

What a wonderful and moving ceremony it was for the dedication of the plaque at the gravesite of

First Fleeter Joseph Trimby

on Monday 12th November at the Old Glebe Cemetery East Maitland.

Under a clear blue sky a group of 91 gathered, including 42 Trimby family members (from near and far), 33 Fellowship of First Fleet members from Sydney, Wollongong and the Hunter, Mayor of the City of Maitland and other council members, representatives from St. Peters Anglican Church East Maitland, visitors from the National Trust, Historical Societies, Family History Societies and the University of Newcastle plus local interested citizens.

Today's ceremony was the culmination of more than 12 years of research by two of our Hunter Valley F.F. Chapter members, Sister Andrea Myers and Ray Meredith - I'm sure we all join to congratulate them and all those involved behind the scenes in organising what has proved to be the largest ceremony of its kind since the forming of the First Fleet Fellowship in 1968.

John Boyd, Research director and plaque convenor from First Fleet House in Sydney, was the MC and a warm welcome was extended by the National President of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, Ian Palmer.

The informative and most moving Eulogy was given by Sister Andrea, a 7th generation descendant - the plaque was unveiled by HV Chapter members Barry Chaff and Maureen McNaughton, 8th generation descendants. Flowers were placed by HV Chapter President Barbara Turner.

The Rev. Jim Hudson dedicated the plaque and Rev. John Brooker said a prayer for the First Fleeters.

After the ceremony a photograph of all Trimby family members was taken (behind the plaque which stands beside the grave site of Joseph's son) and an attempt was made to capture most of all who were present as well!

Following the ceremony we moved on to St. Peters Hall where the ladies of the church had prepared a light luncheon. This gave us all more time to mingle and chat. Sister Andrea had organised 2 cakes in honour of Joseph Trimby, to share.



A montage of further photos taken on the day follows.



Welcome from soldier Bob



MC John Boyd



FFF President Ian Palmer



Eulogy - Sister Andrea Myers



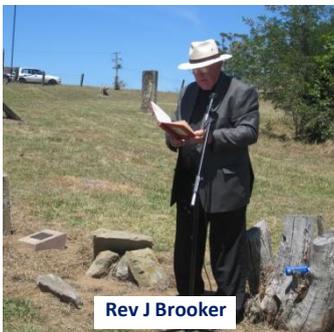
Unveiling the plaque
Barry Chaff &
Maureen McNaughton



Barbara Turner
President HV Chapter



Rev J Hudson



Rev J Brooker



Ray Meredith with
Sister Andrea



Members of FFF Board, Head Office



Trimby descendants

