



# Newsletter of the Southland Branch

## New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 39 - September 2003



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### Welcome ...

Welcome to the re-vamped edition of the newsletter of the Southland Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists. The position of newsletter compiler is still vacant following the resignation by Mrs Pat. Turnbull, who with a very busy life, wishes to do more of her own things. This simplified version is produced in MS Word, and it is hoped that some kind soul might see that only basic computer skills are needed to produce a newsletter. In the past, former editor Geoff Amos was a real enthusiast and produced a quality newsletter using MS Publisher, however the expense of printing the newsletter for less than 100 people was barely warranted.

The Branch Committee decided some months ago to simplify production and reduce the number of issues to four per year, as the number of members in the Branch really does not justify anything more substantial. Producing the newsletter four times a year in MS Word means that the letter can be emailed to other branches and easily converted to an Adobe PDF file for placement on the website; but above all, it is in a widely acceptable format for electronic transmission.

So ... any member who would like to try their hand at writing a newsletter four times a year, based on this model, please see Convenor Roger Washbourn.

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### Meetings Coming Up

Month	Southland Branch NZSG	Invercargill GCG <sup>§</sup>
August	Computers in Genealogy	Invercargill Public Library
September	Oxfordshire Genealogy (Lesley Instone)	Internet search engines.
October	Branch AGM. DOC historian Rachel Egerton.	AGM. Scanning and graphics.
November	Historic Places Trust speaker.	Internet search engines II. Programme for 2004.

<sup>§</sup>The Invercargill Genealogical Computing Group meets in the SeniorNet Rooms in the Menzies Building, entry off Leven Street, from 7.30pm, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. All Southland Branch meetings are held in the Scottish Hall in Esk Street on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The rooms are open from 4pm for members to reference the resources in the library and microfiche room.

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### Subscriptions increase

At the recent AGM of the NZ Society of Genealogists during Queens Birthday weekend, the subscriptions charges for the national body were increased. The new subscription rates will fall due in December for the following year, 2004. Changes are as follows :

<u>Current</u>		<u>New charges</u>	
New : Ordinary	\$53	New : Ordinary	\$62
Joint	\$58	Joint	\$70
Renewals : Ordinary	\$41	Renewals : Ordinary	\$50
Joint	\$46	Joint	\$65
Youth :	on application.	Youth	\$27

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### New Members

The Committee would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Branch in recent months :

- Greg Blackburn - Tramway Road, Invercargill. (216-4242)
- Lorna Cowan - Waipango, RD3, Riverton. (03-234 8325)
- Lynley Dean - Te Anau. (03-249 7155)
- Russell Morton - Ryal Bush, RD6. (03-221 7136)
- Marianne Sapwell - Invercargill. (218-4235)

## Southland Branch Projects

The Southland Branch has several projects under way. These are (with co-ordinator's names) :

1. Certificates Collection (Lesley Instone) : copies of BDM's kept locally and sent to NZSG Certificates Collection.
2. Cemeteries (Yvonne Service) : updating local cemeteries records.
3. Schools (Mary Stuart and Shirley Walker) : look-up service for research enquiries.
4. Southland Times Births & Deaths (Toni Grafton) : indexing current B and D's from the Southland Times. Deaths index 1971~2000 available in hard copy; Births 1991~2000 about to be printed.
5. Southland Early Settlers Register (Lesley Instone & Roger Washbourn) : database for pre-1900 families living in Southland.
6. Members' Interests (Roger Washbourn) : a local database of Branch Members' surname interests. A new project about to be introduced.

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## BRANCH WEBSITE

The Branch has a website where details of future meetings and other genealogical matters are posted. This applies to the Southland Branch, and also the Invercargill Genealogical Computing Group. Please go to [http://www.geocities.com/nzsg\\_southland](http://www.geocities.com/nzsg_southland) to view details. The site is updated on a regular basis - the most recent update [29 August] being the addition of the Wallace Early Settlers Museum at Riverton as a genealogical resource centre.



**Dr Christopher Watts FSG** who was a keynote speaker at the NZSG Conference in June, and who spoke to the Branch at the Open Day has given a CD-ROM to the Branch which contains transcripts of all of his speeches from his tour. They include :

- They came to fight
- They came in ships
- Records they left behind.
- Tracing births, deaths and marriages at sea.
- Tracing 19th Century Merchant Seamen
- Records of Other Ranks in the British Army.

Two handout papers are also there : 'Bibliography, key sources and addresses' and 'PRO Merchant Seamen Records'. The presentations are in Powerpoint 97 and the papers and handouts are in Word 97; copies of freeware viewers for Windows are included. The CD is only for use at the Branch Resources Room.

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SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

### COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

- Roger Washbourn – Convenor – Ph: 213 0968
- Suzanne Ballinger – Treasurer – Ph: 217 4569
- Lesley Instone – Secretary – Ph: 217 8825
- (Vacant) – Newsletter Compiler
- Mary Murray - Librarian - Ph. 217 6181
- Gaynor Aicken
- Toni Grafton
- Yvonne Service
- Mary Stuart
- Shirley Walker

Postal Address: The Secretary, Southland Branch NZSG, P.O. Box 1329, Invercargill.

