

Hello to our William & Margaret Wilson Clan of Skelton 1820 Connection

This is by way of an update to let you know we haven't gone to sleep or dropped off the planet, and to mention a few items which will become of importance as time moves along to our Hobart gathering.

Firstly our thanks and appreciation to all who have assisted our planning by responding to our requests for guidance advice as to whether you think it likely you and family members will be joining in the Hobart celebrations in November 2020. Total numbers indicated as likely to attend are just under 120 which is a marvellous response.



Hopefully when the time arrives (early 2020) for real commitment, support will remain strong. Certainly prior to that time cash flow balancing means we are going to need to request your support with advance deposits and/or voluntary support funding – more on this below.

A particularly pleasing feature of the responses is the indication that many will be accompanied by younger family members – some 25 have so far been nominated ranging in age (as at Nov.2020) from 3 to 17. We are planning some feature activities for the young folks and will tell you more on this later – some will involve active participation for those who would like to.

We have now placed on reserve with paid deposits the **Narryna Museum** for our opening event (Thursday 26th), two tall ship sailing ships, **Lady Nelson, and Windward Bound** (shown below), for the cruise and 'Arrival Re-enactment Ceremony' on Friday afternoon 27th - the very day and time of afternoon to 200 years when Skelton with William & Margaret on board dropped anchor in Hobart harbour).

Also, reservation has been made at **Derwent Estate Vineyard** (formerly Mount Nassau, the site of the Wilson home in the 1860/90s period) for wine tasting and light luncheon, on Saturday 28th.

We have moved ahead with more detailed costing of the sailing ship cruises, coach tours and the designs of the various Merchandise items being planned to be available both prior to, and at the 2020 Hobart gathering. We will advise further on these over the next few months.



Other event locations and timings have been tentatively set. Members of our Steering are meeting in Hobart late July to progress in further detail the planning of each of the Hobart

2020/200 programme activities. Coach services, for the visits to Richmond Bridge/township, Hestercombe Cemetery, Derwent Estate, Hobart architectural locations (family related), etc. will be negotiated at that time.

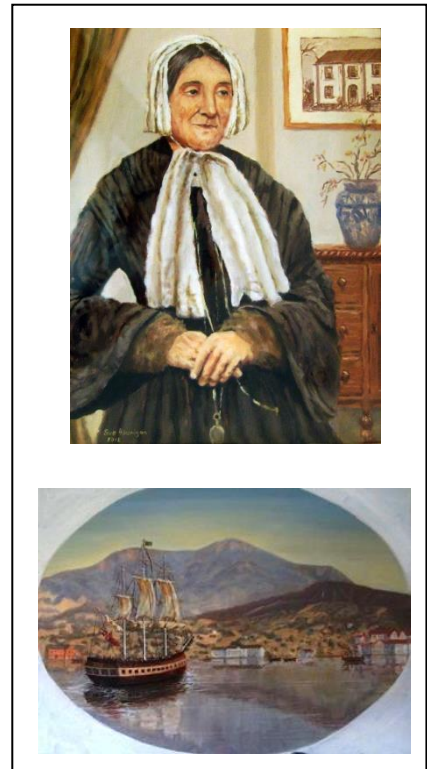
Hestercombe Cemetery – some months ago inspection indicated the gravesite of William & Margaret, and their son Frederick Langloh and his spouse Jane, had deteriorated since our earlier restoration. Thanks to our Tasmanian cousins, most particularly Jane Wilson, and Ann Watchorn and family members, a wonderful job of restoration has been carried out, and with some final surface pebble refreshing soon to be completed, the site will present beautifully for our visit. On behalf of we mainlander Wilsons we express our appreciation to Jane, Ann and families.



Funding - In broaching the subject of funding support we stress once more this is a strictly Not-for-Profit programme - **all income will be used to fund the 200 Years Celebration**. Your steering committee has and will continue to apply a great amount of time and effort, and indeed not insignificant personal expense to assist in making it all happen. It's our voluntary and indeed enjoyable privilege to provide the lead for this important and historic family event.

We will incur various costs (have already done so) in advance of receiving payments from those who will attend the Hobart event, which means a period ahead of negative cash flow. To help cover this we will be asking for your support in two ways – a) paying partial advance deposits towards the various advance expenses we have and will incur, and/or, b) making voluntary donations in support.

In the latter regard, we already have a small fund administered by Mike Wilson which has slowly built up from many donations including those for souvenir items over the past 20 or so years, added to which we have recently received some anonymous donations. The prior accumulated funds and personal expenses have allowed us to commission a painting of our ancestral Matriarch Margaret, and also one depicting the Skelton's 1820 arrival in Hobart Town. Although the original version of the Skelton Arrival painting will be formally presented to the Narryna Museum to form part of its William & Margaret collection of artefacts, print 'on canvas' copies are to be made available in the merchandise list. Also, partial deposits have now been paid or are additionally pending for Narryna, the Tall Ships, Derwent Estate, and Coaches hire.



An additional way we plan to raise support funds is via a small margin applied to the manufacturing costs of the items of merchandise – this will be to cover what we can expect will be a number of unscheduled expenses which experience from the several prior reunions and gatherings we have organised, tells us will inevitably be incurred.

Following our July Steering Committee meeting programme in Hobart we will issue a further update report and will then request your bridging funding support. Meantime, should anyone wish to offer donations now, if you would kindly advise Mike Wilson at mike.bronwyn@gmail.com he will provide our bank account details for direct debiting (or alternative) and issue you with a receipt.

Other Administrative Arrangements

As the 2020/200 Hobart event will be quite a bit more substantial than previous reunions/gatherings have been, we are examining whether more formal administrative arrangements might be more appropriate in relation to financial administrations, and in respect of such as insurances, etc. We will of course in our duty of care responsibilities ensure all service providers have appropriate public risk and other obligatory insurances and procedures in place. Family members attending the programme should also attend to their own travel insurances, etc in the normal manner.

With best wishes to all from your 2020-200 Hobart Anniversary Steering Committee

Shirley Davies OAM, Jane Wilson, John Wilson, Laurie Wilson, Mike Wilson

