



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

The AGM of the Fellowship held on 5 November last resulted in the election of a new member of the Executive, Barry Roberts (FF William Roberts) and the loss through resignation of long standing member of the committee, Alice Clarke. After some 21 years, Alice decided to step down and we are indeed grateful for her long standing dedication to the Fellowship. However, she is prepared to continue editing the Junior Newsletter and hold the fort at HQ on a Friday. Not all positions on the Executive were filled and it would be a blessing, if not a great help, if members would volunteer to join us on the Executive as a Director of the 'Fellowship of First Fleeters Inc'. We meet for a couple of hours on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7.00 pm. At the AGM our Treasurer, Roy Morris AM, set before us his thoughts on the future of the FFF.

Urgently, we are in need of members, especially in the Sydney region, to come forward to ensure that our organisation will exist beyond the next ten years! Other than Executive members, we are approaching the point where we need the services of a Treasurer to take over from Roy and Cec Thompson, his able deputy.

For over 32 years we have progressed through the dedicated efforts of many members to become a viable, unique national historical organisation. We have an incredible asset in First Fleet House, worth some half million dollars, we publish a newsletter (*Founders*) reaching some 2,000 members and various historical societies, a newsletter, I might add, which takes up more than a third of our income, but from the feed-back I receive, it is vital that we keep this publication to the fore. The future, fellow First Fleeters, is indeed in your hands!!

You will notice in this issue a par re the ABC TV seeking young First Fleeters to talk about his or her pioneer ancestor. This could be an excellent PR exercise for the Fellowship and if any members feel that they have a reasonably articulate young person in the family please contact Marc Wheatley on the number supplied.

There has been good response to the proposed Norfolk Island trip with over 30 members responding. Unfortunately Doug Oakes is unable to join the group, and I am now not sure that I can make it due to future commitments. It should prove an extremely interesting eight days. We were requested to forward the name of a King descendant to be the guest of the tour organisers and the Executive was pleased to forward the name of member 3135, Hazel Velloa Johnson. Velloa is a proud descendant of Phillip Gidley King and Ann Inett, both First Fleeters.

New member Ian Arch has sent a beautifully presented poem entitled 'Genesis' in the hope that it could be published at some future date in *Founders*.

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Merry
Christmas

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News of Members

BIRTHS

Welcome to additional First Fleeters:

JADE and CHLOE BRYCE (FF Jane Langley – Philip Scriven – Henrietta Scriven) 29 September 2000 in Sydney. Twin daughters to Christopher and Suzannah Bryce, son of Anne and Wayne Bryce, daughter of the late Rev Canon Alfred Robert Hardwick (#6203) and Margaret Hardwick. Ninth generation.

HUGH EDWARD COLLYER (FF Hugh Hughes) 19 September 2000, a son for Belinda and Richard, third grandson for Valerie (#1829) and Peter Collyer. Seventh generation.

FORBES HAYDEN THURTELL (FF Peter Hibbs and 2nd fletcher Mary Pardoe) born at Bathurst on 3 August 2000, third child for Laura and Peter Thurtell. Another grandson for Dorothy and Bill Lowe and Doreen and John Thurtell, grand-nephew for Betty Warn (#6110). Ninth generation.

DEATHS

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the following:

THELMA KNIGHT (#5270) of Green Point (Gosford). Descendant of First Fleeter Peter Gibbs.

MARY ALICE (Molly) WATT OAM (nee Gaudry) (#2589), passed away on 20 July 2000, aged 88 years. Descendant of First Fleeters Henry Kable – Susannah Holmes.

Norfolk Island Foundation Day Extravaganza

The Administrator of Norfolk Island will be having a dedication service for plaques installed in memory of First Fleeters Bartholomew Reardon and Mary (Springham) Hambly, in Norfolk Island Cemetery as part of their Foundation Day celebrations on Tuesday, 6 March 2001.

The Governor-General of Australia, Sir William Deane, and Lady Deane will be invited to participate.

The Fellowship of First Fleeters has been invited to form a party to visit Norfolk Island during the Foundation Day celebrations.

Details of the First Fleet Descendants program are:

Depart Sydney Thursday 1 March 2001 at 3.00pm, arrive 6.00pm. Transfer to Governor's Lodge for accommodation and Dinner at 8.00pm.

Friday 2 March: 9am half-day tour. Afternoon free. 7.30pm Dinner at Barney Duffy's Charcoal Grill.

Saturday 3 March: Morning free. 1.00pm Island Cultural Tour. 7.30pm Dinner at Homestead Restaurant.

Sunday 4 March: Morning free. 1.00pm Island Cultural Tour. 8.00pm Welcome Dinner at Governor's Lodge.

Monday 5 March: Morning free. 12.30pm Garden Luncheon at home of John Forrester. 7.30pm Dinner Colonial Hotel.

Tuesday 6 March: **FOUNDATION DAY**
9.00am Re-enactment at Kingston followed by 11.00am First Fleet Plaques Dedication Service. 1.00pm Lunch at Kingston. 7.30pm Dinner at Maria's Restaurant.

Wednesday 7 March: 9.30am Tree Planting. 6.00pm Dinner at Seaworld Restaurant. 7.15pm Sound and Light Show.

Thursday 8 March: FAREWELL. Check in 10.30am for Departure 11.30am.

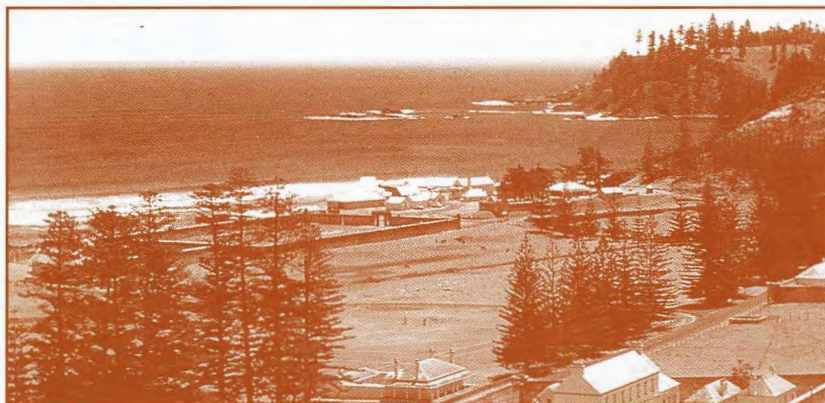
Bus transfers will be organised for all dinners, tours and ceremonies at Kingston.

The gross cost including air fares, accommodation at Governor's Lodge, meals, Function Dinners and tours is \$1625. Single supplement \$525.00 extra. This cost has been discounted by \$100.00 for FFF members. Cheque for full payment made payable to THE TRAVEL CENTRE and sent

to the Fellowship of First Fleeters, First Fleet House, 105 Cathedral Street, Sydney NSW 2000 by 1 December 2000 to obtain FFF special discount. A special car hire rate, including insurance, excluding petrol, of \$20.00 per day has been negotiated for FFF members.

As this is the busiest time for tourists to Norfolk Island reserved accommodation cannot be held after 1 December 2000.

For further information please contact First Fleet House on 02 9360 3788.



what's *on*

WILLIAM NASH FAMILY ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

At St Philip's York Street
Sunday, 11 February 2001 at 10.00am
B.Y.O. LUNCH at OBSERVATORY HILL.
If wet, lunch will be held at St Philip's Church
meeting room.

Inquiries Lesley Evans 4328 5029

NASH/HAYNES

First Fleeters William Nash, marine private, and his wife Maria (Haynes). Information and descendants sought for family history being published.

Contact Joyce Rixon, 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo NSW 2011.

DAY TOUR TO NEWCASTLE

A great time was had by all who came on this tour to Newcastle. Those of us who had not visited this city before were very pleasantly surprised.

Guided by Newcastle-lover and President of the Newcastle Chapter, Ray Meredith, we were taken on the 'Tram Ride' (really a bus decorated as an old-time tram) for a city tour, a tour of Fort Scratchley, and lunch at a local pub. Then a tour of the Convict Lumber Yard.

We were all keen on a further visit to see the places that could not be fitted in on our short stay.

Many thanks to Ray and his wife, and other members of the Newcastle Chapter, for a great day.

PHYLLIS SELBY



AUSTRALIA DAY



LUNCHEON

Saturday, 27 January 2001
Cello's
The NSW Masonic Club

Our special guests for *The Day We Celebrate* will be our Past Patron, and Immediate Past Governor, Rear-Admiral Peter Sinclair AC and Mrs Shirley Sinclair. Admiral Sinclair had the pleasurable experience a few months back of discovering First Fleeter William Broughton was his ancestor. He is now a welcome member of the Fellowship of First Fleeters.

Our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Gordon Samuels AC Governor of New South Wales, extends an apology for his inability to attend and says 'give my regards to the troops'.

The Luncheon will be held in *Cello's* at the Masonic Club (Castlereagh Inn), 169-171 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

Cello's is the magnificent heritage dining room on the fourth floor. There will be pre-lunch drinks, after which a two-course lunch will be served. (Drinks with lunch are not included in the cost.)

This is a time for families to gather and celebrate the day our forebears came to Australia. Show our guests the strength of our association! We are inviting members and Family Associations to form parties to join with us on the day. However, if you haven't a Family Association, please make a booking and we will endeavour to seat you with fellow First Fleeter descendants and/or with mutual friends.

When making a booking please supply the following information:

1. Number coming
2. First Fleeter ancestor
3. Name of party you wish to be seated with.

Bookings can be made to First Fleet House on (02) 9360 3788.

Information is that parking near the Masonic Club on a Saturday is not a problem. Discount parking is available for anyone who wishes to avail themselves of it in the Piccadilly parking station, a few doors down from the Club. Take the parking ticket from the barrier device to reception in the Club foyer and they will exchange it for a voucher to give to the attendant of the parking station on leaving.

Please note the event, date and venue in your diary.

DATE Saturday, 27 January 2001
TIME 12 noon (Pre-lunch drinks) for 1.00 pm Lunch
COST \$40 per person by Wednesday, 17 January 2001
VENUE Cello's, The Castlereagh Inn, 169-171 Castlereagh Street, Sydney
DRESS Lounge suite for gentlemen and smart casual for ladies.

(All bookings must be paid for by WEDNESDAY, 17 January 2001 – money or cheques will **not** be collected at the function.)

Battles by the BLACKS

ALTHOUGH EIGHTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF THIS COLONY, THE BLACKS IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF PORT JACKSON STILL CARRY ON THEIR TRIBAL WARFARE TO THE DEATH.

SYDNEY, 26th January 1806

Yesterday, a contest nearly proved fatal to Bennelong, who in flying from an otherwise inevitable destruction received a spear in his hip. In spite of the assiduous training given to Bennelong by Governor Phillip, and his introduction to civilising habits, during his visit to England, Bennelong still remains the compleat savage, given over to intemperance.

The recontre yesterday was for the purpose of inflicting punishment on Blowit, the murderer of Musquito, and on little Pigeon likewise, who had taken an active part against the deceased.

Their assailants were Bennelong, Cathai Coleby, Nanbury, Wilhamanan, and old White: a spear from the latter of whom striking the upper area of Blowit's shield, carried away the wood, and penetrated in a descending direction, nearly about an inch below the left eye through the nose, making a ghastly wound. Nearly at the same instant Pigeon received a spear through the leg.

Friends of these unfortunates were near at hand and Colinjong, likewise esteemed for his friendly disposition towards his European acquaintances, advanced with a poised spear towards Bennelong. At the

instant he was about to throw, he received a barbed weapon in the breast from Nanbury, who was concealed in a thicket. In a few seconds Colinjong expired and Nanbury and Coleby immediately fled; but Bennelong also pursuing the same course was overtaken by his adversaries, two attacking from the front and two pressing in from behind.

Those in front at length obliged him to stand, and he scarcely warded off their spears, when turning with surprising agility he caught also the spears from his two hindmost opponents.

Numbers were now coming up to assault him; flight was his only hope of security, and how he contrived to escape with a single wound was a matter of astonishment to all present.

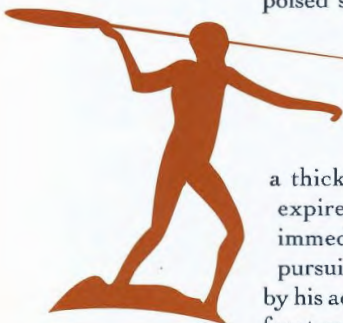
The remainder of the evening was devoted to the funeral rites of poor Colinjong, who, it is believed, will be interred today, in one of the bays near Woola-Moola.

It will be recalled, that on Thursday the day after Christmas last, a desperate contest also took place among the natives, when the opposing tribes from Broken Bay, and that living between Sydney and Botany Bay, made battle near the Military Barracks. The cause of the dispute was the latest love affair of Wilhamanan, a native remarkable for his manly courage, as well as for his outrageous manners, and who recently succeeded in taking away by force the wife of a native of the Broken Bay tribe.

For a long time, the warriors were prevented from conducting their war by the curiosity of the crowds of spectators, including most of the soldiers of the New South Wales Corps, who pressed in upon all sides. But as several Officers and Gentlemen commanded that no interruption or interference should be offered to their customs, the battle shortly after commenced, and in a few seconds, the field groaned beneath the weight of numbers falling under the waddy, whose aperient powers furnished in a twinkling of an eyelid, an unpleasant spectacle of fractured heads and half-expiring veterans.

In the initial shower of spears, which the combatants dodged with great dexterity, a private of the New South Wales Corps received one by accident in the foot.

Their mode of assault and defence with the waddy is certainly entitled to remark: for notwithstanding the most violent rage and impetuosity, yet the head is the only part guarded; every other part of the body being left open to the blow of the antagonist, who never avails himself of the advantage, but hammers at the head of him who endeavours to confer a lasting obligation on his own. The contest was truly spirited while it lasted.



(continued from page 1)

I have passed this on to the Editor, but will ensure that the manuscript will reside in the Fellowship library. This is a poem, written in prose form, that is close to my heart being historically correct and on behalf of all in the Fellowship I thank Ian for his obvious pride and enthusiasm on finding that he was a descendant of a First Fleeter.

Details of the Annual Australia Day Luncheon are to be found in this issue. Numbers are limited and I urge members to book early. The AGM ratified the proposal from the Executive that member Bonney Savill (FF Daniel Stanfield) be granted Life Membership, and this will be conferred upon her at the Luncheon.

In the last newsletter the death was reported of Keith Trevor Row and it was inadvertently reported that he was a descendant of John Herbert and Deborah Ellem. In response to a letter I received from the John Herbert Family Association I checked and found that Deborah Ellem was not the descendant but that it was Hannah Bolton. There were two John Herberts in the First Fleet and our apologies to both Herbert families for getting this wrong!!

Attention William Roberts and Kezia Brown Descendants ... Vernon Curwin of 60 Middle Harbour Rd, Lindfield NSW 2070 ph. 02 9416 7261 advises that he has copies of the now out of print first volume of *A Rich Inheritance*. At First Fleet House we have quite a number of copies of the second volume and in the past have had inquiries from members re the first volume. Both are excellent volumes about the genesis of this family in our nation.

In the last issue I made comment re First Fleet descendants and the Olympic Games. I received an interesting response from member, the Hon Max Evans (FF Edward Garth), that his son Peter received a gold medal at the Moscow Olympics in the 4 x 100 metre relay swimming event and at the same venue a bronze medal in the 100 metre backstroke. He fronted up again at the Los Angeles Games winning a bronze medal in the same events. Max also informed me that Multiplex Pty Ltd, builders of Stadium Australia, the venue of our successful Games, is owned by member John Roberts, a proud descendant of Ann Forbes. The success of members of our generation leads me to repeat a quote that I use in my talks to various service clubs in the Sydney area ... 'whatever the circumstances of their arrival, the First Fleeters soon acquired a character which is both different in their nature from their origins and similar to each other in their newly adopted land. A character with characteristics such as self reliance, initiative, and a sense of

fair play. Over succeeding generations we are still integrating those qualities handed down by our first arrivals'. Worth a thought isn't it?

I arrived back in Sydney after a few days sojourn with my family at Byron Bay to find an invitation from the Lord Mayor of Sydney to a reception for the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth at Sydney Town Hall. This was a good opportunity to put forward the precepts, aims and ideals of the Fellowship. The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth was most interested in our organisation and I was pleased to present to him some publications of First Fleet history.

On the 11 November last I attended at the invitation of the Premier, accompanied by my ten-year-old grandson, Thomas Champion, the 82nd anniversary of the end of World War I at the Cenotaph in Martin Place.

The John Small/Mary Parker Family Association gathering was held at Ryde in October. A wonderful family gathering in memory of these two First Fleeters and I was privileged to conduct their annual election of officers of that organisation. After the church service I was privileged to take part in the dedication of a stone seat in memory of these two First Fleeters.

On 12 November last, both Doug and myself, with Ron and Zona Maguire, attended the plaque ceremony in memory of Thomas Freeman FF at St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta. We had a good roll up courtesy of the Parramatta Historical Society, details of the ceremony in this issue. The President's welcome at First Fleet House on 22 October last attracted but one new member, Barry Roberts. Perhaps you may note, new and 'old' members, future welcomes to First Fleet House next year. I guarantee it is well worth a visit!! Since I last reported to

you I have spread the word to seven service clubs making a total of over 2,000 people who have heard about the First Fleet and some of our pioneers during the year and I look forward to speaking to West Beecroft Probus before Christmas. I already have a number of engagements in the New Year which will no doubt multiply before the year's end. All of us, no doubt, look forward to the coming Centenary celebrations of Federation. As yet the Fellowship has had no indication to what part it can play on 1 January. After all, without the First Fleet there would have been no Federation?

May I take this opportunity in wishing all of you, and yours, a very Happy and Holy Christmas and may it be a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

In Fellowship,
PETER

ABC TV – EDUCATION WE NEED YOU!

Are you between 8-14 years: of age?
Do you know stories about your First Fleet ancestors?
Would you like to help people learn more about First Fleeters?

ABC TV is producing a television series on Australian History. Several programs will look at the First Fleet and first settlement.

If you are between 8-14 years, a little older would be OK, then we would love to hear from you. You can be our living, breathing, walking, talking link to the past.

Please call: Marc Wheatley: Researcher
ABC TV Education
02 9950 3656



The Governor's Role



How much do we owe Governor Phillip?
A resolute, sensitive man; beginning this Nation's climb
From its primitive, disorganised conception,
To a country, now established, sublime.
His selection for the task, quietly taken;
Naval heritage, for an unusual fare –
To transfer tall ships and their cargoes
To down-under: building a penal colony there.
He would govern with patience and reason: be successful,
His adaptable personality claiming the days;
With staid mission ahead for this colony's start –
From raw beginnings, along uncertain ways.
His commission indefinite; yet to create a gaol,
Isolated and distant; so conveniently approved –
With involvements, most local, not relating to home,
But for convicts, so remotely removed.
He first raised the good flag; formal ceremony's joust
For possession, to establish foundation.
Then a hurried camp settlement, to call early musters
And from now on time's hopeful salvation.
When we think now on all Phillip's tasks, we are undaunted.
No present day thoughts could he face,
He was land-locked, and for time-span included,
Had only harsh ordeals to embrace.
Yet he sought to sustain all in outlook –
Mid food shortages, and when confronting extremes.
Though supplies from Old England were promised on time
Only time's extra delays were supreme.
He must send ships to gain more provisions,
To Norfolk, a short trip the first;
Another bold trip across oceans afar,
Besides seeking East Indies berths.
And we know now resources were near him,
Only few miles to north later found.
The Hunter, just waiting, for venturers' claim,
Where cultivation, clean water, live stock would abound.
But what his great journey with many ships
Brought to this land, and with following trips,
Was a build-up in time's speed, so slowly
For loose development, sure, yet more boldly.
His stay in command was but four years,
A gubernatorial term of short span.
Yet classic it was, to his stay here ashore,
That his presence supported growth's plan.
And if but today, and with time in reverse,
He could stand here, on land that he started first,
His permanent monument – he would know it to be
A nation's sound claim, for all to see.

Robert Wright (#2124)



FIRST FLEETER

THOMAS FREEMAN

1742-1794

The Fellowship of First Fleeters in a joint venture with the Parramatta and District Historical Society on Sunday 12 November, 2000, held a dedication service at St. John's Cemetery, Parramatta, for the attachment of a plaque on the tombstone of First Fleeter Thomas Freeman. The service commenced at 3.00pm when President Peter Christian, of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, welcomed all in attendance.

Judith Dunn, Vice-President of the Parramatta and District Historical Society, during her researches at St John's historic cemetery discovered the grave of Thomas Freeman and excitedly spread the word. Judith, who was instrumental in assembling such an enthusiastic gathering for the dedication, gave a brief exposition of the history imbuing St John's cemetery.

President of the Parramatta and District Historical Society, John McClymont gave a short history of Freeman.

Thomas Freeman joined Sirius as clerk on 25 October 1786, discharged by order of Admiral Hood from the Portsmouth guardship Ganges, where he had served as able seaman.

and agricultural implements, tallying them in and out daily. He asked for a colonial salary, as he had done this work without pay other than as on the books of Sirius.

He was discharged from Sirius on 9 July and went to Norfolk Island as deputy storekeeper on 1 August 1790 by Surprise.

Freeman returned to Port Jackson and was serving at Parramatta when he died at the age of 52 and was buried at St John's on 2 November 1794.

His tombstone reads as follows:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY
OF
THOMAS FREEMAN DEPUTY
COMMISSY
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
OCT 25 TH 1794
AGED 52 YEARS

A welcome newcomer to our historical unity, the new Rector of St John's, the Reverend David Mulready, was pleased to

give a Dedication Prayer over the gravesite of John Freeman, First Fleeter.

The Lord Mayor of Parramatta City Council, Councillor Lorraine Wearne, sent apologies for her inability to attend, her duties of office precluding her attendance.



Lady Penrhyn before they landed on the 5th. On 13 July Freeman wrote to Evan Nepean (Under Secretary of State for the Home Office) to tell of his work in charge of the laboratory

On 1 February 1788 he was appointed under commissary at Port Jackson, and as such he issued clothing to the women on Prince of Wales and



WHAT YOUR DOLLAR CAN BUY FOR YOU AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE

PRICE LIST



Car Stickers (Teaspoons, Sugar, Fluted (Tea Caddy	\$1.00 + Postage 45c \$3.00 \$2.00 + Postage \$1.00
Bottle Opener	\$2.00 + Postage \$1.00
Fridge Magnets asst. Aust. motifs	\$1.00 + Postage 45c
Cloth Badges Kangaroo, Flag, Koala etc	\$2.00 + Postage 45c
First Fleet Logo Cloth Badges	\$5.00 + Postage 45c
First Fleet Badges	\$5.00 + Postage \$1.00

FIRST FLEET 'T' SHIRTS

Adults: Navy, White, Gold	\$12.00,
XXL Gold, White only	\$13.00
Children: (6-12 years) Navy, White, Gold (state second choice colour)	\$9.00 All + Postage \$4.00

FIRST FLEET WINDCHEATERS

Adults:	\$30.00
S - White, Navy	
M - White only	
L - White only	
Children: (6, 8, 10 years)	\$18.00
White, Navy (state second choice colour)	+ Postage \$5.00

FIRST FLEET XMAS CARDS

In the Beginning	20 cents ea. or 10 for \$2.00
Plain Cards or with Verse	+ \$2.00 Post for pack 10 cards

First Fleet Ties (Members only)	\$20.00 + Postage to be added
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CHARTS

The Founders of the Nation	\$10.00 + Postage \$5.00
Macquarie's Sydney	\$3.00 + Postage \$4.00

BOOKS

<i>Where First Fleeters Lie</i>	\$22.00 + Postage \$4.00
<i>How to Trace Your Convict Ancestors</i> (Janet Reakes)	\$9.95 + Postage \$3.00 \$15.00
<i>Mobbs Muster</i>	\$5.00
<i>Memorial to a Marine (Tunks)</i>	
<i>A Rich Inheritance (Family Trees Only of Kezia</i> <i>Brown & William Roberts)</i>	\$20.00 + Postage \$8.00 \$10.00 + Postage \$6.00
<i>William Braughton & Kennedy</i>	\$7.00 + Postage \$3.00
<i>Beltona</i>	

GOODS FOR SALE AT FIRST FLEET HOUSE

105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo 2011

OFFICE HOURS
10.00am to 3.00pm
Monday to Friday

**Closing date for
copy and pictures**
Jan/Feb 2001 issue
January 28 2001

Office closed
December 19
to
January 7
inclusive

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