

PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 08 APRIL-MAY 2016

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The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826 – courtesy NLA

<p>President: Gay Hendriksen Treasurer/Public Officer: Kerima-Gae Topp Secretary: Alice Kershaw History Project and Committee: Anne Mathews Pauline Garmonsway Michaela Cameron</p>	<p>Vice President: Judith Dunn Membership Secretary: Noela Vranich Pub/Newsletter: Ronda Gaffey History Project and Committee: Beth Matthews Kerry Martin</p>
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THE PFFF CALENDAR FOR 2016 – SEE PAGE 2

NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS FRIDAY 20TH MAY AT 2:00PM

GUEST SPEAKER AT 1:30PM

VENUE: GRANVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 62 RAILWAY PARADE, GRANVILLE
(OUR TEMPORARY HOME)

PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS



It seems the more than usual warm autumn weather is reflected in the discussions over museums in Parramatta. There has been debate in the community and in Parliament about Parramatta and Western Sydney deserving a world class museum and whether the Powerhouse should move to Parramatta. One aspect agreed in discussions is the significance of the Parramatta Female Factory. To this end we have developed a living museum concept that recognises the Female Factory, placing it within the context of the state and national museums and the geographical context of North Parramatta Precinct and NSW. It is our answer to the current question of a

World Class Museum in Parramatta.

In the absence of a museum that interprets the social history of NSW or Australian identity we are putting forward the *Museum of Australian Identity*. It would function as a national resource, education, tourism and related cultural and business hive. It would respond to the indigenous, Colonial and later migration (free and forced) as well as 20th and 21st century social histories that have contributed to the Australian identity. Of course the jewel in the crown – the Parramatta Female Factory with its many stories and connections to what makes Australia. .

Urban Growth has continued with its public meetings. Our current concerns are still the proposed buildings inside the factory footprint, the multi-storey residential on the curtilage and any consideration of sale. Our tools have been and continue to be advocacy through open dialogue and protection of the site as is written in our charter. Also getting as many signatures for our current petition is a priority. This can be downloaded from our website - <http://www.parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au/advocacy-2/petitions-brochure/>

You may have seen recent publicity about Prince Charles' interest in the North Parramatta Precinct. Although we won't be asking him to be patron we have contacted his foundation and offered to be a part of any conversation that he may have with our NSW government concerning the North Parramatta Precinct and the Female Factory.

We are already preparing for the 2016 Riot Day – Friday 28th October. It promises to be the best yet. We do need many helping hands so if you think you have time to assist the committee, particularly volunteering on the day, send an email or let the committee know at the next meeting.

Soon we will be sending out nominations forms for our next AGM. If you think you have time to commit to our cause then please consider. There are 10 positions and your work is valued and important in helping ensure the survival of our Female Factory.

Last but definitely not the least is the new book on the Parramatta Female Factory put together by the Friends. It has captured the stories shared in the *Herstory* exhibition at Hambledon Cottage. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the fabulous work Ronda Gaffey has done coordinating this and the terrific work done by the committee to bring this to you. Watch this space to find out when our launch will be and then come and join us to celebrate the stories and of course buy you own copy!

Yours in community

Gay Hendriksen

NOTICEBOARD

New Membership – a warm welcome to *Diane Vernon* and apology for incorrect name being used for *the Port Macquarie and Districts Family History Society Inc* in the last Newsletter.

A warm welcome back 'on deck' to Beth Matthews, one of our intrepid researchers!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2016

Meetings – guest speaker at 1:30pm and **General Meeting** at 2:00pm

When: the 3rd Friday of every **second** month

Friday: 20th May, 15th July (AGM), 16th September, 18th November 16th December 2016

VENUE FOR MAY MEETING: Granville Historical Society, 62 Railway Terrace, Granville (5mins from station)

SPECIAL EVENT: 'IT'S A RIOT!' - Friday October 28th 2016

GUEST SPEAKER : ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR CAROL LISTON

PFFF were extremely fortunate to have Associate Professor Carol Liston (Western Sydney University) as our guest speaker at the March meeting.

Assoc. Professor Carol Liston is a thoroughly engaging speaker whose teaching, writing and research into early colonial history and the world of female convict women is much lauded.

Carol's latest research project is focused on around 4,000 women on ships sailing from England who represent about one-third of the female convict women transported to New South Wales. Her fellow researcher is a statistician who Carol said "sees things others may not" which she said is such a bonus.



Carol outlined the scope of the research in which she will be looking at case studies through the wealth of material that is available which includes criminal registers, transportation and Home Office records.

Thank you Carol for such an informative talk and for the many insights into the world of women transported.

Photo above right: Gay Hendriksen and Carol Liston



SPECIAL FILM EVENT – HOSTED BY NPRAG

(North Parramatta Residents' Action Group)

NPRAG will be showing *Zu neuen Ufern – To New Shores* (1937) directed by Douglas Sirk who is better known for his Hollywood movies of the 1950s. The story is of Gloria, a singer who is wrongly convicted of forgery (1840) and sentenced to seven years transportation. The film then weaves through a love story and life in the Colony of NSW. It is an interesting social document sharing a 1940s German interpretation of convict transportation focussing on the Parramatta Female Factory. This version is held by the National Sound and Film Archives of Australia. The screening will be at **Parramatta Riverside Theatres** on **Sunday May 22nd at 2pm**.

Also included will be guest speakers, Assoc. Professor Carol Liston (UWS) and James Findlay (USYD) who will share their perspectives.

Bookings: riversideparramatta.com.au or **02 8839 3399** (Adults \$18 Conc \$15).

THE FEMALE CONVICT SHIP, 'JOHN BULL' ARRIVES IN PORT JACKSON. RESEARCH: NOELA VRANICH (ADDITIONAL NOTES-RONDA GAFFEY)

The convict ship 'John Bull', departed Cork on 25th July 1821, carrying 80 female prisoners and their children. Also on board were 22 free women and their children, families of convicts already in N.S.W. The ship arrived in Sydney Cove on 18th December, 1821.

Surgeon William Elyard's wife, Sarah and their five children accompanied him on the voyage and his Medical Journal is one of the most detailed, interesting and instructive of all those I have copied and the voyage is an eventful one. The following excerpts come from the final days of the voyage to Port Jackson.

[Heavy seas and storms experienced 14th Dec. in Bass Strait]

Sunday December 16th... At 6 am opened the Prison Doors as usual – at 8 am attended to serving breakfast – at 9, set all convicts, passengers, etc. to rinse and dry their cloaths, also to wash their beds, blankets and pillows now being in and hoping to arrive in Sydney Cove tomorrow morning – The Officers and servants employed in drying Charts, Books, Papers, Parcels and their instruments and cloathing – Myself and family employed in drying our Chests, Cloaths, Books, Papers and Parcels and some of the women washing and rinsing the articles that were soaked with Salt Water. On opening my chest containing my surgical instruments I found an amputating and trepanning Set very much injured as the case containing them – Most of which Instruments are rendered completely useless by Rust –

Friday 21st [cont'd] - At 1 pm served out Provisions to the convicts going to Parramatta Factory – at which time they were disembarked from the Ship into Schooners appointed to take them to their destination...

On going away they all returned us their thanks for our levity and our attention to them – many of them kissing our hands as they went over the Sides-

Mr Tress, Master Builder came on board and began to knock down the Prison.... (1)



During the voyage, seasickness was widespread and a number of women were punished for their insolence and riotous behaviour – punishment included being put in the coal hole, wearing a wooden collar and irons and being confined to the hospital.

On arrival in Sydney Cove, the ship was boarded by Captain Piper who received all the letters and despatches for the Governor. This was followed two days later by Major Goulburn, the Colonial Secretary who inspected the convicts, passengers and free settlers and children. On 21st December, Major Weymuss served out 'slops' clothing to the convicts. Finally, the newly appointed Governor, Sir Thomas Brisbane, carried out his inspection of the convicts, expressing his approbation of their appearance and good order.

Women mentioned in the Surgeon's Journal include Maria Wade (transported for life), Jane Byrne, Rose Rechey and Margaret Finley. Maria's daughter, Elizabeth aged two, had supplied plasma for smallpox vaccinations; Jane, aged 58 (a soda water maker from Dublin), had been selected for the role of nurse and Rose Rechey appointed as a general schoolmistress on the voyage. Interestingly, Margaret Finley was in the female factory at the time of *the Riot* in October 1827 (3). Maria Wade further offended and in 1825 she is listed on the Government schooner 'Amity' bound for Port Macquarie. Her child was placed in the Female Orphan School. (4)

After the voyage of 'John Bull', the Surgeon, Dr William Elyard and his wife Sarah (nee Gilbert) settled in the colony. He died in 1853 in Sydney and is buried with his wife at St Peters. By all accounts he was a man of duty, 'ran a tight ship' but showed care for the women in his charge.

(1) AJCP Adm 101 Piece 38 R3199 SLNSW (ML)

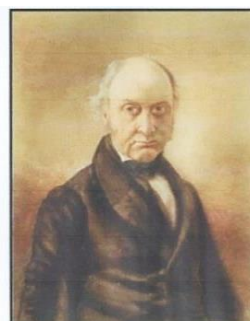
(2) http://members.optusnet.com.au/elyard_aust/wsg1771-voy.htm

(3) SRNSW

(4) Ibid

(5) Portraits of Dr William Elyard and his wife Sarah painted by their son Samuel Elyard – original watercolours are held by the Mitchell Library NSW

(5)



DESCENDANTS' CORNER – information sent to Noela Vranich from Alison Ward.

My great-great-great-great grandmother, Ann Anderson was born circa 1796 in Waterford, Ireland. In 1821 at around 25 years of age, she was convicted of larceny in County Clare and sentenced to seven years transportation to Australia. Ann was one of the eighty Irish female convicts who left Cove aboard the ship 'John Bull' on 25th July 1821.

Ann served time at the Parramatta Female Factory and the Emu Plains Convict Farm between 1821-1824/5. Her time at the Emu Plains establishment was recorded as being due to 'repeated misconduct'. Ann was sent to George Town in Tasmania sometime between January 1824 and December 1825. The exact date is not known but she was a prisoner at the George Town Female Convict Factory when she married Thomas Green on December 11th 1825. Ann and Thomas had three children: Elizabeth Ann (Annie) who was born in 1829, George born around 1830 and Thomas born in 1830. I am descended from Ann's daughter, Annie Green.

I have read the 'John Bull' Surgeon's Journal where my ancestor Ann is mentioned a number of times, usually for misconduct. I was thrilled to see her name and to read of her feisty character. Conditions in Ireland were appalling and I have no doubt that Ann, like most of the other convicts were punished for just trying to survive. I am indebted to Ann and my other convict ancestors. Without their stamina and ability to withstand extremely harsh conditions and cruel punishment, I would not be here today.

Alison Ward (Melbourne)

Source: research by Denise McMahon in the family history book, *The Pinner Family: Its Ancestors and Descendants* (2010, 2015)

Emu Plains Return of Convicts discharged from the Establishment from 1st to 31st January 1824 inclusive

<i>Names</i>	<i>Ships</i>	<i>To</i>
	<i>Women</i>	
<i>Mary Moore</i>	<i>John Bull</i>	<i>Parramatta Factory</i>
<i>Mary Beattie</i>	<i>S^o L^o L^o L^o</i>	<i>Do</i>
<i>Ann Anderson</i>	<i>John Bull</i>	<i>Do</i>

J. Macdonald Secy

Discharge Return of Convicts from Emu Plains to Parramatta – January 1824 showing the return of Ann Anderson to the Parramatta Female Factory: Source: Colonial Secretary's Correspondence 1788-1856, SRNSW

HISTORY CORNER – sent in from Alice Kershaw

In the Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser (Saturday 25th July 1818) under Government and General Orders, there is a lengthy reference to the Female Orphan Institution at Parramatta, and its management. The lives of the children were highly regulated and there were rewards:

'The children at the Age of thirteen Years or as soon afterwards as suitable Situations can be provided for them are to be bound Apprentices as servants or otherwise for five years...or until married... The children are to attend Public Worship on Sundays, at Church, clean and uniformly dressed.'

Each child on leaving the Institution is to be furnished with a Bible and Prayer Book; and in cases of exemplary good Conduct during their Apprenticeship, they will receive a Gift of a Cow on being married, as a Marriage Portion, such Marriage being approved of by the Committee...'

One wonders how many 'Gifts of a Cow' were received!



GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, SYDNEY,
25th July, 1818.

CIVIL DEPARTMENT.

THE CHILDREN belonging to the FEMALE ORPHAN INSTITUTION having been removed on Tuesday, the 30th Ultimo, to the New Building prepared for their Reception at Parramatta, His EXCELLENCY has established certain Rules and Regulations for its future Conduct and Management, a Summary of which is now published for general Information.

This Establishment is under the Patronage of His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, and Mrs. MACQUARIE; with the Assistance of four Ladies; namely, Mrs. WELDE, Mrs. FIELD, Mrs. PALMER, sen. and Mrs. M^rARTHUR, jun. as Vice Patronesses; and an Arrangement of a Committee, consisting of eight Gentlemen, viz. the Lieutenant Governor; the Judge Advocate; the Judge of the Supreme Court; the Secretary to Government; the Principal Chaplain; the Senior Assistant Chaplain; John Palmer, and Hannibal M^rARTHUR, Esquires. The Principal Chaplain acting as Treasurer: and the Secretary to Government as Secretary

MORE OF 'OUR GIRLS' PROFILES

RESEARCH: BETH MATTHEWS

ELIZABETH BROWNING OWEN PER 'MORLEY' 1821

(continuing)

On arrival, Elizabeth was assigned to the Female Factory Parramatta and her two daughters were sent to the Female Orphan School.

Elizabeth married Emanuel Marvin on 11th March 1822, who had arrived on the ship, 'Fame' in 1817. He had been assigned to Richard Rouse, the Superintendent of Government Works as a supervising carpenter. He had been granted a Conditional Pardon in 1825.

Shortly after their marriage on 21st March 1822, Elizabeth applied for the return of her daughters from the Female Orphan School but the request was refused.

In 1823 an application from Emanuel Marvin for the return of Elizabeth's two daughters, Eliza and Elizabeth (his step-daughters), was successful.

Elizabeth, Emanuel and their family lived in Parramatta and the Register of Publican Licences shows Emanuel Marvin holding the title to the General Bourke Inn, Palmer Street, Parramatta in 1833 and the Governor Bourke Inn, Church Street, Parramatta, 1834.

Elizabeth's son John Owen, who had arrived with her, aged 9, married Alice Emily Masterson at St John's Church, Parramatta on 29th July 1830. In her death notice of 1889, she is described as 'relic of Mr John Owen, coachbuilder and cabinet maker of Parramatta'.

It would appear that Elizabeth and her family found stability and success in Parramatta after her transportation.

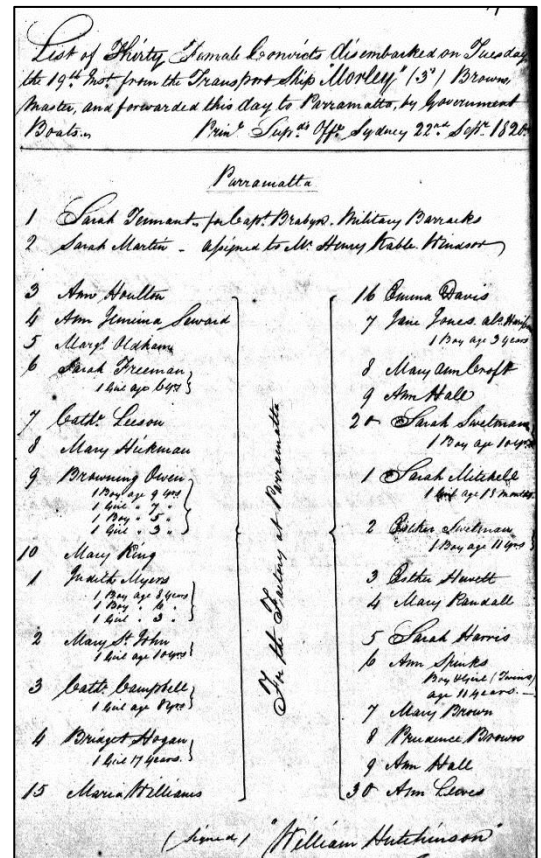
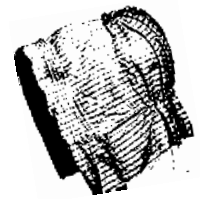
Elizabeth (Browning Owen) Marvin died on 12th August 1839 and was buried in St John's Cemetery, Parramatta. There is a headstone on her grave which reads:

SACRED MEMORY OF

ELIZABETH the Beloved Wife of
Emanuel Marvin, who departed this life
on 12th August 1839. Aged 50 years
We are not sure who next may fall
Beneath Thy chastening rod
One must be first but let us all
Prepare to meet our God.

Emanuel Marvin died 10th November, 1854 aged 68. Elizabeth and Emanuel had been together for 17 years.

Elizabeth's first husband Robert, who had remained in England following his wife's transportation with their four young children, died in December 1851, in Melling, Lancashire.



(1)



Elizabeth Marvin's headstone

Sources: SRNSW; St John's Parramatta Burial Registers

(1) List of women and children disembarked 'Morley' showing the entry for Elizabeth Browning Owen and her four children: SRNSW

STOP PRESS!

'Herstory – Lives of the Parramatta Female Factory Women' Exhibition has been extended until the end of May 2016.

Hambledon Cottage is scheduled to re-open from 16th April 2016. The Cottage is open from Thursday to Sunday 11am - 4pm. Enquiries: 9635 6924



Lucas Gallery: 'Herstory' Exhibition: photograph courtesy: Trevor Patrick

DESCENDANTS' STORIES If you have a story to tell about your ancestor who was associated with the Parramatta Female Factory, and would like it published in the PFFF Newsletter, please let us know – there are so many stories hidden away in family archives and so many more to be shared so type it up and forward to parramattafemalefactory@gmail.com (attention Ronda). Photographs are always sought as well as any interesting historical piece with factory connections that you come across in your research or historical browsing.

PFFF SALES Currently PFFF are building a small stock of sales items which help provide a modest income stream as well as assisting the promotion of the Friends and our advocacy for the Parramatta Female Factory site. There are quite delightful and popular bookmarks, designed by Anne Mathews, each one showing an aspect of the site, with a short history and ribbon as well as a promotional badge with the caption 'Herstory Matters'.

In addition to these items, a new 'product' will be on sale soon which is a book containing material from the 'Herstory – Lives of the Parramatta Female Factory' Exhibition at Hambledon Cottage. The book contains many contributions from PFFF members, our research team, new material from descendants and photographs of the women not seen before. All items are available for sale at our meetings and events.



MINISTER ROB STOKES MEETS WITH PRINCE CHARLES OVER SYDNEY DEVELOPMENTS!

The Parramatta Female Factory has captured the headlines once again – this time with no less a personage than HRH Prince Charles taking an interest and meeting with Rob Stokes in London recently (SMH 8/4/16 page 2; article by Melanie Kembrey).

The Prince's Foundation for Building Communities is an agency which provides advice on designs and community consultation processes; it was reported that the NSW government and the Foundation are planning a symposium in Sydney to discuss heritage-led renewal. Watch this space! (www.princes-foundation.org/)



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