



GORSEDH KERNOW

The Celtic Spirit of Cornwall

LYTHER BARDHEK - BARDIC NEWSLETTER

Mis Whevrer bys dhe vis Ebrel 2017 / February to April 2017

Henwyn rag Kannas Bardh Meur / Nominations for Deputy Grand Bard

There is still time for you to nominate a fellow bard as the next Deputy Grand Bard/Grand Bard. Unless exceptional circumstances dictate otherwise, it is understood that the Deputy Grand Bard elect will take over as Grand Bard after a term of three years without a further election. Nominations must be received in writing by two bards as proposer and seconder and all such nominations must be accompanied by the written consent of the candidate and a short election address. **Nominations must reach the Returning Officer by 31st March 2017** and should be sent by email to Membership@gorsedkernow.org.uk or by post to Gorsedh Kernow Returning Officer.

Gwarnyans an Orsedh ha KKB dhe Lannstevan / Gorsedh Proclamation and AGM at Launceston

This will be on **Saturday 22nd April** at 11am and the Procession of Bards will leave Launceston Town Hall, Westgate Street, Launceston, PL15 7AR at **10.45am**. (*This was earlier in 2016 as there was a wedding in the Parish Church that same morning and we didn't wish to cause inconvenience to guests arriving for that.*)

9.30am Robing in the Otho Peter Room, Launceston Town Hall, all Bards to be robed by 10.30am. The procession will go from the Town Hall and the ceremony will take place at 11am in **The Square**. The route is via Westgate Street and includes quite a steep slope for the first 100 yards but Westgate Street itself is flat.

Launceston TC negotiated a deal with Cornwall Council car parks a couple of years ago and the Walk House car park and the main car park at Race Hill (not the short stay) are £1 all day on Saturdays. Free after 4.00pm. Launceston Town Council 3 level car park next to the Town Hall is 60p for 1 hour; £1.30 for 2; £2.00 for 3; £3.00 for 4; and £5.00 for 10 hours. Free after 6.00pm and on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

If any **bards with disabilities** wish to attend the Proclamation ceremony and AGM there are designated parking bays in the multi storey carpark next to the Town Hall. If you drive down to the bottom level to park you are on the same street level as the Town Hall (turn left as you come out). Entrance to the Town Hall is up two steps or there is a sloping path to one side.

If you wish to come straight to The Square it is dropping off only by the cobbled area although apparently car owners with disabled badges sometimes park for short periods in certain parts of Westgate Street. You are advised to judge the situation for yourself when you arrive.

If wet, the whole Proclamation ceremony will take place in the main hall of Launceston Town Hall. Please note that this is a different venue to the one where the Gorsedh bardic ceremony will be held in September.

The **Gorsedh Kernow AGM** will take place at **1.00pm** on the same day in the **main hall of Launceston Town Hall** after the Proclamation ceremony. You are welcome to bring your own lunch although there are plenty of shops and cafes in the town where you can buy food. Tea and coffee will be available at the Town Hall and there are toilets there as well. The AGM is expected to last no longer than an hour and a half and it would be really good if as many bards as possible could attend please as decisions are usually made by those who turn up!

Your presence at both the Proclamation ceremony and, if possible, the AGM after will be most appreciated as a demonstration of your continuing strong support for our precious Cornish culture, the importance of our Minority Status and Gorsedh Kernow's unwavering recognition of Cornwall as a Celtic nation. The day is especially relevant, you may have noticed, being sandwiched between the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II and St George's Day!

Plans are also well underway for the annual **September Esedhvos Festival and bardic ceremony**, which starts on Wednesday 30th August and runs right through until Sunday 3rd September, so why not consider making the Esedhvos Festival part of your annual holiday and join those who already enjoy the great variety of events during the days in and around the Saturday bardic ceremony. If you would like to stay locally you are advised to book your accommodation as soon as possible.

Ostyans yn Lannstevan / Accommodation in Launceston

There are no longer any large hotels in the town since Eagle House was put up for sale although there is plenty of self catering accommodation in and around Launceston. The Tourist Information Office is a good place to start and their website link is <http://www.visitlaunceston.co.uk/> or you can try the Visit Cornwall website <https://www.visitcornwall.com/accommodation>

Pewasow ha Kesstrifow Gorsedh Kernow/Gorsedh Kernow Awards and Competitions

Please continue to send entries, and encourage others to send entries for the 2017 Adults Awards and Competitions scheme and the separate Young People's Awards scheme. Full information and details for entry can be found on the Gorsedh Kernow website via the link <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/AwardsInfo2017/index.html>

Please note the earlier than last year closing date for entries which is now is 31st March 2017.

Keslowena/Congratulations

Alan Pope, *Ledyer Brest Yowynkneth*, of Redruth has been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to Music and Young People in Camborne in the New Year Honours list.

Diskwedhyans Kernow Riel 2018/Royal Cornwall Show 2018

Gorsedh Kernow is leading a new initiative to place Cornish culture at the heart of the Royal Cornwall Show 2018. Along with several other influential organisations, Gorsedh Kernow has been absent from this important showcase for Cornwall for some years now, partly because of cost and staffing, but mostly because the position offered on the showground was totally unsuitable. We are encouraging other organisations to work with us as a show of strength and support for our culture and the second of two successful exploratory meetings took place on 20th January at Lys Kernow.

Information about this exciting new project will be shared on the GK website once we have some basic plans and commitments in place, but in the meantime if you represent an organisation or group that is all about Cornish culture (rather than just culture in Cornwall) and you would like to be part of this initiative please send your details to Delia Brotherton, *Myrghwyn Melynor*, email communications@gorsedhkernow.org.uk

Gwasva Gorsedh Kernow/Gorsedh Kernow website

The website has been given a little makeover for the New Year but your news and good quality photographs are always welcome. A new page has been added giving details of the Gorsedh Kernow Endowment Fund. Donation forms can be downloaded from the website.

We have also added a new page showing, for the first time, members of the Gorsedh Kernow Council.

Kovheans / In Memoriam

We are sorry to have to pass on the sad news of the passing of bard Dr Arnold Pearce DERRINGTON, *Carer Penwith* (Lover of Penwith) who passed away peacefully on Sunday 30th October 2016 after a very happy day with his family. Derry as he was known, was born in 1922 and married Mary Helen at Pendeen in 1945. Helen as she was known, was also a bard with the bardic name *Chun*. Derry was made a bard at Marazion in 1990 for his service to the West Penwith area and his interest in JC Tregarthen and his prose. Derry's funeral was held on Monday 21st November at Madron Parish Church.

Also, we are sorry to pass on the news of one of our very active bards, Audrey Muriel Randle POOL, *Keltya*, who died on Sunday 9th November in Treliske Hospital, Truro, aged 91. Audrey was made a Bard in 1959 at Callington. Her late husband, Peter Aubrey Semour Pool was made a bard in 1955 taking the bardic name of *Gwas Galva* (Lad of Carn Galva). Audrey became a member of Agan Tavas when they changed to a society for supporting Unified Cornish and traditional Cornish in 1990 and she was always kind towards people new to Cornish, encouraging them and providing information about Cornish when she was asked. Her death will be a great loss to many bards and members of the Cornish community. Audrey's funeral took place on Tuesday 29th November at Zennor Church.

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Philip CANNON, *Gwryer Kessenyans*, died on Christmas Eve. He was 87 on 21st December. Philip was barded in 1997 at Bodmin for Services to Cornish Music. He was born in Paris in 1929 of a Cornish father and a French Mother. He learned the violin at age of ten, then learned to play the piano. He was a pupil of Vaughan Williams and studied with Imogen Holst at Dartington (1946-7) and at the RCM (1948-51) where in 1960 he was appointed professor. Phillip published many musical compositions and was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Music (FRCM) in 1971.

Also we are sorry to tell you that Mary Patricia BAWDEN, *Myrghwyn Stenor*, known as 'Pat', has died. She was made a bard in 1988 at Poldhu, Mullion. Her funeral took place on Thursday 12th January at St Stephens Church, Treleigh, Redruth.

Also, Kingsley Rickard kindly informed us of the sad news that Kenneth Mersey BROWN, *Covathor Jynnys*, passed away peacefully in the early hours of Wednesday 4th January at his nursing home at Marlborough. He was made a bard at Liskeard in 1996 for Researching Cornish Beam Engines for over 50 years; interest in Cornwall and her people. Ken was a leading light in the restoration of the Levant Whim, and of course everything to do with mining in general. He published many books and guides with Bob Acton and his records are greatly valued by many people and those in the Trevithick Society. He will be sadly missed.

Also, we are sad to tell you that Brian John SULLIVAN, *Kenderow Keltek*, from Hayle, passed away on Saturday 14th January. Brian was made a bard in 1978 at Merry Maidens, St Buryan. His funeral service will be held at 11am on Friday 10th February at Treswithian Crematorium, Camborne.

Dedhyow dydhlyver / Diary dates

Friday 3rd February, 2pm “Tin Coast – Voices from the Past” at Pendeen PC, with “Pendeen Past and Present” including music, storytelling, history of Geevor and more. All welcome. <http://cornish-mining.org.uk/news/tin-coast-voices-past>

Monday 6th February, 9.30am procession from St Ives Guildhall for St Ives Feast Day.

Wednesday 22nd February 10.30am-1pm Heritage Kernow Forum, Lys Kernow, Truro. Free tickets from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/heritage-kernow-forum-tickets-31219655831>

Saturday 25th February – Sunday 5th March Penzance Cornish Language Festival. Penzance. More info from www.cornishquest.org or www.goldentree.org.uk

Sunday 25th February 11am-3pm “Agan Lev” Community Conversation – The Future for Cornish, Acorn Theatre, Penzance. Free tickets from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/agan-lev-tickets-31229823242>

Tuesday 28th February Closing date for entries to **Gorsedh Kernow Holyer an Gof Awards**

Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th March St Piran’s weekend. Events all over Cornwall and beyond. Details of many events will be on the GK website <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/stpirans.html>

Friday 31st March Closing date for **GK Adults Awards and Competitions and Young People’s Awards**. More info from the GK website <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/awards.html>

Friday 7th – Sunday 9th April Kowethas an Yeth Cornish language weekend, Newquay. Residential or day visitor. More info from <http://www.cornish-language.org/>

Saturday 22nd April **Gorsedh Kernow Proclamation and AGM 2017**, Launceston. Details at the beginning of this newsletter.

Monday 24th April 3rd anniversary of the granting of Minority Status.

Advanced notice – Sunday 18th June **Gorsedh Kernow AWEN ceremony, Ballowall Barrow, Carn Gloose, near St Just in Penwith, West Cornwall, TR19 7NP**. Details in the next newsletter.

Nessa Lyther Newodhow Bardhek / Next Bardic Newsletter

News and information to be included in the next newsletter for May, June & July 2017, should be submitted please to Delia Brotherton, *Myrghwyn Melynor*, Communications Officer by email to communications@gorsedhkernow.org.uk by the 15th of April 2017.

If you have an email address and wish to receive the newsletter electronically please tell the Membership Secretary, David Holman on membership@gorsedhkernow.org.uk Although everyone receives the quarterly newsletter there are often “short notice” events that members who receive paper copy will not hear about.

You can also catch up with the latest news about Gorsedh Kernow on our website

www.gorsedhkernow.org.uk or you can  Find us on **Facebook** or follow us on 

If you use Facebook or Twitter it would be great if you would please “LIKE” the Gorsedh Kernow Facebook page and “FOLLOW” the GK Twitter page. *Meur ras bras* – many thanks.

Tereba nessa / Until next time..... Myrghwyn Melynor / Delia Brotherton.