

THE N/NEWS

NO. 48 JULY 1998

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA



STARTING POINT

One of the key things that Australian and New Zealand N/N members focus on is the identity of their emigrant ancestors. Living in the antipodes, each of us knows that we are located a long way from the major centres of the Northern Hemisphere. But none of us realises how far that distance was for those early settlers.

My present circumstances caused me to reflect upon this matter recently. Four months ago I moved from Melbourne to Boston, leaving my wife and two daughters in Melbourne. Two months later my wife joined me and, shortly after, one daughter left for a year's travelling through Europe. So, in a short space of time, my Melbourne-based, nuclear family became spread over three continents. That was a bit disconcerting but, thanks to modern electronic communications, the family has been able to maintain regular email and telephone contact. How fortunate I am to live in the modern era!

Sure, it's not the same as seeing each other - but it is regular contact. And I have the reassurance to know that I can get on a plane and be home in 24 hours if necessary.

How different this is to our ancestors who left their homes to emigrate all those years ago. Many never saw their families again. The only form of communication was by mail - at best they could hope for a couple of letters a year. When I think about these things I start to feel for the suffering and hardships that our ancestors went through. Could I have done what they did? I don't think so.

And I'm extremely glad I didn't have to.

Ian T Nisbet

N/Notes

Ian M Nisbet (President) recuperated to the reading of NNEWS #47 after a short hospitalisation and surgery for acute appendicitis and is now returned to better health.

Helen Nesbit (Convenor) currently recuperates to the reading of NNEWS #48 after heart surgery and continues to improve steadily.

The Society is indebted for its inception and existence to these two individuals and their spouses (or is that spice?) and on behalf of members I wish them full and speedy recovery.

Editor

(NES)-BITS & PIECES

SEVERAL WILLS PROVEN AT THE COUNTIES OF MIDDLESEX AND LINCOLN ENGLAND

1860 p. 192

NISBET, George Richardson. Effects under £800, 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, Wine and Beer Merchant, who died March 23, 1860 at Jermyn Street, was Proven at the Public Registry by the oath of Mary Nisbet of 11 Jermyn Street, Widow the Relict, and one of the executors

1860 p. 157

NESBITT, Ann. Effects under £300, 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 Caroline 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, 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.

Material supplied by Mrs Lorna O'Brien, Canberra.

SOCIETY NEWS

NSW COMMITTEE: The NSW Regional Committee held their annual meeting on May 1, 1998 to review their successful efforts of 1997 and plan future strategies and events. These events will be included in the NNEWS "NOTICE BOAR-D" (*in italics*) and all regional and interstate members are most welcome to attend.

Should you be considering interstate travel and be able to take in one of the meetings either in Victoria or NSW please do. One of the poignant comments noted was that Graham reported a delightful evening with the Vics hosting overseas visitors Sue & David Nisbet from the UK and his comment was supported by Mary & Keith's experience on attending one of the dinners.

EDINBURGH GATHERING: Since we were in the country, we thought we'd catch up on a few extended-relatives -- that Nesbitt/Nisbet mob in Edinburgh.

Their annual gathering coincided with our UK/Europe visit -- and there was a bonus if we attended -- it was situated in the Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre!

After tea, coffee, biscuits and a mingle, we all settled down to the meeting, general business and formalities. Of the thirty people attending, 5 were from America, 4 from Australia, 2 from Munich and the remainder were from Scotland or England.

The Australians were my sister Debbie Nisbet, her husband Andrew Davis, myself (Karen Nisbet) and my husband Osy (Andrew Osborne). We were made very welcome and people were thrilled we had made the effort to come (long long plane ride).

Our guest speaker was John Nesbitt from the USA. I was to learn that he was the original enthusiast who initiated the idea of forming an N/N society. In his speech, he outlined directions the worldwide N/N society could take for the year 2000. During discussions about N/N society membership, the Australian Society was complimented for being such a successful, active society by the UK President, David Nisbet.

An additional bonus for myself and Julianne from Munich is that we received a Nisbet of the Ilk t-shirt from the American N/N Society. (Lucky us!)

Formalities and discussions over, we had a great smorgasbord lunch (and more time to chat) before going on the Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre tour -- complete with a whisky sample at the end. Good fun!

Most of us then met up again for dinner at an Italian Restaurant -- which was a perfect finish to a great day... well... some of us then rocked on to the pubs after that for that extra perfect finish (the Aussie and US younger contingent had a nice late night).

So if you happen to be in Scotland in late May, try to make the UK Nesbitt/Nisbet Society gathering -- it's great fun.

As an extra note -- if in Edinburgh, try to get a David Nisbet informal tour around Nisbet house and estate (*one of her many photographs below*). If you haven't met him, it is a reason to do so -- he and his daughter Ver, took us around the house and drove us around the original Nisbet Estate boundary. It was a lovely personal touch.

Karen Nisbet



Nisbet Crypt near Nisbet House

NETWORKED N/N's

Some Network addresses which may interest members:

"First Families 2001"	http://www.vicnet.net.au/~family/main.htm
"The World Family Tree"	http://www.ancestry.com
"Scots Origins"	http://www.origins.net/GRO/
"Nesbitt Family Genealogy Forum"	http://www.genforum.com/nesbitt/

One of the many entries from the N/N Guestbook (Nesbitt Family Genealogy Forum) took my eye:

"From: Gillian Nisbet
Date: Tue Feb 3 08:43:05 1998
Nisbet Family

Just browsing while supposed to be studying, and found this site. I live in Edinburgh, Scotland. I did not realise the Nisbet connection was so widespread. Well its nice to know there are so many of us out there!"

FOUND

THOMAS FORBES NISBET: - THE SEQUEL

In NNEWS #47 (p5 FOUND) Gail Mowbray closed with the line "I do hope this information might help someone else out there with the Nisbets and maybe I might have another member looking for my Thomas Forbes Nisbet". She was not far askew there! as come late May, an email to President Ian M Nisbet from a non-member was in fact requesting assistance in the search for a Thomas Forbes Nisbet, as below:

From: Pat Liddell
To: inisbet@tpgi.com.au
Subject: Family History Nisbet
Date: Saturday, 23 May 1998 9:44

Nisbet: Looking for relationships of Thomas Forbes Nisbet b.circa 1844, Leith Scotland.[believe parents to be Robert and Barbara.] Married Annie Maria Shingles in July 1872 in Sale, Victoria, Australia. Thomas died 1926.

Any information ,particularly pre Australia gratefully anticipated.
Thanks in advance.

KerryNisbet: Looking for relationships of Thomas Forbes Nisbet b.circa 1844, Leith Scotland.[believe parents to be Robert and Barbara.] Married Annie Maria Shingles in July 1872 in Sale, Victoria, Australia. Thomas died 1926.

Any information ,particularly pre Australia gratefully anticipated.
Thanks in advance.
Kerry

Looking back through my copies of NNEWS for a friend re: articles on Captain Moonlight, I noted that Thomas Forbes Nisbet first appeared in NNEWS #33 as a simple two line "WANTED" entry and has appeared regularly since. Though initially unsuccessful, Gail Mowbray has persevered by any/all avenues and methods and is now able to illustrate the success of her efforts (see NNEWS #47).

Pat and Gail are now in touch with each other courtesy of Ian M's mediation, but as Ian notes by "snail mail" presently. "The power of email" Ian would have us believe - an obvious convert. Ian is currently investigating/proposing that this venture may yet continue into "The Shetland Nisbets", several of our members have already documented lineages back to the Shetlands. Note Gail & Kerry live not far apart in Gippsland, Victoria.

WILSON (nee NISBET):

Ramsden On December 10, 1997, Irvine
Dorrien Ramsden, FRPharmS, of 22 Hall
Avenue, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, West

Wilson On January 2, Catherine Winifred
Wilson (née Nisbet), MRPharmS, of 17
Kekewich Avenue, Edinburgh EH7 6TZ.
Mrs Wilson registered in 1939.

From THE PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL (of Great Britain) (Vol 260 p 159) 31 Jan 1998
Information supplied by Ian Clarke

THE WANTED LIST

CHRISTINA BURNS NISBET: *As noted (next page) in welcoming Robert T Johnston into our Society, here is some detail regarding his Nisbet connection. Below is the covering letter Bob submitted when he returned his N/N biographical information sheet. Let's see if we (world wide society) can assist.*

Dear Bruce,

Returning the N and N form, sent to me by Ian Nisbet.

As you can see Nisbet's don't get much of a mention. That is what I am trying to remedy. The minister of the Presbyterian Church Pencaitland supplied the following information to me.

My mother was born out of wedlock in 1899 in Edinburgh to Elizabeth BURNS and Hugh NISBET. From there she was taken by her mother to Red Row, Pencaitland, East Lothian, and dumped with her grandparents Peter BURNS and Christina BURNS nee (BATHGATE) where her mother left her in 1901.

Elizabeth - was recorded attending a Presbyterian Church in Portobello late 1901, but disappeared from their register in mid 1902. " We worry about being traced through various means today".

I have tried tracing their whereabouts through all the usual places, The GRDs, Genealogy libraries etc to no avail, so thought I would try N \N to see if anyone can throw some light on the subject for me.

I have enclosed a descendants list of my grandparents as the wee bit for issue details was a bit cramped, also the issues of G Gpts, the GG Gpts on the BURNS families. Hope you can follow them.

Yours Aye'

MEM-BOAR-SHIP

COUNCIL OF CLANS - AUSTRALASIA INC: Our application for membership in the Council of Clans was successful, being admitted as members at the committee meeting of May 11, 1998. As such we shall endeavour to advise N/N members of proposed events which may be of interest and would welcome any volunteers to represent the clan at these functions. They are:

Kirkin o' the Tartan at Scots Church	5 July 1998
Beechworth & North East Celtic Festival	14-15 November 1998
St Andrews Service at the Shrine	22 November 1998
Daylesford Highland Gathering	5 December 1998.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following new members to the Society:

- * Mr Robert "Bob" T Johnston of Croydon, Victoria. Bob is Chief of then Council of Clans. Bob's connection to the Nisbet name is expounded in the "WANTED" section of this NNEWS.
- * Peter and Judy Todd (and Stephanie & Adam) of Monbulk, Victoria.
- * Mrs E (Noelene) McPheat of Albany Creek, Queensland.
- * Mrs Ellen McPheat of Stafford Heights, Queensland.
- * Mrs Elizabeth Brown of Albany Creek, Queensland.

(The last 4 being, son & sisters of our chairman, Effie Todd.)

FAMILY SNIPPETS

* Michie and Fred Jensen are proud grandparents again, a fourth grandson Frederick Jensen. CONGRATULATIONS to all involved.

* N/N Edinburgh Castle connection: Wendi Nisbet (daughter of Ian T) recently visited Edinburgh Castle and was delighted to see a photo of her father and several uncles with 'Haggis' the teddy bear. Haggis was bought by Wendi's Mum (Gwenda) on a trip to the Castle a couple of years earlier. In keeping with tradition, Gwenda had sent photos of Haggis taken at various outings. The outing in question was an N/N function at the home of Ian and Joy Nisbet, where Haggis was the bear of honour. So now we have some N/N faces on the rogue's gallery at Edinburgh Castle. Unfortunately, the most intelligent face belongs to the bear!

STOP PRESS

FIRST FAMILIES 2001: The First Families 2001 Project. The program is an initiative of the SLV, covers all immigrant Australians and is available Australia-wide. In fact it will be a world-wide resource. We encourage all to subscribe results of your research and access the site.

N/N ITEMS: Thanks from the committee, on behalf of the Society to:

* Dot & Colin Nesbit for supplying volumes of microfiche entries for Victorian BDM's 1837 to 1920.

* Terry Nisbet for supplying BDM's entries for NSW.

Both now reside in the archives.

Certificate of membership to the Council of Clans - Australasia Inc.



**THE
COUNCIL OF CLANS
-AUSTRALASIA INC.**

**UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
RONALD E. ROBB**

**HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE
*Nesbitt/Nisbet society
australia***

AS A

MEMBER

OF THE COUNCIL

**THIS 11th DAY OF MAY
1998**

CHIEF

HON. SECRETARY

NOTICE BOARD-D

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

July 25	In House Dinner Party at 26 Walnut Rd, Nth Balwyn 7:30pm
July 25	<i>"Christmas in July" at 4/125 Cardinal Ave, West Pennant Hills 5:00pm</i>
Sept 27	<i>Sunday lunch or picnic, location to be advised (Western Sydney)</i>
Oct 24	AGM Devonshire Tea at 26 Walnut Rd, Nth Balwyn 3:00pm
Dec 5	Christmas Party at 26 Walnut Rd, Nth Balwyn 8:00pm
Dec 12	<i>Christmas lunch picnic (poolside) possibly Dence Park, Epping</i>

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT: Ian M Nisbet, 26 Walnut Rd, North Balwyn, Vic 3104, Aust.
CHAIRMAN: Effie Todd, 18 Hillview Ave, Mt Waverley, Vic 3149, Aust.
EDITOR: Gary Nisbet, 37 Neuparth Rd, Croydon North, Vic 3136, Aust.
SECRETARY & ASSISTANT EDITOR: Ian G Nisbet, 1 St Johns Pde, Kew 3101, Aust.
TREASURER: Peter Watson, 30 Mitchell Rd, Box Hill North, Vic 3129, Aust.
ARCHIVIST: John Barth, 14A Robinsons Rd, Hawthorn, Vic 3122, Aust.
BOARD: Bruce Nesbit, Gavin Nisbet, Lyndell Watson, Karen Nisbet.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Gary Nisbet, Ian G 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, 10 Merinda Ave, Epping, NSW 2121, Aust.
CORRESPONDENTS: Mary & Keith Nisbet, 4/125 Cardinal Ave, West Pennant Hills, NSW 2125.
COMMITTEE: Peter & Beryl Nesbitt, Frank Nesbit.
GENEALOGY CONSULTANT: James E Nisbet.

ACT REGIONAL OFFICER:

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

OVERSEAS CONTACTS:

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

The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society