



# Cowethas Kernewek Loundres

## London Cornish Association Newsletter



[www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk)

Summer 2017

### Looking to the future...

Welcome to the Summer edition of our LCA newsletter. At present in London it is beginning to feel much more like summer with temperatures rising quite rapidly - they are expected to reach the high 20s over the next week, quite a change from the cool weather we were experiencing a short while ago.

In this newsletter you will find the reports from the AGM. Of particular note is the one from the Chairman who appeals for more support from our membership with the day to day running of the Association. Like so many associations around the world, there are fewer and fewer people willing and able to step in and help. It is not necessary to take on the role of an officer but help with planning meetings, assisting with catering at Family History Days etc is always needed. We have reached the point where all the work is now being done by just a handful of people, two of whom work full time. This is asking a lot of them, and puts them under a great deal of strain. We were reminded of this recently when our Chairman was admitted to hospital. He has carried two important roles - Chairman and Hon Gen Sec - for too many years and it is now taking its toll. He is exhausted. The few remaining members of Council will do what they can to keep things running smoothly but it does flag up the need to review the way we do things in the future. In this newsletter, you will read how a similar situation in the *Cornish Association of Queensland* earlier this year almost resulted in its closure.

This seems a good time for each of us to review what the LCA means to us personally and what it is about the Association that we value. Knowing what our membership wants and is prepared to support will help

us tremendously as we make our future plans. So, please do let us know why the LCA is important to you. You can email us via the website at [lca@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:lca@londoncornish.co.uk) or write to me at the address on the back page of this newsletter.

Is there a future for the LCA? Would you like us to continue to arrange outings and events? What form should they take? Meals? Visits? Sadly, the days when we hired a hall for a day and listened to guest speakers are, with the exception of the Family History Days, over because of the prohibitive cost of hiring a hall in London (approximately £400 per day!). Over the last few years, informal pub lunches have been one of the few events where we seem to attract good support. Is this the future? What about the newsletter? Does it still have a role to play? Should its format be changed or its frequency reduced?

Please do send us your thoughts. It would be tremendously helpful to hear your views as we look to the future.

In this newsletter, you will notice several articles with different names under them. I am so grateful to those members and friends for submitting material. They add to the variety and make the newsletter more interesting. Please do continue sending things in - photos with captions, short items about something Cornish you saw or went to...

In closing, I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing many of you at our future events - starting with the Mid-Summer lunch at Penderel's Oak on 15<sup>th</sup> July - and possibly the Rosyer Lecture straight afterwards.

### Dates for your diary ...

**Lunch on the Thames @ Richmond and possible meet-up with London Cornish Pilot Gig Club**  
12 noon  
*Waterman's Arms, Richmond*

**Mid Summer Lunch**  
15th July 2017  
12 noon  
*Penderel's Oak, Holborn*

#### *Followed by:*

**The Rosyer Lecture**  
15th July 2017  
2.30pm for 3pm  
*The City Lit, Keeley St*

**Family History Day**  
14th October 2017  
10am - 4.30pm  
*Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church*

**Deadline for the Autumn Newsletter is**

**5th August**  
**Please send all contributions to The Editor at the address on the back page**



*Do we have your correct contact details? If any of them change, please let our Membership Secretary know. You can contact her through the LCA website - [lca@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:lca@londoncornish.co.uk) or via the Editor at the address on the back page of this newsletter.*

# Forthcoming events

***A warm welcome is extended to non-members who would like to attend any of the London Cornish Association events.***

## **Lunch on the Thames at Richmond and a meet up with the London Cornish Pilot Gig Club**

**Date:** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July

**Time:** 12.00pm

**Lunch Venue:** The *Waterman's Arms*, Water Lane, Richmond

*(Nearest tube station – Richmond on the District Line. If you are coming from further afield, there are other options via Waterloo, Vauxhall and the Overground.) The walk from Richmond station to the riverside area takes about 10 minutes..*

There are benches and lots of grass if you want to just relax after lunch or you can meet up with the London Cornish Pilot Gig Club at their nearby boathouse. More details will be put on the LCA website as they become available.

As this is a Saturday in summer, Richmond is likely to be busy – so we will need to book for lunch. If you are thinking of coming, please let us know.

**Contact:** Liz Broekmann

Email: [lbroekmann@outlook.com](mailto:lbroekmann@outlook.com) or leave a message on

Tel: 02036386817

## **Mid-Summer Lunch – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 12 noon**

**Venue:** Penderel's Oak – 283-288 High Holborn, London  
*(Nearest tube: Holborn or Chancery Lane – on the Central Line)*

After the lunch, those of us who are free will go on to attend the **Rosyer Lecture**. This will be held at the City Lit which is about an 8 minute walk from the pub.

## **The 28<sup>th</sup> Rosyer Lecture 2017 – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July – 2.30pm for 3pm**

*Rosyer is the bardic name of one of the former members of the City Lit. Cornish Society and a lecture is given every year in his memory. LCA members have attended these lectures for many years and have enjoyed talks on a variety of topics with Cornish interest.*

No need to book for either event but it would help to know numbers attending lunch so that we can book tables at Penderel's Oak,

**Contact:** Liz Broekmann

Email: [lbroekmann@outlook.com](mailto:lbroekmann@outlook.com) or leave a message on

Tel: 02036386817

***We look forward to seeing you at either or both of these events.***

## **FAMILY HISTORY DAY**

**14th October 2017**

**10:00 am – 4:30 pm**

*Speakers:*

**Mrs Elaine Henderson**

*Harassment from Heaven: Wills and Probate in two Cornish parishes c1750-1850*

Based on the recent work by volunteer researchers for the Victoria County History Trust of Cornwall, the talk looks in detail at the wills of residents of two very different parishes: the rural St Stephen-in-Brannel and the prosperous town of Launceston.

**Mr John Jolliff**

*Cornwall's Secret Army*

***We look forward to sharing this interesting and informative day with you.***

**Venue:**

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 35 Shaftesbury Avenue London WC2H 8EP  
*(Nearest tube stations are Holborn and Tottenham Court Road)*

**Fee:** £15 for members (including LCA-affiliated societies and Cornwall Family History Society) and £20 for non members.

The fee includes a pasty and saffron cake lunch and a cream tea. Vegetarian pasties can be provided if ordered in advance.

**Contact:** Gill Penny [[g.n.penny@btinternet.com](mailto:g.n.penny@btinternet.com)] OR Carol Goodwin [[chynoweth@hotmail.com](mailto:chynoweth@hotmail.com)]  
020 7240 0544 *(Please only use for urgent messages on the day)*

***Booking is essential so we can order the correct number of pasties***



Kowethas Kernewek City Lit/ City Lit Cornish Society

Presents

## The 28<sup>th</sup> Rosyer Lecture 2017

Kate Neale

*Cousin Jack's Christmas: Cornish Carols in South Australia and Carolina".*

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
2.30 pm for 3pm

Room 106  
The City Lit  
Keeley Street  
London WC2B 4BA

**Admission Free**

**All welcome**



*Cheers to St Piran!*



## News of Past Events

### St Piran's Day in London

An impromptu gathering was arranged for 4th March 2017 to celebrate St Piran's Day which was on the 5th.

Previous suggestions for a celebration included gathering in a London Park or assembling on a static boat on the Thames. This latter would inevitably be expensive.

All the suggestions we received were weather dependent(!) so, after considerable thought, it was agreed that the venue would be the Southbank Centre, Royal Festival Hall, where we could congregate free of charge and take our own food – and also some wine for the 'toast' to St Piran.

We planned to meet from 1.30pm to have the Cornish Cream Tea at around 2.30pm. Members of Council brought along Cornish Cream (in abundance!), splits and jam.....not much tea was drunk but a good few glasses of wine were enjoyed!

It was good to see a number of members and also non-members from a local University who come from Truro, as well as a gentleman from Cornwall who recently moved to London to live.

There was plenty of food for all and the afternoon was such a success that we hope a similar event can be arranged for next year.

*Carol Goodwin*

Some Cornish piskies were at work on the 4th March in the Festival Hall. Tables and chairs had been gathered as other folk vacated them, enabling the group of LCA members and visitors to sit together when they arrived to celebrate St Piran's Day. Black and white pennants were hung up along a wall - which aroused some curiosity amongst other patrons of the centre!

Our Chairman, Francis Dunstan, was on hand to welcome One and All and there was lots of chat, exchange of news and introductions to be made while those assembled anticipated their promised cream tea.

The piskies were still busy, splits were spread with Cornish clotted cream and jam, wine (including a Cornish one) was decanted, yellow napkins – some decorated with daffodils (Cornish ones surely!) were provided and soon all was ready.

Francis proposed a toast to St Piran, glasses were raised and everyone tucked into a Cornish cream tea par excellence!

As one of the grateful participants, I'm sure I can thank those piskies on behalf of everyone who attended for organising and catering for our fitting celebration of St Piran's Day 2017 – and top marks for discovering such an accommodating and friendly venue.

*Yvonne Trembath*

### 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Dining Event

Last year's Dining Event introduced a big change to one of the key events in our calendar: we replaced the traditional (129 years!) dinner with a lunch. This was in response to requests from members and friends, many of whom found it difficult to attend late evening events, and was such a success that we decided to continue with our new 'tradition' and celebrated our 131<sup>st</sup> Dining Event with a lunch. Forty-five members and friends gathered for this special occasion to share in a good meal and some Cornish camaraderie.

After pre-lunch drinks and chat, guests moved through to the dining area where they were greeted by a stunning display of Cornish daffodils and tables decorated in Cornish colours.

This year, the Committee named the tables after boats which have Cornish associations. This was done in honour of our Principal Speaker, Peter Chalkley who is the Secretary of the London Cornish Pilot Gig Association. The names chosen were:

*Gloriana* – which was the Queen's Diamond Jubilee barge. It was built by Master boat builder Mark Edwards, MBE, who has some Cornish boatbuilders in his ancestry.

*Spirit of Mystery* – A replica of the wooden lugger, *Mystery*, which sailed to Australia in 1854/5. The *Spirit of Mystery* undertook the same voyage, in 2008, under the command of Pete Goss.

*Charlotte* – the convict ship that took Mary Bryant to Australia in 1787. Mary is remembered for her successful escape from the penal colony in what is now Sydney.

*Ann Glanville* – A gig named after Cornish rower Ann Glanville who was born in 1796. As a young woman, she formed a crew of four female rowers who competed in regattas in Cornwall and elsewhere, often beating male rowing teams.

*Doris* – the name of the boat, captained by Cornish woman Laura Penhaul, which was rowed across the Pacific in 2015, the first all-female team and the first team of four to do this.

Peter Chalkley, entertained us with some humorous anecdotes about gigs and rowing. We heard how the London Cornish Pilot Gig Association came into being and how, within months, competed in the World Championships in the Isles of Scilly! Interest in London has continued to grow so that there are now two clubs – one on the Thames at Richmond and one at the Royal Albert Docks in East London.



*Our Principal Speaker, Peter Chalkley, who is Secretary of the London Cornish Pilot Gig Association*

We were delighted to have as our Principal Guest, the Mayor of Helston, Cllr Mrs Gillian Geer. Her presence reminded us of the long association the LCA has had with Helston. In fact, the Association's origin can be traced

back to a dinner in 1886 which was organised by a group of Helston men living in London – and for years, the LCA has been invited to dance on Flora Day.

Following Peter's speech and the toasts to Cornwall, our guests and the LCA, *'One and All'* joined together, with true Cornish spirit, to sing *Trelawny* before continuing with a bit more chat before leaving.

At the end of this very successful and happy event, guests left with bunches of beautiful Cornish daffodils. The daffodils were kindly donated, once again, by Cornish growers Tregothnan, Caerhays and Fentongollan. We thank them for their continued support and offer more thanks to Tregothnan for sending us some Cornish tea which proved very popular.



*Stunning daffodils gave a Cornish 'feel' to the event*



*Chairman Francis Dunstan chats to guests, including Hospital Visiting Coordinator Rosemary Dean*

## Condolences

### **Peter Williams**

It is with sadness that we report the recent death of long-standing member Peter Williams.

For many years Peter and his wife, Marjory joined us for our Annual Dinners.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr Williams

## Family History Day

The first item on the Family History Day agenda was *The Trelawny Lecture*\*. This was given by Mr Chris Knight who looks after the archives and heritage of the St Austell Brewery. His talk focussed on the Hicks family who founded the Brewery and are still involved in managing it.

The Brewery goes back to 1851 when Walter Hicks mortgaged his farm for £1,500 to enable him to set it up. At that time there were a large number of breweries as the licensing laws were very lax. Also it was thought better to encourage the consumption of beer rather than gin which was seen as being ruinous.

In 1893 the Brewery moved to the site where it is now although today it is much larger. When Walter died the management was taken over by his daughter, Hester Parnall. She kept the company on a firm footing during the 1920s and 1930s when many other breweries went out of business.

Over the years the Hicks family also bought up pubs and hotels as outlets for their drinks. The company now has over 150 pubs/hotels. Their best known ale is Tribute but they do a variety of different ales.

This was very interesting talk and, if you are in the St Austell area, do visit the Brewery museum which is open to the public.

The afternoon lecture was by Dr Colin Chapman who spoke about family history from Education Records. For those of you who have done some family history, the name Chapman may be familiar as Dr Chapman is the originator of the Chapman three-letter code for counties of the British Isles.

He pointed out the large number of sources from education. These include Admission Books, Attendance registers, Log Books, Punishment Books, Class lists, Management minutes and photos.

Attendance of pupils was very important as originally the teacher's pay was based on the number of attendees. As a result there are often comments in logs books, especially in rural areas, such as '*attendance poor due to harvest*' or '*pupils absent gleaning*'. Dr Chapman had actually found a mention of his grandmother which reported her poor behaviour!

On a personal note of the usefulness of this lecture, a couple of days after this talk I went on to the parish clerks for Cornwall's website. I was going to look at some early records of Hearth Taxes that I knew were on there. As I looked at the list of databases available I saw Schools Admissions. So I decided to search for my grandfather, Edwin Tregunna. I found him and his two sisters being admitted on the same day to the parish school of St Stephen in Brannel. I thought that the family had moved there from Tregony and this gave me the proof.

*Jacqueline Martin*

\* The annual *Trelawny Lecture* is one of the key events on the Association's social programme. It was begun in 1987 and gives members an opportunity to hear talks on a variety of Cornish themes.

*The AGM took place during the Family History Day. The reports from that meeting start on page 6.*

## The Cornwall Club Event

Representatives from the London Cornish Association were invited to attend the fourth annual event of the Cornwall Club, which was hosted by Cornwall Community Foundation, on Wednesday 10th May.

The event, which was sponsored by Savills, Invest in Cornwall and Foot Anstey, took place, once again, in the most excellent surroundings of 2 Temple Place, London.

'Fifteen' Cornwall's new cohort and their delicious food came to London once more and liquid refreshments were provided by Sipsmith, St Austell Brewery, Camel Valley and Healey's.

The Cornwall Club is an initiative by the Cornwall Community Foundation which enables people living outside Cornwall to support Cornish causes. It aims to bring together philanthropists and small local charities or community groups in need of support. Since 2003, it has supported 4000 projects to the tune of £7 million and in the last year alone, £624 000 was used to help vulnerable communities throughout Cornwall. According to Tom Van Oss, the Chairman of the Cornwall Club, one of the big advantages of the CCF is that it '*is not a single cause charity [so] we have the flexibility to help a diverse range of local causes throughout Cornwall and at a very low cost*'

The main point of this event was to emphasise the need for more funds to continue the impressive work of the CCF and to launch the Cornwall Club membership scheme where members commit to an annual donation. To find out more about the scheme, visit [www.cornwallfoundation.com](http://www.cornwallfoundation.com) or call 01566 779333.

One of those attending the event was Sir Tim Smit, famous for his work on the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan – so we were in very good company! A most enjoyable and informative evening.

*Carol Goodwin and CCF press release*



*Guests at the Cornwall Club membership launch in the beautiful surroundings of Two Temple Place, London*

# London Cornish Association AGM

22 April 2017

## **Chairman/Hon Gen Sec report**

Well, what do I write this year, to be different from last year and the year before. The Association is run by a small number of dedicated people with some additional members assisting. This coming year will be my sixth year as chairman and apart from a one year break, I've been Hon GenSec, since 2003. Other long serving members are: Rosemary Dean (Hospital Visiting since 1992), Kath Slat-ter (social & catering since 1996), Jackie Trembath (Treasurer since 2003,) Elizabeth Broekmann (Editor since 2005). We are delighted that Graham Gendall Norton (Publicity), Mary Timmins (Visits and FHG), Carol Goodwin (Webmaster, Membership sec, and FHG), Dr Gill Penny (FHG), and Chris Burgess (FHG), continue to carry on the running of the Association, which is grateful to all of them.

A significant change this year is that Graham Pearce is standing down as Membership secretary. The Association is grateful to him for all he has done as Membership Secretary over very many years, and it is proposed that he be appointed as a LCA Hon Vice-President in appreciation.

We acknowledge the contribution that Tony Wakeham has made as a member of Council by awarding him a 'Certificate of Appreciation', as he steps down.

Email Communication between the officers and the membership would be made much easier if members who have registered their email addresses with LCA would respond to its emails. A one word reply would do: 'received'. I have received very few apologies for this year's AGM.

We celebrated the 131<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the LCA Dinner by having a Lunch as last year. Forty five sat down for lunch.

Combining the AGM with the Trelawny lecture proved to be successful.

Monthly lunches continued informally throughout the Year, with rather poor attendances, usually at Penderel's Oak restaurant, Holborn. However, the New Year Lunch there proved as successful as ever. These started in 1997.

You will find the other reports attached. The Treasurer's report shows a loss of £242. The expense of hiring a Room in London limits the LCA's activities, resulting in no social meetings with talks, as such. We did celebrate on St Piran's Eve one of our Cornish Patron saints, with a cream tea at the South bank Centre. Three new potential members joined us for a very happy event. Last July we celebrated our Annual Picnic at the Watermans Arms in Richmond combining with the Cornwall Pilot Racing Gig Club's barbecue at the Richmond boathouse. We also attended the Cornwall Community Foundation meeting at two Temple Place, a good meeting with excellent Cornish food!

Currently as I write, only 40 attendees are expected to attend the AGM in 2017, which means that we are likely to run at a loss. *Moral:* the more who come, the better the LCA finances. The Editor pleads for members to send in material for the Newsletter. Surely somebody must go on holiday, and take some photos. Send them in with a caption. We thank Liz for her long-time dedication but

bemoan the fact that she has found it necessary to write most of the copy herself

I'll finish where I started. We would like to recruit new members and encourage current members to help run the Association. The success of the updated Website is seen in that casual surfers are aiming to join us.

However, personally, once again I would appeal for others to replace me as Chairman (not too onerous) and also Hon Gen Sec (intense at certain times). There will come a time when.....Any offers?

*Francis Dunstan*  
Chairman

## **Family History Report**

We have booked the 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 for the Family History Days this year, at the Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church (BCBC) in Shaftesbury Avenue, London. We are pleased that the refurbishments of the BCBC have now finished.

For the 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2017, we have Mr Chris Knight who will, for the Trelawny Lecture, talk on St Austell Brewery and the Hicks Family. In the afternoon, Dr Colin Chapman will speak on *Family History from Education Records*.

For the October 2017 Family History Day, Mrs Elaine Henderson will be coming to speak on *Wills and Probates* and Mr John Jolliff will be there to talk on *Cornwall's Secret Army*.

We cannot stress how much we want our members to attend these Days. The costs of running them are high, so having good attendance is paramount. The Council and Committee take quite a lot of time in arranging the venue, the speakers, catering etc. To keep our prices at the same level, a good attendance is essential.

We are sure you will find all subjects of interest and look forward to your continued support.

If you have any suggestions for future Speakers, please do get in touch.

*Carol Goodwin*  
Family History Convenor

## **LCA Website**

We have received far more membership enquiries from the availability of the LCA Website than previously. We keep the website updated on a regular basis and if you have any information on Cornish related events you wish to add to the site, please do get in touch with me so they can be added.

*Carol Goodwin*

## **Hospital Visiting**

Rosemary Dean reports that she and Helen Thomas have been to visit Lorna Leadbetter and Allan Merrifield. We are sorry to report that Jenny Pearce is unfortunately only making slow progress

## Membership Report

I would like to thank Graham Pearce for his most valuable contribution as Membership Secretary for so many years and hope that I can continue where he left off! We report the deaths of two longstanding members, Mrs Wendy Evans, and Prof Philip Cannon.

Over the months we have had interest in the Association and new membership applications from:

Ms Joy Pascoe	Penzance	Currently in Folkestone, Kent
Mr Josiah Mortimer	Other	London, SE16
Mrs Susan T Bullen	Redruth	London SE7
Mr William T Bullen	Descent	London SE7
Mr Robert Best	Descent	Horsham, West Sussex

Total number of Members is 214.

I am pleased to say that new members have visited the LCA website and found the information they required there.

*Carol Goodwin*  
Membership Secretary

## Editor/Newsletter

The aim of the quarterly newsletter is to promote the London Cornish Association by reporting on past events and publicising forthcoming activities in the hopes that it will encourage members, and any cousins visiting London, to participate in our social programme. We also include

news from our cousins around the world and items of general Cornish interest which we think will appeal to our readers.

The newsletters, which are available in both hard copy and pdf formats, are sent to members, local and overseas Cornish associations, the Cornish media and Cornish MPs as well as to organisations such as the Cornish Gorsedh and UK Local Deposit Libraries. The advantage of getting a pdf copy by email is that pictures are in colour! A pdf copy is available on the LCA website – [www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk).

We rely on our members to contribute short items or leads but sadly, the amount of copy coming in has continued to drop off meaning that the newsletter is now shorter in length and there is less variety in the items included. I would like to repeat my on-going plea for members to contribute reports and articles. They could be anything from a short item on something you have seen or attended to a photo with a caption. Or, what we would love to receive are reports on one of our events. You can send these to me by mail (address on the back of the newsletter) or they can be emailed to me via the LCA website – [www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk).

In concluding this report, I would like to thank those members who have supported us by responding to items in the newsletters and a special thanks goes to those who have sent in articles or leads over the past year. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

*Elizabeth Broekmann*  
Editor

## Treasurer's Report

### Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Bank Account Balance March 31st 2016	£	£
		7272.08
<u>Income</u>		
Subscriptions	2725.00	
Donations	245.00	
Interest Received	<u>25.16</u>	
		2995.16
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Printing Newsletter and Leaflets	1085.00	
Insurance	733.70	
Postage, Paper and Envelopes	541.37	
Annual Dinner, Family History and Social Events	519.35	
Expenses, Publicity and Special Events	246.35	
Website	<u>111.71</u>	
		3237.48
Deficit of Income over Expenditure		-242.32
Bank Account Balance March 31st 2017		<b>7029.76</b>

## Notes

At the financial year end 31<sup>st</sup> March the association held a bank balance of £7029.76 with income less than expenditure.

Our main source of funds is from the annual membership subscriptions at the current rate of £15 and donations that members feel able to make for which we are grateful.

Last year we successfully incorporated the Trelawny Lecture and AGM into the April Family History Day to contain costs and we will have the same arrangement this year. The Annual Dinner continued as a lunch this year and was successful although not profitable, Family History days did not manage to cover all their costs but unfortunately we

had to change our venue for the October meeting resulting in less attending.

Printing the Newsletter is our highest expense but we feel it worthwhile to keep in contact with our members, we also had some running costs for our Website [www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk) which we hope to use more in the future to keep our members informed.

*Jacqueline Trembath*  
Treasurer

## Cornish folk music

Harry Safari Glasson was for many years, a well-known Cornish singer and musician admired for his performances of Cornish folk songs. One of the well-known songs he wrote is *Cornwall my Home*. This was written in the late 1990s especially for a newly formed choir, the *Cape Cornwall Singers*. Glasson's 30 year singing career sadly ended in 2009 when he lost his voice box as a result of cancer.

Now another Cornish musician, Will Keating, who lives in Falmouth, is hoping to record an album to celebrate the work of Harry Glasson. Keating belongs to the Falmouth vocal group known as *The Oggymen* but also does solo performances.

It is hoped that local musicians will be involved in the music on this album.

You can find out more at <http://willkeatingcornwall.com/>

The following are the lyrics for the song Glasson wrote for the Cape Cornwall Singers.

### CORNWALL MY HOME

I've stood on Cape Cornwall in the sun's evening glow,  
On Chywoone Hill at Newlyn to watch the fishing fleets go,  
Watched the sheave wheels at Geevor as they spun around  
And heard the men singing as they go underground.

And no one will ever move me from this land  
Until the Lord calls me to sit at his hand.  
For this is my Eden, and I'm not alone.  
For this is my Cornwall and this is my home.

I've left childish footsteps in the soft Sennen sand,  
I've chased the maids there, all giggly and tanned.  
I've stood on the cliff top in a westerly blow  
And heard the wave thunder on the rocks far below.

First thing in the morning, on Chapel Carn Brea  
And gaze at the Scillies in the blue far away.  
For this is my Cornwall, and I'll tell you why  
Because I was born here and here I shall die.

*Harry Glasson*

<http://www.stamp-and-go.co.uk/Cornwall%20my%20Home.html>

## Don't deny us our global Celtic identity says Grand Bard of Cornwall

'Launceston has a proud place in Cornwall's story. It is the historic capital of Cornwall and the castle was built by Brian of Brittany, the Breton knight who became the first Earl of Cornwall following the Norman Conquest. The creation of this earldom recognised Cornwall's historic integrity and laid the foundations for the constitutional differences that make modern Cornwall distinct from England.'

With these spirited words Merv Davey, *Telynyor an Weryn*, Grand Bard of Cornwall and passionate Cornishman, began his Proclamation speech on behalf of the bards of Gorsedh Kernow who had gathered in the town Square.

'Today it is our culture and heritage which is under threat' said the Grand Bard, 'and despite a potential climbdown on the much-maligned Devonwall issue there are still forces at large today that would deny us our Celtic, global identity and demote Cornwall to a provincial existence on the periphery of a so-called south west region.'

Criticising the lack of TV and radio coverage of recent St Piran's Day celebrations, the Grand Bard warned against indifference and negative stereotyping by the media which sometimes led to expressions of intolerance and racism towards Cornish people.

'We do, however, have the use of some powerful democratic tools,' said the Grand Bard, 'including recognition of the Cornish language, Kernewek, National Minority Status and the Devolution Deal which gives a clear commitment to cherish and promote our precious Cornish culture.'

Proudly representing the town, the Mayor of Launceston, Cllr Brian Hogan, warmly welcomed Gorsedh Kernow and formally invited the gathering of blue robed bards to hold their bardic ceremony and Esedhvos Festival of Cornish Culture in Launceston later in the year.

'Launceston is and has been a bastion of Cornishness on the banks of the Tamar, our border with England, and its predecessors, for more than a millennium,' said Merv Davey, 'and on behalf of all my fellow bards I am delighted to accept this kind invitation from the Mayor and townspeople of Launceston.'

*Gorsedh Kernow*



*Launceston Castle which was built by Brian of Brittany, the Breton knight who became the first Earl of Cornwall*

## Cornish maid meets Cornish Cousins

The *Pacific Northwest Cornish Society* holds 3 meetings a year during which they enjoy a program with a Cornish theme. One of these meetings is held around St Piran's Day, when members gather to celebrate and commemorate Cornwall's patron saint.

This year, the PNCS invited Elizabeth Trelawny-Vernon to join them at the St Piran's Day get-together. She is the niece of Sir John Trelawny, the 14th Baronet of Trelawne and President of the LCA and is currently on an exchange programme at the University of Washington in Seattle where she is studying Art History. She gave a speech on the joys of being Cornish, the history of the Song of the Western Men and her ancestor – Bishop John Trelawny, 3rd Baronet. She says of the day that *....It was an incredible experience to meet the descendents of the wave of immigrant tin and copper miners from Cornwall who came out to the USA to start a new life and listen to their stories about Cornwall.*

Here are her impressions of this special day...

### **An encounter with the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society.**

You know that St Piran's day is near when you see a car hurtle through campus waving the Cornish flag. Although, I had to do a double take.

My campus is some 4700 miles from Cornwall in the northwest tip of the USA. The University of Washington is in Seattle, WA, where I am undertaking a study abroad program. How was it that my two worlds share such a strong national pride for Cornwall? In my research, I discovered there was a Pacific Northwest Cornish Society 'PNCS'. An email and telephone exchange later and before I knew it I had an invitation to join them for St Piran's Day.

A red Subaru arrived and any nerves I had vanished when I saw the welcoming smiles of Craig (PNCS president) and Colleen Pedlar. My grandfather, Sir John Trelawny, always referred to the 'spirit of Cornwall' within a person. Craig and Colleen embodied this spirit. Fierce patriotism and big hearts, they were overflowing with kindness. Together, we set off to the meeting-place in Puyallup which is about an hour south of Seattle, meanwhile discussing all things Cornish.

I learnt from Craig that the PNCS was formed as a non-profit society devoted to educating people about their Cornish heritage. The members conduct genealogical research about their Cornish roots. There were about 36 members when the organization was started in 1998. There are now about 55. Between 25 and 30 attend the three meetings that are held each year (March, July and October).

Craig has been on a mission to find out about his Cornish heritage. He first learned from a New Zealand cousin, in the 1980's, that his father was born in Cornwall and his grandfather had been a miner there. The Pedlar family emigrated to Butte, Montana in the early 1900's.

Craig told me *'When my wife and I are travelling in Cornwall, we like to go 'wandering', with no plan of where we may go'*. On one 'wander' in Cornwall, he was able to find a great-grandparent's house near Withiel. Craig had used information from a Cornish cousin's memoir, an old Cor-

nish black and white milepost, the grave marker of the same great-grandparents and help from a local farmer. The residents of that house contacted another 'Pedlar' and so two branches of the family were reunited after six generations.

On another visit and armed with a few old postcards from an aunt, a very old picture and an Ordinance Survey Map, he was able to find the cottage where his father was born near Liskeard. The then current owners had a similar old picture which confirmed the 'find'. In Craig's words, it was then and there that he *'finally found his home'*. He and his wife have returned many times since 1997.

We arrived in Puyallup at a church fellowship hall, buzzing with people and a table fit to burst with Cornish food. Their ancestors, for the most part, were either miners or ship-builders that moved to areas such as Montana, Wisconsin, Michigan and California where, in Grass Valley, the population was over 60% Cornish in the 1890s.

Shoulder to shoulder, we studied a map to point out where we have our Cornish connections. Craig and I had roots in the Liskeard area, as did Alene who also had links to Penzance. Bob and Shirley have ancestors from St Austell and Redruth, Dot from Penwith, Pendeen and Madron, Joan of St Hillary and the Scilly Islands, Bob and Ann of Par and Dick whose family mined both near Penzance and moved to Minnesota. Penzance was the most popular town which given its mining history is not surprising.

We all sat down for a meal before some speeches. In my speech, I told them about the history of my Trelawny Family who lived in Pelynt. I retold the story behind the Song of the Western Men. My ancestor Bishop Trelawny was imprisoned in the Tower of London much to the horror of 20,000 Cornishmen who marched to London to free him. Cornishmen will be thrilled to hear that they sing this song every year on St Piran's Day and at the Pacific Northwest Highland Games.

There were so many wonderful tales which the society plans to make into a book. Bonnie did not know she was Cornish until 1986. At the World's Fair in Vancouver, Bonnie met a lady from Land's End, a location she discovered also to be in her family history. The former president Alene had a great aunt, Maude Sincock, who was one of the 60 passengers from Cornwall and Devon on board the Titanic and one of less than 20 to survive the disaster. She was transferred to the Titanic due to a coal strike on another ship. I also heard of a Yowann Byghan who is a former president of the PNCS and a fluent Cornish Bard.

A fascinating story came from Gordon Bennett. He tracked down his ancestry to state of Hidalgo and the municipalities of Real Del Monte and Pachuca in Mexico where a large Cornish mining population had developed since the 1820s. These miners, or 'Cousin Jacks' as they came to be known, built their institutions and houses with red corrugated-iron roofing and double pitched rooflines that lent a distinctive Cornish-style. This architecturally unique city in Mexico was the brain-child of mining entrepreneur and British enthusiast Francis Rule. Rule had gone so far as to have installed a giant clock tower that chimed in sync with Big Ben and also to face all 650 tombstones towards the British Isles! These included 6 members of Gordon's family. The Cornish miners brought along many cultural practices and food. To this day there is a 'Museo del Paste' in Real del Monte. Whilst in Pachuca, Gordon was amazed to uncover that his ancestor, James Bennett, had

been a star player for the The Pachuca Football Club, the first professional football club in Mexico set up by the Cornishmen. 'So perhaps it was....' Gordon hastened to add, 'that the Cornish gave the Mexicans football'.

Later that day we returned to the U of W and as I was saying my goodbyes, Craig walked to the boot of his car and, with a beaming smile, handed me two wrappings in tin foil...

Of course, it could only be, the most heartwarming gift of all.

Cornish Pasties!

*Elizabeth Trelawny-Vernon (age 20)*



*Members of The Pacific Northwest Cornish Society who heard Elizabeth's talk. Elizabeth is standing in the middle back row and Craig is standing next to her, wearing white.*

## Family History Coincidences

In pursuit of our family history many of us have made serendipitous discoveries that helped us on our way and added excitement to the chase. In our own family, my husband and I were aware that his Uncle Will had married my Aunt Laura, though we had never met each other as children. Later we discovered that our family trees had previously been entwined many years before – perhaps not so surprising when both came from south East Cornwall and the Devon border. My Australian friend Darrielle Mayhead, who has lived in England almost fifty years now with her Tasmanian-born husband Graeme, has found her own coincidences.

She was aware of her Cornish ancestry through the family name James, and traced it to the St Just mining area, Trewellard/Pendeen, where a great, great uncle, Thomas James, a 'pious lad' according to in St Just church records, had been killed in a mining accident. She believes the family originally came from Paul, near Mousehole. Her great grandfather, also called Noah, was married in St Just. While researching this Noah's records she came across the name Goninon, a rare name which originated in Cornwall and was the name of her husband's mother. It pointed to the fact that her ancestor probably knew her husband's ancestor. Both Goninan's and Noah James's family emigrated to Australia during the time of the gold rush in the 1850s.

Now for some more unlikely coincidences. Darrielle owns an interesting James Family Bible which has descended to her as the oldest surviving woman of the family. Sadly, she has had to leave it with a cousin in Australia because of transportation difficulties but she loves Family Bibles. She also enjoys charity shops and often makes interesting discoveries in them. Recently she wandered into one, on a rare visit to Coulsdon, near Croydon. She pricked up her ears on hearing a couple of shop assistants discussing the fate of a large Family Bible that had been handed in. They assumed it would not sell and were wondering if Croydon Museum would take it which seemed unlikely. Darrielle asked to have a look and, curious, wrote down the family name, promising to do some research for them.

Using the family history networks she soon traced the name to a distinguished gentleman in Oxford and thence to Australia – an address very near to a friend of hers – thence to Canada, and finally back to West Wickham, adjoining Croydon and very near to where she lives. The family there are in touch with those in Canada, who are delighted to hear about the discovered Bible and grateful for my friend's curiosity. Moreover, the wife at West Wickham works at the other charity shop in Coulsdon and would pick up the Family Bible the next day! Beat that!

*Sheila Henwood*

## Growing up in Redruth in the 50s and 60s

I was born in Redruth in November 1949 to Linda Foreman (nee Grantham) and RAF flight sergeant Ernest Foreman. We lived at number one Southgate Street on the busy crossroads leading onto the Helston and Falmouth roads and into Redruth town centre. The house was owned at that time by my grandfather Nicholas Grantham, a well-known businessman who ran an egg packing station at the top of South Albany Road.

My parents started up their own business which ran through the 1950s. It was a very successful fish and chip café and take-away, fully equipped, from what is now the front room of the old house. My father had the first crinkle-cut chip machine in Cornwall, which was later sold on to another business in St Austell.

The attached picture shows me standing on the Bucket's Hill side of the old house. Just further along was the old council depot and mine waste site where a group of local children used to gather and build 'camps' amongst the 'donkey rhubarb' growing there. This plant was later recognised as the dreaded Japanese knotweed!

Morrishes took over this site in stages during the 1950s and by 1957 had their own fish and chip take-away there which competed with that of my father. My father had by then decided to go back to a previous, pre-war career as a painter and decorator.

My sister, Heather, arrived in 1958 and Mum and Dad decided to build a bungalow on land left to Mum by her father in South Albany Road – where she still lives, aged 91!

Redruth was a great, safe, bustling place to live in the 1950s and 1960s. We regularly attended St Andrew's Church, sometimes three times on a Sunday, including Sunday school. My grandmother, Evelyn Grantham (nee Annear), was one of the first people to be confirmed in this church after it was built.

From five years old, I attended Trewirgie School which then had classes of as many as forty-four pupils, but the teachers had no problems with any of us as we were a well-disciplined crowd.

There were some excellent shops in Redruth town centre, including good clothes shops such as the Ladybird shop which sold girl's clothing, West end department stores – which I remember as being a bit like television's *Grace Brothers* in *Are you being served?* There was Cockings for ladies clothing and Gribbles for 'posh' outfits. Mum shopped every weekday and we did a lot of walking on roads that were so much safer back then, with slower vehicles. Treloar's grocery shop in Southgate Street was our mainstay for daily needs and from the age of six, I would be sent up the street to News Nursery to buy fresh flowers for Mum. About this time, I was given a scooter for Christmas from my grandparents, which I absolutely loved. I could ride on the pavement the entire length of the street without stopping or putting my foot down once!

The Opies ran a hardware and household goods shop opposite our café, also selling paraffin. The business still exists today. I was friendly with their son, Roger Opie, the attraction being that he had a rabbit called Wilfred in the garden!

All the Dads worked long hours. My best friend, Margaret Glasson lived a few houses away. Her Dad was a builder. We knew the Andrews boys as well. The metal business is still there on Bucket Hill.

August was the month to spend on Portreath beach. We would board the bus in town for the three-and-a-half-mile journey, with Velma the clippie punching our tickets. It became the standing joke in our family that we never had 'away' holidays because we lived near the coast, but Dad enjoyed taking us on a yearly bus ride to Falmouth for a special day out.

Does anyone out there remember Foreman's Fish and Chips? Morrishes try and say it was always theirs, which saddens me, as they never owned my old home or my parent's business. I am in touch with the current owner of the old house who is in agreement with me and supports my history as correct.

I would be happy to hear from any readers who might remember my parent's old home or the fish and chip shop. I can be contacted at [indakayhart01@talktalk.net](mailto:indakayhart01@talktalk.net).

*Kay Hart*

*Torbay Cornish Association*



*Kay standing outside Number 1 Southgate Street, Redruth where the Formans fish and chip cafe used to be.*

## Well Dressing at St Cleer Well

Early in May, the annual St Cleer Well Dressing took place. Key players in this ceremony are the children of St Cleer Primary School who, each year, dance up to the well, following a Cornish piper. This year they were led by the Grand Bard, Merv Davey.

The ceremony included an address by the Deputy Mayor of Liskeard after which, the Lord's Prayer was said in Cornish and Trelawny was sung by *one and All*. The well was decorated with the posies of flowers brought along by the children.

The water from this well is reputed to cure madness, rickets and epilepsy.



*St Cleer Well*

## St Keyne Well cleanup

A few days after the well dressing at St Cleer, the bi-annual clean-up of St Keyne Holy Well took place. This was undertaken by a small working party from the Liskeard Old Cornwall Society. Cleaning the well twice a year is a long-standing tradition going back to the 1930s when a local solicitor bought the well and gave it to the parish church with the proviso that be maintained by the Liskeard OCS.

There is a legend that Saint Keyne, who lived in about 600AD, put a spell on the well. The story goes that whichever partner in a marriage is the first to drink from the well after the ceremony will have the upper hand in the marriage! According to folklore, one new bride outwitted her husband; as he ran off to the well. She had been clever enough to fill a jug with water from the well and hide it in the church. After the wedding, while her husband headed to the well, she drank from this jug of water – and so she was the first to drink the waters from the well after the ceremony and thus became the head of the family!

*Duncan Paul Matthews*

# News from other Cornish Associations

## United States

The big event on the US Cornish scene is the forthcoming *18th Gathering of the Cornish Cousins*. The Cornish **American Heritage Society** is very busy organising the event which will take place in Salisbury/Gold Hill, North Carolina in early November. The theme for the gathering will be *'If picks and shovels could talk.'*

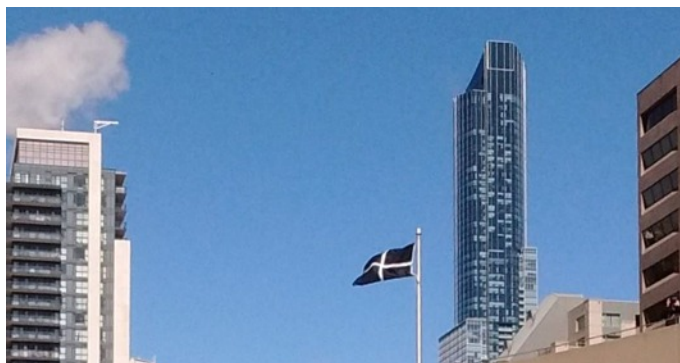
The **Pacific Northwest Cornish Society** meet three times a year. At their most recent meeting, they celebrated St Piran's Day with a talk by Elizabeth Trelawny-Vernon who is currently studying at the University of Washington and is a descendant of Bishop John Trelawny. You can read about her experience elsewhere in this newsletter.

Over 50 members of the **Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society** gathered at Walker House to celebrate St Piran's Day in March. Here they were able *'to honour St Piran, enjoy good fellowship and a right fitty pasty lunch'*. During the day, the winners of the Benson Writing Contest were introduced to members who then had the pleasure of hearing their winning entries.

The Society held its annual meeting early in May. This took the form of a 'pot luck' lunch. After the meal, the Redruth/Mineral Point exchange students spoke of their experiences in Cornwall. The business meeting followed.

## Canada

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Twelve members of the **Toronto Cornish Association** braved the cool weather to attend the annual St Piran's Day flag raising ceremony at Toronto's City Hall. The ceremony took place at 10.30am and was followed by the singing of Trelawny and some well deserved coffee at a nearby eatery.



*Standing proudly - The Cornish flag in Toronto*  
In April, members took part in a *'Show and Tell'*, bringing in items which relate to their Cornish interests and links. In May, Jim Dagg gave a presentation on Cornish music.

The Association has several interesting talks lined up for the coming months. Two of these relate to Oshawa, a large city on Lake Ontario which is closely linked with the automobile industry, specifically the Canadian division of General Motors. In July, John Webb's presentation will be entitled *'From Padstow to Oshawa: The Pedlar's 1840*

*Journey'* which will focus the Pedlar family who were part of a large group of Cornish people who went out to Canada in 1841. This will be followed in October by a talk entitled *Oshawa's Cornish Roots* which will be presented by staff from the Oshawa Museum.

In August, they will hold their Annual Picnic. They seem fairly optimistic (and not at all daunted) about weather prospects as a note in the newsletter says *'There will not be a rain date – this event will happen on the 19<sup>th</sup> rain or shine!!'*

## Australia

Like so many Cornish Associations, the **Cornish Association of Queensland** is suffering from a lack of new volunteers to fill vacancies on their Committee. At their AGM in March, the existing Committee, which was due to retire, agreed to stand again to help ensure the Association's future.

Again, like so many Associations, CAQ is looking at the best way forward. One of the suggestions is that the name be changed to something like *Friends of Cornwall* and the group become more informal. This would eliminate the need to hire halls or pay public liability insurance. It was also suggested that future meetings take place at members' homes, on the beach or in a park. Even with these changes, the group would still be able to retain its links with the *Celtic Council of Australia Queensland Inc*, (CCAQ) and join in some of their events.

In mid-June, the CCAQ will hold their Annual Friendship Day which this year will take the form of a BBQ and CAQ members will join them. They also hope to attend the CCAQ's Christmas celebration in November.

At their February meeting, Members of the **Cornish Association of Victoria** enjoyed a talk by Robyn Coates on the early history of education in Victoria and more particularly about a Cornish born teacher named William Henry Nicholls. He was educated in Ballarat, trained as a pupil teacher, and went on to become the headmaster of Mt Pleasant State School in 1864.

Family history has featured at two recent meetings of the Association. In March, Robert Gribben spoke about writing his second family history book while in April, Thomas and Jill Beard spoke about the South Australian Michell Family.

The CAV will hold its AGM in July.

The St Piran's Day celebrations of the **Ballarat Branch** of the **Cornish Association of Victoria**, were held at Carn Brea with 30 members from across the state in attendance. After some tea and chat, Keith Lanyon gave a short history of St Piran. This was followed by an 'energetic' singing of Trelawny. The Cornish flag was raised and a sheath of flowers was placed in memory of the Cornish miners who settled in Ballarat. This was followed by lunch.

In April, Keith Lanyon gave a very interesting talk entitled *What's in a name?* in which he looked at the origin of surnames.

The Branch will hold its AGM early in June.

Several members of the **Cornish Association of South Australia** travelled to Moonta on 5th March to join up with the **Yorke Peninsula Branch** of the Association for a St Piran's Day celebration. They enjoyed a pasty picnic lunch together and, according to the CASA newsletter, '*June Ladner's home-made pasties were a treat!*'

In mid-May, members of the Association attended the *Kernewek Lowender* festival and joined in the many interesting and varied activities which had been organised.

The **Cornish Association of New South Wales** held their AGM on 4th March, followed by a St Piran's Day Lunch. Thirty five members and friends attended. From the photographs in the April/May newsletter, it is evident that it was a happy event with not only good food and plenty of chat but also some music from Jacqui and John. They are obviously very welcoming to other Celtic groups as one could not help noticing the Welsh flag on one of the tables!

There was no meeting in May as several of their members attended Kernewek Lowender. However, they have a programme with plenty variety (and lots of pasties) in the coming months starting with a Cornish Pasty meetup early in June, followed by a Pasty Day in August.

The AGM of the **Southern Sons of Cornwall** was well attended and a new committee was sworn in.

The new Committee has been busy planning the forthcoming social programme. In July they hope to spend a leisurely day in Kiama where there seems to be something for everyone from shopping to wandering around, visiting the market or the blowhole and finally meeting up at the Group Seven League Club for lunch.

The Southern Sons now has its own Facebook page which is apparently getting a lot of visitors. Why not take a look when you are next online? - and maybe become a friend.

## Are you planning to visit London?

Don't forget to contact the London Cornish Association and let us know when you are coming. If possible, we would love to meet you.

**Contact us at:**

**Email:** [lca@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:lca@londoncornish.co.uk)

**Snail mail:** The Editor, 55 Brownell Place, London W7 3AZ

*A warm welcome awaits you at the London Cornish Association*

## A Cornish Miscellany

We have received emails about the following items of Cornish interest:

### Kernow Kei Cornish tartan items

<https://www.etsy.com/people/merrynrogers>

Merryn Rogers is making and selling a range of tartan items from underpants and scarves to dog poop bag holders. To look at her range, visit her page on Etsy.

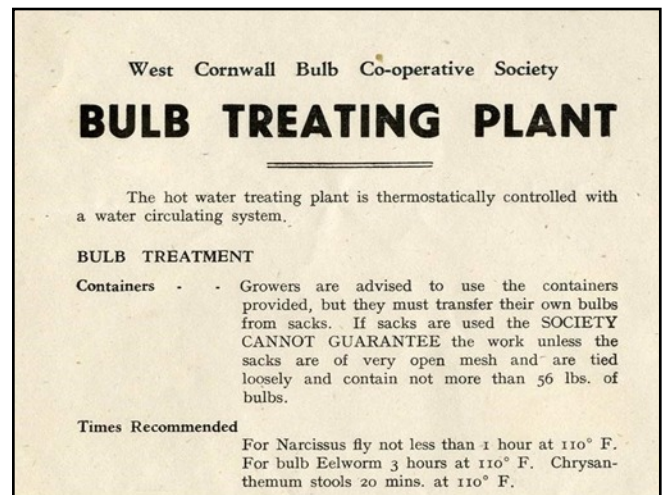
### New book by Cornish author

Bruce Johns, who is descended from a Cornish family who came to London early in the 19th century has written a book on them. Titled *The Dancer and the Drum*, it traces their 'journey from Redruth to varying degrees of prosperity (or its reverse) in the capital'.

Bruce will be attending the Family History Day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October and will speak to us during the lunch break.

## News from Kresen Kernow

### A Collection Highlight ...



When you think of the thriving daffodil industry in Cornwall, chances are you will imagine some of the beautiful varieties produced here, one of the most popular being the Carlton variety, originally bred by Percival Dacres Williams (1865-1935). However, this document, entitled 'Bulb Treating Plant', provides an insight into the plights the daffodil industry faced, such as Eelworm and the Narcissus Fly, which put the industry at risk of collapse. Infected bulbs would grow distorted, frequently dying, which devalued the prices of daffodils, affecting the growers' income. To prevent this, the hot water plant was developed by J. K. Ramsbottom in 1916, where the bulbs are submitted to a bath of 43.3 degrees celsius, killing any diseases without impairing the future growth of the plants. This document, from Cornwall Record Office, was published by the West Cornwall Bulb Cooperative Society, and provided advice on how to treat diseased bulbs

# Spotted around Cornwall



FREE! FIREWOOD  
← go on ROAST A woodworm!

SALUBRIOUS PLACE

FIRST AID  
& MISSING  
CHILDREN'S  
POST



NOTICE  
~~~~~  
HUMAN VISITORS WELCOME,  
HOWEVER JACKDANS  
"PLEASE KEEP OUT"

## My Meanderings

As you know I have given up as Membership Secretary following my wife's stroke at the end of August and her eight weeks in hospital. Jenny is making progress and is now home where she is being helped by the physiotherapists to walk again.

Do you know of anybody of Cornish decent or perhaps who has an interest in or love for Cornwall? Please do direct them to the London Cornish Association and encourage them to join the LCA.

Once again, I refer to the Trelawny Club, which I have mentioned in previous *Meanderings*. It was originally for members up to the age of 30. I have asked if anybody would like to reestablish the Club, but with an upper age limit of perhaps 40, 50 or 60 years. So far there has been no response. If you have thought about it do not hesitate to let me or the Editor know.

I recently saw the following 'jokes' in a magazine and thought they were rather amusing:

- *When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.*
- *A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.*
- *A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.*
- *The batteries were given free of charge.*
- *A boiled egg is hard to beat.*
- *A bicycle can't stand alone; it is too tired.*
- *Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.*
- *When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.*
- *The guy who fell on to an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.*
- *The person who had a photographic memory was never developed.*

- *When she saw her first strand of grey hair she thought she'd dye.*
- *Acupuncture is a job well done. That's the point of it.*
- *England has no kidney bank but it does have a Liverpool.*
- *I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.*

As you have no doubt expected I was going to be looking at many interesting articles in my copy of the 1854 '*Geography of Cornwall*' to which I have previously referred. There were so many interesting items in this book which were useful for these *Meandering*'. I also looked at a copy of '*Kelly's Directory of Cornwall*', which was published in 1897, and found other interesting details about Cornwall.

Previous *Meanderings* have hopefully reminded you of your memories of Cornwall, including those of your childhood. What did you do in your school days or, perhaps, in your early working days, in that marvellous county of Cornwall?

Having a look through the Kelly's Directory of 1897 I read the following table (*see below*) that showed the acreage under each kind of crop, and the number of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the County of Cornwall, based on the 1896 Agricultural Returns.

Next question: '*What is a pasty?*' We have, of course, all heard this question. Well those of you who are traditionalists mustn't be too horrified when I say that the Dictionary definition of a pasty is a '*pastry case with a sweet or savoury filling, baked without a dish to shape it*'. More important is the question '*What is a Cornish Pasty?*' Well, a 'Traditional Cornish Pasty' is, of course, something special and we all know what that contains. The problem is how to tell the difference between various types of pasties -- well years ago I found a shop (I shall not say where - actually, I can't remember where!) that had a

| <u>CROPS</u>                                | <u>ACRES</u> | <u>LIVE STOCK</u>                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Corn and cereals                            | 120,348      | Horses for agriculture, brood mares and unbroken horses | 34,400     |
| Roots, artificial grasses, cabbage and rape | 48,782       | Cows in milk or calf                                    | 68,262     |
| Clover and grasses                          | 181,610      | Other cattle                                            | 132,565    |
| Permanent pasture                           | 247,669      | Sheep, 1 year old                                       | 246,579    |
| Bare fallow                                 | 4,427        | Ditto, under 1 year                                     | 181,087    |
| Orchards                                    | 5,096        | Pigs                                                    | 100,074    |
| Small fruit                                 | 1,948        |                                                         |            |
| Market-gardens                              | 1,857        |                                                         |            |
| Woods and plantations                       | 31,043       |                                                         |            |
|                                             |              | Cornwall contained in 1891, inhabited houses            | 70,558     |
|                                             |              | Parishes                                                | 223        |
|                                             |              | In 1874 - Owners of land below 1 acre                   | 8,714      |
|                                             |              | Owners of land of 1 acre and upwards                    | 5,149      |
|                                             |              | Total acreage of rated lands                            | 861,674    |
|                                             |              | Rateable value                                          | £1,310,773 |
|                                             |              | Common or waste land, acres                             | 43,287     |
|                                             |              | Total acreage of the County                             | 868,208    |

notice on the counter giving directions as to how they marked their pasties for easy identification.

| <u>PASTY TYPE</u>       | <u>MARKINGS</u>                    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Traditional             | One knife hole                     |
| Cheese & onion          | Three fork holes                   |
| Vegetable               | Herbs on pastry                    |
| Bacon, leek, cheese     | Two fork holes                     |
| Indian chicken          | One knife hole and two fork holes  |
| Apple & figgy           | Two large round holes              |
| Chocolate & banana      | Two knife holes and one fork hole  |
| Mexican beef holes      | Two knife holes and two fork holes |
| Spicy Chickpea & Potato | One knife hole and one fork hole   |
| Apple                   | Two round holes                    |

We all have our own opinions and choices of pasty, but top of my list is the pasty that cannot be beaten -- a real homemade traditional Cornish Pasty as made by my wife who says that she hopes it will not be too long before she can make them again.

In the UK, thoughts of the weather are never far away! Winter is now behind us and we are well into spring, with summer just around the corner – and I suppose it won't be long before we are complaining of the long days and the summer heat!

Well that is all for now' I hope you have found these *Meanderings* to be of interest.

*Kernow bys vyken*

*Graham Pearce*

*(Past Membership Secretary)*

## Crowdy Crawn

### **Non-Cornish pasty makers scoop the big one!**



Canadian bakers, Gerry and Marlee Ramier of the *Piskie Pie Company* in St. Catherine's, Ontario were the victors at this year's World Pasty Championships which took place at Cornwall's Eden Project in March. Their pasty won the *Cornish Pasty Professional Category*. This is an incredible achievement considering, the Piskie Pie Company is only a year old and this was the first time the couple had taken part in the competition which has been dubbed the 'Oggy Oscars'.

**Q: When is a daffodil a peppercorn?**

A: When it is paid in rent!

The Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, which manages around 60 per cent of the Scilly Isles, including the uninhabited islands, plays an important role in protecting the wildlife of the area. In return, it pays the Duchy rent of one daffodil a year for the use of the land.



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## **Boddens, Bawdens and the Caymans**

Do you have Boddens or Bawdens in your family? Did one of them fight with Cromwell in the Anglo Spanish War? If so, you may be in the running for a trip to the Cayman Islands!

The gentleman at the centre of this investigation, was a Cornishman by the name of Bodden. He originally went out to invade Jamaica with Cromwell's army during the Anglo-Spanish war. He never returned to Britain and in 1658, was declared the first settler of the previously uninhabited Cayman Islands. His grandson, Isaac Bodden was born on Grand Cayman and was recorded as the first official resident. Today, many of the Cayman population have the surname, Bodden.

Eric Bush, the Cayman Island's representative in the UK says the Cornish legacy is strong, with several similarities between the cultures of the two countries

The islanders are keen to find true descendants of that first Bodden and would like to take them out to the islands so families can reconnect. If you think you might be one of the descendants, contact the Cayman Islands Government Office at [info@cigo.co.uk](mailto:info@cigo.co.uk)

### **A touch of humour to end...**

#### **Proud to be Cornish**

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, Australian scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years, and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Aussies, in the weeks that followed an American Archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet and, shortly after, a story was published in the New York Times: 'American archaeologists, finding traces of 250-year-old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network 50 years earlier than the Australians'.

One week later, the Council in Cornwall reported the following: 'After digging as deep as 30 feet in St Just, Denzil Penberthy, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely bugger all. Denzil has therefore concluded that 250 years ago, Cornwall had already gone wireless!

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**The deadline for the next issue of the LCA Newsletter is**

**5th August**

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