



# BRANCH LINES

THE SOUTHLAND BRANCH  
OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY  
OF GENEALOGISTS.

Issue 36

May / June 2002

This second effort is a bit hotch potch, its amazing how the time comes around and I suddenly realize work needs to be done!!



I took time out to attend the Research Weekend at Oamaru at Queens Birthday weekend. Other group members travelled north as well.

I am tracing ancestors who settled at Kakanui so this was a good chance to delve into local history. Ed.



LADY TEVIOT

TAKE HEED..  
29TH  
September  
2002

LADY  
TEVIOT  
President  
of the Family  
History  
Society  
Will be  
visiting us...  
(see inside)



#### About 'Branch Lines'

- *Branch Lines* is a bi-monthly magazine. (February to November each year).
- *Branch Lines* is issued for the members of the Southland Branch of the Society.
- The views expressed within are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Branch of the Society.
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- Phone/Fax 2217 270
- Email: [lere@southnet.co.nz](mailto:lere@southnet.co.nz)
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To the following new members:

*Elva Brash*

*Mark Lang*

*Diane Botting.*

We sincerely hope they enjoy and profit—genealogy wise -from their association with us.



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## From the Branch Committee

Oamaru Research Weekend. The AGM was very well attended and many members met up with old friends and some like myself were successful in finding that elusive ancestor....

Donald Auckrams book *Auckrum a NZ Surname Origin and History 1840–1999* won the Lucy Marshall Award for 2002 and I was honoured to be awarded a certificate of appreciation from the Society for my time as Australian Librarian.

The NZSG Library is now open for borrowing at the NZSG Family Research Centre, 159 Queens Rd, Panmure, Auckland.

Version 3 of the NZSG CD Index will come out about October 2002. It will be a 2 CD set with over 5 million names from 46 different sources. Price NOT yet set.

Mary Stuart—Convenor

### Meetings

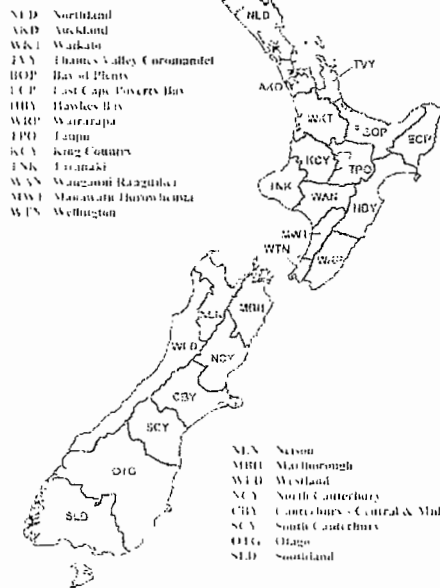
1st weekend October 2002

Southland to host NZSG Council in Invercargill. Details later.

Regional Meeting of Mainland South Sunday 6th October at Winton.

Next Committee Meeting 24th April 2002

### Districts Map



## NZSG

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO  
DONALD AUCKRAM  
Who Won The  
LUCY MARSHALL  
AWARD  
FOR 2002

WELL DONE DONALD

## Committee Members

The Southland Branch Committee members for 2002 are :-

Convenor Mrs Mary Stuart

Vice-Convenor Roger Washbourn

Secretary Lesley Instone

Treasurer Suzanne Ballinger

Librarian Mary Murray

Committee Gaynor Aicken

Kathryn Davies

Toni Grafton

Yvonne Service

Ex Officio Shirley Walker.

The Committee meets about 6-7 times during the year. They would welcome

comments or constructive criticism on the Branch's programme or any matters which Branch members feel is not being adequately addressed.

**DUNEDIN BRANCH**

Contact: Lesley Gray

graysinn@clear.net.nz

Meeting Venue : Otago Settlers Museum.  
Queens Gardens, Dunedin.  
7.30 p.m.

Postal address :

NZSG Dunedin Branch  
PO Box 5634, Moray Place  
Dunedin.

Convenor : Stewart Harvey.

**GORE BRANCH**

Contact: Carol Perwick  
R.D. 4 Gore.

Meeting venue : Hokonui Heritage Centre,  
Gore.

Convenor : Avis McDonald.

**WINTON LOCAL AREA**

**Contact : Mrs Joan  
McConachie  
38 Anne Street  
Winton.**

**ALEXANDRA BRANCH**

Contact: Pauline Miller

Meetings : 7.30 pm; First Wednesday betw.  
February and November.

Venue : Alexandra Public Library, Tarbert  
Street, Alexandra..

Convenor : Mrs Edith McKay.

**Southland Branch's 2002 Programme****2002 PROGRAMME .**

19 June Eleanor Lawrence. History re  
Cemeteries of Wallacetown.

17 July Members will speak on BDM'S  
before 1837.

21 August - Photographic conservation and  
restoration.

18 September Dunedin Repositories.

29th September. Lady Teviot

16 October Branch AGM, and speaker  
(to be advised).

20 November Pot luck supper and speaker  
(to be advised).

*This programme is subject to change if  
circumstances arise which will benefit all.  
the Branch and its members.*

## Computer Group News

Information by  
Roger Washbourn

The Southland Branch's website (go to it at [http://www.geocities.com/nzsg\\_southland/](http://www.geocities.com/nzsg_southland/)) has now been available on the world-wide web for one year. It is hosted somewhere in the USA by Geocities (a big company now owned by Microsoft) Its chief benefit is that it hosts websites at no charge, in return for which the viewers are presented with advertising banners. In Yahoo's case, it turns out to be a smallish vertical pane at the right hand side of the screen which can be turned off if it becomes annoying.

### STATISTICS FROM THE BRANCH WEBSITE HOST

The host provides user statistics from time to time and it is interesting to look at these after one year's operation. Some of the information is useful to the webpage designer, if for example most viewers have a screen resolution of 800x600 then the pages can be set around that property. Statistics for the first years operations are as follows:

Total page views to date 1068 (This averages about 20 per week)

Highest monthly page views 178 in June 2001.(This was just after it was linked from NZSG site)

Most popular browse visitors use 64.6% use Microsoft Internet Explorer

Most common screen resolution 76.8% have 800 x 600

Top search engine used to access this page 100% use google.com

Top search words used to find this page. 60.1% typed 'Invercargill Crematorium'

This page is linked most often from

<http://www.genealogy.org.nz/branch/southland.htm>. (NZSG's website)

Operating systems of viewers. 50.7% Windows 98. 47.3% Windows NT 1.8% W.95

## Invercargill Sub-group of NZSG's

The NZSG has a number of Special Interest Groups - one of them being Genealogical Computing.

There is a sub-group in Invercargill, made up of genealogists who are interested in using computers to store their family information and print details out in a variety of ways.

The group meets on Thursday evenings

immediately following the Southland Branch meeting, in the Methodist Community Centre on the corner of Lindisfarne and Miller Streets, at 7.30pm.

There is a charge of \$2 per meeting, to cover the cost of room hire.

The Convenor for 2002 is Roger

Washbourn, with Pam Atkinson as Secretary.

Anyone interested in combining computers with genealogy is welcome—there is a wide range of experience in group members, from beginners to 'old hands'.



## THIS MONTH'S CHOICE OF WEB SITES...

[Http://www.ukmemories.com/](http://www.ukmemories.com/) Entries include reminiscences of Wartime UK. The Twenties, the Thirties, the Forties, the Fifties, the Sixties, the Seventies, the Eighties, and memorable events from throughout the 1900's

[Http://www.olderfashionedclipart.com/](http://www.olderfashionedclipart.com/) Genealogy/old fashioned clipart

[Http://hms-arethusa.co.uk](http://hms-arethusa.co.uk) Killed in action on HMS Arethusa in WW2 18.11.42

[Http://www.medals.org.uk](http://www.medals.org.uk) Medals of the World.

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### Computer Group.

At the May meeting Kathryn Davies brought her computer and scanner for the evening, and showed the group the basic rudiments of scanning pictures and documents and brought examples of her work to demonstrate various aspects. She produced scans in colour on the special papers used for this, which showed very true colour reproductions. One of her messages was that the results from scanning were only as good as your printer ie the better the printer, the better the result. It was an interesting and useful evening.

The group has recently purchased a video splitter - this allows up to eight slave monitors to be attached to the demonstration computer so that those present can see better what is going on. There have been a few teething problems but these will be solved with experience.

Future evenings are programmed to look at computer housekeeping, a revision of GEDCOM, Internet Search Engines, and demonstrations of genealogy software. Full Programme in last issue.

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## PROFILE ON LADY TEVIOT

Lady Teviot was born in Sussex and educated at Avondale College, Hove .  
In 1965 Lady Teviot married the Honourable Charles John Kerr, who three years later succeeded his father as Baron Teviot in the House of Lords. His main interests were transport and Archives. Lord and Lady Teviot have two children Charles and Catherine.

Lady Teviot has been involved with family history research for thirty years. She also specializes in probate research.

Lady Teviot has lectured and fulfilled media engagements in Australia, South Africa, Canada and the USA. Lady Teviot will be speaking in Edmonton, Canada, the USA and NZ this year.

She has been a member of the executive committee of the Federation of Family History Societies, including International Liaison Officer from 1995 until April 2001 when her term came to an end.

In April 2001 she became President of the Federation of Family History Societies a term that will run for five years. Other appointments include a Member of the Ex. Committee of the Sussex Family History Society Group and the Council of British Records Assn. From 1998-2000

In the U.K. she is on the list of accredited speaker's for the East and West Sussex and Surrey Women's Institutes.

Lord and Lady Teviot have compiled the Sussex burial Index covering the years 1813-1841 which also includes non-conformists enteries.

Subjects covered by Lady Teviot include—GRO, Census Returns, Wills , Parish Registers, Parish—a great favourite, London Research, Conuty Record Offices, Post Office Directories, Medical Conditions of the the 19th Century and many other genealogical sources.

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## WHO SAID HISTORY WAS BORING ??

Next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temp. isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be...—.. facts c 1500's.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June. However they were starting to smell so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor....

Baths consisted of a tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the clean water, then the other sons and men, the women and the children—last of all the babies. By then the water so was dirty you could actually lose someone in it, hence the saying— Don't throw the baby out with the bath water....

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw , piled high , with no wood underneath, It was the only place for animals to keep warm, so the dogs, cats and other small animals ( mice, rats & bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof—hence the saying 'Its raining cats and dogs'....

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could really mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying— 'dirt poor' The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh on the floor. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway—hence 'a thresh hold'

They cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added more things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the day. Sometimes the stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while hence the rhyme -'peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

## **Were Your Ancestors Beamed Down by Aliens? New DNA Evidence.**

**Ron Hawthorne & Ann Reddish**

**Scientists at the National Academy for the Study of UFO'S have confirmed the existence of the 'UFO' chromosome. Working with DNA recovered from the aliens of the Roswell, New Mexico crash, the scientists have discovered that the 'UFO chromosome' is also present in some humans. This discovery confirms that aliens have been breeding with humans for centuries and beaming their progeny back to earth. For the 'low' price of \$10,000 they will test your DNA to see if you have the 'UFO chromosome' While the test will not tell which ancestor had the chromosome there are several ways to identify that ancestor. For such ancestors to conceal their identity:**

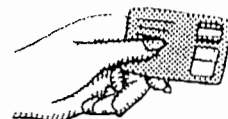
- 1. They moved every few years.**
- 2. Their surname was unique in jurisdictions where they lived.**
- 3. The (alien) county clerk ensured that their marriage bonds and other records were lost, their deeds were set aside and never recorded, and their probate files would disappear.**
- 4. The (alien) census taker either would not list them or would list them twice with slight variations.**
- 5. The family Bible was sent 'west' with the youngest unmarried daughter, who later married a Mr Smith.**
- 6. The land with the family cemetery was sold to outsiders who used the headstones to make a sidewalk.**
- 7. Their church did not believe in recording vital statistics.**





NEWS FROM THE FAMILY RECORDS CENTRE  
LONDON.

Work has started on developing a service which would allow orders for certificates to be placed on line, in a secure environment, be debit or credit card, with certificates sent by post to the customer. This will eventually be available via the Statistics.gov.uk.web site.



On the first floor the CD-ROMs and the computers used for accessing *Family Search* and the 1881 Census Index have been replaced with a networked computer system. There are now 16 computers all able to access *Family Search*, the 1881 Census Index, the British Isles Vital Records Index, the National Burial Index and the PRO's on line resources (PROCat, the PRO web site, etc.) *Family Search* includes the latest IGI Addendum data while the 1881 Index is viewed using Resource File Viewer v.3, allowing you to carry out more advanced searches.

Several more batches of World War One Soldiers' Documents (WO 363) are now available at the Public Record Office, Kew. The records, which can be seen in the Microfilm Reading Room at Kew, can give you a fantastic amount of information on your ancestors' army service.

*Taken from 'The Family Record 'Oct.2001, Newsletter of the Family Records Centre, London. courtesy North Cheshire Family Historian.*

MESSAGE FRO LYANE KENDALL. NZSG STRAYS & MORE COLLECTION.

*Please use the online forms for queries not her personal email address as they will be subject to a lengthy delay.*

## HEADSTONE HUMOUR

***THE OLD MAID DIDN'T WANT 'MISS' PUT ON HER TOMBSTONE  
AS SHE HADN'T MISSED AS MUCH AS MOST PEOPLE THOUGHT  
SHE'D MISSED....***

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## Directory

### The Southland Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists

The Secretary  
P.O. Box 1329  
Invercargill

### We're on the Web

Branch Website:  
[http://www.geocities.com/nzsg\\_southland/](http://www.geocities.com/nzsg_southland/)

NZSG website:  
<http://www.genealogy.org.nz>

GCG website:  
<http://www.gencom.org.nz/>

*The Southland Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists was formed in 1969. The aim of the Branch is to bring together those with an interest in genealogy and family history, to promote the study of family history and the preservation of records which have a genealogical or historical value.*

*The Branch meets on the third Wednesday of each month (except for December and January), at 7.30 p.m. in the Burns Room upstairs in the Scottish Hall, 110 Esk Street, Invercargill. Details of the programme for 2002 are outlined elsewhere in this issue.*

*Subscriptions for the 2001~02 year are ~ Single : \$35.00 Joint \$45.00*

*The Branch has a research library in Esk Street, available for use by financial members only of the Branch. The microfiche room normally opens at 1.30 p.m. and the book library at 3 p.m. on the same day as Branch meetings.*

### WHY THE REST OF THE WORLD CAN'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH CRICKET...

Cricket as explained to a foreign visitor:

You have two sides, one out in the field and one in.

Each man that's in the side that's in goes out and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out..

When they are all out ,the side that's out comes in and the side thats been in goes out and tries to get those coming in, out..

Sometimes you get men still in and not out..

When both sides have been in and out, including the not outs—that's the end of the game..  
- howzat—?

