

# THE N/NEWS

NO. 54 JANUARY 2000

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY  
AUSTRALIA



## STARTING POINT

*Well, it would appear that we all made it through to 2000, survived the Y2K bug and now struggle to recollect the myriad fireworks displays. Best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2000. And if you are one of the many who believe that it can all legitimately be repeated again at the end of this year - why not!*

*As I return to the keyboard, work and Newsletter, I contemplate the future of our branch of the N/N Society. Those N/N's that attended the Inaugural Meeting back on 27 June 1986, some who then volunteered onto the steering committee and many of whom still serve on the various committees, are, like all of us, another year older. As our reports indicate, we are in a healthy position; a reflection of the strong leadership and dedicated efforts of the committees and members to date. Help us build on those foundations. Should you be a "budding" next generation N/N committee-person (whether to fill an executive or regional position) please make yourself known. I believe that the internet, combined with the support and assistance of fellow committee members and Society membership, would allow many positions to be filled remotely. Please consider, our future is in your hands. If you have ideas for the 21st century N/N Society let us know. We are here for posterity, to document history and leave a legacy to future generations of N/N's.*

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## NOTICE BOARD-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar for 2000)

Mar 26	Family Picnic, Kings Park, Perth, 12:00 onwards
March/Apr	Country gathering - <i>details yet to be advised</i>
Apr	N/NEWS No. 55
May 20	UK Annual Gathering - Dirleton Castle & environs, Scotland
July	N/NEWS No. 56

Note: the social calendar can be viewed on the homepage.

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The UK 2000 Gathering is being held at the Open Arms Hotel, Dirleton, East Lothian, Scotland on Saturday 20 May 2000 at 10:00 am. The curator of Dirleton Castle (owned by the Nisbet family from the 17th to 19th centuries), Andrew Spratt, will give a talk on the history of Dirleton, followed by a guided tour the castle and grounds. Lunch at The Open Arms will then be followed by the Annual General Meeting.

(NES)-BITS & PIECES

FOUND IN CARDIFF CENTRAL LIBRARY, WALES:  
LOCATION OF GRAVES OF BRITISH SERVICEMEN  
WHO SERVED IN FRANCE. British War Office, London.

**Cemetery Records, Doullens Extention, France:**

- NESBITT Pte. Cuthbert Wm, 1913, 8th Btn; son of Rev. John Wm and Hannah Nesbit of Aldorought Rectory, Norfolk, England. Had been recommended for a Commission. Grave No. V B7.  
NISBET Cpl. Hugh Brown, 907128 28th Btn; Canadian Inf. Saskatchewan Reg. d 4th Apr. 1918, age 24; son of Leo and Mary Nisbet of Galston, Ayershire, Scotland, grave No. V1 E 46.

**Bagdad N.G. War Cemetery:**

- NISBETT Serg. Napoleon L., District Pohe, instructor to Arab officers of the Livies, formerly CP 11298, LC Cpl., Mil. Police Corps KIA ACL at Shahrhen Hillah, age 29; son of Mrs Charlotte Hamilton, 72 Main St., Hart(d)hill, Lanarkshire, No V111 M 5.

**Index No. F. Grevilles British Cemetery, France:**

- NESBITT Priv. John, 57079, 1st of 8th Btn, Lancashire Fusiliers; died of wounds 1st Oct. 1918, age 19; son of John and Margaret Nesbitt, West Newton Kirk, Woden, Northumberland, grave No. ZV1 B16.

**Index No. Iraq 5 Amara War Cemetery:**

- NIBLETT Gunner A. 33949 19th Btn Manchester Regt. d 30 Apr. 1916, No. V1 F9.

**Index No. FR 214 Bucquoy Rd Cemetery Part 11:**

- NESBITT Sub. Lieut. Norman, RNVR, D Coy Anson Btn, RN Div. d 21 Aug. 1918 age 28 son of the Rev. J.C. Nesbitt, MA, and Maryanne Nesbitt of East Houghton, Brough, Yorks, No. V1 M22.

**Index No. FR 217 Morval British Cemetery, France:**

- NOBLETT Pte. Reg. Thos Williams, 62628 13 Btn Welsh Regt. d 31 Aug. 1918 age 20; son of Wm Geo. and Gwen Emma Noblett, 28 Norway St., Seedy, Manchester. Natives of Welshpool, No. A 24.

**Index FR 441 Premont British Cemetery France:**

- NESBITT Pte. Robert Mathews, 30054, 16th Btn Lancashire Fusiliers, KIA 4 Nov. 1918; age 36 ; son of Samuel of Belfast and the late Mary Nesbitt, No. 11 D8.

**Index No. 251 France:**

- NISBET Lt. D.G., 3rd Attah. 5th Btn, South Wales Borderers, d 10 Jan. 1916, age 21; son of William and Ellen Louise Nisbet of Rosebriars, Esher Park, Surrey, Eng. No. B 34nb (This cemetery is half a mile east of Boiselle Village, Normandy, France).

*Ancestors of member of ID129, Lorna O'Brien of the A. C.T. left de Boiselle, for England in 1066. de Boiselle was later changed to Boswell.*

**Index No. 268 France La Tangote, British Cemetery Aux-Rietz:**

- NIBLETT Serg. H., 44376, 121st Bty 27th Bde, Royal Field Art., d 21 Jun 1917, No. 11 C17.  
NISBET Pte H., 200701, 1st 15th Btn, Highlanders, Light Inf., d 13 Jul. 1918, No. 1V A8.

**Index No. France Vol. XXIII, 206 Romories Communal Cemetery Ext.:**

- NISBETT Pte. Charles, 22328 A Coy 2nd Btn Royal Scots, KIA 23rd Oct. 1919 age 24. Son of John and Elizabeth Edmond Nisbet, 54 Market St., Musselburgh, Edinburgh; No. 1C5.

**Index No. France 147 Haynecourt, British Cemetery:**

- NISBET Pte. A.T. 441236, 5th Btn, Canadian Inf., Saskatchewan, Reg. d 27 Sept. 1918, No. 1H9.

**Index No. France 146 St Sever Cemetery:**

NESBIT A.B.A. T2/3541 RNVR 'Howe', BN RN, d 20 Feb. 1917, No. V1 H9.

NISBET Graham Robert, 169688 "A" Bty IOS Bde, Royal Field Artillery, d 23 Mar. 1918; No. P V1 D 9A.

**Index No. France 193 Outer Steene Com Cemetery Extension Bailleul:**

NISBET Lce. Cpl. Alexander, 21911, 1st Btn King's Own Scottish Borderers, KIA, 18th Aug. 1918, age 20; son of Robmorton and Mary J. Nisbet, 26 Yeoman Pl., Edinburgh. No. 11 H42.

**Index No. France 121 Etret at Churchyard France:**

NISBETT Pte. Smith, 163993, 75th Btn, Canadian Inf. 1st Central Ontario Regt., d of wounds 28th Nov. 1916, age 30; son of Elizabeth Nisbett of RR No. 5 Brighton, Ontario, and the late William Nisbett of Tronhot GF. Grave 11 A6A.

**Index No. France Longuenesse, 134 Souvenir Cemetery:**

NESBITT Pte. J., 3488, 2nd Btn, Royal Inniskillin Fusiliers, d 26 May 1915, No. 1 A 139.

**Index No. France 95 Aubigny Com Cemetery Extension:**

NISBET Pte. William, 325505, 1st Btn. Royal Scot. Regt. d of wounds 4 Mar. 1917, age 25. Son of William B. and Janet Nisbet, 7 Lorne Lane, Nth Berwick, Haddingtonshire. No. 1 G49.

NISBET Serg. Harold Walter, 1069, 10th Btn. Royal Fusiliers, d 24th Apr. 1917, age 25; son of Frederick Arthur and Jane Nisbet, 4 Glasenton Rd., Stamford Hill, London. Native of Islington, London, No. 11 D29.

NAISBITT Pte. J.G., 317, 7 Btn., Royal Sussex Regt., d 2 Oct. 1915, No. 1E 137.

**Index No. France 102 Boulogne Eastern Park, 111:**

NESBITT Gnr. Henry James Bowden, 675543, "A" Bty, 258 BD Royal Field Artillery, d of wounds 17 May 1917, age 29. Son of William and Jemima Nesbitt, 44 Gill St., Liverpool, No. IV B27.

NESBITT Pte. James Bowden 1236, 6th Btn. Blackwatch, d of wounds 16 Jul. 1915. Son of Will and Jennie Nesbitt, 54 Nth Strand Rd., Dublin. Was Customs and Excise Officer at Co. Cork at outbreak of war, No. V111 B62.

**Index No. France 62 Ration Farm Mill Cemetery:**

NESBET Pte. J. 174050, 15th Btn. Royal Scots, d 18th Sept. 1916, No. V1 F4.

Material supplied by Lorna O'Brien.

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The following is an extract from *"MI5" - British Security Service Operations 1909-45*, by Nigel West (Triad/Granada) 1983.

p 146 Chapter V, The British Fifth Column, the fourth introductory quote:

*'Anyone who says the Germans will not invade are mad.'*

The Director of Military Intelligence, Major-General F. G. ('Paddy') Beaumont-Nesbitt, addressing the Joint Intelligence Committee, 13 September, 1940

Major-General Beaumont-Nesbitt is again mentioned on page 212.

*Any more details available on "Paddy"?*

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Treasurer, Gavin Nisbet recently received correspondence from the National Bank with a new variation of the spelling of our surname NIZZNIT.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### New South Wales

Graham Nisbet has resigned as chairman of the NSW Regional Group due to work demands. *Sincere thanks for his efforts in this role of the last several years and we wish him well with his endeavours. Any volunteers?*

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### Victoria

The AGM was held on October 24 and reports etc have been mailed out to members. There were few changes to the committees. The Society reports show that we are well supported both in membership and funds.

The Christmas gathering of December 11 was, as usual, well attended and well organised by the social committee. We were fortunate that Judy & Rodney Hand from New Zealand were able to attend, whilst holidaying in Australia. We were again entertained by (in order of appearance) piper, Mr Bill Walker of the Rats of Tobruk Band; pianist, Mr Gordon Hamilton; and concert singer, Ms Ella Banner formerly of the Gilbert & Sullivan group, vocal adjudicator for the Ballarat Eisteddfod and long time associate of Joy. Again the monster Christmas raffle kept many keen after another scrumptious and plentiful supper. Thanks once again to Joy and Ian for making their home available and their efforts to ensure enjoyment was had by all.

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### Western Australia

*We had a lovely day for our first gathering in Western Australia on Sunday 7 November. Although our numbers are small we had a very enjoyable day. Family history was discussed along with rugby and cricket. We spent some time looking at the Nisbet Internet Site and the on-line library which will be a great addition.*

*Mary Homewood brought a lovely rug to show us which she has crocheted in the Nisbet Tartan.*

*Plans were made for the next event which is to be a Family Picnic at the Playground in Kings Park (near the Tennis Club) on Sunday 26 March at 12 noon. We do hope all the WA members will be able to come and share the fellowship.*

*Pippa Letch*

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## NETWORKED N/N's

A few sites that might be of interest:

Kiwi genealogists: <http://www.directenergy.com.au/FamilyTrees/KiwiGen/>  
<http://www.genealogy.org.nz>  
<http://downtown.co.nz/genealogy/>

Riddle nuts: <http://www.riddlenut.com/>

Noted by Jenny Papa

Some sites that may be of use in researching and interpreting historical documents:

Ranks, Professions, Occupations and Trades  
<http://www.gendocs.demon.co.uk/trades.html>

Colonial Occupation Titles and Definitions  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~billinh/occupation.htm>

List of Occupations  
<http://cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/terms.html>

Occupations Descriptions  
<http://www.onthenet.com.au/~tonylang/occupa.htm>

Names of Old Time Occupations  
<http://www.genrecords.com/forms/occupations.pdf>

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## FOUND

Date: October 25, 1999 Time: 4:03 pm

Name: Robert Anthony Nisbet Email Address:  
Robert.Nisbet@UH.Redstone.Army.mil  
Subject: Format Used for My Family & Society Records

The Society Record keeper helped me prepare this format for my family records and submittal to the Society for posterity.

Name: First Middle LAST  
Born: XX Mnth 19XX , Place: Name, City, Cnty, State

### Family:

Father: First Middle LAST, born: Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
Mother: First Middle LAST, born: Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
Brother: First Middle LAST, born:Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
Sister: First Middle LAST, born:Place Name, City, Cnty, State

Married: XX Month 19XX, at place: Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
Married to: First Middle LAST [If Female Maiden]

### Children:

1] First Middle LAST, born Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
2] First Middle LAST, born Place Name, City, Cnty, State

### Occupation & Employers:

#### Education:

Degree, Place Name, City, County, State  
High School: Place Name, City, Cnty, State  
Grade School: Place Name, City, Cnty, State

### Remarks:

[Example:] Served in \*\*\* military, promoted to \*\*\*\*\*.

We spent Christmas in Shreveport (Louisiana) visiting friends. Just down the street was a Barnes and Noble store - a large book store where you can sit and read and drink coffee. We went there a few times to check out all the different books.

Anyway, I was flicking through a book on the architect Frank Lloyd Wright and came across the drawings of a 'Nesbitt House' in Carmel, California. There was no information on the house, other than the plan and a couple of internal sketches. But it sure looked like a great place and this must have been some important 'Nesbitt' to have had Frank Lloyd Wright to design him or her a house.

So, there is/was a Nisbet or Nesbitt House in at least two countries! Does anybody have more information or details regarding 'Nesbitt House' Carmel, California?

Dr Ian T & Gwenda Nisbet (Boston, Mass.)

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#### SUCCESS - A link

It transpires that NZ member Jenny Papa has established links with Rachele Devereux on the basis of the FOUND article of N/NEWS No 52 pp4-5, her great-grandmother, Margaret being a sister of Janet Elder Devereux (nee Nisbet). Hopefully, Rachele has contacted Jenny to further develop their association.

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#### THE WANTED LIST

Karen Nisbet (karenos@netspace.net.au)  
from Melbourne wrote to members:

Do you have any pics of interest to fellow Nisbet/Nesbit/Nesbitts. And you have a scanner? Send it to me jpg formatted, with the maximum side being 420 pixels wide/high, and give me a minimally-worded caption... and watch out for it in our members photo gallery! Cheers Karen

In a form of response, Gavin & Jan Nisbet, also from Melbourne wrote:

Karen, congratulations on the new pictures in the photo gallery especially no 3 of th Italian Night with me right in the middle. Keep up the good work, trust that others will provide photos for you to keep the site interesting. Gavin (Dad)

*So folks, Karen has made the invitation and Gavin has issued the challenge, please support the efforts of Karen and the committee in developing the home page.*

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Date: December 3, 1999 Time: 4:19 pm

Name: Margaret Vickers Email Address: margaretv@xtra.co.nz

Subject: Nesbitt

My Grandfather, John Nesbitt of Lislea, Co Armagh, Northern Ireland, died 14 April 1922. Married Margaret Girvan. She died 14 June 1923.

Their children Samuel James (my Father), Hugh, Emily, Robert, John, Albert.

If anyone could help me with tracing my family of the Nesbitts I would be grateful. Also I know nothing of Margaret Girvan's family, either where she was born, etc.

Seasons Greetings to all the Nisbet/Nesbitt Society from us in the New Zealand Branch.

Date: November 17, 1999 Time: 11:35 pm

Name: Gail Mowbray Email Address: mowbray@vic.australis.com.au

Subject: Shetland Islands Interests

Have discovered Ancestors come from Shetland Islands.

My G. Grandfather was Thomas Forbes Nisbet, he married Williamina Agnes Gardner and they had 4 children before he must have left Scotland for Australia. His father was Charles Nisbet married to Archibella Thomson. They had 5 children. Thomas Forbes, David, Barbara, Robert Hosea and Charles Archibald.

Looking for more information on Charles Nisbet.

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## MEM-BOAR-SHIP

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

- \* Peter & Christine Bell of Manunda, Queensland.

*I have already contacted Peter and established that we are from the same family tree, or emigrant ancestors being John & Isabella Nisbet (nee Watson), trees 005 & 053 in the biographical dictionary. - Ed*

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## FAMILY SNIPPETS

- \* Belated Birthday wishes to our Convenor, Mr Bruce Nesbit, who managed to clock up 80 years (and still going strong) at the end of last September, just prior to the last N/News. What we lacked in timeliness we made up for in gusto at the Christmas Gathering where Bruce was heartily congratulated and "choraled" in grand style.
- \* Anne (nee Nisbet) & husband, Sean Carter celebrate the birth of their first child, a daughter, Isabelle Anne Carter, born 30 December 1999. Anne is the youngest daughter of (proud) first-time grandparents, Gavin & Jan Nisbet (N/N Society treasurer). Congratulations!

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## STOP PRESS

BERWICK HIGHLAND GATHERING: - This year's gathering is to be held at the Acoonah Park Reserve, Princes Highway, Berwick on Sunday 13 February. (Melway Ref 111 H10, adults \$2, children under 12 \$1, family \$5).

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One "Boars Head" tie for sale as previewed in last N/NEWS, \$20 plus postage. The boars may be wild, but the tie is tame! Please contact Newsletter Editor.

## 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: Gavin Nisbet, PO Box 617, Mount Waverley, Vic 3149, Aust.  
ARCHIVIST: John Barth, 14A Robinsons Rd, Hawthorn, Vic 3122, Aust.  
BOARD: Bruce Nesbit, 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: Vacant  
CORRESPONDENTS: Mary & Keith Nisbet, 4/125 Cardinal Ave, West Pennant Hills, NSW 2125, Aust.  
COMMITTEE: Peter & Beryl Nesbitt, Frank Nesbit.  
GENEALOGY CONSULTANT: James E Nisbet.

## ACT REGIONAL OFFICER:

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

## WA REGIONAL OFFICER:

Pippa Letch, 19 Damson Way, Greenwood, WA 6024, Aust.

## NZ REGIONAL OFFICERS:

Margaret Vickers, Kartigi, RD2 Palmerston 9061, Otago, NZ.  
Dorothy Bagnall, 45 Beulah Avenue, Rothesay Bay, Auckland 10, NZ.

## OVERSEAS CONTACTS:

North America: R. Thomas Nesbitt, 210 W. Beaver St, Zelienople, PA 16063, USA.  
UK: Alison Nisbet, Woodend Croft, Castle Fraser, Sauchen, Aberdeenshire, AB51 7JX, UK.

The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society

## INTERNET SITE:

<http://www.nnsoc.org.au>