

Archive No. 81

Neti Davidson (2 November 1949 – 9 April 2005)

Neti lived in Tamworth with her husband and three children till she moved to Melbourne in 1986 to live as lovers with Anne Stafford. After losing custody of her children Neti travelled backwards and forwards to Tamworth several times a year to see them.

Neti was trained as a nurse and was a skilled carpenter who enjoyed work with wood. She was also an accomplished singer and song writer.

Neti joined in the lesbian community activities in Melbourne, attended the Women for Survival camp in Canberra in 1986 and the Womyn's Spiritual Gather-in in Wauchope in 1987 where she belly danced and then sang in the concert.

After Anne died in 1988 Neti wrote a book about their two years together with an emphasis on the caring Anne received from a group of her friends and family in the three months before she died at home. The book, *Black Crow Laughing*, was self-published by Neti in 1990.

Neti drew up and distributed a 22-page lesbian sex questionnaire at the Lesbian Festival 1990 in Melbourne. She was a founding member of the Performing Older Women's Circus in 1995, participating in the physical training workshops and performing in the show *Act Your Age* in March 1995.

Neti went back to live in Tamworth to be near her three children and eventually her grandchild. After struggling with cancer for many years Neti died in Tamworth at the age of 55.