

# CLARE REGIONAL HISTORY GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2018



### AUBURN CEMETERY: REPAIRS UNDERWAY

*Helen Perry*

With Council support, community networking and a grant from the State Government repairs have commenced to address the damage that occurred at the Auburn Cemetery last November. Council has posted a reward of \$10,000 for information regarding the perpetrators of the vandalism.

As many of the broken headstones were pre 1900, the task of tracing and informing families has been difficult. Our History Group has assisted with research into the graves and families and this has been circulated through our Facebook page as well as SA Genealogy & Heraldry postings and Council's weekly online newsletter.

There are currently only four memorials for which descendants have yet to be traced:

*HARRIS Alfred (c1850-1914)*

*HEDDLE Betsy (nee Calder) (c1832-1901)*

*REASON Alfred (c1877-1957) & his wife Eliza*

*TRIMMING William (c1814-1899), his wife Mary Ann nee Dearsley & their adult children James & Mary. Continued p.4*

#### Luckhurst Smith Reunion

Mr John Luckhurst Smith of Millicent, great grandson of one of Clare's early public figures, has contacted the History Group to advise of a family reunion to be held in Clare in late August/ early September this year. It will be 150 years since John Luckhurst Smith married Isabella Waddell at St Mark's Penwortham. They plan to worship at the church and visit places relating to the family's early history. We are sure a meal at the Taminga Hotel will be in the schedule. It was on this site, at the former Clare Inn in June 1864, that the sleeping John Luckhurst Smith was attacked by the Russian, Antonieff, and almost died from his injuries. Evidently impressed by the town and its hospitality John returned to Clare after his recovery and held the role of clerk to the Council and Corporation over the years 1868 to 1918.

Anyone interested in this reunion can contact the current John Luckhurst Smith:

(08) 8733 3755 Email [fred@setimes.com.au](mailto:fred@setimes.com.au) PO Box 22, Millicent SA 5280

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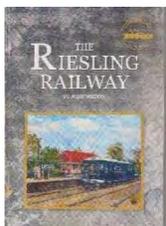
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Contributions to our  
newsletter are  
welcome. The closing  
date for the next  
newsletter is 31<sup>st</sup>  
May 2018



## BOOK REVIEW - The Riesling Railway by John Wilson

*Dr Margaret Cameron*

So often rail and train stories are about great engineering endeavours looking back to the industrial revolution. That is not so with John Wilson's **The Riesling Railway**. This is a fascinating social, political and economic account of the development of what was known as the 'Clare Line' a branch line from Riverton to Spalding. The railway line was opened in two stages: Riverton to Clare in July 1918, and Clare to Spalding in January 1922. The Riverton to Spalding line closed in April 1984, but the story does not end there as the title of the book indicates; it lives on in the *Reisling Trail*.

**The Riesling Railway** tells the story of the development of the Clare Line in the context of the expansion of railways within South Australia using important and valuable primary material of parliamentary debates, together with other government records and newspaper articles. By doing this John Wilson is able to convey the concern the South Australian government and local communities had to open trade links within the state. Legislators and bureaucrats grappled with limited financial resources, often at the expense of good planning for the state overall. John Wilson's voice is engaging and brings the decision makers to life. An example is his analysis of how South Australian legislators ushered in two rail gauges because of lower construction costs, but causing considerable cost and time in operation.

For rail traditionalists, the account of the Clare Line does discuss its construction, details of the course, track arrangements at railway stations, bridges in the context of other significant bridges within the state, and the design of railway buildings. The discussion is accompanied by many well-presented maps, drawings and photographs.

**The Riesling Railway** covers a broad range of topics and John Wilson must have found it difficult to decide what's in and what's out. The informative topics include an outline of nomenclature of stopping places and stations thereby recognising local Indigenous culture in place names. Examination of Riverton Railway Station introduces the Refreshment Rooms; important because it acknowledges the employment opportunities the railways provided to women in the area.

Among the significant contributions this book makes in understanding the history of the region and South Australian railways, is how the railway contributed to building communities along the line, from the Baby Health Train helping to address high mortality rates, to passenger services including special trains for the Clare Races and the Clare Show.

While the Clare Line declined and was eventually closed, the legacy lives on in *the Riesling Trail*. John Wilson provides a comprehensive account of how the people of the Clare Valley developed and continue to manage *the rail-trail* for walking and cycling, as part of a nation-wide network of rail-trails.

**The Riesling Railway** is recommended for those interested in railways and their construction, local history, or an engaging story. The book is complete with photographs, diagrams, drawings, and reproductions of rail and train material.

LAUNCH  
SATURDAY 7  
JULY 2018

PT ADELAIDE RAILWAY  
MUSEUM

The launch of **The Riesling Railway** will occur on the weekend of Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 July 2018, the Centenary of the opening of the railway from Riverton to Clare, at the National Railway Museum, Port Adelaide. On this weekend, the National Railway Museum will hold a 'Back to Clare Weekend' featuring exhibits of the Clare Valley railway. On Saturday 7 July, at this event, **John Wilson** will be launching **The Riesling Railway**.

If you wish to obtain a copy of the publication information can be found at <http://rieslingtrail.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/THE-RIESLING-RAILWAY-No-8-January-2018-q.pdf>

## Two Crosses *Highly Commended*

**Congratulations to Jack Cross** for his book recording the history of Ephraim and Jack Cross (2016), which was Highly Commended by Geanology SA in the 2017 Thomas Thornton Reed Awards.

The TT Reed Award is made each year for excellence in family history publishing by a South Australian or substantially about a South Australian family.

The book can be purchased from the Clare Regional History Group. See p.7 for details.

## South Australians in France

**Dr Romain Fathi of Flinders University** has been leading a joint project between France and Australia to unearth World War I heirlooms as part of a six month mission by a research team to collect stories of objects Australians retained from their time served on the Western Front in France, between 1916 and 1918.

The South Australians in France team have collected stories about privately held World War One memorabilia, souvenirs and material objects such as trench art, badges, diaries, pictures, coins, cards, calendars, postcards, letters, and parts of uniforms, to understand South Australian service in France.

Many of the objects collected were displayed in Adelaide on 23 and 24 February 2018. To see some of the fascinating finds visit the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SAinFrance/>.



*Do you know of any South Australian autograph quilts or cloths in museums or private collections? Are there any related records or photographs?*

**The Embroiderers' Guild of SA Museum**, is researching the history of South Australian autograph quilts for a grant application for a major project or a number of major projects. A history of South Australian autograph (aka signature or friendship) quilts and cloths will be compiled with details of where and when, the people and/or communities involved, photographs of actual autograph quilts and historic photos, the cause if it was for fundraising purposes and any other related information or material. The Embroiderers' Guild wishes to photograph and document known examples in South Australia for an online history/exhibition or a publication which will be useful for both social and family historians and embroiderers alike. Different themes will be explored. The Embroiderers' Guild Museum has an autograph quilt and cloth in its collection. The earliest records of autograph quilts found so far are from 1895.

**If you can help, please contact Dianne Fisher, Curator of the Embroiderers' Guild of SA Museum, an accredited museum in the History Trust's Community Museums Program: [difisher53@outlook.com](mailto:difisher53@outlook.com)**

*Note the CRHG has a framed signature quilt. Details will be provided in the next newsletter.*

Can you help find a mason or metalworker?



Auburn Clare & Districts RSL is applying for a grant to repair the WWII plaques along the Main North Road, south of Clare Primary School. As part of this work it is intended to replace the sign for Private Cyril Pawelski,

which was stolen about 20 years ago. Pte Pawelski died of typhoid fever in Palestine while on active service.

It is proving difficult to find a mason or metalworker who could make a replacement. The plaque is made of copper, with the edging and name in brass. The sign measures 15 inches by 3 inches (38.1 x 7.62 cms).

The picture shows the plaque for Private Max Aitken.

Our History Group is assisting the RSL with all research and would be grateful for any suggestions as to manufacturers. Alternately if anyone is aware of the location of the missing plaque please arrange its prompt and anonymous return via the Clare Library returns chute.

## AUBURN CEMETERY: REPAIRS UNDERWAY *Continued from p.1*

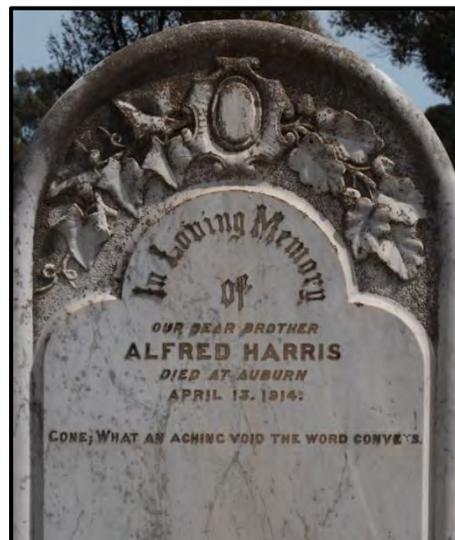
### ALFRED HARRIS

#### OUR DEAR BROTHER, ALFRED HARRIS

*"Gone, what an aching void the word conveys."*

So reads the broken headstone of Alfred Harris who died at Auburn on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1914. His death certificate gives his age as 67 years.

He was the brother of TC (??) Harris but nothing conclusive has been found as to any marriage or children of Alfred. The informant on his death certificate was C Harris, brother.



In seeking a brother to Alfred, one possibility is Thomas Harris who married Sophia King and had eight children over the period 1880 to 1898, the first being Alfred Thomas Harris. It would be helpful to have this connection confirmed or ruled out.

## ALFRED & ELIZA REASON

It is possible that someone might remember the Reasons. According to their memorial shield at Auburn Cemetery, Eliza died in 1949 aged 70 (although her death certificate gives the year as 1948), and her husband Alfred died in 1957 aged 80. Elizabeth's last place of residence was recorded as "Koonowla", and it appears that Alfred moved to Adelaide after her death.

An Alfred Charles Reason aged 23, son of Alfred, married Dorothy Margaret Dallow at Hindmarsh in 1923. They had a daughter, Patricia Yvonne, in 1926 at North Adelaide. Perhaps they are part of Alfred's family?



## BETSY HEDDLE – AUBURN'S LINK TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS



This beautiful imported Carrara marble headstone, now yellowed with age, was among the 46 pushed over and damaged when vandals attacked the Auburn Cemetery late last year.

*"In loving memory of Betsy, beloved wife of Thomas Heddle, who died Dec 16th 1901 aged 69".*

Thomas Heddle was the publican at Auburn's Rising Sun Hotel and died in 1912. He was buried next to Betsy but does not have a headstone. After their marriage in 1876 Thomas was the licensed publican at Penola, then Truro, Kapunda, Exeter in the Port Adelaide area, Smithfield and finally Auburn, from 1896 until 1908.

Both Betsy and Thomas emigrated from the Orkney Islands. Thomas came as a small boy with his parents and brothers, but Betsy (nee Calder) sailed as a single woman, her occupation listed as "cook". One of the many newspaper reports at the time of her death noted:

"... Previous to her marriage she had great experience as a cook. She was employed in the refreshment rooms at the House of Commons for some time."

It appears that there were no children of the marriage of Thomas and Betsy Heddle, but descendants may be found of Thomas' brothers – William, John and James Heddle.



## THE TRIMMING FAMILY PLOT

In early November, both the marble columns in the Trimming family plot at Auburn Cemetery were pushed over. The memorials are in memory of William and Mary Anne Susan Trimming (nee Dearsley) and their only children James (1857 – 1924) and Mary Anne Susan (1860 – 1931), neither of whom appear to have married.

William was born in Surrey, England in about 1813 and immigrated to South Australia in 1853 on the ship, *William Stewart*. He was a farmer and resided at Gawler, Leasingham and lastly, Auburn. Mary Anne Susan was his second wife.



William's first wife was Susannah (c1817-1855) and they had at least four children – William (1837-1910), Anne Pamplin (1840- ), Eliza Susan (c1851-1929) and Harriet (c1853-1932).

The son, William Trimming, married Emma Hutchinson at Penwortham in 1859 and they had the following children – Samuel Arthur (1867), Morris William (1869), Alfred (1875) and Emma (1877), born in the Manoora / Saddleworth area.

Ann Pamplin Trimming married Richard Siviour at Riverton in 1862 and the following children were born – Susanna Atfield (1870) William (1874), Ben (1877-1879) and Thomas Richard (1879).

Eliza Susan Trimming married James Dunn at the residence of W Trimming, Auburn, in 1870 and had the following children at Bowmans Block: James Henry (1871), William (1872), Eliza Ann COON (1874) and Hubert Edwin (1875).



Harriet Trimming married Edward Bee Baldock at Saddleworth in 1873 and the following children were born – Elizabeth Ann (1874), William John Bee (1876), George Henry Bee (1878), Edward Charles Bee (1879), Harriet Emma (1882), Mary Ann Bee (1884), Arthur James Bee (1887), Christopher Ernest Bee (1890), Susan Edith (1893) and Thomas Alfred Bee (1896).

While there are apparently no direct descendants of William and Mary Anne Susan to mourn the desecration or repair the graves, it might be possible to further trace the families of these four children of William Trimming's first marriage.



# BOOKS & CDs FOR SALE

## NEW

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**

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**

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, Adelaide 230pp **\$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. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 INCHQUIN STORY**, Clare & District Branch, National Trust, [1986?] Clare S.Aus **\$5**

- (1987), **A QUIANT COURTHOUSE** Clare & 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**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SA Genealogy

Upcoming workshops

- Other Government Records
- South Australian Land Records
- Google Mapping your Ancestors

Workshops held at the 201 Unley Road, Unley, SA.

For more information visit

[www.genealogysa.org.au/genealogy-sa/calendar-01/month.calendar/2018/04/22/-/html](http://www.genealogysa.org.au/genealogy-sa/calendar-01/month.calendar/2018/04/22/-/html)

## Pioneers Association of SA

The Pioneers Association of South Australia Inc, aims to perpetuate the memory of the pioneers of early settlement in South Australia, who arrived in SA by 28th December 1846.

Upcoming events

- Junior Pioneer Event
- Pioneer Group Event

Further information can be found at [www.pioneerssa.org.au/](http://www.pioneerssa.org.au/)

## SA's History Festival, May 2018

- Opens 28 & 29 April with a special weekend focusing on SA's buildings and architectural history.
- Full program in *The Advertiser* on Sat 7 April, and then in libraries, visitor info centres and from event organisers.

To stay in touch visit

<https://historyfestival.sa.gov.au/>

## 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](http://www.users.on.net/~clarehistory)

Email: [clarehistory@internode.on.net](mailto: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: Val Tilbrook

Curator & Treasurer: Helen Perry

Committee members: David Bond, Sue Wurst, Alison Butler, David Spackman, Lyn Woods.

Newsletter Editor: Dr Margaret Cameron

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

## CRHG Quiz

Q: Why does Monica McInerney call the Clare Valley home?

A: Her father, Steve McInerney was the railway station master at Clare for 35 years

Thanks John Wilson

Extract from Northern Fire Fighting Season 1971-1972

