

THE N/NEWS

NO. 84 July 2007

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA



STARTING POINT

Bula! No, this is not a typical Australian, Scottish, Gaelic or English greeting, it is Fijian for “welcome”. I recently enjoyed a week at a quiet resort in Fiji; and frankly, I grew easily accustomed to “Fiji time”, and I am having some difficulty in re-adjusting” – hence the lateness of this edition. I thank members who have submitted material for The N/News and trust that you find the reading not only interesting, but also informative and enjoyable.

N/News 84 is the last for our financial year and as such prompts a degree of reflection and setting of goals for the coming year (and beyond). Whilst the reports to the AGM will cover these in greater detail I wish to bring a few matters to the attention of all N/N members in advance of the AGM, with the sincerest of hopes that members will give them consideration and will respond positively. Over the past few years we have had several committee members retire from office without volunteers coming forward to replace them. The roles have been taken up from within the committee, either as a secondary role or as appointment to a position of a general committee member. My sincere thanks are extended to all of the committee. During the past twelve months personal circumstances of several committee members have undergone change. Our social calendar has been on the “quiet side”. The committee too has been quiet, with several individuals working on specific tasks/projects during the year. Ian M and Joy’s hosting of the social evening with John Nesbit (NZ Regional Officer) was greatly appreciated by all. I thank Ian and Joy on behalf of all members.

President Ian M Nisbet’s commitment to “being the first contact and PR/Membership Officer” for the Society, regularly monitoring the N/N Society’s (all branches) Guestbook/s for applications and potential members and subsequently supplying contact, assistance and warm greetings has paid great dividends in both new memberships, a number of stories/potential stories and a number of successful linkages of families.

I ask all members to ensure that they are financial and trust that you will continue to support the Society by shortly renewing your membership. I also ask members to consider making themselves available and nominating for a position/office on the next committee. The time commitment is not demanding, but things do not get done “by themselves” and personally, the dual role of Chairman and Editor for a full-time employee with a family of teenagers does not allow each role to be given the time and energy/ies needed to sustain the Society into the future. Similarly, other dual roles of President and Homepage/Membership Officer or Secretary and Treasurer as we currently have also need to be addressed. Having said that, I believe that the Australian Branch and the Society worldwide is well serviced and quite active on several projects with a stable membership – but your active support is both required and here sought in an effort to continue beyond just the immediate future.

Please consider! Vinaka vakalevu! (Thank you very much). I anticipate hearing from a number of you!

Chairman & Editor



NOTICE BOAR-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar)

Aug 3 – 6	2007 N/N - North America Gathering, Livonia, Michigan, USA
Oct	N/NEWS # 85
Oct	Annual General Meeting – details to be advised.
Dec	Christmas Gathering

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



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SOCIAL NEWS

The N/N Society – North America clan gathering in Livonia, Michigan, August 3rd-5th takes place as this newsletter is being produced & distributed. To the organising committee - well done and I trust that it has been a rewarding experience and a great success. Unfortunately, the Australian Branch was not represented; however, the opportunity and open invitation to commune with fellow N/N's is highly regarded and appreciated. We look forward to reports of the gathering.

MEM-BOAR-SHIP

We are happy to welcome the following new members to the Society:

- Richard & Corrine Naisbitt of Duncraig, WA
- Penny Jakeman & Neal Young of Longreach, Qld
- Kevin* & Beverly Nisbet of Pyes Pa, Tauranga, NZ
- Paul Nisbet of Hamilton, Qld.

New e-mail addresses have been recorded for the following members:

- Brian Nesbitt
- Judy Hand
- James Nisbet

* *In this one edition of the newsletter we welcome Kevin into membership, include a search request for antecedents and also note his passing.*

Annual Subscriptions

Please check your records to ensure that your membership is current. Annual Subscription notices will be issued early in our new financial year – please attend to their payment promptly, thus making the Treasurer's and committee's life that bit easier.



OBITUARY

Kevin Nisbet

Whilst only briefly associated with the N/N Society, the passing of Kevin Nisbet on 14th July, 2007 is noted with sadness. We extend our condolences to Beverly and family.



(NES)-BITS & PIECES

Australia's Red Coat Regiments

Whilst we have concentrated on N/N migrant ancestors, it may well be that the first N/N in Australia and/or New Zealand was in fact a "Red Coat" – a British soldier from one of the numerous regiments who served in various capacities over a number of years in the early colonies and penal settlements. Indeed it appears that James Nesbit of the 1st/48th Foot Regiment arrived in 1817. The records from which the following details were extracted contain (separate) lists of soldiers who have been identified as having remained in Australia, either as settlers or as deserters, no N/N's were noted in either context. Those that served, and then presumably returned to England, are:

1st/48th Foot (The Northamptonshire) Regiment
1817-1824
Nesbit, James

Arrived Port Jackson in July/August 1817

1st/21st Royal North British Fusiliers Regiment
1833-1839
Nisbet, Hugh

1st/28th Foot Regiment (The North Gloucestershire Regiment)

Nisbett, James

Nisbett, James

Nisbett, John

Arrived Sydney 17th July 1835 aboard the 'Westmoreland'

1st/80th Foot (Staffordshire Volunteers) Regiment
1836-1844

Nebbett, Richard

1st/96th Regiment (Manchester Regiment) of Foot
1839-1849

Nisbet, Walter

1st/11th (North Devonshire) Regiment of Foot
1845-1857

Nesbutt, Hefernan

65th (2nd Yorkshire North Riding) Regiment of Foot
1846-1865

Nesbitt, David

Nesbitt, Joseph

Nesbitt, Thomas

1st/12th Foot East Suffolk Regiment
1854-1867

Nesbit, H

Nesbitt, David

2nd/14th 2nd Battalion Buckinghamshire Regiment of Foot

1867-1870

Nesbett, Galbraith

Nesbett, James

1st/18th Foot Irish Regiment
1870-1870

Nesbett, Galbraith

More details regarding these Regiments and some individuals can be found at

<http://freepages/history.rootsweb.com/>

Hugh Nesbit/Nisbet

The following account regarding Private Hugh Nisbet (of the 1st/21st Royal North British Fusiliers Regiment above) was extracted from an article on the internet at <http://www.sydneyle.com/Massacres%20Part%20One.htm> entitled:

The myths of frontier massacres in Australian history, Part I

The invention of massacre stories

Keith Windschuttle

Quadrant

October 2000

The Battle of Pinjarra is commonly labeled today a "punitive expedition". The *Oxford Companion* even calls it a "planned ambush" that taught the local Aborigines, who had till then violently opposed white intrusion onto their lands, the futility of their opposition. After this incident, their resistance subsided and the outpost at Peel Town could be safely expanded into the settlement of Mandurah. However, the actual reason for the mission was to apprehend the killers of **Hugh Nesbit**, a private in the 21st Royal Scots Fusiliers, who had been murdered by Aborigines in April 1834 near the soldiers' barracks at Peel Town. The 25-man expedition to capture them included Governor Stirling, the Surveyor-General Captain J. S. Roe, the Superintendent of Police Captain Ellis, the Superintendent of Natives Mr Norcott, five mounted police and ten members of Nesbit's 21st Regiment.

In 1833 the Regiment was known as the 21st Regiment of Foot (Royal North British Fusiliers) In 1877 it became the 21st (Royal Scots Fusiliers) Regiment of Foot. A potential reference for further detail may be: Blackburn, Geoff. Conquest & Settlement : 21st Regt (North British Fusiliers) in Western Australia 1833-1840.

Nisbets of Belhaven

N/N member Robert V Nisbett submitted the following material referring to the Nisbets of Dunbar. His late cousin, William Nisbett a resident of Dunbar, found the following inscription in the Dunbar Parish Church, Old Cemetery before 1990.

This burying ground is the property of the Nisbets of Belhaven, old Heritors of the Burgh.
The present possessor
James Nisbet
of Wigmore Street London caused this stone to be erected to the memory of his grandfather William Nisbet who died on the 25th December 1771 and his grandmother Elspth De Neville who died 1st February 1780 and Mary Nisbet his aunt who died 21st September 1816 whose remains with those of their Ancestors are deposited in this place.

Robert's letter states "The specific mention of Nisbets of Belhaven immediately attracted his attention as that was how our family line was known. However after much searching he could not discover any recorded data to that effect. No doubt the main reason being that not long after he discovered the tombstone the church was destroyed by fire and most of the Parish records burned. Time has also caught up with the old stone which unfortunately has now crumbled away."

As Robert has described above, these N/N's were not able to be traced through recorded link/s to his family tree, documented in the N/N Society Monograph "The Progression of a Branch of the Dirleton Nisbets to Australia". Perhaps this information could be of assistance to some member researching their family history.

N/N – variants "A rose by any other name"

Some recently reported variant spellings:

John Nesbit (NZ Regional Officer) provided the following snippet – an excerpt from an e-mail from his son, Trevor:

Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2007 2:03 PM
Subject: are you a nebsite?

I have just been marking an assignment for a student who spelled my name as Trevor **Nebsite**...- quite good when the assignment was about a Website....

Some Naisbitt snippets:

- John **Naisbitt** - Author "Megatrends", 'Global Paradox' – in everyone's library! Biography is on the internet.
- ElectricScotland.com - "NESBIT(T), NISBET(T) page 1 "Another account of the name" 1st paragraph lists "Naisbitt" as one of 42 variant spellings.
- The name is common in Durham, Canada and there are 5 listed in Melbourne white pages.
- Richard **Naisbitt** – who has appeared in earlier editions of N/News – "Birds of Prey" keeper at Healesville Sanctuary – most recent reference to him in N/News 77 page 6.

Article on "Australia's Red Coat Regiments" in previous section of this newsletter:

- Nebbett
- Nesbutt
- Nesbett

The (Melbourne) Age on page 13, Thursday 21st June 2007 was an article entitled **MPs' pay setter a 'Lib mate'** by Katharine Murphy and Cathy **NILBETT**

John Nisbett – patent/s on inventions

On Tuesday, 01-May-2007

Pauline Fluerty - from Perth, WA wrote:

Hello, I have been searching for patented inventions for my gr gr Grandfather John Nisbett of Belhaven, Dunbar. Thought I had found them and had them sent over - alas! Not my John Nisbett.

So, is this your John Nisbet? b c1819 in Barony, Lanark, Living in Coatbridge, Lanark in the 1861 Census (he was an Engine Smith Overseer) - I have copies of his inventions from the Mitchell Library in Glasgow.

Happy to pass them on to the correct family.
Pauline

Pauline thank you for this generous offer, perhaps you might consider lodging them with the Society.



N/N's IN THE NEWS

Sue Nesbit

The entry at right was spotted in the Melbourne Herald Sun of Sunday, June 3, 2007 (page not noted).

John Barth – N/N member

An eagle-eyed Helen Nesbit spotted the entry below in the Melbourne Herald Sun of Monday, June 11, 2007 on page 11 in the VOX POP section.

The **VOX POP** question being **Do you support recommended law changes allowing lesbians and single women access to IVF treatment in Victoria?**



JOHN BARTH
55, Camberwell

No. I quite like the marriage state, being a parent. I think children need both parents.

R Nisbet

In a full layout spread across pages 14 & 15 of The (Melbourne) Age, Wednesday June 6th 2007, the ANZ bank thanked their Victorian staff (all by name) in recognition of having been named Money magazine's Bank of the Year. Amongst the 15,500 names was **R. Nisbet**.

A similar item appeared a few years ago - see N/News 76, p.6.



Sue Nesbit, 36
Dean Henderson, 35

▲ DEAN and Sue met nine years ago at a country barbecue.

Dean proposed to Sue at the restaurant where they had their first date.

They were married at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, East Melbourne, and had the reception for 104 guests at The Willows, South Melbourne

The bridesmaids were Robyn Pendlebury, Kylie Bierman and Jan mawson.

The groomsmen were Jason Barrie (best man), Jason Draper and Craig Stevens.

The pair honeymooned on Daydream Island and plan to live in the Bayside suburbs.

They live in Malvern East.

THE WANTED LIST

Biographical Dictionary – updates requested

Any updates to biographical data for members and their wider families since 1994 are requested. I do not believe that there have not been more births, marriages and deaths than the few received to date. Please assist with this vital project. Even if just an excuse to contact both close and distant relatives – please do it and pass the information onto the secretary or editor. The Biographical Dictionary has assisted many of our newer members and is a critical resource to the society.

Robert Charles Nisbet – antecedents wanted

From: Paul Nisbet
Sent: Monday, 23 July 2007
Subject: great grandfather

I have been looking into Nisbet history and trying to find my family links to Scotland/UK. My father, Peter Wallace Elliott Nisbet, b. 1925, Malvern, Vic. My grandfather Peter Harold Nisbet, b. 1907, Vic.

My great grandfather, Robert Charles Nisbet, emigrated to Victoria is the link back to Scotland/UK branch of family. Apparently he married twice, my grandfather a product of the second marriage (only child). I think one son from the first marriage was named Arthur and there was a brother (name forgotten, perhaps Cecil). I would appreciate any information.

I do not have an arrival date. Great grandfather was an artist & musician and I think a merchant seaman. I think one of his wives was a MacDonald or a Donaldson, I'm not sure which.

Paul Nisbet



Kevin Nisbet –his family tree

The following is a compilation of material extracted from a recent exchange of e-mails, telephone calls, research by several N/N members all emanating from kindly act of friendship.

For the N/N Society, it has been a short but active association. The 3rd June 2007 saw a non-standard application submitted to the N/N Homepage from Robin Bishop on behalf of an ailing friend, Kevin Nisbet. Along with the application was a request for assistance in tracing Kevin's family history. Robin advised that Kevin was very ill and so "time was of the essence" if Beverly was to be enabled to show Kevin a family history.

Kevin's great grandfather, George Scott Nisbet married Sophia Sanson in Wellington, NZ in 1880. The family was believed to have originated from Kelso, Scotland. In her Guestbook entry it is noted that Kevin's grandparents were George Scott Nisbet and Ellen Sparkes.

Ian M Nisbet, responded rapidly to this request, telephoning Robin to advise that membership for Kevin & Beverly had been granted and that the Society would make efforts to assist. John Nesbit (NZ Regional Officer) was advised and a request to John Barth (archivist) was issued as well as consulting N/N reference material on hand.

Unfortunately, material was not immediately available/forthcoming. By 18th June Robin had made a little progress through discussion with Kevin's cousin, George, who was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, not Kelso. Robin had also been actively pursuing other material and was able to provide further detail, as below:

1. Kevin Nisbet, b. Pahiatua, NZ 1944, married Beverly Brown
2. Reginald Nisbet, b. Pahiatua, NZ 1908
3. George Scott Nisbet b. 1881, NZ married Ellen Sparkes, b. 1880 (info needed about her)
4. George Scott Nesbit/Nisbet b. 1851 Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, married (in Wellington NZ) Sophia Sanson, b. 1861/63, Hampshire
5. Edward Nesbit/Nisbet married Jane Blake in 1837 in Kelso, Scotland. Jane was the dau. of Walter Blake and Isobel Scott
6. probably but not certain..William Nesbit b. 1788, Millfield, Kirknewton, Northumberland married Liliias (Lilly) Lindsay
7. also very uncertain but possibly an Edward Nesbit.

Robin was keen to not restrict detail to the Nesbit/Nisbet line only, but also gather details on Sophia Sanson's family and similarly for Ellen Sparkes' family. Kevin's health continued to deteriorate.

It was noted that the N/N Society UK publication of the church and parish records pre-1855 Scotland, Vol 2 listed Edward Nisbet's marriage to Jane Blake in 1837, Kelso, Roxburgh.

This extra detail enabled a rapid response from John Barth who consulted the International Genealogical Index and located the following:

Walter Blake, m.Isobel Scott, with issue

1. Joseph Blake, bap Kirkton of Roxburgh, co Roxburgh, Scotland 8 June 1823.
2. George Blake, bap there 1 November 1826.
3. Margaret Blake, bap there 22 September 1816.
4. Jean Blake, bap there 7 August 1819.

Edward Nisbet, m.Kelso, co Roxburgh, Scotland 1837 Jane (Jean) Blake, with issue

1. George Scott Nesbit, bap St John's parish, Newcastle upon Tyne, co Northumberland, England 24 August 1851.
2. Jane Bulman Nesbit, b.27 February 1866, bap Holy Trinity, Gateshead, co Durham, England 19 March 1866.

William Nesbit, m. Kirknewton, co Northumberland, England 26 December 1808 Liliias (Lilley) Lindsay, with issue:

1. David Nesbit, bap Kelso, co Roxburgh, Scotland 24 October 1819
2. William Nesbit, bap there 13 March 1822
3. Isabella Nesbit, bap there 26 May 1816.

Kevin passed away on the morning of Saturday, 14th July and a funeral service was held on Thursday 19th. Kevin's interest in family history was sparked by his diagnosis of a terminal illness. Whilst Kevin did not see the completed history he did see the bulk of it, and several other family member's have become interested and so may well continue to pursue this research. Should you possess any information on this lineage please advise so that we can facilitate contact.



FOUND

Neal Young – N/N connection

New member, Penny Jakeman indicated the following in her covering letter:

“Have traced our family back to Isabella, John and Thomas Nesbit in New Zealand, arrived 1842. Do we link to your family tree in any way? Would love to correspond.”

Ian M Nisbet's initial research indicated that this was probably John Nesbit's family. John has since confirmed that John and Isabella are his great great grand parents – success already! The Young connection comes about through the marriage of William George Young and Lily Nesbit in 1901 in Nelson NZ.

Elizabeth Nisbet – antecedents

On 18-May-2007

Debbie Rummery - from Cairns, Qld wrote:

How wonderful!! I have found Elizabeth's family and, once confirmed I am a step further. George Nisbet married Agnes Sim in Edinburgh 15 Jun 1787 6 children: James, Janet, Agnes, Elizabeth m James Henderson, Alexander and Sophia.

Thanks for a great site and I really hope to meet some rel's.

This entry was found on the N/N Society (British Isles) Guestbook, after finding some results in the GRD. If you link into this lineage either respond via the UK site or submit an entry in the Guestbook on the Australian site.



FAMILY SNIPPETS

Holly & Camille Ames

Holly Ames and Robert Windle became engaged in Newcastle, Morpeth, UK on the 2nd June, 2007 and returned to settle in Australia during July. Their wedding won't be until summer, early 2009.

Our congratulations to Holly and Robert on their engagement.

Camille Ames and Andrew Russell were married on the 24th February, 2007 at St Georges Church and are now living permanently in Australia.

As was reported as an upcoming event in N/News 82.



STOP PRESS

Sir Alexander Nisbet (MD)

Dr June Slee has recently found details regarding parents and relatives of Sir Alexander Nisbet (MD) and John Barth is assisting with further research. Once details are all available a N/News item is anticipated.

Murdock Nisbet - corrigendum

I was looking up the information on Murdock Nesbit and came across your website. I would like to correct something you wrote as I have been reading about him in a scholarly work just published on THE BIBLE IN ENGLAND by David Daniell. In 1520 Murdock Nesbit did translate the Bible into Scots – in that you are right, but it was not from the King James because the KJV was not even translated until 1611. The Bible he had was a Wyclif New Testament – something that was illegal as it was illegal for anyone other than the priests of the Roman Catholic Church to have a Bible and even those Bibles were only in Latin. To have any type of Bible could be punishable by death. The main detail to correct is that he was working from a Wyclif Bible – sometimes spelled Wycliffe. Do look up on the web about John Wyclif or Wycliffe. That Bible by Murdock Nesbit is now found in the British Library – another correction you might want to make.

Thank you, Barbara Cross

This is from the National Library of Scotland <http://www.nls.uk/collections/rarebooks/collection/s/bibles.html>

The Bible in Scots

No complete text of the Bible in Scots has yet been published. Murdoch Nisbet produced a Scots version of the New Testament, translated from the Wycliffite Bible of John Purvey, between 1513 and 1539, but it remained in manuscript, known only to his family. Now published by the Scottish Text Society, it is available on the open shelves of the General Reading Room (SCS.STES1.46). The first translation of the New Testament into Scots from the original Greek was produced by William Lorimer and published posthumously. A copy of the first edition is also in the General Reading Room (Misc.12).

The above entries were found on the N/N Society North America Guestbook

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The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society Australia is a member of the Council of Clans

The Nesbitt/Nisbet Society is a Worldwide Clan Society

INTERNET SITE:

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