

Delving through Dublin's history

LAURA COLLINS

THE Dublin History Group will give the community a rare insight into the town's sporting history by presenting a display this weekend, rounding off South Australia's History Festival month.

The presentation of Dublin's sporting past includes a number of photos, documented histories and player memories from roughly 30 different sports that have been played within the town at various stages since the late 1800s.

Dublin History Group president Ian Telfer said there are some impressive, historic artefacts that will be included in the presentation.

"The first information that we could get that is specifically related to sport and Dublin is a report of a game that was played in Port Wakefield in 1874," he said.

"Organised football didn't start in this area until the early 1900s. I think the local association was formed in 1909."

The inspiration behind the month-long event theme was a 1930s guernsey that had passed through four brothers from the Webb family, and was then donated to the history group.

"It is certainly a precious thing and we thought we were lucky in that respect," Mr Telfer said.

"We've done all sorts of themes over the years and this one came up as an idea relating to that jumper."

Mr Telfer said the research into Dublin's sporting past shows the major comparisons between sport now and then, and how much the community has evolved.

"When you go back and think about what has happened around the place, there has been all sorts of sports played here that nobody touches," he said.

"Pigeon racing is very rare now, and there was a sport called coursing, which would probably be illegal now.

"Also, you think about in the early 1900s how long it would have taken for a game of cricket, for example, at a place like Port Wakefield; we don't appreciate that now we have cars and easy transport."

The display will be open this Sunday, May 28, from 1-5pm at the Dublin Institute, with afternoon tea and a number of activities being provided for people of all ages.

Community members are also encouraged to bring along any photographs, or share any memories with the group, for documentation.

For more information, contact Ian Telfer on 8529 2472, email info@dublinhistorygroup.com.au



Dublin History Group president Ian Telfer (left), IT manager Philip Brow, founding member Pat Thompson and committee member Janice Telfer look forward to the community's response to their sporting display, such as this 1932 premiership photo.
PHOTOS: Laura Collins

RIGHT: Dublin Football Club's historic photographs are proudly hung in the Dublin Institute.

