

THE N/NEWS

NO. 46 JANUARY 1998

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA



STARTING POINT

WELCOME TO 1998: Well another year is on us again, and with the new year comes some significant changes. As of February, I will be leaving Australia to take up employment in the United States. As a result, I have had to resign as Editor and Chairman of the N/N Society, Australia. Fortunately, it has been possible to quickly identify and recruit new appointees for these positions. The task of Editor falls to Gary Nisbet who, I'm sure, will maintain the best features of the newsletter and bring in some improved features. He may even be able to get it out in a bit more timely manner than I have been able to over the past few years! Effie Todd has agreed to take on the position of Chairman, thereby allowing the Society to make even better use of her excellent organisational skills.

I thank Gary and Effie for their willingness to take on these positions and wish them well as they face the challenges ahead. I'm sure they will both do the Society proud.

Finally, a couple of other 'thankyous'. Thanks to the readers of N/News, particularly those who have contributed articles, materials and searches or who have provided feedback over the years. I have been associated with the newsletter since it started, and Editor for the past 26 issues - it would have been an extremely difficult (nigh impossible) task without members' contributions and without knowing that there were some interested readers out there. Thanks are also due to the members of the N/N Committee for their ongoing support and encouragement. In particular, the efforts of Ian M Nisbet and Bruce Nesbit cannot go unacknowledged. Without Ian's stewardship the Society would not have thrived and without Bruce's commitment the newsletter would never have actually made it out to members.

I wish the Society and all its members well and trust that when I return from the US (maybe in five or so years) there continues to be an active N/N Society in Australia.

Ian T Nisbet

(NES)-BITS & PIECES

N/N WILLS: The following material was provided by Lorna O'Brien via Bruce Nesbit. Although the source of the information is not quoted, Bruce surmises that it is from the National Library in Canberra, where Lorna resides. The information relates to wills proven in the Counties of Middlesex and Lincoln in England.

1860, p 192

NISBET, George Richardson. Effects under 800 pounds., date April 10.

The will of George Richardson Nisbet, late of 11 Jermyn Street in the Parish of St. James, Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, who died March 23, 1860 at Jermyn Street, was proven at the Public Registry, by the oath of Mary Nisbet, Widow the Relict, and one of the executors.

1860, p 157

NESBITT, Ann. Effects under 300 pounds, date July 14.

The will of Ann Nesbitt, late of 7 Francis Place Kingsland Road, in the County of Middlesex, Widow, who died January 28 1860 at 7 Francis Place, was Proven at the Public Registry by the oath of Carloine Burton, wife of Bartin Thomas Burton of 6 Clarence Road, Windsor, in the County of Berks, the daughter and sole Executrix.

1860

Nesbitt, John. Effects under 6,000 pounds, date April 27.

The Will of John Nesbitt, late of Doddington, in the County of Lincoln, farmer, who died April 27, 1860 at Doddington, was Proven at the Public Registry at Lincoln by Joseph Nesbitt of the City of Lincoln, merchant, the son, and Richard Moss, of Whisby, County Lincoln, farmer, the Executor.

Information from Lorna O'Brien, 4 Ambalindum St, Hawker, ACT 2614.

N/N FELONS: Also from Lorna O'Brien comes this snippet from the 'Hobart Town Gazette', 19 January 1822.

“At a Bench of Magistrates held at the Court House on Saturday with Deputy Judge Advocate in the chair. William McFarlane, George Nesbitt and William Thomson, convicts, were charged with stealing a boat, the property of James Foley of Browns River, with intent to escape from the Colony; and pleading guilty, were sentenced to receive 100 lashes each, and to be transported to Macquarie Harbour for the remainder of their sentences.”

NB. Macquarie Harbour is half-way down the west coast of Tasmania into which the Gordon and King Rivers flow.

Information from Lorna O'Brien, 4 Ambalindum St, Hawker, ACT 2614.

SOCIETY NEWS

THE EDITH NESBIT SOCIETY: Members may remember that the N/N Society Australia recently decided to make a donation to the Edith Nesbit Society towards the restoration of the famous writer's memorial. Reproduced below is a copy of the letter from the Edith Nesbit Society, acknowledging our donation and giving an update on what is happening. Members interested in obtaining further information could contact the Edith Nesbit Society directly.

THE EDITH NESBIT SOCIETY

Celebrating the life and works of Edith Nesbit
Author of 'The Railway Children' and resident of SE London

Margaret McCarthy, Secretary,
73 Brookehowse Road
Bellingham
London
SE6 3TH

0181 698 8907

24th October 1997

Nesbitt/Nisbet Society
'St Abb's'
26 Walnut Road
North Balwyn Vic 3104
Australia.

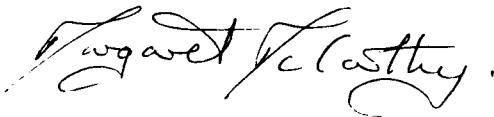
Dear Mr Nisbet,

Thank you so much for sending a donation of £50 towards the restoration of the Edith Nesbit memorial in the churchyard at St. Mary-in-the-Marsh, Dymchurch. The memorial is now in urgent need of help and the society has been looking for quotations to reproduce the wooden monument, put in the churchyard by Tommy Tucker, Edith's second husband.

The church is applying for a faculty to allow this to happen and we hope that the original memorial could then be put in the church for safe keeping, hopefully on display. We will keep you informed of our progress.

Once again many thanks for your kind gift.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Margaret McCarthy
Secretary

Affiliated to the Alliance of Literary Societies

N/N CHRISTMAS GATHERING, MELBOURNE, 6 DECEMBER 1997: Once again Ian M and Joy opened their home to the Society to celebrate Christmas 1997 in typical N/N fashion; and so celebrate we did!

Some twenty-five or so N/Ns and associates congregated to partake of (gourmet) festive food, drink and 'extended family' fellowship.

This year our 'carolling' was to the superb accompaniment of Mr Gordon Hamilton 'on the grand'. Other entertaining items were several solos (in German) by John Cairns-Smith-Barth -'Carreras-Damingo-Pavarotti', a 'party' game or two (of course), and then the feasting and fellowship. This was all capped off with a GRAND raffle, with prizes galore, where it was virtually impossible not to win something. I am sure all prizewinners enjoyed their 'booty' during the festive season.

Thanks must go to Ian and Joy for the use of their home; the Social Committee for organising the event, complete with outstanding quality, quantity and variety of fare; our guest, Mr Gordon Hamilton for sharing his talents with us; Ian G and Leslie for the 'starters'; and the myriad of Santas for the donated prizes.

A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

Article by Gary Nisbet.

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 :
Melbourne 'Herald-Sun'
3 November 1997



Douglas & Doris Nisbet
50th Golden Wedding Anniversary

Douglas and Doris (nee Skinner) were married at Christ Church, Glenlyon Road, East Brunswick, on November 1, 1947. The bride wore French lace and her bouquet was Lily of the Valley and orchids. The reception was held at the East Brunswick Bowling Club and the couple honeymooned at Marysville and then settled in Langwarrin.

Douglas helped to pioneer the football and tennis clubs and also Rotary in the town and the couple have two children, Suzanne and Russell, a son-in-law Glynn and daughter-in-law Heather.

They also have five grandchildren, Kylie, Cameron, Adrian, Evan and Belinda.

Congratulations from your family.

FOUND

INFORMATION FROM JOAN JAMES: The following is a reproduction of sections of a letter from Joan James to Ian M Nisbet, in which she provides information on a number of N/Ns:

"I am writing to let you know that my husband, Archibald Ronald James, died 13 April 1997..... I've had a few snippets of information which I had intended to pass on but had never put pen to paper, so to speak, so here they are - they could be of interest to one of the members.

"There is a Nesbit buried a St Saviours Historical Cemetery, Goulburn, NSW. The name appears on an Index of people buried there; I have no more except 'Nesbit 126'. Ron and I searched for a headstone when we visited there several times, without success. It is a very old cemetery, situated right outside the walls of the Goulburn Gaol. Some of the inmates have made it a project to restore many of the broken headstones, paint the old railings, clear away the blackberries, etc. Excellent work! I don't know who would have more information about this person; perhaps the Council, the Historical Society, or St Saviours Cathedral might know who would have records. There is a large 'James' grave at this cemetery, belonging to our family.

"Not long ago we learned it was possible that Ron's ancestor, Archibald Nisbet, had died in India. I was able to order in two films through the Family History Centre, where I am a librarian, which was a list of non-Indian people who had died there. We didn't find Archibald, but we did find the following, whose deaths were registered in the years 1865 - 1867:

NISBETT, Arthur P	NISBETT, William	NISBETT, JE
NISBETT, J	NISBETT, Emma	NESBITT, Henry GH

"Further information could possibly be obtained from India House in London by research. If anyone is interested I could possibly point them in the right direction.

"In the course of further research on my own family I read two films on some of the men who served in the 20th Dragoons (Army units in those days) during the Napoleonic Wars, and found reference to two Nesbits as follows:

"John Nesbit, age 29 years, 5 ft 7 ½ in tall, hair light brown, born Allerton, Northumberland. Appointed to be Veterinary Surgeon, 2 May 1800. It appears he changed to the 28th Dragoons at half pay to be with another Veterinary Surgeon, who could also be named John Nesbit (it is unclear as to whether there were two Johns or only one).

"The other entry was for Fra. Nisbitt, 26 yrs, 5 ft 6 in, born Leitrim, Ireland. He worked his way up through the ranks from Ensign in 1815 to Lieutenant in 1818 and later resigned.

"Late last year (1996) we were presented with the marriage certificate of Archibald Nisbet and Johanna Wilhelmina Catharina Muller, which took place at St George's Cathedral, Capetown, South Africa. I've just written off to a researcher to try and discover more about this couple as they are Ron's Great Great Grandparents."

Many thanks to Joan for all of these N/N snippets.

Information from Mrs Joan James, 12 Lehmann Place, Croydon Hills, Victoria 3136

THE WANTED LIST

FRANCIS NISBET: The following is the first 'Wanted' notice received directly by the Editor via email.

"I am a descendent of Francis Nisbet (his great grandson) who came to Australia from Scotland with his wife, and possibly the first of his two children, in 1892.

"I have not searched any further ancestors in Scotland. I was hoping that my provision of this information to the Biographical Dictionary may provide a link to other Nisbet families listed in the Biographical Dictionary, or Nisbet families which have been the subject of other publications.

"The closest I have come is Francis Walter Nisbet, who was born in 1869, possibly in County Berwick, Scotland. I do not know if this is anywhere near County Lanark, where my great grandfather was born. The birthdate is possibly correct; it would have made him 23 years old when he migrated with two children, which I suppose is not unreasonable for those times.

"Any help in tracing the ancestors of this Francis Nisbet would be appreciated."

Contact Kim Nisbet, Stock Road, Mylor, SA 5153; or email to knisbet@denr.sa.gov.au.

SWEDISH NISBETHS: Another electronic search notice was received, this time coming from the Nesbitt Genealogy Forum (<http://www.genforum.com/nesbitt/>) via Timothy Nesbitt.

"Posted by J Nelson <nelson@discovery.net> on December 24, 1997:

"(I) am a descendant of the Swedish Nisbeths, and would like to make contact with other Swedish Nisbeth descendants to compare family trees. Would particularly like to make contact with descendants of Alexander Mauritz Nisbeth of Jonkoping Lan."

OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of Richard Kerr Nesbitt, the President of the UK Branch of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society. Richard played an important role in the Society over many years. Reproduced below is a copy of the newspaper death notice.

NESBITT.—On Jan. 23, peacefully at home, after a long illness bravely borne, RICHARD (Dick) KERR, aged 86. Dearly loved father of Robert and John and grandfather of Venetia. Funeral at New Alresford Parish Church on Thursday, Jan. 29, 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to R.N.L.I. c/o Jno. Steel & Son, Chesil Hse, Winchester, SO23 0HU.

OBITUARY

It is with much sadness that we note the passing of Joy Green (nee Nisbet) late of Templestowe, Victoria. Joy died in Brisbane on 25 September 1997. Joy was the sister of N/N members Amy Green (nee Nisbet) and Bill Nisbet, as well as aunty of N/N members Dr Ian T, Gary, Andrew, Peter & Mark Nisbet.

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!

- * N/N member Mark Nisbet (Eltham, Vic.) recently married Ms Robyn Meikle on 24 January 1998.
- * Dr Ian T Nisbet (recently Chairman and Editor) has very recently taken up residence and employment in the USA, but has temporarily abode only at this time. More details will be forthcoming as he settles.
- * Yet another Nisbet in the USA: Stu and Nancy Nisbet of the N/N Society North America Branch notified us of the arrival of a granddaughter, Hope Erin Wilcox Nisbet, born 22 January 1998.

STOP PRESS

The doctor has departed! *The USA now has the privilege of getting to know Dr Ian T Nisbet. On behalf of the N/N Society Australia I would take this brief opportunity to wish Ian and his family well during the coming "transitional" months ahead and the years to come; and every success in his recent appointment. His energy, enthusiasm, efforts and eloquence will be missed. I do however, as a brotherly gesture if nothing else, expect to hear from him from time to time, hopefully with an item for the N/News. I am also sure that I for one will seek his counsel on the odd occasion.*

Little Ed.

As somehow finding myself the 'heir apparent' to the editorship I have now taken up this role (having compiled page 7 of this newsletter). I would like to thank Ian T Nisbet for his editorship, and editorial support prior to that, of the newsletter since its inception. Bruce before him produced the newsletter to such exacting standards and Ian only managed to further develop it to the quality we see today. This is very much dependent on the volume, quality and relevance of the material supplied (and read) by all of us, members and associates. All materials of any style, age or presentation are welcomed. I look forward to providing this very important link within our society in conjunction with your continued support. Articles can be forwarded to myself (address overpage) or via any of the committee members.

Little Ed.

NOTICE BOAR-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar for 1998)

19 February	Committee meeting
21 March	Annual Gathering - Venue to be advised
April	Overseas visitors reception for Sue and David Nisbet
May	Antiques function (to be confirmed)
July	Games night and dinner
October	AGM

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT: Ian M Nisbet, 26 Walnut Rd, North Balwyn, Vic 3104, Aust.
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BOARD: Bruce Nesbit, Gavin Nisbet, Lyndell Watson, Karen Nisbet.

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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:

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COMMITTEE: Peter & Beryl Nesbitt, Frank Nesbit.
GENEALOGY CONSULTANT: James E Nisbet.

ACT REGIONAL OFFICER:

Brian S Nesbitt, 14 Davitt Cl, Isaacs, ACT 2607, Aust.

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The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society