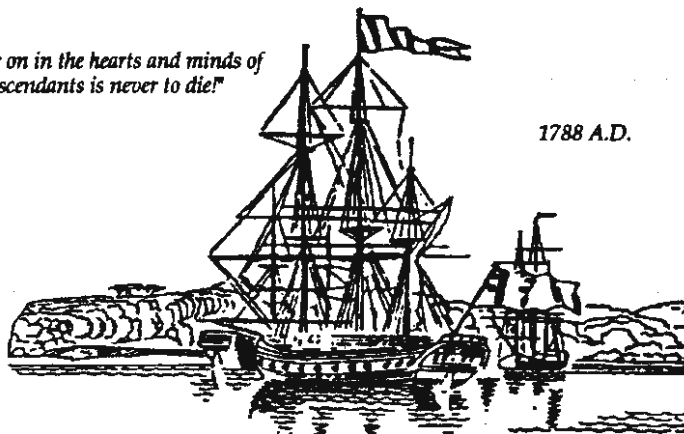


Fellowship of First Fleeters Newsletter

"To live on in the hearts and minds of
Descendants is never to die!"



JOURNAL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS INC. NSW 1988
PRICE: 50c Registered by Australia Post Publication No. NBH 1271

PATRON:
OFFICE ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE:

His Excellency Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair, AO, Governor of New South Wales.
First Fleet House 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011
(02) 360-3788, 360-3988

March/April 1991 Volume 22 NO.2

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our congratulations to the men and women of the Australian Armed Forces serving in the Gulf for a job well done. We should now thank God that this nation suffered no casualties this time.

One of our long term members and hardest working volunteer office workers, Keith Selby, passed away. Mrs Selby is also one of our most ardent workers. Keith will be sadly missed. Our sincere sympathy and condolences are extended to the family.

My wife Sandra and I were recently honoured by our patron His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair and Mrs Sinclair with an invitation to attend a dinner which they hosted at Government House for leading Community Achievers. I was very proud to attend and mingle with such great Australians as Rear Admiral Hudson, Alan Davidson (the cricket great) Bill Collins (Mr Movies) etc.

I have been informed by contractors that Cambridge Street in the Rocks is being refurbished. Cambridge St is the location of the sight where convicts were assembled after they came off the transports. The street is to be lined with sandstone pavers and the contractor proposed to put the name of a First Fleeter on each of the blocks.

I suggested that as we have the signatures of 150 of them it would enhance the scheme if they were put on the blocks too.

It has also been suggested that if this idea goes ahead visitors could transfer the signatures (X's) onto a rubbing sheet. I believe Molly Gillens work "The Founders of Australia" contains almost all the surviving signatures.

If anyone has other samples of First Fleet signatures I would be most grateful if they could be sent to me.

Yours In Fellowship
James Hugh Donohoe

SOCIAL DIARY

1st May, 1991

Daytime Auxillary Ferry Trip to Meadowbank.

9th - 12th May, 1991

Six Annual Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry

Saturday 25th May, 1991

Herbert Family Reunion

4th July, 1991

Daytime Auxillary Meeting

7th July, 1991

St. Mary Magdalene's Church, St. Marys NSW

Rookwood Tours

5th	May
2nd	June
7th	July
4th	August
1st	September
6th	October
3rd	November

1992

Pioneer Reunion - Ryde Municipality

Don't forget to wear your First Fleet T-shirts, Windcheaters, Ties etc to these outings

First Fleet House Office Hours:
Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri.... 10am - 3pm
Tues.... 10am - 5.30pm

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1990/91

PRESIDENT:	James Donohoe	Rod Best
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Peter Christian	June Bigham
	Alice Clarke	Ula Clarke
SECRETARY:	Zona Maguire	Nalda Jackson
TREASURER:	Roy Morris	Jim MacLean
ARCHIVIST:	Joyce Cowell	Ron Maguire
		Hugh Morgan
		Doug Oakes
		Beverley Naughton
		Suzanne Stanton (Jnr. Newsletter Editor)

BITS AND PIECES

Liverpool Bicentennial Museum

An interesting time can be enjoyed by all who visit the Liverpool Bicentennial Museum.

Situated just out of Liverpool the museum is easy to get to by train, bus and car. Address:

Cnr Hume Hwy and Congressional Drive, Liverpool, NSW adjoining the Tourist Information Office

Phone: (02) 602-0315
Hours: Wed - Fri 9.30am - 4pm
Saturday, Sunday and
Public Holidays 11am - 4pm

ARCHIVES

The archives of the Fellowship are made of the genealogical details of the descendants of First Fleeters. Extensive family trees are recorded, first with written form and then entered into the computer. Our records contain the details of some 180 First Fleet Families. There are 25 Family Associations working on these families and some 37 books have been printed recording the details of their lives and the lives of the early descendants.

All intending members must produce proof of their descent by submitting birth, death and marriage certificates showing their line of descent from a First Fleeter. After those certificates have been examined by the Membership Committee, they are handed over to the Archivist. The certificates are carefully filed - we

have thousands of them, all recorded and colour-coded for generation.

The narrative material received with applications is also filed in the family files of all those First Fleeters from whom we have descendants.

The archivist has spent the year putting together the record of our Bicentennial project - to identify with plaques the tombstones of First Fleeters and to install commemorative plaques on First Fleeter "sacred sites" - areas where First Fleeters are known to have been buried but where gravestones no longer exist. We have found some 72 such graves and some 19 sites to mark with the commemorative plaques.

Photographs of family groups, descriptions of sites, churches and ceremonies, gravestone inscriptions and maps are all recorded in print for the use of future generations. The publication of this work "Where First Fleeters Lie" has been a significant achievement produced from the archival records of the Fellowship.

Print for Sale.

A framed print of the painting titled "The Second Eleven" by Steven Dews is available for sale from First Fleet House.

It shows The First Fleet Re-enactment off Sydney Heads, 26th January, 1988, with the ships Tradewind, Amorina, Solway Lass, Our Svanen, Eye of the Wind, Soren Larsen, Tucker Thompson, One and All, Anna Kristina, Bounty and Leeuwin.

Additional Family Association.

THOMAS KIDNER FAMILY ASSOCIATION.

Contact: Mrs N.J. Cunningham
28 Stretham Avenue,
Picnic Point
NSW 2213
PHONE: (02) 774 3459

Australia Day in the Copper Triangle

Australia Day 1991 - nowhere near as exciting as 1988 but none-the-less pleasant. So I thought I would tell how we came to be celebrating it with other First Fleeters.

We recently moved to the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia, to an area known as the Copper Triangle, a stronghold of descendants of Cornish miners who settled and worked the area from the 1860's. Probably the last place in the Country one would expect to find First Fleeters, but find them we did.

My husband (FF Jacob Bellett and Thomas Kidner) was wearing his Fellowship of First Fleeters sweater in the local Hairdressers when a lady with her hair in curlers started gasping and jumping up and down when she recognised the logo on the sweater. It turned out that she and her husband had moved here from Sydney about 7 years ago. She is descended from Ann Forbes and her husband is possibly also a First Fleet descendant yet to be confirmed. She was so excited and so were we.

Then about a month ago my husband and I pulled up in the main street of

RAFFLE

PRIZE: The book "The First Fleet" by Jonathan King

DRAWN: 1st May, 1991

TICKETS: 50c each or 3 for \$1.00

Moonta and there in front of us was a car with a Fellowship of First Fleeters sticker on the back. No occupants, so I scribbled a note with our address and phone number and left it under the windscreen wiper.

That night the phone rang and an excited gentleman introduced himself. He and his wife had just been transferred by the Education Department to this area. He is a descendant of Ann Sandlin.

So we decided to celebrate Australia Day together and hope to make it an annual event.

We flew the flag; had a good old Aussie barbecue with all the trimmings; and a fruit cake with a convict figure complete with ball and chain on top; and jelly cakes made with yellow and green jelly.

The chains were really rattling that day. We discussed ancestors in great depth, (even I got a look in and I'm not a First Fleeter).

In all it was a great day and we are looking forward to next years Australia Day with happy anticipation. We are thinking of putting an advert in the local paper, who knows, there might be some other First Fleeters lurking out there in this out-of-the-way Cornish stronghold.

From member
Elsie Madden.

Eleanor (McCabe) Magee

On Sunday, 28th February, 1982, the Fellowship held a plaque dedication service for a memorial plaque placed on a metal stand attached to the railing surrounding Eleanor Magee's grave.

Eleanor Magee is buried in the grounds occupied by James Hardie and Co. Pty. Ltd., Camellia, N.S.W. a suburb of Sydney.

The factory is on the banks of the Parramatta River.

Eleanor was drowned in the Parramatta River and is buried on the site of her husband's land grant with her daughter, who was also drowned in the accident.

An inspection of the grave site in 1988 revealed the fact that both the plaque and support-stand were missing.

We are pleased to report that the company has now installed our replacement plaque on the concrete edging surrounding the grave.

DAYTIME AUXILIARY.

The meeting of the daytime auxiliary was held on Thursday 7th March. The Chairperson was Joyce Cowell. An early item discussed was a new name for the Group, and a decision was made for "The Daytime Fellowship". If interest is sustained in the gathering, meeting will be held on the first Thursday of the month, to be advised, 11.30am to 2pm. Tea and coffee is available, but please bring your lunch. It was also decided that Wednesday should be kept as our day for outings. We have a meeting or outing, every second month.

Election of Office Bearers.

Chairperson - Joyce Cowell
Recorder - Bernice Smart
Social Organiser - Phyllis Selby

Tenure of Office to be One Year.

Our first outing has been arranged, and we ask for a good attendance. May we remind members, that friends and relatives are also welcome. You do not have to be member of F.F.F. to attend our days out. We do charge a small amount on top of costs, which goes towards the purchase of books for our library, or similar small needs for our building.

Our guest speaker for the afternoon was member Ron Maguire, who was well qualified to tell us about the printing trade. Thank you Ron.

Ferry Trip

Date: 1st May 1991

Ferry trip up Parramatta River to Meadowbank, stopping for lunch at Sydney Rowing Club at Abbotsford. Meet at Circular Quay No.5 Wharf, 11.30am.

We hope to arrange other boat trips for later in the year, as we have found them in previous years to be very popular.

We ask you to watch the Newsletter for further news of us under our new name "The Daytime Fellowship" and to remember the change as above.

Meetings now on Thursdays, Outings remain on Wednesdays.

Next Meeting:

**Date: 4th July 1991.
At First Fleet House.**

The Fellowship of First Fleeters expresses its thanks to the management of James Hardie and Co. Pty. Ltd. for its cooperation in this matter.

Douglas Oakes
Plaques Convenor.

Australia Day 1991

Honours List

Congratulations to Miss Julia Kable #5614 who was awarded the Australian Public Service Medal (PSM) in the Australia Day 1991 Honours List

BUY A BRICK DONATIONS

We wish to record appreciation to the following for recent donations to the Fellowship's "Buy a Brick" Fund. These names will be recorded in our Donor Book in the Library at First Fleet House.

J. Bertram, R. Hargrave, Friends of First Government House Site, 1st Family Research Committee, R. Benjamin, R. Devine, A. Clarke, C. Torbett, U. Clarke.



THE RISING SUN BADGE

The origin and development of the Australian "Rising Sun" Badge is one of the most interesting aspects of Australian Military History.

Appropriately enough, it began with a collector, a major in the South Australian Forces, who thought of a design to mount his collection of bayonets. He asked a captain in the South Australian Navy to help him build a trophy-shield, using timber and brass.

This shield seems to have come into the possession of General Sir Edward Hutton, who was appointed to command the Military Forces of the new Commonwealth of Australia.

The Trophy of Arms, fixed above his office door at Melbourne's Victoria Barracks, comprised a semi-circular red painted board, on which bayonets and sword-bayonets were arranged alternately, surrounding a crown cut from sheet brass. Specifically, the weapons were the Martini-Henry Rifle Triangular Socket Bayonet and the Cut-and-Thrust Sword Bayonet.

In 1902, when the 1st Battalion Australian Commonwealth Horse was being raised for service in the South African War, the G.O.C. apparently decided on a general Service Badge and suggested "something like" the Trophy of Arms.

The contingent was due to leave five days later and a first badge was hurriedly struck. It consisted of seven triangular points, above "Australia" and the Crown, on a form of wreath base.

The design was amended for later contingents, with six intermediate points between the larger ones. The metal around "Australia" was pierced, probably to sew a piece of coloured cloth beneath. Still later that year another variation was struck with "Commonwealth Horse" forming the badge's base. It was worn by Australian troops who went to London for the Coronation of King Edward VII.

It is possible that the badge designers were symbolically including the six-pointed Commonwealth Star, which

is the major part of the crest of Australia.

The origin of the "Rising Sun" title given to the badge is connected neither with the Sun, nor heraldry, nor history, but with a brand of jam! Until about 1906, the only building near Victoria Barracks, Melbourne was Hoadley's Jam Factory, which produced a widely advertised "Rising Sun" brand; large quantities were shipped to the Australians in South Africa, and the jam's trademark was striking. In Melbourne returning soldiers were sometimes called "Hoadley's Horse".

In 1903 the badgemakers, J.R.Gaunt & Sons, of Birmingham, designed a badge whose basis did not change until the 1970's. The inscription on the scroll was "Australian Commonwealth Military Forces" until 1949 when it became "Australian Military Forces". In the 1970's it was shortened simply to "Australia" and minor changes were made in design.

FOOTNOTE: Lieutenant General Sir Edward Hutton was, in fact, the Creator of Australia's Post Federation Army.

General Hutton was a British Army Officer who had previously commanded British troops in New South Wales. On loan to the Commonwealth Government, this brilliant officer, regarded as no mere paper-shuffler, is today recognised by Military Historians as the designer and maker of the Australian Army. Hutton's plan for the re-organisation of the various former State forces into one Commonwealth military force came into operation in July 1, 1903. At this time too, a Commonwealth pattern uniform was adopted for general wear and it replaced the wide variety of State uniforms which had hitherto been worn.

It was said few, if any members of the forces, could have claimed that they had not seen him. In an age when the motor car and the aeroplane were not normal means of transport, he travelled throughout Australia to meet all ranks of the men he commanded.

Australian Military Historian C.E.W. Bean, in his Volume One, "The Story of Anzac", wrote of the Australian Army's first Commander in Chief: "Hutton, like many of the leaders of history, was of the character which finds it difficult to bend its judgement to that of any other man. Shortly after his return to England he was put on the retired list, and was thus little known to the British people. But he

was a soldier of brilliance only too rare. His mark remained deeply impressed upon the Australian Army".

Reprinted with the kind permission of Mr.V. Jackson, President Riverwood Legion Club.

ANZAC DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM BROUGHTON

Compiled and submitted by Mrs Margaret Carty. Hamilton, Victoria.

List of Descendants of Commissary-General William Broughton who fought in the First World War.

Major-General Sir William Throsby Bridges
(Great Grandson) who commanded the First Australian Division in Gallipoli. (His son and two of his brothers, names unknown).

Capt. Frederick Tooth.	R.A.M.C.
Capt. Laurence Tooth.	A.I.F.
Lieut. C. Eustace Tooth.	R.N.
Capt. A. Gordon Tooth.	1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers
P.H. Zouch Throsby.	Infantry
C.R. Zouch Throsby.	Field Artillery
Campbell Throsby.	A.L.H? Killed in Action
Capt. P.A.C. Davenport	Field Ambulance
Lieut. G.K. Davenport	Field Ambulance Kid in Acn
Gunner. M.Baylis Garland	Field Ambulance Kid in Acn
Edward Graham Garland	Infantry
W. Mervyn Carne	Field Ambulance
A. Macarthur Carne	A.L.H.
David B.K. Broughton	A.L.H.
Travers K.K. Broughton	A.L.H. Killed in Action
G. Wentworth Broughton	A.I.F.
Lance-Corporal K.T.Luscombe ?	Killed in Action
F. Taylor Luscombe	Infantry Killed in Action
Broughton Luscombe	Infantry Killed in Action
H. Broughton Moriarty	Infantry
Wm. Bland Clayton	Infantry
Lieut. G.J.G. Clayton	infantry
F.Broughton Webb	Engineers
Keith Davison	Field Artillery
Gibson Manning	A.L.H. Killed in Action
Arthur C. Walker	D.A.C.
Lieut. E.L. Zouch	A.L.H.
Thomas Carne	A.L.H.

This list was compiled from photographs shown in "The Sydney Mail".

SPEECH BY ROD BEST

at the Presidents Welcome on
Saturday 24th November, 1990.

The First Fleeters and their interaction
with the Koori tribes of Sydney.

In discussing the interaction of any interaction of any individuals at any point in history it is important to examine that interaction on the terms and with the understanding that those individuals have it applied to their own situation. This is particularly the case where the interaction has been, and remains over the span of centuries, to be controversial. It should not be assumed that the nature of interaction over centuries is a constant nor that the sins of the children were necessarily the sins of their fathers 'until the seventh generation'.

This is not to deny that such an interaction can be examined over a span of centuries nor that aspects of that history can be used in the polemics of to-day. I believe, however, the latter can only be justified if there is an understanding, a sympathy if you like, with the times in which that aspect occurred.

Not only, need there be no uniformity in the interaction of individuals over time but, at any one time, there is rarely uniformity amongst the individuals living at that time.

In the earliest days of the Colony, which I am looking at, there were for instance amongst the Koori, tribes and tribal structures. Amongst the colonists there were officials, marines, free settlers, convicts, men and women. For ease of discussion I am proposing to divide the colonists into only three groups - the informed thinker, the uninformed, but powerful, and the uninformed, but lacking in power. The first group is comprised of men like Phillip, Tench or White who thought about their dealings with the Koori. The second is comprised of other officials in the Colony and convicts of significance, while the third is comprised of the rest of the convicts. Greater details of each of these groups are well known to each of you.

Insofar as the Koori were concerned three major linguistic groups can be distinguished: from Botany Bay southwards the Dharawal language was used; from the northside of Botany Bay to south of the harbour and then spreading out in a giant fan-like area from Liverpool to Hornsby and up to the escarpment of

the Blue Mountains it was the Dharrug language; and then north of the Harbour between the Lane Cove River and the Coast the language was Kuring-gai. Differences then existed within these linguistic groups. There were a variety of dialects - the Eora around Sydney Cove, Wallomattagal near Ryde, the Toogagal near Toongabbie, the Cannemegal near Prospect. Differences also existed other than language. The Cammaraigal near Cammeray were famed warriors who appear to have had the right to extract a tooth from members of other tribes.

Insofar as the colonists were concerned the chief differences, they identified, were between the coastal and the wood dwellers. The women had different patterns in the meshes making up their carrying nets; the men different 'lines' or hair belts worn around their waists and used to carry implements; the coastal men had spears tipped with oyster shells, those on the Nepean were tipped with chert and at Parramatta a red silcrete found at South and Eastern Creek; and the coastal lived in caves while the wood dwellers lived in bark leanto's.

As they tended to move in groups of perhaps 50 to 60 individuals it is difficult to estimate numbers but there may have been some two or three thousand in the Sydney basin in 1788.

While each band was nomadic within defined areas they also appear to have returned to known sites. Joseph Banks recorded in 1770 how in Botany Bay "We came to an anchor abreast of a small village consisting of about 6 or 8 houses" and in 1788 Watkin Tench recorded that "on the north west arm of Botany Bay stands a village which contains more than a dozen houses and perhaps five times that number of people".

In respect of each of these groups which I have now so briefly described there is insufficient information available to see how they reacted to the Colonists - but to some extent we can examine the converse.

The informed colonists was more like than not to be an officer or a surgeon. It is a group that has been well explored by Professor McBryde in her published lecture "Guests of the Governor" and the comments which follow draw heavily upon her researches.

Governor Arthur Phillip was quite clearly the best known. Of relations of the Koori he wrote:

"the natives have ever been treated with the greatest humanity and attention and every precaution that was possible has been taken to prevent their receiving any insults and every means shall be used to reconcile them to live amongst us and to teach them the advantages they shall reap from cultivating the land".

After initial attempts at voluntary conciliation had failed Phillip commenced a policy of utilising captive mediators to act as cultural brokers and as an avenue of communication by which interaction could occur so as to achieve the ends mentioned in the quote.

The first such mediator was Arabaroo who was captured at Manly in December 1788. He died of small pox in the May of the following year and in the interim was effectively shunned by his own people. Others taken at this time included a young boy, Nanberree, who lived with Surgeon White and Abaroo (or Boorong) who lived with Chaplain Johnson. The most important captive was that of Bennelong and Colebe in November with Bennelong maintaining a spasmodic presence in the Colony during which time he gradually grew in stature. This increasing importance of Bennelong was not, however, as a consequence of his role as an intermediary, but through the force of his own personality.

The difficulty of Bennelong's position amongst his own people was illustrated by the spearing of Phillip at Manly Cove. There Bennelong's ability to control the attacker, Wil-ee-marin seems limited. Also his ability to introduce others to the ways of the Colony, or the colonists to the ways of the Koori was confined. On the other hand, he probably did assist his own people to avoid Phillip's punitive raid following the spearing of gamekeeper, McIntire.

When Bennelong travelled with Phillip to England they took a teenage boy, Yemmurawannie, who died while in England. Others used the Koori as interpreters or sources of information. The botanist George Caley was accompanied by Moowa'tin. Matthew Flinders took a Koori to London, and also took Bungaree on sailing expeditions.

Some, indeed, seem to have been accepted as individuals and companions - and not just as intermediaries. This appears to have been the case with the emancipist and brewer James Squire who befriended

Bennelong and Surgeon White's protegee Nanberree. Bondel, in 1791, sailed with a Captain Hill to whom he was "attached", to Norfolk Island.

Others appear to have wanted a degree of integration for their own ends. In 1793 Grunga-a-grunga sailed to Vancouver Island, Canada and back again and went without apparent attachment to any person on board. During the vice-regency of Hunter, Government House appears to have been a place of sanctuary during the tribal wars.

With the role of the captive mediator seen as bringing the Koori people into civilisation (without any acceptance or understanding of their ways) the policy could have little success. There was a preparedness by this group to document and record. Another manuscript by Dawes has recently been located in the School of African and Oriental Studies University of London entitled "Grammatical forms of the language of N.S.W. in the neighbourhood of Sydney". But this was the work of a documenter - something like the difference between an antiquarian and an historian. There was no acceptance of their ways or value assigned or appreciation given to their beliefs and approach to life. Perhaps this is just asking too much of a Georgian Englishman with a boisterous zest and assurance of his place in his world: an Englishman who was also struggling to survive in a strange and unforgiving land Watkin Tench wrote of this chasm between the two peoples:

"Ever liberal of communication, no difficulty but of understanding each other, subsisted between us. In explicable contradictions arose to bewilder our researches, which no ingenuity could unravel, and no credulity reconcile".

In such a situation the Koori could only have wondered what were the supposed benefits of this civilisation and could do little but attempt to manipulate it for social, economic or political advantage. A male could not hope to be fully accepted into colonial society as he could not take a colonial wife. If he strived for that degree of integration then he would fail and personally disintegrate. When Bennelong died, this is how his obituary in the 1813 Sydney Gazette read:

"Bennelong died on Sunday morning last at Kissing Point. Of this veteran champion of the native tribe little

favourable can be said. His voyage to and benevolent treatment in Great Britain produced no change whatever in his manners and inclinations, which were naturally barbarous and ferocious. The principal Government had for years endeavoured, by the kindest of usage, to wean him from his original habits and draw him into a relish for civilised life, but every effort was in vain exerted and for the last few years he has been but little noticed. His propensity to drunkenness was inordinate, and when in that state he was insolent, menacing and overbearing. In fact, he was a thorough savage, not to be warped from the form and character that nature gave him by all the efforts that mankind could use".

Another example, is shown in Caley's companion Moowal'tin who, when he returned (without Caley) from visiting England, raped a colonial woman and was hung.

For the Koori female of this group of colonists there is no recorded liaison. Bradley wrote in October 1788 that "I believe no one in the Colony can boast of having received favours". All expressed horror at the brutal treatment meted out to them by the Koori males - the contusions which they carried as reminders of frequent lashings. But this sympathy does not seem to have extended further. Surgeon Worgan is probably indicative of the general attitude of this group".

"I cannot say all the Ladies are so shy and timorous on your approaching them, for some show no signs of Fear, but will Laugh and Frisk about You like a Spaniel, and put on the Airs of a Tantalising Coquet indeed, if it were not for the nauseous, greasy, grimy appearance of these *naked* Damsels, one might be said to be in a state of *Tantalism*, whenever they vouchsafe to permit Us to come near them; but what with stinking Fish-Oil, with which they seem to besmear their Bodies, and this mixture with the Soot which is collected on their Skins from continually setting over the Fires, and then in addition to these sweet Odours, the constant Appearance of the excrementitious Matters of the Nose which is collected on the upper pouting Lip, in rich Clusters of dry Bubbles, and is kept up by fresh Drippings; I say, from all these personal Graces and Embellishments, every inclination for an Affair of Gallantry, as well as every idea of fond endearing Intercourse, which

the Nakedness of these Damsels might excite one to, is banished".

Turning then to the second group of colonists, the uninformed but powerful, there was a sense that the Koori were yet another blight in a Godforsaken land, another burr in the saddle. George Suttor, a free settler who arrived in 1800 talked of how his early years had been spent in "dread of the Natives" while one of his female relations later wrote: "I have seen the first specimen consisting of about 40 individuals of the natives for Whom you can only say they seem something less than human. Their features are ugly in the extreme, their stature dwarfish and altogether cannot be described as something between a man and an ape".

Certainly, there were others like the Governor's gamekeeper, John McIntyre, who learnt to talk in the local dialect. Interestingly on the ill-fated visit of Phillip to Manly Cove, McIntyre had approached Bennelong who had forbid him to approach and eyed him ferociously and with every mark of horror and resentment. Later when McIntyre was out establishing a hunting hut for officers accommodation while Kangaroo hunting, McIntyre was fatally speared - notwithstanding his having spoken to his attacker immediately before the spearing, in that persons native tongue. Was this attitude towards McIntyre due to his personality or because he was a gamekeeper and hunted the fauna for pleasure?

It was this group who were at the forefront of the Koori counter-attack. It was they who carried the brunt of Koori violence in a land they disliked and wished to be rid of - and with no desire or ambition to find new things exciting. The views of convict artist Watling are enlightening, from a letter which he wrote to his aunt in Dumfries: "I cannot help making what may appear rather an ill-natured remark, our governors, for they are all such, have carried philosophy, I do not say religion, to such a pitch of refinement as to surprising. Many of these savages are allowed, what is termed a freemans ration of provisions for their idleness. They are bedecked at times, with dress which they make away with the first opportunity, preferring the originality of naked nature; and they are treated with the most singular tenderness. This you will suppose no more than laudable; but is there one spark of charity exhibited to poor wretches, who are at least

denominated christians? No they are frequently denied the common necessities of life! Wrought to death under the oppressive heat of a burning sun; or barbarously afflicted with often little merited arbitrary punishment - this may be philosophy, according to the calculations of our rigid dictators, but I think it is the falsest species of it I have ever known or heard of.

The Koori did not rate with this group as individuals but rather as yet another oddity to be overcome in a harsh forbidding and peculiar land.

What then of the largest group of colonists, the uninformed and powerless - comprised largely of convicts, emancipists and private soldiers.

For those living in towns the Koori were at first like children - playthings to be utilised for amusement. Their power of mimicry gave great delight. They quickly learnt to sing the tune "Marlborough" and Worgan records the sailors teaching them to swear - no doubt providing great entertainment when the words were used in unusual or inappropriate situations. This was very much a form of playground humour.

For some a rapport developed through a recognition of similar circumstances. When the negro convict, John Ceasar, took to the bush to become our first bushranger he may have been supported by some Koori. Other convicts like William Knight and Thomas Thrush were, in 1801, presumed to be aiding Koori militants.

As for the rest, their thieving soon embittered any incipient relationship. They even stole from the likes of Baloderree who had the Governor's support. The destruction of Baloderree's canoe led to a rage which Judge Advocate Collins described as inconceivable and in which "he threatened to take his own revenge and in his own way upon all white people". Theft of tools, weapons, boats, were all too frequent. The theft of hunting grounds, sacred sites and fishing spots unavoidable.

In 1799 Governor Hunter ordered the arrest of 5 Hawkesbury settlers for the "barbarous murder" of 2 Koori lads. During the trial it became evident that they had been asked to carry out the revenge by Sarah Hodgkinson in retaliation for the fatal spearing of her husband some three weeks before. The justice and satisfaction in retaliation seemed plain to them and

they had not been disabused of the error in their ways by the inconsistent and discretionary approach to the problem adopted by Governor Hunter.

Increasingly, isolated farmers (especially around Prospect) were in jeopardy of attack and the Koori who inhabited towns the subject of ridicule and caricature.

Of Koori attacks, the most consistent were made by Pemulwy. He has already been met as the killer of gamekeeper McIntyre in 1790. After a number of attacks he was captured in 1797 but shortly escaped with the iron still around his leg. In 1802 he and his band killed four men near Georges River and raped a number of colonist women. Shortly afterwards he was captured, hung, and his picked head sent to Sir Joseph Banks for scientific research.

The fight was carried on by Bush Mushetta - or Mosquito as he became known. Initially he wrecked deprivation in the Hills district until he was betrayed by Tedbury - who was ironically, the son of Pemulwy. Tedbury later led his own attacks on Hawkesbury settlers (including First Fleeter William Tunks) and later on those along the Georges River (including First Fleeter Frederick Meredith). Mosquito also escaped and continued his fight in the Hills and along the Hawkesbury until yet another betrayal in 1805. Initially transported to Norfolk Island, he was later moved to Tasmania. There he again formed a band to play havoc on white settlements until his final capture and hanging in 1825.

Not all of the Koori violence is, however, reliably reported. When First Fleeter Humphrey Evans died in 1805 existing records showed that he died when a tree he was felling fell the wrong way and crushed him. By 1809 other records were recording his death as "killed by natives". Again the home of Surveyor Augustus Alt at present day Ashfield was said to have been burnt down by natives in 1798 and yet other records suggest that other causes may have brought this about.

The Koori women, as distinct from the males, were finding that the men of the uninformed were interested in them. Collins records that they sold their favours aboard visiting ships. He also recorded "an extraordinary instance" when a native woman had a half-caste child and was seen to be repeatedly rubbing it in the soot of the fire to darken its skin. Similarly

stories of quarrels between Koori males and white males over females are recorded like the one in which a Mr. Tutteril lost his son.

In respect of the convict women Tench records how:

"unluckily at the moment some female convicts employed near the place made their appearance and all my endeavours to divert their attention from the ladies became fruitless. They attempted not however to offer them the least degree of violence or injury but stood at the distance of several paces expressing very significantly the manner they were attracted".

In like manner Bradley recorded a separate instance where:

"several of the women convicts met with a party of Natives in a cove where they were employed. The Natives did not appear to notice the difference between dress but soon found which sex they were of"

Collins records that the Koori name for venereal disease was "goo-bah-rong" and for smallpox "gal-gal-la". The very early use of these words led to a suggestion that the Koori were familiar with both diseases prior to 1788. Whether or not this was the case what is certain is that the ravages of smallpox after 1788 were traumatic. Of the 50 known Codigal in 1788 only 3 survived by 1791. Perhaps half of the Dharug died in the first three years of settlement. The Bidjigal who probably organised the ceremonies for the Dharug had almost all died by 1810. By 1838 less than 300 of the original 3,000 possible Koori occupants of Sydney survived. Whatever the individual interaction of Koori and Colonist those statistics give the final result.

BOOKS

Book Review

"The Secret History of the Convict Colony":

This book written by Robert J. King, historian and linguist, presents an alternative reason for the establishment of a British Colony at Sydney Cove. Dr. King's research appears to be extensive and thorough.

The arrival at Sydney Cove of two well equipped Spanish ships in 1793, under the command of Alexandra Malaspina, a very distinguished navigator, must have aroused suspicion. Spain at this time claimed "exclusive navigation in the Pacific and sovereignty over the coasts and

islands*. The British Navy held supremacy on the seas.

Were Spain's large possessions on the east and west coasts of America, from Mexico to The Horn and the Philippines, in danger of invasion from navel ships based at the Convict Settlement at Sydney?

Read the book with its numerous interesting illustrations from rare documents.

"The Secret History of the Convict Colony", Alexandra Malaspina's report on The British Settlement of New South Wales;- by Robert King.

Copies available, First Fleet House; price \$29.95 plus \$2.00 postage.

Ula Clarke.

A copy of this book has been donated by Ula.

ANN FORBES - NEW BOOK

GUILTY, NO CHATTELS, TO BE HANGED, is the title of a new book which traces the life of a young First Fleet Convict named Ann Forbes. Her remarkable story is told in detail, from her early life in England through to her death in New South Wales in 1851. It covers her voyage to Botany Bay on the First Fleet, the first difficult years at Sydney Cove, a short time on Norfolk Island and her later life in the Hawkesbury district. The significant events which occurred during the establishment and development of the new colony form a background to Ann's biography, which is related in an historical context.

The second part of the book contains brief biographical details of all of Ann Forbes' fourteen children and a full listing, with dates, of her 113 known grandchildren.

(Approx. 150 pages, with photographs and illustrations, index and bibliography).

The book is currently being printed and copies will be available from the author by late April.

Cost \$15 plus \$2 p & p.
Write to: Ian Forster
Northbridge, NSW 2063
(02) 958-7257

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Report for period
25th Oct. - 25 Nov. 1990

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during these periods
19 adult, 4 junior members, 5 spouse

associates and 1 spouse associate of an earlier member.

THOMAS ACRES:
Miss Nicole Jennifer Thomas (Jnr)

THOMAS ARNDELL + WILLIAM DRING - ANN FORBES
Mrs Alma Mary Simpson

WILLIAM BAKER - SUSANNAH HUFFNELL:
Mrs Mary Antoinette Barry (sp. Mr Thomas Robert Barry), Mrs Julie Anne Vonwiller (sp. Mr John Bennett Vonwiller).

WILLIAM DRING - ANN FORBES:
Mr Peter Lawrence Turner

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM:
Mr Rory Gene Adams (Jnr)

HENRY KABLE - SUSANNAH HOLMES:
Mrs Thelma Jean Kelly.

JOHN LONG - MARY HARRISON:
Mr Paul Meriton Hussey

FREDERICK MEREDITH:
Mrs Tracy Ellen Hasse

JOHN NICHOLS:
Mr Neil Philp (sp. Mrs Beverley May Philp).

DANIEL STANFIELD - ALICE HARMSWORTH:
Mrs Merle Edna Pinch

JOSEPH TUZO:
Miss Marnie Jo De Giorgio (Jnr), Mrs Lynda Marie Williams (sp. Mr Rodney Paul Williams), Miss Cathryn Anne Williams (Jnr).

JOSEPH WRIGHT:
Mrs Noelene Ada Snowden

Spouse Associate of Earlier Member:
Mrs Sheila Catherine Thomas wife of Mr Ellis R. Thomas, #5878

Membership Report for period
26th Nov. to 22nd Dec. 1990.

THOMAS ACRES:
Mr Warren Thomas Power

WILLIAM BAKER - SUSANNAH HUFFNELL:
Miss Heather Scott, Miss Patricia Scott

THOMAS CROWDER:
Mr Donald Alexander Lamond

ELIZABETH HAYWOOD:
Mr Ross John Hills

FREDERICK MEREDITH:
Mr Trevor Ronald Nixon (sp. Mrs Rhonda Nixon)

WILLIAM NASH - MARIA HAYES:
Mrs Leony Maree Power

WILLIAM TUNKS + ANTHONY ROPE - ELIZABETH PULLEY +

THOMAS SPENCER -MARY PHILLIPS:
Mr Lindsay Hunt

ADDITIONAL FIRST FLEETERS:
John Martin and John Randall added to Andrew Fishburn for Mrs Winsome Coy, #2914.

BIRTHS

JOSHUA GRAEME PECK
F.F. Joshua Peck
Born 26th May, 1990

JAMES MICHAEL DONOHOE
F.F. Nathaniel Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne/James Squire/Edward Goodin
16th January, 1991
First son of Michael and Margaret Donohoe. First Grandchild of President James Hugh Donohoe(#2626) and Sandra Anne Donohoe.

WEDDINGS

Christopher Mark Hugh Donohoe
F.F. Nathaniel Lucas/Olivia Gascoigne/James Squire/Edward Goodin.

Second son of President James Hugh Donohoe(#2626) and Sandra Anne Donohoe married Jann Patricia Ross-Smith, second daughter of Mr. Ross Smith and Mrs Patricia Ross-Smith at St Ignatius College, Riverview on 22nd December, 1990.

CONDOLENCES

GEORGE MASON
(FF Robert Forrester, Ann Forbes)
Died: 23.02.90
Spouse member of Maureen Adori Mason #1927

VALE REGINALD CLIVE ARNDELL
(FF Thomas Arndell)
Born: 1912
Died: February, 1991.
Sadly missed husband of Helen, father of Judith Ames, Richard and Andrew. Grandfather of seven grandchildren.

JEAN I. MORGAN
Died: 18.02.91 at Nepean Hospital
Loved wife of member D'Arcy Morgan #1908

CLIFFORD ARNOLD BELLAMY
#969
(FF John Small/Mary Parker)
Died: 19.12.90

A STORY OF INTEREST

ROBERT SIDAWAY AND MARY

MARSHALL.

Robert Sidaway and Mary Marshall have no known descendants and for that reason are probably not well-known to members of the Fellowship.

Robert Sidaway was baptised in 1758 in Shoreditch in London's East End so fitting into the milieu that would have been shared by many of the First Fleeters. When he was 20 he was sentenced to three years hard labour on the hulks. He claimed that he had been framed for the informer's bounty. No doubt this was a defence that was often put forward and no doubt sometimes it was true, but in Sidaway's case, true or not, it was rejected.

Four years later in 1782, in the first of a series of events that led him to NSW, he was sentenced to 7 years transportation for stealing a deal box, a waistcoat, a cloth hat, a pair of breeches, a linen waistcoat, a pair of silk stockings and a pair of shoes. On the way from the Old Bailey to Newgate he escaped but was recaptured when some boys reported seeing a man enter a house with a fetter on. When he was retaken he was dressed in women's clothes. He was sentenced to death but this was reduced to life and in 1784 he was on the "Mercury" bound for America. This was eight years after the Declaration of Independence and the ability of the captain to land his human cargo in the former colonies was doubtful. Possibly some of the convicts knew this and this led them to mutiny, seize the ship and head first for Ireland and then for Spain. Bad weather, however, forced them back to England. At Torbay, some (including the wounded Sidaway) managed to escape but were soon recaptured. About 75 of the mutineers came to NSW on the First Fleet. For some, not least of them Sidaway, the whole episode must have been a blessing in disguise, for the convicts who did not escape appear to have been rejected when the Mercury eventually reached America and to have ended up in Honduras.

Sidaway was transported on the "Friendship" where he spent the last five weeks in a pair of leg-irons for being impertinent to Lieut. Faddy. Ralph Clark remarked, "This is a fellow that the doctor of the "Mercury" shot through the arm when they rose and took the ship - he is

daring, villainous fellow and I should have flogg him if I had been the commanding officer".

Within a few months of arrival he was again in trouble and confined to Pinchgut. When the four convicts there were pardoned in honour of George III's birthday in June 1788, of Sidaway and another it was remarked "very little change for the better can be expected because they seem so truly abandoned and incorrigible".

However, the judgement of incorrigibility is not borne out by subsequent events. By the end of 1789 Sidaway was living with Mary Marshall and employing another convict, Ryan, to cut wood, carry water and mind their house during their absence. In November Ann Davis was found guilty of breaking into their house and stealing clothing. Robert's clothing valued at 1pound/18/4, included 4 linen shirts and 3 waistcoats, while Mary's more modest lose of 4/8 worth included a bedgown, apron and cap. Ann Davis was found guilty and sentenced to death; she pleaded pregnancy but was executed after a jury of matrons rejected the plea.

Sidaway received conditional pardon in 1792 which was made absolute two years later "in consideration of his diligence, unremitting good conduct and strict integrity in his employment for several years as the public baker of the settlement."

Besides being a baker he, like other enterprising emancipists, engaged in farming, holding a wine and spirit licence and in trading. By 1800 the social divisions between convicts and officials was extended to commercial tensions between the exclusives and the developing new class, and the conflicts that were to plaque the commercial life of the colony and the administration for the next couple of decades were becoming obvious. In January of that year a petition to the governor, signed by John Macarthur and others sought permission to land a cargo of clothing, spirits, tea, sugar and other necessities for "different proprietors amongst whom are included almost every officer in this settlement." At the same time another group headed by Sidaway and including emancipists J. Bloodworth, Richard Cheers and Simeon Lord and free settlers like Owen Cavenor, Francis Oakes and William Broughton petitioned to purchase a similar cargo from a ship which had just arrived. Governor Hunter was opposed to the landing of considerable quantities of spirits but

felt that if permission were refused it would still be landed and fall into the hands of the monopolists. He therefore acceded to both petitions in order to prevent "heavy impositions on the lowest classes and inferior officers".

It is however, as the country's first theatrical entrepreneur that Sidaway is most noteworthy. Australia's first European theatrical performance was in June 1789 and is reported by Tench as follows: "The Anniversary of his Majesty's birthday was celebrated as heretofore at government house in loyal festivity. In the evening the play of the Recruiting Officer was performed by a party of convicts and honoured by the presence of his excellency and the officers of the garrison. That every opportunity to escape from the dreariness and dejection of our situation should be eagerly embraced, is not to be wondered at. The exhilarating effect of a splendid theatre is well known and I am not ashamed to confess that the proper distribution of 3 and 4 yards of stained paper and a dozen farthing candles stuck around the mud walls of a convict hut failed not to diffuse general complacency on the countenances of 60 persons of various descriptions who were assembled to applaud the representation. Some of the actors acquitted themselves with great spirit and received the praises of the audience: a prologue and an epilogue written by one of the performers....contained some tolerable allusions to the situations of the Parties and the novelty of a stage - representation in New South Wales." It is this performance that is the central event in Thomas Kenneally's novel *The Playmaker*, published in 1987. In it, with artistic licence, he gives Sidaway a part in the play.

In January 1796 Collins reported that some of the more decent class of prisoners had been given permission to open a theatre although the authorities were somewhat apprehensive that the price of admission to the gallery of 1/- (or flour, meat or spirits in lieu) would be an inducement to steal or that the absence of householders at the theatre would be a temptation to thieves. The building cost upwards of 100 pounds and Sidaway is credited with being the main proprietor and manager. Some writers locate it in Bell-row (now Bligh St) and others in Jamison Street but conclusive evidence is lacking. It was closed down as a corrupting influence in 1798. Theatrical tradition has it that the final straw was when an enthusiastic

theatre-goer, lacking the price of admission, killed a valuable dog and sold it for 9d a pound as genuine kangaroo meat.

The closure of the theatre was apparently not permanent as a playbill in the Mitchell Library advertises a performance in 1800. Sidaway listed as one of the suppliers of tickets.'

There are several contemporary references to the theatre and performances but apparently only one identifies the builder and owner. Saunders' Newsletter has a par dated London 8 Sep 1796 to the effect that "Sidaway who was one of the first convicts landed at Botany Bay whither he was transported for housebreaking, is now living more there in a state, comparatively of great respectability. He has a contract for serving the colony with bread, has a perpetual grant from the Government of several hundred acres of land which he cultivates, keeps the best house of public entertainment in the place and lastly has erected a theatre of which he is manager".

Sidaway's wife in the colony was Mary Marshall who had arrived on the "Lady Penhryn" with the seven year sentence for having stolen 10 linen handkerchiefs. This was a permanent though unsanctified union that was common among the convicts (and some free people). They had no children but the Sydney Gazette of 5 Oct 1806 reported the death at their home of "an orphan aged 17 years during the latter 5 of which she had laboured under the joint afflictions of insanity and a severe paralytic affection by which she was deprived of speech and rendered perfectly helpless". It continues; "...in benevolence of a friend she found an asylum...until it was the will of heaven to terminate her sufferings".

Robert Sidaway died on 13 Oct 1809. His obituary in the Sydney Gazette says, "He was one of the first inhabitants of this Colony, during his long residence in which he ever supported the reputation of true philanthropist, and in all other respects a valuable member of society in which he was universally respected."

The administration of his estate was granted to Mary who survived him by 40 years. She appears sometimes in the records as Mrs Sidaway and sometimes as Mary Marshall. Although it was official policy at one time for convict women to be known by the name in which they had been sentenced, even if they later legally married, it was a policy more honoured in the breach than in the observance but having no children probably made Mary less particular in that regard.

She died on 29 April 1849 at Braygrove, Concord. Her funeral notice reads: "The friends of the late Mrs Mary Marshall residing in the city of Sydney are respectfully requested to meet her remains for interment at 4 o'clock PM this day at the Pilot Inn, Parramatta street. Her friends also at Concord are respectfully informed that the procession will move from Braygrove, Concord at twelve o'clock, noonday..". The circumstances of her death and burial suggest that there were ties of fellowship still binding First Fleeters 60 years after arrival. She shares a headstone with another First Fleeter, Mrs Frances Mintz (Davis). Braygrove where she died was the home of Thomas and Ann Bray, Ann being the daughter of First Fleeters James Bloodworth and Sarah Bellamy. I like to imagine that the childless Sidaways were among those who helped Sarah when she left widowed with 4 young children in 1804. The Bray children were Mary's legatees, her bequest including the property known as Sidaway's farm, apparently close by where St Peters railway station now is.

D.B. Webster
#1936
Hackett, ACT, 2602.

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the official views of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.
No item from this Newsletter may be reproduced without the permission of the Fellowship.

FROM THE EDITOR

Over the Easter break I visited the fast growing city of Dubbo. During the weekend I spent a day at the historic gold rush town of Gulgong (190 miles from Sydney). Gold was first discovered by Thomas Saunders on Red Hill (adjacent to the present Central School) on April 14, 1870. The field has produced to date 555,300ozs of Gold.

Today Gulgong and district has a population of approx. 2,200 compared with 1872 when the official estimate was 20,000. The Pioneer's Museum, known as one of the four important folk museums in NSW is well worth a visit. It contains thousands of exhibits including The Gudgeon Cottage, the original home belonging to the ancestors of Sophia Gudgeon whose poems appear in our Newsletter. Also, the Smoking Cap worm by First Fleeter, Captain Meredith, presented to the Gulgong Museum by C.B. Brown of Bathurst. All together an interesting and pleasant place to visit.

It is with regret that I wish to inform members of my resignation as an Executive Committee member and Editor of our Newsletter.

I express my thanks to all contributors of Newsletter items for their support. Keep sending in those wonderful stories etc to the new editor.

I look forward in the future to reading the Newsletter and appreciate it in the same way as you have expressed your enjoyment over the last 3 years.

Many thanks
Rhonda Kroehnert.

CORRECTIONS

Pg.2. Executive Committee
Date should read 1990/91 not 1989/90

Rose Millwood should have been deleted and replaced with Beverley Naughton.

Pg.8 Col. 2 Archives
Duplication of part paragraph and omission of paragraph. Please see this issue (Bits and Pieces) for correct article. Paragraph one should read 37 not 377..

NEWSLETTER CLOSING DATES

Closing Date	In Office for Posting	Newsletter Month
23rd May 1991	20th June 1991	May/June
18th July 1991	15th August 1991	July/August
19th September 1991	17th October 1991	September/October