

[Scroll down for Summary of TEACHERS Information.](#)

**\*\* Regarding The History of the Period**

**\*\*And HOW to RUN the Play**

[Scroll down to the end to find how to-](#)

**\*\*Download the Complete Play Documents as PDF.**

**\*\*Download Slide Show of Pictures and History Information**

## **THE PLAY**

### **“1803. THE FAILED SORRENTO SETTLEMENT.”**

**REAL EVENTS-----REAL PEOPLE**

**AIM:** To easily show why it failed, and consequently helped start the Hobart, Tasmania settlement. Also identify 2 figures that became involved in Melbourne’s later settlement Pascoe Fawkner and William Buckley the runaway convict



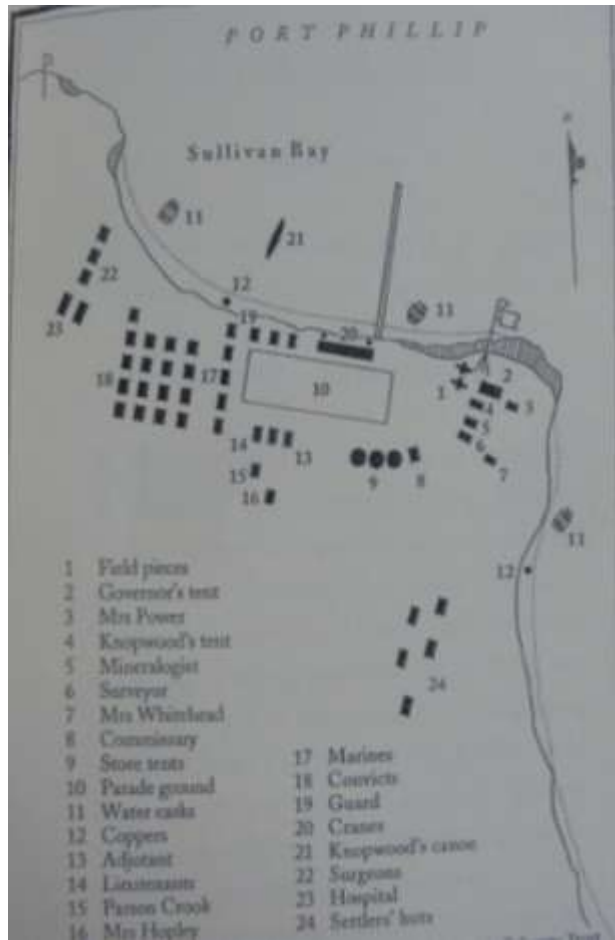
**Information tablets at Sullivan's Bay. Site of the Sorrento Convict Settlement.**

*More detailed in the slide show*



**Information Plaque Sullivan's Bay. The Sorrento Settlement.**

*More detailed in the slide show*



## **SETTLEMENT LAYOUT**

*More detailed in the slide show*

**A SIMPLE PLAY TO ENCOMPASS ALL the CLASS.**

**SHOULD OCCUPY 3 classroom periods only.L**

**1 Signposts and Taste READINGS.by TEACHER**

**2 Select the PLAYERS.**

**3. Enjoy the PLAY.**

**HOW:**

## **JOBS to be done:**

1. To include ALL THE CLASS..A job can be found for ALL.
2. Signs, drawings, and simple uniforms or period clothes.
3. Equal speaking time for all participants.
4. A Historical commentary, **and** Introduction for each ACT, should allow Girls, to make up for the historical imbalance of men (Boys).
5. Understudies should be given a go.

## **TEACHER READ: With possibly Some light discussion to follow.**

1. **SIGNPOSTS TO EARLY AUSTRALIAN HISTORY AND THE PLAY SETTING.**
2. **GET A "TASTE OF OUR EARLY PEOPLE."**

## **SELECT:**

1. Actors and Actresses.

**MAKE SIMPLE:** Uniforms or Clothing. Use a LARGE name SIGN..

**READ:** Directly From the script. Tutors may change how they like. **Have FUN!!**

**PERHAPS** attach a Video and Sound link.-Another job?

*Please Note, All Sources and Acknowledgements are at the end of each appropriate book.*

## SIGNPOST TO EARLY AUSTRALIA.

### TEACHER'S use.

It might seem strange that a Penal Settlement would be marked down for Sorrento. The "Authorities in England were getting desperate to RE LOCATE Prisoners since the American War of Independence stopped them sending Convicts to America. At the time in say the 1800's, about 200 "Crimes" were on the Statute Books that carried the death sentence. The Jails were full to overcrowding. Prisoners were then put aboard old warships or ship hulks. However this was still not able to keep up with the amount of Convicts. That is why the Convict Settlement at Sydney was started in 1788.

George Bass, in 1797 didn't bother to row or sail any further westwards than Westernport-the furthestmost Port to the West of Sydney. He was on a timetable to go and return as agreed with Governor Hunter in Sydney.

Lieutenant John Grant of HMS Lady Nelson fame missed seeing the Entrance to Port Phillip. Very understandable because he received very late instructions in Cape Town to sail between Tasmania ( Van Diemens Land), and the newly mapped southern coast of Australia, suggesting that a Strait existed between Southern Australia and Van Diemens Land. Flinders and Bass confirmed the existence of a Strait by sailing around Tasmania. However, even on Grant's expedition on the *Lady Nelson* to Map and study Westernport Bay, he still did not discover Port Phillip.

Lt. John Murray only saw and mapped Port Phillip Bay after sending his longboat, commanded by John Bowen, off the *Lady Nelson*, for seven days, along the western coast from Westernport entrance to the west. Upon receiving information regarding the Bay he sailed into it but conducted only a small cursory examination. Although he did name *Arthurs Seat*, supposedly because it looked like a hill at Edinburgh in Scotland..

Mathew Flinders discovered the Bay 3 weeks after Lt. John Murray had mapped a small portion of the Bay. Flinders was returning to Sydney after his left handed circumnavigation of Australia. He did not bother to map the entire Bay. After the French Expedition met with Mathew Flinders at Encounter Bay South Australia, the two French ships the *Naturaliste* and the *Geographe* split up. The *Geographe* under Captain Hamelin mapped Westernport Bay, then sailed up to Sydney. The French after mapping Westernport named FRENCH ISLAND. The *Naturaliste*, after experiencing storm's staggered into Sydney Cove much later. In fact the *Naturaliste* had already left Sydney but had to return to Sydney only to see the *Geographe* there.

Governor King's orders for Lt. Charles Robbins was to see that the French Scientific Expedition Commanded by Baudin did not claim part of the Islands off Tasmania's northern coast for France. After that he was to take Governor King's Official Surveyor, Charles Grimes, to Port Phillip Bay. Grimes, working from the ship *Cumberland*, Captained by Lieutenant Charles Robbins reported that the Bay was not suitable for Settlement, except for the area of the River Yarra.. Grimes was following Governor King's orders **to walk around the Bay.** This he did in company with James Flemming, a convict held in high esteem by Governor King, and sometimes with Lt. Robbins and some of the crew from the *Cumberland* **A small group, even walked from Arthurs Seat to Westernport Bay**

## TASTE OF OUR EARLY PEOPLE

**TEACHER'S use** Why then did the “Powers of the Day” in England, decide on Sorrento in Port Phillip Bay??

Mathew Flinders thought Port Phillip Bay would be a good Settlement Place, if for nothing else to keep the French away. Government Surveyor Charles Grimes and Lt. Charles Robbins of the *Cumberland*. did not agree. Even Hamilton Hume during the setting up much later Corinella Military Fort didn't think it any good.

The Colony lasted 15 weeks, then Lieutenant Colonel David Collins sailed for Tasmania to set up there. Although Collins had the latest information, from Governor King about freshwater at the Yarra River, and also the Colony had known about freshwater existence at Kananook Creek, Frankston, but it was too far away from Sorrento, and Collins had made his preparations to move!

Governor King had sent other information, regarding the possibility of an addition to the Risdon Cove settlement in Van Diemens Land, on the Derwent River, or Port Dalrymple on the Tamar River. Collins selected Risdon Cove although he later moved the Settlement to where Hobart now stands. Probably because a Settlement was already in existence. Port Dalrymple would be hard to navigate , as the Lady Nelson found out.

John Pascoe Fawcner, who later partially set up Melbourne ( in competition with John Batman} was only a 11 year old boy. His father was a convict, who brought his Mother and Sister with him on the ship, *HMS Calcutta* to Sorrento. Even though his Father was a Convict sentenced to Transportation to the Colony for stealing, he still had enough money to give to an Officer so that his Family could stay in his cabin for the duration of the voyage.

William Buckley a Convict choose to run away and join the Aborigines rather than go to Tasmania. Buckley was an ex soldier who had served in Two Regiments that had fought the French. Buckley was in a privileged position as a Convict being a bricklayer building the Ammunition Storage Keep, and would have probably “have heard plenty of discussions” about what was happening. Buckley later helped save the lives of Fawcner's crew and his Captain when their ship was tied up at the Yarra River, the site of current Melbourne, by warning them of imminent danger from the Local Aborigines. He died at the age of 80 in Melbourne.

*HMS. Calcutta* Officers, appear to be the first group of people to play the game of cricket in Australia.

## **POTENTIAL PLAYERS as HISTORICAL CHARACTERS:-**

### **Act 1 Scene 1.**

**Mrs. Hezekiah Hartley. Captain Mertho, Mrs. Judith Hopley. First Lieutenant.**

**Adolarius Humphrey. Mrs. Elizabeth Miller. Sailor in the Tops.**

### **Act 2 .Scene 1.**

**Reverend Robert Knopwood. Lt. Governor Colonel of Marines William Collins.**

**Lieutenant Tuckey. Of *HMS Calcutta*. Thomas Hayes, Free Settler. Mrs, Jane Hobbs and children Free Settler.**

**Mr. George Prideaux Harris, Deputy Surveyor. Mrs. Mary Crook. John Hartley, Free Settler**

### **Act 3 Scene 1.**

**Private Samuel Wiggins. John Pascoe Fawkner as a boy Marine Sergeant James McCauley.**

**Mrs. Hannah Fawkner.**

### **Act 3 Scene 2.**

**Mr. William Collins. Ex Navy Masters Mate and Free Settler. William Buckley ex Soldier turned Convict.**

**Daniel McAllenan Convict and escapee friend of William Buckley.**

**Marine Captain William Sladden. Marine Lieutenant James Johnson**

## **ACT 1. Introduction by 1 Girl**

The ship *OCEAN* arrived, in Port Phillip Bay 2 days before *H.M.S. CALCUTTA*.

The *OCEAN* did not even call in at Cape Town South Africa, so it was a straight sail to Australia, the Bass Strait, and arrival off Port Phillip Heads. A marvelous piece of Navigation. The *CALCUTTA* called at Cape Town South Africa, before sailing to PORT PHILLIP BAY.

Lt. Governor Collins in 1788 was working for Governor Arthur Phillip, and helped him draft a letter to the Colonial Secretary of the day saying that "Free Settlers would help develop the Colony, saying that the Free Settlers would soon become successful and wealthy in providing the Convict Colony with essentials." .

All Civil Officials, Free Settlers and crew would have been desperate to get ashore, and experience some relief from shipboard confinement. Who knew when the *Calcutta* would arrive ?.

**PLAYERS.** Mrs. Hezekiah Hartley wife of a influential Free Settler Mr. John Hartley. ( who was also looking after the son of Sir Charles Hamilton, and also travelling with a servant John Gravie) Mrs. .Judith Hopley, wife of Assistant Surgeon Hopley.. Adolarus Humphrey Mineralogist-scientist.

Mrs. Elizabeth Miller. Wife of a Free Settler

Captain Mertho. First Lieutenant.. .a Sailor in The Tops All of the merchant vessel *Ocean*



## **The Play ACT 1 Arrival of the Ocean in Port Phillip Bay**

### **Commence the Slide or Picture show for ACT 1**

**MRS. HEZEKIAH HARTLEY.** Captain Mertho, this is an impossible situation for us Mothers.

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** In what way madam?

**MRS. HEZEKIAH HARTLEY** My Family and other Families have been stuck on this Ship, for at least 40 days. During the voyage we at least got some fresh air blowing. Now we have non existent air blowing and its extremely hot!

**Mrs. JUDITH HOPLEY..** This is all your fault Captain. Why can't the Ships boats just row us across to the shore? You have already been ashore!

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** Ladies, ladies, I know its very hot and sticky but it could be worse on the land. Some of my Masthead Lookouts have spotted very black Indians on the shore.

**MRS. HEZEKIAH HARTLEY** So what Captain! You have 1 Officer. Lt. Sladden and 5 marines on board, given to you by Captain Woodriff of the *Calcutta* at Rio de Janeiro. They could go a shore and prevent the Indians from harming us.

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** Those Marines are to support me in giving my orders, to my sailors and you Settlers.

**Mrs. JUDITH HOPLEY.** But Captain Mertho, you have sailed around this spot and gone ashore with some of your men, why can't we go ashore ?

**DOCTOR HOPLEY.** Captain, I have a Lady who is going to give berth to a baby very soon. It would be better for her and for all if she was in an appropriate Tent on shore. It was bad enough when Mrs. Fletcher lost a child at Tenerriffe, but when we entered this bay she also lost her young child Sarah.

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** Doctor, I will consult my Officers, and think it over. I will let you know my decision..

**DOCTOR HOPLEY.** Please hurry Captain. The conditions on this boat have deteriorated badly. Not only for the passengers but also the cattle and livestock. It is nearly intolerable. My wife Judith and daughter Julia, have never been subjected to these conditions!

**MRS. HEZEKIAH HARTLEY** We think you did a grand job in bringing us to this Settlement site , without sighting land since we left Rio de Janeiro, but You had better see if you can oblige us Captain. We are Free Settlers, not Convicts. We need fresh water and fresh meat or fish. Our servant drips the drinking water into a piece of cloth before it goes into our drinking jug. It still looks blacky brown, and the horrible things that remain in the cloth yuk!

**FIRST LIETENANT.** Hey Hey Madam, you cannot threaten the Captain like that.!

**MRS. HEZEKIAH HARTLEY** His obligation to us is finished. Furthermore, we did not get the chance to purchase replacement stock at Cape Town, because the Captain choose not to Sail to that part of South Africa. He has cost my husband and I and some of the other Free Settlers the chance to replace the stock that have died on this voyage.

**FIRST LIETENANT** . As you know Mrs. Hartley, we sailed along this eastern shore towards that very big Mountain over there. The captain and I and several of the crew went ashore to see if we could find water.

**ADOLARIOUS HUMPHREY.** Captain There must be some water catchments on that big mountain, because it is high enough to capture some clouds and it looks to me through my telescope that some of the land falls have exposed where water may have cascaded down into a pond.

**FIRST LIETENANT** \_ I assure you Mr. Humphrey, we could not find water.

**ADOLARIOUS HUMPHREY.** Even those two headlands just over there that look like sisters, have rocky outlooks. Maybe there is water at their feet before it runs into this Bay. Looking about this Bay, it appears like a big bowl. Do not presume to tell me there is no water available. My academic training says you are wrong

**MRS. ELIZABETH MILLER. Wife of a Free Settler.** Captain, our seeds are starting to germinate, and our stock is getting restless because the Ship is comparatively still.

**FIRST LIETENANT.** All in good time Mam.

**MRS. ELIZABETH MILLER.** Not in good time Lieutenant! If our variety of seedlings do not get planted very soon, they will die. You know what that means. STARVATION, for our stock, because we will find it hard to get proper pasture. Then we would have to depend upon fish-birds and wild animals to exist.

**ADOLARIOUS HUMPHREY.** You see now Lieutenant, you and your Captain should expedite our landing.

**SAILOR in the TOPS.** Deck there!

**FIRST LIETENANT** \_What can you see ?.

**SAILOR in the TOPS.** . Seems to be a large body of Indians on the shore Sir !

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** \_See Ladies what did I tell you! Its to dangerous to go ashore with the Indians waiting to kill you. We have to anchor some way off ashore, because our Ship needs 20 feet of water minimum under its keel so we can float. So it will be very difficult to unload and get on shore the Cattle, Livestock and Passengers.

**SAILOR in the TOPS.** Deck there! **FIRST LIETENANT** What can you see ?.

**SAILOR in the TOPS.** . Sail Ho Sir! about 3 miles to the south west of the Entrance!

**CAPTAIN MERTHO.** . If we can see a Ship, they can most certainly see us.! It is probably the *Calcutta*.

## **The Play ACT 2. Introduction by 1 Girl**

Marine Colonel Lt. Governor Collins has decided to remove the settlement to Tasmania, Risdon Cove., and calls a Meeting of ALL SETTLERS to inform them of his decision. All Free Settlers had been promised Land grants of 100 acres each. When Collins arrived at Sorrento he found the place totally unsuitable for a Settlement, and decided to remove the Penal Settlement to Risdon Cove in Tasmania. He started Hobart Town named after Lord Hobart.

Collins had had received information from Governor King regarding finding fresh water at the River Yarra, ( the later site of Melbourne ) found by Mr. Grimes the Government Surveyor, who discovered the River, with James Flemming, after sailing on the ship, *Cumberland*, Commanded by Lt Charles Robbins.

The ship *Cumberland* was sent to follow the French Expedition to King Island to ensure they did not claim the island or islands in Bass straight for France.

Lt. Governor Collins, had doubts about the Port Phillip Bay being able to allow a Colony to develop. Fresh Water was very scarce, and the land was sandy, not able to grow very much. The Aborigines were also getting quite upset about the Settlement people being on their Land. And obviously taking a large amount of fish from the Bay, and whatever rodents could be caught and cooked to supplement the rations.

The Free Settlers have an idea what is going to happen, and are very concerned.

**..Rumors have been spreading!!.** Mr. John Hartley appears to be the most forceful, in the Free Settler group. He had even brought along a personal servant called John Joachim Gravie on the voyage from England.

## **PLAYERS:**

Reverend Robert Knopwood, Minister of Religion, Lt. Governor William Collins Leader of the Settlement.

Lieutenant Tuckey of HMS *Calcutta*. Thomas Hayes, Free Settler. Mr. George Prideaux Harris, Dep. Surveyor.

Mrs. Mary Pascoe Cook, wife of Missionary Pascoe Crook. John Hartley, Free Settler. Mrs. Jane Hobbs, Free Settler (with daughters Rebecca- Ann-Jane and Charity, with son James

## **ACT 2. Announcement of Settlement Relocation**

### **Commence the Slide or Picture show for ACT 2**

**REVEREND ROBERT KNOPWOOD.** Friends !! Friends!, the Lieutenant Governor will talk to you very soon. No need to get anxious, he will explain ALL very soon. I read out to you the Governments Commission of Lt. Governor Collins on the 17 th November, the day after the *Ocean* left for Sydney Cove. As you all know the *Ocean* returned to us 2 days ago . Ah, here is the Lt. Governor now.

**LT. GOVERNOR COLLINS.** Thank you Knopwood. Fellow Government Officials and Free Settlers. By the power invested in me as Lieutenant Governor, I have decided we will leave this place here at Sullivan’s Bay and go to Risdon Cove at the bottom of Van Diemens Land. Governor King, has sent me a lot of information, and also given his approval for whatever decision I make.

-----a great many exclamations and muttering takes place.

**REVEREND ROBERT KNOPWOOD.** Friends! Friends !, I ask you to be patient while the Lt. Governor explains more. Then I am sure you will be able to ask him questions. However he has asked several people to give their rendition of the result of their endeavors so that you will understand how he has come to this conclusion. Lt. Tuckey, you are first please.

**LT. TUCKEY of the CALCUTTA.** You all know that I have mapped this very large bay, and visited Westernport Bay, with a party of men. The Bay was first discovered by George Bass. I have also studied the Maps drawn by John Murray and Mathew Flinders, also the Map made by Surveyor general Charles Grimes, who followed Governor King’s instructions to walk all around the bay. My conclusion is that the Land in this Bay is not conducive to good farming.

**THOMAS HAYES- FREE SETTLER.** Sir, I have a wife and 3 children to look after. It has been hard enough trying to settle, looking after our poor stock, and plant crops. As well as being worried about the Natives attacking us, and some of the Convicts harming us. What do you mean by “not conducive” to good farming? Your Captain of the Calcutta, The Captain of the Ocean, all cruised up this Bay a little and selected this Cove now called Sullivan’s Bay.

**LT. TUCKEY of the CALCUTTA.** Water and soil Mr. Hayes. The water is too hard to collect and transport in large enough quantities to this settlement. The soil in its sandy nature extends all around this Bay.

**MR. GEORGE PRIDEAUX HARRIS- DEPUTY SURVEYOR.** I have looked at the Maps Mr. Hayes, and I fully support the view of Lt. Tuckey and Lt. Governor Collins. Even the Westernport area is bad. I have even consulted with Mr. Adolarius Humphrey, about the bark and light brown cliff that are embedded in the shoreline. Maybe in a rainy period the rocks would create waterfalls and holding pools. However it is now in this most

oppressive heat that only sunken water barrels in the sand at the top of the tide can bring us water. The temperature on my thermometer the other day was 47 degrees. The next day the temperature had dropped to 11 degrees. Not good for crops, animals or humans.

**MRS. MARY PASCOE CROOK.** Do you have any idea of how many Women and Children there are on this horrible spot here at Sullivan's Cove.? There are 54 Women 20 boys and 16 young girls. Sir! All this talk about re location of the settlement is frightening.

**MR. GEORGE PRIDEAUX HARRIS-** I must say Madam, that amount of People here, makes the re location imperative. Even the timber that is being cut from that mountain called Arthurs Seat, has been rejected by Navy representatives in Sydney Cove.

**MRS. MARY PASCOE CROOK.** My Husband and I want to lead ALL persons to God regardless if they are Convicts, Free Settlers, Soldiers or Civil Official's. We were also supposed to go to Sydney so that we could take a ship to the Polynesian Islands where we will be able to do Christian Works among the Natives. As you know Mr. Knopley is the only one allowed to do the Preaching .My Husband and I want to go to Sydney Town.!

**JOHN HARTLEY Free Settler.** Please Lt. Governor Collins, allow Jane Hobbs to put her view.

**JANE HOBBS** This undertaking has been hard enough with all my children. Now it appears a mistake was made, in selecting this place.

**LT. GOVERNOR COLLINS.** That is so Mrs. Hobbs.

**JANE HOBBS.** Then perhaps you may listen to Mr. John Hartley. We have collected all our concerns and are prepared to have him represent us.

**JOHN HARTLEY .** Sir! Most of us agree that the move to another place is essential. But we do have some concerns regarding our Right's and Property. I have a particular concern..

**LT. GOVERNOR COLLINS .**Please speak up Mr. Hartley for your fellow Settlers.

**JOHN HARTLEY .** Sir have you considered-our crops-our livestock-about our seedlings-water wherever we are going-our 100 acres each-transport costs to our new abode-stock of usable tools to replace the second class ones we have been using-clothes and boots .for all including the Convicts. I am very interested in the Sealing opportunities in the Van Dieman's Land Islands. Will they still be accessible to me if I go to Risdon Cove.

**LT. GOVERNOR COLLINS..**Thank you Mr. Hartley for putting your concerns..

First we will build a loading pier, so that the livestock can be loaded directly onto the *Ocean* or the *Lady Nelson*.

Second The English Government has paid for your transport to this Cove . Governor King and I have agreed there will be no charge for Transporting Free Settlers to our new abode Those who wish to go to Sydney Cove may, the others will go with me to Van Dieman's Land. They will receive 100 acres each as originally agreed

Thirdly, I am dispatching Mr. William Collins, Adolarus Humphrey, and Mr. Thomas Clark on the *Francis*, to investigate Port Dalrymple as a prospective Settlement site, or possibly Risdon Cove. So until they report to me I cannot answer any questions on Sealing.

Fourthly, not all People will be able to go on the ships *Ocean* and *Lady Nelson* on the first voyage. They will have to come back here for the remainder of people. This site will be under the Command of Captain Sladden

## **ACT 3 Scene 1 – John Pascoe Falkner and Marine Guard**

The convict's. Far superior in numbers to all the others combined, were effectively split up between the Groups who used their labour, but snatched gossip would have alerted all the convicts to what was going on..

Do they want to willingly follow Lt. Governor Collins decision or is their opinion NEVER asked for or considered ?. What about the Convicts who had been able to take their wives and children. Remember that the few Wives were allowed to go as "Indentured Servants"

**SCENE 1** Starts off with Private Samuel Wiggins of the Guard admonishing John Pascoe Fawkner ( 11 years old ) for getting to close to the OFFICERS COMPOUND where Lt. Gov . Collins is about to Address the Free Settlers, and Administrative Staff.

The Private is in the dark, doesn't know what is happening and wants to know. He and his wife Susannah, have a sick daughter Ann and a young boy Thomas who was born at sea in July. Meanwhile his Sergeant McCauley, who also has a wife called Mary comes on the scene.

**PLAYERS.** Private Samuel Wiggins Sergeant James McCauley John Pascoe Fawkner. Fawkner's Mother.

## **ACT 3 Scene 2 – Buckley Escape Plans**

**SCENE 2.** Buckley is "pumping" Collins about the trip to Sydney Cove, and how dangerous it could be. The convicts have escaped. The Marines are contemplating what action should be taken

**PLAYERS.** William Collins Ex Navy Master, Free Settler. William Buckley, Convict.

Daniel McAllenan, Convict friend of Buckley and fellow escapee.

Captain of Marines William Sladden. Lieutenant James Johnson

## Act 3 Scene 1

### Commence the Slide or Picture show for ACT3 Scene 1

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS..** Hey youse!, what are you doin

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER** Nothin Private!.

**SERGEANT JAMES McCAULEY..** Private Wiggins what is going on here.? I told all you Soldiers. that no one was to come this close to the OFFICERS COMPOUND. Particularly when Gov. Collins is going to address the settlers.

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS..** I know Sergeant, but it's only a young boy. His Father's a convict that has been allowed to bring his wife, daughter and this young son on the *Calcutta* to this Settlement.

**SERGEANT JAMES McCAULEY..** Do as you are told Private, or you may get the cat o' nine tails yourself. I suppose I had better go around the perimeter to see if other Soldiers are disobeying my orders.

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS** You were lucky young fella, that Sergeant might have had you whipped!

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER** Thanks Private for speaking up for me. I only wanted to see what was going on.

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS..** Tell you what young fella, if you sneaked over to that line of Tee Trees, over there, and followed that scrub line you might be able to hear what's going on. Then you could come back and tell me. But if you are caught don't tell them I told you. How does that sound?

Later.....

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS..** Well what was said?

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER** Well first what I saw. All the Public Servants were seated to one side of the Governor. Most of the Free Settlers with their wives and kids were sitting on stumps or the ground.

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS** Yes yes, get on with it. That Sergeant might come back soon.

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER** No he won't! I saw him getting close to some of the ships Officers. Anyway the Governor said very clearly that the Settlement could not go on as it was and ,he thinks it can't survive. Governor King in Sydney has been given permission to dismantle the Settlement and take every Free person either to Van Diemens Land at a place called Risdon Cove or put the ones that do not want to go to Van Diemens land on a ship that he would send to go to Sydney. .

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS.** I expect it will be like here, horrible!

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER.** The Governor said that Settlers who wished to go to Sydney were to inform Superintendent Mr. Thomas Clark. Everyone else and the Convicts were to go to Risdon Cove in Van Diemens Land.

The Governor intends leaving in 3 weeks to go to Van Diemens Land.

Mr. .Thomas Clark would work out with the Ships Officers who would go on what Ship and which Convicts they would like added to their possessions. The other Convicts would be chained up again on which ever Ship they sailed on.

**PRIVATE SAMUEL WIGGINS** Blast it, I was hoping to get to Sydney fairly soon with my Regiment, and find a house for my wife and youngsters. Anything else?

**SERGEANT JAMES McCaULEY..** PRIVATE!!! I told you to send that boy back to the Convict area, you can do extra Guard Duty tonight as punishment for disobeying my order. You are lucky I did not order you to have 100 lashes.

Later.....

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER.** Mum, I just heard the Lt. Governor say that we are going to pack up here and take us all to Van Diemens Land.

**MRS. HANNAH FAWKNER.** You can tell me all about that, after you help your sister Mary and me finish putting these items into the communal food pot. Then you can help getting the water out of that pile of clothes.

**JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER.** But Mum!!

**MRS. HANNAH FAWKNER** No buts John, and when you have finished those jobs, take the water you got out of the clothes over to Mrs. Miller at the settlers gardens, she is putting the water on her plants and seeds. She said when they get ripe we can have some.



## **ACT 3 Scene 2.**

Buckley, an ex soldier, probably worked as a Trustee for Lt. Collins, so he would have been able to circulate across the Lines that separated, various parts of the community, particularly as he was building the Ammunition Storeroom. Several Convicts had run away so Buckley would have been cautious to whom he confided.

**Lots of questions.** What did the sailors on the boats do. What about exploration, Would Buckley have looked at drawings or charts. What about the convicts laboring at Arthurs seat cutting timber that the Ocean was supposed to take back to England.. What about the building of the jetty to help load up the ships with cattle, livestock, farming tools etc. to help departure to Risdon Cove. Would Buckley have known of Mr. William Collins, the Free Settler ex Master Sailor who Captained the six oared open cutter with 7 convicts to row to Sydney with the news for Governor King that Lt. Colonel Collins had formed a Settlement at Sullivan's Cove Port Phillip Bay.

The whaleboats Captain free Settler Mr. William Collins, could have been asked by Buckley about the voyage. Maybe the delay waiting to get out of Port Phillip Bay could have deterred Buckley and his mates from going out of the Bay. Would Buckley have been able to peruse Grimes or Tuckey's drawings of their travels around the bay? Any way Buckley and friends cut loose a boat, and rowed away, eventually reaching the Yarra River. The convicts decided they wanted to walk to Sydney. Not Buckley though.

Note that Captain Sladden and a small detachment of Marines had to stay behind for several weeks to guard the 100 or so Convicts who could not be accommodated on the *Ocean* or *lady Nelson* to go to Risdon Cove. The Free Settlers Mr. and Mrs. Miller also volunteered to stay behind and collect seedlings for the new Colony.

**PLAYERS.** .Mr. William Collins- Master Mariner and Free Settler. Convict William Buckley A Convict Escapee. Marine Captain William Sladden. Marine Lieutenant James Johnson.

**Commence the Slide or Picture show for ACT 3 Scene 2**

**MR. WILLIAM COLLINS. Ex Navy Master and a Free Settler.**

That's a fine job of bricklaying for the Ammunition magazine !

**WILLIAM BUCKLEY. CONVICT.**

I used to be a bricklayer, before I joined the army.

**WILLIAM COLLINS**

What crime did you commit to be sent here. ? Anyway it doesn't matter, you will be working on the Jetty to load up the animals and stores onto the *Ocean* very soon. Maybe in Van Diemens Land you can build a brick chimney for me!.

**WILLIAM BUCKLEY**

Is it true Sir, that you commanded the ships boat to go from here, to Sydney Town. to let Governor King know that the *Ocean* and *Calcutta* had arrived here?

**WILLIAM COLLINS**

Yes it's true. Lt. Governor Collins provided a 6 oared cutter and 7 trusted convicts as crew. By the way, when they were returned with me on the *Calcutta*, Lt. Governor Collins rewarded them and will look after them. It was an awful voyage, we nearly capsized several times. We started badly it took us 3 days to get out the entrance of this Bay. The ebb tide was strong but the winds were blowing hard from the south west making a large rough sea area. Anyway we finally got out of the Heads in this Bay, along to the two headlands at Westernport Bay, then down around the bottom of this big country, and up along the coast that runs north. Horrible mountains on the land, and horrible big sea swells.

**WILLIAM BUCKLEY**

What happened Sir.

**WILLIAM COLLINS**

Luckily for us the *Ocean* saw us on her way to Sydney Cove, rescued us and took us to Sydney Cove. She was going to report that all passengers and cargo had been unloaded here at Sullivan's Bay, and she could now be discharged from duty.

***WILLIAM BUCKLEY***

Seems like a dangerous voyage Sir.

***WILLIAM COLLINS***

It was very dangerous. It would have been a lot quicker and easier simply to walk overland heading in a north easterly direction. Lt. Governor Collins has rewarded my crew, all of whom were convicts and had to come back here on the *Ocean* with me, by setting them free when we reach Van Diemens Land.

***WILLIAM BUCKLEY***

Anyway why do we have to go to another place and not Sydney Town?.

***WILLIAM COLLINS***

A Settlement has already been formed at Risdon Cove in Van Dieman's Land, and the English Government wants an establishment at the bottom of Australia to stop the French. Anyway I'm off in the schooner *Francis* soon to explore Port Dalrymple with Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Clark the Agricultural Supervisor.

..... Later William Buckley talking to a Convict friend Daniel McAllenan.....

***WILLIAM BUCKLEY***

If we steal a long boat we should only row it up the eastern side of this Bay, before they send a ship or a boat after us.

***DANIEL McALLENAN.***

Why can't we just row across this Bay to the western side?

***WILLIAM BUCKLEY***

I heard that Lt. Tuckey of the *Calcutta* after he came back from going around the Bay in a ships boat, said that he could not find water on the western side of this Bay. If we head for Sydney at least we should find water on the way and we will be going to a Town, even if they still treat us as runaway Convicts. Not like this sandy desert. All alone and the Natives looking to kill us.

***DANIEL McALLENAN.***

Have you told the others about our plan. Are they ready? I'll steal the food and a Musket from the Commissary Store. But we had better escape soon after that because the Marines will start a big search and they might fins me. We can get water towards the North of the Bay.

Later that night on the shore of Sullivan's Bay.....

***CAPTAIN WILLIAM SLADDDEN. Marine Captain*** Well some Convicts managed to steal a ships boat. The night watch under Rev. Knopwood is useless The *Calcutta* marines have left a big hole in our patrols. At least my Marines managed to shoot at some of them when they were rowing away. Corporal John Sutton shot one, Charles Shore. He is pretty ill. Serves him right! Its no good looking for the others on this very dark night Lieutenant, it will have to wait until morning.

***JAMES JOHNSON. Marine Lieutenant..***

I agree Sir. They might have escaped tonight Sir, but looking at the maps that have been made by Lieutenant Tuckey of the *Calcutta* of the Bay, and the map Surveyor Grimes made of this Bay, they can only go on this eastern side of the Bay if they want water.

***WILLIAM SLADDDEN.***

An escaped convict got as far as the big river that Grimes found, and then he even came back. Anyway , I think we will recover our boat. I don't think they will spend time sinking it. If they tried burning it, they would waste a lot of time, and the smoke would give their position away. They will be more scared of us coming after them, and scared of the Natives on the Land.

***JAMES JOHNSON.***

I support that Sir, even if they get to that big river, fear of the Natives will drive them back here, or they might just die of starvation.

***WILLIAM SLADDDEN.***

Alright I will inform Lt. Governor Collins of the escape, and write it up in my Log Book.

I'm going to get a severe reprimand from Colonel Collins. You find out who the other Marine's were who were on duty here at the shore and the boats. I'll have them flogged severely for dereliction of duty!

***SHORT POSTSCRIPT on some of the Major Players  
after SULLIVAN'S Cove, SORRENTO.***

***Lt. Governor Lt. Colonel David Collins.*** Moved the Settlement from Sorrento, to Risdon Cove and then to the present site of Hobart. Suffered greatly by the interference of the Deposed Governor Bligh, when Bligh re located to Hobart. Collins died at Hobart Town on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1810.

***Lieutenant Tuckey- HMS Calcutta.*** After sailing from Sorrento then Sydney the *Calcutta* was later captured by the French. Tuckey was a prisoner of war for some time. In 1815 he was appointed by the Admiralty to explore and map the Congo river in central Africa, where he died of fever in 1816

***William Collins ex Ships Master, Free Settler.*** With George Harris, he recommended settlement at Hobart to Lt. Governor Collins. After sealing and whaling activities he became a high ranking public servant. He also suffered from deposed Governor Bligh's interference. He died in 1800

***William Buckley. Escaped convict.*** After many years of living with Aborigines, Buckley introduced himself to Fawkner's friends at Indented Head ,when John Batman supposedly bought a lot of land from the Aborigines. He later warned the Captain of Fawkner's ship when it was tied up to the bank on the Yarra, that they were about to be killed by Aborigines. After serving as a lowly public servant he collaborated with a writer to "re create his life in print."He died in 1800

***John Pascoe Fawkner. Son of a convict.*** After re locating to Hobart and growing up he engaged in criminal activities, for which he suffered punishment. He went to Launceston, married, became a Baker, built the Launceston Hotel, later started the Launceston Advertiser Newspaper. In competition with John Batman, he helped create the settlement of Bearbrass, later to become Melbourne.

***Reverend Robert Knopwood.*** Toured his large parish on a horse. Became an extensive landholder, Loved entertaining and dining. Died in 1838, in sickness and poverty.

***George Prideaux Harris. Assistant Surveyor.*** Continued drawing and acting as surveyor in Tasmania. Suffered badly in later years from epilepsy. Died in 1810

*Adolarius Humphrey. Mineralogist.* Worked on Norfolk Island and New South Wales. Accompanied Charles Grimes exploring around the Launceston Area. Joined the newly formed Legislative Council. Died in 1829