

# CLARE REGIONAL HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2022



## **BOOK LAUNCH – 5<sup>th</sup> edition – Clare – a district history by RJ Noye**

This new and expanded edition was launched at the Clare Town Hall on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The launch occurred at the Clare Show December Market and volunteers held a book stall selling current titles as well as the new book.

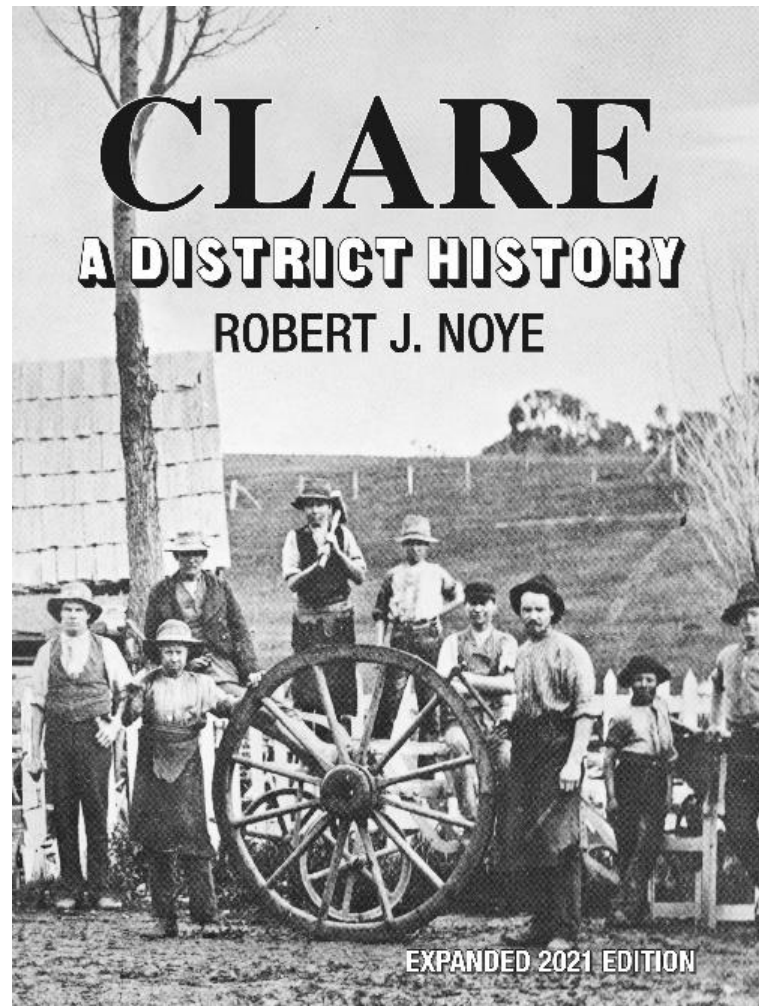
First published in 1975 and launched at Bungaree, this book has long been recognised as a leader in the crowded field of local histories. Bob Noye had gathered a vast photographic collection and used these to enhance his publication. In a book review published in the Sunday Mail in June 1975, the book was described as “ ... a winner with just the touch of class the subject deserves.”

With the permission of the Noye family, this new edition contains an additional seven chapters covering the period from 1975 to 2010. Topics covered include floods, fires, the development of Gourmet Weekend, the shift of Carinya from Old North to Victoria Road, the filming of *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, the development of The Valleys Lifestyle Centre, Gleeson Wetlands and upgraded waste management and the Council amalgamation of 1997. These are just a few of many subjects included, enhanced by over one hundred, mostly colour, photographs. The new chapters were written by Sue Wurst and edited by Helen Perry and Gerald Lally.

This book is available from the History Group, Clare Library and the Clare Valley Wine Food and Tourism Centre. It costs \$50, with postage being an additional \$10. About 60 copies have been sold so far.

Also at the book launch a presentation was made to Val Tilbrook in recognition of her many years of volunteering at the History Collection.

The cover of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition



A view of our book stall in the Barbara J Long Function Room. Sal Hawker is launching the book.







Peter Noye and Val Tilbrook



After the launch – Helen Perry (CRHG Chairman), Peter Noye, son of RJ 'Bob' Noye, Val Tilbrook, and Gerald Lally (CRHG Committee member)

### Other recent events

Visit to White Hut cemeteries on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Oct

About 20 people met at the White Hut Methodist Cemetery, Koorama Road, to inspect the grave and transcribe new memorials. The group then drove on to White Hut Gaelic Cemetery where a talk on the history of the site and its pioneers was given by cemetery committee members Graham and James Young. Everyone brought a chair and their own afternoon tea and a very convivial time was enjoyed.

Another cemetery afternoon will be planned for 2022.



### **Dinner and guest speaker Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Darrin Bennet's topic was "On Assignment with Lindblad/National Geographic" - a path less travelled, a photographic journey travelling on board the Expedition Ship Orion, through remote destinations including Antarctica, the Sub-Antarctic Islands, the Kimberley, PNG & Borneo. Again, about 20 people attended and enjoyed a meal, drinks and Darin's excellent illustrated address.

The event was held at the recently opened Little Red Grape at Leasingham, a sister venue to the long-established Little Red Grape Bakery at Sevenhill.



### **COLLECTION OPENING**

The History Collection will be open on Australia Day, Wed 26<sup>th</sup> January from 9am to 1pm. Books will be on sale and research advice available.

Regular opening times are resumed on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 1 to 4pm.

IN 1952 THE ADELAIDE NEWS FEATURED STORIES ABOUT SEVERAL COUNTRY TOWNS INCLUDING CLARE. THE FOLLOWING ARE TWO OF THE CLARE STORIES.

### **THE LONELIEST NIGHT OF THE WEEK**

If you're expecting entertainment in Clare at night, don't go there on Thursdays.

The only social activity that night is the weekly table tennis practice in a hall at the back of the Methodist Church.

Picture shows are held in the Town Hall on Wednesday and Saturday nights and there's usually a dance every fortnight, but Clare people on Thursdays stay close to the fires at home. All except the table tennis enthusiasts.

No matter how freezing the night, they arrive at the hall, switch on the radiators and start hitting the little white pill round to keep in practice and to keep warm. Table tennis has a big following in Clare. Nine teams are in the local Table Tennis Association and the game attracts many youths and girls and young married couples.

When News photographer Bill Teubner and I called in to watch the players at practice, several young married couples were among the 16 enthusiasts present. Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Phillips had parked their 9½ month old son Graham with Mrs. Phillips sister so they could attend the practice. "Ivan and I play table tennis to keep fit" she said. "He's in the post office here and doesn't get much exercise at work. I'm kept going with young Graham but I still enjoy the game. We've played for years."

Young business men and office workers form the bulk of the players. There's John Clewer 26 who's got a thriving radio business in Clare. "If you get a business going in this town you can't miss." he says. John as a radio expert does his bit of civic duty for Clare. With Lance Catford another radio enthusiast, he has built a mobile radio control outfit for use in the bushfire season. Together they rebuilt an old Army transmitter and adapted it for firefighting purposes. It has a range of 25 miles and is designed to be carried on a trailer. In tests it has worked perfectly.

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## CRHG COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Helen Perry

Vice Chairperson: Wendy Spackman

Secretary: Josie Hudson

Treasurer: Helen Perry

Curator: Gerald Lally

Committee : David Spackman, Gail Weckert

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## BRAINWAVE HELPED WOOL MEN

Six years ago Len Hore was making a living doing small welding repair jobs round the town, then he got a brainwave. Len Hore's brainwave came one day when he visited a shearing shed and saw wool workers tossing newly shorn fleeces on to a heavy greasy wooden table for the classer.

"What these people need is a light steel table they can clean easily, no splinters in steel either", Len Hore mused. He designed a steel table, with tubular steel rollers and folding legs.

Then he showed his plans to the shearing shed workers and graziers. They gave him some hints and at last he perfected what he calls the ideal wool table.

Mr. Hore's factory is increasing its production of another aid to the sheep men, a portable stock loading ramp, another Len Hore brainwave.

The ramp is designed to be towed behind a car or truck. It enables sheep to be loaded on to trucks driven right into the paddocks.

*News*

*(Adelaide 6<sup>th</sup> August 1952)*



# MEMORIES of a RECTORY

By Lucy Webb

Published in the Northern Argus 29<sup>th</sup> May 1942

On May 24<sup>th</sup>. 1878 we took occupation of the Rectory, Clare. The site of the building had been determined the year previous by Bishop Short and the Building Committee, Mr. W.L. Beare being Honorary Architect. The first stone was laid by the Bishop. Brother Bill was the baby at the time of occupation, he having been born in the house over the road from the Methodist Chapel. The two youngest (Juliet and Bay) were born in the Rectory, there was no baby resident there till the advent of Joanna Clare Radcliff, and she was not born in the home but in a nursing home. The Rectory was our home for 34 years. My father died there in 1911. After him came the Rev. E.A. Radcliff (2 children), S.J. Bloyd (one son), C.W.E. Swan (2 daughters) and the present occupant Rev. R.V.S. Adams. Those who worked for us were Annie Lamb, who came with us from Lyndoch and who was with us for nine years, Betty Pascoe who came from Yankalilla and who afterwards married Andrew Hunter, Amelia Constant who came from Pewsey Vale, Sarah Lee now Mrs. Le Page of Koolunga, Mary and Edith Francis, Eliza Bunnett from Hill River, Annie Dunstan afterwards Raymond, Emily Jessett who came from England, Emma Havers, Eva Haynes, Elsie Lovelock (now in America) and others whom I cannot remember. Lily Jackson, afterwards Glaetzer was our maid when we left Clare. Most of our maids were young and joined in our games. Emily Jessett was once playing ghost in the garden and enveloped in a white sheet was trying to catch who she could. A man who came up to the Rectory to see about his wedding suddenly found himself embraced in the arms of a white sheet and the vigor of Emily. When we were in domestic difficulties at anytime Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Borlace and Mrs. Evers were ready to come to our aid, while Mrs. Harry Maynard was a regular visitor. Our childish frocks were made by Lizzie Smelt, now Mrs. Harry Dack of Alberton. Later on they were made by "Breezie Thompson," a dressmaker who came to Ford's Hotel with the Trews. When shirt blouses were in fashion no one could make them as well as Mrs. Havers and she was greatly in demand and went from house to house making them. For outside work we had grandfather Haynes who lived with his son Joe next the Dempsey's, Larkey, Amey, Borlace and others. We grew our own vegetables as well as feed for the horse and cow, planted strawberries, cherry, fig trees (the blue Turkey fig made delicious jam), apples, peach trees and many other fruit trees. In spring the garden was smothered in lilac, English, Persian and white. We always sent a bunch of the latter to Mrs. Wien-Smith, who said it reminded her so of Paris. My father took resident pupils to help things along, amongst them being Willie Doble (from Blinman), Matt. Campbell, son of the Rev. W.A. Campbell of Lyndoch, James and Clarence Talbot from "Podder" i.e. Port Wakefield, Will Warbuton and others. Will Warbuton's name with others of his kin is on the honor roll of Chester Cathedral. Joe Tothill, another boarder at the Rectory, was killed in his first engagement near Bethlehem in the Transvaal War. He was only 18, and so keen to go to the front. We were so long in the Rectory that it seemed to be going to be our home for ever, but death came to remind us that here we have no continuing city but we seek one to come.

## BOOKS & CDs FOR SALE

ASHBY, Marj **CARINYA 1956 - 1989 A Peaceful and happy home**, (1989) CWA of SA Clare Branch, Clare, SA \$5

AUSTIN, Nigel **BOB ROWE – the great cattle trader** (2014) \$50

BELLMAN, Elinor A. (1995), **SADDLEWORTH - Hub of the Wheel**, (1995) Saddleworth, SA \$35

BOND, David **CLARE SHOW “A fine all round display” for 150 years** (2014) Clare SA \$33

Brinkworth Centenary Book Committee, **MAGPIE CREEK JUNCTION - a history of Brinkworth and district 1892 – 1992**, Brinkworth, SA. Recently reprinted. \$50

**THE CIVIC RECORD 1836 – 1986**, Wakefield Press 695pp. \$50

CROSS, Jack, **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**, (2016) Printak Pty Ltd, Adelaide, SA. 145 pages, illustrations, maps, portraits, facsimiles \$30

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

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

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

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

Johnson, Winifred N.

**COTTAGES AND CAMEOS OF CLARE** (1988) by 100pp, illus. \$25

**CLARE CAMEOS** (1986) Includes oral histories of our older Clare residents as interviewed by Win in the State's Sesquicentennial year. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. \$15

**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

**THE METHODISTS OF CLARE 1851 - 1977** (1994) 124pp. Indexed. \$12

**FROM WHERE I SIT** (2010) A Collection of articles on chosen themes written over past times \$16

**A HISTORY OF NGADJURI LODGE TRUST** (2010) \$10

**JUST AS IT WAS** (2010) The story of Win's life with humour and affection. 96pp including photos. \$20

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

### CD-ROMS

**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) \$5

### CARDS FOR SALE

Local images on a blank card for your personal message \$3

LALLY, Gerald A.

**HILL RIVER A Valley of History** (2004) \$30

**A LANDMARK OF FAITH Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mintaro and its parishioners 1856–2006** (2006) \$35

**TIMES PAST – a pictorial history of Farrell Flat** (2012) 194pp. \$30

**TWO CHURCHES – Catholic faithful of the Clare Valley** (2019) \$50

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

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

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

NOYE, Robert J. **TALKING HISTORY – Tales of Clare SA** 50 articles published weekly in *The Northern Argus* (2003) \$15

PATTULLO, William

**THE LAND HISTORY OF POLISH HILL RIVER 1842 - 1990** (1991) Details the ownership history of 120 sections of land in Polish Hill River, to the edge of Mintaro township. \$25

**THE OWNERS OF STANLEY FLAT 1836 – 1986** reprinted 2015 \$30

SCHMAAL, Jean

**THE INCHQUIN STORY**, Clare & District Branch, National Trust, (c1986) Clare SA \$5

**A QUAIN COURT HOUSE** (1987) Clare & District Branch, National Trust, Clare SA \$5

SEMPLE, Carolyn **“TO THE BEAT OF A DRUM” – Gum Creek School 1898 – 1957** (2018) \$20

SIMONS, J.J. ‘Boss’ **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 TILBROOK, M., **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, **Ngadjuri – Aboriginal people of the Mid North region of South Australia**, (2005) Meadows SA, SASOSE Council Inc \$40

WILSON, John

**Bob's railway – turbulent political times in SA & a remarkable railroading dog**, (2019) \$78

**The Riesling railway** (2018) Photographs, illustrations, maps, drawings, USB \$110