



# A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

## Issue 61 – Sept. 2014

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### ELECTED COMMITTEE 2014-2015

PRESIDENT	Peter Applebee
VICE PRESIDENT	Ivan Randall
SECRETARY	Margaret Flaiban
TREASURER	Shirley Bulley

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	Jeff Cook
	Ian Cowley

FAMILY TREE MAKER CONVENER	Peter Applebee
LEGACY USERS GROUP CONVENER	Shirley Bulley

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## From the Committee

Hello Members,

With our 2 Open Days in August for National Family History Month, we welcome new members to our group and hope they will enjoy what we have to offer. We cannot guarantee we will break down their 'brick walls' but we can at least have a go.

We would like to say a big thank you to one of our long standing members - *Ray Sperrin*, who has written some lovely stories about his family which we will be printing in the forthcoming newsletters. We are starting with Ray's father **John George Sperrin**, who was injured in WWI but overcome his injuries. Ray has done a great job of intertwining his family's history with the social history of the day, together with family photographs. We look forward to reading about the earlier generations in the near future. *Thank You Ray.*

If you have a particular story to reveal about any of your ancestors, and you would like to share it with the Group, please feel free to forward it to us.

At this month's speaker day (**27<sup>th</sup> September, at 1.30 pm**) we will be going through ANDFHG's many resources that members can access either on line through the website or in person, at Ann Street. Our library is growing steadily with donated books, which may be particularly helpful to you, so please feel free to browse. Please come along and support your group.

Thank You  
COMMITTEE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sept.</b> 			<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Mid-Week Open Day 10 am – 4 pm		
				<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Mid-Week Open Day 10 am – 4 pm		<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Research and Networking Day 1 pm – 4 pm  Committee Meeting 2 pm
				<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Mid-Week Open Day 10 am – 4 pm		<b>20<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> 
				<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Mid-Week Open Day 10 am – 4 pm		<b>27<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b> Research and Networking Day 1 pm – 4 pm  Guest Speaker Afternoon 1.30 pm

## JOHN GEORGE SPERRIN

Jack, as he was known to his family and friends, was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1897, at 45 Stanley Road, Tottenham; and this was his home until his marriage in 1919. He was the seventh of ten children born to James and Eliza Sperrin.

He was christened at Christ Church, West Green, on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1899.

Jacks' childhood would have been influenced by the theatre. Earlier in their lives, his parents were on the stage with a song and dance act. (They performed under the stage-name of "Frank and Betty Charleon"). His cousin William was also on the stage (Harry Champion). In the early days of the century, long before radio and television, the family would have provided its' own entertainment. This particular family would probably have favoured comic songs, with each person having his own 'party piece'. So it is not surprising that Jack learned to play the piano as a child. Although little is known of his school days, he certainly ended up literate, and with 'copper plate' handwriting, the envy of many. One of his childhood activities, he related later, was playing on the mud flats and swimming in the local river.



*John George Sperrin  
Photo taken 1914 (age 17)*

A major event of Jacks' childhood would have been the death of his grandmother when he was eight, and the early death of his mother, when he was only nine years old! His mum and grandma had always been there for him. He found himself relying on his older sister, Rosie (Rozina) now that his mum was gone. Poor Rosie, she had Jacks' three younger brothers and sisters as well to contend with. His older, and married sister Eliza lived only a short distance away and would probably have been there to help out; although she did have children of her own to look after. A further strong influence on his childhood would have been the use of horsepower. Horses were used for practically all transportation needs, from pulling cartloads of bricks to hansom cabs. Sometime during his childhood or adolescence his cousin William Crump (Harry Champion) acquired a livery stable; so it's possible that Jack may have spent some time there, helping out. He probably left school at the age of fourteen.

Jack had a job delivering groceries, presumably when he first left school. During his teenage years he had a girlfriend named Hilda Henwood, and she lived in the Harringay area, not far from Jacks' home. Hilda's dad was a provision dealer's assistant; perhaps this is where Jack worked? Alternatively he may have known Hilda from his school days, they were both the same age, and therefore could have been in the same class; there were several schools within walking distance of both of their homes.

Britain declared war on Germany on the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914. This led to great feelings of patriotism, and condemnation of able young men who were not in uniform! This would have had an influence on young Jack; and he ended up enlisting on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 1915, six months after his eighteenth birthday. Two of his brothers also enlisted during 1915; Charlie enlisted in December and served for the duration of the war; Bert enlisted in March but only served a year before being discharged as medically unfit. Jack was drafted into the 'Royal Field Artillery', and became a driver. [This suggests some prior knowledge of horses and how to control them.] His task entailed riding a horse and controlling a team of horses pulling a load, which could be a field gun, a limber of ammunition, or even a mess cart.

They usually took the ammunition to the front line at night, under a cover of darkness. One night Jack and his mate were taking a load of machine gun bullets to the front, when suddenly a German flare lit up the night sky! Their limber became an immediate target, and was soon hit by an enemy shell. The ensuing explosion left Jack bleeding and unconscious in the mud; he had bullet wounds to both lower legs, (caused by the load in his own limber!). His horse was dead, as was the other outrider. He was there for some time before one of his mates found him, and once it was established that he was still breathing he was quickly transported to the Field Hospital. Medical aid was pretty rudimentary, and gangrene had set in, so his lower leg was amputated, and he was sent back to England. The gangrene was found to still be present and further amputation was necessary. The final amputation was half way

up his thigh! Jack spent a considerable time in hospitals and rehabilitation centres; some of this time was in Lancashire. He was eventually equipped with an artificial leg, and set free to try and rebuild his life.

Jack fortunately had the will to overcome his disability, and get on with his life. His girl friend, Hilda was still there for him, so he had her to help him. Jack had to find himself a job, and it was no good thinking on the line of his beloved horses, as he was now a cripple and would not be able to ride, nor could he take on any strenuous labouring tasks around the stables. Also the days of horses and livery stables in London were numbered, due to the rapid development of the internal combustion engine! He needed a job that didn't involve being on his feet all day. Jack decided to go into the shoe repairing business and opened a shop. What led him to do this is not known, perhaps it was something he had learned in re-hab, or maybe it was suggested by his cousin William Crump as he and his brother George were both apprenticed into the shoe making industry. Where the shop was situated, and when it opened is unknown, but would have been between his hospitalisation and the end of 1923. Because of his disability, a long journey to work would have been avoided, so the shop would probably have been in the Harringay or Tottenham area, maybe West Green Road.

Jack and Hilda were finally married on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 1919, at Christ Church, West Green; they were both living at 45 Stanley Road. (Jack's trade at this time was bootmaker). From surviving photographs the reception seemed a grand affair, with many guests. Both Jack and Hilda's fathers are featured in the wedding photographs, along with several brothers and sisters.

Following their wedding, Jack and Hilda set up home at 115 Rosebery Gardens, Tottenham. They lived in a shared house with someone called Dolly. Their leisure activities would have been passive, due to Jack's disability. He once spoke of swimming without one leg; he said it was actually an advantage, as legs caused drag. He didn't continue with it though, as he felt embarrassed at his own deformity. On the positive side, he could certainly have managed a drink at the pub, he probably played darts and billiards, and he would have gone to the cinema, possibly even the theatre on a regular basis. Another hobby he took up was canary breeding and showing; in fact he became a member of the W.G.C.C. (Wood Green Canary Club or West Green Canary Club?).



*Jack and Hilda's Wedding  
L/h William Henwood & Lucy Sperrin  
R/h James Francis Sperrin & Lilian Sperrin*

They had their first child in the summer of 1920, a daughter, and they named her Irene Hilda Sperrin. Some two years later they had a son named Stanley John Sperrin.

*Madame Guerin, the French secretary, suggested that artificial poppies should be sold on the anniversary of the 'Armistice Day', to raise money to help wounded ex-servicemen. The British Legion tried this out on the third anniversary of Armistice, the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1921. A substantial sum was raised, but the poppies had been imported from France. So Major George Howson MC: the founder of the 'Disabled Society', suggested setting up a factory employing disabled ex-servicemen to make poppies. He was given a grant to do this, but had grave doubts initially. The Factory opened on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 1922, and employed only five people! The factory was at 282 St. James Road, London; just off the Old Kent Road. Within a few years they were employing 200 people and needed larger premises. So they moved to the Earl of Cardigan's estate at Richmond, and the old stable area was used to build flats to accommodate the employees.*

*The reason for choosing the poppy was largely influenced by the famous poem "In Flanders Fields", by John McCrae, telling how poppies grow on the graves of the dead. Apparently poppies flourished in the disturbed soil of the battlefields. Moira Michaels, an American lady, wrote a reply to John McCrae's poem, and began wearing the poppy in honour of the lost and injured during "The Great War", so she may have been the inspiration.*

Jack continued to support his family with his shoe repairing business, but the early twenties saw the beginning of a recession. Under these circumstances it would have been very difficult to sustain a small one-man business. This may have been the reason Jack sought full time employment with the new

Poppy Factory, that had opened in 1922. Jack began working there in December of 1923. Three years later the Poppy Factory moved to a new site on Petersham Road at Richmond (old brewery buildings). They began building flats to house the employees. Jack applied, and began renting a flat in the summer of 1927. In addition, they had the use of a clubhouse, a bowling green, and their own garden allotment. The Poppy Factory Estate, was situated at the bottom of the Terrace Gardens on Petersham Road. Their address was: -

108 Petersham Road,  
Richmond,  
Surrey

The family seemed to settle in quite well, the security of having a regular; known income each week must have been very reassuring. Jack's work at the Poppy Factory was making wreaths using artificial poppies. These wreaths were for dignitaries to lay at various Cenotaphs around the Country, on Armistice Day, the 11<sup>th</sup> November. He was photographed while working, and became part of an article in the local newspaper.



*Jack on Right*

Jack took up a new hobby of gardening, as each flat had a garden allotment. He was a runner up in the 'Best New Garden' competition in 1930, which was organised by the National Rose Society, he received a bronze medal and was mentioned in the local newspaper.

Another of Jack's achievements was his ability to play billiards. He used to play at the British Legion Club in Cardigan House on Richmond Hill, and his name was on the championship wallboards to prove it.



*Mr E. Sharp won cup for best kept garden, presented by Mr. Clynes the Home Secretary  
Jack Sperrin is centre and next to him is Mr Adams*

He remained in the W.G.C.C. and was certainly breeding canaries at Richmond. He used to bath them, dry them, and then put them in front of the kitchen range to resuscitate. This was all part of the canary showing culture. There were a number of disabled workers at Richmond with a similar interest, and they were allowed to use the factory vehicle to attend shows and club meetings. He was awarded a medal by the W.G.C.C. in 1930.

Jack and Hilda would have visited the cinema fairly regularly, and in Richmond they had three to choose from. There was the Odeon, the Gaumont and the Ritz. It's fairly certain he would have had a pint in his local, the Pigeons, which was opposite the flats, on the other side of Petersham Road. Soon after his arrival in Richmond, Jack along with one of his mates, ran a "Cockle and Whelk" stall in the car park of the Dysart Arms on Petersham Road, every Sunday morning. His associate was Mr. Hurram, a friend from the Poppy Factory. This enterprise didn't last long, and ended following a traffic accident at the cross roads in the middle of Ham Common. After the stall had closed one Sunday, Mr Hurram was riding his motorcycle, and Jack was in the side-car when the accident occurred. Jack was taken to hospital in an ambulance, but was not seriously injured and released the same day.

At some point in the late-twenties, or early thirties, Hilda along with her sister Eva made a trip to France to visit the grave of their brother Reggie, who was killed while fighting in the 1914-18 War. (Reggie was a private in the 4<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, and he died on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 1916, at the age of 20. He is buried at "Boulogne Eastern Cemetery", *Pas de Calais, France*.)

Jack used to make a regular Sunday morning pilgrimage to Tottenham, where he met his brother Bert for a couple of beers. He used to take his son Stanley with him, and Stan used to wait outside the pub collecting car registration numbers, while drinking lemonade and eating crisps.

Another event that occurred while they lived in Richmond, was the birth of their third child, a son born in the summer of 1936, and named Raymond Francis Sperrin.



*Jack, sometime in the  
1930's*

In the early months of 1939, the family moved to 75 Milton Road, East Sheen. The reason for the move is uncertain, but would have afforded them greater independence from the people in the flats around them. They now had a two-story house and garden, and Jack was able to have a shed devoted to his beloved birds. The house had three bedrooms, so their youngest son Raymond had to share their bedroom for the time being.

The family had just settled in when the storm clouds of war were beginning to gather. After reassurances of "Peace in our time", war was finally declared on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939.

Jack and his son Stan worked one weekend digging a hole and erecting the Anderson shelter in the back garden. (A group of men came down the road taking all non-essential metal items. Gates and railings disappeared to them; we lost the chain across the front garden. The metal was needed for the war effort.) During the blitz on London the Anderson shelter became the family's bedroom; Jack had a bunk down one side, Hilda had a bunk down the other, and their son Raymond slept in a small

bunk across the shelter suspended from the other two.

Jack took on half an allotment with his neighbour, Max Dobson. The allotment was at Palewell Fields; most of his weekends and some evenings were spent there. During the war, 'Double Summertime' was introduced, this allowed people to work a couple of hours overtime a day and still have enough daylight left to do some work on their allotments. This whole allotment saga was remarkable for a man with only one leg, especially as it was a long uphill walk to get there. Never the less, he endured and provided vegetables for his family throughout the duration of the war.

Another adjustment was Jack had to loose his birds! With the shortages of wartime England he just couldn't get the food for them. He gave them to someone in Cambridgeshire, and had an overnight stop there with his family.

Daughter Irene became an "Air Raid Warden" at the beginning of the war; but soon joined the "Land Army" and was stationed near Godalming, in Surrey. Stan worked at the "Bell Punch" factory in Uxbridge, and was engaged in essential war work, so he lived at home during the war.

As the war progressed, things became scarcer, and rationing became more severe. The small amount of leisure time was spent either at the cinema or the pub. Jack tried to take his wife to the cinema twice a week, Wednesdays and Sundays. They had two films and a censored 'Pathe' news that kept them up to date with events. They went to the pub for a drink on Friday evenings, but sometimes the pub would have run out of beer! Another form of entertainment, although not recommended, was standing outside the air raid shelter and watching the fireworks display provided by the R.A.F. and Luftwaffe, aided by the ground ack-ack batteries.

These were gloomy days, with long dark nights, and constant news of disasters and sudden death. Jack's younger brother Fred and wife Flo, were both killed while in an air raid shelter at Broad Lane Trench on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> October 1940. This event, coupled with the nightly bombing, brought home to the family how vulnerable they were. They even tried to find accommodation out at Staines, away from the bombing and constant smell of burning, but everything had gone long ago, so they returned to Milton Road. Somehow Jack and his family survived the blitz. The only damage to the house being some broken windows.

Jack's daughter Irene met and married an American G.I. named James Henry Wilson, who was from New York. The wedding was on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1942, and the reception was at 75 Milton Road. Thanks to the produce from the American Service Men's' Club, "Rainbow Corner" the reception was quite a grand affair, it would have been difficult if it had all been on the family's ration books.

Once married, Irene left the Land Army and returned home. There were not enough bedrooms, so she had the front room downstairs, and the family lived in the back room. Irene had an indoor shelter (Morrison shelter) installed in her room. Irene became pregnant, and gave birth to a baby boy, James Gordon Wilson, toward the end of 1944, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith. They continued to live at 75 Milton Road, until they set off for America at the beginning of 1946. (They arrived in New York on the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1946.)



The final couple of years of the war had little impact on the West of London, with one notable exception: the V1 or Doodlebug! One flattened a whole block of houses, not far from Jacks' house. The war in Europe ended on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945, and Jack along with his wife and children had all survived. (The Second World War cost the lives of 55 million people).

In some ways the post war period was worse than wartime, everything had been used up! Power cuts were a daily event, everything was in short supply, rationing continued, while England tried to get back to normal; a task that occupied the next five years. Added to this gloom, Jacks' son Stan had been called up into the forces. Stan went into the R.E.M.E., and after completing his trade training at Ashford, Middx, was posted to Palestine. [It was the time when the post war Jews were trying to take over Palestine and turn it into their own homeland. It was the time of the Palestine Police.] Jacks' daughter was in America, so the house seemed empty. The biggest change in this post war period was that Jack and his family had an annual summer holiday, once more. The first three were at Margate on the East Coast of Kent, and the next two were at Dovercourt Bay in Essex.

Jacks' leisure activities, during this post war period, were much the same as previously. He took his wife to the cinema each Wednesday and Sunday, and had a drink at the pub on Friday and Saturday, except he now preferred the "Hare and Hounds", in favour of "The Bull". He packed up the allotment as soon, as was practicable. The indoor entertainment for the past fifteen years had been Jacks' trusty wireless set. There were two things Jack liked to listen to; the first, was radio broadcasts of boxing matches, and the second was horse racing. He liked to have a bet on the horses, and even attended race meetings a few times.

In less than a year, Irene returned from America, as things hadn't worked out with her marriage to Jimmy. She and her son shared the back bedroom, as Stan didn't need it because he was in Palestine. Irene got a job at Harrods, and Hilda looked after young Jimmy. Irene's husband followed her to England, and set about winning her back. He eventually succeeded, and the three of them returned to New York, arriving on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 1950. This left the bedroom empty for Stan's return to civi-street.

In January of 1951, Jacks' wife Hilda went down with a cold. It got steadily worse, and in the finish she just had to go to bed. The Doctor was called and his prognosis was that she was suffering from 'bronchial pneumonia', and that she should have complete bed rest. He re-visited a couple of times. On Friday evening Jack sent for the Doctor urgently. He duly arrived and went upstairs to see Hilda. When he came out again, he had to announce that she had passed away. The date was Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> January 1951. Her funeral was held about a week later, and she was buried at Mortlake Cemetery.

It was a very sad and lonely time for Jack, having to live without the company of the girl he had known and loved for most of his life. He still had his two sons living with him, the youngest was still at school, so he had to try and overcome his grief. The house had to be cleaned and the cooking had to be done; and then there were the front and back gardens! He still had to go to work five days a week, and found it difficult to fit in the shopping, so his son Raymond would go to the Co-op every Thursday morning before school and get the week's food and household items. [The Co-op number was 7438910].

Jack spent more time at the 'Hare and Hounds' and made friends with some of the regulars, this at least gave him someone to talk to. One of his friends was Bob Pike, who lived in Paynes Avenue. He also got to know another couple named Fred and Bella Gardiner; they lived in Kingsway, East Sheen. One evening Bella bought her sister to the pub, her name was Amy and she was on holiday, staying with Fred and Bella. Her home was at Haverfordwest in Pembrokeshire, Wales. Amy was also lonely, as she had been divorced from her husband for a number of years. Amy had a teenage daughter named Betty. A friendship developed between Jack and Amy, which led to their marriage in the Spring of 1954. They were married at the East Sheen Congregational Church, in Vernon Road. (Amy's full name was Amy Edith Thomas.) After their marriage they lived at Jack's house in East Sheen. Jack didn't only gain a wife; he also gained a stepdaughter. It was a bit of a tight fit, getting three single people, and one married couple into a three-bedroom house, but it seemed to work out all right. Later that year, Jack's son Raymond had to go into the army, for his two years National Service, so there was a bit more room around the place.

Stan and Betty struck up a friendship, which led to their marriage in 1955. They were also married at the East Sheen Congregational Church, and they were married in July of 1955. They stayed at 75 Milton Road to begin with, but eventually bought a house in Hall Road, Twickenham.

In 1956 Jack's son Raymond returned to the house after completing his two years National Service. By this time Jack and Amy were living in the front room downstairs, this saved Jack having to negotiate the stairs. By now the television had replaced most other forms of entertainment. Jack and Amy were able to watch all manner of things, even horse racing and boxing, in the comfort of their own living room. So visits to the pub were restricted to special occasions.



*Jack assembling poppies in his lounge*

Jack retired from full time work at the Poppy Factory in 1962, at the age of 65. He did however continue to do part time work from home to supplement his income. The truck from the Poppy Factory called at the house once a week and delivered boxes of poppy parts to be assembled, it also collected last weeks completed ones. Jack and Amy used to sit in the living room assembling poppies, while watching television. They used to get through about 4000 a week.

Jack's son Raymond, married Maureen Waters in June of 1965 at St Barnabas Church, Northolt Park, Ealing. Amy and Jack had the house to themselves, at last.

During the mid-sixties, Stan, Betty and their children moved back to East Sheen, they bought a house in Thornton Road (the next Road to Milton Road). As they were so close, Jack and Amy were quite involved with their Grandchildren. They watched them grow and flourish. Jack started keeping rabbits as pets, mainly for the benefit of his Grandchildren. He was therefore deeply affected by the loss of his Grandson John, at the age of five, to leukaemia. Jack had suffered a great deal of loss and misery during his life, but the loss of little Johnny was the hardest of all for him to bear. It left him with a sadness that he carried to the grave.

It was only a few years later, when Jack suffered a medical emergency. He was having difficulty breathing, and was taken by ambulance to Putney Hospital, where an emergency tracheotomy was performed on him in order to bypass the obstruction in his throat, and allow him to breathe. So, not only had he spent most of his life without his leg, he had now lost his voice and could only communicate by writing notes! Gradually he learned to make legible sounds again, and like the Phoenix, rose again to overcome this second disability. The obstruction in his throat turned out to be cancerous, consequently he had to undergo medical treatment. He spent some time in a hospital at Roehampton, where a nurse referred to him as "one of natures gentlemen", a fitting tribute to a man who had suffered so much and complained so little.

Jack survived some years after his tracheotomy, but finally passed away, on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1975, he was 78 years old. His funeral was held on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of October, at the Mortlake Crematorium, and his ashes were buried at Richmond Cemetery, not far from his little Grandson, Johnny.





## Highland Roots by GORDON WADDELL

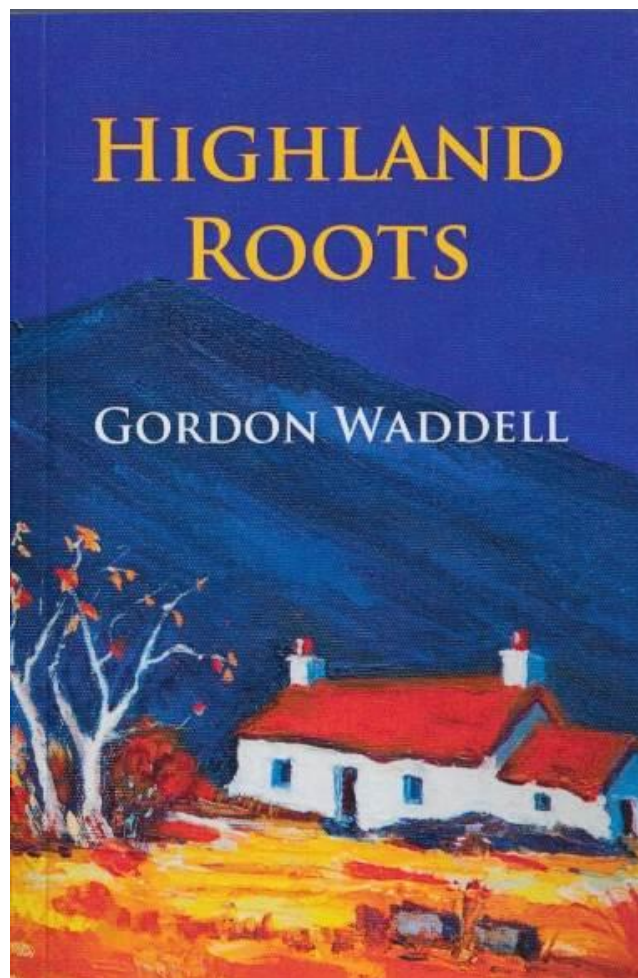
Available on Amazon & Kindle

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*"Amasses an incredible amount of information, from day-to-day domestic life to the effect of great social upheaval - - As well as providing Scots with many new insights into their own country, Highland Roots would make a welcome gift for overseas relatives who still hanker after the old country."* Glasgow Herald

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*"A delightful mixture of reminiscence, history and humour."*

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See [www.highlandroots.net](http://www.highlandroots.net) for more

## **Peachey Belt.**

South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900) Thursday 28 February 1867

From a Correspondent

Peachey Belt. February 26.

We had a day's steady rain here on Monday, February 18, giving the inhabitants a good supply of fresh water- a boon much appreciated in this district

Arrangements were made by the teachers of the Sabbath-schools in this neighbourhood to give the children under their instruction a picnic at St. Kilda Beach on the same Monday, but it was postponed. On the following day a small party proceeded thither, the Elim people preferring to wait till Wednesday, which was as beautiful a day as could be desired for the occasion. On arriving at the beach a large tent was erected, under which the children soon began to demolish the good things provided for them, and then went to work in real earnest to enjoy themselves at the different games common on such occasions. They returned home at sundown, all having enjoyed a day of pleasure.

On Sunday and Monday, February 24th and 25th, the anniversary services of Elim Bible Christian Chapel were held. Three sermons were preached by the Rev. Mr. Foster on the Sunday to good congregations, and on the following Monday a public tea was provided by the ladies, after which a public meeting was held. On account of the threatening appearance of the clouds just at that time, and there being no moon, a great many thought it prudent to retire to their home, consequently the meeting was not so largely attended as usual; still a pleasant hour or two was spent by those present, they being ably addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Foster, Ridcliff, and Woolcock. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. Foster for his services, to the ladies for their good cup of tea, &c, and to Mr. Robinson for his services at the harmonium. Singing the doxology and prayer terminated the proceedings.

## **Gawler**

South Australian Register (Adelaide, SA : 1839 - 1900) Thursday 4 July 1861

Monday, July 1.

Before His Worship the Mayor, and Dr. Lewis .J P

Stealing Hay.-John Edwards and George Edwards, father and son, were charged by Sergeant Hunt, with breaking into the stable at the Gawler Belt Inn and stealing there from four trusses of hay, value 12s, the property of Herman Grotegut. Mr. Rudall defended the prisoners. Herman Grotegut deposed that he was landlord of the Gawler Belt Inn. Yesterday morning his ostler had informed him that some hay was stolen out of his stable. He went and saw that about four trusses were missing. The prisoners, with their teams, had stopped at his house the previous night. He saw a quantity of hay lying about 130 yards from the stable, and the prisoner's bullock's eating it. He traced the hay from the stable to the bullocks. On charging the prisoners with the offence, they both denied any knowledge of it. He had sold two trusses of hay to them the previous evening, but not the same kind as he had found the bullocks eating. There were about three trusses spread before the bullocks. There were two doors to the stable - one was locked, and the other tied inside with a rope. He found the rope cut. It could be cut from outside with a long knife. Andrew Andres, ostler, corroborated his master's statement. Sergeant Hunt deposed to taking the prisoners into custody, and finding a clasp-knife on

the father. He had given them the usual caution, and they at first denied all knowledge of the hay, but after they were in the cell the father said that his son admitted taking one truss. The son then said lie had taken one truss. He (witness) had had the right boot taken off both prisoners, and found them to correspond with the footmarks between the stable and the hay. Mr. Rudall addressed the Bench for the prisoners, stating that they could have had no felonious intention of taking the hay, as they had not removed the traces of it, which were quite plain. Committed for trial at the Local Court of full Jurisdiction; bail allowed.

## It Runs in the Family: Understanding More About Your Ancestors

Ruth A. Symes, (The History Press, 2013). ISBN:9780752497020

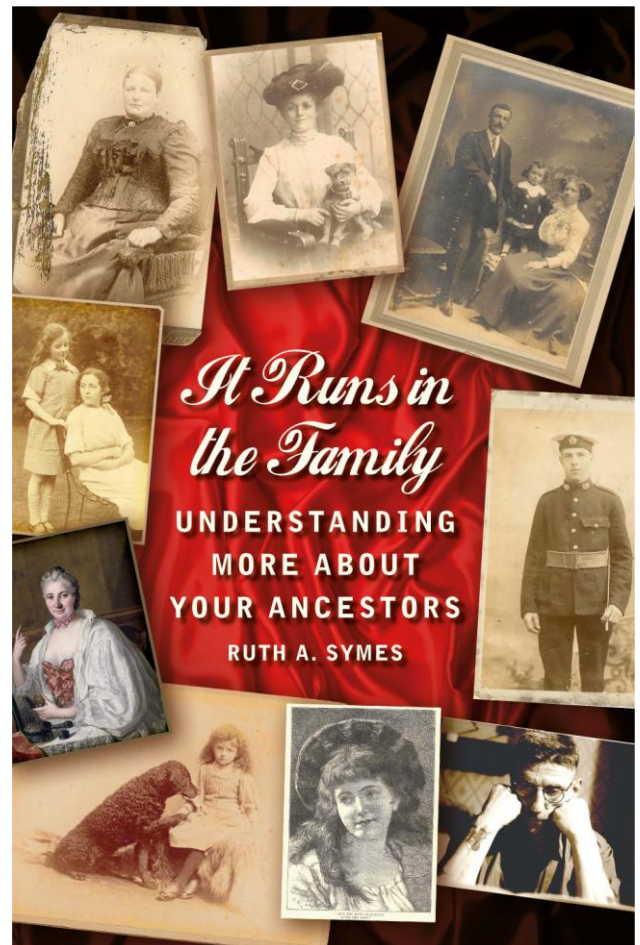
In the quest to uncover our family history, we turn to written records, the family album and even heirlooms.

However, they can often be difficult to interpret and sometimes pose more questions than they answer:

- Why didn't my ancestors smile for the camera?
- Why did great-grandfather wear a beard while his sons were clean-shaven?
- Why is my great-grandmother holding flowers in this photograph?

Drawing on evidence from social history, women's history, and the histories of photography, art and fashion, and using examples from the lowly as well as the famous, Ruth Symes explores many aspects of ordinary life in the past – from the state of the nation's teeth, to the legal and economic connotations of wearing a wedding ring and even the business of keeping a dog.

This fascinating volume aims to help family historians get to know their elusive ancestors by deciphering the wealth of personal and historical clues contained in photographs, documents and artefacts.



Another genealogical title by Ruth A. Symes is : Stories From Your Family Tree: Researching Ancestors Within Living Memory, (The History Press, 2008).

Blog: [www.searchmyancestry.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.searchmyancestry.blogspot.co.uk)

## A Sailors Prayer 1656.

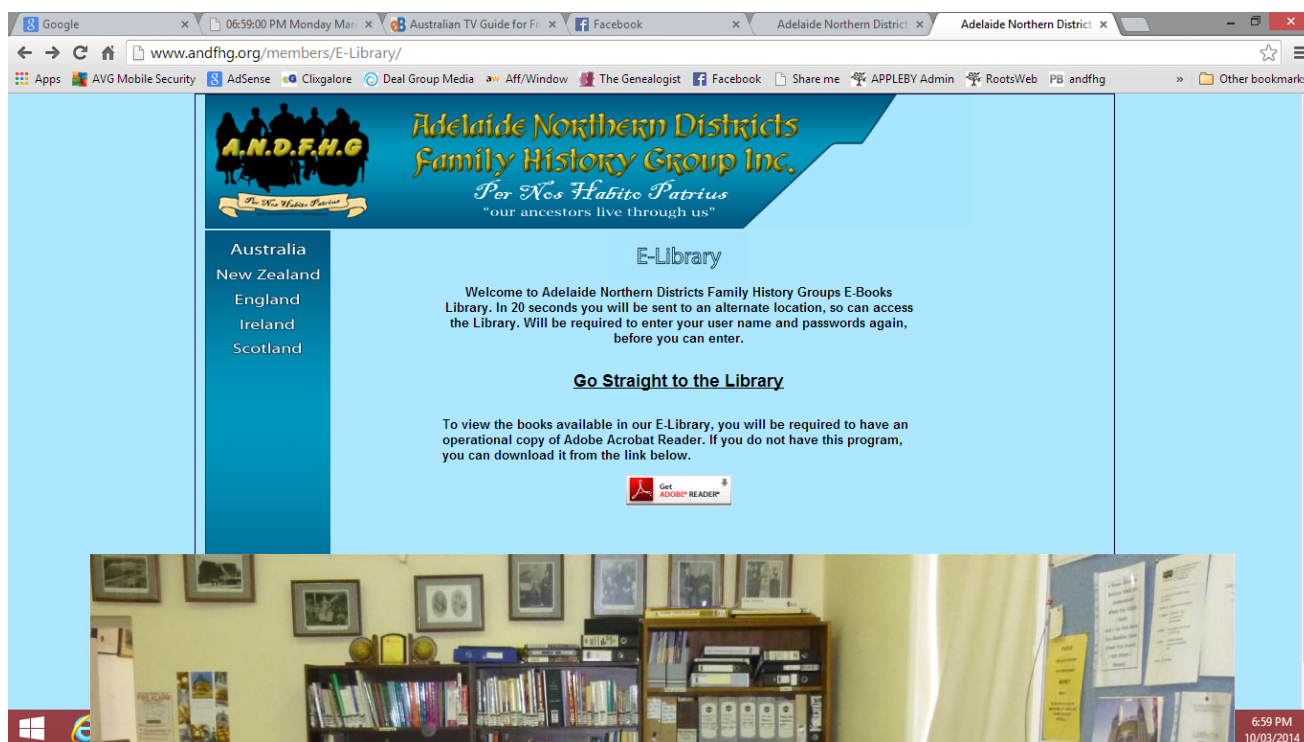
"From rocks and sands and barren lands  
Kind fortune keep me free  
And from great guns and women's tongues  
Good Lord deliver me."



# 1.30 pm Saturday 27th Sept.

# ANDFHG Resources - Online and from our Library.

## A Guided Tour of the resources that we have available to members.



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