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Editor

Liam Irwin



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Thomond Archaeological & Historical Society

The *Thomond Archaeological and Historical Society* traces its origins to the foundation of the *Limerick Field Club* in 1892 and more specifically to the establishment of its antiquarian section in 1897. It was later renamed the *North Munster Archaeological Society* but did not survive the difficult conditions of 1919. In 1929 it was re-established as the *Thomond Archaeological Society*. While this name was geographically accurate in the sense that its membership was primarily from the North Munster region it became increasingly clear that it did not reflect adequately the current interests and activities of the Society and in 2004 it was decided to add *Historical* to the name of the Society. The Society retains its strong focus on archaeology while continuing to promote the study and enjoyment of history, folklore, folk life, place names, numismatics, architecture, historical geography and other kindred studies.

The Society welcomes new members interested in any, or all, of these subjects. We organise lectures, field trips throughout Ireland [evening, half-day, full-day and weekend] and overseas tours. Members also receive a free copy of the *North Munster Antiquarian Journal*, the academic journal published each year by the Society.

Application forms and membership details are available from the Hon. Secretary:

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Cover Illustration: Charles Darwin (1809-82): this year is the bicentenary of his birth and 150th anniversary of the publication of *The Origin of Species*.

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