

## Genealogical Computing Group - Invercargill sub-group

### Early history

The Society's Genealogical Computing Group was formed in Wellington in 1984. Local sub-groups were established shortly after in the main centres. About 1989-90, Rev. Ron Townsend, the late Jack Tourelle and Mary Stuart met with Gary Markham at what was then the Southland Polytechnic, to investigate the use of computers for genealogy. Soon after, the Invercargill sub-group moved to Cargill High School when the school installed a computer suite under the late Jim McArthur (teacher-in-charge). Mary Stuart was the Convenor; Yvonne Service was secretary. The group indexed most of the cemeteries and school rolls, and the records for the 1996 Conference from that location.

The Invercargill sub-group was re-formed in 1994 as a sub-group of the Genealogical Computing Group, and formal records of meetings have been kept since that time. Peter Johnson was Convenor. About 1996, the group moved its meeting base to the Menzies Building in lower Esk Street; this signalled the group's early association with the SeniorNet movement. In 1998 the meeting base moved again to the Methodist Community Centre in Lindisfarne Street, when Pam Atkinson was Convenor and Maureen Townson was secretary.

About 2008, the group moved again, taking its base in the SeniorNet rooms in the Southland Education Building in Esk street, beside the Scottish Hall, thus renewing its association with the SeniorNet movement. It still meets in these rooms. In 2019, with minimal numbers, the decision was taken to close the group.

### Office-holders (since1994)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>
1994	Peter Johnson	Roger Washbourn
1995	Peter Johnson	Roger Washbourn
1996	Peter Johnson	Roger Washbourn
1997	Mary Stuart	Yvonne Service
1998	Mary Stuart	Yvonne Service
1999	Pam Atkinson	Maureen Townson
2000	Pam Atkinson	Maureen Townson
2001	Roger Washbourn	Pam Atkinson
2002	Roger Washbourn	Pam Atkinson
2003	Roger Washbourn	Pam Atkinson (to July) Maureen Townson (from July)
2004	Roger Washbourn	Maureen Townson
2005	Roger Washbourn	Maureen Townson
2006	Roger Washbourn	Maureen Townson
2007	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2008	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2009	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2010	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2011	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2012	Ian Joll	Maureen Townson
2013	Wendy Smith	Sandy Byers-Evitt
2014	Wendy Smith	Sandy Byers-Evitt
2015	Wendy Smith	Sandy Byers-Evitt
2016	Wendy Smith	Wendy Shaw
2017	(No nominations) *	Wendy Shaw
2018	(No nominations) *	Wendy Shaw
2019	<i>Group closed – Members joined with Southland Branch.</i>	

\* Members to take turns being Convenors for the evening.