

The Garrison Gazette



Spring 2009

Newsletter of the 73rd Regiment of Foot

Welcome to the **Spring 2009** issue of The Garrison Gazette. Winter has seen a number of events including *History Alive 2009* at Fort Lytton, *The Inaugural Napoleonic Conference* at the Rocks, Sydney and working bees at Tarago.

Thanks to the contributors for this issue, particularly Jarred Ray and Ron Ray. All contributions gratefully accepted. If you attend an event or have some information, or interest, write something and send it to the [editorial desk](#) (or via the 73rd Orderly Room). All contributions should be sent in a plain unformatted Word document.

The Editor
Dave Sanders

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Upcoming Events

Please contact the Orderly Room or the contact details at the end of this publication for more detailed information on these events.

September 12th to 13th

Working bee at Peter Kunz's property, *Tarago*. Early start, 9.00am.

September 20th Sunday

Living History Fair in conjunction with the Camden Festival and History Week NSW. 9.30 set up for 10.00am start. Finish at 2.00pm.

October 2nd to 5th

Military encampment Taminick NEML Range, North East Victoria.

October 31st - 1st

Working bee Peter Kunz's property, *Tarago*.



The Macquaries' Servants

from the Old Government House website

Mary Jelly was an ex-convict employed by the Macquaries as a chambermaid. Her workmates included the servants brought over from Scotland by the Macquaries – Mrs Ovens the cook, Joseph Bigg the coachman and George Jarvis, Macquarie's personal assistant. As a chambermaid, Mary would get the fires going to warm the rooms, heat the bath water, fill and empty the hip baths, empty chamberpots and attend to the fresh linen and the making of the beds. She would place bedwarmers between the sheets before the Macquaries went to bed on a cold winter's evening. It was her responsibility to maintain a comfortable level of light and heat in the house and she would adjust the shutters and windows to control this. On 22 March 1820, Mary married George Jarvis, Macquarie's Indian servant who had been with him for 25 years and was an important and respected member of the household. They were married by Reverend William Cowper in St Philip's Church in Sydney. They had a daughter on 19 December 1820 however their baby girl died within a week on Christmas day. When the Macquaries left for Scotland in 1822, Mary and George accompanied them and she gave birth to a daughter on the ship on May 5.

Mrs Ovens accompanied the Macquaries when they left England on the *Dromedary* in 1809 and travelled with them to the colony where she resumed her employment as the cook.



Mary Rouse¹ (left) was born 13 January 1799, in England. Her family sailed for the NSW colony in 1801 on a ship called the *Nile*. Mary was the oldest child with six brothers and sisters. One brother drowned in the Hawkesbury River the year another sister was born in 1809. With this large family Mary had plenty of experience in dealing with small children, preparing her for the position of nursemaid to Lachlan Macquarie Jr. Her father was a wealthy man. Richard Rouse was the Superintendent and master builder at Parramatta. His duties included supervising the repairs and additions to Government House.

The Rouse family lived in a large house in

¹ Mary Rouse married early colonial land-holder, Jonathan Hassall on 22nd November 1819.

Church Street called Rouse Hill House and had properties at Rouse Hill and Richmond Hill for cattle and horse breeding. Mary taught Sunday School and started living with the Macquarie family when she was 19 in 1818. Her job was solely to care for their young son Lachlan Jnr who was four at the time. Mary would have slept in the nursery with him.

By 28 March 1818 the four year old was tall for his age. For his birthday he was taken with sixteen other children to see the lighthouse at South Head, he also launched the cutter presented to him by Lieutenant John Watts and called the *Elizabeth*. The party finished with the children being rowed around Garden Island towing the cutter. She travelled with the family on all outings that the boy had and in 1818 she was on board the Governor's Brig, the *Elizabeth Henrietta* when it sailed to Newcastle for the night.

Charles Whalan was born in Middlesex in 1772. He was sentenced to seven years transportation for catching a fish on private property when he was 14 years old and still at school. After spending four years in the overcrowded Newgate prison, he arrived in New South Wales on 13 October 1791, on the ship *Albermarle* of the Third Fleet. Because he could read and write he was employed as a clerk in the Government stores. After 16 months in the Colony, he was granted a certificate of freedom, receiving a full pardon on the condition he joined the 102nd regiment of the New South Wales Corps. In March 1803 - Charles Whalan married Elizabeth Berry in the drawing room at Old Government House. Berry was a convict who was assigned to the house as a maid. She was given away by Governor King.

Berry and Whalan had seven children, son Charles was born, 17th May, 1811. Charles Jnr, became a close companion to young Lachlan Macquarie who was born in March, 1814. Whalan served Bligh as his Orderly Sergeant. When John Macarthur, a free settler, threatened Bligh during one of their clashes, Whalan seized and broke Macarthur's sword. Bligh meanwhile locked himself in his bedroom.

When the 102nd Regiment was recalled to England, he was transferred to the **73rd Regiment**. Governor Macquarie appointed him Sergeant of his bodyguard of light horse and increased the bodyguard to ten. Whalan retired from the NSW Corps on the departure of Governor Macquarie, February 1822. On his departure from the colony, Governor Macquarie granted Charles Whalan 750 acres of land at Prospect, which became his permanent home on his retirement. He named the property "Macquarie Park".

Charles Whalan died in 1839, aged 67, He was laid to rest in a vault at St John's Cemetery, Parramatta. A hearse was used for the first time in New South Wales to transport his body. Whalan was protective of Governor and Mrs Macquarie and was very dutiful in his role as Sergeant. Governor Macquarie wrote a reference dated the 12th of February 1822, describing Whalan as "...peculiarly correct, honest, honorable and faithful, never having had one occasion to find fault with him, or in the least degree to censure his conduct... I do further certify that sergeant Whalan is worthy of anything that can possibly be done for him. I accordingly most strongly recommend him to the favour, kindness and patronage of His Excellency the Governor in Chief for some position under Government."

See: http://www.oldgovernmenthouse.com.au/index.php?page=previous_occupants_ogh

Picture source: <http://www.hassall.org/book/Chap06.html>

Some History Relevant to the 73rd Regiment of Foot

by Jarred Ray and Ron Ray

Private Morris Shea (1795-1892) was the last living British veteran of the Napoleonic Wars and died at the age of 97. Private Shea was a veteran of the 73rd Regiment of Foot.



There are two 73rd Regiment veterans buried in St John's Cemetery at Parramatta. The first is Sergeant **John Baxter** – Section 2, Row P, Grave 12. Research shows he was born in 1786 and died on 27th November 1862.

He arrived with the 73rd on the *Dromedary* as a Private with his wife Susannah Baxter (nee Williams). The inscription on the headstone is now hard to read but it states, “*Sacred to the memory of John Baxter formerly Sergeant H.M. 73rd Highlanders who died Nov 27 1862 in the 76th year of his age leaving a wife to deplore his loss and deeply regretted by all who knew him.*”

The second is **Sergeant Daniel Humm** – Section 1, Row L, Grave 7.



Research shows that he enlisted in the 73rd while it was stationed in the Colony of NSW and then served with the regiment in India. The inscription on the headstone reads, “*Daniel Humm died Novr 2n 1827 aged 58 years ALSO Daniel Humm eldest son of above who died 14th June 1842 aged 47 years. The deceased was a Native of the Colony and left it in 1814 with the 73 Regt for the East Indies and after serving there in various engagements (commencing with the siege and capture of Kandy) during a period of 27 years he returned to his Native land rewarded with a pension for his services but with such an emaciated body worn and wounded that it sank shortly after his return.*”

See Dunn., J. (1991) *The Parramatta Cemeteries: St John's*.

Military Epitaphs of Note

by Jarred Ray and Ron Ray

There are a number of early military graves in the graveyard of the Sutton Forest Church. They were all members of the 50th Regiment of Foot who served in NSW from 1833-1841 and again from 1866-1869.

The epitaph on the grave of **Private Thomas O'Brien** states –
“Sacred to the memory of Thomas O'Brien Private in H.M's 50th or Queens Own Regiment who was barbarously murdered on the 19th Feby near Berrima 1837, aged 24 years. This stone erected by his comrades to his memory as a testimonial of the high character he bore both by his Officers and Comrades”. It is believed he was murdered by one of the convicts in his working party.

Seems that members of the 50th Regiment were an unlucky bunch. The following is recorded on the tombstone in the Old Liverpool Cemetery of **Private Alexander McCulloch** –

“Sacred to the memory of Alexander McCulloch, Pte soldier of Capt F.C.Montgomery's 50th Company of the Queens Own Regt. Who was mortally wounded by a musket ball by means of a spark communicating with his firelock when on duty in the smith's forge over the Iron Gang. This stone was erected by his brother soldiers. He departed 18th September 1835, aged 20 years”.

The following military gravestones are in St John's Cemetery, Parramatta;

Augustus Stokes – Section 1, Row E, Grave 12. His epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the memory of Augustus Stokes Native of Essex England who departed this life July 7th 1874 Aged 40 years. Late Staff Sergt. Per.t Volr. Rifles New S. Wales formerly Color and Pay Sergt. In H.M. 20th Ret. Served in the Crimea and in India and took part in 27 general engagements in which he distinguished himself for bravery”.

George McDonald – Section 1, Row H, Grave 4. His epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the memory of George McDonald Quarter Master Sergeant of His Majesty's 48th Regiment of Foot who served his King and Country 32 years and Fought in the different engagements of Talavera, Albuera, Rodrigo, Salamanca, Badajos, Vittoria, Pyrennes, Orthees, Toulouse and Nivelle. Ended his mortal career on the 28 July 1834 aged 60 years”.

Charles Wilson – Section 2, Row D, Grave 4. His epitaph reads;

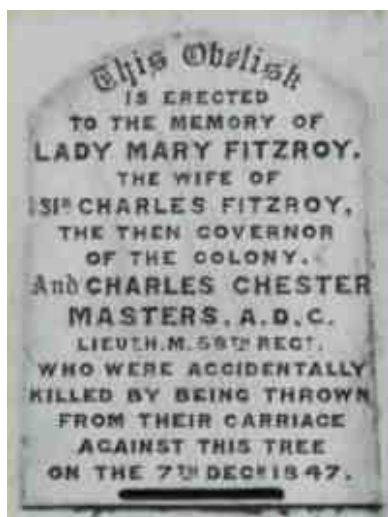
“Sacred to the memory of Charles Wilson Private 11th Regiment who departed this life the 19th day of March 1849 aged 34 years”.

Thomas Pryke – Section 2, Row F, Grave 4. His epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the memory of Thomas Pryke late Colour Serg. Of the 80 Regt Died February 4th 1841 aged 40 years Leaving a wife and four small children to Lament his loss”.

Maria Mason – Section 2, Row J, Grave 1. A rather sad tale of a mother dying and her infant son dying very shortly thereafter. The epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the memory of Maria Mason wife of Sergt. Sam Mason Royal Staff Corps who quitted this World on the 6th of October 1827 aged 30 years ALSO her infant son John McRea Mason who left this earth on the 10th November 1827 aged 2 Months and 3 Days”.



The Lady Mary Fitzroy – Section 3, Row H, Grave 7. Lady Mary was the wife of Governor Charles Fitzroy and she was killed in a carriage accident while riding with her husband (the Governor) and his aide de camp, Lieutenant Masters, on the road from Parramatta to Sydney. (An obelisk in Parramatta Park marks the spot where the accident occurred. Local legend purports that a “lady in white” can be seen at night, haunting this spot - Ed). The epitaph on the headstone in St. John’s reads;

“The Lady Mary Fitzroy Wife of Sir Charles A. Fitzroy, K.H. Governor of New South Wales Died 7th December 1847 Aged 57 years ALSO Lt. Charles Chester Master 58th Regiment A.D.C. to the Governor

Died 7th December 1847 Aged 27 years”.

Captain Ronald MacDonald, Captain William Anthony Skeffington, Surgeon Robert Turnbull – Section 3, Row I, Grave 10. Their epitaph reads;

“To the Memory of Captain Ronald MacDonald of the 80th Regiment who died at Parramatta on the 21st day of August 1841 Aged 41 years ALSO Captain the Honourable William Anthony Skeffington of the 80th Regt. Who died at Parramatta on the 21st day of January 1842 Aged 26 years ALSO Surgeon Robert Turnbull of the 80th Regt. Who died at Parramatta on the 3rd day of June 1842 Aged 51 years. This Tablet erected by their Brother Officers”.

Sergeant George Dale – Section 3, Row M, Grave 1. His epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the Memory of the late Sergeant George Dale 99th Regiment who departed this life 9th March 1844 Aged 35 years Erected by his Brother Non Commissioned Officers”.

Brevet Major William Irwin – Memorial within the Cathedral of St John. His epitaph reads;

“Sacred to the memory of Brevet Major William Irwin of H.M.28th Regiment Who died at Parramatta the 12th of November 1840 Aged 56 years. This tablet is erected by his brother officers as a token of their esteem and admiration on his long and gallant service of 33 years in the Corps”.

See Dunn., J. (1991) *The Parramatta Cemeteries: St John’s*.

Online Resources

Compiled by Ron Ray

(The hyperlinks below were compiled and contributed by Ron Ray. They are highly recommended and of great interest to the history of the 73rd Regiment of Foot and the Napoleonic period. – Ed)

[73rd \(Highland\) Regiment of Foot](http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~garter1/73rd.htm)

<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~garter1/73rd.htm>

[73rd Regiment of Foot](http://www.answers.com/topic/73rd-regiment-of-foot#1st_Battalion)

[http://www.answers.com/topic/73rd-regiment-of-foot#1st Battalion](http://www.answers.com/topic/73rd-regiment-of-foot#1st_Battalion)

[British Regiments and the Men Who Led Them 1793-1815: 73rd Regt. of Foot](http://www.napoleon-series.org/military/organization/Britain/Infantry/Regiments/c_73rdFoot.html)

http://www.napoleon-series.org/military/organization/Britain/Infantry/Regiments/c_73rdFoot.html

[Commissioned Officers of the 73rd Regiment Who Served in Ceylon 1814-1821](http://www.library.mq.edu.au/digital/under/research/officers73rd.html)

<http://www.library.mq.edu.au/digital/under/research/officers73rd.html>

[Guerres du Ier Empire \(Soldiers of the First Empire\)](http://derniersveterans.free.fr/napoleon1.html#top)

<http://derniersveterans.free.fr/napoleon1.html#top>

[The Voyage of the 73rd Regiment of Foot \(1809 – 1818\) by Alexander Huey](http://nla.gov.au/nla.aus-vn1991851)

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.aus-vn1991851>

[Uniforms of British Units in the Australian Colonies](http://www.diggerhistory.info/pages-uniforms/brits-in-oz.htm)

<http://www.diggerhistory.info/pages-uniforms/brits-in-oz.htm>



Members' Book Corner

(Members Book Corner is a new feature of the Garrison Gazette where members can share their current interesting read, related to our historical period. Send them along to the editor, in the format presented below and share your interest – Ed)

Durova., N. (1988). *The Cavalry Maiden: Journals of a Female Russian Officer in the Napoleonic Wars*. Paladin Books, London. (Bill Lincoln)

Kemp., A. (1972). *15th The King's Hussars: Dress and Appointment 1759-1914*. Almark Publications, London. (Bill Lincoln)

Manwaring., G.E. and Dobree., B. (2004). *The Floating Republic: An Account of the Mutinies at Spithead and the Nore in 1797*. Pen and Sword Military Classics, Barnsley. (Dave Sanders)



Letter to the Editor

Mrs. J. Crothers signed our Regiment's guest book on 23rd June last. Mrs Crothers writes:

My great grandmother's brother, James F. Murray (1819-1893) served as a Captain in the 73rd Regiment, as Major in the 83rd Regiment (India) and was later Lt. Colonel in the 97th Regiment. He also served as Gov. Secretary of Jersey, Channel Islands.



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