



Founders

NEWSLETTER OF FELLOWSHIP OF FIRST FLEETERS

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

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

President's report

From all reports our Australia Day luncheon was a resounding success. Maybe not so much financially, but more importantly a celebration of Fellowship, a celebration of our abiding debt to the pioneers of our nation.

TV station Channel 7 was present, to present some facet of our Australian history to be shown for the world-wide coverage of the Olympic Games. Let's hope that the opening ceremony is not over-politically correct and that there is some facet of the beginnings of European settlement of our country.

On Australia Day I spoke to Ray Hadley (FF Thomas Spencer/Mary Phillips) on Sydney station 2UE about the Fellowship and its relevance to the First Settlement. I wished to emphasise that our first arrivals were unwilling exiles, jettisoned from one hostile environment to another. It was an accident in history that they arrived in this land inhabited by indigenous people who had been here for many, many years. Over the past four or five generations many descendants of those original inhabitants have become forebears of First Fleeters!! Could this be a starting point for reconciliation.

Ray Hadley is a very proud First Fleeter, and we look forward to welcoming him into the ranks of our Fellowship.

On Sunday 23 January I was present at the Heritage Service at Holy Trinity Church and was privileged to read both Lessons at this celebration of Divine Service in honour of our first arrivals.

Again, as in 1988, we are, as descendants of First Fleeters, of intense interest to the Japanese media. Three of us have been interviewed, Agnes Akers (FF Thomas Akers), Warwick Wilkinson (FF Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes), and myself (FF William Tunks). They also wish to televise a meeting of the Executive!!

There was a splendid article in *The Australian* newspaper on Australia Day, which featured our Deputy Convenor of the Membership Committee, Joy Pankhurst (FF Matthew Everingham), and Hilda Maclean (FF Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes). I must congratulate Joy on her presentation – most historically correct!

Recently in the NSW media there has been a move by some prominent members of our community to move our National Day from 26 January. Is this a sop for reconciliation? May I say on your behalf that this day is not negotiable! We congratulate the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Bob Carr, on his stance and, indeed, his Treasurer, the Hon. Michael Egan (FF

Henry Kable/Susannah Holmes) for his stance to keep this day as our National Day. The 26 January is really something special because two to three generations hence of Australians, all Australians regardless of their descendants' arrival, the celebration of the

genesis of our nation should be on 26 January each year, forever!!

There will be a welcome at First Fleet House for new (and 'Old') members on Sunday 14 May next and Sunday 22 October next. Please feel free to visit your headquarters and see how we endeavour to spread the word with regard to our pioneers.

It was a delight to welcome Colin Lawless (FF Thomas Chipp/Henrietta Langley) recently, with his wife Margaret, at First Fleet House. Colin is exactly one of our members out there who is not only proud of our heritage but spreads the word, regardless of whether we are descended bonded or free, our forebears laid the foundations of this beloved nation of ours today.

In Fellowship,
PETER

... OUR FIRST ARRIVALS
WERE UNWILLING
EXILES ...

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News of Members

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

FOR PERIOD 25 NOVEMBER 1999
TO 12 JANUARY 2000

We extend a warm welcome to new members joined during this period – 13 adults, two juniors, three spouse associates.

WILLIAM BOGGIS: Miss Laura Margaret Priestley (jun.).

ANN FORBES: Mrs Beverley Joan Stockley (sp. Mr Cecil Sydney Stockley). Major Roderick David White.

ROBERT FORRESTER: Mrs Dianne Louise Millar.

JOHN GRIFFITHS: Mrs Joyce Lorena Barron.

DAVID KILPACK: Mr Rodney David Thompson.

EDWARD KIMBERLEY + JAMES MORRISBY + DANIEL STANFIELD – ALICE HARMSWORTH – JACOB BELLETT: Mr Arthur Owen Chipman (sp. Mrs Judith Fay Chipman).

NATHANIEL LUCAS – OLIVIA GASCOIGNE + JAMES SQUIRE: Miss Christine M. Holland, Mrs Phyllis Margaret Kandelas.

RICHARD PARTRIDGE: Mrs Janice Phillips.

JOSHUA PECK: Miss Erin Kathryn Bowden, Miss Laura Maree Grace Bowden (jun.), Mr Perry Roy Bowden.

WILLIAM ROBERTS: Mrs Margaret Anne Schenken.

JAMES WRIGHT: Mrs Judith Margarita Murray-Fraser.

Spouse Associate of Earlier Member: Mrs Elizabeth Dawn Smith wife of Mr Victor John Smith.

Additional First Fleet Ancestors: Thomas Spencer – Mary Phillips + William Tunks to John Herbert-Deborah Ellam for #1443 Marie Esther Fardell.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

DORIS JEAN HARRIS (#2703) passed away 3 January 2000. Descendant of First Fleeters Andrew Goodwin and Lydia Munro.

JEAN WALKER MANGLESON (#5505), died 23 October 1999, aged 85. An adored wife and mother, leaving a saddened 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

BIRTHS

Welcome to additional First Fleeters.

CRYSTAL CHERIE HEALEY (F.F. Joseph Tuzo), 5 December 1999. A sister for Troy and fifth grandchild for Janet (#3574) and Harry Healey.

LILLIAN MARGARET LOUISE MURRAY (F.F. John Cross – Mary Davison [Lady Juliana 1790]), 5 November 1999 at Sydney Adventist Hospital, a daughter to Neil and Nereda, and a sister for two-year-old Hunter. A granddaughter to Len (#2437) and Lola Murray and to Bob and Wendy Puffett. Seventh generation.

A SNIPPET OF HISTORY

It was recorded that George Johnston married Esther Julian on 10 November 1814, the marriage performed by the Rev. Samuel Marsden. Both were married at the home of Isaac and Rosanna Nicolls, Rosanna being the daughter of Esther arriving on the First Fleet. The home in question is still standing in the grounds of Concord Hospital. P.G.C.

FIRST FLEET HOUSE RENOVATION

The Fellowship of First Fleeters took up residence in First Fleet House in March 1988 when it was officially opened by the then Governor of New South Wales, Sir James Rowland. One of the guests at the opening was Rear-Admiral David Martin, who was to become the next Governor of New South Wales and the Fellowship's patron. Rear-Admiral Sir David Martin was a descendant of First Fleeters George Johnston and Esther Abrahams.

The Executive Committee of the time only had the front room painted at the beginning as money was tight.

It is pleasing to report that over the last few

months the backyard has been tiled, a new door has been installed from the front room to the patio. The framework around the doorway from the kitchen to the backyard has been replaced and the side window has been repaired. A gate has also been installed on the rear access to Crown Street, Woolloomooloo.

An electrician and a plumber were engaged to attend to a few electrical and plumbing repairs. These jobs were done so that the premises could be fully painted both indoors and also the front facade.

The painters will be starting on Monday, 21 February 2000, and expect to take about two weeks. The office will be open during the painting.

ALICE CLARKE
House Committee

**Closing date for
copy and pictures
March/April issue
March 24 2000**

OFFICE HOURS
10.00am to 3.00pm
Monday to Friday

what's *on*

HOLIDAY TO LORNE

Pick Up on 21 March at Bay 45, Spencer Street Coach Terminal at 1.00pm.

Return to Spencer Street at approximately 11.00am on 28 March.

Balance of money due to be paid by Wednesday, 1 March.

Cost: \$603 Double; \$684 Single (less deposit paid).

JANE LANGLEY FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The final cut-off date for information to be included in the book about the life and times of Jane Langley, Thomas Chipp & Henrietta is

30 APRIL 2000

Any descendants who wish their stories, photographs, etc to be included in the book must have their information to Helen Silk, 87 Arabella Street, Longueville, by this date.

Book launch scheduled for Australia Day 2001.

DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL AND ELIZABETH JURD

(Elizabeth was the daughter of William Douglas, First Fleeter)

Please contact

Peter R. Stewart, Marist College, Ashgrove
PO Box 82 ASHGROVE Qld 4060
who is preparing a volume of the Family Tree.

FIRST FLEETER ELIZABETH HAYWOOD

As a descendant of Elizabeth Haywood (via Margaret Nichols b. c.1796, Charlotte Martha Hayes b. 1821 and Henry Joseph Pyke b. 1846, et al.) I would like to correspond with the members with an interest in any of these persons.

My address is: Mr Ross Hills, 651 Huon Road, Fern Tree, Tas. 7054,
or: E-mail dj-hills@tassie.net.au

Hunter Valley Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters

Meetings of the Chapter are held at the Joy Cummings Centre, Scott Street, Newcastle, at 1.30pm on the third Saturday of each month. Information: President, Mr Ray Meredith, on (02) 4943 1246.

North Coast Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters

MEETING DATES AND VENUES FOR 2000

6 FEBRUARY

Boambee Bay Reserve

2 APRIL

Home of Ron and Pal Benjamin, Mackays Road, Coffs Harbour. Phone (02) 6652 7283. Turn right into Mackays Rd. from Bray St. (Baringa Hospital) and keep following Mackays Rd. over the Railway line and veer slightly right and then left and you will see a milk can with 'Mackay's Private Rd'. Follow this road to the end. Do not take any right or left forks. (There will be small Australian flags to guide you.)

4 JUNE

Mona and Jack Keough, 49 Rosedale Drive Urunga

6 AUGUST

Boambee Bay Reserve

8 OCTOBER

Home of Mary and Jim Kell, 'Coramba Park', 880 Coramba Rd., Leigh (Dorrigo)

3 DECEMBER

Home of Robyn and Tony Condliffe, 13 McGregor Cl., Bayldon (off Linden Ave)

All Meetings start at 11.30am.

If you require transport to any Venue please contact Secretary, Robyn Condliffe phone (02) 6653 3615.

Northern Rivers Chapter of Fellowship of First Fleeters

Except for the month of January when the meeting of the Chapter is always held on Australia Day other meetings throughout 2000 will be held on the third Sunday of the months of March, May, July, September and November. Details of these and the venue can be obtained by phoning President Rod Davis on (02) 6680 2768 or Secretary Narissa Phelps on (02) 6628 0192.



the Australia Day Luncheon, held on Saturday, 22 January 2000, took place in Cello's, the magnificent dining-room of the NSW Masonic Club, 105 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

One hundred and thirty-four were catered for, ten more than attended last year, and was the largest number that has been in attendance for a number of years. This appears to indicate having the function on the Saturday closest to Australia Day is proving popular.

Our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC, Governor of New South Wales, and Mrs Samuels were the guests of honour. On arrival they were welcomed by President Peter Christian and Mrs Christian. Miss Rebecca Small was presented to Mrs Samuels as they arrived and gave her a posy of flowers.

The President welcomed all those in attendance. Mrs Beryl Lewis, a Past President, said the grace for the luncheon to be served and after the luncheon Ron Maguire gave the Loyal Toast.

WE JOIN AUSTRALIA *in Celebration*

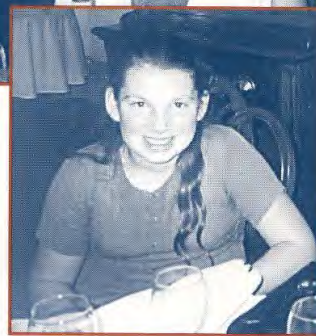
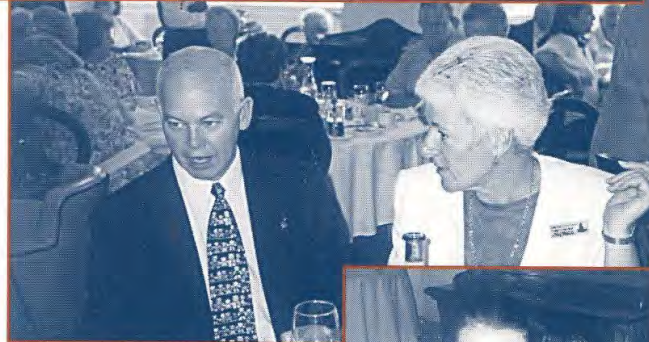
The President then invited His Excellency to address the assembly. Miss Alice Clarke was asked to respond on behalf of all present to the Governor's address. Mr Peter Christian followed with the toast 'The Day We Celebrate'. [His Excellency's Address and Mr Peter Christian's toast are included in their entirety on pages 6 and 7 in this issue.]

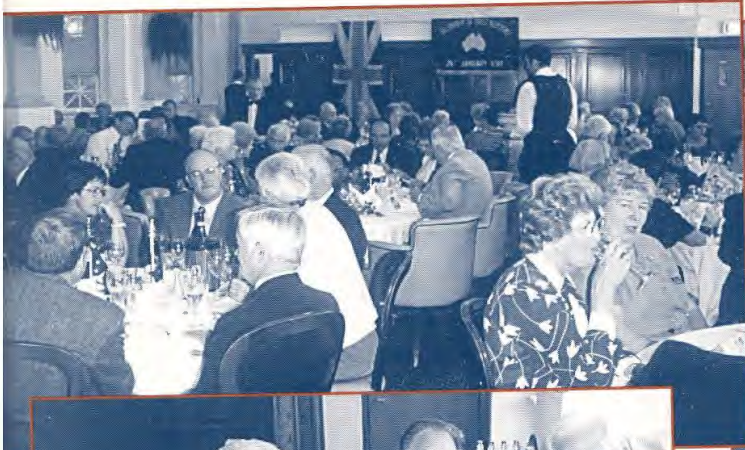
To conclude, the National Anthem – two verses – was sung with gusto.

Before leaving, the Governor and Mrs Samuels were escorted by the President and Mrs Christian to the many tables to enable the guests to be presented.

I take this opportunity to thank the following for their contribution in organising the Luncheon: Ron and Zona Maguire liaising with Cello's Restaurant on our behalf; the speakers for their part; most importantly Phyllis Selby and Bonney Savill who handled the bookings and made up the table allocations; Shirley Lord who played hostess at the door whilst we were in the boardroom meeting the Governor and Mrs Samuels; and finally the members who attended, for without them the luncheon would not have been the success it was.

DOUGLAS OAKES
Master Of Ceremonies





Gubernatorial Speech

AUSTRALIA DAY LUNCH

His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC, Governor of New South Wales, in his address to the membership and friends at the Australia Day luncheon said:

President and Mrs Christian, members of the Executive Committee; members of the Fellowship, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Once again my wife and I have the considerable pleasure of reaping the benefits of my patronage of the Fellowship by joining with you in this delightful annual celebration.

This year, there are two aspects of the gathering which are of particular note. First of all, this is the last annual luncheon of the Fellowship which will take place in the twentieth century and the second millennium. Now I will have to apologise to my wife later on for mentioning this, because she feels that I yield too readily to my natural lawyer's desire for accuracy by rejecting the emotional view that we have somehow got one year ahead of ourselves. In the long run I suppose that it is all for the best; because we can enjoy two sets of celebrations, for which manufacturers of fireworks will be duly grateful.

Secondly, this will be, on any view, if the Fellowship sticks to its ordinary timetable, the last opportunity to salute prospectively the centenary of our nation's federation.

I have not conducted any scholarly research into this topic, but I would dare to guess that there cannot be many countries which have two such vital and fundamental anniversaries to celebrate. It cannot be doubted that 26 January, 1788, marking as it did the commencement of white settlement in this ancient land, also marks the beginning of our modern Australian society. It is, of course, true that descendants of those who arrived in Sydney with the First Fleet are in a great minority among Australian people, and have long been so. But these pioneers and their early descendants played an immense and immeasurably influential role in the formation of the Australian community, and are entitled to a special degree of tribute and respect.

There was therefore much to recommend 26 January 1788 as the anniversary to be celebrated as Foundation Day, as it was first called. Governor Macquarie held the first official celebration in 1818; and, of course, the Australia Day Regatta, which was originally called the Anniversary Regatta, was

first held in the summer of 1836. The fiftieth anniversary of Phillip's landing was enthusiastically commemorated in Sydney with, to add a modern touch, 'crackers and rockets' ending the day's festivities.

So, by the time that Federation occurred in 1901 Australia Day was established. Curiously, it was not until 1946 that all States and Territories identified 26 January as Australia Day. That title had been selected in 1935 by the Commonwealth Government and adopted by all States and Territories except New South Wales, which continued to prefer Anniversary Day for some arcane reason which I have not been able to establish.

But anyway, Federation, though of the most vital significance, was an event of a somewhat different nature from the landing of the First Fleet upon Sydney's then inhospitable shore. It was an essentially political and intellectual occasion, which did not stimulate the emotional response readily generated by the stoical determination of our first settlers facing the unknown.

Some consideration of these aspects of our history emphasises, it seems to me, just how short our history is, and how recently events of great influence and importance have occurred. As we all appreciate, 212 years in the eyes of our indigenous peoples, and indeed in the view of many Europeans, is the mere blink of an eye. In only 100 years we have created and established a nation; but it was not until 1949 that separate Australian citizenship became law for the first time. And it was only three years before in 1946, that the Queen appointed the first Australian Governor of New South Wales. It was as lately as 1994 that for the first time all States and Territories began to celebrate Australia Day on the actual day – the 26 January – rather than as an appendage to the nearest weekend.

The celebration of Australia Day has undergone some variations, but remains Australia's great national anniversary. However, First Fleeters can spare a cheer for the anniversary of federation. They are entitled to feel a special connection with that event also. Without their ancestors, no white settlement, no federation, no Australian nation.

My wife and I offer you all, and the Fellowship of First Fleeters, the warmest wishes for the new year, and for the vigorous continuation of the work of the Fellowship in honouring our pioneers.

Cordeiro, the 'not too shy' commuter

I am a great believer in the wearing of name tags in the appropriate situations. I like to wear my tag when I go to church so that new folk will feel comfortable by knowing my name, which may lead to wonderful conversations and for them, a feeling of belonging ... that's my opinion anyway.

Once again 'on the way home from the Fellowship lunch' the train was packed at Central and I had to ask three very obvious overseas people if they would mind if I could have the

seat on which all their bags were placed, muttering, that it was a long time to stand to Wollongong. I sat and 'became' fascinated by the extremely nice looking African gentleman sitting opposite me ... His complexion was very dark, his hair tailored, and his face just oozed personality. (The other chappie came from Pakistan and the beautiful looking young woman from India.)

(continued foot of page 7)

The Day We Celebrate

The President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters expresses the
Australia Day toast at the luncheon to celebrate the 26 January 1788

Your Excellency, Mrs Samuels, members and friends – Today, as your President, I am more than well aware that I am once again preaching to the converted. The genesis of our native land was unparalleled in history – 775 unwilling exiles, guarded by some 220 marines, founded a nation 212 years ago.

This is a historic fact!!

Those who think it fashionable and politically correct would call this an invasion. Each member of the Fellowship here today is only too well aware of the part played by his or her ancestor and subsequent descendants in the formation of our nation. First Fleeters and their descendants have contributed more than their share – one only has to read not only the epic volume *Founders of Australia* by one of our life members, Mollie Gillen AM, but other efforts by contemporary members; to name a few, *A Rich Inheritance*, *Transported to Paradise*, *A Little Rope Goes a Long Way*, *William Broughton and the Kennedy Connection*, *Where First Fleeters Lie*, *A Memorial to a Marine* – and the list goes on and on.

First Fleeters may proudly claim to have given this nation one Governor-General, two recent Governors of the State of New South Wales, one Premier of that same State in addition to many thousands of pioneers in three or four

generations who have contributed in some way to the development of this country.

I have recently received a book, *Orphans of History*, which will be released early in February this year. It is an intensely fascinating story of young people, some convicts, some free, of the First Fleet. John Hudson, a nine-year-old chimney sweep in London, was sentenced to seven years transportation. He was thirteen when he arrived on 26 January 1788. The last record we have of John Hudson was that he was marked off stores in October 1795. Maybe at some time in the future the Fellowship may unearth descendants of this unfortunate lad. We are also told of the two-year-old daughter of Esther Abrahams who with her mother were destined to be matriarchs of founding families.

We here today only know too well the stories of incredible hardships and successes of these outcasts from a distant land at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters claims a membership of a multicultural mix, yes and many descendants who claim aboriginal heritage. Member Val Ross in one of her volumes of the *Everingham* family notes that in 1988 there were at least 133 descendants

claiming aboriginal plus First Fleet descent from the youngest son, John.

A good starting point for reconciliation?

Today there are some well-meaning and perhaps a trifle idealistic members of our community who seem to have a problem with regard to a date Australians should celebrate their national day.

On behalf of the Fellowship may I congratulate our State Premier, the Hon. Bob Carr, on his stance for the keeping of our national day as 26 January.

The Day We Celebrate is indeed unique in the annals of human endeavour. We all join together regardless of race, creed and politics to honour those who founded our nation as we know it today.

'In hell boat convict ships they came
They toiled by blood and sweat and pain

By suffering they carved their name
In history's book of fame

They were Australia's pioneers
Their visions shone above their fears
Hard work – hard time – for years
and years

Salute our pioneers.'

Advance Australia Fair.

Please join me in the toast 'The Day We Celebrate.'

As most of you would already know I am not 'too shy' and that my husband was originally from India. I finally decided to lean forward and ask him which country he came from and was he a visitor to our country. Yes, all three, were studying at Wollongong University and 'Chedda' told me he came from Nigeria

He then asked me what Fellowship of the First Fleeters meant reading off my badge. Imagine my amazement when they were new and were aware of the first landing and the early days of settlement. They wanted to know more and who were my forebears etc. As they were all medical doctors doing their Masters degree in Public Health they then fired questions at me as to the progress from those early days to the present health system and, very importantly, what was my opinion as to the role of the extended family in this modern society as to an individual and his materialistic wealth.

I used all my knowledge of our wonderful First Fleeters telling how each came as an individual and why – surviving

with the help of their friend – then mostly for females 'being chosen' and those relationships producing large numbers of children, many of whom did not live of course, but each elder child helping the younger as their age increased and in most cases families would try and support each other in difficult times, right down through the years until, I felt, the last 20 years. It is then in my humble opinion that loving and caring for one's fellow man began to crumble.

Their questions were fascinating and I was absolutely thrilled to have this golden opportunity telling these visitors the history of our great and much loved forebears – and it was because of that extended family that today we had all gathered together to honour them

It was a shame that my journey had to finish at Woonona as we were still flat out talking of our different cultures, but oh what a wonderful day for me.

JOY CORDEIRO

A HUMBLE FIRST FLEET MAIDEN

The Saturday Travel Section of the Sydney Morning Herald seems the most unlikely place one would expect to read about one's humble First Fleet forebear, Sarah Bellamy, aged fifteen years when convicted of stealing approximately fifteen and a half guineas, in July, 1785.

John Huxley a roving reporter for Qantas and British Travel Association was promoting Birmingham, England's second city, as a good place to stay to explore Shakespeare's Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick Castle and Worcester with its famous cathedral and cricket ground. But of the many historic and attractive villages in the Midlands it was Belbroughton that won his attention, and he wrote: 'Black and white half-timbered cottages. High, flower dotted, bird fretted hedgerows. An imposing pink sandstone parish church. And scarecrows! On this special weekend, the postcard-pretty village of Belbroughton has been invaded by scarecrows. Dozens of them.

'They are everywhere: poachers pulling fish from the stream, posties leaping out from behind pillar boxes, drunks slouching over a pint at the pub, newly weds posing for pictures in front of the church.

'Plumbers, priests, little Bo Peeps ... all await the judges of the "annual stuffup" to provide the results of this year's "straw poll", for the village's best scarecrow. Strolling through the narrow twisting, turning streets of Belbroughton – hidden cosily in the 'heart of England', barely thirty minutes from Britain's second city, Birmingham – there is so much to delight and to distract the eye that it is easy to miss the simple plate affixed to a low wall beside the Village Green.' The wording on the plate reads:

Sarah Bellamy born in Belbroughton, 1770, was convicted of theft and transported to Australia on Lady Penrhyn as part of the First Fleet, 13 May 1787. Belbroughton History Society erected the plaque to mark the visit of her descendants in the Bicentennial Year, 13 May 1987.

Sarah Bellamy was baptised at Belbroughton, Wores, on 3 February 1770 as daughter of Richard Bellamy and Elizabeth Staunton. At the age of nine she was apprenticed to a local farmer and by 1785 was employed by Benjamin Hadon, a weaver, at nearby Dndley. At Worcester on 9 July 1785 she was sentenced to transportation for seven years for theft of a purse and money belonging to Hadon. The purse was valued at twopence, the money totalled 16pounds 5s 6d and with two promissory notes another 15pounds 5s. At the trial Sarah 'guiltily prayed to be publicly whipp'd at afternoon of the next two market days' but was disregarded. She remained in jail at Worcester until 25 November 1786 when she was

ordered to Southwark jail to await delivery to a transport. With 21 other female convicts from this jail she was conveyed by wagon for embarkation at Gravesend on Lady Penrhyn on 31 January 1787. She bore a child on board towards the end of the voyage.

At Port Jackson on 10 February 1788 her son Joseph by Joseph Downey was baptised and died two weeks later. In the Colony Sarah lived in a two-room house with two doors and a window, and a hearth for a fire, on the east side of the

Cove. It was probably constructed by James Bloodworth by whom she bore a son baptised James Bellamy Bloodworth on 17 October 1790.

Sarah and Bloodworth would have eight children and lose four of them in infancy: they would become a couple much respected in the community. In 1806 Sarah was recorded with one male and two female children, noted as 'natural'.

My sister Ula and I had the honour of unveiling the plaque on the wall of the Village Green in May, 1987, for Belbroughton History Society's First Exhibition, held in the Parish Hall, a former tithe barn with beautifully restored black oak timber and white walls. Every aspect of village life was recorded, from Church, Education, Music, Sport, Industry, (Scythemaking, from the mid sixteenth century to mid 1960s). Belbroughton was recorded in the Domesday Book. Centrepiece of the Exhibition was a three-sided stand with the *Story of Sarah* to which we had contributed First Fleet material.



ALICE CLARKE



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

OFFICE ADDRESS: First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral Street Woolloomooloo NSW 2011 PHONE (02) 9360 3788 FAX 9360 3988