



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

Issue 72 – Oct. 2015

ELECTED COMMITTEE 2015-2016

PRESIDENT	Peter Applebee
VICE PRESIDENT	Ivan Randall
SECRETARY	Margaret Flaiban
TREASURER	Suzanne Smith

APPOINTMENTS

LIBRARIAN	Gillian Swansson
DOCUMENT SCANNER	Sharon Norman

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MINUTE SECRETARY	Tammy Martin
	Helen Stein
	Jeff Cook
	Ian Cowley

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

From the Committee

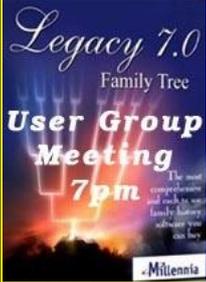
Hello Members,

We think everyone enjoyed themselves at our film afternoon showing Ita Buttrose and Graham Norton. I think we are all a little envious at how the professional genealogists get their vital information and manage to put it all together for these great television programs.

Recently, we were given some historical books donated by Andrew Peake from the Sussex Family Historian. So, if you have connections in your family history you may wish to have a browse through them. Most family history society booklets and/or newsletters have some research names in them, so don't overlook having a browse through books such as these. We also receive newsletters from other South Australian family history societies which may be helpful. Please don't overlook this vital tool needed to glean a little more information.

The October long week-end is the last holiday we have before Christmas and hopefully some warmer weather will be on its way. November seems to be the time we 'genies' make an effort to get our research into order before its put to one side during the Christmas break. The Group will be planning some kind of break-up party, so as the saying goes "*watch this space*" ! 2016 will be our 10th birthday, and the Committee have organised a couple of really good speakers for the beginning of the year. Once we have confirmation we will let you know in due course. If any member has an interesting topic to talk about, please let us know. We hope you enjoy the contents of this newsletter, which has a real Irish feel!

Happy Hunting!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<p>1st Oct. Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		
				<p>8th Oct. Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>10th Oct. Research and Networking Day 1 pm – 4 pm Committee Meeting 2 pm</p>
	<p>12th Oct.</p> 			<p>15th Oct. Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>17th Oct.</p> 
				<p>22th Oct. Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>24th Oct. Guest Speaker- John Clift - The Reid Family - Gawler's First Pioneer Family 1.30 pm</p>
				<p>29th Oct. Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		

James Sperrin (1759) by Ray Sperrin 2015.

James Sperrin was possibly born in 1759.

James Sperrin was married to Hannah Hopcroft on the 23rd October 1785. The wedding took place at St. James, Westminster.

They had three children, the first two, Francis George and Mary Ann were baptized at St. Saviour, Southwalk; on the 21st November 1790. At this time James' trade is given as Chemist and Druggist.

The third child, James Frederick was baptized at St. Saviour, Southwalk; on the 16th November 1794. At this time James' trade was given as Grocer. Both James and Hannah were at all three baptism's.

James was a witness at his daughter Mary Ann's marriage to John Crafts on the 6th January 1806, and would also have attended his son Francis George's first marriage to Louisa Garrard on the 6th May 1810.

Sadly his daughter-in-law did not live for very long and died of consumption in September of 1816.

The funeral of James is believed to have been on the 26th April 1818, at St. Matthews, Bethnal Green. The age is given as 59 (hence the birth date of 1759) his abode was Thomas Walk. [note; believe the name has been mis-spelt on the register as Sperrin has been entered as Sparrin].

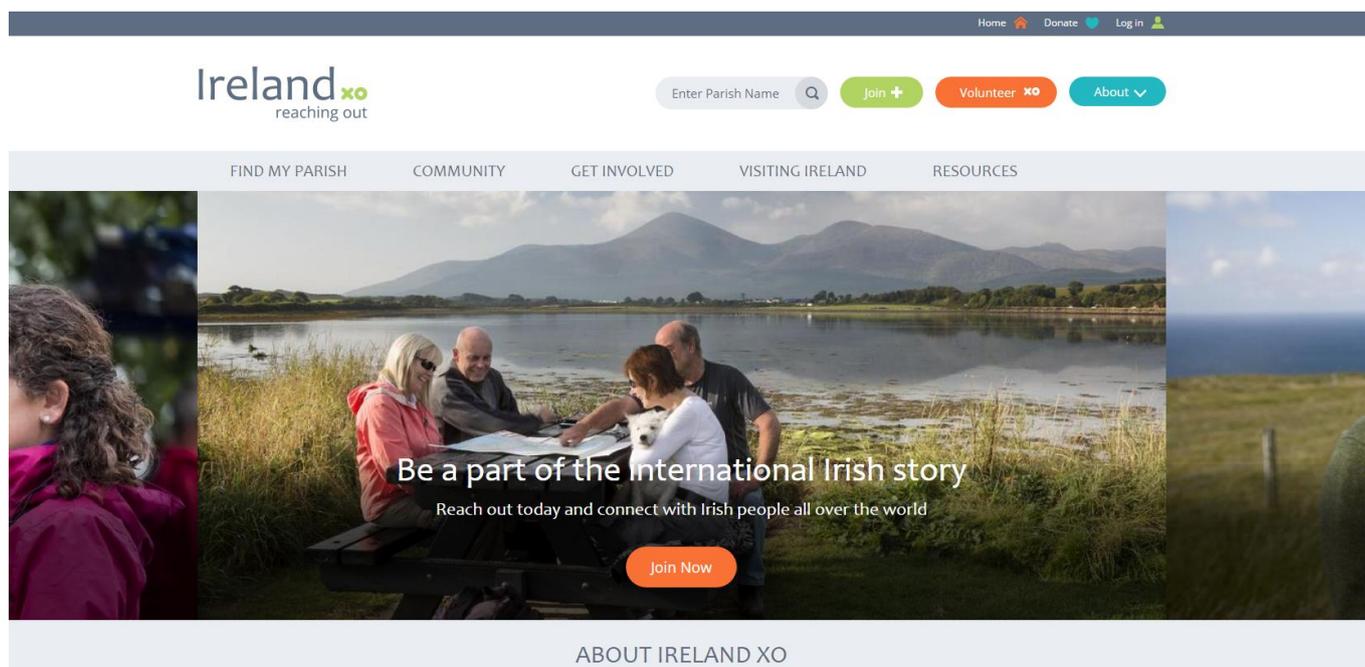
Although this seems highly speculative the dates seem to fit. His son James Frederick married in 1820 and his brother Francis George was the witness, surely this would have been the father's task if he had still been alive.

James lived in the age of the development of canals, these provided a means of transporting heavy goods from city to city, coal was one of the main goods transported. Coal was needed to power the early steam engines of the Industrial Revolution, it also was used for cooking and heating homes, in the developing Cities of this era. Prior to the canals the only transport available was horse drawn wagons hauled along rutted and muddy tracks.



Throughout most of James' life there were wars and violence. There was the American war of independence, and although Britain lost control of America, they retained Canada, then there was the French revolution with barbaric executions being carried out! Many French people sought refuge in England. This was followed by the Napoleonic era, with wars throughout Europe and the constant threat of invasion, although this diminished to some degree following the French maritime losses at the battle of Trafalgar.

The east coast of Australia, was discovered and claimed for Britain, in 1770, by Captain James Cook, who named it New South Wales. It became a penal settlement in 1788 (Botany Bay). The whole Continent was claimed by Britain in 1829.



This is a volunteer based, non profit initiative which builds vibrant, lasting links between the global Irish Diaspora and parishes of origin in Ireland.

The programme is based on a single idea; reverse genealogy. Instead of waiting for people of Irish descent to trace their roots, Ireland XO volunteers worldwide are networking with people of Irish descent in their local areas, helping to build bridges between the present and the past by connecting people with the home parishes of their ancestors.

See more at <http://www.irelandxo.com>

More from the Prosecution Project

I wrote to you last year to inform you of the launch of the website prosecutionproject.griffith.edu.au, which is the online presence of a research project that is currently digitising a large corpus of court records from across Australia in order to better understand the evolution of the criminal trial.

Details of over 45,000 trials from the 1830s through to the 1960s have now been entered into the database. This is thanks not only to our research assistants, but to volunteers from community and local history groups. However, there are still many more records to be transcribed.

The Prosecution Project recently filmed a short video about one of the cases uncovered from the trial records that we are examining. The film clip explores a homicide that occurred in the back streets of Brisbane in 1887, and can be viewed via the Prosecution Project website mentioned above. It is also available on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).

Our hope is that people who watch the video will be inspired to volunteer to help with the transcription of records, which is fairly easy work that can be done from a home computer. You could assist us in recruiting volunteers by publicising the [video](#) through your organisation's newsletter or network of contacts.

Your support would be much appreciated.

Professor Mark Finnane

4,000 women from workhouses in Ireland became Australian pioneers

Kayla Hertz @irishcentral September 01, 2015



The “Earl Grey Scheme” saw 4,000 women out of overcrowded workhouses to build colonies in Australia. Photo by: Wikimedia Commons

After the Great Hunger, 4,000 young, destitute Irish women were sent from overcrowded workhouses in Ireland to [Australia](#), where they became pioneers of a new colony.

This maneuver, which lasted two years (1848-1850), was called the Earl Grey Scheme after the son of the famous tea merchant who had been secretary of state for the new British colonies.

Irish author Kay Moloney Caball grew up near a workhouse in Listowell, [Co. Kerry](#), and was completing coursework in history of family and genealogical methods at the University of Limerick when she happened upon the Earl Grey Scheme.

“I was always interested in how my own family got on during the famine. I started researching that, and came across a book by Michael Guerin, “Listowel Workhouse Union,” in which he mentioned the scheme,” she told Rosita Boland of the [Irish Times](#).

Caball focused primarily on Kerry for her book, “The Kerry Girls: Emigration and the Earl Grey Scheme.” One hundred and seventeen Kerry women across four workhouses were supplied with clothing and food to travel to [Australia](#) and helped to build the colonies at Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

“Carefully piled up on chairs around us in the library are archive boxes, each of which contain thick, leather-bound books containing minutes of the board of guardians from various workhouses in Kerry in the 1840s,” Boland said of their interview.

“Each book of minutes is the size of a tabloid newspaper and two inches thick, and contains so much information that the first one I pick up covers only three months in the life of one workhouse.”

In her studies, Caball found that the women, who were mostly between ages 14 and 20, were not forced to emigrate. In fact they had to apply, and be chosen – they had to seek character references and undergo medical examinations.

“I asked myself at the beginning: was it a tragedy or an opportunity that 4,000 girls went to **Australia** from Ireland? They would almost certainly have had no concept of how far away it was.

“But I would have to say it was a fantastic opportunity. If they had stayed in Ireland, they would either have died in the workhouse, or had a very low standard of living, because things didn’t improve economically for decades.”

The new colonies of Australia benefitted greatly from the women; transportation of convicts to Australia had just ended the year before, and they were in dire need of more settlers. Also, in the eyes of Imperial social engineers, the (unmarried) women would bring a stabilizing influence to the rough, masculine colonial societies.

The workhouses provided them with boxes of clothing, and the trip itself was paid for by colonial funds from the Australian people.

In the records Caball found that there were about 150 applications from each of the four participating Kerry workhouses: 37 went from Listowel, 35 from Killarney, 25 from Kenmare and 20 from **Dingle**.

The journey to Australia took four months; one person died on the journey overall.

Because the women were uneducated and inexperienced, “[m]ost of them went into service or got married soon after arriving. They lived in the bush or went to the goldmines,” Caball said. “They became pioneering women.”

Australia recognizes the 4,000 women of the Earl Grey Scheme as key contributors to Australian society. They left a lasting legacy, and are seen as symbols of refugees from the Great Hunger.

The names of all 4,000 women are recorded in the Irish famine memorial in Sydney. Various databases in Australia carry detailed information about them, and Australian historians have been able to reconstruct the stories of many of their lives.

Source: <http://www.irishcentral.com/>

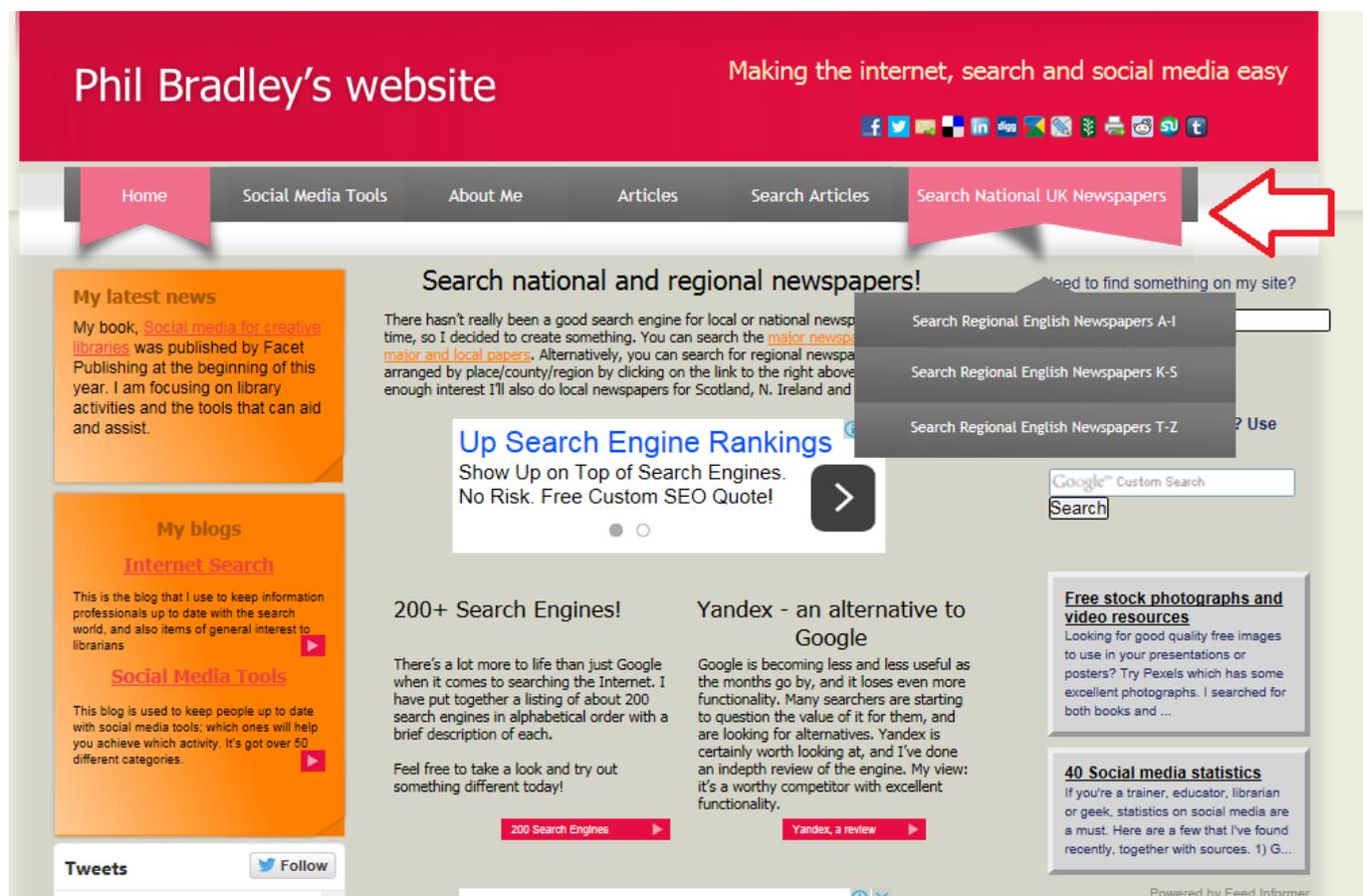
South Australian Weekly Chronicle (Saturday 26 December 1885)

VIRGINIA December 22.

Mr. F.J Saint, of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, a very old and respected resident, died last night. Thirty years ago Mr. Saint kept the Plough and Harrow Hotel, Penfield, and subsequently: he purchased the Wheatsheaf Hotel. His death was not unexpected. Mr. Saint's remains were interred in the Kirklew Cemetery, Gawler River, and the hearse was followed by over sixty vehicles. The Odd fellows, of whom the deceased 'was a prominent member, were represented.

Mr. Saint- was treasurer for the Virginia Agricultural Society for many years, and on his leaving Virginia for Crystal Brook a hunting watch was presented to him.

Google Custom Search for English Newspapers



Phil Bradley has created a customized Google search engine that will search the major newspapers in England as well as 384 major and local papers. Alternatively, you can search for regional newspapers as arranged by place/county/region.

The searches are divided into national and regional newspapers. You can search all of the major newspapers in England in one simple search engine. These include The Times, Guardian, Daily Express, Mail, Independent, Observer, Sun, Morning Star, Financial Times, and more.

Separate search pages allow for searching 384 local, city and regional newspapers. However, the regional searches still are grouped by newspaper name, with one page for newspapers A through I, another for newspapers K through S, and a third search page for newspapers T through Z.

The web site says it can search for UK newspapers but all the ones I saw were in England or the Channel Islands. I didn't see any for Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland. It is possible I missed a couple but, even so, the newspapers are overwhelmingly English.

I had problems using the site with the Chrome web browser. However, it worked perfectly in Safari.

You can learn more and access the search engines at <http://www.philb.com/index.html>.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter.

1.30 pm Saturday 24th October.

John Clift.

In May, John had a Health issue and was a Last minute withdrawal. So we are having a second effort to see his presentation.

“The Reid Family - Gawler's First Pioneer Family.”



The first European Family to establish a home in the Gawler Area, were the Reid Family.
John Clift will tell us their story.



Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc.
Committed in Promoting Family History Research.