to Sydney Central Railway, corner Elizabeth Street and Eddy Avenue, Sydney instead of at the entrance to Devonshire pedestrian tunnel as previously announced.

We are indebted to the State Rail Authority for organising the change of position and also for erecting the Plaque for us.

DOUG OAKES

Convener.

FROM THE "CHAPTERS"

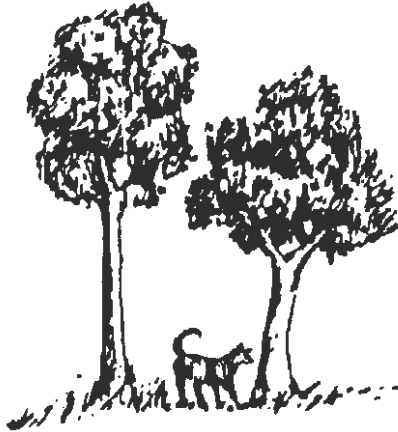
TASMANIA.

Our next meeting will be held Sunday 22nd January, 1989 at 11am with a short talk on the events of 1988. This will be followed by a B.Y.O. barbecue at 12 noon, with the meeting at the Reading Room, Ross Library at 1.pm

ROY PECK



AROUND THE TREES



WILLIAM NASH/MARIA HAYNES

A family service will be held at St. Phillips Church, York Street, Sydney on Sunday 12th February, 1989 at 10am for the 200th anniversary of the marriage of William and Maria.

A picnic lunch will be held after the service on Observatory Hill.

ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT:

Joan Rowe
(02) 465423

ELLEN WAINWRIGHT

Summary of 1988.

1988 has been an exciting year for the Descendants of Ellen Wainwright (alias Esther Eccles) Prince of Wales.

On Sunday July 3rd a reunion of the descendants of Ellen was held at Arthur's Creek, near Melbourne to coincide with the launch of the book 'Her Blood in Our Veins' by Irene Donald. The date was significant, as it was the closest Sunday to the date 150 years ago that the granddaughter of Ellen, Ann Bilston and her husband Thomas landed in the Port Phillip District from Tasmania. Arthur's Creek was chosen as Thomas Bilston, found and named Arthur's Creek for Henry Arthur.

More than 300 descendants of Ellen Wainwright gathered for the reunion, coming from all parts of Victoria and New South Wales, and were entertained by Sue Donald singing Folk songs which relate to the family history, and a display of antiques supplied by Ron McKenzie, another descendant. Tee Shirts and Tea Towels were screen printed on the spot with a design showing we are descendants of Ellen.

At Magra, near New Norfolk in Tasmania on the 3rd November, family members Cherie Cumming of Sydney, Marj Trew of Sydney Nancy Calvert, Tony Clarke, Betty and Bernie Greenwood, and Irene, Ian and Sue Donald of Victoria, were proud to see the unveiling of the plaque on Ellen's grave. Sue sang a ballad about Ellen in the church and Irene spoke at the grave. Cherie Cumming whose twenty years of research have been incorporated in the book 'Her Blood in Our Veins', (see Book column) is a lady to whom the author, Irene Donald, is most grateful but as she has a retiring nature, Cherie preferred not to speak at the grave side.

NATHANIAL LUCAS/OLIVIA GASCOIGNE

Summary of 1988

The large family gathering at the Mint Building, Macquarie Street Sydney and the launching of our book on 24th January was the high point for many of the Lucas clan for 1988. What a great thing it has been over the years to finally meet all those long lost cousins.

Our best wishes to all and especially to those who have suffered illnesses including Mr Frank Lucas a fourth generation F.F. descendant and Mr Phil Waters.

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST CIVIL COURT HEARING

11th FEBRUARY, 1788

The 200th Anniversary of the hearing of the first civil court case in Australia was noted by The New South Wales Court of Appeal Justice Michael Kirby, when he sat on 1 July 1988.

Justice Kirby said: "Between 1788 and 1823 the best known tribunal in the new colony of New South Wales was the Court of Criminal Jurisdiction. It held sway over the lives of all in the infant colony. Its chief officer was the Judge-Advocate. It applied English criminal law and procedure, except to the extent that this was unsuitable to the circumstances of the colony. Its first sitting took place 11 February 1788, within a fortnight of the arrival in Sydney Cove.

"Between 1788 and 1814, the chief tribunal for dealing with civil claims was the Court of Civil Jurisdiction. An appeal lay from that court to the Governor and, in some circumstances to the Privy Council. The court was replaced in 1814 by a Supreme Court established to deal with civil matters only.

"In due course under the Charter of Justice the Supreme Court, as we know it, was established. The Court of Appeal is part of the Supreme Court, which is continued by the Supreme Court Act 1970.

"For more than 20 years a rudimentary form of civil justice was dispensed by the Civil Court sitting in Sydney. Most of the cases before it related to debts. The first sitting in the court took place on 1 July 1788, exactly two hundred years this morning.

"The proceedings in the first case were held on that day as recorded. They have been criticised by subsequent commentators. They are described thus by Professor Castles in his notable book 'An Australian Legal History':

Two convicts were the plaintiffs in the cause. Under the English law of the day it seems clear that fellows like these, whose punishment had been commuted to transportation, could not be allowed to sue in a civil court. Perhaps with this in mind, the records show that one of the plaintiffs, Henry Cable, was described judiciously in the minutes of the Court as a "labourer". Interestingly, too, the original summons which initiated the action referred to Cable and his wife as "New Settlers in this place". However, this phrase was struck out to leave no reference to their status. Whatever their status might have been under English law, however, Cable and his wife were permitted to recover £20 in damages from Duncan Sinclair, the Master of the Transport Alexander, one of the ships of the First Fleet. Before leaving England, Sinclair had taken charge of a parcel of clothes and other articles which had been provided for the Cables by a group of well-wishers. They were either lost or stolen on the voyage to Australia.

"Sir Victor Windeyer, in an essay on the case ('A Birthright and an Inheritance, the Establishment of the Rule of Law in Australia' (1962) Tas L Rev 635,662) acknowledge that there were "some things to criticise" in the first sitting.

"The apparently deliberate refusal to apply the law of misprision of felony may have been seen as a necessity if there were to be even rudimentary justice available within the colony. Perhaps it was thought that this rule, which was to offend many later commentators following Dugan v Mirror Newspapers Limited (1978) 1442 CLR 583, was not appropriate to the exigencies of the place and time.

"However that may be, Sir Victor Windeyer concluded that the case involved "a vindication of the rule of law". So it would appear.

"From the very beginning of the colony an endeavour was made to apply the forms and principles of English law, as they were understood. From the beginning of the history of the administration of civil law in this country, the doors of the court were opened to disadvantaged litigants.

"The principle of the rule of law was asserted, even against the seemingly powerful master of the transport ship. The disadvantaged litigants were successful in their case. The principle of the peaceful resolution of claims and disputes, in the court of law, was asserted, even in the rustic circumstances which obtained, less than six months after the landing of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove.

"Since that time, in differing courts and with a vastly expanded body of law and company of the legal profession, the courts of the colony and later of New South Wales have performed their duty. The duty to administer justice without fear or favour, affection or ill-will spread, in time, to courts sitting in every corner of this vast land. Many mistakes were made on the way, and doubtless some continue to be made which even the painstaking process of appeal and of law reform cannot repair.

But it is worth calling to mind, as we embark upon the third century of the administration of civil justice in Australia, the beginnings in the rude circumstances of the early settlement. It is also worth remembering how, from the very start, the endeavour was made to translate to this country the substance of the principles of English law and to improve upon and adapt those principles so that they would be applicable to the circumstances of the new country.

As the President of the Bar (Mr K.R. Handley QC) is in the part-heard case which is now before the court, I thought I should call this historic occasions to his notice and, through him, to the notice of the legal profession of the State and beyond.

"Many achievements lie behind us in the past 200 years. Many challenges lie ahead. What began in the litigation of Cable v Sinclair continues today in this court and in courts sitting in every part of Australia."

FROM THE MAILBOX

On 27th September I had the pleasure of being invited aboard HMS Sirius, together with members of the Portsmouth - Sydney Sister City Committee, Australian National Flag Association, Dr Jonathon King, John Vaughan and your President Mr. Peter Christian.

It was indeed a great pleasure for all of us to be able to make many presentations of historical significance to Commander Morton.

It was interesting to note that a Heritage Flag was presented by Mr Peter Christian to HMS SIRIUS and broken out on the masthead in a small ceremony on that day. The copy of the flag replica plaque shows the Heritage Flag. A number of these have been made up for sale at \$20 each, plus \$5 for postage and inscription honouring a First Fleet Ancestor.

Funds raised from these replica plaques will help cover administration expenses incurred in organising the First Fleet Re-union in Britain 24th April - 14th May 1989.

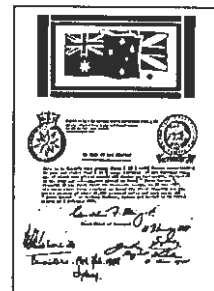
Those interested in the tour should send a S.A.E. and \$2 to cover Re-union Newsletters.

Yours faithfully

Wilbur Wright, Coordinator.

ALL ENQUIRIES TO:

First Fleet Re-union 1989
1/51 Fairlight Street
Fairlight N.S.W. 2094
(02- 944-512)



**THIS PLAQUE CERTIFIES THE REPLICA WAS
TRANSPORTED ON THE FIRST FLEET
RE-ENACTMENT VOYAGE TO SYDNEY IN 1987/1988.**



HISTORICAL SUBURBS

HAMMONDVILLE

(32 Km Southwest of Sydney City)



The site of Hammondville appears to be a portion of the 700 acres granted to Thomas Rowley, son of Captain Thomas Rowley whose farm Burwood, in what was then known as the district of Petersham, was visited by Macquarie in 1810. Thomas Rowley was born in the Colony in 1794 and was therefore among the first of the "native-born" settlers. In 1828 he was recorded as established at Holsworthy with his wife Catherine and family of five children, second generation Australians.

The present suburb of Hammondville dates from the depression of the nineteen thirties. Canon R.B.S. Hammond, known for his efforts on behalf of distressed city dwellers, was the founder of the settlement that bears his name. Associated with him were Mr. R.R. Dangar, who purchased 150 acres of land at a cost of 3,750 Pounds; the honorary solicitor, Mr. Tebbutt; the honorary architects, Sir Chas Rosenthal, Mr. W.C. Brown and the Rev. Gordon King; the honorary surveyors, Messrs. Hope and Glarville, and many other professional men as well as numerous friends and supporters.

The conditions for a family's entry to Hammondville required that there must be at least three young children and that the parents

must be unemployed and evicted or under notice of eviction. At the end of the seventh year, the cottage and acre of land became the settlers own property after payment of five shillings (fifty cents) weekly for the first three years and seven shillings and sixpence weekly for the remaining four.

The principal activities of the settlers, many of whom were later employed at their trades, were vegetable and flower growing and poultry farming. There was also a mushroom culture farm and Angora rabbit studs. No outside labour was employed in the construction of new cottages or other buildings, which included a Memorial Hall, Post Office, Public School, Fire Brigade Station, General Store and Bakery. The settlement's best advertisement was the magnificent health of its children, who were pronounced to be "the healthiest seen any where in the world".

The great need was for a church. The Canon hoped for a donor to enable a church to be built, and when his prayers were answered the gift far exceeded the immediate need. In 1940, Mrs. Constance Gedge donated £3,000 for a church in memory of her late husband, Walter H. Gedge. The foundation stone was laid by the Governor,

Lord Wakehurst, on 1st June, 1940, and the church was consecrated on Sunday 22nd September of that year.

The church, St. Anne's, is now under the Department of the Army and no longer under the Parish, for it was too large for the settlement and the Chaplain's Department needed a place of worship for army personnel.

The settlement has grown since the war, the main development being Hammondville Nursing Home and homes for the retired.

With compliments of:
Liverpool City Library.

HELP!!

We would like to open the office at First Fleet House on Mondays as well as the other days of the week, as there is constant demand for goods, telephone enquiries and visits from out of town members. Volunteers are urgently needed to help in the office on Mondays, and also Wednesdays, from 10.00am to approx. 3.00pm. Ladies and Gents are most welcome - the duties are not arduous - general office work, telephone answering, mail, assisting membership committee and functions committee with their activities - endless cups of coffee and conversation, a very pleasant way to spend a day and learn the workings of your Fellowship. Please phone Pam Quick Home No. (02) 489-5772 or the office if you would like to help.

HELP NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER:

Our Newsletter is produced 6 times a year, and volunteers are urgently needed for a day or two each two months to help in the assembling and mailing of the Newsletter. All this is done in First Fleet House, not difficult to do, and men and ladies are welcome to come and help. Please phone Barbara Townsend (02) 675-1267. You would be most welcome.

FROM THE EDITOR

Please note that the closing date for the January/February Newsletter is 18th January 1989.

It should also be noted that the Newsletter is posted at the end of the second month, the next being the end of February. Don't forget to type or print any articles!!!

HELP!!

Articles needed for "Historical Suburbs" column. How about sending in the History of your suburb. Acknowledgements must be included.



Christmas wishes to all

Your Editor

Miss Rhonda Kroehnert.



CORRECTIONS

JAN/FEB 1988

- * Condolences Column p.5.
"Alice Mary Winning No.2779"
Should read: "Doris Alice Winning No. 2879"
Passed away 3/1/1988

SEP/OCT 1988

- * Bits & Pieces Column p.4
Line 6-7 "Thomas Burn Smith 14/10/1889"
Should read: "Thomas Burn Smith was born 15/10/1789"
- * Line 9 "Government of Parramatta"
Should read: "Government at Parramatta"

- * Obituary Notice to Ann Smith
OCTOBER 4, 1839"
Should read: "October 4, 1837"

SEPT/OCT 1988 p.5

The official opening of the Liverpool City Local History Museum has been postponed until 1989.

SEPT/OCT 1988 p.6

- * Book Review Column p.6
"Kathleen Elizabeth Tenthall"
Should read: "Kathleen Elizabeth Lenthall"

Our apologies for any inconvenience.