

THE N/NEWS

NO. 38 JANUARY 1996

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA



10th Anniversary Year

STARTING POINT

TENTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR: Welcome to 1996! As foreshadowed in N/News 37, this year is going to be a special one for the N/N Society. The activities kick off with the annual gathering, this year on Sunday March 3 at the historic Quarantine station at Point Nepean. Full details are to be found on page 5. We hope that members will make a special effort to come to Point Nepean so that this can be our best gathering yet. Other interesting activities are planned for the year - details will appear in later newsletters.

RED FACES?: On a slightly more sober note, some members will find their copy of the N/News adorned with a red sticker. While the splash of colour may look nice, the message is not so good. The sticker is a (gentle) reminder that the current membership subscription has not been paid. We hope that this reminder will reduce the administrative workload in chasing up unpaid memberships. We have decided that non response to two consecutive red stickers will be taken to indicate resignation from the Society, so that no further newsletters will be provided. So folks, if your newsletter has that splash of colour, act now to ensure you don't miss out on your N/News!

(NES)-BITS & PIECES

CLAN FRASER SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA - RESEARCH ON SCOTTISH NAMES AND FAMILIES:
We recently received a letter from the Clan Fraser Society regarding a book they have prepared to help people doing research on Scottish names and families. The following is an abridged version of the letter.

"We are writing to ask if you could let your clan members know that we have finished compiling a book for family research on Scottish names and families."

"The book may be purchased for \$25.00, or on a 3.5" computer diskette for \$20.00. You need Microsoft Works on your computer for this. This is a great book for anyone doing research on Scottish names and people."

"We will be doing another book on Scottish names next year. Could you let your clan members know this? Also I have enclosed a few forms. If any of your members would like to submit names they are very welcome. This is free to them and they are permitted to submit as many names as they wish.

"All we ask is the names to be in by the end of March 1996; so we can have the book ready for the end of April, or earlier.

"Hoping that you will be able to support us in this project. We felt that it was time that we had a Family research Book just for Scottish names and Families. It does not matter where the people were born or lived, as long as their names are Scottish or connected to Scotland. With the support of the other clans we are hoping to make the next book better and bigger than our first.

"We are also wondering if your clan would be interested in exchanging Clan Newsletters. We would be very interested in doing this."

For further information contact: Peter J Fraser-Tibbet, President (Qld Branch), Clan Fraser Society, PO Box 636, Cooroy, Queensland 4563.

Copies of forms for submission of names for inclusion in the book can be obtained from Bruce Nesbit or Ian T Nisbet.

YOUR IRISH ANCESTRY: The following is the text of an article from a (title unknown, pre 1992) magazine, which may be of interest to our members with Irish roots.

"The Irish Tourist Board claims there are some five million people of Irish descent living in Australia. That's as many as the current population of the Shamrock Isle. Nine out of ten Irish who settled in Australia last century came as free immigrants, predominantly from the province of Munster, which includes such counties as Clare, Limerick and Tipperary.

"Some 300,000 Australians have already begun tracing their Irish roots, some starting with genealogical societies in Australia and others writing to members of the Irish Family History Cooperative scattered through most of Ireland's counties. A good starting point is to write to Dublin's Genealogical Office, enclosing a fee equivalent to 10 Irish pounds; you will receive a kit including a questionnaire requesting the following information: name of ancestor, date of birth, place of birth (parish and county), parents' names, religion, occupation or trade, where married, date of departure from Ireland, children's names, burial place and any other salient information.

"The Irish Tourist Board's Sydney office has a listing of family history research centres throughout Ireland plus a record of recommended members of the Association of Professional Genealogists. The Board has also published *The Heritage Trail* by Richard Reid, a 55-page booklet dealing with Irish immigration to Australia. Available, too, is a *Tracing Your Heritage* brochure which contains a map of Ireland segmented into counties with hundreds of family names listed.

"In September 1992, an Irish Homecoming Festival will be held and the descendents of some 100 clans from around the world are expected. Festivities will be held throughout Ireland, including an international gathering of genealogists. Information on this event is available from All Ireland Introductions through the Irish Tourist Board; this service provides a regular newsletter on tracing your ancestors. If you're more electronically inclined, the Heritage Corporation sells one-hour videos for \$49 which explore the roots of most common Irish family names from Armstrong and Burke to Ryan and Walsh, with many a Murphy and O'Connor in between.

"Further information is available from the Consultancy Service on Ancestry, Genealogical Office, 2 Kildare Street, Dublin 2, or the Irish Tourist Board, 36 Carrington Street, Sydney 2000. Ph: (02) 299 6177.

"Heritage Corporation videos can be obtained from One World Films, 133 Dowling Street, Woolloomooloo 2011. Ph: (02) 356 2266."

Material from Evelyn Clark, Eden Hills, South Australia.

N/NS IN THE NEWS

This section is for newspaper cuttings relating to or featuring N/NS. Now they will not only be in the news - they will be in the N/News! Please send any suitable cuttings you may come across to the editor.

September 12th 1995 - Tuggerah Lakes News - 7

RSL Museum acquires two important new pieces

Two pieces of war memorabilia were recently put on display at the September meeting of The Entrance-Long Jetty RSL sub-branch.

A collection of photographs taken of the surrender at Wewak (New Guinea) of the Japanese 18th Army on September 13, 1945 was put on display

The photographs, mounted and framed, showed General Hatazo Adachi surrendering to General Horace Robertson, of the Australian Army.

The framed photographs were a gift from Mr Bob Nisbett, of Bateau Bay, to the RSL sub-branch.

His brother took the photographs of the Wewak surrender 50 years ago.

The second display features a small bronze sculpture of the Australian Light Horse Regiment, which served with distinction in the Middle East during World War I. It was purchased by the RSL sub-branch from the sculptor, Roy Engris.

The sculpture and photographs, are on display at the RSL Museum/Library Long Jetty.



□ Bob Nisbett (l) presents framed photographs of the Japanese surrender in New Guinea (1945) to Clive Hunter, curator of The Entrance-Long Jetty RSL sub-branch Library Museum.

This cutting was provided by N/N member Robert Nisbett (shown above). Robert wrote in his covering letter:

"The photos were passed to me by my brother before he died and I only recently rediscovered them. This being the 50th anniversary of the end of the war in the Pacific, I mounted and framed them and presented the collection to our local RSL sub branch for inclusion in the museum. The photos depict the surrender of the Japanese 18th Army at Boram airstrip near Wewak by General Hatazo Adachi to Major General Horace Robertson GOC, Sixth Australian Infantry Division AIF, on the 13th September 1945. At the time my brother, then a Flight Sergeant, was attached to an Aerial Reconnaissance Flight based at Aitape, New Guinea and was called upon to act as the official RAAF photographer on the occasion. I thought it an admirable way in which to remember my brother John Nisbett."

COMPUTERS

Introductory course can be rewarding

Evelyn Clarke of Eden Hills, South Australia provided these two cuttings, each featuring a 'Nesbitt' face. The cutting at right is from (probably) the Sunday Mail, Adelaide and is the by-line from what appears to be a regular computer feature article. The cutting below is from the Adelaide Advertiser, December 1995 and is the photo which accompanied an article on Tommy Tycho.



Maestro Tommy Tycho with Miss South Australia awards entrants, from left, Janet Tucker, Tracey Nesbitt, Jane McPhee and Justine Annan.

Picture: CHRIS MANGAN

IMPORTANT NOTICE

COUNTRY GATHERING

SUNDAY 3 MARCH 1996

Our Country Gathering for 1996 will be held at Burgess Park in the School of Army Health, Point Nepean on Sunday 3 March 1996. We are fortunate to be able to use such a beautiful and historic site for the occasion. For those who may not know the area, we can assure you that Burgess Park is a lovely treed and grassed area on the Port Phillip shore, set against the backdrop of the majestic Quarantine buildings.

We do encourage you to bring a party of your family and close friends to share in this unique venue and experience. There is one large fixed barbeque on site. You can swim but there are strong tides, so stay between the flags.

Peter Collins, who is an authority on the history of Sorrento, will conduct a tour of the area, and the Quarantine and Army Health museums for those who are interested.

As the area is controlled and the entrance gate is manned, we will need to know how many will be in your party and the names of the drivers. Once inside the gate, the route will be clearly marked for you.

The picnic will commence at 11.00 am and conclude about 3.30 pm. For those who wish to visit the very tip of Port Phillip Bay where it meets Bass Strait, a transporter is available from the Information Section which adjoins the entrance to the Quarantine section. The public transporter leaves at 9.30 am and 10.00 am and could take up to 2 hours. A shorter tour may be arranged to coincide with the timing of the picnic.

RSVP - to Joy Nisbet on (03) 9857 5498 by Monday 19 February, advising numbers and whether you wish to participate in the transporter trip and the tour of the Quarantine and Army Health Museums.

**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT CHANCE TO VISIT A
PART OF VICTORIA THAT FEW OTHERS HAVE
SEEN - CALL JOY NOW!**

SOCIETY NEWS

CHRISTMAS PARTY 9.12.95: This annual event in the N/N calendar was again held at the home of Ian M and Joy. As usual it was well attended by N/N members and the odd friend or two, in all a total of around thirty-five people. With Lesley on piano, the sound of Christmas carols filled the night. Blain Todd did an excellent job in leading the singing, while the rest of us lived up to our usual standard!

Before supper there was the obligatory N/N raffle - this time a 'monster' raffle (although there were no monsters to be seen). In all there were twenty-eight prizes which, in a fair and even world, should have meant almost one prize per person. It didn't work out like that though, with several people walking away with a swag of goodies. Oh well, the rest of us will just have to wait till next year.

The raffle was followed by (the now legendary) Christmas supper. Those who had eaten little or no dinner in expectation of supper were not disappointed; it was a superb meal. As always, thanks are due to Ian M, Joy and all the ladies of the Social Committee for their efforts.

FAMILY SNIPPETS

This section is for brief snippets of news to keep members informed on the comings and goings of our extended family. Send snippets direct to the Editor, or scribble a note on your membership renewal form. One line is all we need!

- * Hazel and Frank Batterham recently celebrated 66 years of marriage. What an amazing effort! Congratulations from your fellow N/Ns.
- * Congratulations to Karen Nisbet and Ossie who were recently married.
- * John Barth returned from Scotland just before Christmas. We look to him for an article on his travels in the near future.
- * Welcome to our newest member, Ms Lynne Hawkins of 348 Wongaroo Rd, Bungaba, NSW 2852.
- * Newsletter editor, Ian T Nisbet, and his wife Gwenda are moving from their home of seventeen years in Greensborough to try inner city living for a while. Their new address can be found on page 8.

N/N members who are also Monty Python fans would have been doubly pleased if they had tuned in to the recent repeats of 'Monty Python's Flying Circus' on ABC TV recently. Not only would they have seen some classic comedy sketches but, if they had been watching closely, they would have (not) seen 'Mr Nisbet' featured in 'the art of not being seen'. Unfortunately for Mr Nisbet, he was *not* seen because he was hiding behind the only bush in sight. As a result he suffered the fate of others in the sketch - he was blown up! N/N members who are not Monty Python fans should probably ignore all of the above as it probably makes no sense to them at all!

FOUND

N/N ANCESTORS: Robert Stevenson from Germany wrote recently describing N/N ancestors who he had found in the Biographical Dictionary:

"I have a copy of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Biographical dictionary; one branch of my ancestors are mentioned it; I have a little information to update on them. My great-great-grandfather was William Nesbet(1). He was probably born in or near Belfast around 1830. My great-grandmother was Mary Duff in the Dictionary, she was the wife of John Nisbet (41). She died in New Jersey, USA in 1916. Their son John Nesbit (42) also died in New Jersey, USA.

"While researching my family tree I came across another Nesbit connection that I have. My grandmother in the Directory is Elizabeth Nisbet(1); her husband was John McArthur. John McArthur had a first cousin named Daniel McArthur who was married to Eleanor Nesbitt. If Eleanor and Elizabeth were related it was very distant. I have traced Eleanor's family back a bit. I could not see any connection to anyone in the dictionary."

Information from Robert Stevenson, 60318 Frankfurt/Main, Oeder Weg 121, Germany.

Please note that Robert also provided a family tree for Eleanor Nesbitt, a copy of which has been forwarded to our Archivist, John Barth. Anyone who would like a copy of the tree should contact John or Ian T. Please note also that Robert has connections to Nesbets, Nisbets, Nesbits and Nesbitts!

MATRON L E NESBITT: 'The Messenger Centenary Souvenir Number' (the official organ of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and Tasmania 1837 - 1937), dated 8 October 1937, shows a photograph (at right) of Matron L E Nesbitt. The text, however, contains no reference to Matron Nesbitt, So there is no indication of where she worked or why her photograph is included. Maybe one of our N/N members can shed some light on Matron Nesbitt or claim her as an ancestor. If you have any information please send it to the Editor.

Material from Ian Clarke.



Matron L. E. Nesbitt

NOTICE BOAR-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar for 1995/96)

15 February	Committee Meeting
3 March	Country Gathering - Burgess Park, Point Nepean See page 5 for details
April	Newsletter 39
18 May	International Gathering - Belfast
May/June	Social Function

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

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10th

 Year

The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society