



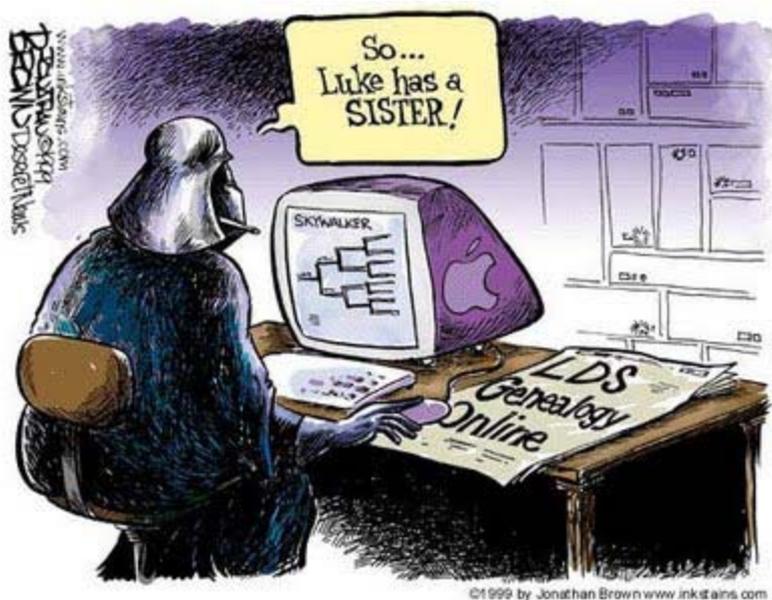
⇐ BRANCH LINES ⇒

Newsletter of the Southland Branch
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 49 – October 2014



Important Note: Be inside the meeting room by 6:45pm as the Library is locked at 7pm. Those who are late should wait beside the exit door (at the right of the entrance portico as you face the library entrance) to be opened up to 7:15pm. Arrangements must be made with the Library for disabled access to the lifts and exiting the building after the meeting.



Hi fellow gene hunters, rellie researchers, family historians or just passionate about our forebears – we answer by many names!

Having had a much needed break away on a tropical island(!), my mind continues to ponder my elusive ancestors and the brick walls that seem to prevent me from finding them. November's meeting will include a brick wall session so do bring your worksheets/information so we can break up into groups to help each other. If your quest is particularly challenging, email or post the problem in to the branch so background research can be done before the meeting rather than off the cuff answers on the night. Who knows what you will discover!



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.

It is intended to be produced bi monthly to keep you up to date with events. Wendy Shaw currently fills the position of Editor.

Branch Meeting Topics and local special events coming up

15th October 7pm Branch Meeting

Speaker: Don Auckram Publishing your Family History

The results of the branch questionnaire will also be presented.

23rd October 7pm Computing group meeting at WEA

Speaker: Wendy Shaw Dating Photographs.

9th November – Regional Meeting at Balclutha.

19th November 7pm Branch meeting

Brick walls and planning for next year's meetings followed by a shared supper. Bring a plate. This is the final meeting for the year.

27th November 7pm final Computing group meeting at WEA

To be finalised.

September Meeting was with guest speaker Richard Greenaway, librarian and historian from Christchurch. Richard presented a fascinating look at what resources were available 'outside the square' in Canterbury and the rest of NZ. A handout provided by him detailed biographies, periodicals, Transactions and proceedings of the New Zealand Institute, NZ church news, newspapers, G R Macdonald directory, the A to Js on-line, police gazettes and not forgetting church registers that have been indexed for most of the Canterbury region and held at the Christchurch Library in Manchester (the 'old' NZ room stuff). Certainly those who attended went away with more areas to search for elusive and not so elusive forebears. Many thanks to Richard for coming down to our neck of the woods!

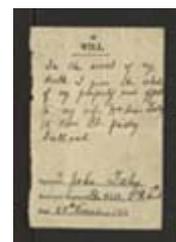
**There are only two lasting bequests we can
hope to give our children.
One of those is roots and the other - wings.
Author unknown**

Overseas News

Scotland's People:

31,000 Soldiers' Wills!

26,000 of these wills were made by ordinary Scottish soldiers who died in the Great War, and there are almost 5,000 from Scots soldiers serving in all theatres during the Second World War – there are also several hundred from the Boer War and Korean War, and others from conflicts between 1857 and 1964.



Find my past:

Introducing Findmypast Fridays

Every Friday from now on, we will be bringing you thousands of new records to explore over the weekend on our dedicated [FindmypastFridays](#) page. We promise to bring you new and often exclusive, record sets every single week.

National School Admission Registers and Log-books 1870-1914 from England and Wales

Working with 25 archives and schools throughout England and Wales, these 2,562,402 historical records from 1500 schools are now online for the very first time. This exciting collection captures a snapshot of school life across the UK prior to WW1, and reveals stories of tragedy and stoicism as well as everyday school life. They capture fascinating details of the last school days of the 'Lost Generation' – a generation of young men who fought at the front, many of whom did not return, including war poet Wilfred Owen.

New parish records released

The addition of 62,625 new parish records is part of our ongoing project with the Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS). The new records consist of transcripts of baptism and burial registers which have been added to our extensive collection of Cheshire, Sheffield and North West Kent parish records. Over 241,000 new marriage and burial records from Surrey, Middlesex and Eastbourne have also been added – as well as never been released before and hard to get at Devon parish registers!

Ancestry.co.au - newest additions:

Quebec, Vital and church Records (Drouin Collection) 1621-1967

Canada, Ontario – Marriages 1801-1928, Births 1869 – 1913, Deaths 1869 – 1938 and deaths overseas 1939-1947

Canadian Passenger lists 1865 – 1935

Canada, Canadian National Railway Immigrant Records, 1937-1960

Canada, Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current

Central Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, Newspaper Birth, Marriage & Death Indexes, 1911-1990

Canada, South African War Land Grants, 1908-1910

New South Wales, Australia, Passengers Arriving at Port Phillip, 1846

Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839–1923

UK, Commonwealth War Graves, 1914-1921 and 1939-1947

New South Wales, Australia. Gaol Description and Entrance Books 1818 – 1923

Branch Questionnaire

Southland Branch questionnaire: Thank you so much for all your feedback – many of the responses have showed members have thought deeply about their answers. There was a good return of responses and they will be tabled at the next branch meeting. Answers and suggestions have been considered by the committee at its last meeting and will help plan activities for next year.

One issue that has been remedied immediately is the availability of a sound system in the meeting room.



Genealogical Computing Group

Special Interest Group of the
New Zealand Society of Genealogists
INVERCARGILL Sub-Group



Venue: SeniorNet rooms, WEA building, Esk St opposite Invercargill City Council offices.

Time: **7pm** on 4th Thursday of month Feb-Nov

All are welcomed to the group - there is no subscription, but members pay \$2 per person to cover room hire and supper

Contact is GCG secretary Sandy Byers-Evitt (03 218 9344) or Convenor Wendy Smith (03 217 3595)

Genealogy Computing Group organises field trips to various parts of Southland most months. They are designed to be informal and open to all who are interested as well as getting to know one another a bit better.

Ancestor (Author unknown)

**Your tombstone stands among the rest
Neglected and alone
The name and date are chiselled out
On polished marble stone
It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn
You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born
Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone
Our blood contacts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own
Dear ancestor, the place you filled
One hundred years ago
Spreads out among the ones you left
Who would have loved you so
I wonder if you lived and loved
I wonder if you know
That someday I would find this spot
And come and visit you**

Out and About in Southland

There will be an informal Heritage Gathering at Lumsden on Sunday 2nd November 2014. Meet at the old railway station at 1pm before a tour of older buildings and a heritage presentation. This will be followed by a shared afternoon tea at the RSA at 3:30pm. Bring a plate.

Email southlandheritageforum@xtra.co.nz if you wish to attend – by Wednesday 29th October.

ADVERT



Needing your old slides scanned?? Wendy Smith at kiwiwendy@xtra.co.nz has very reasonable rates because her purpose is to record history rather than make money. If anyone has any, they need to be done because they are so old they will deteriorating and you are at risk of losing what is on them.

Current Branch Projects

Obituaries from the Southland Times of local people (and many national figures) are being collected and put into large books. These are then passed onto Ian Joll who indexes them before placing the books in the Resource Room. The index is available on the resource room computer.

Lone Graves in Southland - Mary Stuart and Yvonne Service continue collecting data on these graves.

Book Review

Life on the Australian Goldfields

Authors: Derrick I Stone and Sue Mackinnon. Reprinted 1988
A H & A W Reed Pty Ltd. ISBN: 0 7301 0042 1

This is an oldie but a goodie. The authors describe in detail the everyday lives of the miners who came to Australia in search of the elusive fortune on the goldfields. They came from all walks of life and all social strata and headed to Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. They came with their families, started one there or came alone with the promise of sending money back home. This book has been extensively researched using many photographs from both public and private collections. I have found myself pouring over each photo in the hope that maybe I could spot a long

lost family member! It is well indexed and has a concise bibliography amongst its 225 pages. This book is well worth a read if you can get hold of it.

Branch Library/ Resource Room:

Venue: 1st floor Invercargill Library

Hours: 1) 6-6:45pm prior to the monthly meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of month (Feb-Nov)
2) Other times by arrangement

Branch Contacts		
Convenor:	Lesley Instone	217-8825
Treasurer:	John McManus	217-4200
Secretary:	John McManus	217-4200
Committee:	Mary Murray	217-6181
	Roger Washbourn (ex officio)	213-0968
	Don Auckram	236-1097
	Mary Stuart	217-4560
	Norma O'Neill	022-1335819
	Yvonne Service	213-0254
	Wendy Shaw	027-6541363
	Wendy Smith	217-3595

Directory

Southland Branch,
NZ Society of Genealogists Inc.
P.O. Box 1329
Invercargill 9840.

E-mail: Southland@genealogy.org.nz

Meetings
Third Wednesday of each month
Meeting Room, Invercargill Public Library
In the central city at 7 p.m.
[Research facilities 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/>

