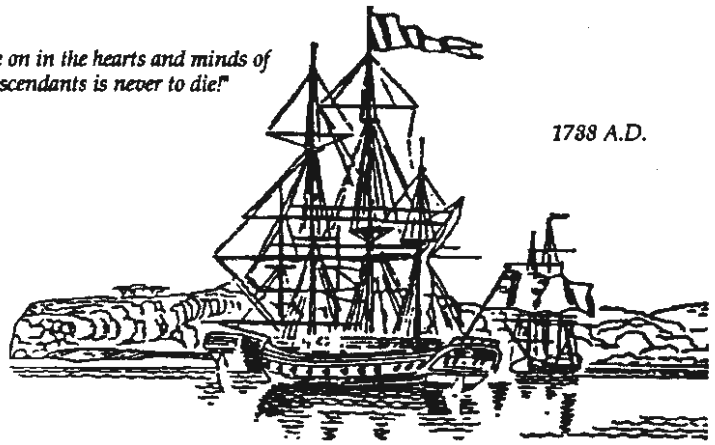


Fellowship of First Fleeters Newsletter

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

1788 A.D.



JOURNAL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS INC. NSW 1988
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OFFICE ADDRESS: Fleet House 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011.
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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1992 Volume 23 No. 5

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Regretfully, this is my last report as your President. I am not standing again in November's election of Office Bearers. I work for a living in the New South Wales Parliament in a very demanding job and privately my wife and I operate a small publishing business. I am also a history consultant. I have been requested to take on enough work in the consultancy to occupy me for the next five years. I simply cannot cope.

I also have two more technical works in the process which I wish to complete. One is on the families of the military personnel here up to 1820 and the other is about the Australians who served in naval and military operations so far unrecognised by the Government and the R.S.L., eg. the Australians who were sent with the 100th Battalion to Ambon in 1811, and the 101st to the Battle of Kandy in 1812. Several Australians, including First Fleeters' children, served during the Napoleonic Wars. My own grandfather was recruited into the British Army in 1901 in Sydney. He served for two years with the 40th Imperial Mounted Bushmen of the Prince of Wales Regiment. Many Australians served in the United States civil war and

others in Spain in the 1930s. We really do not know our History.

I am also hoping to stimulate Squire and Goodin Family Associations.

Our mortgage on First Fleet House has been reduced by almost \$30,000 in my term of office and repayments have dropped from \$15,000 p.a. to about \$4,000, while our fees have only increased by \$2 p.a. Membership has held steady over the past two years despite the general loss of historical interest following the 1988 celebrations.

I consider my three terms as successful and the Fellowship is now set to project itself more prominently into the community to promote the Fellowship as a major national institution. The resources are now in place. With a more active President, I feel that there are great achievements ahead for us. Hopefully we will be able to fund greater research about the First Fleeters and sponsor some of the works for publication.

Goodbye and thank you, all.

Yours in Fellowship
JAMES HUGH DONOHUE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1991/92

PRESIDENT: Mr James Donohue
VICE-PRESIDENTS: Peter Christian
Alice Clarke
SECRETARY: Zona Maguire
TREASURER: Roy Morris
ARCHIVIST: Joyce Cowell, Rod Best, June Bigham, Ula Clarke, Naida Jackson, Jim Maclean, Ron Maguire, Hugh Morgan, Beverley Naughton, Doug Oakes

Closing Date for Next Newsletter -
20th November 1992

OFFICE HOURS: 10.00am to 3.00pm
Monday through Friday

Opinions expressed herein are those of the article authors and correspondents and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, nor the views of the Editor.

The Editor reserves the right to omit any material considered unsuitable for publication.

Space limitations may result in some material being held over to another issue.

RON MAGUIRE, Hon.
Editor

COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR FUNCTIONS

The role of this committee is to organise and coordinate the social functions of the Fellowship.

There are three sub-committees within the Activities Committee:-
 1. Daytime Fellowship 2. Social 3. Excursions (Weekend)

These sub-committees organise an annual program of events.

Members of the Activities Committee are:

Activities Coordinator:
 Beverley Naughton

Daytime Fellowship: Joyce Cowell, Bernice Smart, Phyllis Selby

Social: Alice Clarke, Ula Clarke
Excursions: Naida Jackson, Joy Pankhurst

Activities Recorder: Anne Davison

WANTED URGENTLY A TREASURER OR AN ASSISTANT TREASURER

We urgently need a volunteer to take on the role of Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer. Our Treasurer will be away for about six months next year, including the period when the Annual Accounts are prepared. So we need a volunteer to take over the role or at the very least to stand in while he is away. The duties do not require a lot of time as most of the day to day work is done by other volunteers and our accounts are maintained on computer by a firm of accountant.

The Fellowship is an incorporated body, so a general knowledge of the requirements of the Corporations Law as applicable to small organisations such as ours is necessary. Formal accounting qualifications would be a big advantage.

If you can help, please contact our President, Jim Donohoe, on 287 6695 (work) or 439 2162 (home), urgently.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the FELLOWSHIP of FIRST FLEETERS Inc.

to take place on
SUNDAY, 15th NOVEMBER, 1992
 11.30am

to be held in
T.P.I. HOUSE cnr. King and Auckland
 Streets NEWCASTLE

Trains from Sydney Central leave at 7.17am and 8.17am and arrive at Civic Station, Newcastle, 9.48am and 10.48, respectively.

B.Y.O. for Lunch in the Park or Workers Club or Sizzlers, nearby, for Sit-downs

NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS 1992 - 1993

Nominations are hereby called for the positions of:

**PRESIDENT,
 VICE-PRESIDENTS (2)
 TREASURER
 and 15 COMMITTEE MEMBERS
 on The Committee.**

Forms of Nomination, which shall be in writing and signed by the member nominated and his/her proposer and seconder, shall be lodged with The Secretary, First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, N.S.W. 2011, at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting at which the Election is to take place.

FORM OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE ON THE COMMITTEE OF FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

We, (No.....) and

(No.), being financial members of the Fellowship hereby

nominate (No.) for the position

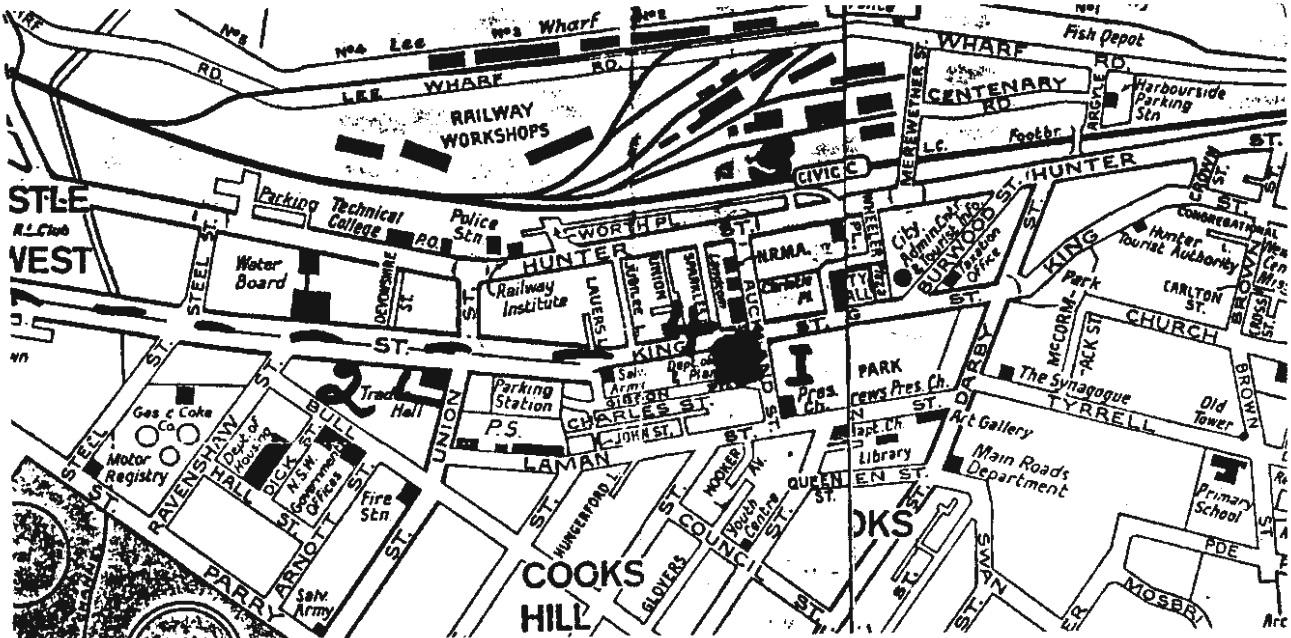
of

Signed:

I, (No.), agree to accept nomination

for the office of

Signed:



DAYTIME FELLOWSHIP

Showers were forecast for the day we were to cruise the Hawkesbury, September 2, and rain it did, but luckily as we were having our lunch before we boarded. So the sun came out and we were left to enjoy the scenery and the company. It was once again very rewarding to see some new faces. Two ladies were gathered into the fold after being spotted on Strathfield Station, proudly displaying their ancestors' details.

We hope you can all join us again on November 4 when we take the ferry to Manly for a few hours. (Note the change from Watson's Bay mentioned in the last issue.)

The time has come to put our thoughts to our Christmas Luncheon. You will

remember that this year it is at the Waratah Inn at 220 Goulburn Street, Sydney, on 2 December. Cost is \$21.00, which includes a dollar towards our funds. The 380 bus, among others, can be boarded at the Quay, or in Elizabeth Street, and alighted from at the corner of Oxford and Crown Streets. Cross over Oxford Street, continuing down Crown, and Goulburn Street will be on your right, and the Inn a little way down that on your right.

Drivers can turn from Goulburn Street into Arnold Lane at the side of the Inn and enter the parking underneath the building by pressing the buzzer at the security gate and mentioning the F.F.F. Walking would be closest from Museum Station.

We are meeting at noon for lunch at 12.30pm.

It is not too soon to phone the office with your name and the number attending. Cheques can be sent later, with a deadline, please, of November 19.

Details of Day Out at Manly:
WHEN: Wednesday, 4 November.

MEET:

No. 3 Wharf, Circular Quay.

TIME: 10.15am for 10.30am Ferry.

REMEMBER - Names and numbers in now for Christmas Luncheon. Cheques by 19 November. **BERNICE SMART**

NEW FIRST FLEETER MEMORIAL DISCOVERIES

Two new First Fleeter Memorials have been discovered.

1) *Mary (Davis) Bishop* New member Wayne Robins sent us a letter enclosing a photo of Charlotte Pentley's tombstone at St. Peter's Cemetery, Richmond. Mr Robins also sent proof that Charlotte was the daughter of First Fleeter Mary Bishop and evidence that the two ladies are buried in the same grave with only a tombstone for Charlotte Pentley.

The Fellowship is currently in correspondence with St. Peter's Church Cemetery Trust seeking permission to have a memorial plaque attached to Charlotte Pentley's tombstone for Mary Bishop.

Mary was born around 1761 at Diddlebury, Shropshire, England. In 1785 she managed to break into houses and steal property which she passed on to Ann Davis and Joseph Owen. On 12 March 1785 they were tried and convicted at Shrewsbury. Ann Davis was found not guilty but Mary Bishop was found guilty and sentenced to death which was then on 28 December 1785 commuted to seven years transportation to the Colony. She was sent to the new jail at Southwalk on 23 November 1786 to await transportation. On 31 January 1787 she was placed aboard Lady Penrhyn and sailed for Botany Bay with the First Fleet.

On 2 November 1788 at St. Philip's, as Mary Bishop, she married Samuel Day. This was the first time she was recorded using the name Bishop. She spent only a

short time with Day and never used his name.

Mary Bishop was sent to Norfolk Island on board Sirius on 4 March 1789. Samuel Day arrived at Norfolk in 1790 with a de facto wife, Mary Bolton. In 1791 Mary Bishop gave birth to a daughter, Charlotte, the father of whom is not recorded.

In March 1793 Mary and her infant daughter returned to Sydney on-board Kitty. After an active life, Charlotte eventually married John Pentley in 1828. In 1833 she was joined by her mother, Mary.

Mary died on 1 January 1839 and was buried in row 11, section A, grave 18 at St. Peter's Church Cemetery, Richmond. In 1851 Charlotte Pentley died and was buried with her mother.

2) *Elizabeth (Fitzgerald) Wilkinson* Associate member Thelma McKay has written claiming to have found the grave and tombstone of First Fleeter Elizabeth Fitzgerald whilst researching for her book on profiles of Norfolk Islanders.

Elizabeth Wilkinson died 20 August 1832 and was buried at Christ Church Cemetery, Longford, Tasmania. The headstone is lying on the ground in the cemetery grounds.

We have asked the Vestry of Christ Church, Longford, to have the tombstone of Elizabeth Wilkinson relocated into the Memorial Wall and to permit the Fellowship to have a memorial plaque made for

installation on the tombstone.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald was born in 1760. She was committed in November 1786 on a charge of theft of a cotton gown and sentenced to seven years transportation.

Elizabeth travelled on the Lady Penrhyn with the First Fleet to New South Wales. She went to Norfolk Island in 1790 and returned in 1793.

ST. DAVID'S PARK CAIRN AT HOBART

Three independent researchers in Tasmania are compiling the list of names to be included on the bronze plaques to be erected in St. David's Park, Hobart, commemorating those settlers arriving in Van Dieman's Land from Norfolk Island.

Names to be included are First Fleeters who came directly from Norfolk Island, including their children born on the Island, or any First Fleeter who came to Tasmania via Sydney from Norfolk Island.

Arrangements are under way for the unveiling and dedication of the Cairn on 29 November 1992.

A Dedication Service will be held at St. David's Cathedral by the Dean of St. David's at 2.30pm. After the Service, a procession to St. David's Park will take place for the unveiling of the Cairn.

Armed Forces personnel will be in the parade with bands and Government officials.

DOUGLAS OAKES
Plaques Committee Convenor

TITR

Sydney Gazette,

AND
NEW SOUTH WALES ADVERTISER.

Published by Authority.

POLICE ROUNDS CIRCA 1805 [Could have been out of one of today's metropolitan dailies.]

ROBBERY

On Thursday night, between the hours of seven and eight, the dwelling-house of M. Breeze, at the corner of Back Row, was broke into, and robbed of a desk containing 24 pounds or thereabouts in cash, viz. 12 pounds 10 shillings in dollars, three guineas, three pieces of gold, value two pounds each, and some copper coin; as also an Order on Captain Bishop, drawn by Captain Park in favour of Mary Breeze for 20 pounds and an Agreement for the purchase of her house.

The robbery was effected by entering the premises at the back during her absence from home: the frame of the door was broke by means of a prise, or purchase; and although a quantity of wearing apparel and other property lay open in the bedroom, yet nothing but the desk was taken away.

Information being immediately lodged with the Chief Constable, he posted watchmen in the back brush during the greater part of the night; the vigilance of one of whom, we have too ample reason to conclude, occasioned his most barbarous and dreadful

MURDER

JOSEPH LUKER, a Constable, whose time of duty commenced at twelve o'clock, went off his post, as is conjectured, at or rather before daylight, with a design of examining the brush behind Back Row; but was shortly afterwards found on the edge of the Road leading to Farm Cove, a breathless corpse, shockingly mangled, and with the guard of his cutlass buried in his brain; the sheath lay near the body, and his hat more than 20 yards distant. The wheel of a barrow was found near the spot, the carriage of which was traced to the yard of Sarah Laurence, at the opposite corner of Back Row, whose Skilling was inhabited by persons on whom suspicion of the robbery had fallen.

The carriage of the barrow appeared to be stained with blood: from which and other

circumstances William Bladders, alias Hambridge, was immediately apprehended, with several other suspected persons.

The velocity with which the necessary measures of inquiry were adopted, could only be equalled by the Public Anxiety to discover the perpetrators of the inhuman act. The New South Wales Corps were out under arms, and blockaded the Town at every avenue, while the strictest search was made throughout; and all persons of suspicious character were thereby secured, and brought before the Coroner's Inquest, which assembled between the hours of nine and ten. John Harris, Esq. Surgeon of the New South Wales Corps, strictly attended the inquiry, and inspected the body; as did also Thomas Jamison, Esq. Surgeon-General, and Messrs. Mileham and Savage, Assistant Surgeons to the Colony.

On the head of the deceased were counted 16 stabs and contusions; the left ear was nearly divided; on the left side of the head were four wounds, and several others on the back of it.

The wretch who buried the iron guard of the cutlass in the head of the unfortunate man had seized the weapon by the blade, and levelled three dreadful blows with such

fatal force, as to rivet the plate in the skull, to a depth of more than an inch and a half.

The search was animated by the presence of His Excellency; the Lieutenant-Governor was also present; and every Officer, whether Civil or Military, exerted himself in endeavouring to trace the assassins.

The Coroner's Inquest, which was composed of twelve very respectable inhabitants, after an inquiry of five hours, returned a ver-dict of *WILFUL MURDER* against William Bladders, alias Hambridge, and some other person or persons unknown. The prisoner was consequently committed to close custody, and several others were detained on suspicion.

A man was seen lurking about Cockle Bay in the afternoon, whose appearance was such as to create a strong suspicion of his being accessory to the above crimes. He was described to be rather tall, wore a blue jacket, and then had a small bundle with him. Parties went immediately in quest of him, and a Trooper was dispatched to Parramatta with the Hue and Cry. Avenging Heaven, directs the Hand of Justice, and the Manes of the Deceased in-spires us with Indignation and Resentment!

HORSEING AROUND IN THE LATE 1800s

That remarkable day, the first Tuesday in November, that strange phenomenon of the Australian psyche, is almost on us. What better reason to print a further chapter of the Huxley Equestrian Saga of sorts.

DUTIES AT NEWMARKET

When I first joined the staff under Mr Fennelly, I was placed in the charge of Tom Payten, who defined my duties, which were the cleaning, feeding, watering and riding work on the tracks, a duty that I liked, and as there were sometimes more than 40 horses to be attended to, the work kept me busy. I was particularly keen on riding work, and after exercising our own stable horses I used to assist Mr Harry Raynor with his team if he so desired.

TRAINING TWO- YEAR-OLDS

Tom Payten, on his hack, or on any of Mr White's horses, on the way to the race-course, was an attractive figure. Armed with a long whip which he was a past master at using, we used to ride down to Mr James White's home, Cranbrook, at Rose Bay, through Randwick, Waverley, Bondi, trotting and cantering past the noisy trams and other traffic, with Tom's whip at times cracking loudly. Another favoured spot where we used to exercise was at La Perouse, jumping the horses over bushes and ploughing them through the heavy sand hills. Tom said it made them "nippy". We had to keep our eyes open here, as in the summer time a fair number of snakes were killed.

RIDING TACTICS

Continuous practice in the saddle, and being a solid student of pace, worked wonders in assisting me to win races. I recall one particular case. At the Hawkesbury Spring Meeting on September 8, 1887, I won on Mr James White's bay gelding Morok, by half a head from Leichhardt in the Country Purse. He was a free goer. The exertion of holding his type of galloper together is considerable, even when the horse goes kindly. Many horses have lost races by fighting with their riders in the first seven furlongs, and the fight is usually a symptom of bad horsemanship. If a horse struggles violently for his head it may be wise to let him have it for a short distance, and then get him gradually under easier control, rather than to allow him to exhaust himself by fighting. These tactics were valuable to me in the case of Morok. I rode him next day in the Hawkesbury Grand Handicap, adopting similar tactics, and defeated Leichhardt again, but I could not resist the paralysing run of Jack Fielder, who rode the winner, Cardigan, to defeat me by a length. In this instance I met a much superior horse, as he was backed for a fortune, finishing up favourite at 3 to 1. His class was further demonstrated 10 days later, when carrying a 5lb penalty he won the A.J.C. Metropolitan, by a head from Mr Abe Halinbourg's representative Acolyte. On this day, September 20 1887, I rode the 5 to 2 favourite, Cranbrook, carrying the famous blue and white colors of Mr James White. I defeated Mr William Gannon's colt, The Australian Peer, by half a length.

FILLIES' DEAD HEAT

The last day of that meeting saw me on the back of Mr White's little filly, Enigma, who ran a deadheat with Mr Sam G. Cook's filly, The Charmer, ridden by my old Ascot Vale friend, Joe Tomlin, in the Members' Handicap. Both of these mares in latter years were successful at the stud, Enigma being the granddam of the Australian Cup winner, Answer, and the great-granddam of the V.A.T.C. Futurity Stakes winner, Popinjay. The Charmer to The Admiral produced The Victory, winner of the Melbourne Cup in 1902. I rode The Charmer for Mr S.C. Cook on October 8, 1887, when she ran the race of her life in the V.R.C. Farewell Handicap, defeating the New Zealander Escutcheon, owned by Mr E. Mitchelson, easily.

The charm of horses is that there is always something to learn about them. Every animal has a different character

and temperament, and must be carefully studied and treated. The subject is undoubtedly comprehensive, a few have leisure to devote to this study.

Mr Fennelly, who, up to his death in 1886, had charge of Mr James White's horses, was a rigid disciplinarian, and a staunch believer in the maxim "early to bed, early to rise". He was most devoted to the animals under his care, their preparation being thought out with scientific care, while their outward appearance never belied his assertion that a horse was wound up and thoroughly clean, both internally and externally. The best of oats, maize, peas, beans, meadow hay, carrots and the usual small block of rock salt were always supplied. We used to crush up all the corn in the granary attached to the stable, and Mr Fennelly would have given his horses good if he thought it would do them good.

Under Mr Fennelly's authority I was instructed how to dress a horse, massage his muscles, and (as he was his own "vet"), the rations allotted to them weekly. Many a time in my early duties I was favoured with a visit from the "chief", who would draw a white silk handkerchief from his pocket and polish the thoroughbred's coat. If any dust appeared it would be a sure sign that my work was not thorough, but I am pleased to say he never could make that complaint against me.

To my mind the best horse ever owned by Mr James White, and trained by Tom Payten, was Abercorn. This chestnut I can picture

at the moment in his loose box, with his ears slightly pricked, and his bright eyes fixed on the door, the opening of the lower portion of which appears to afford him the keenest interest. He stands like a statue during the ceremony of his toilet, save when now and then he rubs his nose affectionately against my sleeve. Tom Payten always affirmed that Abercorn was the best stayer he ever saw. He considered him a better long-distance horse than Carbine. Carbine won the Melbourne Cup of 1890 with 10.5 in the record time (in those days) of 3.28 1/4. For that race Abercorn was handicapped to give Carbine 5lb, i.e. 10st 10lb, but fate decreed that they should not meet. After winning the Melbourne Stakes on Derby Day in easy fashion Abercorn suffered the misfortune of being cast in his box that night, and never raced again. Abercorn won 12,828 pounds in stakes.

VISIT TO BOURKE

I was allowed by Tom Payten to go to the Bourke meeting of May 16 and 17 1888,

where I met with great success, winning five races in the two days. In the Bourke Jockey Club Handicap I was on Euglo Maid, who ran a deadheat with Mr J. Uno's The Telegram and won the run-off by a neck. She won again next day, this time the Central Australian Handicap, beating Mr M. Ryan's mare, Peeress, by a short margin. Euglo Maid was again saddled for the next race, the Flying Handicap, seven furlongs, being joint favourite with The Telegram, but both of them had to give way to Mr J. Smith's gelding Handover. I rode Peerless in three races at this meeting, all of which she won - the Stewards' Purse, the Darling River Handicap and the Corinthian Stakes.

ENSIGN'S GREATNESS

At the A.J.C. Spring Meeting on September 22, 1888, I was on the back of Mr James White's game little gelding Ensign, on whom I won the Trial Stakes, beating two useful gallopers, Savant and Wycombe. I again rode him on the third day, this time in the Wycombe Stakes. He carried 7.7 which included a 5lb penalty, and he beat the Metropolitan winner Lamond, who had the services of Jack Fielder, and Riley, on Blue Nose. Ensign won with his head on his chest, in fact it was one of the easiest victories I ever rode. This was followed up by his sensational victory a few weeks later, when ridden by Tom Hales, Ensign beat Carbine by a narrow margin in the Victoria Derby.

On the Tuesday following, November 6, I rode him in the Melbourne Cup, for which he was as fit as hands could make him, my own personal opinion being that he was unbeatable. On the Cup morning I gave him a sprint at Flemington over a few furlongs, and I could hear his leg or joint click, click, click, and I thought to myself, "That's strange". To my amazement he unbalanced himself and fell. That was at the end of the gallop. Picking himself up quickly and with me still in the saddle, he appeared to walk away all right. Later in the afternoon he took his place in the Melbourne Cup field. He had a slight limp with the same unpleasant clicking in the leg. As I was passing the lawn on my way to the start I was beckoned to by Mr White, and he said to me, "Poor little chap, he is very lame, be very careful with him, my boy, I am sorry that I allowed him to start." A few minutes later came the deafening roar, "They're off".

I jumped Ensign out quickly and held a nice position throughout the race. When going around the river bend I was beside Mat Harris, who was riding the bonny New Zealand mare Spade

Guinea, when all of a sudden she was twisted nearly around, and interfered with Ensign in such a manner that he almost came down. He was soon into his stride again, and he was going great guns, while Mick O'Brien on Mentor (the winner) was hard at work to hold his position. The same may be said of that good horse Tradition. After leaving the abattoirs I had a nice position, my mount galloping freely until the home turn was reached. Then I took a lightning survey of my companions, and, seizing a position on the rails, sat down to finish the opposition off. Suddenly Ensign appeared to be jolting as if galloping on three legs. He ran out to the distance post close to where I had been speaking to Mr White. Alas, it was the end. He had broken his fetlock, necessitating his destruction. A similar fate befell Spade Guinea, who broke her shoulder.

AN OLD FRACTURE

Ensign's fetlock must have been fractured when he had been a yearling, judging by the appearance of the limb, which is on view at Newmarket Villa, once the residence of Michael Fennelly, Tom Payten, and, at the present time, that of Tom Payten's son and my nephew Bailey Payten, one of Sydney's leading trainers, who had inherited the practical skill and judgment of his father.

From my earliest experiences in the

preparation of my horses for racing, my time has been most agreeably spent, whether in the stable, saddle, or breaking in, travelling, or at the stud farm at Kirkham. The last named place accommodated many inmates, who gave me much food for study.

These young animals, whether they be foals or yearlings, give early instances of their ability to take their place in a "rough up" in the paddocks, say, between five or six of them, where they fight like bulldogs.

During my years of service at Newmarket Villa, I handled many youngsters, about the worst being Rudolph who was a real outlaw. In all similar cases of the last-mentioned qualification, Tom Payten used to say "Put Huxley on him; he will master him." Jack Scott was the breaker from Kirkham, and he did not like tackling Rudolph. My worst experience with this gelding was when on my way to Randwick one morning, with Tom Payten in attendance with his stockwhip cracking at my back, Rudolph took fright at the noise, and bolted with me along the Botany Road. When coming down his forefeet were over the fence. I gave him a crack with the whip, and he jumped over, stamping his forefeet with temper after landing. I took him back to the course at Randwick, but I fared badly, as he reared up and fell back with me.

[To be continued...]

AROUND THE ROCKS

We were fortunate to have a warm sunny afternoon on Sunday 16 August when members and friends met at the Garrison Church for a walk around the Rocks area. There was a lot of interest in this popular tour, but we could only take 40 people and the tour quickly filled up with those who had booked early, leaving many disappointed.

Our tour leader was Dr Rosemary Annable, an archaeologist and historian. We first walked up to Observatory Hill to the old Sydney Observatory, then to the site of the Fort St Primary School building, which was originally the first hospital in the Colony, and down the steps into Kent St to the Glover Cottages and the old St Brigid's Catholic Church and school.

The tour continued down into Lower Fort St, where we walked around and saw Bligh House, now a medical centre, and the lovely old terraces which had been restored for the Bicentenary by the Sydney Cove Development Authority. In that area also we looked at the Holy Trinity Church and rectory.

Dr Annable is a very knowledgeable lady and presented many historical facts and anecdotes in an interesting and amusing fashion. Our walk around the Rocks was thoroughly enjoyable.

As it was a particularly warm afternoon and we had done a lot of walking, some decided to conclude with a visit to the Lord Nelson Hotel, the oldest in Australia.

- ANNE DAVISON

JAMES WRIGHT - FIRST FLEETER

The descendants of First Fleet convict James Wright do not claim that their ancestor was one of those convicts transported for stealing a loaf of bread or a pocket handkerchief, James was a convicted highway robber with an apparent fascination for watches.

At the Kent Summer Assizes in August 1783 James Wright and William Steel were sentenced to death for their crimes in Highway Robbery. James was reprieved to be transported for seven years to Africa while William Steel met his fate on the gallows. The Archivist of Kent recently advised that the jury obviously didn't believe that James was the instigator of these crimes.

It appears that in July of 1783 these two men held up Sir George Farmer, John and Joseph Maddocks and relieved them of their goods and moneys. A watch valued at 10 pounds and a gold chain valued at three pounds was taken from Sir George while Joseph Maddocks was relieved of his gold watch with key. John Maddocks does not appear to have been carrying a watch.

In the new Colony James was to marry a convict who had also been transported for the theft of a watch. She had stolen a metal watch valued at 20 shillings, a watch ribbon valued at a penny and the watch key valued also at a penny.

Twenty-two-years later irony was to play a part in the life of the now free James Wright when in the far-distant Colony of New South Wales - in 1805 - James himself was relieved of a watch. The Sydney Gazette of 13 October 1805 reports; "Missing from the house of Jas. Wright P'matta a metal watch No. 2755 makers name Leroux. Who ever will return it or cause it to be returned will receive a gratuity of two guineas but if it is offered for sale the person stopping it will receive the above and the offender prosecuted."

But our story does not stop there for on 25 May 1806 a further report appears in the Sydney Gazette; "Extraordinary detection since the house of Jas. Wright baker of P'matta

was broken into when other property and a silver watch stolen, this having been advertised without success. On Fri morning a Mr Lawry went into Wright's shop for a loaf and complained of the loaf. Wright seeing he had a watch inadvertently asked what it was o'clock. The watch was produced in answer to the question. Wright in perfect astonishment recognised his property. Lawry declared he had purchased it. Here the matter rests until unravelled by judiciary inquiry."

Highway robber, watch stealer James Wright whose obituary claimed him to be the first baker in Australia is buried at St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta. Research has not been able to find any details to the background of this man or to his motivations into crime but in his new homeland he made a new life for himself and became a fine, respected citizen. His tombstone bears the name MR James Wright - a long cry from the highways of England and the walls of Newgate Prison.

- MARION BATCHELOR
#1405

UPDATE FROM THE REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES SYDNEY - N.S.W.

The following informative information was graciously supplied by the Nepean Family History Society Inc. for dissemination by other associations in their newsletters.

The Society received a telephone call from Mr Graham Austin of the Registry to inform it of the latest developments regarding the republishing of the existing index to the Births Deaths and Marriages that have been a bone of contention for so long with several of its members and from many members of other Societies.

It has been decided to include in the new set the old Parish Registers. That is the pre-1856 indexes. Mr Austin advised that the new Registrar is of the opinion that these should definitely be included; and we must all agree.

The bad news is that it will not be done overnight and I guess we will all agree

"good things come to those who wait." It is too early yet to put a time on the production of the fiche but it is hoped it will be available in about six months. [Please don't hold the Registry to that, but they will try.]

Of course, there is no indication of the cost of this new set of indexes, but we will pass on to you any information coming from the Registry.

Regarding the format of the index, Mr Austin was keen to get the opinion of our members on how we would like the index presented. He said there had been the suggestion that they be in alphabetical order (similar, I would say, to the I.G.I. or the format used in the new Victorian Pioneer Indexes). I was happy to give my preference to the alphabetical index as the Victorian fiche are so easy to use.

We would then have a new set of computer-type, alphabetical BDM indexes from 1788 to 1905, no more strained eyes, or frustration attacks.

Over the past few weeks the Registry has been computer-testing for the new Index. Death Index release to 1960, to bring N.S.W. in line with Victoria, is the probable outcome, and it hopes to release these at the same time as the new set of microfiche 1877-1905. Victoria did this when it released the Pioneer Register several months ago. Nothing more on Births or Marriages.

Purchase of certificates will be according to the guidelines set down by the Registry, but please remember the eligibility factor is flexible.

HON. SECRETARY, N.F.H.S. Inc.

PERSONS ENTITLED TO APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN DEATH CERTIFICATES

[Deaths, which have occurred 50 years prior to application year, may be issued to any person (e.g. person died 1942, certificate can issue in 1992).]

- Informant to registering death.
- Spouse, de facto spouse
- Children of deceased
- Next of kin (after establishing above three applicants do not apply in relation to the deceased)
- Solicitor, Public Trustee or Executor administering Estate of deceased
- Solicitor, Public Trustee or Executor administering the estate of a person who died intestate and who requires a death certificate to prove kinship so that beneficiaries may be established
- Death extract ONLY to issue to Credit Union, Bank, Building Society, Insurance Company to confirm death of a person whereproof is required to cancel a loan held by the deceased
- Consuls (providing the application indicates it is for consular purposes only)
- Applications from other Government Departments to be referred to the Administrative Officer (Certificates) or the Assistant Principal Registrar (Certificates)
- Any other UNUSUAL COUNTER APPLICATION to be referred to the O/C Counter. A postal application to be referred to the Administrative Officer (Certificates)

PERSONS ENTITLED TO APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN BIRTH CERTIFICATES

[A Certificate for any birth occurring prior to 1906 may be obtained by any person.]

- The person registered
- Parents
- Legal guardian
- Spouse, de facto spouse
- Solicitors acting for registered person or parent/parents please note that applicants must provide information on the application as to whom they are acting for)
- Solicitors/Public Trustee/Executors administering an estate of a person who died intestate, requiring information on kinship to establish beneficiaries
- Person having power of attorney for the registered person or parent/parents
- Consuls (providing the application indicates it is for consular purposes only)
- Applications from other Government Departments to be referred to the Administrative Officer (Certificates) or Assistant Principal Registrar (Certificates)
- Patriality (refer to O/C Counter for counter lodged applications or Administrative Officer (Certificates) for postal applications)

PERSONS ENTITLED TO APPLY FOR AND OBTAIN MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

[Marriages, which have occurred 50 years prior to year of application, may be issued to any person (e.g. marriage occurring in 1942, certificate can issue in 1992).]

- Parties to the marriage
- Children, providing both parties are deceased
- Solicitor/Public Trustee/Executor administering the estate of either party
- Solicitor/Public Trustee/Executor administering the estate of a person who has died intestate who requires a marriage certificate to prove kinship so beneficiaries may be established
Person holding power of attorney for either party
- Consuls (providing the application indicates it is for consular purposes only)
- Applications from other Government Departments to be referred to the Administrative Officer (Certificates) or Assistant Principal Registrar (Certificates)
- Patriality (refer to O/C Counter for counter applications or Administrative Officer (Certificates) for postal applications)
- ANY OTHER UNUSUAL APPLICATION to be referred to O/C Counter for counter applications or Administrative Officer (Certificates) for postal applications

PARRAMATTA FOUNDATION DAY

Mollie Gillen in her book, "Founders of Australia," names 64 people who arrived in this country on the First Fleet as having been buried at or near St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta. This is the largest number of known First fleeters buried in the one area. St. John's Cemetery is also the oldest cemetery in Australia.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters has had installed 14 memorial plaques on tombstones and vaults of known First Fleeters buried at St. John's.

The First Fleeter memorials on which plaques have been attached are as follows: Henry Dodd, August Alt, John and Christopher Palmer, Edward Elliott, David Kilpack, Mary Kelly, Deborah Herbert, John Herbert, Thomas Ec-

cles, James Wright, Jane McManus, Hugh Hughes, and Isaac Knight.

Stonemason Gordon Brown has been able to restore the following tombstones: James Wright, John and Christopher Palmer, Jane McManus, Mary Kelly, John and Deborah Herbert, Isaac Knight, Hugh Hughes, David Kilpack, and William Elliott.

The Fellowship has been invited to participate in the Foundation Day Celebrations.

It will be involved in two functions on Saturday, 31 October 1992, as part of the celebrations.

The first involvement is to operate a stall in the Church Street Mall. Please visit the stall

with your friends and relatives and meet members of the Executive Committee.

The other event will be a walk through St. John's Cemetery commencing at 3.00pm - at a contribution of \$3.00 per head. The walk will be conducted by well-known historian Mrs Judith Dunn.

Mrs Dunn has conducted numerous walks through the cemetery and says they are usually very popular. She has written a number of historical books, some of which give details of the First Fleeters at St. John's.

The 14 First Fleeter memorials will be marked with a small Australian flag.

Please join us on this day and see the restored tombstones and hear an interesting story on the beginning of Australia.

MARY (PARKER) SMALL MEMORIAL DEDICATION SERVICE

The dedication service for the Fellowship's memorial plaque on the Mary Small Memorial will be held on Sunday, 11 October 1992, commencing at 3.00pm. The memorial is in the Field of Mars Cemetery, Ryde, grave No. 355 Section O in the Church of England portion.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters is indebted to the John and Mary Small Family Association for inviting it to install one of its memorial plaques on the Mary Small Memorial. The plaque will read as follows:

MARY SMALL nee PARKER
ARRIVED FIRST FLEET 26.1.1788
DIED 4.4.1824

FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS 1992

The service will be preceded by the John and Mary Small descend-ants anniversary dinner at Ryde. Any descendants of John and Mary Small who are interested in attending the family luncheon on the 11 October 1992 please contact Mrs Bess Hooke on (02) 446675.

DOUGLAS OAKES,
Convenor, Plaques Committee

NORFOLK ISLAND HOLIDAY

The Fellowship has been asked to investigate the possibility of conducting a Tour of Norfolk Island in March 1993.

NORFOLK ISLAND
4th to 11th March 1993
Seven Nights
\$1141

INCLUDES: Return Air Fare - Transfers - Accommodation at the Colonial - Continental Breakfast Plus tour of the Island. 6th March is 205 Anniversary of First Fleet Landing. If you would like to participate in the celebration PLEASE contact Fleet House as soon as possible as some idea of numbers is needed to consider feasibility and to make a plane booking.

PETER HIBBS AND SPENCER DISTRICT FAMILIES REUNION

On Sunday, 11 October 1992, another successful reunion will be held at the flat area of the caravan park nearest the main road opposite the Spencer Public School.

Please bring your own picnic lunch as well as all the things which will make you comfortable, such as seats, picnic utensils, sun umbrellas, etc.

Activities will start at 8.00am and continue to as late as necessary.

COFFEE, TEA, ETC WILL BE AVAILABLE ALL DAY AS WELL AS BARBECUE FACILITIES (WOOD)

THERE IS AMPLE PARKING ON THE SITE

At the reunion we hope to organise a large and interesting display of old photos, certificates, charts and other documents, so if you have any please bring them along. The display will be set up in the disused shop in the caravan park.

If you need more details don't hesitate to phone Roy and Robbie Cox - (02) 6310206 weekdays or (043) 771128 weekends - or Allen and Noelene Maunder on (02) 6273201. Write to Roy Cox PO Box 400 Seven Hills 2147.

EVERINGHAM FAMILIES CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
12.00 noon Saturday, 28 November 1992

MASONIC CENTRE

cnr Castlereagh and Goulburn Streets
Sydney (Parking Available)

Phone V. FROST (02) 5242797

R.S.V.P. by October

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

May - 22 September

We extend a warm welcome to members joined during this period: 11 adults, 14 juniors and six spouse associates.

THOMAS ARNDELL + ANN FORBES: Mrs Janis Lorraine Annandale (sp. Mr David William Annandale), Miss Jenna Annandale (jun.), Mr David Annandale (jun.), Mrs Barbara Ann Shardlow (sp. Mr Ross Harry Shardlow), Mrs Lyndal Louise Dixon (sp. Mr Graham William Dixon), Mr Matthew Jon Dixon (jun.), Miss Michelle Louise Dixon (jun.).

WILLIAM BAKER - SUSANNAH HUFFNELL: Miss Amellia Susannah Mugridge (jun.). JAMES BLOODWORTH - SARAH BELLAMY + JAMES LEE: Mrs Sharan Grech, Mr David Lee De Kreek (jun.), Mr Michael Patrick De Kreek (jun.).

OWEN CAVANOUGH - MARGARET DARNELL: Miss Jessica Maree Knight (jun.), Mrs Julie-Ann Kenny (sp. Mr David Mark Kenny), Mr Patrick Michael Kenny (jun.), Mr Nicholas David Kenny (jun.).

THOMAS CHIPP - JANE LANGLEY: Mr Alec Lockart (sp. Mrs Carmen Lockart).

MATTHEW EVERINGHAM: Miss Meaghan Louise Williamson (jun.).

ROBERT FORRESTER: Mrs Juleen Lucy Brooker.

WILLIAM HAMBLEY - MARY SPRINGHAM: Mrs Nola Florence Ward (sp. Mr Chester Bryce Ward).

EDWARD HUMPHRIES: Miss Margaret Kay Turner.

CAROLINE LAYCOCK: Mr Phillip Ross Green (jun.).

JOHN ROBERTS: Mrs Joy Gwenneth Cordeiro.

JAMES WALBOURNE - SOPHE LEWIS: Mrs Janene Linda Oborn, Mr Ben-jamin Graham Oborn (jun.), Mr Marcus William Oborn (jun.).

NEW FIRST FLEET ANCESTOR: John Roberts, Marine, Friendship