

# THE N/N/NEWS

NO. 43 APRIL 1997

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY  
AUSTRALIA



## STARTING POINT

*THE N/N NET: As I have alluded to in the past few newsletters, information technology is starting to have a dramatic impact on communication between N/Ns around the globe. For a dispersed group like ours, tools such as e-mail and internet sites are a boon. Members who are not familiar with this technology can only begin to imagine the amount of information that is accessible through just a few computer keystrokes - literally a world of information at one's fingertips. As with other subjects, there is a wealth of N/N material on the worldwide web. A few snippets are shown elsewhere in this newsletter.*

*In addition to access to information, the new technology means access to people. E-mail allows messages to be sent anywhere in the world in just a matter of seconds. It's no wonder that traditional ways of sending messages are now considered 'snail mail'. The N/N committee (and, in particular, Ian M) is considering how we should best take advantage of the new technology. Ultimately, it may be that all our N/N material is communicated electronically. However, this is some way off yet. In the meantime we will continue to provide information in the form of published newsletters and monographs; wherever possible we will also be making it available in electronic form.*

*With the aim of encouraging electronic communication throughout the Society, we will be publishing e-mail addresses in the newsletter. Please send yours to the Editor, who can be reached at [inisbet@csl.com.au](mailto:inisbet@csl.com.au).*

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## (NES)-BITS & PIECES

CONSTANCE EDITH NESBITT: The following snippet of information was passed on from our NSW Correspondents, Keith and Mary Nisbet:

"Beryl Nesbitt of Nelson Bay NSW had a friend give her a photo of a headstone, taken in South Head Cemetery in Sydney. South Head Cemetery was established in 1869 and is the resting place of a good number of the early Sydneysiders.

"The headstone records the spot as the resting place of Constance Edith Nesbitt. Beryl doesn't think the said Constance was related to her, but thought the headstone may be of interest to some other NNs.

"The text of the headstone reads:

In living memory of Constance Edith Nesbitt,  
wife of Thomas H Nesbitt (town clerk of Sydney 1901-1924)  
Born 24th October 1882,  
Died 10th February 1928.

"So if you are searching for Constance Edith Nesbitt, that's where you will find her!"

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## ENGLISH CONVICTS ETC., IN COLONIAL AMERICA

Boston University Library, USA.

(Material by Lorna O'Brien, 4 Ambalindum St., Hawker, A.C.T. - 1993)

### **Pasengers to America:**

- NESBIT Adam, (30), farmer from Glasgow, per HMS '*Adam & Cain*', 23 June 1846.  
 NESBITT Charles, (22), gamekeeper from Liverpool, Eng., per HMS '*Queen of the West*'.  
 NESBITT Hamilton, (34), farmer per HMS '*Brother*', 23 April 1846, from Newty (Newry ?).  
 NESBITT John, (30), labourer from Liverpool, per HMS '*Fair Fields*', 5 November 1846.  
 NESBIT Mary, (25), farmer from Liverpool, per HMS '*Rapphanock*', 24 June 1846.  
 NESBITT Female, (30), per HMS '*Cornet*', 1851; ref. Vol. 5 1846-1851.

### **English Bonded Convicts to Colonial America:**

- NESBITT William, per HMS '*Neptune*', 5 December 1767.  
 NESBITT Elizabeth, per HMS '*Tyral*', 5 February 1851.  
 NISBETT Richard, 5 February 1775, ref. 78/41-42, F 8/31.  
 NESBIT William, (24), mechanic.  
           Elizbeth, (24). No family.  
 NESBITT Deny, p 163.  
 NESBITT H.J., from Liverpool per '*Tuskar*', 13 July 1847.  
 NESBITT Peggy, (55). No family.
- NESBITT Samuel, (17). Family unknown.  
 NESBIT J. per HMS '*O'Micheld*', 13 June 1847.  
 NESBIT Allen, (14). Family unknown.  
 NESBIT Lydia, (14). Family unknown.  
 NESBITT H. William, (25), cab driver per HMS '*Lord Ashburton*', 25 March.  
 NESBITT Eliza, (25 mths ?), cab driver, 26 May 1848.  
 NESBITT Susan, Inf. from Dublin. Ref. p 426.

### **Convicts, Colonial from England, ref. F 8/41-2**

- NESBITT Elizabeth, 5 February F8/31.  
 NESBETT Richard, Lab. 1775.  
 NESBITT H. Wm, also Charles.  
 NESBIT Catherine, p 263.

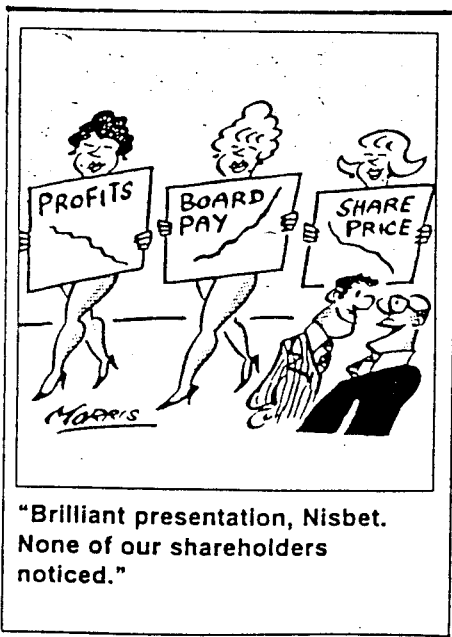
### **Note:**

All names listed above are in vols. held at the Boston University Library, USA. (As at 1993)

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## N/NS IN THE NEWS

This section is for newspaper cuttings related 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.



From:  
Eastern Daily Press, 11 January 1997  
(Courtesy of UK Newsletter)

### All In the family

Tracing your family tree has taken on a whole new dimension with the release of a new version of Ancestral Quest, the genealogy data base which offers multimedia support for people tracking their ancestors. It is easy to use, making it ideal for those just starting research into their family history as well as the professional researcher.

Ancestral Quest 2.0 allows you to import photos, sound clips and video files, and you can crop and rotate all images. Children will be able to watch their ancestors come alive, transforming information from boxes and photo albums into living presentations.

Ancestral Quest 2.0 is valued at \$69.95 for the CD version and



\$59.95 for the 3.5inch version. It requires Windows 3.1 or above and a minimum of 2MB hard disk space, and the multimedia features require soundcard, video capture board and/or scanner. For more information phone (08) 8235 2388 or email: milyn at dove.mtx.net.au.

From:  
AAMI Lifetime Magazine, Issue Two, March 1997  
(Not about N/Ns, but possibly of interest)

## SOCIETY NEWS

**INAUGURAL MEETING OF N/NS IN NSW:** Saturday 8 March was an important day in the ongoing history of the N/N Society Australia. It saw the first meeting of an N/N group in NSW, culminating in the formation of a local Steering Committee. Appropriately, Ian M (who has been working towards this end for some time) and Joy flew up to Sydney for the occasion. The following account of the inaugural meeting of N/Ns in NSW was prepared by the Chairman of the NSW Committee, Graham K Nisbet, who organised the function:

"Well what a day we had on Saturday 8.3.97. A clear blue Sydney sky, a shady backyard, lots of cake, coffee and tea, even some cold drinks, AND .... Almost 30 Nesbitts/Nisbets and others interested in or related to an N/N! It was a fabulous afternoon!

"Ian M Nisbet, our President, and his wife Joy flew up from Melbourne for the occasion. N/Ns travelled to Sydney from the Central Coast, Nelson Bay, Wollongong, the Blue Mountains and all parts of Sydney. We met and mixed, ate and drank and got to know a little about each other and quite a bit about the background and history of the N/Ns.

"Ian M addressed the gathering and brought us up to date on the UK and US N/Ns, showed us a roof tile from Nisbet House, and modelled the N/N crest pocket badge. He and Joy, along with Judith and John Cockbill (N/N Melbourne members visiting Sydney on the day) filled us in on the social and other gatherings they have south of the border. They gave us some good ideas on things we could do here, and recounted the fun and enjoyment of the N/N gatherings down south.

"So stay tuned for further information as the N/Ns in NSW are set to stride forward!"



The above group photograph was taken at the NSW gathering by John Cockbill. Space does not permit identification of all present. Suffice it to say they look like a pretty happy bunch of N/Ns.

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**N/N SOCIETY IN NSW:** Following the above Gathering, a Steering Committee was established. Keith and Mary Nisbet took on the position of 'NSW Correspondents'. This is their article announcing the successful creation of the NSW regional group.

#### **The N/N Society in NSW is Up and Away**

The initial meeting of the NSW Committee was held at the home of Keith and Mary Nisbet at West Pennant Hills in Sydney on 19 April 1997. Those present were Graham, Keith and Mary Nisbet, Peter and Beryl Nesbitt and Frank Nesbitt.

After some discussion on ways to increase the interest and membership in the NSW group of N/N, it was decided to organise two social gatherings for the remainder of 1997.

The first function is to be a 'Christmas in July' on 26/7/97 at the home of Frank and Elizabeth Nesbitt at Baulkham Hills in Sydney. And then there will be a Christmas function at the home of Peter and Beryl Nesbitt at Nelson Bay on 6/12/97.

The detailed arrangements for both are yet to be organised.

NSW N/N members will get further information in the mail closer to the events, but in the meantime, any queries on the NSW activities can be directed to Graham Nisbet at home on 02 9869 1769 or at work on 02 9234 8547.

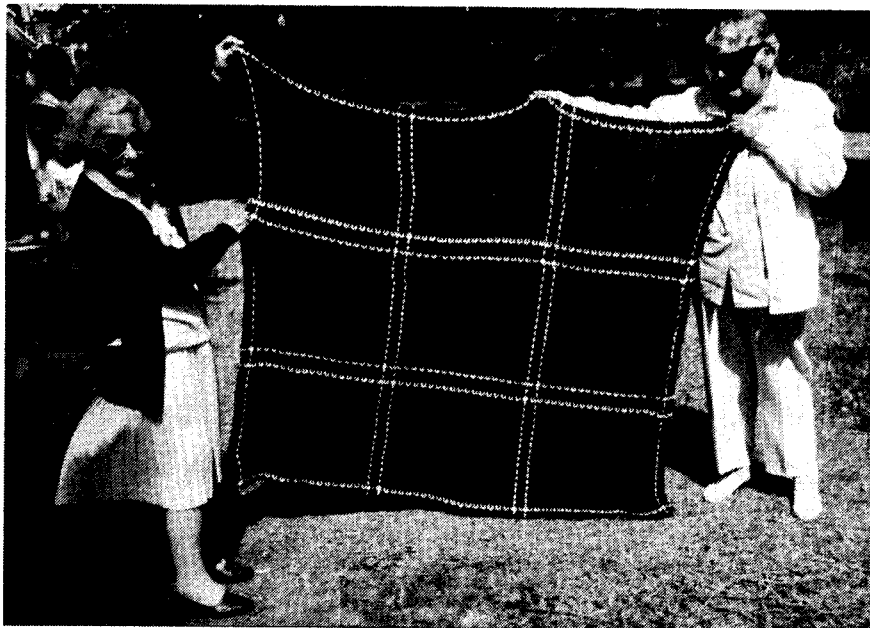
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**CASTLEMAINE GATHERING, 25 MARCH 1997:** At about the same time that our northern cousins were getting organised, the Melbourne group was having its annual country gathering. This year we went back to Castlemaine, the site of our very first country gathering in 1989. Twenty N/Ns made the trip to the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens which, although very dry, provided lovely surroundings. After a cool start to the day, the sun came out for a perfect autumn afternoon. The Boar'n Games, again organised by Gary Nisbet, were a little less vigorous than in years past. However, all present took part with enthusiasm and competition was fierce. If quoits is included in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, we may have a chance at gold! We also had the opportunity to view Pearl Nesbit's tartan crochet rug (see story below). All in all it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

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**N/N HANDICRAFT:** Pearl Nesbit (nee Norris), a very able knitter, has recently learned to crochet. Her first major target was the crocheting of a rug for a single bed, depicting the Nesbit tartan. When well underway she thought "this is easy, I'll do one for each of my grandchildren". She had second thoughts, however, on reaching the intricate stage of working the various colours into the pattern of the tartan. Nonetheless, she pressed on and was able to show the completed rug at the Castlemaine gathering. Her feat was all the more impressive for the fact that Pearl is sight impaired and recently had a corneal transplant.

*Article supplied by Bruce Nesbit.*



This Nesbit tartan, held by Hazel Batterham (nee Nesbit) on the left and Pearl Nesbit (nee Norris) was crocheted by Pearl. It was Pearl's first attempt at crocheting. The photograph was taken at the N/N Society Australia gathering, held on 15 March 1997, at the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens.

**NEW MEMBERS:** The Society needs a steady flow of new members to keep it strong and we are delighted to be able to welcome the following new N/Ns:

R J (Steve) Nesbitt, 17 Northview Cres, Belleknowes, Dunedin, New Zealand. Steve is member Michie Jensen's brother.

Roger H Nesbitt, 290 Young Street, Wayville, South Australia 5034. Roger is our first e-mail member, having initially contacted Ian M via his e-mail address. Roger can be reached on bngd@netadvantage.com.au.

Bruce and Robyn Nesbitt, Manila. Bruce and Robyn were put on to the N/N Society through members Leeanne and Robert Hull, who are also currently located in Manila.

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## **THE WANTED LIST**

Several enquiries have been received (from prospective N/N members) over the past months by Secretary, Ian G Nisbet.

**HELEN NISBET (nee AITCHISON) 1798 - 1861:** Enquiry from John Hayes:

"I have been reading through the interesting and well written monograph 'the Dirleton Nisbets' by Robert V Nisbett. This was kindly sent to me by Mark, the archivist in Cambridge, together with a number of other publications.

"My interest is in Robert's forebear, Jane Aitchison, a farmer's daughter, born in Coldingham, and married to Andrew Nisbet. Looking through the old parish records, I noticed they had eight children including one set of twins.

"The above mentioned lady, Helen Nisbet, was my great-great-grandmother, married to John Nisbet. According to the census returns 1851, Helen was born in Coldingham. On the 25th May 1818, she married John Nisbet in Coldingham Church. A death certificate, which I recently obtained, states she died in the Parish of Ayton, 19th October 1861, aged 63, which gives a birth year of 1798. The parents named on the certificate are father, George Aitchison, farm hand and mother, Alison Alexander.

"After many fruitless enquiries, I find that the birth of neither Helen, nor that of her husband John, were registered, or if they were, the records are missing. John was born circa 1787 according to the 1841 census return.

I was wondering if you could help me to obtain some further information on Robert's forebear Jane Aitchison which might be related to that of Helen Aitchison?"

*Anyone with relevant information should contact John Hayes, 93 Michel Dene Road, East Dean, East Sussex BN20 OLA, UK.*

**ANDREW NISBET:** Enquiry from M Miller:

"My Grandfather was Andrew Nisbet - born 23 June 1890. He was the youngest son of Joseph Morrison Nisbet and Mary Morrissy. I do have some more family information if you are interested or you may be able to tell me some."

*Anyone with information to provide, or who may be seeking information on Andrew Nisbet, should contact M Miller, 68 Casino St, South Lismore, NSW.*

**JANE NESBIT CARNES:** Enquiry from Mrs Mary Grohn:

"Recently I have started researching my family. My grandmother on my father's side was Jane Nesbit Carnes. She was born in Thames, New Zealand and her parents were Thomas Glen Carnes and Margaret Aitkin Thompson.

"Nesbit sounds to me like a family name from further back. A friend of mine .... gave me your address and thought you may be able to help me."

*Anyone with information on Jane Nesbit Carnes should contact Mrs Mary J Grohn, M/S 652, Goomeri, Qld 4601.*

**RICHARD NESBITT:** Enquiry from Mary Butler:

"My great-grandfather was Richard Nesbitt of Co Wicklow, Ireland, arrived Port Jackson 7/10/83, and was married in Louisa Creek, NSW on 28/8/54.

"This gentleman was the son of James and Margaret (nee Wilson).

"I would be most grateful for any information you have, particularly any which may be relevant to the Irish Branch of the family..."

*Any information should be passed on to Mary Butler, 6 Duff Street, Turramurra 2074, phone (02) 91 445 669. (Note - the dates are as provided but they appear to be incongruous).*

## OBITUARY

### BLAINE C TODD

It is with regret that we note the passing of Blaine Todd, husband of our Assistant Secretary, Effie. Blaine was a regular attendee at N/N functions, most notably filling the role of 'lead singer' at our Christmas singalongs. We will miss his presence and his strong voice. Our sympathies go to Effie and her family.

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## 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!

- \* Joy Nisbet recently had a hip replacement operation - we wish her a speedy recovery.
- \* Evelyn Nesbit Clark informs us that she was reunited just before Christmas with her grandson from Germany, who she had not seen for seventeen years.
- \* Lyn Nisbet's eldest son Chris has started a game fishing charter boat business in Broome. N/N fishermen (fisherpersion?) passing through Broome can contact Chris on 091 922 127 or 015 682 241.

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## NOTICE BOARD

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar for 1997)

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10 May  | Teddy Bear's Picnic - home of Ian M & Joy Nisbet         |
| 26 July | Yuletide function (Sydney) - home of Frank Nesbit        |
| 19 July | In house dinner - home of Ian M & Joy Nisbet             |
| 12 Oct  | Sunday afternoon AGM                                     |
| 6 Dec   | Christmas Party (Sydney) - home of Peter & Beryl Nesbitt |
| 6 Dec   | Christmas Gathering - home of Ian M & Joy Nisbet         |

### GENERAL COMMITTEE:

**PRESIDENT:** Ian M Nisbet, 26 Walnut Rd, Nth Balwyn, Vic 3104, Aust.  
**CHAIRMAN:** Ian T Nisbet, 3/208 Alexandra Pde E, Clifton Hill Vic 3068, Aust.  
**SECRETARY:** Ian G Nisbet, 1 St Johns Pde, Kew, Vic 3101, Aust.  
**ASS SEC:** Effle Todd, 18 Hillview Ave, Mt Waverley, Vic 3149, Aust.  
**TREASURER:** Peter Watson, 30 Mitchell Rd, Box Hill North, Vic 3129, Aust.  
**EDITOR:** Ian T Nisbet, 3/208 Alexandra Pde E, Clifton Hill, Vic 3068, Aust.  
**ASS ED:** Ian G Nisbet, 1 St Johns Pde, Kew, Vic 3101, Aust.  
**ARCHIVIST:** John Barth, 101 Cecil St, Fitzroy, Vic 3065, Aust.  
**BOARD:** Bruce Nesbit, Gavin M Nisbet, Lyndell Watson, Karen Nisbet, Gary R Nisbet.

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Ian T Nisbet, Ian G Nisbet, Gary Nisbet, Karen Nisbet.

### PUBLICATION OFFICER:

Bruce Nesbit, 6 Kent Crt, Bundoora, Vic 3083, Aust.

### MEMBERSHIP CONTACT OFFICER:

Lyndell Watson, 30 Mitchell Rd, Box Hill North, Vic 3129, Aust.

### EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

Ian G Nisbet, Gavin Nisbet

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE:

Joy Nisbet, Heather Ames, Lyndell Watson, Merryn Nisbet, Lesley Nisbet, Elyse Classon, Jan Nisbet, Barbara Leslie, Helen Nesbit, Michie Jensen.

### NSW REGIONAL GROUP:

**CHAIRMAN:** Graham Nisbet, 35 Milton Ave, Eastwood, NSW 2122, Aust.

### REGIONAL OFFICERS:

George Nesbitt, 110 Ardross St, Ardross, WA 6153, Aust.  
 Brian S Nesbitt, 14 Davitt Cl, Isaacs, ACT 2607, Aust.

### OVERSEAS CONTACTS:

**USA:** Mrs Gall Jones, 321 Dixon Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216, USA.  
**UK:** Peter W W Nisbet, 7 Stafford Pl, Weston-super-Mare, Avon BS23 2QZ.



**The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society**