

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

Hello everyone,

My apologies for such a long wait.

We were saddened to hear that Don Charlwood, author of "The Wreck of the Sailing Ship Netherby", passed away just before our last meeting. Our thoughts and well wishes go to Nell, Doreen, family and friends.

Don's book was in part, the inspiration for me to take on this project and it was a huge pleasure that I had the opportunity to meet him.

The other motivator was Karina and her website [netherby.homestead.com](http://netherby.homestead.com). Karina has moved to Melbourne. Welcome Karina. We must meet soon and hope to see you at the November meeting, if at all possible.

I received a briefing from Sue Fisher on King Island who brought me up to date with the launch of the Netherby Bell on July 14. She said in part that over 100 people attended on the day and that it was typical KI weather for that weekend.

They started with an 11am history talk of the Netherby ship. There were 2 readings, one by Jaiden Rainbow who is a direct descendant of William Hickmott from the Cape Wickham lighthouse. This reading was William's account of the help he provided to the survivors.

The second reading was about John Parry's direct involvement in organising the rescue of the Netherby passengers and crew.



The principal of the Swan Reach School, which is the guardian of the Netherby Bell, travelled to King Island for the official handover of the bell to the KI Historical Society.

A luncheon was held for all involved and the KI school children put on a display of all things Netherby in the tea rooms.

Sue was the official MC on the day and I thank her very much for her time and effort and that of the KI Historical Society and everyone involved.

The bell is significant to the descendants as we know it was used on land after the wrecking, to communicate

that the salvaged food/drink were safe. With 450 people all needing food/water—the management of the salvaged food stores was of extreme importance to the survival of the group. The bell was thought to have been given (at a later date) to the Roadknight family who assisted Parry when he arrived on Victorian shores within days of the wrecking.

Since our June meeting, my efforts have been mainly to find out what we need to do as a group to ensure the Netherby 2016 celebrations occur. The decision is whether we become an incorporated group which would require registration, a statement of purpose, election of members and scheduled official meetings with minutes etc. The advantage of being incorporated is that the group is covered legally and can make application for grants, permits etc without needing the approval of another body. To be unincorporated means we can continue as we are (a social group) with no need for formalised agendas, meetings, minutes etc. However, we will face difficulties being approved for grants. We also could be liable as individuals if someone had a grievance and sought legal action against the group or an individual.

There is a third option and that would be to ask an Incorporated Body to auspice our unincorp group. In this case, we would continue as we are, but report to the Incorp Group and have them manage the grant applications/licensing/permits. In my opinion, I think this is the way for us to go. The only issue being who will sponsor us??

I have thought of King Island Council or Chamber of Commerce. It makes sense! However, I am not on King Island and am unsure how much to/fro would be required. Any suggestions?? Please contact me straight away.

Perhaps you belong to a society or group who would auspice us??

**Issue 18 - September, 2012**



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

**In short...**

*Welcome*

Not many this time but I hope this will improve. I have subscribed to the Australian Family Tree Connections magazine and a classified will appear hopefully in the next edition for Netherby descendants.

To Roger, all the way from the UK and a Skerman descendant.

To Liza, who has married into the Groom family.

To Tony, who has also registered on Karina's website.

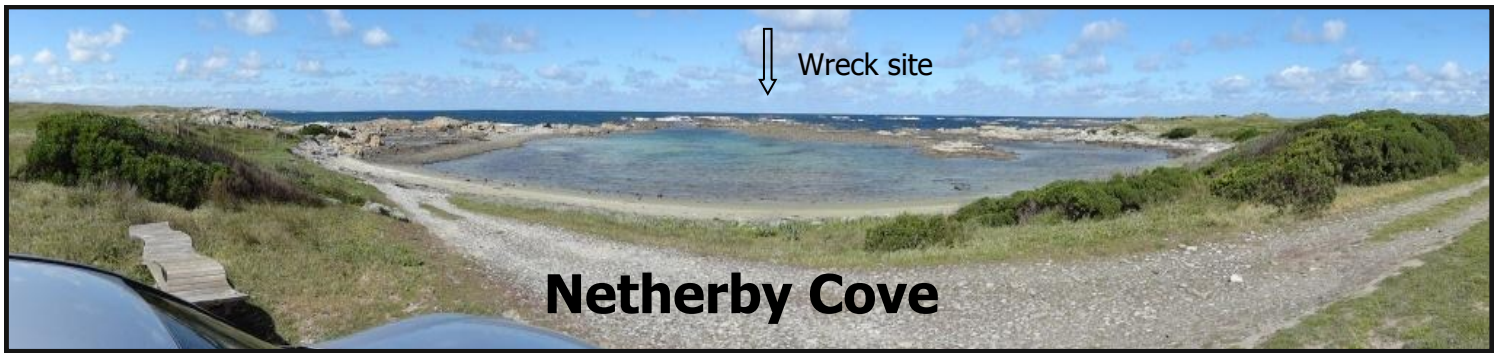
Welcome to Christina Henri, conceptual artist. Christina was involved with the Cape Wickham Lighthouse celebrations and has expressed an interest in our event.

Welcome to King Island Airlines. We will certainly need 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.





## Netherby Cove

**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 **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

**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 (suspect there may be a big gathering of Skerman families)

**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? King Island Historical Society has indicated that they are following up the idea of a model replica of the Netherby.

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.

4.11 An **orienteering race** that tracks close to the path our people would have taken from Netherby cove to the Cape Wickham lighthouse.

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. T

Tours of **Cape Wickham Lighthouse?**

4.15 **Genealogy/Ancstral 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.

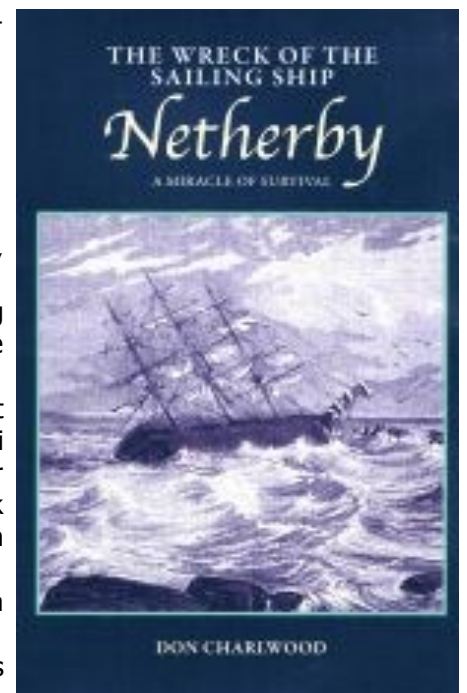
4.19 **Dairy**—as per 4.7 & 4.12—it would be great for the Dairy to be involved in our celebration and an opportunity to show off their produce. Perhaps there are other businesses who need to be included/approached.

4.21 4.22 Two new items will be tabled. Neither is confirmed as yet. I shall hold you in suspense until I have permission to announce.

### Netherby Bell Launch

Sue Fisher, King Island Historical Society/Museum has advised that the Netherby bell in it's new housing is now on display and will remain at the museum until our event in 2016.

No visit to King Island would be complete without some quality time set aside for a wander through the museum.



2nd Edition now available.  
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Netherby Cove, King Island.



# 2012

## Netherby Meeting Dates

Sunday, November 11  
10am – 2pm

It was suggested we commence earlier as we will pause to allow for 11am remembrances.

**Australian Education  
Union building,  
112 Trenerry Crescent,  
Abbottsford. 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  
Aldis  
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

## A C View Cottage & Netherby Downs

Hosts - Jim and Sharon Benn



### The Ettrick - 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](mailto:jimbenn53@hotmail.com)**

Recently I ran an ebay search for "Netherby". You have to try these things!! Anyway, interestingly enough, 2 items cropped up.

Both were newspaper pages! Both were from 1905/1906 and available for purchase in the UK.

If anyone happens to have a boat and you want to christen it Netherby, you should be wary.

Our Netherby struck rocks and sank in 1866. Another Netherby was hopelessly lost with all hands on board somewhere around Cape Horn in 1905. There is a very clear photo of that Netherby and I think it may even be the same ship as the image I use on the front page of my newsletter.

Another ship, also called the Netherby, this time a steam ship was set fire to whilst underway. It was a British ship carrying coal and hired by Russia to travel a long way into Siberia.

Both newspapers are available for purchase at approx. 26 british pounds. I have declined to buy but a portion of me thinks I should have bought the one that had the photo of the 1905 Netherby. Oh well....

There were approximately 210 different families onboard the Netherby and as you can see, we are in contact with 42 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?