WINNIE BURNS MERIT AWARD
MEMORIAL BUD VASE

The Winnie Burns Merit Award was established in 1996 in recognition of the many years of service that early member Winnie Burns had given as Branch Librarian when she retired from the position.

The award comes in the form of a small silver bud vase and is awarded to a deserving branch member who has been a great support to the branch. It is not given out lightly or each year.

When the branch had no permanent home, Winnie use to transport all the library books around in suitcases in her car to all the branch meetings.

Winnie was raised and educated in Hastings and grew up on a farm. She trained as a nurse at the Hastings Memorial Hospital and did her midwifery training in the South Island. She travelled widely overseas and had some interesting and exciting adventures. When she returned to New Zealand she went back on the staff at Hastings Hospital and worked in orthopaedics. Winne later was in charge of the District Nurses who did community nursing.

Winnie never married and claimed she was “an unclaimed treasure”. To those who knew her well said she was a ‘free spirit’. Winnie passed away in 1998 ages 68.

Recipients since inception –

November 1996 - Winnie Burns for services as Branch Librarian
October 1998 - Lorna Glassey
October 1999 - Noala Coleman
October 2001 –Shirley McKay
October 2002 – Irene Lister
October 2003 – not presented

October 2004 – Ian & Betty Webster.
October 2005 – Elizabeth Gunn
October 2006 – Elizabeth Martin and June Sowman
October 2007 – Lily Baker
October 2008 – Noeline Hinton
2009 – not presented. [Financial year end changed NZSG wide]
May 2010 – George Foulds
May 2011 – Kathleen Hargreaves and Joyce Reardon
May 2012 – Margaret Elms
May 2013 – Marguerite Young
May 2014 – Jeannie Wright
May 2015 – not presented
May 2016 – Diane Sye
May 2017 – not presented
May 2018 – Bronwyn Arlidge
May 2019 – Diane Fussell
June 2020 – not presented
May 2021 – Marion Crawford
May 2022 – Marcia Murtagh
May 2023 – Isla Stewart
May 2024 – Bill & Rita Lowes
May 2025 – Gillian Allison
May 2026 – David De Maine