

Fellowship of First Fleeters

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

1788 A.D.



N E W S L E T T E R

JOURNAL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS INC. NSW 1988

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PATRON: His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels, AC, Governor of New South Wales

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1996 VOLUME 27 NO. 5

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Fellowship has rejoined the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations Inc.

The AFFHO consists of some 63 full members and 16 associate members. Management of the Federation is hosted on a six-yearly basis from State to State (including New Zealand) and at present is in the hands of the Western Australian Genealogical Society. At present the Federation is making representations to the Federal Government to save the census.

The Daytime Fellowship has kindly donated two books to the library, 'Watkin Tench 1788' and 'Sir David Martin,' a biography written by Marea Stenmark. The latter book is certainly a precious acquisition to the library and a review will be published in the next Newsletter.

I spoke to the Beecroft Presbyterian Ladies' Auxiliary in August. I always feel a sense of satisfaction in speaking about First Fleeters and the work the Fellowship is undertaking to spread the word about the first pioneers of our country.

Your Executive has taken out a subscription to 'Australian Family Tree Connections.' This is a valuable monthly publication for Family Historians, copies of which may be found in our library.

The September 'Meet the President' was attended by some eight new members and families. My personal thanks to

Joyce Cowell, Joyce Rixon, Ann Davison and Doug Oakes for cohosting the afternoon. There will be three or four such functions next year and details will be in the next Newsletter.

Details of our AGM are included in this Newsletter together with the annual reports. I think it is fair to say we had another successful year and once again I appeal for help on the Executive Committee.

As I mentioned earlier there is a concerted move by family historians and genealogists to urge the Federal Government not to destroy census papers but release details after 100 years – a boon to future generations!

I am pleased to see that our member Stephen Mutch, MP for Cook, is among the 53 Federal Parliamentarians who favour a retention of census papers; I am sorry to see that the Hon. Peter Reith, member for Flinders, whose wife is reported to have First Fleet connections, is a fence-sitter on this matter. Some countries retaining census details are USA 1790-1920, UK 1841-1890, Sweden 1850-1880, Canada 1861-1901.

Joy and I arrived back safe and sound from our Kakadu experience. Although my leg had not quite healed from the break it managed to survive the seven-day camping-walking trip. It certainly was a wonderful experience.

In Fellowship
PETER

Fellowship
of
First
Fleeters

**CHRISTMAS
SOCIAL**

Good Company
Finger Food
and
Refreshment

2.00pm to 4.00pm

History House
133 Macquarie Street
Sydney

will be the venue for a couple
of hours social gathering,
fellowship and a chance to
meet friends unseen for
some time.

Imagine yourself swept back
in time joining with convivial
company in a Drawing Room
of a time past.

The cost?
\$10 for an enjoyable afternoon

The date?
WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 1996

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Period 29 August to 25 September 1996

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period - 11 adults, three juniors, six spouse associates.

JAMES BELLETT: Mrs Shirley Patricia Turbet (sp. Mr James Lancelot Turbet).

ELIZABETH COLE: Mr Martin Alan Erland.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS - MARY GROVES: Mr Ryan John Davis (jun.).

CAROLINE LAYCOCK: Mrs Lesley Rowe.

JANE LANGLEY - PHILIP SHEWING - HENRIETTA LANGLEY: Mrs Claire Jewell.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE - MARY GREENWOOD: Mr Bruce Neville Ryall (sp. Mrs Sharon Ryall); Mr Brett Daniel Ryall (jun.); Mr Craig Travis (jun.).

WILLIAM ROBERTS: Mrs Vilmai McDonald.

JOSEPH TUZO: Mrs Jane Gwenda Cunneen (sp. Mr David Anthony Cunneen).

JAMES WILLIAMS: Mrs Dawn Reid; Mr Robert Edward Harvey (sp. Mrs Pamela Mary Harvey).

THOMAS WILLIAMS: Mr Dennis Martyn Hunt (sp. Mrs Sybil Munro Hunt); Mrs Betty Lois Campbell (sp. Mr Hunter Campbell).

DEATH NOTICES

Deepest sympathy is offered to the families of the following:

DORIS JEAN CLAUGHTON, passed away 24 July 1997. Wife of the late Noel Reginald Claughton. Proud descendant through marriage of First Fleeters John Martin and John Randall.

IAN RICHARD GILLEN, killed in road accident Northern Territory 16 February 1996 on driving holiday with long-time friend. Born Montreal, 16 August 1942. Modern History Honours at Carleton University Ottawa and University College, Toronto. Son o. Dr Mollie Gillen AM and descendant of First Fleeters John Small and Mary Parker.

BRUCE NORMAN HUGHES (#1066), of Merewether, passed away 7 July 1996. Sadly missed by Laurece, Paul, Wendy, Megan and families. Descendant of First Fleeter Andrew Fishburn.

JUNE THELMA LUNN, of Eastwood, passed away 21 August 1996. Descendant of First Fleeter William Roberts and Kezia Browne.

MINNIE FRANCES MUNRO (#2959), of Eastwood, died 8 June 1996. Aged 80. Descendant of First Fleeters John Small and Mary Parker.

MARIE E. NICHOLLS (#42), of Winston Hills. Descendant of First Fleeter Henry Kable.

IVY RICHARDSON (nee Woods) (#2826), passed away 29 June 1996, of Bedingfeld Lodge, Pinjarra, Western Australia.

GWENDOLIN O. THEW (#4374), of Terrigal, passed away 4 July 1996. Descendant of First Fleeters Daniel Stanfield and Alice Harmsworth.

ALICE HILDA WALLER (#960), died in her sleep at Dural 17 March 1996. Widow of Arthur Keith Waller, loved mother and mother-in-law of Margaret and Graham, Robert and Lynne, loved grandmother of Alison, Lindsay and Stephen and great-grandmother of Cameron and Adam. Aged 89 years. Descendant of First Fleeters Nathaniel Lucas, Olivia Gascoigne and James Squire.



BIRTHS

A warm welcome for the following New First Fleeters:

TROY ANTHONY HEALEY (F.F. Joseph Tuzo), 4 August 1996. Son of Grant and Tracey, third grandchild for Janet (#3574) and Harry Healey.

CHARLIE KEITH HOSWELL (F.F. John Herbert-Deborah Ellem), 15 December 1995. Son of Rick and Kim Hoswell, seventh grandchild for Keith (#4741) and Lorna Hoswell, all of Eugowra.



WHAT TO GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS?

Year after year this perennial question arises. This year the Fellowship has an answer to suit every member of the household.

We have for sale a cloth badge in dark blue with the lettering in gold, how unfortunate we do not print in colour. It has a diameter of nine centimetres [we older ones would say three and a half inches].

Ideal for attaching to sleeves of jackets, pockets of blazers, etc.

The charge for this desirable First Fleet identification marker is a paltry \$5.00, little more than a cappuccino and a slice of cake.

Of course, you could make a package, including wall charts, 'sloppy joes', and other goodies from our stock (see back page), for a happy and contented First Fleet Family at Christmas.

105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo 2011.
Telephone 9360 3788 and 9360 3988.



ALL DESCENDANTS

of
MICHAEL MURPHY (Marine, Private)
and
HANNAH (ANN) MURPHY, nee WILLIAMS (Convict)
are invited to a

REUNION

at
WARRNAMBOOL, VICTORIA
SATURDAY, 26 APRIL 1997

A Get-together, Bring your own lunch. Dinner at night.

Numbers required so please contact:

WA: Nancy Pearce 09 331 3141
Qld: Gayle Thomsett 076 911 394
NSW: Dallas or Jean Lace 02 9533 4593
Vic: Janet Dunstan 050 372 734
Vic: Beryl Stephens 055 723 633
Vic: Peggy Sargeant 03 9870 8040
Vic: Miriam Marshall 051 442 139
(after 6pm)

Or write
REUNION
PO BOX 71
Ringwood East VICTORIA 3135



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, 25 January 1997

AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCHEON

**THE HOLME BUILDING
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY**

'The Day We Celebrate' is the most important day on our calendar. Help us to celebrate by gathering your family members for drinks and hors d'oeuvre, a two-course meal and great company. There will be an interesting guest speaker.

Cost will be advertised closer to the day, however, bookings may be made by ringing the office on 9360 3788.

EXCURSION

THE REDMYRE ESTATE

Sunday, 20 October 1996

This will be a leisurely Sunday afternoon walk to see some of the heritage aspects of Strathfield's Redmyre Estate of 1867. It was originally a country estate as evidenced by the large houses and its proximity to Burwood Railway Station for easy access to the city.

Strathfield, or Liberty Plains as it was originally known, was the first area outside Sydney Town to be opened up for free settlers.

Wear comfortable walking shoes and a hat. There are no shops on this route so you might like to carry something to drink. Approximate distance 3.8 kilometres.

Meet at Strathfield Station - south side - at 1.30pm and return to station approximately 3.30pm.

History House

Number 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney, the home of the Royal Australian Historical Society and now known as History House was designed by the architect George Allen Mansfield for his uncle, George Oakes. November this year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of History House and the membership lists for the Society are again open.

Information can be obtained by phoning 9247 8001.

Broadribb MLA and then to the Warrigal Club. From 1892 until 1922 the house was used as a boarding house and in 1922 it was purchased by Dr George Armstrong and used as doctors' consulting rooms.

In 1927 the distinguished surgeon Dr George Bell purchased the house and used it both as his residence and as consulting rooms. For many years this part of the city remained comparatively peaceful but by 1952 this had changed and while Dr Bell continued to use the house for consulting rooms he and his wife no longer resided there. By 1969 when the Royal Australian Historical Society acquired the house it was occupied by a syndicate of doctors, including Dr Bell, and was called Wickham House.

In 1901 when the Royal Australian Historical Society was founded it had neither the funds nor the ambition to own a home of its own. Instead the Society met in a number of different venues and was eventually provided with rooms in the Department of Education building in Bridge Street. In 1941, forty years after its foundation, the Society acquired its own premises in a former wool store in Young Street. By 1957 it was apparent that the site would eventually be required for a large-scale redevelopment plan proposed by the AMP Society. Wickham House was available for purchase and was acquired for the RAHS by the AMP Society, substantially on an exchange basis for the Young Street premises.

The Society moved into its new home in 1970 and the house was renamed History House. It was officially opened by his Excellency the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Paul Hasluck, Patron of the Society, on 12 November 1971

Since its acquisition the Society has carried out work to maintain and enhance this important and now rare example of the town houses which once graced much of Macquarie Street. The external fabric has been repaired and the drawing room and dining room, once again used as public rooms, have been redecorated and furnished in a manner appropriate to the period.

The area in which History House is located was once a part of the Governor's Domain, the extensive grounds associated with First Government House in Bridge Street which was occupied by successive Governors of New South Wales from 1788 until 1845. These grounds were subdivided into building allotments in the late 1840s, after the First Government House had been demolished. The land changed hands three times before George Oakes finally bought one of the allotments in 1857.

Plans were drawn up for a house on the site by architect George Allen Mansfield. As originally built, the house which Mansfield designed for Oakes was a typical Victorian upper middle-class town house—a gentleman's family residence. On the ground floor were a fine entrance hall, drawing room and dining room, the public parts of the house. On the first and second floors were a study, bedrooms and dressing rooms, the front veranda and balconies commanded a view over the Botanic Gardens.

Use of the house as a private residence was short-lived. By 1879, when Oakes was appointed to the Legislative Council, the house had become the premises of the Reform Club of which Oakes was a founder member. After his death ownership passed to Oakes's son Arthur, a medical practitioner and the house was let, first to the Hon. William





Original paint colour schemes were discovered and restored. Much of the beauty of the house lies in its fine joinery with its cedar staircase, doors and carved door cases. The entrance hall is floored with a parquetry design made from a dozen different species of timber. The drawing and dining rooms have elaborate moulded plaster cornices and fine marble chimney pieces, all of which survive in excellent condition. The Macquarie Street elevation of the building remains substantially unaltered from the 1870s except for the basement area which now accommodates a restaurant.

History House is protected by a Permanent Conservation Order under the New South Wales Heritage Act, is classified by the National Trust and is listed by the Australian Heritage Commission on the Register of the National Estate.

Text and photos by kind permission of Royal Australian Historical Society.

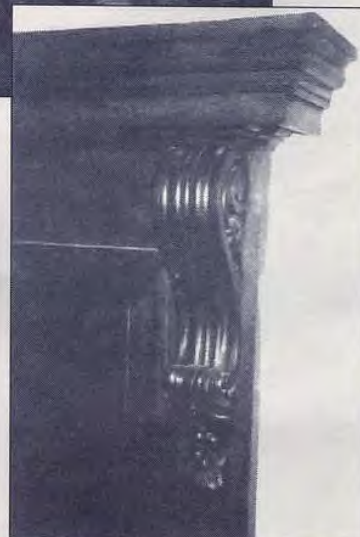
Photographs by Mari Metzke.

Opposite: Entrance hall and stairway, History House

Left: History House

Below left: Carved embellishment on one of four sandstone capitals from which the ground floor window and doorway arches spring. Window detail in background.

Below right: Detail of the fine carved Australian cedar joinery in a door lintel.



Daytime Fellowship visits

RAN'S HISTORIC MANSIONS

The response to this trip on Wednesday, 4 September, was very popular, so much so that the committee had to organise a repeat of the same and it took place on the 9th.

The minibus left First Fleet House for the short journey to Potts Point which was the site of many historical homes. During World War II the land between Potts Point and Garden Island was filled-in to build Captain Cook Engraving Dock.

greater portion of the land to Mr Joseph Hyde Potts, an accountant to the Bank of New South Wales.

In 1842 Joseph Potts commenced building five identical houses on the east side of Wylde Street. The houses were named Percy Lodge, Clarens, Como, Moncur Lodge and Clifford. Two remaining houses whose background and history attract our attention are Clarens and what is now called Jenner House.



Jenner House, c1867, is said to have been designed by the Colonial architect Edmund Blacket but is believed to have been designed by Horbury Hunt for Lebbeus Hordern, brother of Anthony Hordern. From 1914 to 1956 Jenner House was used as a hospital, since 1956 the building has been used as living quarters for the Navy.

Clarens was first occupied by an Alexander Kelly in 1844 but in '53 it was bought by Mr James (later Sir James) Martin who was born in County Cork, Ireland.

The house stood on a plateau which descended in a steep decline to the waterfront and in 1856 James commenced the landscape construction of his garden in the manner of a replica of an ancient Greek garden; ancient Greek history was one of his favourite pursuits. The garden was completed in 1868 at a cost of 20,000 pounds (\$40,000), a conservative estimate of the value in today's currency is in the vicinity of \$15,000,000.

The garden was embellished with sandstone statues and gazebo, two sphinxes at the foot of a second set of stairs, and 32 Grecian urns. A showpiece was the Choragic Monument which was removed to the Royal Botanic Gardens during construction of the Garden Island Dockyard.

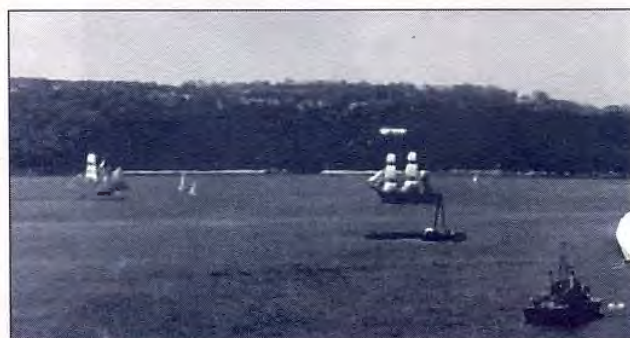
The Choragic Monument is a replica of the only remaining example in Athens of many such structures in what is known as the Street of Tripods. In Athens this monument is known as Lysikrates Monument and was erected in 334 BC as a thank-offering to the god Dionysis. Lysikrates of Kikina had won a drama contest with a chorus of boys at a Bacchus Festival and was presented with a tripod which was eventually mounted on top of the monument.

By the way, our boy from County Cork, James Martin, went on to become Prime Minister of the Colony and later was appointed Chief Justice. Sir James and Lady Martin raised a family of sixteen at Clarens.



Unfortunately, many of the gardens and buildings on the foreshore were demolished, as were some of the historic homes, to make way for the housing of Navy personnel, but others were saved and converted for Navy use. After the war attempts were made to rebuild and restore the gardens from materials left on site.

The northern extremity of Potts Point was a grant of about 10 hectares to Judge Advocate Wylde in 1822. The Aboriginal name for the area was Kurragheen, the ridge was locally known as Woolloomooloo Hill. Judge Wylde sold the

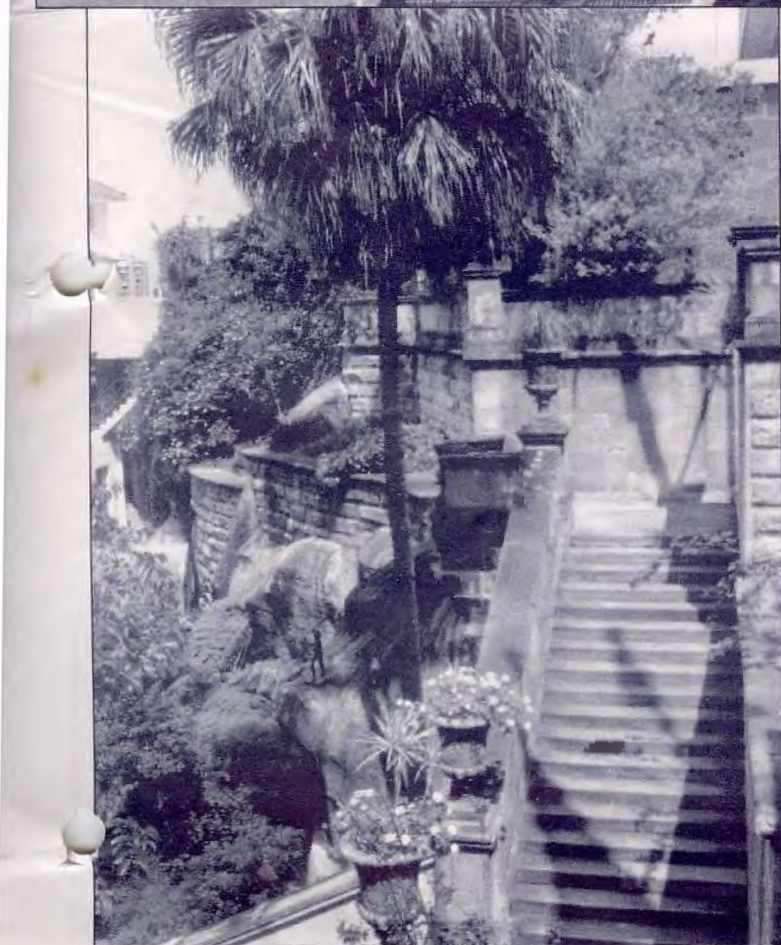


Clarens was later named Wilga then later became a private hospital (evidently a popular type of business) and called Charlemont which was occupied by WRANS in World War II. Like Moncur and Como and others, Charlemont was absorbed in HMAS Kuttabul whose prime function is to provide accommodation and administrative support for naval personnel.

Another historic house which was visited was Tresco, located on the actual point of Point Piper and it is now the residence of the Flag Officer of Naval Support Command.

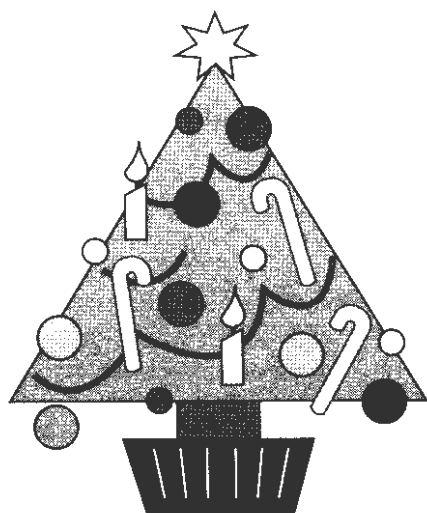
It is surprising how little we know of the history permeating the sites and older parts of Sydney-town. There are many walks and tours that can take us adventuring back in the past and it is hoped that future Daytime Fellowship functions can assist in bringing to life the shadows walking the streets and occupying the houses of a time gone by.

DOUGLAS OAKES
Convenor



CHRISTMAS SALE

Get your Christmas Present Orders in Now!



AT THESE PRICES A WONDERFUL BUY!

- Plain Cards: "The Beginning" on cover – 20¢ each
- Xmas Cards: "The Beginning" on cover, message inside – 20¢ each
- Laminated Place Mats: "The Beginning" – \$2.00 each
- Key Ring on leather with our Logo: \$2.00 each
- Charts: Macquarie's Sydney, The Green Hills: \$3.00 each
- Car Stickers with our Logo: \$1.00 each
- Bottle Opener with our Logo: \$2.00 each
- Teaspoons, Tea Caddy, Fluted Spoons with our Logo: \$3.00 each

Range of Fridge Magnets

- Sirius/Supply, The Landing, Sydney Coat of Arms, Australian Coat of Arms, Aussie Animals, Aussie Birds, True Blue Koalas, Fellowship of First Fleeters \$1 each

(Above all plus Postage and Packing)

BOOKS

	Price	Postage
Compiling Your Family History by Nancy Gray	\$5.95	\$2.50
A Conflict Life updated to How to Trace Your Convict Ancestors by Janet Reakes	\$9.95	\$2.50
Norfolk Island by James Hugh Donohoe	\$14.00	\$2.50
Arthur Phillip by Thea Stanley Hughes	\$5.50	\$2.50
Where First Fleeters Lie by Rod Best & Joyce Cowell	\$22.00	\$2.50
Sellers & Convicts of the Bellona	\$7.00	\$2.00
Memorial to a Marine by Joyce Cowell	\$5.00	\$2.00
POSTER of the FIRST FLEET SHIPS	\$5.00	\$4.00
NB: POSTERS have all 11 ships of the First Fleet, measuring 56cm x 90cm, NOT individual ships. Price \$5.00. Posted in cylinder \$9.00		
MEMBERS' TIES for Members only	\$20.00	\$2.00

NAME BARS may be ordered through FFF Office

** Interstate Postage 25c Extra. All sent in PostPak Envelopes **



BUY A BRICK

J. and W. Adams, W. G. Anderson, K. T. Arch; S. Ballard, B. Bellingham, J. B. Bidewell, Paula Bosman, C. O. Boyd, L. R. Boyd, K. W. Broughton, Roland Burgman; Ian M. Callcott, R. G. Carter, William E. R. Carter, Alice Clarke, Joy Cordeiro, Cynthia Curry; Norma Dawson, Norma Dillon, E. A. Dobbin; N. J. Eastment, Mrs V. J. Eastment, Edward R. Edwards; Valda Flanders, Monica Flint, P. Franklin; Phyllis J. Gore; D. J. Hanney, P. J. Harvey, Janet Healey, Dorothy Heldon; Allan Jenkins, Nancy Johns; G. P. Kable, Elizabeth King, Marilyn

Kaye Knight; R. R. Lloyd, Shirley Lord; Ronald McAlpine, V. McPherson, Hugh Morgan, the late Miss Minnie Frances Munro; Mabel E. Pearce, A. and K. Purnell; Pam Quick; R. Rose, Charles S. Ross, R. J. Rowell; J. W. Shortland, Myrl Rae Skinner, D. C. Smith; Cynthia Thompson, Constance Torbett, G. A. Tunks; Julie Vonwiller; J. R. Whitehouse, Lorrie E. Wickham.

