

THE N/NEWS

NO. 95 April 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE
NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA



STARTING POINT

I take this opportunity to thank those members from both Australia and abroad who e-mailed/responded with advice that N/News 94 had been retrieved and with words of encouragement.

Whilst the Australian Branch may seem to be in recess with respect to the social activities that our Melbourne and Victorian based members have enjoyed over the past two decades, it is interesting to note that genealogically, we have probably never been more active. Ian M Nisbet has moved generations forward (or is that backward?) with his research and family tree. Ian G Nisbet continues to work on his line – the Nisbets of Mauchline and we appear to have more active searching requests than we have had for quite a while.

The Nisbet DNA Project progresses steadily under the supervision of Tom Nesbitt. P Jean Skar is using the DNA results, extra research and existing documents to try and add certainty and clarity to some of the lineages and family trees of the better documented and more revered N/N's – those of Dean, Dirleton and Craigtinnie.

I wish you every success with your searching – each

personal success is a success for the Society. I trust that you enjoy reading this edition of the N/News and I welcome any comments, articles or snippets for future editions.

Chairman & Editor



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NOTICE BOARD-D

(Upcoming events in the Local and Overseas Calendar)

July	N/NEWS # 96
Oct	N/NEWS # 97

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



MEM-BOAR-SHIP

We have pleasure in welcoming the following new members to the Society:

Louis & Ann Porta, Boronia, Vic.

Robyn Horan, Edgecliff, NSW.

Simon & Felicity Chard, Yarraville, Vic.

We have noted a change of address for Barry Nisbet to Dunedin, NZ.

We have also noted a change of e-mail address for Gavin Nisbet

Please remember to advise of any changes to your e-mail, postal address or contact details.

The Secretary & Treasurer has been investigating the opportunity to pay subscriptions directly into an N/N Society account – apparently with success as Simon Chard is the first member to pay his subscription using this method/option. Further details will be issued shortly. However, if your 2009/10 subscription remains outstanding please contact the treasurer for instructions.



(NES)-BITS & PIECES

DNA Project - Success Stories

By Tom Nesbitt USA

Like most other Scottish Clans, the Nesbitt-Nisbet Society has been conducting DNA testing of men in our clan since 2003. We continue to use the original company to offer this service, Family Tree DNA of Houston, Texas, USA. To date, we have 80 men tested and 64 have found matches with other clan members.

We have uncovered 6 DNA groups - 3 large and 3 smaller ones. The larger ones are most likely the ancient groups and the smaller ones are more recent adoptions of the clan name. Due to the very high death rate of our ancestors, there were many remarriages and many adoptions of children into the Nisbet Clan. Every time a young boy is given his new Nisbet name, a new

DNA code would result. All his descendants would have his same unique DNA code for that branch and men alive today would have that code.

All our DNA codes depend on men having sons, as the Y-Chromosome is only found in the men's DNA. It is transferred from father to son and remains almost unchanged for hundreds of years. Only the men have this unique characteristic in their DNA, explaining why the clans only test men with their clan name. A Nisbet woman must find a male Nisbet relative to provide the DNA saliva sample for testing. The cost for Y-DNA-37 marker test kit is \$ 149 US and it is best to order the kit using your credit card and have it shipped directly to your home (www.familytreedna.com).

Currently we have the following members tested in our clan: 14 men in DNA group 1, 24 men in DNA group 2, 18 men in DNA group 3, 3 men in DNA group 4, 3 men in DNA group 5, and 2 men in DNA group 6. We have many other members who are related to the men who provided the DNA samples, thereby proving their connections. Below are some of the highlights of our recent test results.

DNA Group One: James B. Nesbitt Jr. of Springfield, VA, USA is our latest match with our Clan Chief's *Nisbet of that ILK* branch. Jim's known ancestor is William Nesbitt who was born about 1840 in Taylorstown, County Antrim, Ireland. His son Robert immigrated to the USA about 1870 and settled in New Castle, PA close to another relative Thomas Nesbitt who is the ancestor of former NN Society Secretary Gail Nesbitt Jones of Pittsburgh, PA.

Donald D. Nesbit of Charlottesville, VA, USA is also a recent match with the Clan Chief's branch. Don's known ancestors are Alexander Nisbet born 1780 in Scotland, then son William b. 1813 who immigrated to Ontario, Canada. William's son was William b. 1840 probably immigrated to the USA, with Matthew b. 1878 settling in Iowa, USA.

DNA Group Two: Long time member and former News Editor Corinne Shumway of Arizona used here male cousin's DNA sample to prove her connection to the USA's largest DNA group. She is descended from Joseph Nesbitt born 1805 of County Monaghan, Ireland. This proves her connection to Tanny Gustafson whose ancestor also comes from County Monaghan. DNA Group 2 migrated to NJ, PA, and MD in the early and mid 1700's, then moved westward.

Gregory L Nesbitt of Eureka, CA has matched DNA Group 2 also. He is from a military family and knew his ancestors came from Kansas and probably Ohio. His known ancestors are Bert E. Nesbitt born 1881 in KS, and his parents born about 1850 in Ohio. Almost all of the Ohio Nesbitts came from PA and MD and starting about 1800. These Nesbitts started in Cecil Co. MD, Washington Co. MD, Cumberland Co. PA, and Franklin Co. PA and all are known to be DNA group 2 and came from County Down, Ireland.

DNA Group Three: P. Jean Skar of Norway has done extensive research on the Nisbet families in Scotland and Ireland. She used a male relative's DNA sample to prove she matches DNA Group 3. I call this the World-Wide group and we have members from Norway, England, Scotland, Canada, USA, and Australia. Jean's known ancestor is James Nisbit of Auchinairn (near Glasgow) born before 1655. Her ancestors migrated from Scotland to Canada and USA about 1900. She has volumes of data on her and other Nisbet families in the UK and has a web page devoted to her on-going research. She is also making charts for us showing the DNA group origins, based on her early Scottish records.

DNA Group Five: Linda Alwert of Australia used relative Herbert Nesbitt's DNA to prove a connection to DNA Group 5. Linda's ancestor is William Nesbitt b.1828 Ballynagarrick, Carryduff, Co. Down, Ireland. His son was Henry b.1846 who migrated to Australia and is related to

Stanley Nesbitt who has the Ireland web page full of Nesbitt information. This is a small group and includes Nancy Ost and Alexander R. Nesbitt whose ancestor is William Nesbitt 1730-1798 of Ireland. Herbert and Alexander and an exact 37-37 marker match, which indicates a very close connection in DNA terms.

I am not sure why DNA Group 4 entry has been omitted. Perhaps its origins/roots remain more obscure for the moment.

Contact Tom Nesbitt for additional information at tomnesbitt@zoominternet.net

The *Lady Nelson* - brig

The *Lady Nelson* was a brig designed especially for inshore exploration, with a draught of only 6' and three sliding keels. She was named in honour of the wife of Lord Horatio Nelson, Francis Nisbet.

Built in Deptford Dockyard, launched 13th January 1800 and purchased by the Royal Navy. She was fitted out with extra guns and sent to Australia under the command of Lieutenant James Grant.

The *Lady Nelson* became one of the most important vessels in the colony; sailing between Sydney, Norfolk Island, Hobart, Port Dalrymple and Port Macquarie.

She served the colony for 25 years, being captured by Malay pirates in 1825 en route to pick up a cargo of buffaloes from Koepang for food. She contributed more than any other ship to the exploration and settlement of the colony/ies than any other craft, having explored much of the Victorian coast, surveyed the Hunter River area, took the first settlers to Van Diemen's Land – initially to Risdon, then relocated to the present site of Hobart and later took troops and settlers to Port Dalrymple (now Launceston).

An extract from:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Nelson

NN Scholarship - Scottish arts

Have you ever wished you had taken bagpipe lessons?

Personally I have not, but if you would like to, the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society of North America is offering Scholarships in the Scottish arts to members of the Society and their descendants. Scottish Arts can include dance, piping, drumming, fiddle, harp, singing and language. 'Single Malt comparative studies' are excluded.

For more information, or an application, contact:

Hal Nesbitt, Scholarship Chairman
nesbitth@olypen.com

Received recently from Hal Nesbitt, Membership Secretary and NN Scholarship Chairman of the N/N Society – North America.

Nisbets of Dean, Dirleton & Craigtinnie

P Jean Skar has been working avidly on compiling and corroborating evidence and/or queries for the current published lineage/s for these three related and eminent Nisbet families. Should you have or find records related to members of these families would you please ensure the Jean has access and/or knows of this material.

It will be interesting to review the outcome/s and I daresay that this will be an item in one of the next few editions of The N/News.



NETWORKED N/N's

<http://www.irishfaminememorial.org> is the Australian Monument to the Great Irish Famine (1845-1848) and contains shipping lists for Irish Orphan girls.



N/N's IN THE NEWS

Noreen Nisbet - nurse

*The following article was found in the Easter Edition, April 2-3, 2010, p.17 of **The Age** 'MyCareer' supplement.*

<http://IrishGen.com> provides a complete guide to Irish genealogy, including surnames and Coats of Arms for Ireland.

<http://irishancestor.com> contains links to names and surnames, passenger lists of Irish emigrants from Ireland.

<http://www.irishgenealogy.ie> you are able to search indexes of births and baptisms, index to 3.6 million gravestones and tips for tracing your ancestors.

<http://www.nationalarchives.ie> you will find a searchable database of Irish men and women transported to Australia between 1791 and 1853. (GENEALOGY/GENEALOGYSOURCES & MORE/IRELAND_AUSTRALIA TRANSPORTATION DATABASE)

<http://www.altavista.com> Babel Fish site will allow you to translate a block of text up to 150 words or a web page into English.



FOUND

Majorca Cemetery - N/N's

A listing of the headstones at the Majorca Cemetery, (central) Victoria includes several N/N's and a name or two that may be of some interest to a few of our members.

*BILTON, Florence, Daisy, David Richard
BILTON, Janet, David Wilson, Mary
BILTON*

.CHARD, Oliver

*NISBET, John, Ethel Evelyn
NISBET, John, James, Charlotte, Edward
NISBET, William John*

All are believed to be from family lineage #2 in the Biographical Index.

HEALTH

Anatomy of a life in nursing

The timing could be better. Noreen Nisbet informs me she doesn't watch much TV but she makes an exception for medical drama *Grey's Anatomy*, which is on when she picks up the phone. That she watches the show is probably no surprise, really, given she's a nurse. Not that life in the endoscopy ward at St Vincent's Private is quite the same as it is on *Grey's Anatomy*, she says.

As the associate unit manager at St Vincent's (she started there in 1993), it's her job to train new staff on occupational health and safety matters, manage the maintenance and upkeep of the endoscopes (the instruments are brushed and washed monthly and tracked for bugs) and assist with administering anaesthetics to patients.

On the day we speak, Nisbet says she spent the day looking after the anaesthetics for colonoscopy and gastroscopy. "You're connecting [patients] up to all the equipment, so you just talk to them about football and those sorts of things.

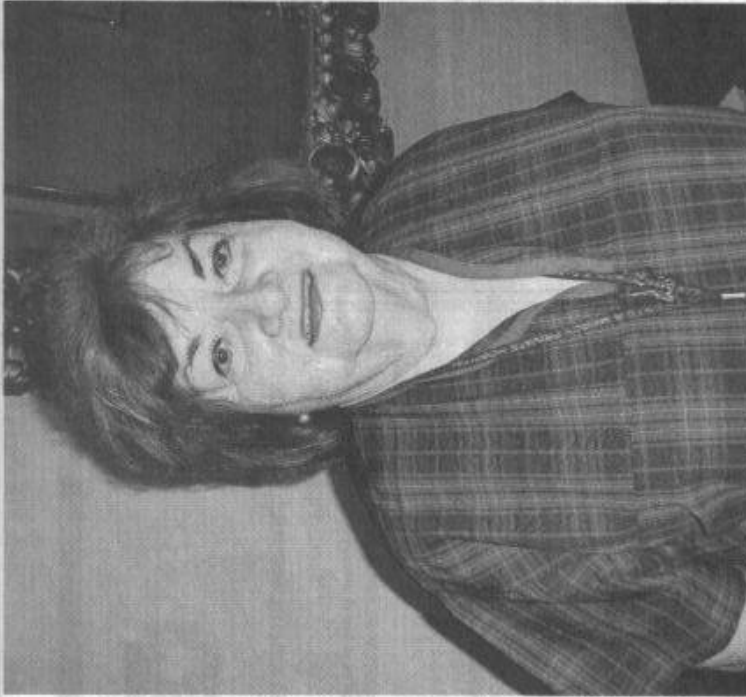
You try to allay their nervousness," she says.

It's not just the prospect of having camera-attached tubes inserted into their mouths and past their throats that is cause for nervousness in patients. What the tube might beam up on the screen it's attached to is also worrisome. "We do patients who have a

strong family history of cancer or any other form of cancer to do with the gastro system, so they're pretty nervous," she says.

"The doctor speaks to them afterwards; I know the outcome but I can't say anything until the doctor speaks. But if they have been particularly nervous I'll go and have a word with them before they're discharged and see how they are, or if there's anything I can do. Not that there's much I can do but I'll just go and have a chat and they really appreciate that."

In a job where there's no shortage of news – good and bad – the Wednesday before last was one of the "great days" of Nisbet's



No grey areas ... Noreen Nisbet has seen nursing transform radically in 50 years but says she wouldn't do anything else.

HEALTHY COMPETITION

SALARY In a role like Nisbet's, nurses can expect to make about \$70,000 a year.

ENTRY INTO NURSING The pathway into nursing has changed considerably in the past 50 years, Nisbet says.

A university degree is now compulsory but there are also limited places for nursing undergraduates.

"A few years ago, I did some interviewing for potential students at Deakin University," she says. "We interviewed about 1000 people in a couple of days and they were only taking 99."

eyes and colleagues would look at you and you'd think they were looking because you were a wimp or weak. But it's not so. And I think it does you good to have a bit of a cry."

Nisbet says her approach to the job has been shaped by various excellent mentors along the way. The ones she remembers most fondly seemed a little tough when she was earning her stripes but they set the benchmarks for how to treat patients and react to the challenging situations that are part of the job.

Nisbet says it doesn't seem like it was half a century since she started

nursing career, she says. A morning tea, lunch and speeches were organised to mark her 50th anniversary in nursing.

Nurses still wore hats, along with starched aprons, collars, cuffs and a belt when Nisbet started nursing as a 16-year-old. It was a hellish uniform to wear, she says, and was symbolic of a different era in nursing. One of the better aspects of the modern era is that there's a more human attitude in the sector towards the emotions nurses experience in the course of the job.

"Once upon a time you'd rush into the pan room and bawl your eyes out and come out with red

nursing. In fact, she's baffled as to how she made a 50-year career out of the job.

But ultimately, she adds, she couldn't see herself working as anything else.

"You have your ups and downs and times when you don't think you want to go back there again but, no, I love meeting people and talking to people and I've loved every minute of it."

JOSH JENNINGS

MyCareer
com.au

For more health jobs, see
mycareer.com.au/health.

WANTED

William Nisbet - Van Diemen's Land

From: Sarena Nisbet

I am researching the Nisbet family in Tasmania, (Australia). I have managed to gather up some information such as names and places but for some reason I'm not able to proceed any further than my great - great grandfather.

I was hoping if someone over in Scotland would be able to help or if you know anyone here in Australia that would be able to help.

I shall tell you what I have found out at this point so you have some idea of what I'm trying to find out.

My family came to Tasmania or back then it was known as Van Diemen's Land in the 1800's (cannot find out the exact date or on what ship they came on). As far as I know, my great - great grandfather William Nisbet was a child when he and his parents (names unknown) came to Tasmania; they were the first of our family to settle. I also know that my family were not convicts as it is reported that they had a considerable amount of valuable possessions that were lost due to an unknown reason when my William Nisbet died.

William Nisbet married Francis de Fevre in 1901 at Goshen (Tasmania). I have a photo of them that was taken in 1901. They owned a hardware store in St Helens before selling that and moving to a farm house in Goshen.

My great grandfather William Fredrick James Nisbet was a master mason in the north west freemasonry lodge in Tasmania. He died on the 10th August 1976.

Family tree (so far...):

William Nisbet married Francis de Fevre, with children:

William Fredrick James Nisbet
and possibly others

William Fredrick James Nisbet married Vera Irene Clifford, with children:

Ronald William Nisbet

Ronald William Nisbet married Judith Purton, with children:

Mark William Nisbet
David Nisbet
Andrew Nisbet
Grant Nisbet
Shane Nisbet

Mark William Nisbet married Roselyn Rangana in Fiji, with children:

Sarena Ann Nisbet
Jenna Rose Nisbet

I really would like to find out when and how my family came to Tasmania. Who were William Nisbet's parents, if they weren't convicts what were they and why were they told to come to Tasmania?

Any information would be much appreciated.

Sarena Nisbet

Taken from the Guestbook of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society - United Kingdom.

John Nisbet - relatives sought

June 13th 2009

Kerry Clare-Carter from New Zealand now living in Australia:

I am searching for any ancestors or descendants of John Nisbet b. c1833 Lanarkshire m. Christina Smith b. c1833 Canada, in 1857 Dumbarton, Scotland. They immigrated to New Zealand between July 1857 & October 1858 & settled in Porewa, Rangitikei, having lived in Papawai and the Hutt Valley.

They had 9 surviving children:

John Hugh never married,
Arthur m. Agnes Fraser,
Margaret m. Edward A Gray,
Helen Stewart never married,
Peter m. Henrietta J Wright,
Mary Burrett never married,
Elizabeth never married,
Jane never married and
Lilias Smith m. Percy F Sampson.

John's brother, Arthur also emigrated about 20 years after John to New Zealand and never married.

I have found Johns' parents and siblings in the Scottish 1841 Census but they seemed to have vanished after that date. John is the only one I could find in the 1851 Census.

The missing family is: John, wife Margaret, Christina, Elizabeth, Margaret (or Maryanne) and Arthur.

Taken from the Guestbook of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society - United Kingdom. Responses can be lodged through the homepage Guestbook or our Secretary. Secretary.

John Nisbet - relatives sought

Simon Chard has provided details extracted from the Old PARISH RECORDS births/christenings and seeks the date and place of marriage and parents of John.

1780 - JOHN NISBET/CATHARINE JOYCE
ALICE c. 1781 Jan8, Dunfermline,Fife

Elizabeth Nesbitt - relatives sought

Robyh Horan, one of our new members has compiled a lot of information about the "very interesting family" of her grandmother, Elizabeth Nesbitt, and is happy to share with relatives.

Members are able to contact Robyn via our homepage or secretary.

James Nisbet - correction

I received the newsletter (*N/News 94*), and thank you very much for your assistance with article in newsletter, about James Nisbet gardener for Earl of Selkirk. Perhaps someone will read it and reply.

I gave some incorrect details about another ancestor in my original email about the John Nisbitt McEvoy, got the dates mixed up, as there were a few people in a row with the same name of John Nisbitt McEvoy ie. one born about 1747, probably in Ireland, and another in 1780, and one of them married twice, so I got the marriage mixed up. (Juliana Watkins married the first one in 1779 at St Martin in the Fields, and Mary Phillips was the sons' wife.)

Christine

Agnes Ann Nesbitt - relatives sought

Louis Porta seeks antecedents and descendants of Agnes Ann Nesbitt.

Supplied on joining the Society. Ian M Nisbet advises that N/News 24 p.6 carried an entry also for Agnes Ann Nesbitt who married John James Sherritt at Coote Hill, Co. Cavan, Northern Ireland c.1853.

Responses can be lodged through the homepage Guestbook or our Secretary.

John Nesbitt - relatives sought

Cathy Cavanagh from Central Coast, NSW wrote:

I am seeking fellow descendants of John Nesbitt and Maria Agnes Friend. John Nesbitt was born c.1830 either in Ireland or Spain and came to Australia prior to 1853. He was a teacher in the south Maitland area of NSW, then in 1862 became the postmaster and telegraph operator at Singleton NSW until 1876. I cannot find a death record for him.

In 1877 the family moved back to Sydney.

Taken from the Guestbook of the Nesbitt/Nisbet Society – Australia. Responses can be lodged through the homepage Guestbook or our Secretary.



STOP PRESS

3ZZZ 92.3fm - ethnic community radio

3ZZZ 92.3fm is the only full time ethnic community radio and hosts a Scottish Program on Mondays at 11pm. It presents news, current affairs, latest music, interviews with local and international performers and promotes local events, businesses, community organizations and services fro Melbourne's Scottish community. 3ZZ is a non profit community radio serving more than 60 ethnic communities in their own language/s.

It is funded by donations, membership and sponsorship with programs being prepared and presented by volunteers.

Family History State Conference

The 7th Victorian Family History State Conference entitled "THE BORDER AND BEYOND" is scheduled for 28-30 May 2010 at Club Mulwala, Yarrawonga, Vic.

If interested and need more details these can be sought at:

mullum36@bigpond.com

Tom Nisbett - Canadian Ambassador of the N/N Society Of North America advised that: Yea !!!! Christine Nesbitt wins Gold for Canada at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.



NESBITT/NISBET SOCIETY CONTACTS

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PUBLICATION OFFICER:

Vacant

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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>