



## PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY FRIENDS INC. NEWSLETTER – ISSUE NO: 56 MARCH-APRIL 2024



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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pffriends/>

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCON2Yp3db1AgVLHc7JdmXxQ>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com.au/parramattafemalefactoryfriends/>



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:** Frank Williams

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**Committee:** Site Watch: Judith Dunn OAM, **Editor/Publicity Officer:** Ronda Gaffey,

**Tour Coordinator:** Anne Mathews, **Membership Secretary:** Lorraine Henshaw

**Minutes Secretary/Guest Speaker Co-Coordinator:** Lyn Watkins, **Guest Speaker Co-Coordinator:** Janice Ruse Huntington

**Next Meeting:** **Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2024. Guest Speaker at 1pm**  
followed by afternoon tea at 2pm. **General Meeting at 2.15pm**  
**Venue:** PFFF Rooms, 5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta.

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Factory Friends,

Welcome to our Autumn edition of the Newsletter. I am just watching beautiful butterflies passing my window and can't help thinking of the enormous distances they travel, which of course puts me in mind of the distances travelled by all those involved in the Female Factory, both before and after the Factory. The changes they would have seen!



The Factory Friends will be noticing a change. Our longstanding member Anne Mathews is moving on to a different part of her journey so we wish her all the best in her future endeavours. I first met Anne at the Parramatta Heritage Centre and one of the major projects she worked on with me was the *Women Transported* Exhibition, for which she was a valued researcher. She and Beth Matthews joined me in the early advocacy for the Factory and the establishment of the Friends. She went on to make significant contributions to advocacy, tirelessly gathering petitions and promoting the cause. Anne has been a Committee member, fulfilling many roles, the most recent being Tour Coordinator. She has provided great knowledge sharing through tours, talks, stalls, stock development, contributions to *Herstory* displays, research and newsletter articles. Her passion and stellar commitment to the Female Factory is to be commended and will be remembered. Thank you Anne.

We are continuing with our advocacy. World Heritage and museum are our primary focus at this time.

On a social note we had our first Members' Morning Tea, the brainchild of our Membership Secretary, Lorraine Henshaw. It was a lovely event. We all got to know each other better and shared quite a few stories with descendants - it was quite a history lovers' 'fest'. It was followed by a short walk around our building and a sharing of its history. I would like to thank Eileen Avery and Jeanette Moles for making the morning happen with delightful edibles of all kinds and to Lorraine for a wonderful idea – looking forward to the next one.

On the subject of activities for tours, you now contact our new Tour Coordinator Kevin Dodds. Thank you Kevin for taking up this position. There are three other kinds of activities coming up soon. First, there will be a Seniors' Week Open Day at the Friends' Rooms. Then there is a wonderful talk (a PFFF National Trust event) by Heather Garnsey, a descendant of Matron Fulloon/Raine. Heather gives great insight into this significant individual in Factory history and she is also a great family historian. The third is the first of a two-part workshop on straw plaiting facilitated by Lyn Watkins which will give a different kind of insight into the lives of the Factory woman...and you make your own authentic bonnet.

The Factory Friends just keep on moving from strength to strength with more visitation, increased membership, more volunteer activities, more tours, more fun.

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

Gay Hendriksen, President PFFF

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**A warm PFFF welcome to new members:** Philip Moore, Holly Brooks, Anny Ventura, Peter Maxwell, Jania Caris Leon, Emma Sinfield, Philip Shepherd and Christopher Weeks.

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## NOTICEBOARD

- **NEXT MEETING: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024** with Guest Speaker, Heather Garnsey at 1pm - Topic: *'Elizabeth Fulloon, later Raine Matron - Superintendent, Parramatta Female Factory 1824-1827'. How did the wife of a London schoolmaster find herself appointed as the first female superintendent at Parramatta? How should we remember her time at the factory? And did her actions really lead to the riot in October 1827?*

Heather is a direct descendant of Matron Fulloon - her talk is an Australian Heritage (National Trust) Event and one not to be missed! Eventbrite bookings: <https://tinyurl.com/ypvbb83t>

**Heather's talk will be** followed by afternoon tea with the General Meeting at 2.15pm.

- **Dates for your Diary** - check out the PFFF 2024 Calendar page 12; there are numerous talks and workshops, Festivals and commemorations to enjoy as well as anniversaries to observe. Checkout the historic **Linnwood House** Open Day on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. - [www.linnwood.org.au](http://www.linnwood.org.au)
- Note the **Hambledon Cottage Bicentenary celebrations** begin on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024** - come along, call in at the PFFF stall, check out the various week-long activities planned at the Cottage - [www.hambledoncottagemuseum.org.au](http://www.hambledoncottagemuseum.org.au)
- **The Australian Heritage Festival (National Trust) begins** on 18<sup>th</sup> April. **Open Day** at the Factory & Institutions site courtesy DPE is **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** - this is another day not to be missed!

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### HISTORY CORNER - If Only These Stones Could Talk!

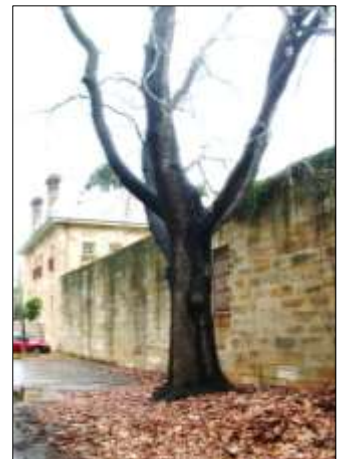
Ronda Gaffey

Whenever I walk through the Factory site and the various yards, I wonder what life would have been like for the convict women and their children.

The substantial sandstone walls, their colours and varying hues of pink, mauve and titian, never fail to attract the eye but also tug at the heart.

Occasionally there is a surprise or two - there are a few remnant blocks here and there, relics from previous site construction.

Recently I got up from sitting on a sandstone block near the Bicentenary Commemorative Wall - I brushed myself off, then turned round and saw them - three stones with a mark - an arrow. I am now intrigued...!



The Parramatta Female Factory site.



## Martha Shaw - From Stepney, London to the Hawkesbury, NSW

The convict ship ‘*Brothers*’ arrived in Port Jackson on Friday 7 May 1824 after landing a cargo of women in Tasmania. **Martha Shaw** was one of the women to disembark in Sydney Cove. Martha was young and described as ‘indifferent’ and ‘turbulent’<sup>1</sup> by Surgeon Superintendent Dr. James Hall, however there is no reference to her being involved in the attack on him\*. She may well have been resentful and defiant whilst on board for such comments to be made.

**Martha Shaw** and Ann Powell, were both 15 years of age and the youngest women on the convict ship *Brothers* which sailed from London Docks in November 1823. They were ‘partners in crime’ yet their lives in the Colony took different paths and both are tinged with tragedy.

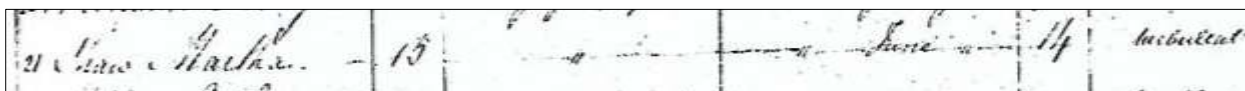
Martha and Ann were tried at the Old Bailey and charged with the serious crime of *Larceny with a person*. Their sentence was 14 years transportation.



Stepney, London 1800s.

At their Old Bailey trial, the girls were charged with stealing a hat with the value of 10 shillings, the goods of George Davis, from the person of Elizabeth Davis who was seven years old. In her testimony, Elizabeth accused Martha and Ann of following her to the Stepney Fair - Elizabeth tried to evade them but the pair caught up with her, Martha grabbed her hat, shouted a ‘wicked word’ at Ann Powell and they ran off. Both were soon apprehended<sup>2</sup>.

On 27<sup>th</sup> June 1823, the girls were sent to Newgate to await embarkation. They waited until 20<sup>th</sup> November to embark the convict ship *Brothers* at London Docks. In the Convict Indents, Martha is described as a housemaid, aged 15; year born - 1806; native of London; height 4ft 8 ½; eyes hazel; hair dark brown; complexion - fresh, freckled; remarks - Indifferent<sup>3</sup>.



Ann Powell disembarked along with 38 other women in Hobart and spent the next 11 years in and out of the George Town and Cascade Female Factories being charged with numerous Colonial crimes. There is a death recorded in Hobart for Ann Powell, aged 33, buried 30<sup>th</sup> July 1835, ‘from the factory’...

Shortly after arrival in Sydney, Martha was assigned to William Nicholls at Wilberforce. However she was not happy and in September, 1824 having been ‘on the run’, she was caught and sent to the Parramatta Female Factory for the crime of *absconding*.

In the NSW General Muster 1825, Martha is noted as employed at the Parramatta Female Factory however her time in the Factory was short lived. She was resident in 1<sup>st</sup> Class in 1826.

A letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1826<sup>4</sup>, written on behalf of Thomas Wells and addressed to the Superintendent of the Parramatta Female Factory reads:

*I reside at Lower Portland, and hold 20 acres of land, which I cultivate for my own support, I am a bachelor, I enjoy the indulgence of a Ticket of Leave and I am in for a wife and pray the indulgence to be allowed to select one from the factory at Parramatta. I will adieu. Your most obedient, very humble servant,  
Thomas (his x mark) Wells.*

### References:

<sup>1</sup>List of Female Convicts arrived at Sydney on the Ship *Brothers* May 1824, Colonial Secretary Papers 1788-1825; <sup>2</sup>Old Bailey Proceedings online - Trial Martha Shaw and Ann Powell - reference t18230625-41; online; <sup>3</sup>Convict Indents &c; Repository: SRNSW ref; Vol number 4/4009 Vol entry 55, entry for Martha Shaw per *Brothers* 1824; <sup>4</sup>Colonial Secretary's Papers Reel 702 4/1791;

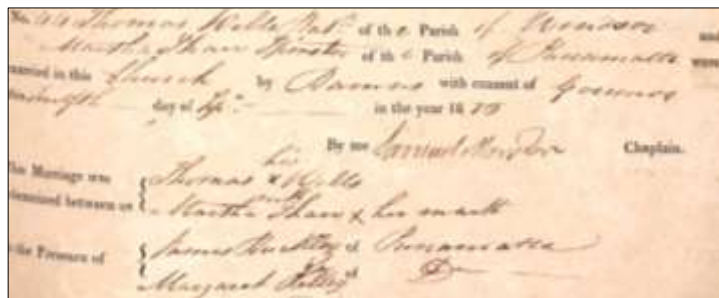
\* Dr. James Hall was set upon by six convict women whilst the *Brothers* was en route to NSW - article, PFFF Newsletter No: 55 Summer 2024.

Thomas' application was supported by John Grono, ex-mariner an early Hawkesbury pioneer and Archibald Bell, a military officer and magistrate.

Thomas was most eligible - he had land, he could support a wife and had the recommendation of two eminent gentlemen. Thomas was certainly motivated since he had received his TOL on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1826, only a few days before his application to select a wife from the Factory. One might wonder if Matron Fulloon invited young Martha to the Meeting Room at the Factory for the 'line up', seeing a good opportunity for her.

Thomas was a Ticket of Leave man who had arrived in 1815, aged 17 per the convict ship *Baring* - his crime was *burglary* - the theft of a 'looking glass'.

Thomas and Martha were married at St. John's Parramatta on 12<sup>th</sup> July, 1826 with the Reverend Samuel Marsden officiating<sup>5</sup>. Both the bride and groom signed the register with their mark - their witnesses were James Buckley and Margaret Kelley - it is possible that Margaret and Martha had met whilst in the Factory - there is a Margaret Kelley who arrived per *Granada* in September, 1824.



Thomas and Martha are both listed in the 1828 Census - Martha is noted as a 'Govt Servant' so she was 'bond' to her husband Thomas who is listed as the householder. They were living at Webbs Creek, Lower Portland.

Together they had seven children between 1828 and 1842. It would appear that life was prosperous - Thomas had risen in rank - he was described as a *labourer* at his trial and now was a man of *property* with substantial crops, livestock and employees. Then something happened and life for them both took another turn. Martha left Thomas and her family to live with James Crawley with whom she had a son in 1845 - sadly the child died in 1849.

So far, no death has been found for Martha Wells. There is however a reference to the possibility of her death in mysterious and tragic circumstances. Family history researchers have an oral history account that Martha left home to gather fire wood and never returned<sup>6</sup>. It is a chilling end to a life.



Thomas and Martha's daughters -  
Martha Clare Wells born 1834 (L)  
Mary Ann Woodbury (née Wells) born 1840 (R)<sup>7</sup>



The Hawkesbury River - 1800s.

#### References:

<sup>5</sup> St. John's Parramatta, Marriage Register, 1790-1966 - Vol. 02 p11, no 44 - entry for Martha Shaw and Thomas Wells  
Thomas Wells; Convict Records by Peter Merry online geni.com; Thomas Wells;

Convict Records by Phil Hands online geni.com;

<sup>6</sup> GSQ Blog. The Story of Martha Shaw by Bev Murray - 3xgreat granddaughter of Martha Wells;

<sup>7</sup> Photographs: Convict Records; Shaw/Wells family tree online; managed by Peter Merry;

*Our Girls* - unpublished work, by Anne Mathews and Beth Matthews, sourced from original papers, SRNSW;

Additional research, John Gaffey.

Our wonderful Research Centre is going from strength to strength. One reason is the fact we have new volunteers to help make it the best place to discover the Factory and the life surrounding the Female Factory women. I would like to welcome new research team members, Gerry Adolphe, Holly Brooks, Gary Carter, Philippa Crosbie and Linda Rae. Each person brings a special talent to the centre.

Now the book collections are fully listed, we are focusing on recording our archival material, developing the Dewey decimal system, registering CDs, microfilm, microfiche and developing our digital collection of documents and visual records collection. All of this is preparation for our official opening later in the year. Our next Research Centre workshop will be part one of two and is a practical workshop on straw plaiting and making your own convict bonnet. We often focus on the spinning and weaving at the Factory, but straw plaiting was an integral part of the Factory women's activities. This is a rare opportunity to learn a lost trade that was a part of many 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century homes in Britain and is part of the Factory story.

Don't forget If you have a resource, an object or have research you would like to share related to the Female Factory women, the site or the world the Factory women inhabited, please contact me at [parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com) with Research Centre in the subject field. This is the same email as the one where you can share information about your ancestors.

Our Factory women's list continues to grow, so please keep those names and stories coming in. You can give directly to us at the Research Centre or email it to: [parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:parramattafemalefactoryfriends@gmail.com) and put 'Research Centre' in the subject field. That way we can ensure they are shared with all Australians.

Members get one hour free research. All research inquiries are responded to by appointment. You can either request a booking through our gmail or ask a volunteer to book you in when you come to the next Friends' meeting. If you don't live in Sydney you can contact us and we can provide an hour of research on an agreed direction through an online or phone conversation. The Research Centre is open from 10am to 2pm on Fridays by appointment.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Friends rooms including the PFFF Research Centre and Babette Smith Collection!



Researchers Lyn Watkins, Lorraine Henshaw and Gay Hendriksen.

## CATO CAROLINE CLEMENS - A JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND REDEMPTION

Kevin Dodds: Researcher Parramatta Female Factory Friends Research Centre



Caroline's parents were Edward William Robert Ross Brennan, born about 1780 in County Mayo, Ireland; a hatter by occupation, and Dorothy Cato-Clemens. Caroline was born on 1 January 1817 at Minola, County Mayo, Ireland. Tragedy befell the family when Edward died on 20 March 1831 at Kilmore Moy, Mayo and Sligo, Ireland, leaving Dorothy and her teenage daughter Caroline to fend for themselves.

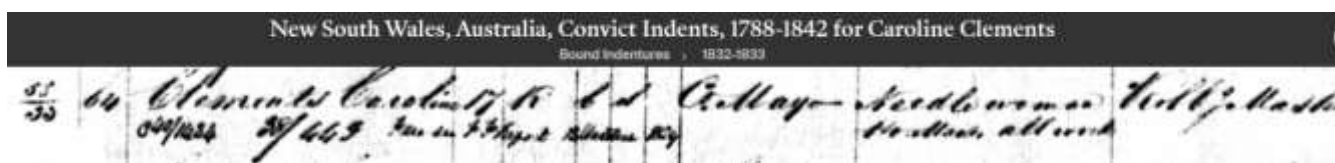
It is believed that Caroline, then aged 15, may well have travelled alone to England in January 1832. There is no evidence that her mother went with her, as records indicate Dorothy died in Mayo, Ireland.

A record of some concern is that Caroline was charged with *Attempted Suicide* and appeared before the Hartford Court, Cheshire, on 3rd April 1832 - her sentence was what is called a *Good Behaviour Bond* (which still exists today). Caroline's bond conditions were that she was to enter into her own recognisance in \$20 pounds and two Sureties, in \$10 pounds each, for the keeping of the peace for twelve calendar months. This appears to be credible as Hartford happens to be on the journey from Ireland to London, England. Something was troubling young Caroline and the giant task of fending for herself and earning a living may have been taking a toll.

Caroline arrived in London, England and was employed as a housekeeper and needleworker for Mr Samuel Ennis, a hatter of Red Lion Street, Holburn, London. On 1st May 1832, Henry Dew, the errand boy, disclosed to his master that a hat was missing from the six he had removed from the window to the counter - upon investigation by Constable William Osborn; this was later found wrapped in a handkerchief. Caroline, on being questioned by Osborn explained:

*I brought it down to take a pattern; I wrapped it up in the handkerchief and for fear of my master knowing it, I put it by.*

Now remember, Caroline's father was also a hatter, and she may have intended to make a pattern, make a hat and then perhaps sell it on. However plausible this might be, Caroline was convicted in the Old Bailey on 17th May 1832 at 17 (birth records indicate she was only 15); she was given a sentence of seven years transportation to the Colony of New South Wales.



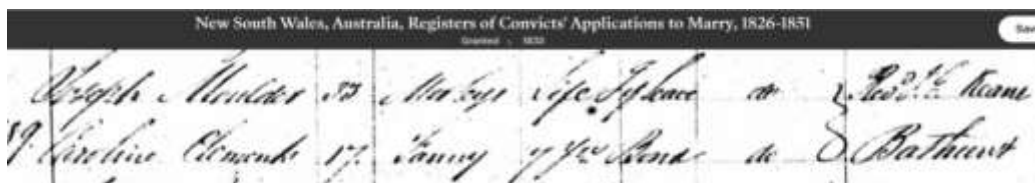
Caroline languished in Newgate Prison until she boarded the convict ship *Fanny* on 14 July 1832. The voyage was not without incident - eight of the 108 female convicts died on the voyage, however the nine children on board survived the journey.

After their arrival in Sydney Cove on 2 February 1833, all female convicts were sent to the Parramatta Female Factory. However, sixteen female convicts were chosen to be forwarded to the Bathurst Female Factory. It was reported that the same cart with the prison box that usually transported the female convicts from Sydney to Parramatta, was used. Caroline would have reboarded the cart along with 16 other female convicts for the long seven day trip to Bathurst.



It is again reported that some female convicts were assigned immediately to landholders in the Bathurst and Orange areas. There is no doubt that Caroline's needlework skill and her ability to run a house had not gone unnoticed, as she was employed in the Bathurst / Orange area.

It was not long before Caroline caught the eye of Joseph Moulder, who, on 8 June 1833, had sought to marry Caroline. Joseph was an 18-year-old labourer when he was transported to Australia per *Morley* in 1817. His past was marked by a conviction for pickpocketing (a handkerchief) in London. Despite their troubled backgrounds, fate had brought them together. The application to marry was granted and they were married on 21 June 1833.



Joseph worked hard, becoming a squatter with several runs. He prospered during the gold rush era by selling animals to miners. Caroline supported him, raising their growing family, and without question, their love for each other endured through trials and triumphs.

Once married, Caroline and Joseph (Joe) settled on a government grant of land, which is now East Orange. Caroline was kept busy raising their twelve children of whom three died in infancy and another three died in their early twenties. Caroline was child bearing for 22 years, from the time she was 17 years of age until she turned 39. Caroline's legacy as a mother was 32 grandchildren and over a hundred great-grandchildren, and she is considered a celebrated early pioneer of New South Wales.

As a side note, Joseph (Joe) and Caroline were friends and acquaintances with Ben Hall, the bushranger. Joseph (Joe) and Caroline were present at the wedding of Ben Hall & Biddy Walsh at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Bathurst in 1856. Joe was good friends with Biddy's father, another ex-convict who was a neighbour to one of Joe's squatting runs (which was also close to Ben Hall's holding south of Forbes).

Joseph and Caroline's legacy lives on. Their contributions to the development of Bathurst and the broader Australian community are remembered. Their descendants carried their spirit of resilience and determination. One of their grandsons, Hon. Henry Clemens Moulder, served as a legislator in the Upper House of the N.S.W. Parliament from 1934-1946.

Caroline Cato Clemens, once a young convict, transformed her life through love, family, and hard work. Her story reminds us that redemption and second chances are possible, even in the harshest circumstances.



Cato Caroline Moulder



Grave inscription:

**To the Memory of Joseph Moulder...**

Also...his wife, Catto Caroline  
died Jan 2, 1908, aged 94 years.  
'She hath done what she could'



Joseph Moulder





Endsleigh House - Orange - built by Joseph Moulder c1858 - today, occupied by descendants.

#### References:

Ancestry [www.ancestry.com.au](http://www.ancestry.com.au) ; Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868 - Caroline Clemens; Australian Royalty Website [www.australianroyalty.net.au](http://www.australianroyalty.net.au); Biographical Database of Australia – Caroline Clemens & Joseph Moulder; Convict Records Australia – [www.convictrecords.com.au](http://www.convictrecords.com.au) – Caroline Clemens & Joseph Moulder; Claim a Convict [www.hawkesbury.net.au](http://www.hawkesbury.net.au) England and Wales, Criminal Registers for Caroline Clemens; FamilySearch Website: [www.familysearch.com](http://www.familysearch.com); Parramatta Female Factory Friends – Research Centre Database of Female Convicts; FindaGrave Website: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) (all photographs of Caroline Clemens & Joseph Moulder and their gravesite). Free Settler or Felon – Caroline Clemens & Joseph Moulder; New South Wales, Australia, Convict Indents, 1788-1842 for Caroline Clemens; New South Wales, Australia, Convict Indents, 1788-1842 for Caroline Clemens on board Fanny (2); New South Wales, Australia, Settler and Convict Lists, 1787-1834 - 25 May 1833 for Caroline Clemens; New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Convicts' Applications to Marry, 1826-1851 – 21 June 1833 Joseph Moulder and Caroline Clemens – Granted; New South Wales, Australia, Criminal Court Records, 1830-1945 for Caroline Clemens 1866; New South Wales, Australia, Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930 for Caroline Clemens 1866 Bathurst Gaol; New South Wales, Australia – Births, Deaths and Marriages [www.bdm.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au); People Australia Website [www.peopleaustralia.edu.au](http://www.peopleaustralia.edu.au); Trove (Newspaper and Gazette) [www.trove.nla.gov.au](http://www.trove.nla.gov.au) ; UK, Royal Navy Medical Journals, 1817-1856 for Fanny (2);

\*searches were conducted of all genealogical websites for reference only.

Photograph: Endsleigh House - oldest house in Orange NSW - online -wordpress.com

## GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAM - February 2024 - Simon Babbage (DPE)

Topic: Parramatta North Precinct



Photograph - courtesy DPE; Image - PN Guided Tour brochure, DPE



For the February meeting, the Friends were fortunate to have Mr. Simon Babbage, Development Director, Precinct Development, Property and Development NSW as guest speaker.

Simon outlined his role as Director - he is responsible for delivery of the NSW Government's transformation agenda for the North Parramatta Precinct - other significant state projects include Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshore, Macquarie Street East and Herbert Street, St Leonards.

The Precinct comprises some 42 hectares and includes six hectares of the designated Heritage Core (the National Heritage Listed Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct). It is a huge project to oversee and plan for, whilst acknowledging its history and heritage. Simon said it is important that the precinct is a success in delivering a beautiful space for the public. He added that it was a long term project perhaps stretching out to 30 years!

In the last few years, a lot of money has been spent in restoration and conservation of core heritage buildings and there is an opening up the site with initiatives such as the café and the Green (c1879 - located just north of the Factory and Asylum Heritage Core) which has been restored and is now used by the community. Currently there are two business cases being prepared - one is for a museum on site and the other for an arts/cultural precinct.

More work will be commenced in a few weeks' time - one of the sandstone walls of the Gipps Yard will be demolished and rebuilt to remedy the "bowing". There is also a "riparian corridor" planned for the eastern side of the river (the Factory side) so it is restored for public access and use.

The Friends truly appreciated Simon taking time out of his busy schedule - thank you.

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#### MEMBERS' CORNER - PFFF MEMBERS' MORNING TEA - FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024



Photographs: R.Gaffey.



There was so much to talk about when the inaugural Member's Morning Tea was held in our Rooms on Friday 8th March. There were many familiar faces and new faces. It was exciting meeting up with descendants and members who had only just discovered their family connection with the Factory!

Thank you to PFFF Membership Secretary Lorraine Henshaw for organising this event and a special thank you to the PFFF Catering team - Eileen Avery and Jeanette Moles for the lovely morning tea. The next Members' Only Morning Tea is scheduled for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024.



**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH - AT THE PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY  
FRIENDS' ROOMS  
SENIORS' WEEK - OPEN DAY - DROP IN  
10am to 2pm**

**Research inquiries, Herstory displays, bric a brac, unique merchandise sales and sharing  
a love of history - especially herstory!**

**Become a member, become a volunteer and share the journey!**

**Join a 'Spotlight' tour with one of our volunteers - walk in the women's footsteps!**



## A FORTHCOMING EVENT - NOT TO BE MISSED!

**WHEN:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 (part 1)  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May (part 2)  
from 10am - 1pm

Parramatta Female Factory Rooms,  
5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta



**WHAT:** COLONIAL CRAFT WORKSHOPS PART 1 and PART 2 -  
STRAW PLAITING AND BRAIDING WORKSHOP with Lyn Watkins

Participants will be making a replica of a sun bonnet similar to that made and worn by female convicts.

*Straw plaiting was one of the numerous occupations of the convict women transported to the Colony. There were many women in the Female Factory with this skill - many functional items were made of straw, including baskets for carting goods and, hats. A plaited straw hat or bonnet was an essential item of clothing and even adornment when trimmed with a ribbon or two for the 'marriage line-up' perhaps!*

**Eventbrite bookings: [bit.ly/4aOSjkD](https://bit.ly/4aOSjkD)**

## - A BICENTENARY -

200 years ago, on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 1824, the female convict ship *Brothers* arrived in Hobart, Van Diemen's Land after 153 days at sea.

Three weeks later, on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 1824, the ship arrived in Sydney Cove.



A cargo of 89 convict women from numerous counties of England and Wales embarked the ship in London - a free passenger Elizabeth Fulloon and her children were also on board. Shortly after her arrival, Mrs. Fulloon took up the role of superintendent of the Parramatta Factory - she was the first Matron. This was an historical moment. Ed.



2024	PFFF MEETINGS - DATES	FOR YOUR DIARY
March	<p><b>Newsletter</b>  <b>15<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <u>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Open Day for Seniors' Week</u>  <u>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Workshop: Colonial Craft 1 - Straw Plaiting</u>  <u>Lyn Watkins</u></p>	<p><b>Seniors' Week</b> - Open Day PFFF Rooms 22 March  <b>Linnwood House</b> Open Day 24<sup>th</sup> March  <b>Riot occurred: 7.3.1833</b>  <b>16<sup>th</sup> March 'Quilt' Exhibition</b> opens at the National Gallery Canberra..</p>
April	<p><b>Committee Meeting</b>  <b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker</b> - Heather Garnsey  Australian National Trust Heritage Festival Event  <b>General Meeting</b></p>	<p>Australian National Trust Heritage Festival  <b>18<sup>th</sup> April - 19<sup>th</sup> May - 'Connections'.</b>  <b>6<sup>th</sup> April - Bicentenary:</b> Matron Fulloon appointed.  <b>13<sup>th</sup> April - Bicentenary:</b> Parramatta's Hambledon Cottage.</p>
May	<p><b>Newsletter 17<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <u>Factory Open Day - 18<sup>th</sup> May - National Trust Heritage Festival</u>  <u>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>: Workshop 2: Colonial Craft - Straw Plaiting</u>  - Lyn Watkins</p>	<p>DPE Open Day/NT Heritage Festival Event  <b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b> at Factory site.</p>
June	<p><b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <b>Guest Speaker</b>  <b>General Meeting</b>  <u>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June: Members' Only Morning Tea 11am</u></p>	<p>AGM PREPARATION</p>
July	<p><b>Newsletter 19<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <u>Friday 12<sup>th</sup>: Workshop: The Home Curator - Caring for your Family History Collection</u> - Gay Hendriksen</p>	<p><b>July 9<sup>th</sup> 205<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b> - Gov. Macquarie laid the foundation stone for the <i>new</i> Factory.</p>
August	<p><b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <b>AGM</b></p>	
September	<p><b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September Workshop TBC: Phillipa Crosbie  September Members' Only Morning Tea TBC</p>	<p><b>Linnwood</b> Open Day TBC  NSW &amp; ACT Assoc. of Family History Soc. Annual Conference - <b>September TBA.</b>  <b>History Week 7<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September</b></p>
October	<p><b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <b>Guest Speaker</b>  <b>General Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Riots occurred: 27.10.1827; 11.10.36</b></p>
November	<p><b>25<sup>th</sup> RIOT DAY</b> - 197<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event featuring The Annual Thomas Keneally Lecture TBC</p> <p><b>Newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <u>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov: Workshop: Ancestry Master Class</u> - Kevin Dodds</p>	<p><b>Riot occurred: 29.11.1831</b>  <b>Parramatta Foundation Day Festival TBC</b></p>
December	<p><b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting</b>  <b>General Meeting</b></p>	<p>Christmas afternoon tea <b>(note date - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday)</b></p>

Monthly Committee meetings 11am - 1pm

Bi-monthly guest speaker 1:00pm. followed by afternoon tea. general meetings 2:15pm.

PFFF Research Centre is open Friday 10am - 2pm, by appointment. Regular tours by appointment.