



**PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC.
NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 66 November - December 2025**



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The Parramatta Female Factory - Augustus Earle 1826 - nla.pic-an 2818460 National Library of Australia (NLA).

Patrons: Meg Keneally & Thomas Michael Keneally AO
President: Gay Hendriksen; **Vice President/Technical Officer/Tour Coordinator:** Kevin Dodds; **Public Officer/Treasurer:** Sharyn Byrne; **General Secretary:** Jane Clain;
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Next 2025 Bi-monthly Members' Meeting: Friday 12th December at 12pm-1pm followed by Christmas afternoon tea
Venue: PFFF Rooms, 5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta.
Parking available at Parramatta Leagues Club Car Park.
Parramatta Light Rail from Parramatta Square to Ngara - short walk to site.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Factory Friends,

Welcome to the November edition of our Newsletter. Advocacy continues for the Factory - recent discussion with the office of the Hon. Murray Watts MP, highlighted the current and dire need for ongoing management of the site, financial commitment, a museum imperative and UNESCO World Heritage status.



To date, there is no public statement about either the development on Albert Street or the Parramatta North Rezoning Proposal; however we are anticipating a response before the end of the year.

'It's a Riot' 2025 was another meaningful celebration. Additions this year were a bevy of spinners from the Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW and Parramatta Clay Arts who provided an open workshop where visitors could learn to make things like the oil lamps used by convicts and early settlers. There were our signature open day tours, Nora and Sarah's Ye Olde Curiosity Shop and Matron Gordon's Tearoom pop up café with its delicious offerings.

This year, *the Annual Thomas Keneally Lecture* was given by the well-known historian and archaeologist Dr. Siobhan Lavelle OAM, who showed significant Parramatta sites as well as an insight into the processes that go into the survival of the archaeology when a development is completed. Our inaugural *Writer in Residence Program* was also completed, with Jodi Vial and Clarissa Regan sharing their creative writing and the experience of discovery.

A special moment was the presentation of a Parramatta Female Factory Friends *Honorary Life Membership* to Pauline Garmonsway, in recognition of her contribution to the Friends from its inception to the present. Congratulations Pauline - so well deserved.

I want to take the opportunity to note that our new email system is in full swing. The new general email is contact@parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au and Committee members also have new emails in their respective roles.

We are beginning to turn our thoughts to the 1827-2027 Bicentennial. It will be 200 years since the first female worker's action in the Colony. If you have any ideas for celebrating this event, please share your thoughts.

As this is the last newsletter for this year, I would like to wish you all a very merry festive season - may it be peaceful and just the way you want to celebrate it!

All the best and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Gay Hendriksen
President PFFF



Photography: Bob Cook



NOTICEBOARD

A warm welcome to new members: *Jillian Kelly, Narelle Falkenhagen, Catherine (Cate) Blum, Marcia Neely, Judith Jaye, Lee-Ann Heta, Sharmaine (Mia) Silva - family membership, Carol Riley, Dianne Turner, Jenny Joyce, Diamondo Koutsellis, Michael Rampe and the NSW Corps of Marines - group membership.*

• A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Next Bi-monthly Members' Meeting: Friday 12th December at 12pm followed by the PFFF Christmas afternoon tea with loads of good company & good cheer!

2026 - The first Bi-monthly meeting will be: Friday 20th February at 12pm, followed by afternoon tea at 1pm and guest speaker at 1.30pm.

HISTORY CORNER - Honorary Life Membership - An Inaugural Award Ronda Gaffey

On Riot Day one of PFFF's treasures, Pauline Garmonsway, was presented with *Life Membership* in acknowledgement of her longevity of service, her sustained commitment and outstanding contribution to the Friends.

Pauline was a founding member of the Friends in 2011, and has rarely missed a beat - she has been a staunch member for fifteen years and served as a Committee member from 2018 to 2021.

Pauline, a First Fleeter, is a passionate family historian with a 'family link' to the Parramatta Female Factory - her children and grandchildren are proud descendants of Matron Ann Gordon, said to be one of the most successful Matrons of the Factory (1827-1836).

Inspired by her family history, Pauline was successful in a motion being passed to establish 'The Matron Ann Gordon's Tea Room' at the Friends' Room at the Factory. In 2022 Pauline retired from her role as PFFF's Catering Manager but still maintains an abiding interest in what is happening and in supporting the 'new' Catering Team, Eileen and Jeanette from afar. The Matron Gordon's Tea Room with its special treats, is a sure hit at any event and a successful PFFF fundraiser.

Pauline has been a such a generous colleague and friend down the years and is to be congratulated on her achievements and contributions to PFFF!



Riot Day 2025



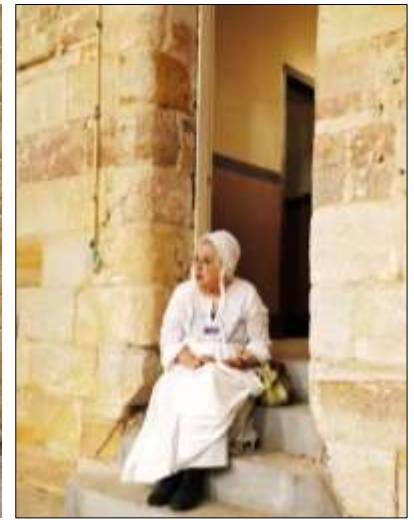
With Lyn - a *Daily Telegraph* Riot Day shoot - 2021



With colleagues - 2020

Riot Day - 2025 *Photographer Bob Cook*





*Thank You to our Wonderful Volunteers, our Loyal Supporters,
and the hard-working Committee!*

In this final 'chapter' of the *Midas* story, we have focused on the last of the 12 women who signed the letter¹ forwarded to the *Ladies Committee* by the trusted Ship's Surgeon, Dr. Charles Cameron RN².

For Mary Montague and Ann Unwin, life in the Colony was especially turbulent and for Sophia Davis, it was most tragic.

Mary Montague was born in Liverpool, England. She was tried in March 1825 at the Exeter Assizes in Devon for stealing money and was sentenced to 14 years transportation. Mary was married - her husband was a coach-builder in London. She had a daughter, Catherine, living with her sister in York³.

On 27th May 1826, within a few months of arrival, Mary appeared at the General Court Sessions Sydney, on a charge of being *absent from her service & drunk*⁴ - her punishment was three months and three days in 3rd Class at the Parramatta Female Factory. So began Mary's repeated and prolonged history of offending.

Mary's life from 1826 until April 1837 was one of constant movement. Mary was assigned at least six times with most assignments being short-lived. Mary was punished time and time again - being returned to the Government and the Factory system. Her offences ranged from absconding, to drunkenness and abusive behaviour. In January 1829, Mary was sent to Newcastle, *to be assigned*, following an appearance at the General Court Sessions in Sydney. Within two months, she was brought back to Sydney on the cutter, *Caledonian*, after being charged by the Maitland Bench with, *insubordination, insolence & abusive language* to her master and mistress. In May 1831, Mary was charged with a Colonial crime - *embezzling money* and sent to the Parramatta Factory to serve three months in 3rd Class⁵.

Records show that In 1833 Mary was living in Maitland where her application to marry William Webster was lodged - this was refused on the grounds that she was already married⁶. On the 29th November 1834, Gaol records show Mary was sentenced to 21 days in the cells - her offence is unknown. The next entry found is for 28th May 1836 when Mary was charged with *drunkenness* and sentenced to 14 days in the cells by the Maitland Bench. One year later, in April 1837, a further entry shows Mary on punishment with 14 days in solitary. A few months later, in June 1837, she was assigned to the Rev. Taylor at Liverpool⁷. In the 1837 Convict Muster, Mary is living in Goulburn, now a *Government servant* to L. McAlister⁸.

Mary received her Certificate of Freedom on the 6th February, 1840⁹. She was finally free after fifteen years in the Colony. In the following years, we wonder what her life was like. How was she living? Was she living 'rough'? Had her drinking led to a life of vagrancy?

Mary died in September, 1853¹⁰. She was aged 60. A Coroner's Inquest held at Windsor, reveals that the cause of death was: *Exposure to cold, while drunk*¹¹. Mary is buried at St. Peter's Church of England, Richmond, NSW.

Ann Unwin was born c1787. She was married and a tailor by trade. In April 1825, Ann was tried for stealing *a five pound note, thirty sovereigns, & other gold coins*, the property of John Hobbs. She was tried in Portsmouth and sentenced to seven years' transportation. Ann was accompanied by two of her children, James aged 15 and Catherine (aka Kitty), aged 11.



References:

¹The letter signed by 12 'Mariner' women prior to embarkation in Sydney Cove, dated 16 December 1825 - later printed in *the Morning Post* (London), as requested by the women; ²*British Society of Ladies for the reformation of the Female Prisoners*; ³Mathews, Anne, Matthews, Beth: *Our Girls* - unpublished work sourced from original papers, SRNSW; ⁴Sydney Gaol Description & Entrance Books 1818 - 1950, SRNSW; ⁵Ibid; 2nd March, 1831; ⁶Convict Applications to Marry - entry for Mary Montague and William Webster, ancestry online; ⁷Newcastle/Sydney Gaol Description & Entrance Books, 1818-1930, entries for Mary Montague, 1829 to 1837; ⁸Convict Muster, 1837, ancestry online; ⁹Certificate of Freedom - 40/278; Mary Montague, 5 Feb., 1840, SRNSW; ¹⁰BDM; 1218/1853; ancestry online; ¹¹Coroner's Inquest 3 October, 1853, online.

Research shows that Ann had previous convictions - her earliest conviction was when she was about seven years old. She and her mother, Catherine Osborn were on separate charges of theft - Ann was pardoned but her mother was transported per *William Pitt (1806)*¹².

Once in Sydney, Ann's life was far from settled. Her first offence was in March, 1828 when she was given the punishment of 12 hours in the cells for *neglect of work* by Matron Gordon. In August later that year, Ann was recorded as being assigned to C.A.Chambers in Sydney but returned to 2nd Class at the Factory, after two months in service. She was, it seems, unsuitable. In December 1828, Ann was returned - this time to 1st Class to await further assignment. In August 1830, Ann is again out of the Factory, assigned to Henry Ashley¹³.

Within days of arriving at Mr. Ashley's, Ann was on a charge of *insolence and refusal to work*. On the 24th of August 1830, she was back in 3rd Class for one month¹⁴.

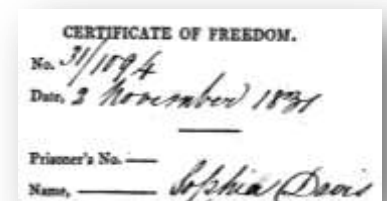
Ann's resistance to authority and her repeated offending continued in subsequent years. Her first Colonial conviction was in November 1834 when she was indicted for *stealing money* from her mistress Mrs. Barker of Hunter Street, Sydney. Ann was found guilty and sentenced to *a penal settlement for the term of her natural life*. Ann was sent to Moreton Bay where she spent the next five years *under punishment*. In May, 1839 when Moreton Bay closed, Ann was returned to Sydney¹⁵.

In 1843 and again in 1844, Ann was returned from assignment. Then in May 1846, Ann was in Sydney and on trial for *larceny* however she was discharged. In March, 1851, Ann was again before the Court. The last record found for Ann is in 1852 when she was charged with *theft*¹⁶ - she was charged with stealing *a pair of slippers* from James Bale of George Street Sydney¹⁷. Ann was sentenced to four month's hard labour. She was aged 65.

Ann Unwin is an intriguing woman. Why did she offend when she had a good trade? What happened to her children, James and Catherine? Were they cared for under the Orphan Schools system or were they cared for by their grandmother Catherine who had been transported 21 years earlier? Did James, aged fifteen, find work and care for his young sister? As yet, no death has been found for Catherine Osborn or Ann.

Sophia Davis was born in London in 1797. She was a washer woman and housemaid when she was tried at the Old Bailey in 1825, for stealing a considerable number of *gowns, petticoats, aprons etc*¹⁸.

After arriving in Sydney, Sophia was assigned and returned to the Factory on two occasions. Within two years, she married William Wadsworth aged 30 (per *Guildford 1822*), in Parramatta. In the 1828 Census Sophia is noted as *a Government Servant* assigned to James Bowman at Patrick Plains. William is also noted as working for Bowman as a blacksmith.



Sophia received her Certificate of Freedom in 1831. Four years later, Sophia and William were living at Stony Creek, Maitland. It was here, in February 1835 that Sophia was brutally assaulted by three men. As a result of their crime, they were sentenced to death. Sophia died in August, 1837¹⁹ and is buried at East Maitland. Her cause of death was recorded as: *Excessive drinking*.

The twelve *Midas* women who signed the letter of thanks to the *Ladies Committee*, expressed sincere regret for their past misdeeds and said they would never lose sight of the kind and friendly advice given to them. No matter how sincere the women were, once they were landed in Sydney and entered the Factory system, they reacted to it.

References:

- ¹²*The Hampshire Telegraph* 1804, cited in 'Ann Unwin (c1787 -) by Jan Richardson, Harry Gentle Resource Centre Griffiths University; ¹³Mathews Anne, Matthews Beth, *Our Girls* - unpublished work sourced from original papers, SRNSW; ¹⁴Gaol Description & Entrance books 1818-1930, entries for Ann Unwin; ¹⁵Ibid, entries for Ann Unwin; ¹⁶Ibid; ¹⁷Convict Records, online, entry for Sophia Davis; ¹⁸Old Bailey-online; Vicki Osborn, Research notes - Sophia Davis/Wadsworth; ¹⁹Jenni Willetts, *freesettlerorfelon.com_the_convict ship_Midas_1825* online; Harrison, Jennifer: *Shackled: Female Convicts at Moreton Bay, 1836 -1839* pub., 2016; Research notes-Midas Women, John Gaffey; BDA online.

Research Coordinator Parramatta Female Factory Friends Research Centre & Babette Smith Collection

The Research Centre continues to be a hive of activity. A particular thank you to the research team for their contribution to *It's a Riot* and of course all the hours of research and other Centre activities they do. They are usually the friendly faces you meet on a Friday - Pip, Philippa, Leslie, Gary, Ange, Christine, Luanne, Mel, Jane, Margo, Jane and Sharyn.

The volunteers, as well as being hosts in the Centre, respond to the many research inquiries and assist drop in visitors. Sorting book resources into Dewey continues by Leslie R., Pip P., Philippa C., Angela G., Christine H., Luanne F. and Lyn W. Pip M. continues setting up systems for people profiles and research procedures.



The final public program for 2025 was Kevin Dodds conducting a workshop on *Librarything*, which was a useful program specifically for registering library collections.

The Creative Initiatives Program, Part 1 - *Writer in Residence*, was coordinated by Sharyn B. and completed with presentations of creative work on Riot Day. The results will be available shortly for access in the Research Centre.

The Research Centre's copying project, a collaboration with State Archives of NSW, is progressing with the Colonial Secretary's Correspondence to individuals currently being copied.

The Parramatta Clay Arts research project is forging ahead. The 3D imaging of Factory clay pipes and some building facades done recently, can be viewed in the Research Centre.



We have also received a very special Prayer Book that belonged to a Female Factory woman, *Sarah Barrell per Lord Melville 1817*. It had its first viewing on Riot Day.

Sarah's name is written on an inside page in exquisite Copperplate script with the date 1804. The Prayer Book can be seen in a display cabinet in the Member's Room.



Our Factory women's list continues to grow, so please keep those names and stories coming in. You can give them directly to us at the Research Centre or email gayhendriksen@parramattafemalefactoryfriends.com.au and put 'Research Centre' in the subject field.

Recently the Research Team visited Camden Park House and met the Archives team there. This was a great opportunity to compare how we do things and to see some amazing objects that are not usually on display.



A day in the life of...

There are numerous snippets of life in the Colony in the newspapers of the day and in December 1825, there are advertisements informing readers of changed hours of business at the Bank, notices alerting parents to when school re-opens and some Christmas ideas... at least for drinks and treats:

BANK, 20th DECEMBER, 1825

NOTICE,---The Cash Office will be CLOSED
on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 26th, 27th, and 28th Inst. being the Christmas Holidays. And on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 2d, 3d, and 4th January next, for balancing the Half-yearly Accounts.

Bills, for Discount, will be received on Thursday, 29th December, and Thursday, 5th January; and Answers given the same Day.

A. K. MACKENZIE, Secretary.

SYDNEY, 10th DECEMBER, 1825.

THE Committee of the Australian Agricultural Company having been instructed to demand a further Instalment of Two Pounds Sterling per Share, the Proprietors, resident in the Colony, are therefore requested to pay the Amounts respectively due, into the Bank of New South Wales, on or before Saturday the 31st Instant, in Spanish Dollars, at Five Shillings each, with Fifteen per Cent. Premium.

By Desire of the Committee,
T. C. HARRINGTON, Secretary.

MR. GILBERT M'LEOD

DESIRES to announce to Parents and Guardians, that his SCHOOL will Re.open on Tuesday, 3d January, 1826, when the following Branches of Education will be taught at his Seminary, as formerly:---Reading and English Grammar; History, Geography, Writing, and Arithmetic; Practical Mathematics, including Geometry, Plane Trigonometry, Mensuration of Heights and Distances, Surfaces and Solids; the Theory of Navigation, Land Measuring, Gauging, Gunnery, &c.

Mr. M'Leod confidently trusts, that his unrearied Attention to the Education of his Pupils, and to their moral Improvement, will not fail to secure to him a Continuation of Public Patronage.

13, Phillip-street, 24th December, 1825.

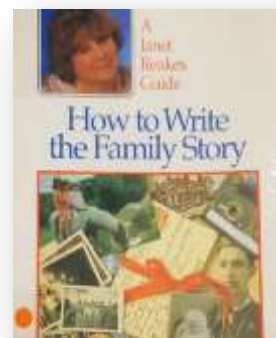
Good read and online history adventures...

This issue's good read is: A Janet Reakes Guide *How to Write Your Family Story*. The Centre has a number of guides to help you start your family history story and what better time than the holiday season coming up!

Of course you can find digital and other resources in the PFFF Research Centre and Babette Smith Collection - we can help you help yourself in your history and family history discovery! For a useful link try:

<https://eresources.sl.nsw.gov.au/log-logs-volumes-123-ian-nicholson>

This is a 3 part classic pdf of the *Ian Nicholson Log of Logs*, a great reference to all shipping, convict and free.



This was my first attendance at the Parramatta Female Factory for Riot Day. Of the 24,960 women convicts transported to Australia, many thousands were processed through the Factory system at Parramatta. The stories of all these women, banished from family, friends and everything they had ever known, matters to me. I want to rail with them against unjust sentences and punishments, poor treatment, abuse, grief and monotonous labour.

The experience of each woman was different. I mourn those who suffered these injustices and did not recover. But I also want to celebrate the feisty spirit, resilience, mateship, and contempt for overbearing authority of the women so visually demonstrated on that first Riot Day, 27 October 1827. These attributes and values, refined though the ordeal of transportation, were undoubtedly passed on to their children. Look here amongst the women, as Gay (PFFF President) has urged, for the genesis of an Australian spirit tinged with larrikinism.

The experiences and trauma of the convict women are akin to that of many migrant women and refugees who have come to Australia in recent decades. This is why the Nation must celebrate and commemorate Riot Day. This should be our National Women's Day.

On a personal level, I commemorate my two great grandmothers who were victims of the transportation system and the Factory system at Parramatta. My great-grandmother (x3) Mary Armstrong, per *Mary Anne* 1839, from Somerset, England, passed through the new Female Factory (a Governor Macquarie commission 1821 - 1848). My other great-grandmother (x4) was Jane Walker, per *Marquis of Cornwallis* 1796, from Dublin, Ireland. Jane with her two youngest children had been at the first Female Factory above the gaol on Gaol Green (now Prince Alfred Square) in 1814. I lay flowers for each of them and for all the other women, at the Commemorative Wall. The Wall is within the substantial remains of the new Factory still nestled in a recognisable Colonial landscape and skyline at North Parramatta. This is a special place where I and many others continue to feel the corporeal presence of the women. The turret clock (c1821) still chimes to call the women to work. They are not forgotten.

But today I am not the only person laying flowers for Jane Walker. I was excited to be introduced to Julie Taylor, another great granddaughter of Jane Walker. Julie is a descendant of Jane Walker from her relationship with fellow Irish convict Owen Farrell. Julie is descended from Elizabeth Walker/Farrell, daughter of Jane and Owen.

Jane Walker had another relationship with an English convict, Henry Curtis. Jane and Henry had a son Charles William Curtis and I am descended from this son. When Jane Walker died in 1838, she had at least 38 known grandchildren. As she never married any of the fathers of her children in the Colony, it is possible that she had been married in Ireland and there may be many more descendants in Ireland and a story yet to be told.

Charles William Curtis and Sarah Ann Fuller (son and daughter-in-law of Jane Walker) had 16 children. Their daughter Martha Curtis b. 12 May 1850, is Jane Walker's granddaughter.

Much has already been written about Jane Walker, including: *Jane Walker c1765 - 1838 - A Matriarch of Colonial Parramatta and her Family* by Malcolm R. Sainty (1996). There is also a 1996 publication: *Known Descendants of Jane Walker (c1765 - 1838)*: Compiled by Beverley Booth.

Fig.1. Photograph: Julie Taylor and Jane - generational cousins - Riot Day 2025.

Fig.2. Photograph of Martha Hill (nee Curtis) c.1916 in Parramatta with two of her grandchildren. My grandmother, Esme Jean (known as Jean) Hill b. 1912 is standing on the bench beside Martha, and my grandmother's sister Beryl Blanche Hill b. 1911, is the other child.



Fig.1



Fig.2



The Friends were so fortunate to have Dr. Siobhan Lavelle OAM delivering the Annual Thomas Keneally Lecture this year. Siobhan is a historical archaeologist and heritage consultant and knows Parramatta so well.

Siobhan began her presentation with describing the multiple phases of archaeology in Parramatta from Deep Time and European settlement. Following archaeology testing in 2017, many artefacts of the North Parramatta site and surrounding area were revealed. Perhaps the most fascinating finds were two infant burials at the Old General Hospital site in Parramatta (c1804).

It was interesting to learn that the Phillip Ruddock Heritage Centre at 45 Macquarie Street Parramatta has an extraordinary archaeology collection. We are also very lucky to have some archaeological finds on display in our Rooms. Thank you Siobhan for such a detailed and informative talk.



BI-MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKERS' PROGRAMME - 2025

Lyn Watkins

GUEST SPEAKER: Sue Castrique TOPIC: *Gentlemen and Convicts at Cockatoo Island*

What a terrible history about a lovely island - once called White Island and Bird Island, Cockatoo Island became a penal settlement in 1839 - it was a place of cruel punishment, corruption and intrigue.

Charles Ormsby was Superintendent for 18 years (1841- 1859). During his time, prize fighting was illegal in Town, and Ormsby, known as 'the Convict King', well and truly 'bent the rules' with bare knuckle fights held behind closed doors. Cockatoo Island was his kingdom and no visitors were allowed unless approved by him.

Cockatoo Island was the last penal settlement and for much of the time it was over-crowded with two to three men per cell. Solitary cell access was from above, with the men being dropped in from the ceiling, the cells had only a small slit for fresh air. Escapes were attempted approximately every two months.

In 1869 convicts were removed and the establishment became *Biloela Industrial School for Girls* (1871-1887). In 2010 the site gained UNESCO World Heritage listing.

Thank you Sue for such a fascinating talk and for your wonderful research.

Sue's book, *'Under the Colony's Eye - Gentlemen and Convicts on Cockatoo Island'* (2014) was awarded the Kay Daniel's Prize for outstanding original research by the Australian Historical Association.



Photography: Lyn Watkins

Saturday 1st November proved to be a really successful day despite the threat of heavy rain and the odd sprinkle. Hambledon Cottage Reserve was alive with all manner of activities - the most popular attractions were the Cobb and Co. coach (stationary, but an opportunity for photos), face painting, bubble blowing and house tours. There was plenty to interest everyone with music, various market and food stalls. PFFF had great success with lots of interest in our unique merchandise and in 'spreading the word' about Parramatta's history and heritage and hidden gems such as the Factory!

It was great to see PFFF members wearing their 'other hats' - Judith with her interesting collection of artefacts, Kerima-Gae on the Combined Parramatta Cemeteries stall and Jacqui on the Parramatta & District HS book stall - all doing a 'roaring trade'!

Thanks to Lyn and Raelene for all their support and promotion of PFFF. Thanks to Jane who dropped by to lend a hand and to Ronda whose talk on the convict women of Parramatta, was very well received.

Apart from helping out on our stall, I was also able to focus on critical advocacy for the Parramatta Female Factory & Institutions site, taking the opportunity to engage with CoP Councillors past and present and with our State Member for Parramatta, Donna Davis MP.

Parramatta and its Heritage and History were well and truly celebrated!



Photography: Ronda Gaffey

For the last Members' Only Morning Tea of the year, the Rooms were truly buzzing. Old acquaintances and new, chatted away, sharing stories, looking up ancestors and indulging in such a sumptuous morning tea. There is something especially satisfying drinking tea from a cup and once again, Eileen and Jeanette spoiled us, providing the fine china and the treats.

Thank you to Membership Secretary Lorraine, for her commitment to this Friends' members' initiative.



Photography: Jane Clain

THERE IS ALWAYS A SERENDIPITY...!

At any Friends' gathering, a simple question might be asked: *Who are you related to?* And when a connection is made, it is a moment of pure joy for any family historian!

When Janet Pezzutto asked that question to someone sitting next to her, she was floored when she heard, 'Sarah Ellison...' Janet replied, 'Me too!'

Janet and Susan share a common line of descent from Isabella Ellison per *Brothers (2)*, 1827 and her daughter Sarah, born in the Factory Hospital.

There was so much to talk about!



Susan Soletto & Janet Pezzutto

Isabella and Sarah's story has been published in the PFFF Bicentenary Book - History Herstory Ourstory...p.71

2026	PFFF MEETINGS - DATES &	EVENTS & ANNIVERSARIES
January	Newsletter 16 th Committee Meeting	
February	<p>Committee Meeting</p> <p>Friday 20th Guest Speaker</p> <p>General Meeting</p>	<p>1st Feb. St Brigid's Day - 205th Anniversary of the occupation of the <i>new</i> Factory 1821</p> <p>Riots: 3.2.1831; 24.2.1843</p>
March	<p>IWD EVENT - FRIDAY MARCH 13th</p> <p>Newsletter 20th Committee Meeting</p> <p><u>Workshop: TBA</u></p> <p><u>Members' Morning Tea</u></p>	<p>Riot: 7.3.1833</p> <p>Sun. 8th March - International Women's Day</p>
April	<p>Committee Meeting</p> <p>*Friday 17th Guest Speaker - ANTHF Event</p> <p>General Meeting</p>	<p>Australian (National Trust) Heritage Festival</p> <p>Fri. 18th April - Sun 18th May</p>
May	<p>Newsletter 15th Committee Meeting</p> <p>May - National Trust Heritage Festival TBA</p> <p><u>Workshop TBA</u></p>	<p>DPHI Open Day/NT Heritage Festival Event at Factory site. TBA</p>
June	<p>Friday 18th Committee Meeting</p> <p>Guest Speaker</p> <p>General Meeting</p> <p><u>Members' Morning Tea</u></p>	<p>AGM PREPARATION</p>
July	<p>Newsletter 17th Committee Meeting</p> <p><u>Open Day - Macquarie Anniversary Fri 11th July</u></p> <p><u>Workshop TBA</u></p>	<p>Wed. July 9th 208th Anniversary - Gov. Macquarie laid the foundation stone for the <i>new</i> Factory.</p>
August	<p>Friday 21st Committee Meeting</p> <p>AGM</p>	<p>History Week (August) TBA</p>
September	<p>Newsletter 17th Committee Meeting</p> <p><u>Workshop TBA</u></p> <p><u>Member's Morning Tea</u></p>	<p>NSW & ACT Assoc. of Family History Soc. Annual Conference TBC</p>
October	<p>Friday 17th Committee Meeting</p> <p>Guest Speaker:</p> <p>General Meeting</p> <p>RIOT DAY - 199th Anniversary Event TBA</p> <p>The Annual Thomas Keneally Lecture</p>	<p>Riots: 27.10.1827; 11.10.36</p>
November	<p>Newsletter 20th Committee Meeting</p> <p><u>Workshop TBA</u></p>	<p>Parramatta Foundation Day Festival TBC</p> <p>Riot: 29.11.1831</p>
December	<p>Friday 11th Committee Meeting</p> <p>General Meeting</p>	<p>* (2nd Friday) PFFF Christmas Afternoon Tea</p>

Season's Greetings

To All

