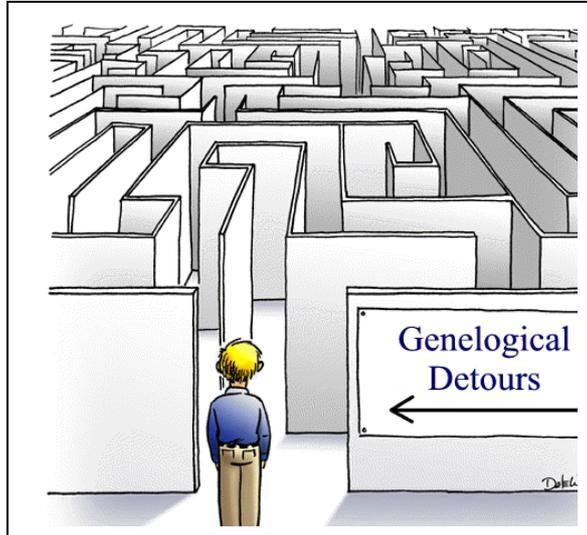




⇐ BRANCH LINES ⇒

Newsletter of the Southland Branch
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 58 – April/May 2016



Branch Meeting Topics and Special events

- 10th April Southern Area Regional Meeting at Mosgiel
- 13th April **Branch Committee Meeting**
7:30pm at Lesley's
- 20th April **Ann Robbie:** will be speaking on the search for **Memorial Boards around Southland.** 7pm start.
- 28th April Genealogy Computing Group 7pm at WEA.
AGM also bring an object or a photo of a soldier from WW1
- 18th May **Heirlooms show and tell** – bring your special piece along. **Branch AGM.** Some Committee members may be standing down so new committee members are welcome.

Your Branch needs YOU!
Please consider being part of the team and be involved on the local branch committee.
Requirements: currently must be a current member of NZSG, a willingness to participate in planning activities
The **AGM** is on **28th April.**
Please come – no arm twisting!

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.

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Overseas News

10,000 ANZAC soldiers trained as military engineers at Brightlingsea, Essex. **Centenary Weekend 17-19th June 2016. Photos and connections to any NZ soldiers are welcomed.**

The coastal town was chosen as a training base for thousands of Australian and New Zealand troops. The location was ideal for training engineers in bridge building, trench digging and general front line military techniques. The Australian Engineers Training Depot (AETD) was established in Brightlingsea in 1916 and records show that from 1916-1919 nearly 10,000 Anzac troops were stationed and trained in the town and surrounding areas, and there was a significant social and sporting legacy from their presence. Sadly many of these young men would perish on the fields of France and Belgium. The legacy of these men and their comrades cannot be forgotten, the centenary of their arrival gives us an opportunity to remember them. *email: margaret@bright97.freeserve.co.uk*

Ancestry:

[Queensland, Australia, Prison and Reformatory Indexes, 1824-1936](#)

[Queensland, Australia, Property Indexes, 1842-1895](#)

[Queensland, Australia, Index to Aliens, 1913](#)

[Queensland, Australia, Occupational Indexes, 1857-1922](#)

[Global, Gravestone Photograph Index, 1265-2014](#)

[Tasmania, Australia, Railway Employment Records, 1903-1977](#)

[Tasmania, Australia, Teacher Employment History Cards, 1886-1945](#)

UPDATED [Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980](#)

Ancestry concedes defeat as it is unable to restore all of its Rootsweb site

Ancestry has been trying for weeks to fix a data loss in its RootsWeb, USGenWeb and WorldConnect web pages. The company has been able to repair many of the lost pages but not all. In fact, the company is asking customers to upload any pages they may have available!

Find My Past: More Irish Newspapers

Three brand new titles, from counties Antrim and Down, have been added - *Larne Times*, *Newry Reporter* and *Newry Telegraph*. These local publications, covering life in the busy Northern Irish market towns from 1829 all the way up to 1955, could hold key information on your ancestors. As well as exciting new titles being added, a further 7 existing Irish newspapers from the collection have been given extra articles and date coverage. Included in these, over 2.1 million new articles have been added to *Northern Whig* and over 400,000 additional articles have joined both *Derry Journal* and *Dublin Daily Express*. The entire archive now contains 114 newspaper titles, both local and national, and almost 20 million fully-searchable newspaper articles.

Mocavo – has now moved to the Find My Past website.

Scotland's People: Returns of Deaths at Sea 1902-1905. Newly-released are Returns of Deaths at Sea (also known as the 'Marine Returns') for the years 1902-1905. These years complete the series, which is already on Scotland's People, from 1855 onwards. They list Scottish seamen and passengers who were reported to the Registrar General for Scotland as having died. When ships sank there were often fatalities, but most of the deaths in British waters were of fishermen who drowned. Many of the deaths off the north-west coast of Scotland were of men who drowned after falling or being accidentally knocked overboard from fishing boats. The records also contain hundreds of entries for Scottish sailors, engineers and other crewmen who died in every corner of the world, whether at sea, or in foreign ports or hospitals.

New Zealand News

Papers Past: (March additions)

- Bay of Plenty Times (1872-1875, 1921-1930)
- Hawke's Bay Times (1869-1874)
- Otago Daily Times (1921-1930)
- Waikato Argus (1896-1904)
- Woodville Examiner (1883-1920)

Dunedin Branch NZSG:

The branch meetings will be held at 1pm on the first Saturday of the months May through to August during the colder months. Venue is 4th Floor of Dunedin Library.

St John's Anglican Church (Milton) is 150 years old.

A sesquicentennial celebration will be held on 17th April 2016 and includes a lunch, visual displays and a local tour after a celebratory morning church service.

Ongoing display at the Otago Museum, Dunedin until 31st July 2016:

Surviving Chunuk Bair: H D Skinner at Gallipoli

Former Otago Museum Director H D Skinner was one of over 24,000 ANZAC soldiers injured during the Gallipoli campaign in WWI.

Riverton Heritage Society Inc is digitising a large collection of photos from the Riverton and Western Southland area. Their Facebook page will have unnamed photos posted on it. If you can help identify anyone in them it would be appreciated.



Venue: SeniorNet rooms, WEA building, Esk St opposite the 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 a/h) or Convenor Wendy Smith (03217 3595 a/h)

NZSG Revised Rules - Postal Ballot

NZSG members will receive a document relating to the postal ballot for a revised set of rules with their April issue of The New Zealand Genealogist magazine.

This documentation will comprise a covering letter from the President and the revised rules. In addition there will be a Question and Answer document on the Society's website, along with copies of the President's letter and the rules themselves.

Our existing rules have been widely acknowledged as being no longer fit for purpose. Legal advice also points to inconsistencies between the rules and the bylaws and recommends amalgamation.

Applications for funding and sponsorship are becoming more dependent upon evidence that the Society is operating in a business-like manner, in surplus, and within rules that are appropriate for purpose. We cannot continue to operate as we have in the past, and revised rules are part of the necessary change.

It is appreciated that a large proportion of the Society's members just wish to get on with their research and that rules may be of little interest to them, and I understand that. However, please do read the documents and then cast your vote. It is vital that all NZSG members take the opportunity to participate in this postal ballot as a two thirds majority of valid votes cast (existing Rule 9.1) is needed for the new rules to be adopted.

Voting papers are due back to the Returning Officers by 4pm, Friday 20 May 2016. Thank you.

Peter Gibson

NZSG Councillor & Facilitator, Rules Review Working Group

March 2016

Mary Stuart did a talk on the finding of lone graves tucked away off the beaten track at the February branch meeting. From Doubtful Sound through to Northern Southland and many other hidden places they have attempted to track down who the folk were and the stories behind them. The photos were most helpful in illustrating the remoteness of some of these graves, many remaining unidentified or illegible. Thank you Mary – a really interesting talk!

**WW1 – a timeline presented every 2 months for you put together by Wendy.
Remember the battles went on in Africa as well as many places in Europe!**

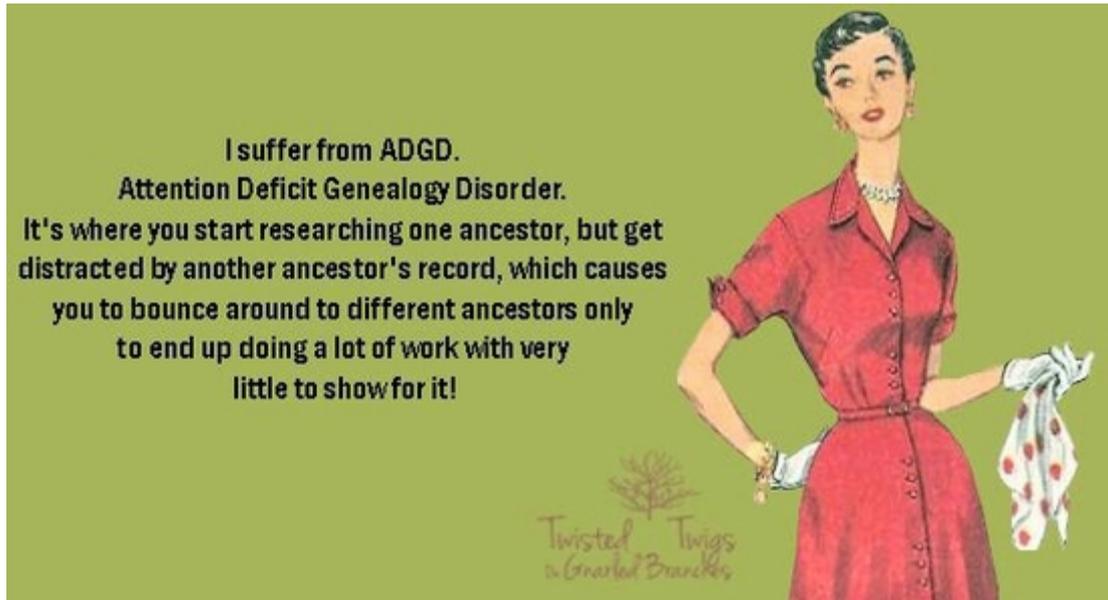
April 1916

- 1st April** End of period of German mastery of the air on the Western front.
- 3rd April** Greek Government refuse overland route for transport of Serbian army from Corfu to Salonika .
- 15th April** Serbian Army Headquarters land at Salonika from Corfu.
- 17th April** British attacks in German East Africa begin
Italian Government issue decrees prohibiting trading with Germany
- 18th April** United States Government send note to German Government on "Sussex" case and submarine policy in general.
- 20th April** Russian troops from the far East arrive at Marseilles.
Disguised German transport "*Aud*" sinks herself after capture while trying to land arms on Irish coast.
- 24th April** **Outbreak of Rebellion in Ireland**
loss of H.M.S. "*Julnar*"
Laying of Belgian coast barrage commenced by British navy.
- 25th April** Lowestoft (Suffolk) and Yarmouth (Norfolk) raided by German battle cruiser squadron
- 26th April** French and Russian Governments conclude agreement for eventual partition of Asia Minor
Agreement signed at Berlin for transfer of British and German wounded and sick prisoners of war to Switzerland.
- 27th April** **Martial law proclaimed in Dublin** and the county.
H.M.S. "*Russell*" sunk by mine in the Mediterranean.
- 29th April** "Havre Declaration" signed by France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and Russia guaranteeing integrity of Belgian Congo.

MAY 1916

- 1st May** Collapse of Irish Rebellion - leaders surrender.
- 3rd May** German airship "*L.-20*" returning from raid on Scotland, wrecked at Stavanger (Norway). Three Irish rebel leaders executed.
- 4th May** German airship "*L.-7*" destroyed off the Slesvig coast.

- 5th May** German airship "L.Z.-85" brought down by British gunfire at Salonika.
- 10th May** Agreement signed at Berlin re employment of British and German prisoners of war.
- 13th May** Agreement signed at London for transfer of British and German wounded and sick prisoners of war to Switzerland.
- 4th May** Austrian offensive in the Trentino begins.
- 15th May** Allied blockade of the Hejaz coast to assist revolt of Sherif of Mecca commenced; Areas of Mesopotamia occupied by Russian forces.
- 16th May** **Second Military Service Bill extending compulsion to married men passes the British House of Commons.**
Agreement concluded between Great Britain and France regarding respective claims in Turkish territories.
- 17th May** Air Board formed in Great Britain.
- 18th May** Detachment of Cossacks from Russian force in West Persia effects junction with British army on the Tigris.
- 21st May** **German attack on Vimy Ridge.**
- 23rd May** El Fasher (capital of Darfur) occupied by Sudan force.
British Government notify Russian Government of their recognition of Franco-Russian agreement as to eventual partition of Asia Minor.
- 25th May** British advance from Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland across the frontier into German East Africa begins.
- 26th May** Fort Rupel (Greek frontier of Macedonia) occupied by Bulgarian and German forces.
United States Government sends Note to British Government protesting against search of mails.
- 29th May** Agreement signed at London re the employment of British and German prisoners of war.
- 31st May** **Battle of Jutland begins;** First British aerial co-operation with fleet in action. 6 British ships sunk, 6 German ships sunk .
Entente Governments protest to Greece against Bulgarian occupation of Fort Rupel



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 area - Mary Stuart and Yvonne Service continue collecting data on these graves.

Research Enquiry: All committee members will have access to the enquirers contact details.

From Robyn: Looking for information on the Taylor family that lived in Riverton and Orepuke during the late 1800s. The parents are John Young Taylor and Elizabeth Eveleigh.

The children are Andrew William, b. Invercargill 1875

Robert, b. Riverton 1880

John James, b. abt 1882

Elizabeth, b. abt 1884

Matilda, b. unknown

Edith, b. unknown

Alexander, b. Invercargill 1893

What happened to Matilda ?- She may have become a teacher.

Branch Library/ Resource Room:

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

Hours: Currently 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 make the arrangements.

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/>

