

# THE N/NEWS

NO. 87 April 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY  
AUSTRALIA



## STARTING POINT

*I have been an active member of the N/N Society - Australia since its inception but have, in all those years, managed to further my family tree very little. So, recently I decided to set this as my goal: I purchased some basic software and entered all the material that I currently have in a very short amount of time and was able to print pedigrees, family tree and reports almost instantaneously. The challenge now is to ensure that the gaps are filled and that further information (places, photographs, deeper and "more personal" history -ies) are collected.*

*I have also attempted to progress my tree back further at the "Scottish" end using some of the tools and references readily available on the internet and through the Society. Finding myself continuously frustrated at lack of progress I decided to join the Nesbitt/ Nisbet DNA Project: something that I had been meaning to do for a while anyway. Hoping that this will assist me in direct me as to where my efforts might most likely be fruitful, or even better, provide me with link/s to an already established, well researched and documented family tree.*

*The initial results from FamilyTreeDNA based on the 12 marker test indicated some 343 "exact matches" from their "open" database - no N/'N's! The next set of results for markers 13 to 25, was limited to one match (23/25) - still not an N, N! The final set of results for markers 26 to 37 again returned only one (33/37) but at least this time a Nisbet. However when reviewing what 33/37 meant I was extremely disappointed to find the description "50% chance that we shared a relative 20 generations ago". I am struggling to identify my 5<sup>th</sup> generation, - to get to 20 - not much chance. Then I realised that the "open" database did not include the specific surname projects unless individuals had explicitly opted for both. So now I await comparisons within the N/N Project.*

*Meanwhile Ian G Nisbet & Ian M Nisbet, now having some time to dedicate to their researches, seem to be making headway with their efforts - hopefully we will get to see/hear about these in the near future.*

*I have not received any responses to my calls for members to fill committee positions or offer to assist. Once again I ask that you take an active role in your Society. John Nesbit in New Zealand is currently the most active of our officers and is finding it rewarding on a number of fronts. I wish him well as he continues to represent and develop the Society in New Zealand. I am sure that there are a number of Australian members that could do equally well and find it equally rewarding. I would appreciate hearing from you before N/News 88.*

*Enjoy your reading!*

Chairman & Editor



## NOTICE BOARD-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar)

July	N/NEWS # 88
Sept 27	2008 Gathering will be held at Gunsreen House, Eyemouth, Scotland
July 25-26	2009 - International Gathering of the Clans, Edinburgh, Scotland

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

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## MEM-BOAR-SHIP

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

- Trevor Nesbit of Christchurch, NZ.

A change of address for Adrian Nisbet has been noted.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### New Zealand

Greetings from Kiwi land.

I forwarded 2008 subscriptions received, including one for a new member.

Society activity here has increased markedly recently with a number of contacts being established. I have recently spent time in the North Island & had access to free toll calls which I put to good use. Late in April I'm off to Nelson (a significant place for Nesbit's) for a few days for more research & networking (I believe that's what it is called).

In some ways it is a little disappointing that these contacts don't all lead to membership, however there have been some new leads & it does establish contacts & highlights the Society.

## (NES)-BITS & PIECES

### Mary Nisbet – Countess of Elgin

*When looking at the Wiley Press website recently, the following entry was sighted:*

### MISTRESS OF THE ELGIN MARBLES

A Biography of Mary Nisbet, Countess of Elgin

*By Susan Nagel*

Despite continued wrangling over ownership of the marbles today, the 21 year old woman who made their removal possible, personally funding the work and skillfully negotiating their war torn passage back to England, has a history that is as little known as it is extraordinary. Mary Nisbet was beautiful, ingenious, capable and charming as well as the richest heiress in Scotland. Despite enjoying early wealth, status and success, Mary had suffered the ultimate fall from grace by the time she was 30 when she became an adulterous social outcast after a scandalous divorce case exposed her love affair with a great friend of her husband's. Susan Nagel skillfully tells the tale of Mary's life through marriage, a lost child, divorce, isolation from her children and the pursuance of her life with another man. It is the remarkable story of a witty, beautiful and humane woman who negotiated the restrictions and prejudices imposed by the era to her great advantage, only to fall foul of the same in the end.

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### Gathering 2009 -update

*International Gathering of the clans 2009 (Edinburgh) - just to pass on the latest update from the organisers:*

- 108 clans have so far declared they will come (closing date for bookings is the end of March so there will be more).
- It seems likely the Clan Convention will take place on 24 July in the Scottish Parliament building, with an attendance of 300.
- The organisation of the parade from Holyroodhouse to the Castle is being reconsidered (it was planned to limit participation to those holding the expensive "passport" for the event; it's also a steep walk for some).

*This all sounds promising. We have, of course, booked our tent!*

*Mark Nesbitt of that ilk*

\*\*\*

### Daniel Nisbet

Daniel Nisbet of Queensland won the Australian Boys' Junior Amateur title in late March 2008.

## Ian T Nisbet

### **Xenome Names Ian T. Nisbet, PhD as Chief Executive Officer**

BRISBANE, Australia – February 5th, 2008 - Xenome Limited announced the appointment of Ian Nisbet, PhD as the Company's Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director.

*Ian T Nisbet is a past Chairman & Newsletter Editor of the N/N Society – Australia. We wish him (& Xenome) every success.*

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## Clan Crest

Anthony (Tony) Nesbitt – from Cherrybrook NSW wrote:

Just received a Clan badge/Crest from Avance Highland Sales in Scotland. Good quality at a reasonable price. Originally sent a Presbyterian Crest due to a mix up in the stamping at the foundry. Be careful ordering with the pulldown menu on Avance's website. Send a follow up email to ensure they get it right. Atia Chalmers at Avance Highland Sales was very professional and corrected the error in six days.

\*\*\*

## FOUND

### **LCPL R.S.G. Nesbitt**

*In the book "VETS AT WAR" - A History of the Australian Army Veterinary Corps 1909-1946 by Ian M Parsonson, published in 2005, on page 170 entitled is the picture below which includes LCPL R.S.G. Nesbitt.*



Nadzab, New Guinea, 30 October 1945. Lieutenant D.R. Blyton, ANGAU, Lieutenant-Colonel J.B. Murphy and LCPL R.S.G. Nesbitt standing in front of trucks prior to leaving the Drop Compound. They are members of an expedition, 1 Mobile Veterinary Survey Unit, beginning an animal diseases survey tour in the Markham Valley, Mount Hagen, Ramu Valley and Madang areas. [AWM98644]

*Do we have any further details regarding LCPL R.S.G. Nesbitt?*

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## Brewis – connection?

The following entries were found at the internet site regarding the name Brewis and can be found at:  
[http://www.brewis.org/surnames\\_n.htm](http://www.brewis.org/surnames_n.htm)

Welcome to our study of the surname BREWIS (without the FISH). The AIM of this site is to provide information that will link all known people born with the name BREWIS.

The PURPOSE for doing it is to share my research in the hope that it will allow others to find their ancestors, and by sharing their ancestral information with me, to thus add another twig to the BREWIS tree. If this leads to enough people being found to start a 'One Name Society' so much the better.

The BREWIS name originated in Northumberland, England in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.

The database includes people principally from the United Kingdom, but also United States of America, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada and South Africa. This web site will evolve as time and expertise allow.

NESBAT	Isabel	1617?	Newcastle upon Tyne
NESBIT	Jane	1831?	
NESBIT	Janet	1772?	
NESBIT	Robert	1742?	
NESBITT	Mary	1748?	Alnwick
NISBET	Euphemia	1841?	Eyemouth, BEW
NISBET	James	1830?	
NISBET	Jonet	1641?	
NISBET	Margaret	1796?	
NISBET	Mary	1809?	

\*\*\*

## EIC Madras Army

For those interested in the British East India Company and those that served in the EIC Army the following may be a useful link: <http://www.ans.com.au/~rampais/genelogy/india/index.htm>

The following notes and listings are from this site:

This section contains various lists and indexes, the largest of which is an index of Cadet papers held at in OIC in London. There are approximately 15000 names of officer cadets that joined the EIC Madras Army from 1789 until 1859. These names are cross referenced to the OIC ref. and the LDS film number, LDS films can of course be accessed at any Church of The Latterday Saints Family History Centre.

The Cadet papers are under reference IOR/L/MIL/9/xxx at the O.I.O. Collection at the British Library in London and cover the period from c.1789 until towards the end of the 19th century. This index only covers the period 1789 to 1859. When you look-up a name you will find the OIOC ref number and LDS Family History Centre film number, you can then go to your nearest LDS Family History Centre and order this film for viewing in that centre. This is much more convenient than going all the way to London.

Nesbit Joseph	IOR/L/MIL/9/107/204	1951682
Nesbit Samuel	IOR/L/MIL/9/108/77	1951682
Nesbitt Andrew Bell	IOR/L/MIL/9/155/213-17	1951888
Nesbitt George Queiros	IOR/L/MIL/9/178/605-11	1951923
Nesbitt Henry Wallis	IOR/L/MIL/9/181/306-08	1951924
Nesbitt Nathaniel Sneyd	IOR/L/MIL/9/145/297-303	1951860
Nisbet David	IOR/L/MIL/9/130/70-73	1951799
Nisbet Harry	IOR/L/MIL/9/116/477-78	1951710
Nisbet Robert Parry	IOR/L/MIL/9/249/810-18	1952294
Nisbett Alfred Ernest	IOR/L/MIL/9/157/227-31	1951888
Nisbett David	IOR/L/MIL/9/157/190-92	1951888
Nisbett John	IOR/L/MIL/9/190/367-70	1951995
Nisbett William	IOR/L/MIL/9/167/205-07	1951927

**Ballarat Cemeteries – Indexes**

Following is the N/N extracts from the Ballarat Cemeteries & Crematorium Registers as compiled by the Genealogical Society of Victoria.

Name	Age	Occupation	Date	Cemetery	Location
Nesbit Thomas	51	contractor	28/06/1858	Old Cemetery	LOCNK-...-
Nesbit Thomas child of	SB	still born	16/10/1867	Old Cemetery	LOCNK-...-
Nesbitt	SB	-	14/07/1888	New Cemetery	COFEB14..0.3
Nesbitt Adelaide M E	78	widow	11/01/1946	New Cemetery	COFEG6.1.12
Nesbitt Ellen Beatrice	15mth	child	23/04/1870	Old Cemetery	E2.24.2.20
Nesbitt George Stephen	12dys	child	08/11/1870	Old Cemetery	E2.24.2.20
Nesbitt James	70	inmate	12/02/1947	New Cemetery	PRESC4.2.50
Nesbitt John	54	-	22/03/1876	New Cemetery	OGNK...
Nesbitt John Stephen	33	bugler	07/11/1874	Old Cemetery	CN.1..3
Nesbitt William	90	inmate	08/06/1971	New Cemetery	LAWN.F.47.69
Nisbet Archie	72		27/08/1968	Crematorium	WALL H5R7

Material supplied by Ian Clarke.

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**Edward Oliver – passenger list**

Following is the Passenger List (family) for the *Edward Oliver* which arrived Sydney 22nd November 1856.

SURNAME	GIVEN NAME	AGE	CALLING	FROM	RELIGION	READ or WRITE
NISBET	Thomas	28	Sawyer	Middlesex	C/E	Both
NISBET	Mary	31	Wife	Middlesex	C/E	Both
NISBET	Thomas	4	Son	Middlesex	C/E	No
NISBET	Jane	2	Daughter	Middlesex	C/E	No

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**John Alexander Nisbet – Edridge link**

The following was found at <http://www2.hunterlink.net.au/~ddrge/genealogy/wje1.html> showing a connection to John Alexander Nisbet. Details of the non Australian descendants of William Eldridge (1755-1830) are available from material published by Roy Eldridge at <http://www.mts.net/~reldridg/>

William Justason Eldridge was the fifth of seven children of William Eldridge and Sarah Justason. He was born at Beaver Harbour, Canada in 1824. He became a sailor and travelled to England from where he left for South Australia on the 540 ton barque *Bolton* arriving at Port Adelaide on 15 Apr 1848. He married Caroline Brighton at the Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide, SA on 2 Oct 1848. She came to SA on the same ship with her sister and uncle and aunt. They had eleven children born at Glen Osmond, Blinman, Seven Hills and Blyth Plains SA. Some of their children adopted Eldredge as the spelling of their surname. They both died at Kybunga SA. William on 16 Dec 1881 and Caroline on 29 Mar 1924.

Juliane Teresa Eldredge (1949- )  
 | | | m ( ) John Alexander Nisbet ( - )  
 | | | |  
 | | | | (male) Nisbet ( - )  
 | | | | (male) Nisbet ( - )  
 | | | | (male) Nisbet ( - )  
 | | | | (female) Nisbet ( - )

Al Nisbet – caricaturist

Found in the Christchurch Mail.

**EXPOSED: AL NISBET**

Al Nisbet's career path was written into his Scottish genes, but it was a long and tortuous route to scoring the rare opening as The Press's cartoonist.

Nisbet's black humour — he blames his Calvinistic roots — surfaced in Australia, where he moved with his family in childhood.

Although born in Edinburgh, Nisbet says he still feels like an Australian when he crosses the ditch.

As a youngster in Adelaide, he started writing little books.

"I was always writing ghost stories, ghost and horror."

His late father, a wartime Lancaster bomber engineer in the RAF, turned out a comic strip for an in-house armed services magazine.

"He always had a good sense of humour and I think he passed it on to me. He was pretty much the life and soul of any gathering."

By the time Nisbet was 10, he regularly drew cartoon strips.

"I wasn't driven by a job idea. It was more getting my sense of humour out there — ascerbic, bitter and twisted, a bit of manic as well."

The family moved to New Zealand in 1975, where Nisbet got heavily into soccer as a striker for Western.

He worked for a time in Lands and Survey, where he would "pretty much file paper clips and stick rubber symbols all over my nose going to the public counter".

He spent a lot of time sketching caricatures of staff, then worked as a client interviewer for Social Welfare before moving to The Press art department, where he designed advertisements for five years. He also submitted the odd cartoon.

After a break in Nelson, where he landed work as a freelance cartoonist with the NZ Times, and a stint in Wellington, he wound up at The Press again via the Christchurch Star.

Infamy came with Nisbet's 2007 David Bain cartoon depicting advocate Joe Karam waking up to



hear the convicted killer calling out: "See you after my paper round."

"I put it in thinking it would be an in-house cartoon," Nisbet said. "I did this as a joke, but it got in."

Nisbet's latest project is developing a web page for doing caricatures.

"Anyone can send photos of themselves and I'll do bitter and twisted cartoons of them, but I can do cute and cuddly as well

**What you may not know about Al Nisbet —**

**I'd hate to be without:** my partner, a long ransack and a pair of rubber gloves

**Best advice I was ever given:** on drinking, it's not the quality, it's the quantity, if one door opens, another slams in your face; always remember where there's a will there's a dead person

**If I were Prime Minister I would:** make sure that in every photo opportunity I was wearing a Borat swimsuit

**If I could invite three famous people to dinner,** they would be: Rik Mayall (The Young Ones Bottom), Clint Eastwood and Ritchie Blackmore (Deep Purple ex-guitarist)

**Where do you eat dinner:** a hole down the back of Brooklands Lagoon, half-filled with shingle and partially covered by tarpaulin.

**Biggest change in Christchurch in the past two years:** it's got fatter

**I could change one thing in Christchurch,** it would be: level the whole city and plant kassock.

**Favourite leisure:** boating with a fishing rod

**Favourite music:** '70s hard-rock metal, Deep Purple Rainbow, Uriah Heep, Queen

**Favourite movie/TV:** Moby Dick is my all-time favourite movie, and the TV weather

**Favourite holiday:** anywhere warm where it doesn't thrash with rain and wind. Probably the Great Barrier Reef in 1989 and houseboating on the Tweed River NSW

**Favourite food:** prawns, but I can't eat them as they're too delicious and high in cholesterol, so probably water crackers.

**Worst job:** working in a small office with three smokers in a steel store selling angle iron.

**Proudest moment:** the birth of my three kids. All the vomiting, tears and screaming were worth it. The kids were pretty bad too.

\*\*\*

Peter Nisbet – judge

Cases before Western Australian District Court judge, Peter Nisbet have made it into the news on a number of occasions.

The latest notably in The Australian of 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008, the report entitled "Jail for pedophile camp boss".

We wish Peter the wisdom of Solomon in undertaking his work.

Marty Nesbitt

The following picture was found in The Age, Thursday March 20, 2008, page 11.



Supporter Marty Nesbitt sheds tears as he listens to Barack Obama's speech.

\*\*\*

Dame Nellie Melba

The following snippet was found in the Maroondah Journal of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008, page 6.

# An on-line history of our Nellie

By Rosemary Bolger

A GOLDSBOROUGH historian has launched a virtual museum dedicated to opera singer Dame Nellie Melba.

The website is Melba's daughter's friends, fellow artists, musicians, composers and the 20 operatic roles she performed during her illustrious career.

The website is the sunchild of Uxbridge and District Historical Society member, Sue Thompson.

"This website is a labour of love as I want people to be able to quickly and easily obtain information about Melba, the singer and the person."

She spent more than two years checking and preparing information for the website. "Like any museum, I will continue updating and collaborating information to share with

'This website is very much a labour of love as I want people to be able to quickly and easily obtain information about Melba, the singer and the person.'

Sue Thompson

people throughout the world. Ms Thompson believes Melba, who has the Yarra Glen, had an interest in technology and would have loved the internet.

The Dame Nellie Melba virtual museum is at [www.nelliemelbamuseum.com.au](http://www.nelliemelbamuseum.com.au)

## THE WANTED LIST

### John William Nisbet - descendants

Leigh Nisbet – from Australia wrote:

Looking for descendants of John William Nisbet, his wife Nancy, and son John Butler Nisbet, who arrived in NZ on the ship *Gainsborough* in 1868.

\*\*\*

### John Nisbet - descendants

Rob Nisbet – from Canberra Australia wrote:

I have spent a bit of time researching our family of late. Some of the information can be found at my genealogy site on [www.myheritage.com](http://www.myheritage.com) but the interesting things I have found are that my Grandfather, John Nisbet whose last residence in Scotland was at Dunfermline migrated to Australia in 1925 at the age of 21 on the SS *Orama* and after a short stint in Victoria moved to South Australia. His parents were Walter Nisbet and Wilhelmina M A Johnston. Walter's parents were Richard and Barbara. I am still trying to find birth registration for Walter, Richard and Barbara and also details of their parents. Most sites I have been to do not show them. They lived in Bo'ness but it looks like they may have moved to Dunfermline which is where most of my relatives now reside. The odd thing about Wilhelmina is that she was listed in other documentation as Minnie Ralph A Johnston. I don't know where the Ralph came from. If anyone knows more information then feel free to contact me.



## SUCCESS

Ian M Nisbet – progress

*Ian M Nisbet advises that he is boldly pursuing his genealogical searching with much assistance from the Biographical Dictionary as a starting point, then by reference to the N/N Society (United Kingdom) publication "NESBITT/NISBET families in Scotland 1590-1854" Volume 1 (2 parts) and then corroboration and extension using the FamilySearch site <http://www.familysearch.org/> (Latter Day Saints). We look forward to seeing the results of his efforts and wish him every success with his efforts.*

Emma Csibi (Nesbitt) – search request

**Emma Csibi nee Nesbitt – from Canberra wrote:**  
Just want to say a quick thankyou to this site (N/N Society). I last published a notice in October 07, and have since received contact from a UK family member that I last remember from the age of 7, that I never thought I would hear from again!  
It's good to see so many Nesbitt's out there looking for each other.  
Kind Regards,  
Emma Csibi nee Nesbitt



## FAMILY SNIPPETS

Dyson Osborne - birth

*Our congratulations are extended to Karen Nisbet & Andrew "Ossie" Osborne on the birth of Dyson on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2008, a brother for Charleah. Congratulations also to proud grandparents, Gavin & Jan Nisbet as their clan again expands.*

Wendi Nisbet – F1 correspondent

*Wendi is a huge Formula One fan !  
She has been doing some writing on various F1 websites, and has now been invited to be a regular contributor to a new online F1 magazine. Her first article was published on 24/03/08. Here is the link if anyone is interested in checking it out <http://www.f1-pitlane.com/>  
The site was only launched in February and is intended to be a 'one stop shop' for the casual or serious F1 fan.  
Wendi intends to post at least one article a week, so if you are interested in reading more, add it to your favourites list and forward the site details to any F1 fans you may know!*



## **NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY CONTACTS**

### **GENERAL COMMITTEE:**

**PRESIDENT:** Ian M Nisbet, 26 Walnut Rd, North Balwyn, Vic 3104, Aust.  
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**ARCHIVIST:** Vacant  
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### **EDUCATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE:**

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### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE:**

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Jan Nisbet, Barbara Leslie, Helen Nesbit, Michie Jensen, Heather Clarke, Helen Hamilton.

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### **WA REGIONAL OFFICER:**

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### **NZ REGIONAL OFFICER:**

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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>**