



⇐ BRANCH LINES ⇒

Newsletter of the Southland Branch
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 43 - September 2009



Southland Branch is 40 years old



This year sees the Branch reaches its 40th anniversary, and so this issue is dedicated to celebrating that milestone. Genealogy in Southland began as the Invercargill Genealogists Club in May 1969. Later in the year a public meeting was called and the Club the Southland

Branch and became affiliated to the NZ Society of Genealogists from 19 November 1969 – the 5th Branch to do so. This newsletter has facsimiles of the advertisement from *The Southland Times*, and a record of the meeting which set up the Branch in November 1969. Along the way there have been several changes of rooms, and a number of people have stepped up to serve as office bearers : both recorded in this newsletter. There are 3 Life Members of the Branch. All of these appear in the following pages.

The Branch will be formally celebrating its 40th anniversary with a dinner at The Cabbage Tree Restaurant in Otago on the evening of Friday 30 October. It is fitting that Life Member Mary Stuart (who has been with the Branch practically since its inception and who has taken an active part in its management ever since) will be Hostess for the night.



Home and Housed

In the last issue of *Branch Lines* - shamefully I have to admit it was exactly 2 years ago to the month - I was talking about the impending move to new quarters in the Public Library. Of course, that is now history. The Branch has been housed there since April 2008, located in the Resources Room on the 1st floor with entry via Information Services. The room is not large, but cosy, and houses all of the Branch's resources. There are 3 fiche readers and two laptop computers. The room is open on 3 occasions each month (first Wednesday; third Wednesday prior to Branch meetings; and the last Saturday). Patronage could be described as steady; the first Wednesday session between 10am and noon is being reviewed. Monthly meetings are now held in the warmth and comfort of the public meeting room on the first floor, with tea/coffee able to be served and a chance to chat afterwards. It has been a highly successful change for the Branch, and interest and support has improved as a result.

The Branch has to acknowledge the help given by former Library
(continued on page 2)



About Branch Lines

Branch Lines is a periodic magazine, issued for the members of the Southland Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists.

The views expressed are those of the contributors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Branch of the Society.

The position of Newsletter Editor is currently vacant. Aspirants need to be computer-literate, with some knowledge of MS Word : tuition will be given. Please contact the Convenor. Send copy for publication to the Branch Secretary or the Convenor.



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Manager (Mr Keith Harrington, now retired) and Marianne Foster (formerly head of Information Services, who has now moved up to be the Library Manager). The Branch has a Memorandum of Understanding co-signed by both groups which lays out the general operations under which the Branch conducts itself. Other library staff have cheerfully assisted to make a smooth transition.

Roger Washbourn (Convenor)
And Compiler by default.

Branch Contacts GCG Contacts

Branch Committee Contacts	Genealogical Computing Group																																										
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Postal address : P.O. Box 1329, Invercargill 9840. E-mail : Southland@genealogy.org.nz																																											



Southland Branch's Website

The Branch has a website which covers the activities of the Southland Branch, and of the Invercargill Genealogical Computing Special Interest Group. The site is updated on a regular basis, and is provided in part so that members of both groups can keep up to date with future meetings. There is a meetings programme, information for new members, a section devoted to other genealogical resources, and links to a selection of genealogical and Southland-oriented pages. The URL or address for the site (which has only recently changed) is <http://www.nzsgsouthland.com/>

The site has been live since May 2001. A counter on the page shows that it receives around 120 visits per month.

Branch Projects



The Southland Branch has several projects under way. These are as follow. The co-ordinators' names and Committee members responsible for the projects are given : enquiries should be directed to these people.

1. **Certificates collection** : (Lesley Instone). Copies of Births, Deaths, Marriages certificates are kept locally and sent on to the NZSG Certificates collection. [Not yet indexed.]
2. **Cemeteries** : (Yvonne Service) : updating local cemeteries records. Invercargill's Eastern Cemetery is being progressively updated. When completed, the information is passed to NZSG for addition to the national database.
3. **Schools Admissions** : (Mary Stuart and Helen Hall) : a look-up service is provided for research enquiries.
4. **The Southland Times Births and Deaths Indexes** : Barbara Lilley is recording the current entries and maintaining the paste-up book. Roger Washbourn has completed indexing of a Deaths Index [1971-2008] and a Births Index [1991-2008] : copies are available in the Branch's Resources Room in the public library.
5. **Southland Early Settlers Pre-1900 Register** : Lesley Instone collects the completed forms; Roger Washbourn is indexing these as they come to hand. Index to date is available in the Branch's Resource Room.
6. **Southland Branch Members' Interests** : a local database of Branch Members' surname interests is being built up. Input forms available from the Secretary, and a copy of the index to date is available in the Resource Room.
7. **Orders of Service** : Dariel Osborne is coordinating the collection and indexing of Orders Of Service to be added to a Otago/Southland database.

Branch History

It began as the Invercargill Genealogists Club in May 1969 :

The inaugural meeting of the Invercargill Genealogists Club was convened by Mrs Margaret Thompson on 21 May 1969, at the residence of Mrs Mary Miller, 245 Queens Drive. There were 11 present, with 2 apologies. Formation of a club was discussed, and a letter from the NZ Society of Genealogists was read and explained. It was agreed to proceed with the formation of a club and make application to the NZ Society for admission.

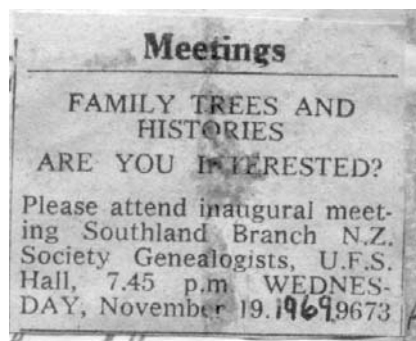
Election of officers: President: Mrs Gael Thompson
Secretary Mrs Doreen Robins.

It was agreed to hold meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Further meetings were held on 18 June, 16 July, 20 August and 1 October. On 19 November 1969, following the placement of an advertisement in the Southland Times, the Invercargill Genealogists Club met and resolved to close the Club and to establish the Southland Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists - the vote was 46 for, none against. The club was declared closed.

(extract from the Minute Book).

The Southland Branch of NZSG was formed following this advertisement in *The Southland Times* -



The inaugural meeting took place on 19 November 1969. Here is a transcript of that meeting from the first Minute Book. There were 46 people present.

Inaugural Meeting of Southland Branch of N.Z. Society of Genealogists
Held in UFS Hall, Room 4, 8.30pm
19th November 1969

Mrs Thompson was Chairwoman, as Past President of the former Genealogy Club and convenor of the meeting, opened the first meeting of the Southland Branch. She then called for nominations for President.

President:	Mrs Gael Thompson	Moved Miss McDonald/Mrs Melhop
	Nominations closed.	
Vice-President	Mr J Swaney	Moved Mrs Kirckbright/Mrs Bryce
	Nominations closed.	
Sec/Treasurer	Mrs Doreen Robins	Moved Mrs Radka/Mrs Dawson
	Nominations closed.	
Committee	Mrs Mary Miller	Mrs Bryce/Mrs Whitehead
	Mrs Ritakanewhai	Mrs Maere/Mr Swaney
	Mr Kevin Wilkinson	
	Mrs Ellen Whitehead	Mrs Bryce/Mrs Taumata
	Nominations closed.	
Hon. Auditor	Mr Larry Jenkins	Mr Dawson/Mr Wilkinson.

General Business:

Finance: Moved that \$3 sub be paid to cover \$1 NZ Society at Auckland and \$2 for Invercargill general expenses.
Mrs B. Taumata/Mr K Wilkinson.

Agreed that this is to be reviewed in May.

Moved Bank and cheque book account be opened at Southland Savings Bank and that cheques are to be co-signed by any 2 of the following:
Pres., Vice Pres, Sec. Mr Dawson/Mrs Courmane

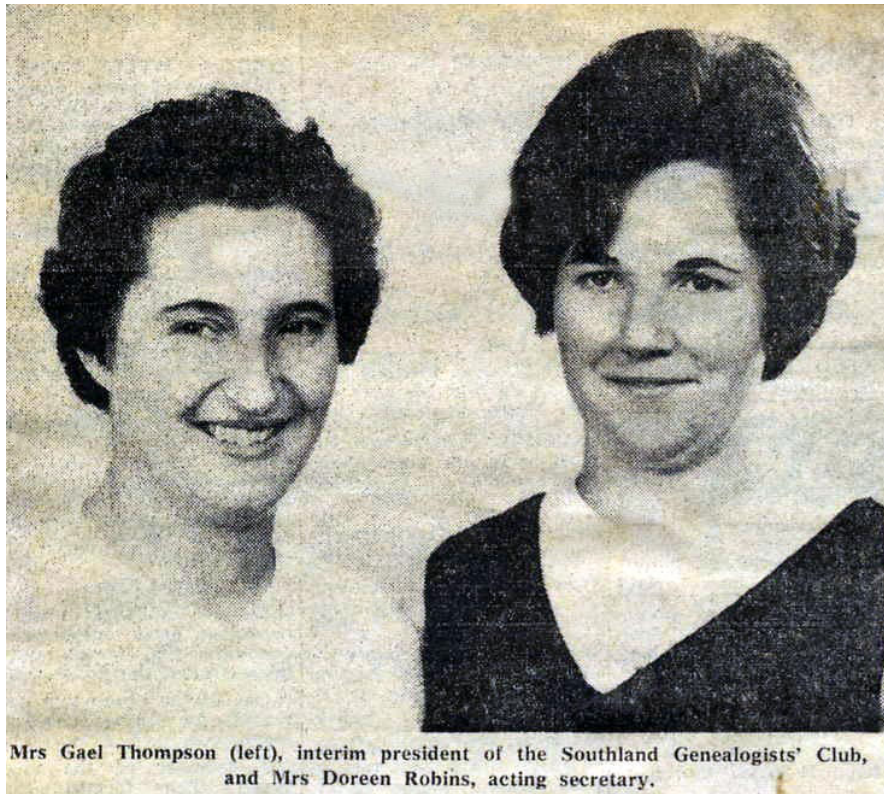
Agreed that meetings are to be held 3rd Wednesday in month.

Speaker: Mrs Thompson spoke on overseas research and Mr Cormack on Maori research. This was found most enjoyable and helpful.
On Mr Swaney's suggestion, it was moved that an informal meeting be held in December to enable everyone to mix freely and meet other members and families.

This is to be held in Mr Swaney's woolshed at Wallacetown. Supper plate and own refreshments.
Mrs Wilkinson/B. Taumata
Mrs Bryce/Mrs Courmane.

Meeting closed 9-15.

Confirmed: E. Whitehead
Date: 17.2.71



Mrs Gael Thompson (left), interim president of the Southland Genealogists' Club, and Mrs Doreen Robins, acting secretary.

Early Members of the Southland Branch, NZ Society of Genealogists

(From a 1971 List of Members)

(Editor's Note: This list explains largely why it is the 'SOUTHLAND' Branch of NZSG, not Invercargill.)

Mrs H Arthur	Invercargill	Mrs N Hart	Invercargill
Mrs M Austin	Riverton	Mrs J Hammond	Lower Hutt
Mrs DJ Beal	Invercargill	Mr & Mrs K Kennard	Longbush
Mrs D Brookland	RD5, Invercargill	Mrs R MacEwen	Invercargill
Mrs E Bryce	Invercargill	Mrs A MacGibbon	Eastern Bush
Mrs RC Cook	Invercargill	Mrs AA McLaren	Invercargill
Mr S Cormack	Papatotara	Mrs D Maere	Invercargill
Mrs V Courname	Rimu	Mrs Mary Miller	RD2, Invercargill
Mrs NA Daniel	Invercargill	Mrs RE Murray	Invercargill
Mrs & Mrs I Dawson	Hedgehope	Mrs Win Newton	Clifton
Mrs C Davis	Invercargill	Mrs AM Sandford	Invercargill
Mr J Denniston	Invercargill	Miss E Smith	Invercargill
Mrs B Dudfield	Colac Bay	Mrs Mary Stuart	Invercargill
Mrs Donoghy	Invercargill	Mrs F Stewart	Ocean Beach
Mr & Mrs O Dowling	Invercargill	Mrs M Sutherland	Invercargill
Mrs J Enright	Invercargill	Mr J Swaney	Invercargill
Mrs V Fordyce	Invercargill	Mrs & Mrs Lex Taylor	Invercargill
Miss V Fryer	Mossburn	Mr DA Tily	East Winton
Mrs VL George	Invercargill	Mr John Tourelle	Invercargill
Mrs C Jenkins	Invercargill	Mr A Tunnicliffe	Invercargill
		Mrs D West	Invercargill
		Mrs E Whitehead	Invercargill
		Mrs MF Woods	Roslyn Bush
		Mrs D Robins	Invercargill
		Mr K Wilkinson	Invercargill


From *The Southland Times* ~ Southland Branch celebrated 25 years in 1984.



Margaret Sutherland, left, Mary Murray and Mary Stuart are among the founding members of the Southland branch of the New Zealand Genealogy Society.

and in 1999, when the Branch was 30, this clip appeared in *The New Zealand Genealogist* :

Southland Branch turns 30



A photograph of three people standing together. The person on the left is a woman wearing a hat and a dark jacket, holding a sign that says "Grafton". The person in the center is a woman wearing a hat and a patterned jacket. The person on the right is a man wearing a hat and a dark vest, holding a sign that says "Lott". In the bottom left corner of the photograph, there is a small drawing of a landscape with a banner that says "LUPPEN DOWNS" and "Program".

A memorable night was held at the Southland Branch clubrooms in Esk Street, Invercargill. Branch members Toni Grafton (pictured at left), Sheena Bulman (centre) and Roger Washbourne performed in a comedy skit written by Rhonda Lott and Toni about the "trials and tribulations of finding your mystery ancestor".

There were many laughs and chuckles heard as each of us related our own history hiccups to an incident that was being acted out. This was followed with the cutting of our birthday cake by founding members, and delightful supper.

Toni Grafton (#14094)

Life Members of the Southland Branch

In 2008 the Southland Branch awarded Life Membership to three ladies who had been involved with the Branch almost since inception (their names appear in the list on page 4 and in the illustration on page 5), and who were still active members : Margaret Sutherland, Mary Stuart and Mary Murray. At this stage, they are the only Life Members.



Margaret Sutherland (Member #285)

Margaret was born in Invercargill but spent her first 5 years at Ryal Bush where her father managed the dairy factory. The family later moved to Milton and Dunedin before returning to Invercargill. Margaret went to several primary schools in Milton, Dunedin and Invercargill, but her secondary years were at Southland GHS. She worked at two places : JE Watson (mercantile firm) and Calder Mackay's. After marriage to Neville, they lived at Otatara for 10 years, then moved into Invercargill. She had a family of four boys.

Margaret's genealogy began in 1969 when she saw the advertisement of the inaugural meeting, and having no knowledge of her grandparents (she felt 'deprived') decided to ask Mary Stuart to go with her to the meeting. She became the second Convenor to the Branch in 1971. Her early memories are of family outings to transcribe cemetery headstones, and home meetings where young and not so young mothers worked at and shared their genealogy. The main highlight for her was involvement in the very successful NZSG AGM and Conference in Invercargill in 1989 - memorable also because it marked her 40th wedding anniversary.

Margaret and Neville travelled widely before Neville retired, and took in the UK, Europe and Asia. She also became involved in a series of family reunions, the first being in 1984, and has compiled, with family input, a large illustrated record of her extended family. And yes, she found her grandparents (a mix of Irish, Scots and English), though she says she is still looking for more detail.

Margaret has served the Branch as Convenor, Treasurer and committee member, and is still a regular attendee at Branch meetings.

Mary Stuart (Member #328)

Mary is a born-and-bred Southlander and has been based in Invercargill and environs all her life. She went to Middle School, St Josephs, then Southland Girls' High. Her first job was with the NZ Forest Service; later she moved to Inland Revenue. During a year overseas she was based in London and managed a 3-month tour of Europe whilst there. On her return to NZ she rejoined Inland Revenue. Marriage to Dave followed, and later a family of two boys.



Her start in genealogy came at the urging of Margaret Sutherland, who persuaded Mary to go with her to the inaugural meeting in November 1969 when the Southland Branch was formed. Mary recalls that it became the Southland Branch (as distinct from an Invercargill Branch) because many of those present came from rural localities like Otatara and Riverton. Mary's involvement in genealogy has continued from that time - she is one of only 3 people who have remained active in the Branch since inception.

Mary has held committee positions of Secretary-Treasurer, Convenor (on 3 occasions), and Vice-Convenor. She held the Australian Library for NZSG for 3 years before the days of the FRC.

Highlights for Mary include attending her first AGM in 1973 in Auckland; Peter Hunter was national president in those days. The event stands out because Mary was taken to task for allowing non-members of NZSG to attend Southland Branch meetings. The first AGM in the South Island was in Christchurch in 1983 and was attended by a strong Southland contingent, including Margaret Sutherland, Jenny McLaren, Mary Murray, Jack Tourelle, John Slattery, and Mary. Other memorable meetings have been the Lincoln Congress in 1997 and the Perth Congress in 2000. Mary was Convenor of the organising committee for the very successful AGM and Conference in Invercargill in 1989.

Mary Murray (Member #429)

Mary was born in Gore but grew up in Invercargill from an early age. She did her primary schooling at St Catherine's, and boarded in Dunedin for secondary schooling. After leaving school, she was a cleaner at the town hall where her father was caretaker, but soon left that to work in the Bing Harris hat factory. Later she joined the Invercargill Public Library, then in Wachner Place, and was one of a group of 8-9 librarians; there she learnt all aspects of library work which was to be of use in later life. Mary often thought of having her own library. She worked for Craigs for a while, then had a short spell as a postie. In 1956 she opened the Centennial Bookshop at 169 Tay Street which she operated for several years, eventually selling up when the family came.



Marriage to Richard Murray came in 1959, and eventually two children (Tom and Margaret). Richard died in 1986.

Mary started in genealogy with the encouragement of Mary Stuart, and subsequently joined NZSG around 1971. She has been researching her Irish ancestry (Kelly's and Donaghy's) and has come up against several dead ends. She is pleased that daughter Margaret has recently taken up where Mary left off. She says that grandchildren keep her busy nowadays.

Mary enjoys genealogy because it is socially a great hobby; there is no tension and it makes her get out and about. She recalls early family picnic outings in the past organised by the Branch, and some of the great raffles that used to be held for fundraising.

Mary has been the Branch's librarian since about 1977, following Mary Miller.



Quarters: The Southland Branch started off in 1969 in the UFS Hall in Tay Street, but there was nowhere to store their resources. The next move was to the Red Cross Rooms in Forth Street, which was an improvement because the Branch could build storage cupboards so long as they were portable. The next shift was to the old Invercargill Public Library in Don Street, courtesy of Eve Poole, but this was on the small side for the Branch's activities, and a move was made to the Marist School Library which was ideal, but when the school closed there were worries about vandalism (these were justified, as the building was burned shortly after), and another change was made to the Scottish Hall in Esk Street. This proved to be the longest tenure of the Branch's history - 18 years, before a final move was made to the present quarters in the Invercargill Public Library in 2008.

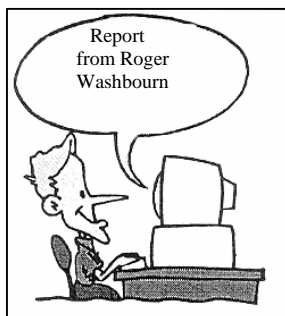
People

NZSG Southland Branch Office-Bearers (from 1969)

#	Date	President/Convenor	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice-Convenor	Librarian
	21/05/1969	Mrs Gael Thompson	Mrs Doreen Robins	-	-	Invercargill Genealogists Club
	19/11/1969				Inaugural meeting ~	Southland Branch NZSG
1	19/11/1969	Mrs Gael Thompson	Mrs Doreen Robins		Mr Jim Swaney	
2	17/02/1971	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mrs Ellen Whitehead	Mrs ME Bryce	Mr Jim Swaney	
3	16/02/1972	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Murray	Mrs Robins	
4	17/10/1973	Mrs MacGibbon	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs F Stewart	Mr Stewart	
5	16/10/1974	Mrs Jenny McLaren	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Sutherland	Mrs Turnbull	
6	15/10/1975	Mrs Jenny McLaren	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Sutherland	Mrs Turnbull	
7	20/10/1976	Mrs Mary Stuart	(no nominations)	Mrs M Sutherland	Mrs Jenny McLaren	
8	19/10/1977	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Lewis-Shell	Mrs M Sutherland	Mrs Jenny McLaren	Mrs M Murray
9	18/10/1978	Mrs Ethna Kennedy	Mrs Gillian Lewis-Shell	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mrs Mary Stuart	
10	17/10/1979	Mrs Anne Maxwell	Mrs Gillian Lewis-Shell	Mrs M Sutherland	Mr Gordon Boyle	
11	15/10/1980	Mrs Anne Maxwell	Mrs Gillian Lewis-Shell	Mrs L Clinton	Mr J de Reeper	Mrs Mary Murray
12	21/10/1981	Mr J de Reeper	Mrs C Griffin	Mr W Cooper	Mr John Slattery	Mrs Mary Murray
13	20/10/1982	Mr John Slattery	Mrs C Griffin	Mr W Cooper	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
14	19/10/1983	Mr John Slattery	Mrs J Blick	Mr W Cooper	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
15	17-Oct-84	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs J Blick	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mr John Touelle	Mrs Mary Murray
16	10-Oct-85	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mr John Touelle	Mrs Mary Murray
17	15-Oct-86	Mr John Touelle	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Margaret Sutherland	Mrs E Milne	Mrs Mary Murray
18	21-Oct-87	Mr John Touelle	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mr N Chesney	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
19	19-Oct-88	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs S Rattray	Mr N Chesney	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
20	18-Oct-89	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs S Rattray	Mr Alex Tate	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
21	17-Oct-90	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mr Alex Tate	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
22	16-Oct-91	Mr John Slattery	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mr Alex Tate	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
23	21-Oct-92	Mr John Slattery	Mr Don Auckram	Mr Alex Tate	Mrs J Cooper	Mrs Mary Murray
24	20-Oct-93	Mr John Slattery	Mr Don Auckram	Mr Alex Tate	Mr George Henderson	Mrs Mary Murray
25	19-Oct-94	Mr George Henderson	Mr Don Auckram	Mr Alex Tate	Mrs Gaynor Aicken	Mrs Murray; Mrs Ballinger
26	18-Oct-95	Mr George Henderson	Mr Don Auckram	Mr Alex Tate	Mrs Gaynor Aicken	Mrs Mary Murray
27	16-Oct-96	Mrs Gaynor Aicken	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Alex Tate	Mrs Shirley Walker	Mrs Mary Murray
28	15-Oct-97	Mrs Gaynor Aicken	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Alex Tate	Mrs Shirley Walker	Mrs Mary Murray
29	21-Oct-98	Mrs Shirley Walker	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Alex Tate	(no nominations)	Mrs Mary Murray
30	20-Oct-99	Mrs Shirley Walker	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mr Geoff Amos	Mrs Mary Murray
31	18-Oct-00	Mrs Mary Stuart	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mr Roger Washbourn	Mrs Mary Murray
32	17-Oct-01	Mr John Stuart	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mr Roger Washbourn	Mrs Mary Murray
33	16-Oct-02	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Suzanne Ballinger	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
34	15-Oct-03	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
35	20-Oct-04	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
36	19-Oct-05	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mrs Yvonne Service	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
37	18-Oct-06	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Greg Blackburn	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
38	17-Oct-07	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Greg Blackburn	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
39	2008-09 *	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr Greg Blackburn	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
40	20-May-09	Mr Roger Washbourn	Ms Lesley Instone	Mr John MacManus	Mrs Mary Stuart	Mrs Mary Murray
41	May 2010					

* 18 month period after change of year.

Technology



News from the Genealogical Computer Group

The Invercargill group was started by the late Jack Touelle in 1989 and survived for about 3 years before going into a short recess. Peter Johnson revived the group in 1994 when members were using the Cargill HS computer suite for school admissions data entry, and was Convenor for 3 years. Mary Stuart took the helm for 2 years. About this time the group moved its meetings to the church in Lindisfarne Street. Pam Atkinson also had a 2-year convenorship, then Roger Washbourn followed from 2001. Other moves followed, first to the SeniorNet rooms in the Menzies Building, and in 2007 again with SeniorNet to their new quarters in the Southland Education Building in Esk Street. Ian Joll became the Convenor in 2007, with Maureen Townson as secretary for her 7th term.

The Last Page

Technology (from p. 7) ~

The group is now into its 15th year - way behind the Southland Branch of NZSG, but nevertheless a good record - and continues to get good support from members. The SeniorNet Rooms are eminently suitable for meetings, being easily accessible, warm, and with good facilities (including internet access and a data projector for displays and demonstrations). Topics covered in the last 12 months have included a look at the major genealogical softwares (eg, Family Tree Maker, PAF and Ancestral Quest, Brothers Keeper, GenoPro and Legacy), and internet sites of special interest to genealogists. Meetings are also useful for solving those little problems that beset all computer users - often the collective experience of the group can provide answers.

All comers are welcomed to the group - there is no subscription, but members pay \$2 per person to cover room hire and supper. Ian Joll is the current Convenor and can be reached by telephone at 3-217 2152.

Directory

Southland Branch, NZ Society of Genealogists Inc.

Postal address
P.O. Box 1329
Invercargill 9840.

E-mail: Southland@genealogy.org.nz

Meetings
Third Wednesday of each month
Meeting Room, Invercargill Public Library
50 Dee Street, in the central city
From 7.30 p.m.
[Research facilities open from 6 p.m.]

Branch website ~
<http://www.nzsgsouthland.com/>

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

Genealogical Computing Group website ~
<http://www.gencom.org.nz/>



THE LAST WORD

'Branch Lines' is currently without a compiler, so it has fallen to the Convenor to assemble this newsletter. After 2 years without a Newsletter, it begs the question of the place of newsletters in advancing the Branch.

Facilities available through the Southland Branch are laid out in the annual Information Brochure. You do not have to be a member of NZSG or the Southland Branch to attend any of the programmed evenings - we take all comers, and welcome everyone. If you have any queries, phone one of the people listed on page 2. Details sometimes change however, but the website is kept up-to-date and can be checked for currency.

The Committee believes it has had an interesting series of speakers in 2008, and is shortly to prepare a programme for 2009 as it moves into its 5th decade.

Comments and suggestions are welcomed at any time.

Roger Washbourn.
Convenor.
3 October 2009.

