

Newsletter for the descendants of the passengers & crew of the 1866 Netherby

Hello everyone,

Some Netherby descendants have been waiting expectantly for this edition of the newsletter, so they can find out more about our last meeting.

It was a great meeting. It was a small group but we had some new attendees and that always makes for interesting discussions. However, this occasion was even more special when relatives connected for the first time in a long time. I wish I had my camera running to capture the surprise on their faces.

Speaking of the camera—I did not organise for the obligatory photo of the attendees. I do apologise. Actually, I apologise more to myself!! The photo helps fill the page and keep it interesting. I had to find an alternative and thought I would share some photos of the Cape Wickham lighthouse and the projections. In all honesty, I thought the light show was fantastic. I loved that the local school was involved in the music selection. It was clever, entertaining, moving and a brilliant idea. An absolute superb finale to the 150th anniversary. Thank you to everyone involved.



Back to our meeting and much of the time was taken up with me running through agenda ideas. We can lock in the date and time for the official commemoration (agenda item 4.16). This will occur at the cove on King Island around 7pm/7.30pm, Thursday, July 14, 2016.

This will involve a service hopefully conducted by a minister who is descendant of either Netherby passengers or crew. (Any volunteers?)

This will be followed by a guest speaker who can say thank you to a number of people/organisations who assisted our ancestors to survive their ordeal. Finally, we would like to voice a roll call of all crew and passengers. I am a little hesitant on this as there is a risk of error in mispronunciation, missing names or inclusions that should not be there.

Having said that, I still think it is worth the risks. My sister, Shirley, is working on the list of names (easier said than done—many reports are inaccurate and require cross checking). Can I ask that everyone check the passenger list either on PROV, Karina's web site or Don Charwood's book and ensure the correct names, ages, spellings are recorded please for your family?

Following these 3 speeches(?) it will be time for some warmth and we shall adjourn to a hall/location for a light supper and chance to catch up.

Friday/ Saturday/ Sunday we will continue with other events to mark the occasion.

Issue 15 - March, 2012



Not the Netherby but very similar. No known photos of the Netherby exist!

In short...

Welcome

To Pam, all the way from the UK and a descendant of the Denning family.

To Jenny, a descendant from the Martin family.

To Mike, a descendant from the Grimes family.

The Denning, Martin and Grimes families married into the Skerman family! (or other way around!) WOW!!

Please see over for a long list of Skermans who made contact this month.

To Kathleen, descendant of the Yorston family and our first Yorston to register with our list of descendants.

To Rose, an artist on King Island that has expressed an interest. Thank you

If you are new to my newsletters please do not hesitate to contribute ideas, suggestions or interesting tidbits which could be included in the publication.

If you have ideas/thoughts for Netherby 2016 please share.

Thank you.





Previously, via a separate email, I sent a list of agenda items as ideas for our Netherby 2016 event. Now that I have expressed those ideas in person to a few people on King Island and here in Melbourne, at our last meeting, I am a bit more relaxed in thinking we are on the right track for a manageable and interesting/exciting event.

I do not have room today on this newsletter to cover all topics—so over the coming months I will elaborate on any not included below.

Your feedback and support is paramount to the success of Netherby 2016.

Initial thoughts are that Netherby 2016 will be a **4–5 day celebration**.

The 150th anniversary will occur just after 7pm on a **Thursday evening** beachside with a light supper afterwards.

Friday would be a free day to explore and hopefully for KI to show off some of its produces/wares and features.

Friday night—potentially the Netherby 2016 Ball which is Item 4.3 of our agenda.

Saturday—a big day, with much happening (something for everyone?).

A football game (item 4.1), golf competition or social game, potentially lawn balls if enough interest? An Orienteering race/challenge (item 4.11)

Saturday evening—free

Sunday morning—speeches/service again beachside followed by a presentation by the descendants of the Netherby passengers/crew to King Island of trees/plants which will revegetate an area near the Netherby shipwreck site (to be confirmed).

Guinness Book of Records attempt (largest number of descendants gathered for a shipwreck celebration) Item 4.13.

Luncheon (similar to the Long Table) (item 4.12).

End of event.

Running in the background throughout the event:

- 4.2 **Market stalls**—seasonal produce, art, craft, static displays showcasing KI.
- 4.7 **Crayfish** (will they be in season?) Tours of harbour area, crayboats, tastings, sales etc
- 4.8 **Shop window dressings**. Period costumes. Street flags/colour. Something at the airport to welcome our Netherby descendants and something on the round about in Currie central
- 4.4 **Model boats**. A single effort was made by myself a long time ago to get some boat modelling clubs on-board to set up displays. There was no enthusiasm from the Vic group. A couple of people (in our Netherby group) are interested in building a model of the Netherby. This too is proving a difficult task as there are no known pictures of her. I also thought about bigger boats such as the wooden ship festival?? Maybe we could tie in there somehow?
- 4.6 **Naval involvement** such as a sail past or rescue demonstrations. Perhaps some sort of tie in with Williamstown? A static display at the least.
- 4.14 **Museum Display**. All things Netherby. Maybe artist's collections related to shipwrecks in general in a different part of the museum or elsewhere on the island. Tours of **Cape Wickham Lighthouse?**
- 4.15 **Genealogy/Ancestral display**. There are a number of annual events world wide. Maybe we could coordinate a display at the market day or at the museum/gallery.
- 4.19 **Dairy**—as per 4.7 & 4.12—it would be great for the Dairy to be involved in our celebration and an opportunity to show off their produce. Perhaps there are other businesses who need to be included/approached.

Netherby Bell Launch

Sue Fisher, King Island Historical Society/Museum has advised that the Netherby bell in its new housing will be open to the public on July 14, 2012. The launch is a Saturday and on this date it will be the 146th anniversary of the Netherby Shipwreck. Interested attendees should make plans soon.

Skerman Column

This month I have received so many emails from the Skerman lineage that I needed to create their very own column! It's wonderful!

Welcome

To Kay and Barry, from the Skerman family.

To Margaret and Alex also from the Skerman family.

To Helen, from the Skerman family.

To Val and Maurice, from the Skerman family.

To Rev Jenny, from the Skerman family

To Alison & Nev, from the Skerman family.

To Marilyn, from the Skerman family.

Have I left anyone out?

A hearty welcome to everyone and I just love it that the Skerman families are making contact. You have fast out numbered any other family group on our lists.

2012

Netherby Meeting Dates

- **Sunday, June 24**
11am—2pm
- **November**
date to be set.

**Australian Education
Union building,
112 Trenerry Crescent,
Abbotsford. 3067**

Melway Reference: Map 15 F 11 double check for accuracy please.

All descendants/interested persons are welcome to attend.

This is a social occasion with a view to sharing and generating ideas for Netherby 2016 and all things Netherby.

There is an informal agenda to assist with the planning for Netherby 2016.

Confirmation of attendance is required please.

Tea/Coffee, sandwiches and biscuits will be provided. If you have any dietary requirements—please byo. No smoking or alcohol. We will be bound by the terms and conditions as set by the AEU or J. Cassidy



Descendant Listing Contacts

We are in contact with descendants of the following Netherby passengers/crew.

Adams
Aplin
Austin
Bartling
Berry
Bulpit
Cox
Cubbin (my family)
Darlington
Denning
Evans
Gill
Goldsworthy
Grimes
Groom
Hanna
Hickmott (L/house Keeper)

Hogan
Lingard
MacFarlane
Martin
Massingham
Moffatt (Moffutt)
Morris
Murphy
Nally
Newbrook
Parsons
Pinnuck (Pinnick)
Rerden (Reiden Renden)
Schrader
Seymour
Shelford

Skerman
Townsend
Turner
Watkins
Webster (Ship's Surgeon)
Wigley (Wiggley Whigley)
Williams

Yorston

There were approximately 210 different families onboard the Netherby and as you can see, we are in contact with 41 families. With only 4 years to go, I need your help to advise where we can advertise for descendants of the families who are not on our list. Do you know of any free listings in magazines, newspapers, notice boards etc that would raise attention to our quest? Are there clubs/organisations out there who might offer us advice or assist in any way possible?

A C View Cottage & Netherby Downs

Hosts - Jim and Sharon Benn



The Etrick - King Island

1 & 2 bedroom self contained cottages

03 -64621938 (Mob) 0429709864

P O Box 265 Currie King Island. 7256

jimbenn53@hotmail.com

(Please mark enquiry - King Island Holiday)

Please contact Sharon and Jim directly via email. jimbenn53@hotmail.com

Item 4.20 Narelle's project.

Narelle is a descendant from the Denning family. Ernst and I had the pleasure of being neighbours to Narelle and her sister, Diane, at the Cape Wickham 150th Celebration last November.

Narelle's idea is that of a childrens' illustrated book telling the story of the Netherby shipwreck. This idea needs your support and assistance.

Narelle is looking for descendants who know their family history and movements before, during and after the Netherby shipwreck. Ideally we need a child's history to follow.

The baby Netherby could be a lead, so if any Cubbin descendants are interested please make contact with myself. I do not have enough information or photos to tell the story but you may.

The Skerman's have researched well —can you provide information on one of the children on board?

Karina, your descendant was 14 years old and travelling alone. Can you help? Any one else? This is a seriously great project. Please support it.