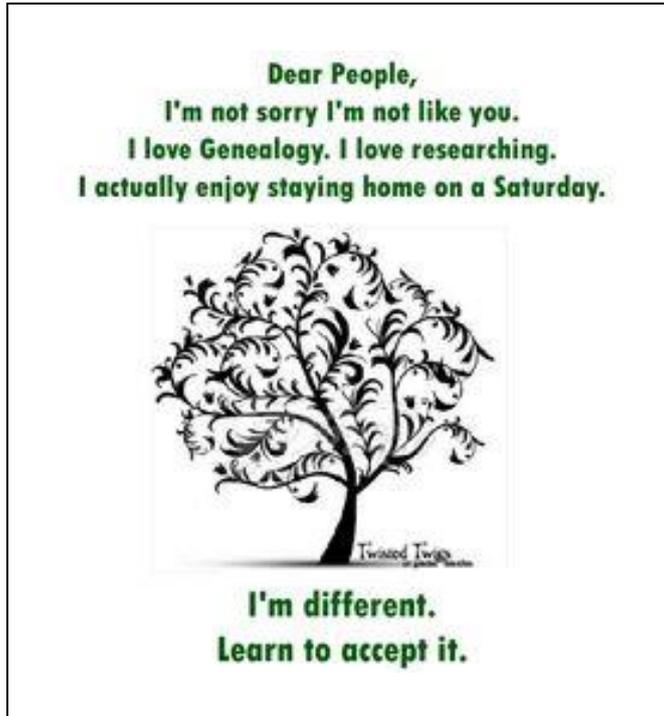




# ⇐ **BRANCH LINES** ⇒

Newsletter of the Southland Branch  
New Zealand Society of Genealogists

Issue No. 69 – Feb/Mar 2018



## Branch Meeting Topics and Special events

- Wed. 21 February      First meeting for the year will be on **Old Handwriting** – tips on how to decipher those old documents.  
There will also be an opportunity for people to bring their **'brick walls and dead ends'** for ideas on how to make that important breakthrough.  
This meeting will discuss whether members wish to continue with the **Saturday meetings** over winter or go back to Wednesday even.
- Wed. 21 March      A local **Funeral Director** will be coming to talk and include the making and care of memorials and headstones.



## 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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The Conference will be held from Friday the 1st to Monday the 4th June 2018.  
and will be held at Christchurch Boys' High School, 71 Straven Road, Christchurch.  
The Friday night function will be held at the Historic Riccarton House  
The Saturday night conference dinner will be held at Chateau on the Park.  
The full conference programme will be released shortly

**Are you going??  
Plan your trip, book your accommodation!**



**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Contacts: Wendy Shaw (hutchshaw@yahoo.co.nz) or Wendy Smith (03) 217 3595 a/h)

**Computing Group Meetings 2018**

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> February [To start off the year there will be an online genealogy tutorial via Youtube.](#)

**WEA Classes – Genealogy**  
Held at WEA, Esk Street 7-9pm  
Commencing Tuesday 13 Feb for 5 weeks  
Different topics each week.  
Different tutors presenting each session  
  
Limited spaces so get in quick – tell your friends!

Alas there will be **NO Te Anau Tartan Festival over Easter this year**. It seems Ed Sheeran's concerts at the same time in Dunedin mean there are not so many volunteers to help with the Tartan Festival nor the expected crowds would be there.

## Dunedin Family History Group

Indifference on the part of subscribers has led the editors to stop the automatic despatch of their popular newsletters. Issue #122 (pictured at right) will be the last letter emailed to subscribers. With over 25% of the 3,000+ newsletters rejected - because members changing email addresses in the wake of the Vodafone problems have failed to advise of their changes - the group has decided to halt email despatch. In future, those wanting copies of their newsletter will have to visit the group's website and download copies.

Newsletter #122 gives instructions for accessing future issues from their website at

<http://www.dunedinfamilyhistory.co.nz/>

Enquiries can be emailed to [dfhg@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dfhg@xtra.co.nz)



## **Overseas News**

### Ancestry: New additions or updates include:

- **Australia: Convict Records Index 1787 – 1867**
- **Sydney, Australia: Anglican Parish Records 1814 – 2011**
- **Australia WW1 Service Records 1914 – 1920**
- **Australia & NZ Obituary Index 2004 – 2017**
- **Australia & NZ Find a Grave Index**
- **Queensland Mining Accident Index 1882 – 1945**
- **Queensland WW1 Soldier Portraits 1914 - 1918**

### Find My Past: Latest additions:

- **Jersey, Channel Islands.** Thousands of Church of England baptism, marriage and burial records from the island of Jersey are now available in conjunction with Jersey Archives.
- **Suffragette Collection.** Search records from The National Archives recording the details of the women and men who supported women's suffrage in the early 20th century. Was your suffragette ancestor among the arrest records, parliamentary papers, watch list of over 1,300 suffragettes or in personal statements, reports of force-feeding, and transcripts of speeches.
- **Durham Diocese Bishop's Transcripts 1639-1919.** Browse through the Bishop's Transcripts from the Durham diocese. The diocese's boundaries will have changed over time, and included in this collection are records from Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, and Yorkshire counties.
- **British Armed Forces and Overseas Births/Baptisms, Banns/Marriages and Deaths/Burials.** Records held by the General Register Office and The National Archives consist

records those working within the armed forces, merchant navy, and consular forces, as well as, civilian ship passengers.

- **Hertfordshire Baptisms, Marriages and Burials**
- **Kent Baptisms, Banns, Marriages, Burials and Probates**
- **Northumberland & Durham Monumental Inscriptions**
- **England, Greater Manchester Baptisms 1571-1910.** Most of records within this collection pertain to parishes within the historic county of Lancashire.
- **Yorkshire Monumental Inscriptions**
- **Historical British Newspapers - check out the latest newspaper additions**

**FamilySearch:** (Keep checking as more documents are added all the time – below are some recent updates/new additions)

- **Australia Cemetery Inscriptions (1802 – 2005)**
- **England, Cornwall Registers (1538 – 2010)**
- **England, Derbyshire Church of England Parish Registers (1537 – 1918)**
- **England, Rutland Parish Registers (1538 – 1991)**
- **England, Warwickshire Parish Registers (1535 – 1984)**
- **England, Hampshire Parish Registers and Bishop's Transcripts**
- **England, Lincolnshire Parish Registers (1538 – 1990)**
- **England, Surrey Parish Registers (1536 – 1992)**
- **Denmark, all Censuses (1834 – 1930)**
- **Denmark Church Records (1484 1941)**
- **France, Finistere, Quimper & Leon Diocese Catholic Parish Records**
- **Slovakia, Church & Synagogue Books (1592 – 1935)**
- **Sweden, Household Examination Books (1880 – 1920)**
- **American Samoa, Passenger Lists & Travel Documents (1918 – 1965)**

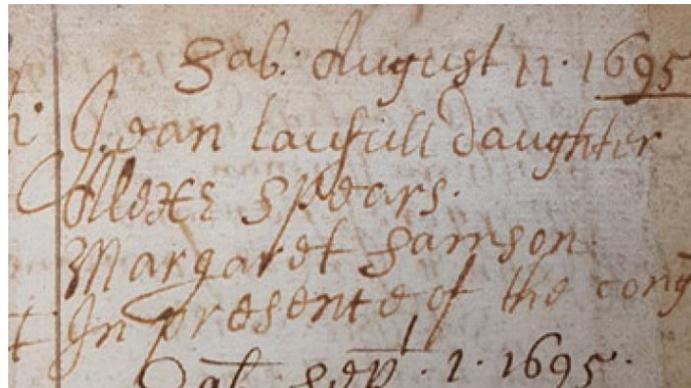
### **Scotlands People:**

- **Births in 1917, Marriages in 1942 and Deaths in 1967 have now been released**
- **Name variants and abbreviated names,** in particular, over 470,000 database entries have been updated for the forenames that occur most often in the indexed historic records, including parish registers and census returns.

### **Ireland:**

Searching for Limerick ancestors? Check out <https://www.limerick.ie/> as they have a great collection of obituaries indexed including where their death occurred.

**RootsIreland** ([www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)) contains data from 34 County genealogy centres. The main sources are Irish Catholic and other church records of baptisms, marriages and deaths. Sources vary with each county



**Plan your projects for productive pedigree pastimes**  
- Periodic planning prevents production on progeny projects.

### Another skeleton in the closet??

Looking for a great uncle in NZ. Great – found him as a bugler serving in the Boer War. Came home and married a lass. Oops – he asked his new bride if she would adopt a child as a young lady he knew was pregnant (he certainly knew her alright!) and he would like to bring the child up as theirs. No, she declares – not mine! Ok says he – then I will not pay you any housekeeping money while I disappear around NZ working! Postie arrives at her house with letters to be returned to her husband as they could not reach their destination. What’s this – letters from the above mentioned lass who got pregnant?? Hmmm – “something is going on here and I don’t like it” says Mrs-of-great-uncle. Take him to court for abandonment and cruelty and seek a divorce may bring him to his senses! Yes Your Worship – I have in my hands letters written by him to a young lady who believes he will marry her. Oh and did I say he is living in a house of ill repute in Maitland Street here in Dunedin? Great uncle confessed all and decree nisi it became.

Off to Australia goes he – and tries to enlist In the Australian Army times three. Not medically fit they said but eventually great uncle by now a ship’s cook, became soldier cook on the third try. He declares his next of kin is Wife No2 (supposedly married!) but she posts him as a missing person when he didn’t come home. Into the Australian Police Gazette goes a quest to find him. Oops – same week his marriage to Wife No3 is advertised in the local paper – a widow with 6 children. No wonder he didn’t come home and was declared AWOL to boot.



He and Wife No3 move about but soon they part ways – she to stay with each of her adult children and he to cook his way around rural hotels and stations in Victoria (after swapping his first names around).

So great uncle – where did you go to and what else did you do? Where are you buried? So much more to find about you!



### **In Our Resource Room:**

Magazines arrive monthly for 'Australian Family Tree' and 'Family Tree' – these are able to be borrowed. Why spend \$18 or so on 'Family Tree' magazine each month when you can borrow and read it as part of your branch membership.

## **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 and Stewart Is** - 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.

**Branch Resource Library.** The project to have this online is still in progress but in the meantime, Mary Murray will have a USB stick at each meeting should someone wish to view what resources we have available or find out what material is held on a particular subject/person/area.

# Directory

Southland Branch,  
NZ Society of Genealogists Inc.

Postal address:  
P.O. Box 1329, Invercargill 9840.

E-mail: [Southland@genealogy.org.nz](mailto: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.]

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/>

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

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

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