



⇐ BRANCH LINES ⇒

Newsletter of the Southland Branch
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 56 – December 2015



The final meeting of the year was held in November. During the formal part of the meeting ideas and suggestions were made by all in helping the committee put together a programme for 2016. A quiz was then put up on Powerpoint and thinking caps were also put on to answer some of the curly questions. No tables of teams were needed as everyone joined in. (The questions will be placed in this issue for you also to scratch your head and have a go at answering them – use them but please acknowledge your source).

Branch Meeting Topics and Special events

- 28th Jan Genealogy Computing Group may be having an informal social event. Contact Wendy or Sandy for details
- 17th Feb Branch Meeting: Speakers; John & Janet McManus on Finding Lost Families
7pm Meeting Room, Invercargill Library
- 25th Feb Genealogy Computing Group
7pm at Senior Net Rooms, WEA building

Only a Genealogist regards a step backwards as progress.

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 is currently filling the position of Editor.

Contents

- Branch programme 1
- Overseas News 2
- New Zealand News 2
- Genealogical Computing Group 2
- NZEF Fatal Casualty Forms 3
- WW1 Summary of Events 4-7
- Current branch projects 7
- Branch Quiz Night. 8-9
- Branch Library/Resource Room 10
- Branch Contacts 10
- Directory 10

Overseas News

UK Probates 1858 - 1966 and 1996 - present

- Visit www.gov.uk/search-will-probate. Costs are £10 which can be available to download.

Ancestry:

- Australia – WA Railway Records, TAS Reports of Crimes, WW1Army Records, Assisted Immigrants arriving at Victorian Ports 1839-1871, new NSW records slowly being added – watch the new additions list regularly.

Scotland's People:

Military Service Appeals Tribunal: The new Military Service Act required all single adult males, aged between 18 and 41, to register for military service unless they possessed a certificate of exemption. By April 1918 the age range was extended, so that men aged from 17 to 51 could be called up, and exemptions were further restricted. From 1916, men seeking exemption from military service could apply to various tribunals.

Family Search:

- Recent additions include records from Denmark, France, Wales
- USA Passport Applications
- UK WW1 Women's Auxiliary Army Corps 1917-1920.

New Zealand News

Papers Past:

- Evening Star (1865 – 1920) added in September but nothing added since.

Archives NZ:

- The Christchurch office will have restricted hours from early January 2016 while they make preparations to relocate the other premises. If you are heading there for research please ring them to ensure the records you are after will be available.
- Note that with the NZ Probates now on the Familysearch website (with many now indexed) Archives may not necessarily have them available in hard copy to view.



Genealogical Computing Group

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



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

Time: 7pm on 4th Thursday of month February-November.

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 a/h) or Convenor Wendy Smith (03-217 3595 a/h).

Archives New Zealand holds the Active Service – Fatal Casualty Forms (AABK 519) of the First New Zealand Expeditionary Force 1914–18. Accessible below is a selection of forms for nearly 700 New Zealand military personnel who died in the Ypres-Passchendaele sector (Flanders, Belgium) of the Western Front during 1917 and early 1918. This selection includes some of those killed during the October actions of the Third Battle of Ypres (often referred to as the Battle of Passchendaele). Many of these soldiers are buried at Tyne Cot Military Cemetery at Passchendaele, the largest of the Commonwealth War Graves where nearly 12,000 soldiers are buried.

- Not all New Zealand victims of Passchendaele are buried at Tyne Cot. Many were carried back to Field Ambulances only to succumb to the wounds later. They lie in cemeteries established near those medical facilities. There are 291 New Zealanders buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery near Poperinge, and another 118 nearby at Nine Elms British Cemetery (including 1905 All Black Captain, Dave Gallaher).
- These forms hold such information as name, date of birth, rank and previous occupation of a soldier, and his transfers and movements during service. The date and circumstance of his death is recorded as well as the cemetery and plot number in which he is buried.



WW1 Summary of Events

DECEMBER 1915

1st December	Prizren (Serbia) taken by Bulgarian forces: Italy announces her adherence to the Pact of London.
2nd December	Monastir (Serbia) taken by Bulgarian forces: French retreat to Salonika begins.
3rd December	British forces, retreating from Ctesiphon, reach Kut: General Joffre appointed Commander-in-Chief French Armies: Serbian Government and military headquarters set up at Scutari.
4th December	United States Government request recall of German attachés Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen.
6th December	Montenegro taken by Austro-German forces: British Government put economic pressure on Greece by making the "export restrictions" apply to that country.
7th December	British retreat from Macedonia begins: Agreement concluded between French Government and Netherlands Oversea Trust.
8th December	Evacuation of Suvla and Anzac ordered: Debra and Okhrida (Serbia) taken by Bulgarian forces.
9th December	General Sarrail demands withdrawal of Greek troops from Salonika.
10th December	German Government recall its attaches from United States.
11th December	South Serbia taken by Bulgarian forces: Greek Government refuses Entente demand for withdrawal of Greek troops from Salonika.
13th December	British Government order partial relaxation of economic pressure on Greece.
14th December	Western Persia occupied by Russian forces: Bulgarian and Greek General Staffs conclude agreement establishing temporary neutral zone along Greek frontier.
15th December	The last Allied forces in Macedonia withdrawn into Greek territory: Field-Marshal Sir John French resigns as Commander-in-Chief of British armies in France.
17th December	German light cruiser " <i>Bremen</i> " sunk by British submarine in the Baltic.

19th December	Evacuation of Suvla and Anzac begun: General Sir Douglas Haig succeeds Sir John French as Commander-in-Chief of the British Armies in France.
20th December	Evacuation of Suvla and Anzac completed: Durazzo occupied by Italian forces.
22nd December	Lieut.-General Sir W. Robertson resigns as Chief of the General Staff, British Expeditionary Force, France and is succeeded by Lieut.-General L. E. Kiggell.
23rd December	British naval operations on Lake Tanganyika begin: General Sir W. Robertson appointed Chief of the Imperial General Staff: "Trading with the Enemy (Extension of Powers) Act, 1915" (beginning of "Black List" policy), comes into force in Great Britain.
24th December	Persian Prime Minister resigns.
25th December	Turkish Christmas Eve Attack on Kut: Affair of the Wadi Majid (Western Egypt): Western Persia occupied by a Russian force.
26th December	German raider " <i>Moewe</i> " sails from Bremen on first cruise: Naval action on Lake Tanganyika: German gunboat " <i>Kingani</i> " captured by H.M.S. " <i>Mimi</i> " and " <i>Toutou</i> ".
28th December	Evacuation of remainder of Gallipoli Peninsula ordered.
29th December	Durazzo raided by Austrian naval light forces: latter brought to action in Southern Adriatic: Draft rules approved for Inter-Allied Council of War.
30th December	Consuls of Central Powers at Salonika arrested and deported by order of General Sarrail, Commanding French troops: H.M.S. " <i>Natal</i> " destroyed by internal explosion in Cromarty harbour.
31st December	Last units of Indian Expeditionary Force "G" leave the Dardanelles to amalgamate with Indian Expeditionary Force "E" in Egypt.
<u>JANUARY 1916</u>	
6th January	H.M.S. " <i>King Edward VII</i> " sunk by mine off North of Scotland: Action of Sheikh Sa'ad (Mesopotamia) begins.
7th January	Evacuation of Helles (Gallipoli Peninsula) begins.
8th January	Evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula completed.

9th January	General Sir Charles Monro vacates command of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force and General Sir William Birdwood vacates command of the Dardanelles army. [Sir Charles Monro was appointed later Commander-in-Chief in India. Sir William Birdwood later temporarily commanded the Fourth Army in France and then the Australian Corps, till eventually appointed to command the Fifth Army on May 23rd, 1918.]
10th January	Entente Governments inform Greek Government of proposed transport of Serbian Army to Corfu: Montenegro taken by Austrian forces: General Sir A.J. Murray takes over command of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.
11th January	Corfu occupied by French forces: Russian offensive towards Erzerum begins.
12th January	Armistice concluded between Montenegro and Austria.
13th January	Cetinje (Montenegro) occupied by Austrian forces: Greek Government refuse consent to the occupation of Corfu.
15th January	British S.S. " <i>Appam</i> " captured by German raider " <i>Moewe</i> ": Von Papen papers published in U.S.A.: First Serbian troops land at Corfu.
16th January	General Sarrail assumes command of all Allied forces at Salonika.
18th January	A new Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs is appointed.
19th January	Lieut.-General Sir Percy Lake takes over command of British forces in Mesopotamia from General Nixon.
20th January	Negotiations between Austria and Montenegro broken off. Armistice ceases.
22nd January	Antivari (Montenegro) occupied by Austrian forces: Romanian Government open negotiations with Russian Government with a view to military assistance.
23rd January	Scutari (Albania) occupied by Austrian forces.
24th January	First Military Service Bill passed by British House of Commons.
26th January	United States Government make informal protest to British Government regarding their "Black List" policy.

27th January

Shipping Control Committee formed in Great Britain.

Great Britain: The Military Service Act is passed by Parliament, imposing conscription on all single men aged 18 to 41 in Great Britain. Exemptions were made for men in essential war work, those declared medically unfit, religious ministers, and conscientious objectors. (The period of conscription was in force until 1919).

29th January

Last German airship raid on Paris.

31st January

General Sir H. Smith-Dorrien resigns appointment as Commander-in-Chief British Forces, East Africa [Did not take over command owing to illness.]: Airship raid on England; furthest penetration westwards; casualties 183.

Current Branch Projects

Obituaries from the Southland Times of local people (and many national figures) are being collected. These are then indexed before placing the books in the Resource Room.

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

Local BDM newspaper notices: Indexes and notices are held in the resource room (only up to 2008). Our branch no longer collects these. The Invercargill Library, NZSG Gore branch and Dunedin Family History Group have continued to collect and index the notices since then.



Southland Branch NZSG Quiz Night 2015

NZ Questions:

1. When did the first hostilities between Maori and European first commence?
1841 1898 1845
2. In which year did the last of the British Imperial Forces leave NZ after wars with the Maori?
1870 1905 1840
3. Name the first capital of NZ.
4. Where is the oldest university in NZ?
5. What is the longest river in NZ?
6. Where was the site of a Maori pa by the Waimakiriri River?
7. What happened in Featherston in 1943?
8. What happened on 10th April 1968 in NZ?
9. What year was gold discovered in Otago?
10. Who was a Southland man who became Prime Minister?

Australia Questions:

1. What animal is on the Western Australia flag?
2. What year did Cyclone Tracey hit Darwin?
3. In what year was gold first discovered in Victoria?
4. What was the name of the stockade near Ballarat?
5. Where is the 'Big Banana' statue?
6. Which of the following is NOT an Australian innovation?
Lawn Sprinkler Plastic Bank Notes
Dual Flush Toilet Wine Cask Chiko Roll
7. How many ships arrived in the First Fleet?
8. Name 2 islands that had penal colonies.
9. Name the actress who made her debut in 'Neighbours' TV series?
10. Name 4 things/people famous in Australia that have their origins in NZ

Southland Questions:

1. Name the first white settler at Jacobs Estuary.
2. Where was the first settler camped in Invercargill?
3. Name the first female Mayor of Invercargill.
4. What is the name of the first locomotive in Southland?
5. What memorial is on the corner of Dee and Tay Sts?
6. What industry is associated with Underwood?
7. Name the 2 founders of H&J Smiths.
8. Who went on trial in 1895 for murder?
9. Which company manufactured the first instant coffee?
10. Where are the remnants of Chinese gold mining

United Kingdom Questions:

1. Irish society was organised into clans in ancient times long before people had surnames - True or False?
2. What is the largest county in Ireland?
3. What is the most common Irish surname?
4. What are you to kiss for good luck and the gift of the gab when you visit Ireland?
5. What years did the Heralds Visitations take place?
6. In what year was there an important calendar change in Britain which can affect genealogical research?
7. What do the Welsh, Cornish and Breton languages have in common?
8. In what year did birth registrations in Scotland provide extra information about the parents?
9. Where were local parish records initially kept?
10. Which is the first census that is generally regarded as being of value to family historians?

NZSG Questions:

1. Who is the current NZSG President?
2. What is available to all financial NZSG members?
3. What resource has recently been released?
4. What is the website address?
5. Where will the 'Genealogist' magazine soon be printed?

Branch Library/ Resource Room:

Venue: 1st floor Invercargill Library, past the computers towards Dee St windows on the left.

Hours: Currently it is only open 3rd Wednesday each month Feb-Nov
From 6-6:50pm (prior to branch meetings).
Other times can be made by emailing the branch beforehand or by contacting the Convenor who may then make arrangements to open it.

Branch Contacts		
Convenor	Lesley Instone	217-8825 a/h
Treasurer	John MacManus	217-4200
Secretary	John MacManus	217-4200
Committee	Mary Murray	217-6181
	Norma O'Neill	022-133 5819
	Yvonne Service	213-0254
	Wendy Shaw	027-654 1363
	Wendy Smith	217-3595
	Mary Stuart	217-4560
	Roger Washbourn (ex officio)	213-0968

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 City Library 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/>

