

Genealogical Computing Group, Special Interest Group of NZSG

Chairman's Report, July 2018

I am pleased to present my third annual report. The magazine remains our main communication with all members. Our editor, Kevin Crowe, is asking for members to supply him with any articles you think would be useful and interesting to publish. We continue to provide a cheap "round-robin" service for "Family Tree" and "Internet Genealogy" magazines. There are some marvellous articles in both magazines. I recommend you join the round robin.

GCG is again collaborating with the Auckland Library to present an Auckland Family History Expo on weekend of 10, 11, 12 August at the Fickling Centre, Three Kings. Your Committee is very busy helping in the organisation of the Expo. We again have arranged overseas and local speakers covering a full range of genealogical subjects. Some members have already kindly offered to assist with the weekend. You must attend along with your family and friends and again the Expo is free!

Our website at www.gencom.org.nz was maintained with relevant information on new and updated software, links to sub-groups and useful URLs. The AGM for Southland Computing Interest Group was held in May. Wendy Shaw, remains as Secretary but the position of convenor remains vacant. It was agreed that members will take turns at chairing the meeting with Wendy organising the meeting topics and finances. There have been a wide variety of topics over the past year including YouTube tutorials, keyboard shortcuts, scanning & PDFs and newspaper databases. The meeting starts with discussing and problems members have had then move onto the topic of the night. There is a steady number of attendees each meeting. A field trip is planned later in the year once the new Waikaia museum is completed.

Kay O'Brien reports that Fielding Group is still going strong meeting every fourth Tuesday from February to November the same as the Branch Meetings which are held the third Tuesday of the Month. They have changed their format over the last couple of years. They start off with a round the table chat on what they have all been doing re Genealogy or if they are have problems, then they make use of the Feilding Library where their meetings are held and have access to the computers and Ancestry Library edition. They also have a great collection of resources that the branch owns and it is fully used.

I thank Wendy for looking after the Southland Group, and Kay for looking after the Fielding Group, and all the Committee members for their contributions during the year to the GCG and the Expo: Jan Gow and Dorothy Walker (Secretaries), Bryn Smith (Treasurer), Chris Bayley (Webmaster), Rex Wood (Membership), David Bryant (Programme Organiser), also Penny King (Round Robin Organiser), and Kevin Crowe (Editor).

All members of the GCG Committee are offering themselves for re-election. One or two more people would bring in new ideas to the Committee. The job is not onerous and our meetings are few, held after the members' meeting, and lasting no longer than one hour.

Don Gallagher.