

The Clare Past Forum

<http://www.ourlibrary.ca/phpbb2/viewforum.php?f=15>

The Clare Past forum at is an online space dedicated to County residents and members of the Clare Diaspora who want to find out about their forebears and the social structure they lived in.

The idea is to promote a lively discussion and encourage members to contribute (*to paraphrase J F Kennedy, don't ask what this forum can do for you, ask yourself what you can do for the forum, etc. etc.*).

In the contributions to date there has been a strong emphasis on the social history of the County rather than the purely genealogical but it is up to the forum members to direct that thrust.

On the genealogical side, members looking for information about their Clare ancestors are encouraged to post questions and the genealogically more experienced members of the forum do their best to help with pointers and data.

Those posting questions are asked to include a synopsis of what they already know so that those trying to help don't simply bombard the submitter of the question with information he/she already has.

Members are strongly encouraged to post transcriptions of documents they have found, e.g. in libraries and archives, and which they feel might be of interest to other Clare historians.

Religious, sectarian and political statements other than documented historical references are not permitted. Hitherto this has never been an issue and the traffic on the forum is very congenial.

The topics posted on the forum to date have been very heterogeneous and difficult to categorise succinctly.

They include reports of:

- **births, marriages and deaths;**
- **massacres and riots;**
- **agrarian troubles;**
- **court proceedings;**
- **hangings, floggings and pilloryings;**
- **murders, assaults, duels and other miscellaneous violence;**
- **political meetings and upheavals;**

- the famines;
 - books, reading lists and other sources of historical information;
 - genealogical enquiries;
 - donated information on members of the Clare diaspora in Australia, New Zealand and North America;
 - archaeological findings; historical items on individual towns, villages and settlements in 19th century Clare;
 - evictions;
 - poisonings;
 - maps and satellite views of Clare;
 - polygamy;
 - sales of land;
 - prominent sons and daughters of Clare;
 - the events of 1916-1925;
 - emigration;
 - passenger lists and passenger list indexes;
 - Clare family photos;
 - shipwrecks;
 - graveyard transcriptions;
 - names of Clare men in the American civil war;
- . . . and so forth.

However, members are free to post whatever they like as long as the topics are within the remit and rules of the forum.

Clare Past Forum

<http://www.ourlibrary.ca/phpbb2/viewforum.php?f=1>

Clare County Library

<http://www.clarelibrary.ie/>