CLARE REGIONAL HISTORY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018



Your Genealogy Research at the Clare Regional History Group Rooms

CRHG members will no doubt be aware that you can conduct your local family research at the CRHG Rooms. This means that you can search the Diggers Database (used by the Genealogy SA for OnLine Database searches (see

https://www.genealogysa.org.au/resources/online-

databases.html)). If you believe that an historical record is not available in the database, and relates to the Clare Region, you may wish to search written records, for example, those early records kept by the local Catholic Church, that may not have been reported to South Australian officials. Many of these records have been digitised by the CRHG.

Members will be interested to know that the Diggers Database and the Genealogy SA OnLine Database enables you to search the whole of South Australia's records

In addition, members may wish to visit CRHG Rooms to use the Ancestry database. This will enable you, for example, to also search South Australia's Electoral Roles, helpful for identifying the historical addresses of family members. By using the Ancestry database you will also be able to search for family historical records located in other states or overseas.

Expanding our opening hours

The Clare Town Hall Show Market is usually held monthly on the 2nd Saturday morning. Stall holders and visitors are increasing, with stalls located within the Town Hall and outside in Ennis Park.

Helen Perry is proposing to open the History Collection on these mornings on a trial basis. She is seeking one volunteer each month to assist. The opening hours will be 9 am to 1 pm. Please contact Helen directly (hrenry@bigpond.net.au) or through the History Group if you can help on any of the following Saturdays:

- 6 October 2018 (held a week earlier than usual due to the Clare Show on 13 October)
- 10 November 2018
- 8 December 2018
- 12 January 2019.

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Contributions to our newsletter are welcome. The next closing date is 30 November 2018

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT BENTLEY'S HOTEL, 16 AUGUST 2018

I have pleasure in presenting to you just some of the Clare Regional History Group's activities over the past year.

After having the three WW1 soldier photo boards professionally restored in Adelaide twelve months ago, they are now framed and hung temporarily in our Collection, waiting to be housed in the RSL building in the foreseeable future. This was such a worthy project for the Group to involved with, in association with the local RSL group.

Late last year saw the conclusion of the Clare Cemetery signage. The shelter shed was enclosed with allocated funds from Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council and the names, dates and locations of those buried in the cemetery are now there for the public to use. This was a fantastic project for our Group, one which will benefit both local and visitors to the town.

The two-yearly Northern Argus newspaper binding project continued this year, with the 2015/16 volumes getting bound in Adelaide. These volumes are another great resource we have on offer.

In October 2017, the Gum Creek School held their reunion and member Carol Semple, along with several other History Group members assisted Carol format a small booklet together for the reunion. My thanks to all those who assisted Carol.

Early this year we met with the new CEO of Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council, Dr Helen MacDonald and discussed the history and various aspects of our Group going forward and a high priority for a lift to be installed, if we are to continue housing our Collection in the Town Hall. In the very near future the Group hopes to view the Courthouse next to the Library to the prospect of perhaps using that building, if it ever became available.

This year in May we decided not to be involved with History Month, however from time to time throughout the year, we organised small displays in either the Town Hall foyer or in the adjacent room, promoting different aspects of Clare's wonderful history.

Several of our members were on the Clare Railway Centenary Committee who met regularly over the past two years, in conjunction with members of the Riesling Trail Committee, to assist with organising the Railway Centenary events for the July weekend. This successful event was well supported by the community in recognising the importance the railway had on Clare and district. Dr John Wilson did a meticulous job in capturing the history of the rail line from Riverton to Spalding in his publication.

In July the Clare branch of the National Trust had a display in the Pop-up Gallery Room of Dr John Bain and we were able to supply them with the Bain chair. Working with groups such as these benefit us all in promoting the history of the area.

The reprint, along with several new added chapters of Bob Noye's book, Clare A District History, is still being worked on by Sue Wurst. The text is virtually completed with the appropriate photos and formatting to be finalised.

Scanning and digitising both our records and those we borrow from churches and those of various Councils is an ongoing resource project carried out diligently by Jill, with Helen saving them to appropriate files. We receive funding from various Councils for undertaking this task on their behalf.

We welcomed Dr Margaret Cameron, a new arrival to Clare earlier this year and Margaret has taken on the task of newsletter editor. Thank you Margaret and I'm sure she would welcome any bits and pieces for future newsletters from everyone.

This year we have taken over the Clare Historic Walk brochure from the Lions Club. We are presently working on updating the information and map and hope to have it finalised and available in the future.

It is always good to see what the statistics show with regards to the use of our Collection. Over the past twelve months our members have contributed 1539 volunteer hours with 251 visitors signing our visitor book.

A big THANK YOU goes to all our regular members who commit their time and energy to the Group, especially those of you who assist on both Thursday and Friday afternoons, you are our backbone, without your assistance we would not exist. To our Corporate members, thank you for your sponsorship which goes a long way to support our continuing projects. To all members and friends, thank you for your ongoing contributions over the past twelve months.

Gerald Lally

THE STING IN REID'S RAID by Wayne Barrie

By Sue Wurst

Mr Barrie addressed those attending Clare Regional History Group's annual general meeting and his enthusiasm for the subject was very evident during his presentation.

Fortunately, his fascination for the topic has also be captured in his book. The book is set during the Boer War and focusses on an 'Australian true story with unbelievable coincidences.'

It explains how a small patrol of mainly Australian soldiers managed to trick a much larger group of Boer commandos into believing they were surrounded by a much larger force.

The book goes into great detail about the setting of the raid, who and what was captured and the fate of the victorious soldiers in later years. It features maps, supporting evidence, medals and many photographs, not only of the soldiers involved in capturing the Boers but those collected during research for the book. The detective work needed to decipher letters and to identify unknown soldiers in a photograph featuring more than two hundred similarly dressed soldiers was truly amazing and gives great encouragement to those researching family histories or trying to identify individuals from small, faded, historic photographs.

The book is written in a very approachable style as the author takes his reader on his journey and presents a human face to those Australian and New Zealand soldiers serving in the Boer War. It is available in the History Rooms for your perusal.

Celebrating Clare Town Hall

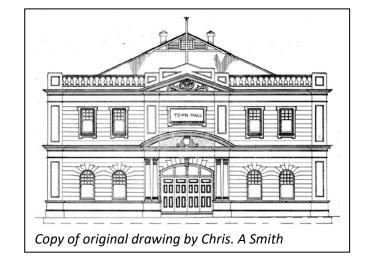
Architect: Chris A. Smith

Address: 229 Main North Road, Clare

Date of Opening: 21 April 1926

Capacity: 714 seats

Cost: £9000



A new booklet by Alison McDougal (2018), entitled *Chris. A. Smith Moving with the Times* (published by the Architecture Museum, School of Art, Architecture and Design, University of South Australia), celebrates the architect of Clare Town Hall, Christopher (Chris) Arthur Smith (1892-1952).

During the 1920s and 1930s, Chris A. Smith created an extensive number of works across a range of building types, most notably picture theatres and civic buildings. He is now recognised as one of the foremost exponents of the Art Deco style in South Australia.

Features of the Town Hall include its Corinthian design and imposing entrance of an arch supported by double pillars led residents to proudly claim that it was 'as good as any country town hall in the Commonwealth.' When the Town Hall was constructed, the auditorium had a 'rare form of beautiful Venetian lattice work in the ceiling' along with powerful electric lights 'delicately hidden in the domes, a stage, a dance floor, and a fireproof room for screening films'.

You have an opportunity to appreciate the Clare Town Hall at a Sunday afternoon Soirée organised by the Clare Town Hall Committee. See Upcoming Events on p. 8 for details.



Reporting on the Centenary of the Clare Railway

The 4 July 2018 celebration was a huge success, with perfect weather and a great number of people present from near and far. The Clare High School and Clare Concert Band played at the proceedings to the gathering crowd with 1918 themed music, and the Clare High School choir sang along. James Duggin gave a speech to the 200 or so people who gathered to witness the unveiling of the plaque. One of the high lights was the arrival of the 'official' train carried in by the students of the Vineyard Lutheran School, while the Clare Primary School students waved flags

and cheered on the train's arrival to the sounds of a real steam train.

Mary McInerney, Ivan Victor, Glenn Lewcock and Ryan Lewcock unveiled the plaque to celebrate the official arrival of the first train to Clare on 4 July 1918. A big part of the celebrations was the Lewcock family's official ribbon that was cut on the 4th July 1918. The ¾ size silhouette of the S Class locomotive on the Riesling Trail has already become a tourist attraction and talking point. Malcom Hopkins was invited to be one of the unveiling team, but illness prevented him attending.

The success of the celebrations is due to the financial support of the Riesling Trail Group and to the business and service groups who helped financially and in kind help. David Bond supplied the PA for the event and SA Water allowed the use of their power.

Scrapbooks



The Clare Regional History Group has plenty of material demonstrating the value of scrapbooks. Some examples include the 'Clare Hunt Club', the 'Mayfield Scrapbook', the 'Clare Scrap Book 1971', and the 'Bray Scrapbook'. The example is an extract of the Bray Scrapbook.



HISTORICAL CRIME SURVEY: PUBLIC INTEREST AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS CRIME HISTORY



Dr Alana Piper of the University of Technology Sydney, researches criminal justice history and is conducting a <u>survey</u> on the public's engagement with crime history. The purpose of this online survey is to find out about public interest in and understandings of criminal justice history.

To find out more visit https://criminalcharacters.com/survey/

Help us Repatriate

AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE

The largest cultural asset of Australia is currently located in the U.S. Help us send it home.

In 2013 Fairfax Media sent the two million photograph archive of the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper to a company in Little Rock, Arkansas to be digitized. In addition to news photos, hundreds of fine art photographs from well-known Australian artist-photographers (Max Dupain, Wolfgang Sievers, David Moore, Olive Cotton, Jeff Carter and others) were buried deep in the archive for over 40 years.

The scanning company was disbanded prior to completing the scanning, and the work was eventually managed by a court receiver. Part of the deal Fairfax made was to trade the vintage prints for the scanning services.

From the turmoil in the scanning company, the archive eventually became owned by a regional Arkansas bank with no interest in holding these photographs. After much discussion and negotiation, Duncan Miller Gallery in Santa Monica, CA bought the entire collection of vintage photos, with the goal and purpose of repatriating many of these historical documents back to Australia.

We are actively seeking Australian museums, libraries, public galleries, institutions and associations that want their historical documents. To find out more visit https://hometoaustralia.org/

Seeking information: John Hope (1805 – 1880)

One of the calamities of the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfires at Clare was the loss of historical material, both structural and written. As an example, 'Wolta Wolta', the Hope family home dating from the early 1850s, was severely damaged and many of the old family documents were destroyed, although most of the diaries and letters belonging to John Hope were saved.

John Hope's productive life had a large influence not only of the Clare community, but also on the pastoral industry in the early days of the colony. Having survived a shipwreck on the coast of South America, during which he lost all his belongings, Hope arrived in South Australia from Ireland in 1839. Initially, he acted as tutor for the children of an old Irish acquaintance, John Reid, one of the very early settlers in what was to become Gawler Town. He then embarked on an ambitious, but financially disastrous, project – shipping sheep from South Australia to the Swan River colony. In 1841, John Hope formed a partnership with the Adelaide Postmaster General, John Watts. The nature of Watts' employment made it impossible for him to spend much time away from Adelaide. The arrangement was that Hope would select and squat on pastoral land north of Clare, and at the same time lay claim to land for Watts. Hope was to manage both runs, and build up stock numbers.

This strategy provides remarkably successful and by the early 1850s when the partnership with Watts had ended, Hope had considerably increased his sheep numbers and consolidated his 80 square mile 'Koolunga' run, on which he placed a manager. It was the financial security stemming from 'Koolunga' wool clip that enabled John Hope to return to Ireland in 1859, marry a young woman, Isabella Kenney, from Dublin, return to Clare and raise five children. Meanwhile, he had purchased freehold land in the Clare area, built a house thereon, and named his property 'Wolta Wolta'. John Hope went on to become a successful pastoralist in the Clare Valley. He was a member of the Clare Council, a Justice of the Peace, and a generous supporter of worthy causes in and around the town.

John Hope's diaries commence on Thursday 12 May 1853, the day he took over the management of 'Bungaree', the run established by his friend George Hawker, while Hawker and his family were on a two-year overseas trip. The diaries finish when Hope dies in 1880. Gaps in the diaries can be partially 'filled-in' from Hope's correspondence, and the diaries of other early settlers.

In his diaries, John Hope refers to over 500 different people. These include individuals employed on his properties or with whom he did business, as well as those he and his wife interacted with socially. Many of the well-known Clare identities of the period are referred to, including members of the following families: Beare, Bagot, Butler, Bowman, Daley, Filgate, Fisher, Formby, Gleeson, Hawker, Horrocks, Hughes, McDonald, Moorhouse, Patterson, Robinson, Walsh, Webb, and Young.

Over the past two years, Dr Rory Hope and Dr Stephanie James have been transcribing John Hope's diaries and letters with a view to publication. If you have information that could cast light on John Hope's early days in Clare the researchers would be interested to hear from you. **Contact: Dr Rory Hope and Dr Stephanie James, 16 Glen Avenue, UNLEY PARK SA 5061**

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

New Books

Batten, Stephen J. (2016), A South Australian Family History, Stephen Batten, Bute SA. A documented history of the Batten Family beginning with the Nourse and Bickford families.

Calvert, Albert F (1893), The Discovery of Australia, George Philip & Sons, London, England. History of discovery of Australia, with old maps and drawings.

Clare High School, 2017, School Magazine 2017, Academy School Photography & Production. End of year magazine.

Gillen family scrapbook (2018). Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings of family and local interest.

Griffin, Tony (2018), Manoora Football Club 1880-1968, Tony Griffin, Manoora SA. A book about Manoora Football Club up until it merged with Mintaro Football Club, of photos, newspaper articles and statistics, including information of players who played for the SANFL.

Idress, Ion L (2017), Horrie the Wog-Dog: Horrie's story of his time with the A.I.F. in Egypt, Greece, Crete and Palestine, ETT Imprint, Royal Exchange NSW

Idriess, Ion L. (1959), The Tin Scratchers: the story of tin mining in the far north, Angus & Robertson, Sydney NSW. A story of gold and other mining in the Cape York area of Queensland, with maps and photos.

Lefevre, Carol (2016), Quiet City: Walking in West Terrace Cemetery, Wakefield Press, Mile End SA. Informative insight into West Terrace Cemetery.

Munchenberg, Reginald S. (1979), The Descendants of Gottfried Rothe in Australia 1850-1979, R. S. Muchenberg, Truro SA. A family history consisting of maps, charts and photos.

Munchenberg, Reginald S. (1988), Eleonore's Decision – Our Heritage 1939-1989, The Secretary, Munchenberg Reunion Committee, PO Box 17, Truro SA. A family history with photos, maps and charts.

Paschke, Cheryl (2007), History of Ernst August Fiebiger and Descendants in Australia, 1847-2007, Cheryl Paschke, Waikerie SA. A family history with maps, charts and photos.

Quick, Patricia (2010), Mintaro-Manoora Football and Netball History 1900-2008, P. Quick, Manoora SA. Includes photos.

Sanders Family (2018), H. R. Sanders – 1931 to 2018, Sanders Family, Albumworks. A pictorial history of the Sanders business and family in Clare.

Smith, Russell (1998), Curiosities of South Australia, Smithbooks, Athelstone SA. Miscellaneous curiosities and wonders about South Australia.

South Australian Builders and Contractors Association (1941), The Builders Diary 1940-1941, South Australian Builders and Contractors Association. An informative diary with Adelaide business names.

Tanner, Shirley and Judy Richardson (1996), Fels Family Silesia to South Australia: Family History, S. Tanner & J Richardson, 315 Flaggy Creek Rd, Bairnsdale VIC. Published with stories, original document, photos and maps.

Whitham, Janet (2005), Before their time: A history of the YWCA 1880-2005, publication details. Stories and photos.

Wilson, John (2018), The Riesling Railway: the railway branchline from Riverton to Clare and Spalding in the mid North of SA, John Wilson, Banksia Park SA. Clare valley railway history with maps, photos and diagrams.

Wurfel, Max (1982), Friedrich Wurfel Family History 1880-1982, Wurfel Family History Committee, Port Pirie SA. A family history with maps, photos and charts.

Digitised Records

Bray family newspaper scrapbook c1961-c1999 (pdf is saved at Copy Camera/Family Records) {see example on page 4}

Clare Victoria Relief Society – minute books, cash book c1887-1942 (pdfs are saved under Copy Camera/Community Group Records)

Gum Creek School Committee minute book 1952-1968 (pdf is saved at Copy Camera/School records)

Mayfield Family Newspaper Scrapbook 1979-1997 (pdf is saved at Copy Camera/Family Records)

Ryan, 'Pete' (c. 1927), Wattle and red roses 1917-1927 (poetry book) (pdf is saved at Copy Camera/Family Records) The original will be kept in our Box files.

Watervale Primary School – a brief history (1986) – contains transcription of admission registers (pdf is saved at Copy Camera/School records). The original will be kept in our Box files.

BOOKS & CDs FOR SALE

NEW

Wilson, John (2018) **The Riesling Railway**,self-published, printed by Openbook Howden, St Marys SA 5042, photographs, illustrations, maps, drawings **\$110**

Ashby, Marj (1989) **CARINYA** 1956 - 1989 A Peaceful and happy home, South Australian Country Women's Association, Clare Branch, Clare, S. Aust. \$5

Bond, David (2014) **CLARE SHOW "A fine all round display" for 150 years.** Written to celebrate 150 years of shows in Clare. **\$33**

Brinkworth Centenary Book Committee (1992), MAGPIE CREEK JUNCTION a history of Brinkworth and district 1892 – 1992, Brinkworth, S. Aust Recently reprinted. \$50

Dickeson, Helen (1993), CLARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - a history 1856-1988 120pp. Includes baptisms, marriages, burials, and extensive index. \$14

Bellman, Elinor A. (1995), **SADDLEWORTH - Hub of the Wheel**, Saddleworth, S. Aust **\$35**

Cross, Jack (2016), **Two Crosses: Ephraim and Jack - a proletarian history**: including life in the unusual village of Armagh 1840 to 1910; as well as on Bungaree Station after 1860, Printak Pty Ltd, Adelaide, SA. 145 pages, illustrations, maps, portraits, facsimiles **\$30**

Ellis, Julie-Ann (1995), HARD-YACKA - The story of a Mid-North town in South Australia, Yacka Historical Group \$40

Hawker, Frankie and Rob Linn (1992), **BUNGAREE – Land, Stock & People:** History of Hawker family and Bungaree Station, Turnbull Fox Phillips, Adelaide230pp **\$45**

Haynes J. &E.J. Schmaal (1980), **CLARE – A BACKWARD GLANCE \$8**

HEAD OF THE RIVERS – Black Springs, Manoora, Waterloo (1992) \$25

Johnson, Win N.

- (1988), COTTAGES AND CAMEOS OF CLARE by 100pp, illus. \$25
- (1986), CLARE CAMEOS Includes oral histories of our older Clare residents as interviewed by Win in the State's Sesquicentennial year.2nd ed. \$15
- (1991), **BLYTH a silo of stories 1860 1990** A comprehensive history of the town and district of Blyth, including family stories, farming, community and sporting activities. Excellent photographs, many in colour. **\$45**
- (1994), **THE METHODISTS OF CLARE 1851 1977** 124pp. Indexed. **\$12**
- (2010), **FROM WHERE I SIT**, A Collection of articles on chosen themes written over past times **\$16**
- (2011), A History of Ngadjuri Lodge Trust \$10
- (2001), **JUST AS IT WAS** Tells the story of Win's life with humour and affection. 96pp including photos. **\$20**

Jones, Coralie (2014), **CLARE VALLEY, SA** A pictorial souvenir. **\$20**

Lally, Gerald A.

- (2004), HILL RIVER A Valley of History \$30
- (2006), A LANDMARK OF FAITH Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mintaro and its parishioners 1856–2006 \$35
- (2012) TIMES PAST a pictorial history of Farrell Flat 194pp. \$30

Lally, Gerald, et al (2010), SOUTH CLARE SPORTS CLUB – Celebrating 50 years of success 1960 – 2010 \$20

Linn, Rob (2011), The story of Bungaree Station (Illus) \$17

MARRABEL & DISTRICT REVISITED – additional material of the 'early days' at Marrabel \$25

Neill (nee Mickel), Laurel (2012), "A WALK WITH LAUREL" a walking tour of the buildings and families of Farrell Flat from the memories of the period 1929 – 1939 \$5

Noye R. (Bob) J.

- (1998), CLARE A DISTRICT HISTORY a definitive history of the town and district, including photographs, sketches & maps. Essential starting point in Clare research. 231pp. 4th edition, with new index. \$20 (\$15 for members)
- (2003), **TALKING HISTORY Tales of Clare S.A.** 50 articles published weekly in *The Northern Argus* **\$15**

Pattullo, William

- (1991), **THE LAND HISTORY OF POLISH HILL RIVER 1842 – 1990**. Details the ownership history of 120 sections of land in Polish Hill River, to the edge of Mintaro township. **\$25** - (1986), **THE OWNERS OF STANLEY FLAT 1836 – 1986** reprinted 2015 **\$30**

Schmaal, Jean

- (c. 1986), **THE INCHIQUIN STORY**, Clare & District Branch, National Trust, [1986?] Clare S.Aus **\$5**
- (1987), A QUAINT COURTHOUSEClare & District Branch, National Trust, Clare S.Aus \$5

Simons, J.J. 'Boss' (1944), **THE CLARE I REMEMBER**13 articles published in *The Northern Argus* in 1944, describing the Clare of Simons' boyhood in the 1880's and 1890's. Fully indexed. **\$15**

Tilbrook, EHH 'Clarion" and M Tilbrook (1939), THE PATHS OF GLORY LEAD BUT TO THE GRAVE a history of Clare Cemeteries (originally published in *The Northern Argus* in 1939) Re-released with updated index \$20

Warrior, Fred et al (2005), **Ngadjuri – Aboriginal people of the Mid North region of South Australia**, Meadows SA, SASOSE Council Inc **\$40**

CD-ROMS

HEADSTONE PHOTOS FROM LOCAL CEMETERIES (CD Rom) (2005) \$10



THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF ROTARY CLUB OF CLARE 1964 – 2011 (DVD) \$20 Limited release

FEDERATION CD ROM - history of the Clare & Gilbert Valley District for all computer buffs and their friends - a great gift idea! (2002) **\$10**



The Great War at Home

Clare Town Hall



This pictorial display shines a light on the experiences of South Australians during the First World War with a special focus on the home front activities.

Open till Wednesday 17 October 2018





SHARE • THINK • WORK • CREATE

1pm Friday 2 November -4pm Sunday 4 November 2018

Join the History Trust in Adelaide for an exciting two and a half days of participatory workshops and activities, when we will dive deep into museums, history and audiences. Our theme for the event will be South Australia's history, and together we will explore innovative ways to share and interpret these stories.

To find out more visit

https://history.sa.gov.au/events/making-history-2018-reimagining-the-past/





Family Reunion

Descendants of

John Smith and Isabella Waddell

who married at St Marks Anglican Church, Penwortham in 1868

intend to commemorate the 150th anniversary of their marriage.

Plans are being made for a service at St Marks, and a visit to their graves at the Clare Cemetery

For more information contact

John Luckhurst Smith: 0428 332 826 or (08) 8733 3755

CLARE REGIONAL HISTORY GROUP

CONTACT INFORMATION

Postal Address – PO Box 6 Clare SA 5453

Location - Clare Town Hall (upstairs)

Phone (08) 8842 4100 in opening hours

Web: www. users.on.net/~clarehistory

Email: clarehistory@internode.on.net

OPENING HOURS Thu & Fri 1 - 4pm

(If travelling some distance it is wise to ring and check.)

Out of Hours Opening Fee - \$20.00

CRHG Committee

Chairman: Gerald Lally

Secretary: Sue Wurst, Val Tilbrook

Curator & Treasurer: Helen Perry

Committee members: David Bond, Alison Butler, Margaret Cameron, David Spackman,

Lyn Woods.

Newsletter Editor: Dr Margaret Cameron

The committee meets bi-monthly, and the AGM is held in August.

Volunteers Welcome

The CRHG welcomes volunteers who have an interest in the past. Let us know if you are interested and, in particular, if you have any of the following skills:

- research capacity and enjoyment of working with the public
- good writing skills and/or competent computer skills
- brochure and exhibition design abilities
- website and facebook design and management, and digitisation of records and displays
- administrative skills.

We will help you learn about what the CRHG offers, and you are welcome to engage on a regular or project basis. All ages welcome. Contact us via email:

clarehistory@internode.on.net