

Netherby 2016

post 150 year commemoration

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

Hello everyone,

Wow and thank you are the only words that keep crossing my mind when I think about July 14–17! Perhaps not the most eloquent of words but what else can I say? Netherby 2016 exceeded my expectations and played out to a plan that had options A, B or C. How lucky was I to have had back up plans when the weather turned into a storm event, never before experienced by some long term King Island residents, struck the island and raged for three full days?

Monday, July 11, 2016

Ernst (hubbie), Shirley (sister) and I, along with some Benns (John and Mavis), Keith and Al Skerman, as well as other Netherby descendants waited out a 1.5 hour delay at Tullamarine airport before boarding our Rex Airflight and enduring a bumpy, wind blasted flight and landing. We checked into our accommodation. Green Ponds, where we were greeted by Sonia, our hostess, and a warm, inviting fire. We had a quick visit to Netherby Cove and watched the massive seas smash the rocks and coast line.

That evening we dined with Jim and Sharon Benn and nursed a very special tiny miniature schnauzer puppy! Topics of conversation included the event, past history and all manner of subjects with new found friends in John, Mavis, Tim, Pauline and Dave, Sharon and Jim. The food and hospitality was second to no other. Thank you.



Tuesday, July 12, 2016

This day was basically spent decorating the Town Hall, moving tables and chairs, packing the Welcome Packs and putting up the banners, the history boards and front end display tables. At first though, we went to McKenzies Agencies where a small pallet of 8 boxes of promotional materials awaited us! The wind was howling and the doors to the great shed were tentatively opened for us to enter with our car. Thank you McKenzies Agencies for keeping us dry and a little less windblown. I had plenty of helpers through out the day and although it was a lot of physical work, it was made much lighter by their assistance. That evening I attended a meeting with event participants, Lions Club, caterers, Grassy Boat Club, sound & lighting. Minutes into this meeting with thunder, lightning and heavy winds affecting the King Island outdoors, a decision was made to



change the location on Thursday night from Netherby Cove to indoors at the town hall. This decision was not taken lightly but was the right decision to make.

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

After an unsettling night of heavy winds, rain and hail we awoke to a very cold day, no Telstra phone or data service and half the island without power. A couple of visits were made to the Town Hall and then Ernst, Shirley and I concentrated on delivering Welcome Packs around town. At lunch time Karina Taylor arrived and joined us delivering the Welcome Packs to Grassy and Naracoopa, where we encountered a number of locals and visitors without power and water. We gifted a few bottles of water and did what we could.

The roads were littered with debris with a lot of branches and even trees leaning over power lines. We encountered several emergency groups out working to restore power but the damage was very wide spread and for many, there was no power until Thursday.

Wednesday evening was another cold night with decreasing winds. I spent the evening adjusting speeches and ticking off everything that was required up to that point.

Ann Rutte | P.O. Box 272, Eltham, Victoria, 3095
email: admin@netherby2016.com

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Model of the Netherby created by Christian Robertson, King Island.

King Island Historical Museum



36 Lighthouse Street, Currie.

To Luke Agati and the members of the Historical Society and volunteers,
Thank you for housing the Netherby Sea Chest for at least the next 25 years and for all your hard work and efforts with the Netherby room.

We really appreciate it.



The Netherby Shipwreck 150th Anniversary Commemorations - King Island Tasmania was supported by the Tasmanian Government through Events Tasmania.
www.eventstasmania.com
&
www.discovertasmania.com

We thank them very much for the grant which made much of Netherby 2016 possible.



Thursday, July 14, 2016

It was a mixed bag this day weatherwise but still gusty and inclement. Most of the Welcome Packs were now delivered so we headed out to Brewers Café to catch up with Denise, my florist, and to have breakfast and delicious cups of coffee. I was overwhelmed at the sighting of the two wreaths which were made from native to King Island flora and the second floral wreath was made from the flowers residing in KI gardens until Denise arrived with her scissors!

After brunch it was time to head to the hall and rearrange the chairs for theatre style seating and last minute preparations.

The rest of the afternoon flew by and it was not long before we returned home to get prepared for the evening. With the weather being somewhat bleak—the crowd arrived early and the speeches and commemoration were soon underway. Ray Groom, former Premier of Tasmania opened the event with a wonderful speech highlighting some of the Netherby's events, families and what this event, Netherby2016 meant to the island during the off peak period. This speech was followed by Ann Rutte 'remembering' some of the people who had passed during her time organising this event. Glenn Pinnuck then thanked the people from our past who played an important part in our survival. Next came Brian Townsend whose ancestor was co-editor of the Netherby Gazette. Brian read a short excerpt from the opening page of the Gazette. John Benn read a psalm which was followed by Jim Benn, our MC for the evening, playing both the flute and harmonica with a performance by the King Island singing group. A light supper was provided with a bar, tea and coffee service.

Following this Doreen Burge, daughter of Don Charwood spoke about his passing, his books, and his wishes for our group to maintain John Parry's grave at Melbourne General Cemetery and a plaque to be erected at Point Roadknight. The evening then moved into meet'n'greet mode with the collection of commemorative coins, payments and signing of Karina's photobook.

Friday, July 15, 2016

This was a day to explore with some going out on the Netherby Heritage Bus Tour whilst others strolled around town visiting the museum, cultural centre and the cheese room out at Loorana.

The evening was spent at Kings Cuisine/Grassy Club at Grassy. Whilst the penguins created a cuteness to the evening—our caterer Steve at the Grassy Club battled his kitchen (which had been without power for two days) to provide warm and hearty food for 130 people. Our biggest battle was attempting to organise group photos before heading home.

Saturday, July 16, 2016

This was another day to explore, commencing with the POKI (Produce of King Island) market held inside the King Island Club. Lots of produce specifically crafted for the Netherby 2016 commemoration was on display and for sale. It was hard to go past the hand crafted chocolates, cheese knives, knitted hats, cards and candles. I wanted honey, garlic, donuts and lots, lots more but the 15kg baggage limit overrides my desire to purchase it all! A visit to the Cultural Centre and Museum filled the day nicely and soon it was time to put the coordinator cap back on and head on down to the Town Hall for yet another official group photo.

The evening was fun filled with a presentation of a gold commemorative coin to Joanne and Mehmet Lumb, John Parry's descendants.

Jennifer Cover, launched her book "Cradled by Man" and both Jennifer and Shirley Bonnici (descendants of Netherby (Nettie) Cubbin (the baby born on the beach) sang happy birthday and cut the cake celebrating the 150th birthday of Nettie. A bound Skerman family tree was presented to Jim Benn. The hall then livened up with some old fashioned bush dancing and finished up after midnight with some popular dancing. A great night totally!

Below: Presentation of gold coins by Glenn Pinnuck to Joanne Lumb descendant of John Parry.



Left: Jennifer Cover launched her book 'Cradled by Man'. Below: Cutting of Nettie's cake by descendants Jenni Cover and Shirley Bonnici.



NETHERBY 2016 event photos.



Thursday evening at the commencement of the Commemoration



Thursday evening King Island Choir



Thursday evening, Doreen Burge (right)



Friday Netherby Heritage Tour



Friday evening Skerman gathering



Saturday evening Bush Dance

Sunday, July 17, 2016

Sunday dawned with a blue sky and light winds—our first in a week. It was a blessing sent to us that we could now hold a service at the site of the Netherby shipwreck as well as stand in potentially the exact same place our ancestors stood, grateful for life and wondering their future, with most if not all possessions lost.

The services were a combination of repeat from Thursday evening as well as introducing some new faces including Suzanne Barton and Karina Taylor who spoke of their ancestor, George Massingham. This was followed by Ann Rutte, Glenn Pinnuck and Brian Townsend repeating their speeches from Thursday evening. King Island Mayor, Duncan McFie, spoke of the Netherby and King Island and then John Benn read Psalm 107 followed by the King Island Choir and closing with the Mariners Hymn which was sung loud and clear.

I was told by Sonia of Green Ponds that she noticed how during the Psalm reading that nearly all heads turned seaward and that it felt very emotional and that descendants connected with their ancestors during these moments. I had not noticed it personally—perhaps I was doing the same!!

The service was once again MC'd by Jim Benn. Two wreaths were laid at the cairn at Netherby Cove by Lucinda representing the Skerman family and all of the passengers on board and also Mehmet representing the Parry family and the crew of the Netherby.

Following Netherby Cove, everyone adjourned to the Town Hall for lunch with a fabulous warming pasta meal and then final opportunities to sign Karina's photobook, Glenn Pinnuck's Black Ball Line Flag and deposits into the Sea Chest which will act as our own time capsule.

It was also an opportunity for descendants to tell their history and the story of their ancestor. These were proud moments and I thank everyone who participated.

As part of the Sea Chest ceremony, a photograph was taken of each person with their deposit. The chest was then sealed with an old style padlock and key by Ann Rutte and Glenn Pinnuck presented the keys in a tiny chest to the President of the King Island Historical Society/Museum, Luke Agati. The chest will remain at the museum for 10 years when the contents will be checked and then a further 15 years to be opened at the 175th anniversary of the Netherby.

Just before the wrap up and handover of the Sea Chest to the King Island Historical Society/Museum—Ann Rutte thanked her team—calling up to the front—Jim and Sharon Benn, Karina Taylor, Glenn Pinnuck and thanking her husband Ernst and sister Shirley. Netherby 2016 was then closed.



Sunday morning at Netherby Cove.



King Island Choir



Floral wreaths were laid at the Netherby cairn by Mehmet representing the crew and Lucinda representing the passengers.



The Pinnuck family at Netherby Cove.



Descendants of William Townsend, Thomas Helmer (left) and Brian Townsend with their contribution to the Sea Chest.



Luke Agati (left) with Glenn Pinnuck and the Sea Chest.



Top row: L to R—Former Premier of Tasmania Ray Groom, Deputy Mayor King Island Jim Cooper, Mayor of King Island Duncan McFie and Miles Cover.

Middle: L to R—John Benn, Sharon Benn, Suzanne Barton & Karina Taylor, and Jim Benn.

Bottom: L to R—Resident artist and identity Caroline Kininmonth, Charles Pearce of the King Island Choir, Lynelle Fenner and Ern Morris (Netherby descendants).

NETHERBY 2016 PHOTOGRAPHS

I have placed an order for USB sticks with the Netherby 2016 logo. I should have them soon.

If you wish to purchase the collection of the Netherby 2016 photographs from King Island which includes all of the group photos and many individual, candid photos—please email me admin@netherby2016.

Unfortunately, it is all or none! I just do not have the time to sort all of the photos and select only requested ones. \$20 includes USB, photos and postage. If you prefer to send your own USB and pay postage that is ok too. Let me know—I will provide bank details via email. Thank you.



Some thoughts have come to mind, as I settle and recover from the Netherby 2016 event. For as long as we have information to share—I am happy to produce a newsletter on occasion. But it will rely on content coming from you! I think we should continue to grow this database of people in preparation for the 160th and 175th anniversaries. However, I also think you need to look within your own families to find the right person to take over as coordinator. I am not sure I will be able to this again in 25 years!!

I do think each state needs to consider a reunion of Netherby descendants in July of each year? Perhaps you may even have travellers coming from one state to another to attend. If you wish to go back to King Island, they will welcome you! However, I am positive there are enough of us here in Victoria, who would support a get-together in Melbourne. Let me know?? Ditto for Queensland?

Without Netherby2016 to focus on—I am not sure what I shall do? I would like to perfect the passenger and crew list as there are some discrepancies—so you may receive an email from me that asks you to verify the correct spelling and age of your ancestor/s? This will only go so far though as we are not in touch with all of the families on board the Netherby! We are probably only in contact with a quarter? So there is still a lot of work to do there! Any volunteers to help me out with this?

Another thought is about the History Boards that were created. A couple of samples are displayed to show those not in attendance what was done!

Not everyone was represented and there are many reasons why not. But maybe I should persevere with this until we have a History Board card for every family that we are in contact with. Now that many have seen what I have done—perhaps I could get some help and we could share the workload. It would be nice to continue doing this as we head towards the 160th. When we have EVERYONE—maybe it could then be published but the chances of us having every person represented is a very slim wish. But it does not mean we should not try!

In wrapping this up—I want to thank everyone and I mean everyone on my database, whether you attended or not. This was hard work and it paid off with 168 visiting King Island over July 14-17. Those absent were present in spirit and addressed several times in the various speeches by a variety of speakers. You may have missed the event but you were not forgotten.

My personal thanks to Doreen Burge for her generosity and friendship. To Jim and Sharon Benn, without you this event may not have become a reality. To Glenn Pinnuck for the grant, the coins, the Black Ball Line pennant, the sea chest and raffle and for being Glenn Pinnuck, a superb person to have onside. To Wade Roskam, my radio, sound & light person—many, many thanks. To Mandy Potter—wow—your catering was superb, your attention to detail and for getting on with things and not needing me at all!! Thank you Mandy. To the Lions Club and Grassy Boating Club—you worked hard and I hope it was well worth the effort—thank you for running the bar. Special thank you to our speakers, Messrs Ray Groom, Jim Cooper, Duncan McFie, Suzanne Barton, Brian Townsend, Karina Taylor. A round of applause and thanks to KI Choir and John Benn. A huge thank you to Kathleen Hunter at King Island Press and to Ricci Bishop, Carolyn Kinninmonth, Carolyn Brewer, King Island Bakery, Historical Society, POKI organisers/ contributors, Cultural Centre, Jason Roberts, Marilyn Chapman, Steve at Kings Cuisine, Noel McKay, Pam Rolley, and EVERYONE on KI. I am out of space—sorry!

NETHERBY Shipwreck History and Memories 1866-2016

William Lingard

Departed Plymouth, England, April 13, 1866.
Weekend King Island, July 14, 1866.

The Netherby and my history
(and how proud of it I am!)

William Lingard was working at the Enfield Arms Factory in the north-east part of Greater London. He was a young, married gunsmith and this was the only work offer. His father was the Master of the Locks at the factory and William needed to try and make something of himself for his young wife Emma and to show his father that he was worth something.

However, times were hard in the town of Enfield with unemployment, illness and the government starting more and not willing to give. So, it was, that on a cold and bleak afternoon at the Enfield Arms Factory, William was approached by his friend, Frederick Sherman, with whom he worked, and who had told him that his whole family had been offered free passage to Australia to help build a town called Brisbane. Frederick invited William and his wife, Emma, to join them and to start a new and better life. William jumped at the chance!

On March 31st, 1866, the ship, "Netherby" left the East India Dock on her maiden voyage to Brisbane, Australia. The Netherby was owned by the Black Ball Line and captained by Owen Owens. She was a first class ship, and she had a long and tedious journey ahead. On July 14, 1866, after three and a half months at sea, she hit rocks on the west coast of King Island in Bass Strait, just south of where the town of Currie is today.

After a few weeks of money and clothing being raised to assist the survivors, the offer was made, to get those people that wanted to finish the journey on to Brisbane.

Some did continue onto Brisbane, which included the Sherman family, but William and Emma Lingard made their way to the Goldfields.

After making enough money to survive on, William and Emma, and the three children that they then had, set off north along the Coast—this time.

After a few years of stopping and starting, finally to give birth to a new child, or to make more money with odd jobs, they eventually settled at a place called Monopony, near Shepparton, and this is where William decided to open a hardware mill (Lingard's Store).

William and Emma Lingard are my great-grandparents.

Submitted by Larry Davis

NETHERBY Shipwreck History and Memories 1866-2016

Elizabeth Ann Newbrook

Departed Plymouth, England, April 13, 1866.
Weekend King Island, July 14, 1866.

A fitting tribute

Ann Newbrook, a passenger on the Netherby, was the 15 year old daughter of Mary and Thomas Newbrook and sister to Thomas, 14 years. They came from Salford near Manchester, England and were seeking a better life in Australia.

Mary was my great grandmother and Ann, who became Ann Staines upon marriage, was my great grandmother. Ann's daughter Annie became Annie Staines, my grandmother.

Ann was 15 years old on the Netherby and in this photo she is 62 yrs old and is on the left. At the time of this photo she was a widow and was herself a great grandmother.

My cousin Dudley recently identified the unmarked grave of Ann from records at the Melbourne General Cemetery. Dudley had a group of 16, including five great-grandmothers, meet at the cemetery for a celebration toast and unveiling of the plaque.

Submitted by Linda and David Jenkins

Own your own Netherby print by artist Jason Roberts.

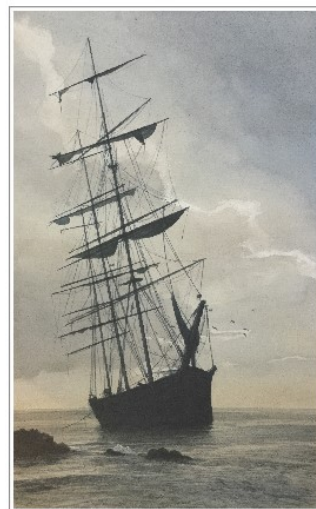
Limited run and limited time to buy—prints are ready now! See the details below. I can email better quality images if required. Let me know or Marilyn/Ken. Thank you.



Rescue at Sea - The Netherby
From an original watercolour by Jason Roberts

One of the most remarkable aspects of the wreck of the Black Ball Line's *Netherby* on the 14th of July, 1866, is the tales of the successful rescue of all on board. In this painting I wanted to show something of the dramatic conditions faced as the crew ferried rescue boats back and forth along ropes from the listing ship, in rough waters and around jagged rocks, to the safety of shore. All had endured an uneasy night aboard the wrecked ship, before the light of morning made the rescue attempt safer, and I've depicted one of the first boats full of passengers being safely delivered from peril to the relative safety of King Island's shores.

Portside Links
Gallery
Grassy King Island
Tasmania 7256
Australia
ki@portsidelinks.com.au
+61 (03) 6461 1134
(M)+61 427 093 194
<http://www.portsidelinks.com.au>



The Netherby
From an original watercolour by Jason Roberts

It's a day or two after the wreck, and the Black Ball Line's *Netherby* rests now in calmer waters than those that contributed to her wreck on the 14th of July, 1866. There are no known photographs of the *Netherby*, and in researching this fully-rigged sailing ship for my paintings I combined knowledge of old photographs of ships of her era, built in north-east England. Most of her lower sails are missing at this point, having been retrieved by the crew to form makeshift canvas dwellings on the rugged south-west coast of King Island.

Portside Links
Gallery
Grassy King Island
Tasmania 7256
Australia
ki@portsidelinks.com.au
+61 (03) 6461 1134
(M)+61 427 093 194
<http://www.portsidelinks.com.au>

Hi All

Here are the photos of the prints from the *Netherby* Exhibition, They will be printed on archival cotton rag paper in exhibition quality process each will come with an individual certificate of authenticity (a maximum 50 print run each). The prints are \$300 each plus \$20 postage and handling. We have attached the Artist History document to add to the collection.

The prints will be ready by later this week and we will require payment before shipping
We will departing King Island 8th Aug and returning 14th Oct so we only have a short timeframe to despatch the prints before we depart

Banking Details

Westpac BSB 737-602 Acc No 546 306

We will confirm by email when prints are "Express Post"

Please respond and confirm

Actual print and quantity required – "Rescue at Sea" or "The *Netherby*"

Delivery address Phone number

Payment details

Regards

Marilyn & Ken Chapman

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Phone 03 6461 1134

Ken Mob 0427 093 194 Marilyn Mob 0427 593 233