



⇐ **BRANCH LINES** ⇒
 Newsletter of the Southland Branch
 New Zealand Society of Genealogists



Issue No. 62 – January 2017

You will note by the date this reaches you that I have discovered December came upon me and when I blinked, it vanished. This is almost what happens when one gets onto the ‘scent’ of an elusive ancestor trail and the time flies by.

There are some exciting proposals for this year’s programme so come along and support the local branch – better still, invite a friend...

Branch Meeting Topics and Special events

Wed 15th Feb A DVD was shown on visiting the National Archives in Kew, London, the Society of Genealogists also in London and National Records of Scotland in New Registry House, Edinburgh. An excellent virtual tour of all repositories, taking just over an hour to view. Sound quality is poor in places but definitely worth looking at.

Wed. 15th March A joint event with Invercargill Archives alongside Southland Heritage Month. This will take the form of a group of people from the Archives and our own branch members discussing ‘Depositing your Genealogy Research in a Heritage Institution’. Roger will talk on NZSG Digital Archives. Prior to this there will be a short **Special General Meeting to ratify the new rules of the NZSG to conform with Charities Services requirements. NZSG members only can vote.**

Wed. 19th April **Bryce Horrell** has agreed to come and give us an update on his military projects. Always an interesting speaker.

Wed. 17th May Our branch **AGM**. Committee members and office bearers will be elected. Following this Mary Stuart will give a talk on updated **Irish Research** records. With many being released online, this will be useful if you have Irish connections.

It was proposed that the branch meetings June – September be held on the third SATURDAY of the month starting at 1:30pm in the Library meeting room. Winter weather may have prevented folk from venturing out at night during these months so daytime meetings may encourage a greater attendance and do other research while you are in the Library.

Sat. 17th June Our first SATURDAY meeting. At 1:30pm. Certificates Collection copying - details in next issue.



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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Further meetings will be announced in the next issue. There will be topics that have not been had before at branch meetings so watch this space!

7-11 August will see a repeat of our joint lunchtime lectures along with the Invercargill Library staff. Roger and others did an awesome job and we were able to add several new members to our branch.

New Zealand News

Papers Past: recent updates are not all listed as new additions. The date range for various newspapers may have been extended, so make a point of checking the end dates on the papers you are interested in.

NZSG Conference 2017 – Queens Birthday Weekend – “*Looking Forward to the Past*” - book your airfares and accommodation! An exciting range of workshops and presentations to be held at Alexandra Park, in Auckland.

Details came with an insert leaflet in the February 2017 issue of *The New Zealand Genealogist*. There is a complete conference programme on the NZSG website at <https://www.genealogy.org.nz/data/media/documents/Conference%202017/2017%20Programme%20v2.pdf>



"Let's see now...genealogy books...genealogy books..."

It is anticipated that our branch Library catalogue will be made available in a digitised format on the Library laptop and eventually will be put onto the branch website for members use. This will be in conjunction with the hard copy folders that our librarian Mrs Mary Murray has available when the room is open.



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 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 Wendy Shaw (027 431 5714) or Convenor Wendy Smith (03 217 3595 a/h).

Meetings:

- 23 Feb: **Back to Basics** research – another look at primary websites.
23 March: **Genealogy programmes** – a look at what is available.
27 April: **WW1 Records in NZ** – CDs, websites and books.
25 May: **AGM** followed by Soup/bread rolls and thinking about personal genealogy goals.
22 June: **Scanning**, PDFs and attachments – unlocking the mystery.
22 July: **Newspaper databases**.
24 August: **Backing up your data** – using the cloud, USB sticks and hard drives.

The remainder of sessions will be announced at a later date.

Obituary – Elizabeth BEER

Elizabeth/Liz had attended our meetings regularly as well as at the computing special interest group. She was passionate about family research and published several books – the POOLE, LINDSAY and BEER families. You would regularly find her peering at the BDM microfiche in the library. She was always willing to share her knowledge. Our thoughts go out to Keith, her husband and her extended family.

Overseas News

Ancestry: New additions or updates include-

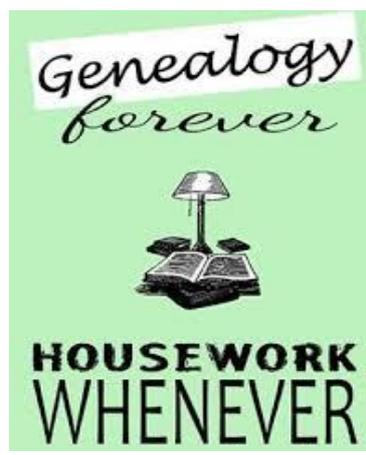
- NSW Index to Deceased Estate Files 1859-1958
- Victoria – Wills and Probate Records 1841 – 2009
- Australian Births and Baptisms – 1792 – 1981
- Victoria – Police Gazettes 1855, 1864 – 1924
- NSW Criminal Court Records 1830 – 1945
- NSW - Sydney Cemetery Headstone Transcriptions 1837 – 2003
- Tasmania Passenger and Crew Lists 1834 – 1837, 1841 -1887

Find My Past:

- United States Marriages: All states have additions and now they claim to have the largest online collection of USA marriages
- Catholic Heritage Archives now online with entries from USA, Great Britain, Ireland

Familysearch:

- More Australian records in NSW and Victoria including Victoria Outward Passenger lists 1852-1924, Queensland Immigration Indexes 1864-1940 and NSW Deceased Estate Files 1880-1923



Family Research Enquiries: (Contact can be made through the committee)

From Gary: His research has found an ancestor - **Samuel Henderson** (DOB 1861) who emigrated to New Zealand in 1883. He married an Annie Panton Riddell in 1884 in Invercargill.

Samuel and Annie arrived in Invercargill in 1883 where they were married the following year. They had five children:

- Samuel John Henderson DOB 1885 and married Isabella Mitchell Swale
- Annie Rennie Henderson DOB 1887 and married William Hinton
- Alexander Henderson DOB 1888 and I believe married Elspeth Dempster
- Isabella Harper Henderson DOB 1890 single
- David Mackenzie Henderson DOB 1898 and married Marjorie Francis McLeod

He has found a number of their descendants via Ancestry and the New Zealand records office, but has hit a brick wall due to the age of the children and wondered if there is anyone who can point him in the right direction or get in touch with a Henderson descendant in order to help fill in the blanks?

From Carol: (contact details through committee)

A year ago started working with a group of Boyd researchers who are all linked to the **Boyd Family on the Maclean Estate in Ardgour**, Argyllshire Scotland. Her husband's family are from one of the brothers in a Boyd family that stayed in

Scotland and his cousins are still on the farm Blaich farm where Boyd families have been since the OPR Kilmallie records date from.

The project is related to tracing the original Boyd family listed within the OPR Kilmallie Parish in period 1750-1800 and tracing those families, in Scotland and throughout the world. There were about 25 families identified and being highland families, a significant number emigrated to Victoria and to New Zealand. Over the past year there have been links developed as the various researchers in Scotland, Australia and Carol in NZ have collated our data.

‘Donald Boyd, 1834-1923 was one of the men traced that has a really fascinating story. He was son of Alexander Boyd and Catherine McGregor and grandson of Ewen Boyd and Ann Kennedy.

We have traced Donald throughout the world. Raised in the Highlands of Scotland, he went to Glasgow as a young man and then joined the British Army and went out to India in 1857, returning about 1860. For a time was a policeman in Glasgow so not an easy lot given the city in those times. He rejoined the Army and was in the Crimean War. The exploits in those times is detailed in an interview with him in the Southland Times on 18th May, 1920.

He came to New Zealand and joined the Police Forces during the times of the gold rushes and had some hairy tales to tell. He retired to Invercargill where he was the truancy officer for many years after marrying Martha COEWLL nee WELDON.

Donald and Martha had a family of five although only his daughter Catherine Cameron McGregor Boyd married to William Adam MARTIN, a carter in Invercargill, survived her father who lived until 1923.

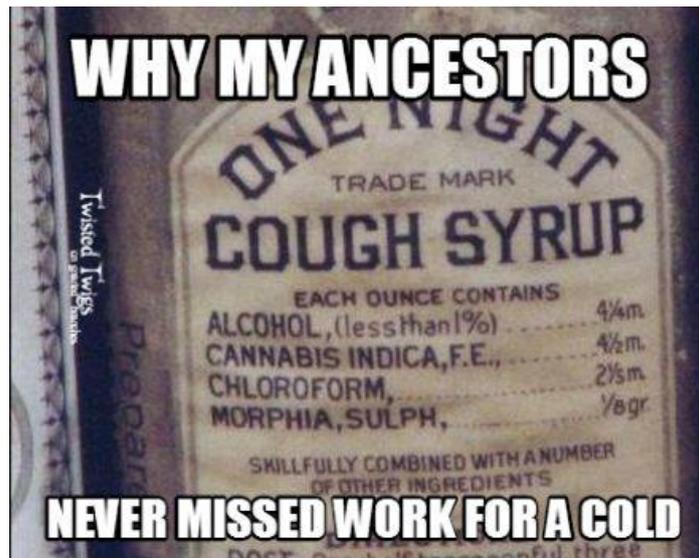
His spinster sister Annie Boyd came out to join her brother and passed away from TB, just four months after arriving in Invercargill.

There is a family lair in Invercargill Eastern Cemetery and in the online photograph I noted fresh flower at the lair.

His obituary in Papers Past (PRESS 10th May 1923) noted that he had been presented to the Prince of Wales on the visit to Invercargill in 1920 and I wondered if within the Southland group archives there just might be a photograph of the occasion or if there happens to be someone who has some knowledge on this family line.’

From John:

He is wishing to find more details about his 3x great grandfather **Alexander REID** who was Deputy Harbourmaster 1862-1865. He died suddenly in 1865 and lies in Eastern cemetery along with one of his sons.



Curious Marriage Announcements – money, rank and age- no holds barred!

- 22 August 1782 at Bath, Capt Hamilton aged 30 to Mrs Monson, a lady of rank and fortune aged 85.
- Feb 1769 Robert Judge Esq of Cooksburgh, Ireland, aged 95 to Miss Anne Nugent aged 15. 'He served in King William's wars and received a ball in his nose'.
- Dec 1775 at York, Mr Thomas, a Grenadier in the Yorkshire Militia, six feet two inches high to Miss Hannah Tennick of Clearlam, three feet two inches high with a fortune of five thousand pounds.
- 1779 recorded the marriage of a couple aged respectively eighty and eighty five concludes 'and what is still more remarkable there has been a courtship carried on betwixt them for more than sixty years'.
- 3 Nov 1775 at Dalkeith, David Wilson a journeyman gardener to Catherine Craw aged forty, his fifth wife. He was seventy one years of age. His first wife was a Dutchwoman whose name he has forgot, the other wives were Scots women.
- The marriage of a widow aged thirty eight to a youth of seventeen, who was heir to a fortune of one hundred thousand pounds. The ceremony took place at Gretna Green.
- 13th July 1772 at Boston, Lincolnshire, Mr William Staines who was so extremely ill that he was obliged to be carried to the church in a sedan chair. He died on the 17th and his widow was married again on the 30th July.

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. Index is on Resource Room laptop.

Lone Graves in Southland area - Mary Stuart and Yvonne Service continue collecting data on these graves – found in isolated places e.g. on farms, in isolated bush, disused dwellings, abandoned mining camps throughout Lower South Island.

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

Celebrating 50 Years **A Nationwide Luncheon**

Tuesday 15 August 2017 is the day the New Zealand Society of Genealogists celebrates its **50th Anniversary**. Branches around the country are invited to arrange a lunch in their area from 12 noon. The plan is to live-stream speeches from Auckland so we can all enjoy the celebration together. The branch committee is planning to be able to join this celebration—meantime please mark this in your diary now! Details will follow in future issues.

Welcome to the new NZSG Manager



The NZSG extends a very warm welcome to Barbara Haughey who commenced as NZSG Manager on 4 January 2017. Barbara has worked in the not for profit sector for over 20 years in both employed and a volunteer roles and has a Bachelor of Sport degree from AUT. She has joined us after a recent appointment as Office Manager for an electrical engineering firm and is looking forward to getting back to her 'Not for Profit' roots.

Directory

**Southland Branch,
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Registered Charity CC36688**

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Meetings

**Third Wednesday of each month
Meeting Room, Invercargill City Library at 7 p.m.
[Research facilities from 6 p.m.]**

**Meetings June – September will be held
On the third Saturday of the month starting at 1:30pm
The Resource Room will be open before and after the meeting**

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

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

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