

Cover sheet for an interview conducted in Zambia:

Alex and Margery Nisbet: (Notes only) 10-11th January 1976 and 1st-2nd April 1978 at their home in Scotland

- **No biographical sketch was made.**
- **These interviews. During these visits to Scotland, the Nisbets kindly put me up in their home. During each visit, we had many small chats and unstructured interviews about their many years in Zambia.**
- **Background to the Interview. Alex Nisbet was the Headmaster of Solwezi Secondary School in Zambia when I arrived as a young Fulbright teacher in 1963. Margery worked for the provincial administration at this time.**
- **The Nisbets had arrived at Chitokoloki in 1950 and expanded it as a major center of education under George Suckling. Then in the early 1960s, they left their mission work at Chitokoloki and came to Solwezi Secondary School, which Alex (as Headmaster) spent much time developing.**
- **I left Solwezi Secondary School to open Balovale Secondary in January 1965. Some time later, Alex would later open David Kaunda Secondary School in Lusaka for the government. He played a major role in developing modern secondary school education in Zambia.**

General note on all interviews and interviewees: These cover sheets were created from old notes 25 years ago. They contain key manuscript information in each interviewee's file. Often there is a short chronology of the interviewee's life written at the time of the interview. Most interviewees by this time (2006) are deceased; hence the huge potential value of this old interview. All interviews focused on education in the North West Province of Zambia mainly in the period from World War II until the 1970s. They often contain information on other topics that in some way related to education. All interviewees were in some way leaders of their own community or missionaries who had spent much of their life in the N.W.P. Most interview transcripts contain rectangular boxes for, or with, 5 numbers. These were used to code key data for research and writing in this pre-computer era. These codes are now meaningless for me and for any one else. Unless noted otherwise, these interviewees can be used by scholars without restrictions.

8/8/2006

(Interviewed in their home in Scotland, not taped, but informal questions and answers. Mrs. Nisbet's informal comments at the end are also important, and confidential.)

- (1) Background of missionary work. Mr Nisbet had worked for some time in the U.K. after they were married, but both had agreed before marriage to go to mission field. They arrived at Chit in October 1950 and were there until December 1957 before getting leave. They then went to relieve Beattie in Lusaka in 1958-9 for 18 months and then briefly at Chit again in 1959 before coming to Solwezi.
- (2) T.T.C. started because evangelists needed more training. Victor Reed started formal T.T.C. just pre- or post- WWII. T.T.C. to train 'T5' teachers, up to Standard IV. Suckling had influenced Reed to come. Reed later went to Kenya to teach after his wife died, about 1948. He was probably the first, trained, full-time educationalist at Chit. They think that he has written several books -- check this.
- (3) When Nisbet arrived Mrs Mawhinney had been working in the T.T. under Suckling. After his death, a big change in education structure. In collaboration with government the changes took place -- Robertson of Jeannes came to Chit for Suckling memorial service and planned the future. It was planned to give outschools (about 30) to L.E.A.s, which were just being formed at that time. Nisbet ~~preceid~~ decided at dissolution of that part of mission work to concentrate on T.T.C. which also meant maintaining the upper primary and primary and girls boarding unit at Chit. Was converted into a part of T.T. unit which was upgraded and improved.

Outschools -- some went to St II and some went to St IV with weekly boarders.

By then 'T5' disappeared and worked with 'T4s' and recruitment was with whole N.W.P. In other words teachers for S.A.G.M. and C.M.M.L. (N.W.) and even Swedish Baptists. Robertson was very helpful in this re-organisation and arranged for Nisbet to visit Chalimbana (1952) for a week. Samuel Mbilishi was the Jeanne

teacher - supervisor - from before Nisbet arrived until after Nisbet left. John Mwendela was also a Jeannes teacher - trained at Chalimbana and then Edinburgh. One of first to go overseas, about 1945 and 1949. Mr Nisbet met him in Scotland before coming to Africa.

- (4) What was happening at this time was plans for attempting to reduce small T.T.C.s and for larger institutions. Christian Council built Livingstone. Catholics at Chzales Lwanga. Govt started a second at Kitwe T.T.C. besides Chalimbana. This was to work at T1 and T2.

7 Thus, by 1957 the need for Chit as a separate T.T.C. unit had fulfilled its purpose and N.W.P. had at that time reached saturation point for that level of teachers. (Two year course at Chit for maximum of 25 students per year.) So Chit was producing 25 teachers a year. For the years of operation (I.E., 1952-7) Nisbet was principal. Other staff: Mr Wanwane Mayindi (he was then a 'T2' equivalent) who taught maths and something elss; Mr Nisbet did History of Education and Science, Mrs Mawhinney did English. Mr Nisbet was also Manager of Schools at Chit; Mrs Mawhinney took over in 1957. By 1957 intake reduced and more-or-less 'worked out' by 1959. By then the new T.T.C.s were opening and beginning but they were taking basically men basicaly geared towards jr sec sch leavers and not so much primary.

- (5) Continuity and aborted secondary school

Very important
Brethren localized mission policy (not centralised) led to a problem of continuity and govt was always anxious for assurances of continuing when a project, e.g. a school was opened. This issue came up especially with regard to a new sec sch. Govt didn't always do much better themselves. They were concerned because they had not control over mission staffing.

Secondary school idea was more-or-less shelved because of staff, death of Mr Suckling - Nisbet had to assume his ed'l duties and Letchford's leaving. Sir John Lang and a committee in London planned to sponsor the school.

Then, ~~after~~ affecting dev of ed in the N.W.P., The Ass't Dir. of Ed., N.Rh., Rusbridger (about 1955-6) approached Nisbet with view to becoming Headmaster of a sec sch at Balovale (or even at Chit and Kabompo; but because of tribal diff between Luvale and Lunda tha rea was eventually ruled out) at this govt town. Nisbet, however, felt he had a committment at Chit and did not follow this up. Govt made a decision because of Lunda/Luvale trouble to take it to Solwezi so it was under eye of Prov administration. Eventually Nisbet was at Solwezi which should have been the school at Balovale. This was to be the provincial school. Balovale was still considered the ~~prpx~~ provincial focal centre for ed as it had been historically.

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(6) Historically Suckling had focused on ed as a 'handmaid to Christian evangelism (activity)' just as Kalene had up to that point focused on medical work. (Dr Worsfold was still 'a new man' at Chit where he had been the first doctor.)

IMP.

S.A.G.M. were handicapped by the sparse population.

(7) Trade School of Balovale had been opened when Rudge's sold out -approx 1957-8 where the sec sch was to have gone.

(8) Catholic movement into the province. Their converts and activity is believed by many C.M.M.L./S.A.G.M. missionaries to have been among their discontented, often, disciplined adherents or ex-adherents. They were esp keen on girls ed but had diff getting into any ed'l work due to Chavuma. Govt loath to build more schools least pop move out and leave school stranded. The reason that they got in was Lunda/Luvale jealousy and CMMML didn't give them something on the west side but Catholics did at Chinyingi. This was about 1953.

(9) Western mission impact on traditional societies.

The biggest clash came over girls' ed. The mission was against too early (child) marriages; often death in child-birth. Missions often a refuge for older ~~xxx~~ women and orphans.

(Note; girls school really got a start when famine hit in 1930s and many orphans were taken into the mission.)

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A profession affected social habits, especially woman with cloth on the head, also the Chikevele over the breasts became more often seen. Mukanda was dry season exercise and shortened. If not back in school, they lost their school place. Parents who were Christians did not have formal mukanda and circumcised before puberty. Rituals not deteriorated as much as in many places partly because: (a) they hang on to these customs as identity and (b) slow assimilation of this area into territory as really no roads into N.W. until 1940s.

(10) Missionaries and level of education: source of controversy.

Main purpose was evangelization but education was at first necessary for members to become practicing Christians. No one initially went out as educationalists. Thus ed was was a source of controversy - 'how much one should do'. Africans esp clamoured for more once getting some, thus 'African caught in a trap of his own making'. He had to carry on until govt could take over. Thus the handover in 1952 to L.E.A.s. By this time people becoming politically conscious and thus 'no longer wise to be responsible'.

Sec sch matter controversial because otherwise another 'foreign body would come in, e.g. Roman Catholics' and reap ~~the~~ benefit of their earlier work.

Important
②

The few educationalists who went out, e.g. Stokes and Nisbet, because they saw this as their special calling within their overall ministry. Others got into education because of necessity and not of inclination, e.g. Suckling. Thus, not even an educationalist/^{and} despite adm shortcomings, his wider vision of ed'l need no doubt 'led to exceptional progress in Balovale compared to the rest of the N.W.'. This exceptional progress - e.g., amount of English and amount of trading stores and trades such as carpentry - is visible today and was in 1950s. Also some people, e.g. Duvale and Chokwe, caught on more quickly than other groups, such as Lundas, although even in latter cases there were big exceptions.

(11) Especially interview Mbilishi, John Mwendela (mission) and Willie Mwendela (govt always) and Wm. Nkanza.

(12) By 1950s the phases of education and the teacher/evangelist had passed (about early 1940s) and mission employed only teachers, but those who were still Christians with evangelical outlook; only later were they selected purely on academic ability. Thus, in 1950s even for training a Christian experience was expected.

(13) Notes of old missionaries

Old Mrs Mowat still lives in Pretoria

Miss Marks married Mr f. Fisher

Miss Isherwood married Tom Rea

old Mrs Mowat's sister was Mrs Rudge (Miss Daisy Gibson)

(14) Nisbets - summary idea

Missionary work at Chit was really a graining ground for his later work in government which he sees as an extension of his missionary endeavours. Working at Chit gave him a general feel for the language and introduction to Af life, etc.

PRIVATE ADDITIONS BY MRS NISBET LATER ON IN THE LAST DAY

(a) Commented extensively on the Chit/Kabulamena splits and felt that the real charges were false. That the main troubles were personality clashes. Said that tension upon the station was very great and that missionaries could be very selfish to one another. Example was when they were trying to get their children to Sakaji and did not have a car that several on station with cars did not volunteer and they had to walk to main road and take a bus to Solwezi where it was govt officials who then helped them. Said tensions could even affect one's 'prayer life'.

(b) Noted in some detail that Suckling spent money without much planning and as he got it upon the first necessary object. Also implied that he lived well and travelled first class. When he died his papers were burnt by his widow as they showed this carelessness in money and planning.

(c) Likewise when colonial govt went, she recalled big fires in even Solwezi of papers they did not want passed on to the new African govt that showed controversies and matters considered to be detrimental to col. govt and Europeans in the province and

Additional materials resulting from the interview

Alex and Margery Nisbet

Interviewed on 10th and 11th January 1976 and later on 1st and 2nd 1978 at their home in Stranraer, Scotland

- **I exchanged a lot of correspondence with both Alex and Margery from the mid-1970s until the late-1990s. Only included are 19 correspondence items (mostly from the Nisbets) that might have scholarly value. These are dated from 1st June 1976 to 9th January 1984. (Correspondence after that date was strictly personal.)**
- **One thoughtful item of 22nd July 1981 from Alex is a careful response to drafts of dissertation material.**

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7/15/2006

Copy

61-15 98th St., #4E
Rego Park, New York 11374
9 January 1984

Nisbet

Herewith the copy of my dissertation that I promised you. I hope that you received my airmail letter, of the same date, informing you that it was coming. As very few studies cover the present-day entity called the NWP, the dissertation may have some future significance.

Please start by reading the Preface very carefully.

Note my general acknowledgement to all interviewees in the Preface and my specific acknowledgements in the bibliography. Note also that I make at least one -- and generally many more -- references to each interview. As there is no index, you must carefully read or survey the whole dissertation, including the footnotes, to find specific references to our interview.

As with all other readers, I invite you to write me with your comments. For at least the remainder of this year, use the address given at the top of this page. Thereafter, as indicated in the Preface, write to me in care of my brother.

If you do write to me with your comments, both positive and negative, I will certainly reply. If you also desire, I will give you a summary of American scholars remarks about this work. I suspect that those remarks will be different from, and often less astute than, those from you interviewees for whom this topic has a personal meaning.

I hope you are well and having a good year. As of the date of this letter, I am well and moving into a new business career. For the time being, I have placed both life in Africa and the university world behind me. Nonetheless, I still hope to do some writing in the next year or so. Thus after you read the work, I will indeed value any comments very much.

Very sincerely,

P. David Wilkin

Barnsmore
Sandhead

Stranraer
DG9 9JG,
Galloway, Scotland.

20th August, 1982.

Dear David,

So sorry to have been so long in writing. I do hope you are both well & Zindi keeping very much better. I guess you have settled down to life in New York & hope all goes well with your present project.

Thank you very much for sending us monthly - it is extremely kind of you. We have had it since Chitkolski days - and 30 years he certainly seen changes in the format and contents of the magazine. It is ~~interesting~~ ~~to~~ ~~know~~ ~~my~~ ~~acquaintance~~ with it after all these years.

We have certainly had a wonderful Summer this year - continuous hot sunshin & very little rain. It started with a glorious spring in March & has continued to this week, when the weather has gone wet and changeable. Still I think all the farmers have got in their bumper harvest.

Gini & Hilda Horsford have bought a small bungalow in Terghmouth on the South Coast of Dorset. Hilda still troubled with her angina etc - but at 76 still seems to be going strong. Gini at 70 - still as miserable as ever - never anything suits him & hyper-critical of everybody and everything!

We are all fine. In June, Alex, Helen and I had a super holiday in Austria, high up in the Alps. Spent our time scrambling up mountains right up to the snow line. Then I have had a busy summer, with first Janet and family, then Alastair's family - and in between, gardening, swimming in the sea and Alex doing a fair amount of sailing. On Tuesday I expect an grand-daughter, aged 11 yrs, for a couple of weeks before she returns to school on the 9th September. Then at the end of Sept. her brother Elmogoshan is coming for a week - his half term - he doesn't want to miss out but he is more of a mother's boy - so hope he doesn't get too homesick.

In March we had a visit from Ella Masen
& her daughter Marion of Solway and Kansanishi
Jame. They came to bring the ashes of Alex Masen
who died last year to be buried at the next
village. Marion & her husband have 3 sons &
run a Hotel in Gohamstung - but want to move
to Hatal where Ella has hives on her cow. Can't
say that Marion has altered in any way except
in width!

The troubles in Africa don't seem to get
any less which always saddens us - Such a
wild beautiful country with laughing care free
people and such a fantastic climate should
not be subjected to all the pressures of the
West and the greed for power which seems
to afflict all newly independent states.

We hope your Father keeps well.
Love, Alex Masen.

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

Margaret Nisbet

Cannock

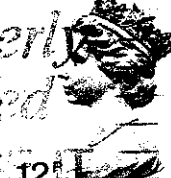
Sandhead Sharnock, DG9 9JG

Galloway, Scotland.

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BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER
PAR AVION AEROGamme



David Wilkin Esq.

P.S. ^{will send on copies of}
Echoes etc by surface mail

Cairnmore
Sandhead
Stranraer
DG99JG
19.4.82.

Dear David

Your of 11th April has just come in
I feel rather guilty about my failure to
answer your previous letter etc but trust
you will forgive me.

At present we are enjoying lovely spring
weather. We have had bright blue skies for about
three weeks and during that time I have
painted the outside of the house and numerous
other outside tasks. It is really delightful
weather. You have not been so fortunate
but maybe you will have a roaster of a
summer.

Glad to know all is well and that you are
still busy on your project. I am looking
forward to your exceptions and shall comment
if necessary. Just recently I wrote the
story of my own missionary efforts for
a new book being produced by Echoes
with Dr. Tatford as one of the editors. I
should think it will prove a much better
production than "Turning the World Upside
Down".

Marjorie and all the family are well.
Did I mention that Alan has a little
daughter Diana. - our third grandchild
All being well we hope to go up to
Stonehaven near Aberdeen in about three
weeks to see them again. He has
just been out to Tunisia on a
project. Speaking of the Falkland episode

M. David Wilkin

Moody Monthly



BY AIR MAIL
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A NISBET
CAIRNSMORE
SANDHEAD
STRANRAER D99JF
SCOTLAND

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

he was in the last show of strength in 1976-7
You did say you would send on a magazine
of our choice. That is most kind of you
and I hesitate to place a burden on
you. If it is not too expensive I should
be glad to have Moody Monthly. I
used to subscribe to it many years
ago. If you care to get a few copies
I should be able to judge its usefulness
to me now-a-days. I still take quite
a number of meetings and good reading
is a great help.
Yours age
Alex & Marjorie

Sandhead
Stranraer
D999 JG.

6.2.1981.

Dear David

Many thanks for your long noisy Christmas letter. I regret that my literary efforts are very sparse by comparison. Our warm thanks too for the copy of Albert Norton's 'O Africa'. It is interesting reading although perhaps I expected something more literary. I shall be glad to review any history you care to send me and wish you every success in completing your Doctorate. I missed my chance of a Doctorate at the beginning of World War II and sometimes regret it although careers were it: made little difference either in teaching or in industry. There are now signs of Spring - snowdrops and crocuses are in bloom and the daffodils are budding. Generally speaking it has been a mild winter in this part but rather a wet one. From your newspaper cuttings it would appear the Nuclear Defence controversy is much the same as here. I am not persuaded that there is anything that one can do although our prayers should be that we might be saved from such a catastrophe - too awful to contemplate - even with a 30% - 40% removal factor.

5th June, 1981

Dear David,

This letter of Alex's was passed to me to finish and with shame I confess I still have not done it.

By now we are in the midst of June and the height of the gardening season and today we received your 'Scottish' card. So glad you enjoyed your holiday with Zindi and feel refreshed ready to face the fray once more. Your papers duly arrived and Alex will be writing separately to you about them - meantime enough to say he is very impressed! I have yet to read them but will do so as quickly as possible.

Thanks for sending on Albert Horton's book. I too was disappointed I would have thought he could have written something better which would have been of much more general interest to a wider reading public. It was O.K. for us who knew them and their place in Angola etc., but gave little of what impression the Gospel had made on the locals - if any!! Have read much better books from the local library here.....

We are due to go at any moment to Stonehaven North East Scotland to ~~Alastair~~. His wife is expecting her 1st baby was due the 1st of this month so expect a summons any day. Have been busy going round the garden digging up plants to take to his new garden - which Alex views with alarm as he wonders where we are going to sit.

Janette, Michael and children were up a fortnight ago along with two dogs. It was like a mad house, as Dileas's dog wasn't too enamoured with his cousin.

6 2 57

Jim and Hilda seem much the same. Hilda still wanting to live in the South of England and Jim very happy with his lot in the Hebrides. Hilda has been staying with her sisters for the last month in England whilst Jim fended for himself. He still says he will have to give up before another winter descends - but he said that last year and the year before that.

We don't get much news from Zambia and our 25 years of Africa are fading in the dim past. Actually I have lived longer in this Sandhead house than any other since I was married, but fortunately neither of us have any inclination to move. I guess we are too old - now both in our sixties - and packing and moving is such an upheaval.

Well David I promise not to be so long in writing again. Thanks again for all your letters and cards its great that you are such a good correspondent.

All the best,

Major E

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD
NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE
IF IT DOES IT MAY BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

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**BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER**

PAR AVION AEROGRAMME



David Wilkin Esq.,
119 ~~B~~idget Circle # 3 BRIDGET
SYRACUSE CIRCLE # 3
New York 13207F
U. S. A.

Cairnsmore
Sandhead
Stranraer
DG9 9JG
Galloway
Scotland

January 25, 1982

Dear David,

Many thanks for your letter received today. We were so sorry to hear about Zindi and do hope by this time that she is feeling better and that the Doctors can find out what is wrong and get her on the right treatment. It must be quite a job commuting especially during the extremely bad weather. We didn't do too bad in the snow storms - only got a sprinkling but it was extremely cold - in fact I don't think I have ever known it so cold. It was minus 23°C. Fortunately we were one of the few without burst water pipes although ~~I~~ our hot water system hasn't operated properly since the big freeze up. It must have got air locked somewhere and we can only get about 3 inches of hot water in the bottom of the bath - when the pressure comes off the plumbers we will have to get it seen too - its not that urgent as the shower operates fine.

I am only sending a hasty note to enclose with the copies of Echoes - Alex will write the official letter in reply to your queries. Sorry I have not sent these on to you - good intentions - but will this year send them on each month after we have finished with them.

Haven't heard from Jim and Hilda since before Christmas so possibly they are still busy either moving house or still house hunting - or snowed up! Still the weather is now quite mild and bulbs pushing up through the wet ground.

Alastair and family came for Christmas and the baby now six months old is adorable. Janette and family are fine. Dileas is much the same and needs a fair amount of patience. Alex has drifted into his retirement routine - and mine has been turned upside down. What adjustments one has to make in life - still I guess it is better than getting into a rut!

Will write again later in reply to your letter. Meantime I do hope Zindi is on the mend and you are slowly getting your own problems sorted out to your satisfaction.

Yours,

Haynes

Cairnsmore
Sandhead
Stranraer
DG9 9JG
Galloway
Scotland

22nd July, 1981

Dear David,

Many thanks for your last letter. It was great to hear of your successful holiday and so glad you and Zindi enjoyed it all. Interesting to hear its the first time you have been 'to sea' - I suppose I never thought about it. We have always messed around in and on the sea and our best holidays - particularly our trip round the world on an Ocean liner was the high light in our lives. I love sea travel best of all - its so relaxing.

I know Alex has written to you about your script and although I can't comment on it professionally - as an ordinary lay person or housewife I thought it terrific. It made fascinating reading and was most enjoyable. Perhaps I am not suppose to make such comments - but I thought it exceedingly well written and was most impressed with the amount of work and research you had done. Being completely ignorant of these things - what happens to the final article. Do you publish it as a book or what. If you do publish it for the general public to buy I would love to be able to buy

22- July-81

at least one so that my children can have it for all time. If not - or I have completely the wrong idea - perhaps at the end of all your labours you would let me have back the script as it is so full of information that I am sure Alastair and Janette would love it too.

I am enclosing a few Echoes which I have unearthed and odd papers that came in sometime. In future I will save Echoes for you each month and send it on to you. I am afraid earlier copies have been thrown out. Mores the pity. But I never thought.

Summer is as usual here - cold and wet - but the garden seems to like it even if I don't.

All the grand children and family are fine. Do hope you land a good job to your liking. Here unemployment rises every month in all grades so its not an easy time.

Did Alex tell you Jim has resigned his post and moves south to Devon in September. Hilda delighted - Jim in the apths of despondency.

Much love,

Hayden

...the ...
...the ...
...the ...
...the ...
...the ...
...the ...

postcard
no

Caribbean
Savannah
Strawberry
DQ 9 A 5 9

22 July 81

...of ...

Dear David,

Many thanks for your card and letters. It was most thoughtful to send such a large cheque.

Marjorie and I are glad you enjoyed your holiday with Zude and feel envious of your wide ranging travel, over an area which has been touched with the early turlony of the Americans.

Now to business. I have been through your computerised report very carefully and both Marjorie and I feel that you have caught the spirit of the missionary saga without unnecessary embellishment. The picture you paint of GRS is pretty true to life. I would suggest in your review that you avoid any colouring of what you have done. So far as I can see it is accurate and unbiased.

There is of course the old conflict between the call to evangelism, and social service. Even in a sophisticated western society this is not easy to resolve, but in the situation the evangelic missionary found himself in Central Africa he could easily be mis understood by compatriots. BSA and the subsequent colonial regime could point out the weakness and write critical reports but they did very

little to meet ^{of} special conditions until after
World War II, and ~~perhaps~~ then it was pretty
meagre. Take Malaya Township in Malaya.
The meagre social services ^{if you could call them}
that were being financed ^{by} best had, tallings
up to independence. - a little irrelevant.

perhaps.
Avoid any colour. Keep to the facts as you
have given them.

Hope you get this back safely and real-
ize it is not too late for any use you
care to make of it.

With the fondest regards and good
wishes
Yours sincerely,
Alex & Mayore Nield

~~The enclosed report is a summary of the work done in Malaya during the period 1945-1955. It is intended to provide a basis for the preparation of a report to the Board of Directors. The report is divided into two parts: a general survey of the work done and a detailed account of the work done in each of the four main areas of activity. The general survey is contained in the first two chapters and the detailed account in the remaining three chapters. The report is intended to be read by the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Board. It is also intended to be read by the members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Board. The report is intended to be read by the members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Board. The report is intended to be read by the members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Board. The report is intended to be read by the members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Board.~~

Cairnsmore
Sandhead
- Stranraer
DG9 9JG
Scotland

November 26, 1980

Dear David,

Well David by this time you will be well settled back to work. It was great that you managed so many trips around this year and a couple of visits to your Father - I am sure he was delighted to see you both. Canada in the Fall must be beautiful but a bit cold at this time of the year.

Here we had a terrible wet summer which ran on into a terrible wet autumn and I guess we are now into winter and its still raining!!

We paid a visit to Jim and Hilda in the Hebrides. What a depressing place!! No wonder Hilda hates it. No trees, no flowers, no birds and even the heather never flowers but stays a dismal brown because there is no sunshine either! Can you imagine it - rain and water everywhere. Jim had cut his peats for the winter and he said when he had burnt them he would pack up and move south. But knowing Jim - whether he will keep to it - Hilda sincerely hopes so - really is a grim existence.

I agree
Gospel
Alex keeps better since his retirement and his blood pressure more regular. We are busy preparing the children for their annual Christmas Service which this year takes place on Sunday, 21st December. Its the one time in the year when we can guarantee the Gospel Hall being filled by the local villagers. They are such a self righteous lot - its alright to take the Gospel to Africa but Scotland knows it all and have no need of salvation!!

Alastair and his wife have settled down in North East Scotland. He is an Electronics Engineer with the Oil Rigs. He doesn't live on the rigs but is shore based, although does have to fly out to the Rigs if problems develop. His wife is teaching at a school some 15 miles south of their home town so they are both kept busy. Janette and family are fine and are hoping to come up here for Christmas. Sarah is now 9 and Christopher nearly 7, so they are growing apace - it doesn't seem that long ago since mine were that age!! As you say, as the years pass our African experience gets dimmer its good we had it when we did.

Well David I expect you will be going to New York for Christmas do hope you have a happy time with Zindi and that your programme for 1981 will go well. You sound to be very busy and am sure the weeks just fly by.

All the best for the New year

Yours,

Haynes

Gairnsmore
Sandhead.
Stranraer.
D99959.
6.11.80.

Dear

- David, It must be old age - I have got the lines crossed before I start. May I use this as an excuse for my bad manners in failing to reply to your letter!! It is kind of you to suggest sending a copy of A & Horton's book and should welcome same if it is not too expensive. By the way if you think I can help with your Hurling and it is not too late I shall do what I can.

The summer here has been one of the wettest for a long time and may be due in some measure to US reports viz Mt St Helens dust particles. Glad you had a good holiday with Zudi and that you have settled down again to your Magnum Opus.

Alaric got married last Christmas and now lives in Stonehaven near Aberdeen. In August we paid them a visit. Then crossed the country to Ullapool for a trip to the Outer Hebrides to see Jim and Hilda and had a few days with them. They live in splendid isolation but it is getting a bit much for both of them and I expect to hear soon that he will retire. We had a good old ~~matter~~ as usual about Africa especially N.W Province. Alan by the way is a telecommunications engineer with Plessey the big electronics people. He goes off to the oil rigs and exploration ships from time to time.

Earlier in the year Feb-March we spent a 2 week holiday in Lanzarote one of the Canary Islands. - very interesting - volcanic and largely desert but reasonably sunny at that time of the year. It would be nice to visit U.S. but too late this year. It would need a bit of thought because of the expense!

Winter is upon us - cold winds, rough seas, but it is still a lovely picture as we look out of our lounge window. The we get in rly and sea are quite

New York 13207

Signature

Apt #3

119 Bridge Circle

David Williams Esq



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION AEROGRAMME

Nisbet

SECOND FOLD HERE

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD
NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE;
IF IT DOES IT MAY BE SURCHARGED
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

SENDERS NAME AND ADDRESS (PLEASE SHOW YOUR POSTCODE)
A NISBET BSc, Chem, FRSC
CAIRNS MORE
SANDHEAD
STRAWRAER
D9959

6-11-80

I have been doing a bit of Bible study and preparing for meetings. I had expected to be off on my Scientific Advice roll to our Member of Home Defense College but it seems to be off for the time being I think I am getting a bit too old to be bothered about nuclear and chemical warfare. It is too frightening and horrible to contemplate although it must be right to make whatever civil defence means one can take for mans madness is far predictable.

Our best wishes to you both

Yours sincerely
A

Cairnsmore
Sandhead
Stranraer DG9 9JG
Galloway
Scotland.

April 25, 1980

Recd
3/ May / 80

Dear David,

It seems ages since Christmas when you sent your lovely long newsy letter. Am sure by this time you will have settled down in Syracuse and your life in Zambia just becoming a dream. It was lovely to hear that you and Zindi had had such a successful holiday and we hope your contact in the future will be even more regular. It won't be so long before your first year in the States will be over - quite incredible how the time goes as you get older.

Alex retired (aged 62) in January. It took him a short time to settle down and to help matters we spent a fair time in Lanzarote, Canary Islands. We went to escape the winter here, although we arrived back to snow in the middle of March; but for the last five weeks or so the weather has been simply marvellous and NO rain whatsoever. So heres hoping it will keep it up until September..... Alex is away at present on a course for Scientific Officers to do with Civil Defence and Nuclear fall out. He thought he might as well help out in a voluntary capacity - but lets hope his know-how will never be needed.

Alastair was married in December. A beautiful day and a happy time was had by all. He is now in Aberdeen (North East Scotland) working as an Electronics Engineer to do with supplying the oil wells with radio and electronic equipment. He is very happy, loves his job which is full of interest and seems to hop around all over the place. Valerie and he bought a house in Stonehaven - a small town about ten miles ^{south} of Aberdeen on the coast and ^{sounds} lovely - a modern three bedroomed bungalow, double glazed etc., and in the six weeks they have had it they seemed to have made good progress with furnishing it.

Jim Worsfold sounds as if he is on the move again. He is due down here at the end of next month to look for a house for his retirement. He would be quite happy to end his days in Isle of Lewis and work until he dropped, but Hilda is very unhappy. Just sits in the house all day on her own. They don't know anybody and never get any visitors - so they think they will look for a house between here and Dumfries. I don't know whether Hilda will be any happier in Galloway or not - she would love to live in Torquay next door to her sister - but Jim thinks otherwise so there you are!

Rhodesia seems to have made the transition peacefully and we do hope all will continue to go smoothly and with it Zambia's economy may improve. I guess you are in the midst of the Presidential elections with all the ho-ha that entails. Jimmy Carter has a difficult job but the bungle up in Iran won't help matters in any way - I am sure. Britain has offended Saudi Arabia so we don't seem to be any better at diplomatic relations either. What a life.

Well David we do hope things are going well for you and that you have enjoyed delving into early American History - I wonder if they made as many mistakes then as now! Still life goes on and its good to have a hope for something far better in the future and not to put our trust in man.

All the best,

Yours

Magpie + Alex

Solwezi
25th November 1978

Dear Alex and Marjorie,

Thanks for your newsy letter a few weeks ago. I am glad that you are all right. Hope Alex's teaching is not getting him down and that he ~~getssa~~ gets a good break at Christmas. I don't disagree that visiting the ~~worsfold~~ at Christmas in the middle of winter is not the most pleasant thought. Better wait until spring. I confess that I'm dying to see the Outer Hebrides and will write him soon. Hope I can get an invitation to come out that way when I come through the U.K. when leaving next year, but not sure Jim will want to see me after my frankness with him! But maybe he will have forgotten and forgiven.

Solwezi is indeed ~~forgeous~~ these days and you correctly guessed. My garden is the best ever. Just about every veg you can dream of. Even broccolli has produced a good helping for the last three weeks since the ~~faains~~ rains set in and the weather turned cooler. The rains this year have been exceptionally early and exceptionally heavy and as a result everything already is very green with wild flowers ~~everywhere~~, even the horrible weeds are about three feet high. Solwezi is also very quiet, pleasant and peaceful as well which pleases me very much. We still have our wide array of films, dances and other activities at Kansanshi so this gives us a pleasant and decent night life. This of course stands in contrast with the big cities which are exceptionally tense, as you've probably heard, right now. I'm certainly glad I'm not in the tension in Lusaka and hope to minimize my trips down until I leave to strictly those essential for research and required by JICA business. The quiet and pleasant life here suits me much better. Election fever has gripped the nation but out here things seem quite normal and I'm moving freely. In Kasempa only one man, Mr. Tambabamba is standing so that area is very free of high feelings and as that is where I am now interviewing people this pleases me very much indeed. Solwezi West and East are strongly contested and so are other areas and of course Chavuma where John Mwendela is now running against two other strong candidates to replace his brother who is now an ambassador. So it goes.

I am still planning on going next year, but as you commented, the planning is ever so hard as one's heard seems to be here, no matter what one's head tells it. I know I must go as times are just too uncertain, difficult, plus Zambianization, but still!!! Anyway, I am posting off many papers now and will hope to ship off the vast majority of my books and papers early next year. I have decided to sell off all kitchen goods, dishes, bedding, etc., because Zindi is already so overstocked it would be ridiculous to take it back with high prices here plus freight - assuming I can get my money out! I will go to Lusaka for two weeks in early January on business and research and hope to get a date set for leaving if that is possible. If not I will have to go back and finalize in February. But the probable time is mid-summer which should be a good time to come.

I must close. Want to go out to Kansanshi for a little relaxation as it's a Saturday night and only 8.30 hours! Best wishes to all of you and a hope for a wonderful Holiday.

David

Cairnsmore
Sandhead
Stranraer DG9 9JG
Galloway
Scotland

25th October, 1978

Dear David,

You must have given me up as a hopeless letter writer. Thanks for your letter and circular received many, many weeks ago. So nice to hear that you have settled back in Solwezi and that all is well with you. By now I guess you will have had your first rains, and the gardening will be starting in earnest. Hope food supplies have improved and that you are well stocked up before the rains really get going, although these days with a tar road to the Copperbelt the rains will not be such a problem. However, Zambia seems to have plenty of other problems to look after and no doubt K.K. is anxious about his re-election - not that there seems any obvious opposition.

We are all fine. Alex has just returned to school after a weeks holiday for half term. He still talks of resigning next year when he will have completed five years at Stranraer Academy.

The summer was a busy one with visitors more or less all the time but now winter is almost upon us and the flowers are beginning to fade in the garden, so I guess our hibernation period is at hand. The family are all well and following their various routines.

Jim and Hilda are still in the Outer Hebrides. Jim is for ever writing and finging up and asking us to go - but to date we haven't plucked up courage. We are so busy during the summer, and the thought of travelling in the far north in the winter doesn't appeal. Jim is full of hopes that we will go for Christmas - but - well we will see. Hilda was away for a while in Devon staying with her sister, but Jim can't get a break without employing a locum at his own expense! We tried to get him to come near to us, as there is a vacancy for a Doctor about 30 miles away. He would love it - but Hilda doesn't want to go anywhere else but Devon and be near her sister.

Glad you enjoyed your leave and that the future looks hopeful with Zindi. It will be hard leaving Africa - once bitten by a mosquito and it seems fatal - one's heart is always there. However, I guess like us all you will have to make the break sometime - whether it is to be sooner or later is the vital question.

I had a letter from Darrel and Helen Rea the other day. They are due to come on leave to U.K. next year and hope to visit us - so it will be nice seeing old friends.

Not having written for such a long time some items of news seem to out of date and trivial, but I promise I won't be so long next time.

Hope you are fit and well. Take care of yourself.

Yours

Alex Maynard

Solwezi
24 October 1978

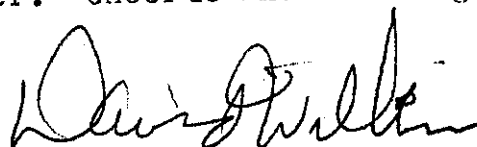
Dear Alex and Marjorie,

Today is our holiday so I'm using it as a good day to catch up with my correspondence. Last night our first heavy rain storm hit us. ZESCO had not connected our electrical wires well so they literally burnt off the pole. Fortunately, no fire in the house and today they fixed the pole quite early as soon as contacted. But before writing letters, I started day by cleaning out a defrosted 'fridge!

With the onset of the rains, it is now cooler and this makes everyone more at ease. The last few weeks were uncomfortably hot, even for the usual October weather, which I am sure you well remember for all your years here. I think the reason was that in the cool season we had virtually no cloudy days at all which is the only time that I can remember and I think this tended to give us a 'baked potato' effect. Anyway, the rains were welcomed. With shortages, we have continued to expand the garden to enormous size, which saves money as well; and with Solwezi soil and this time of year, have just about every veg' you can think of 'home grown'. (This will probably make you jealous with winter coming on!)

Politically things are so confused it is impossible to even try to analyse. I am told that all the Mwinilunga folk have their radios back and the Zaire troubles are definitely ended for the present. (The pathetic flow of refugees continues however.) Now things are focused again on Rhodesia. Two weeks ago as you've probably heard we opened the 'southern route' for trade and then last week Rhodesian troops bombed several refugee/freedom fighter camps, killing hundreds and in the process flew over Lusaka threatening the airport not to act or else! President Kaunda had a press conference yesterday and said this himself, so to put it mildly I'm confused. Solwezi, amazingly, goes on as if nothing happens outside that is not normal. We had a big dance at Kansanshi last Saturday with all the 'uppa crust' including army and police officers and when I left it was still going strong, and did so until 5:00 A.M. I'm told. The Copperbelt has an informal curfew and so does Lusaka, but not Solwezi.

Hope all of you are all right. Haven't heard from you for some time but hope that you all had a good summer and are now having a pleasant fall. Hope Alex finally got his boat out and that Dilleas got a job she liked. Anyway, good luck to you all. Am still preparing to make this my last year and have sold off big things that I can do without and have lots of buyers for everything else, especially considering our shortages. Just now, however, must decide when I will leave next year. Probably will still be within the period of June to September. Cheerio and best regards,



18th Jan 1976

Dear Mr & Mrs. Misbet,

Thank you both for a most ~~delightful~~ ^{delightful} weekend. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated. Also, I have really fallen in love with ~~St.~~ ^{Sandwell} - can't think of ~~any~~ such a quick romance ^{with a place} since I visited Balvale in ^{Oct} 1964! ~~What~~ You ~~both~~ should be extremely ^{pride} pleased ~~at~~ your lovely home & ~~and~~ ~~it~~ ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~re-~~ ~~designed~~ ~~by~~ ~~you~~ ~~and~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~very~~ ~~pleasant~~ ~~to~~ ~~visit~~ ~~in~~ ~~two~~ ~~years~~ ~~to~~ ~~see~~ ~~how~~ ~~you~~ ~~'ve~~ ~~ter-~~ ~~race-~~ ~~d~~ ~~your~~ ~~hill~~ ~~side~~ ~~and~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~boat~~ ~~ride!~~

After leaving ^{the trip from Stranraer to Glasgow} York was the only sour ^{note} ~~part~~ of an otherwise ^{perfect} visit to Scotland. ~~The~~ ~~hard~~ ~~trip~~ ~~from~~ ~~Stranraer~~ ~~to~~ ~~Glasgow~~. I'm so glad you warned ^{me} ⁱⁿ ^{advance} ^{as} ^{the} ^{train} ^{was} ^{very} ^{cold} & ~~it~~ ~~was~~ ~~almost~~ ~~3~~ ~~hours~~ ~~late!~~ I missed my connection to ~~Glasgow~~ Edinburgh & finally got the last train of the day at 11:00 PM. But the next day at Edinburgh & St. Andrews (with the Misbeton) were ^{also} ^{very} ^{delightful} ~~most~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~trip~~ ~~was~~ ~~making~~ ~~up~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~Stranraer~~ ~~to~~ ~~Glasgow~~ ~~train!~~ Had a wonderful overnight train to London Monday night - again with private sleepers.

Worked for the rest of the week at Wimbledon (SACM HQ) & will next week as well. Having an ^{enjoyable} ^{but} ^{busy} ~~enjoyable~~ ~~time~~ with their archives. Will leave for Zambia on the 26th. ^{Hope} ^{all} ^{goes} ^{well} ^{out} ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{N.W. Prov.} as I resume duties. Got letters from I returned ^{to} ^{London} that my housing situation ^{had} ^{been} ^{cleared} ^{up} ~~was~~ ~~cleared~~ ~~up~~ ~~and~~ ~~was~~ ~~OK~~.

in Solway.

~~15~~ That was a great relief.

Hope we can keep in ^{close} contact. Will try to
send you tidbits ^{of news & gossip} from ^{Zambia} & probably ~~can~~
occasional questions regarding ^{your work in} education will also send
you ^{from Zambia} MacPherson's book on ~~the~~ ^{k.k.} & also his novel
One Blood as London ~~print~~ prices on these books
that were printed ^{in Africa} ~~there~~ are ^{outrages.} 3 times as expensive
~~at tonight~~ ~~the~~ ~~outrages.~~ Will tell you what it
costs & probably

Again thanks ever so much. ~~With~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~
I shall never forget ^{my Scottish} ~~the~~ weekend!

55-25 98th Street, Apt. 2H
Corona, New York 11368
10th December 1975

Dear Mr. Nisbet,

I have had your letter to me and an envelop addressed to you lying on my desk for the last three months, but have just delayed writing as I will ill during September and thus my travel and research plans became quite unclear. However, I am now fully recovered and planning on arriving in London on the 1st of January, and spending the month in the U.K. before returning to Zambia. (Have just signed a new contract with UNZA until July 1979, so will be back for sometime in the North-Western Province - for better or for worse!)

Have done lots of reading through old magazines lately - The Fields, Echoes of Service, the Treasury, Voices from the Vineyard, etc. In Voices I ran across a picture of you as best man at the Sims wedding in 1954. Thought you might like to have a copy, so have photocopied and enclosed it.

Would still very much like to visit Scotland for a short visit sometime in January, preferably early or mid-month, before returning to Zambia and especially see you and your wife and chat about old times - and present situation if you like.

Assuming we can get together, I would very much like to ask you about the educational set-up at Chitokoloki when you arrived and left, as there is ~~far~~ less material not destroyed on 'Chit' than on Kalene, Mutanda or Mukinge, yet I suspect that it had one of the best and earliest programmes in the N.W. Province. Also, I am not clear why 'higher' educational plans did not develop as initially hoped for and how Solwezi Secondary School later came into being. Am hoping you might recall some details from your period and some stories about what you heard of earlier times.

Would be grateful if you could drop me a short note and indicate if you will be in Scotland in January and if so when would be a good date to come up for one or two days - a Friday/Saturday, or Saturday/Sunday, or Sunday/Monday, etc. My schedule will be very flexible as I will be staying in London most of the time to do research in the British Museum. So if you could suggest two dates, no doubt one would easily suit me. (I will have a rail pass to move around England and Scotland easily.) My address will be as above until I leave on the 1st and after that simply ~~Poste~~ Poste Restante, London E.C. 2.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Glad to hear that your children are doing well though scattered around the U.K.

Very sincerely,

David

STRANRAER
DG99JG

21. 8. 1975.

Tel. Sandhead 327.

Dear David,

It was a pleasant surprise
to receive your letter yesterday. When I
reported back to school for our new
session. I had heard from Dr Worsfold
that you were back in Zambia and
had visited Chitokoloki.

Glad to know you are enjoying your
work. Certainly, your research subject
should be very fascinating.

My wife and I would be delighted
to see you on your way back from the
States and would be pleased to
have you stay with us for a night
or two according to your own
travelling arrangements.

We have made a permanent base
at the above address although it
is not easy to get Africa out
of one's system after 25 years.

Our family is scattered. Janette
is married with a little son and
daughter so we are grandparents!

Dileas is in the Civil Service at
Exeter and Alan is an

the Mermaid. Mary and in home on leave at present. Wash and a hope you can write the card. Dr. K. J.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION.

XXXXXX XXXXX
XXXXX

21st July, 1975.

Dear Mr. Nisbet,

Guess who is back in Solwezi?! I returned to Zambia in 1971 after doing graduate work in America and completing a one year contract in Kenya. At UNZA, I was lecturing in the School of Education until this January when a new Extra-Mural programme was set up in the North-Western Province. Needless-to-say I had had enough of Lusaka life and applied for the job of starting the programme. Hence I am back once again in the Province - probably a lot less naive than when I first came in 1963 and caused you so many problems at Solwezi Secondary School with my often misguided enthusiasm.

Anyway, I am well settled in and very happy. Have made several complete provincial tours in the last three months and got several programmes going. Saw Chitokoloki and the new hospital twice. In fact it was at Chitokoloki that I received your new address. Hope you and your family are now well settled back in Scotland.

There is a new Teacher Training College being built on the road to the national monument (gorge) and my house is presently here. Along the dambo and across the road is a new 1,500 acre state dairy. Thus, I have cows grazing virtually outside the door and fresh milk daily. Solwezi has changed alot!

Being with the University gives me more time for research and I have slowly evolved into working on a history of education in the North-Western Province from pre-European days (traditional forms of education) up to education in modern Zambia. The changes both in types, structure and effect of modern education on the various tribes are, needless-to-say, extra ordinarily fascinating.

Would very much like to meet you again - am sure we have all changed alot - and chat about old times. ^{Also} I would like very much to hear about any reminiscences you have of Chitokoloki and the educational work there that you were involved in before you came to Solwezi. I hope to visit Scotland (for the first time) and wonder, if you could, assuming we can find a date of mutual convenience, spare a few hours for a chat.

2/.....

21- July-75
Any definite questions that I can think of that I need to ask you,
I would send to you well in advance so you could think about them.
If you would not mind my stopping by briefly for a few hours, could
you send me brief note. I will be going on leave on 1st August for
four to six months and my address will be:

David Wilkin,
55-25 98th Street,
Corona, New York 11368-2

I shall probably travel through England and Scotland in late
November or early December. (I am also hoping to meet Miss Netta
Foreman, once at Mukinge, while in Scotland.)

Again, my regards to you and your family.

Very sincerely,

David Wilkin.

DW/Acm

here we are in June and all my good intentions made in January - mid winter - have come to naught. Maybe I can blame it on the weather - we are still waiting for summer to arrive. Its very cold and wet and could be mid winter except for the long nights when it does not get dark until nearly 11 o'clock at night.

We must thank you for your letter and for the slides you sent. They came out very well indeed and it was good of you to send them on to us.

Well we hope by this time that you have settled down once more to life in Zambia and that things are not quite so difficult as when you arrived. I guess the University is still closed but one hopes the tensions have eased a little and the shortages not too acute.

Since March I have been busy with the family. First Janette came up with her two children for a short holiday, just to break her in before they went off to the sun in Spain in May. I am afraid we all miss the sun and feel the need to top up in foreign places and relax with the heat of the sun on one's back. Alastair and Dileas were up here for for the month of May and for most of April I was down in the South West of England in Devon. So we don't seem to have accomplished very much in the garden - but maybe if..... the rain stops.....we shall be able to tackle the bank at the back of the house. Its even been too cold and stormy for Alex to go sailing!

Its five weeks to the end of term - and Alex is counting the days. He is keeping quite well though and managed to escape the 'flu bugs which were pretty vicious during the winter.

Life here seems very calm in comparison to Central Africa and I guess tensions and troubles are mounting in Rhodesia. I'm just glad that I am not there! I've had enough.

Dr. Worsfold and his wife are holidaying in South Africa and are not due back to Chit. until July when the Canadian Doctor goes on leave. It is rumoured that Doctor Worsfold will retire next year. But where to... thats the question.

I guess you heard that Mary Poole dropped down dead one morning in January. After getting up hail and hearty she was buried by 3.p.m the same day.

Well David we do hope you are well and enjoying your research and making some progress with not too many frustrations.

Thanks again for writing and the transparencies. Look forward to your next visit - but hope it is longer next time - then we won't have to talk so quickly.....

Yours,

Margaret Webster