



The Celtic Spirit of Cornwall

LYTHER BARDHEK - BARDIC NEWSLETTER

Mis Hwevrer bys dhe vis Ebrel 2019 / February to April 2019



Hwarvosow Peran / St Piran events

Interest in and support for events celebrating St Piran, the patron saint of tanners and Cornwall, is growing steadily and there is now a comprehensive list of events being held all over Cornwall and beyond for Piran (to be updated soon for 2019) on the Gorsedh Kernow website under Events/St Piran's Events. Bardh Meur, Kannas Bardh Meur and some past Grand Bards are often invited to take part in processions all over Cornwall and we try our best to accommodate everyone who asks for one of them to support their event. If you involved in the organisation of a St Piran event or you know about any St Piran events being planned please send details as soon possible please to the Webmaster or the Hon Sec for inclusion in the 2019 list.

Gwarnyans Gorsedh Kernow Hwel an Gever, Boskaswel Wartha /

Gorsedh Kernow Proclamation, Gevor Mine, Pendeen

This will be on **Saturday 13th April at 11am** and the procession of bards will leave Pendeen Village Hall at 10.30am.

9.00am onwards robing in Pendeen Village Hall (next to Pendeen Church), Church Road (off the B3306), Pendeen, TR19 7SE.

10.15am all bards to be robed please.

10.30am procession departs from Pendeen Village Hall, walk in procession down to the B3306, cross the road **WHEN DIRECTED PLEASE**, turn left towards Gevor Mine.

11am Proclamation ceremony takes place at the approach road entrance to Gevor Mine near the Miners Statue.

After the Proclamation we will return to Pendeen Village Hall in procession, so please cross the road WHEN DIRECTED! Do not confuse Pendeen Village Hall with the Hall for Pendeen, a smaller venue on the main road which is not our venue. Please do not drive down to the Gevor Mine site as it is closed on Saturdays. Spaces along the entrance road to Gevor are reserved for bards with disabilities or mobility issues please.

Car Parking is available opposite Pendeen Church which is further up Church Road from the Village Hall, or on Church Road if space available. Please do not park on the main B3306 road through Pendeen as this is a busy and narrow road.

If any **bards with disabilities** or mobility issue wish to attend the **Proclamation** ceremony we have permission to park in the entrance road to Gevor Mine, where you will be relatively near to the ceremony site. Please note that this is a different venue to the one where the Gorsedh Kernow bardic ceremony will be held in September.

If **wet**, the whole Proclamation ceremony will take place in Pendeen Parish Church.

The **Gorsedh Kernow AGM** will take place at **12.30pm** on the same day in Pendeen Village Hall after the Proclamation ceremony. You are welcome to bring your own lunch, tea and coffee will be available and there are toilets there as well. Parking as detailed above. 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! **Please bring your own copy of notes from the 2018 AGM and the AGM agenda for 2019 with you, they are enclosed with this newsletter.**

Your presence at both the Proclamation ceremony and 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.

[Ostyans yn Lannust / Accommodation in St Just](#)

Plans are also underway for the annual **September Esedhvos Festival of Cornish Culture and bardic ceremony 2019 in St Just in Penwith**, which starts on Thursday 5th September and runs right through until Sunday 8th 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 in the days in and around the Saturday bardic ceremony. However, unlike the wide choice enjoyed by us all in 2018, accommodation in St Just in Penwith is in comparatively short supply and you advised to **PLEASE BOOK EARLY.** Unfortunately the "Visit Cornwall" website is not very helpful on this occasion so you are advised to google "accommodation in St Just" and take it from there, or visit your local Tourist Office if you have one.

[Pewasow Dyloryon Holyer an Gof 2019/ Holyer an Gof Publishers Awards 2019](#)



The Holyer an Gof co-organisers, Gareth & Pat Parry, have advised that the 2019 HanG awards ceremony will take place this year at the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro, and we are grateful for the warm welcome extended to us last year by the Museum's Director Ian Wall and his staff. There is still time to send in entries for the Gorsedh Kernow Holyer an Gof Publishers Awards, which supports and promotes new books about Cornwall or in Cornish. Entries are welcome from everyone from self publishers through to large publishing houses. Our extensive panel of reader reviewers carefully work their way through a variety of books depending on their field of expertise and winners are chosen following guidelines and advice gathered over many years of experience from writers, publishers and other professionals. **The closing date for entries is Thursday 28th February 2019.**

More info from <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/HolyeranGof/>

[Pewasow ha Kesstrifow Gorsedh Kernow 2019 / Gorsedh Kernow Awards and Competitions 2019](#)

The new scheme continues to grow in popularity and the photo (right) shows a happy group of 2018 winners! Please continue to send entries, and encourage others to send entries for the 2019 Adults and Young People's Awards scheme. Once again there will be a gala presentation evening during the Esedhvos Festival for winners and guests which was very successful last year. Full information and details for entry can be found on the Gorsedh Kernow website via the link <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/AwardsInfo/index.html>



<http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/AwardsInfo/index.html>

Please note the closing date for entries which is 31st March 2019.

[Lyvrow Rannyeth / Dialect books](#)

Fellow bard **Jill Thomas, Tremarkyn**, has been gifted a number of dialect books. One, published in 1880 for the English Dialect Society, is divided into words from west Cornwall by Miss M.A. Courtney and from east Cornwall by Thomas Q. Couch. If anyone is interested to find out more about them, please contact Jill direct by email on tremarkyn@btinternet.com

[Solempnita specyal yn Tewynblustri / Special ceremony in Newquay](#)

Newquay is hosting the 2019 Celtic Congress and there will be a special ceremony held on Saturday 27th April where two honorary bards will be installed into the College of Cornish Bards by Bardh Meur Kernow Elizabeth Carne, *Melennek*. All bards of Gorsedh Kernow are invited to robe and attend this special ceremony, which is based on the GK Proclamation ceremony. The event will be held at the Barrowfields (the same venue as the 2018 bardic ceremony) with robing at the Hotel Bristol from **1.30pm** for a possible procession to the Barrowfields at **2pm**. The ceremony will begin at **2.15pm** and last about half an hour. However, the ceremony may take place in the hotel ballroom and you will be advised on the day. This is an entirely separate event from our own Proclamation ceremony which is being held two weeks before this event in St Just in Penwith, our host town for 2019. Car parking arrangements are the same as for the 2018 Esedhvos Festival.

[Dedhyow a Vri / Important dates](#)

Thursday 28th February - closing date for Holyer an Gof entries. See above.

Saturday 2nd March onwards - Events celebrating **St Piran's Day** – please see the Gorsedh Kernow website for a list of 2019 Piran events <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/stpirans.html>

Sunday 3rd March **St Piran procession through the dunes at Perranporth** (see GK website <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/stpirans.html> for details)

Tuesday 5th March **Grand St Piran's Day procession through Truro** at 1pm with a short address at the Cathedral steps from the Grand Bard (see <http://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/stpirans.html> for details)

Monday 18th – Saturday 23rd March Cornwall Music Festival, Truro Methodist Church, more info <http://www.cornwallmusicfestival.co.uk>

Saturday 31st March Closing date for GK Adults & Young People's Awards entries. See above.

Friday 5th – Sunday 7th April Cornish language weekend, Newquay, beginners through to fluent speakers, more info from <http://www.cornish-language.org/Cornish-language-weekend.html>

Saturday 13th April **Gorsedh Kernow Proclamation, 11am at Geevor Mine, Pendeen, followed by AGM at 12.30pm at Pendeen Village Hall (see details above).**

Wednesday 24th April 5th anniversary of the granting of Minority Status.

Thursday 25th – Tuesday 30th April International Celtic Congress, the Hotel Bristol, Newquay. More info from <http://www.celticcongresscornwall.co.uk/>

Saturday 27th April **Special robed bardic ceremony for the Celtic Congress, Newquay, see above.**

Saturday 27th April Trevithick Day Camborne, more info <http://www.trevithick-day.org.uk>

Advanced notice – Sunday 23rd June 11am , GK Awen ceremony, Duloe stone circle, PL14 4PN map ref SX 23585 58309. Access off the B3254 near the village of Duloe. Details in next newsletter.

[Kovheans / In Memoriam](#)

We have only recently received sad news of the passing in 2018 of bard **Percy Harvey, Hen Meneth**. He became a Bard in 2000 at Falmouth and his family have kindly informed us that he was proud of the honour and very much enjoyed the time shared and the friendships made.

June Whiffin, *Myrghwyn Treloar*, Cornish Association of Victoria, has informed us of the sad news that bard **Betty Johns, Myrghwynn Hweg Moonta**, peacefully passed away on Friday 23rd November 2018. Betty had been in a nursing home in Casterton for some years. Her funeral was held on Thursday 29th November 2018 at the Casterton Uniting Church. Betty was a Methodist Deaconess and was made a bard in 2008 at Looe for services to the Cornish language and ran the Borderer's Cornish Group for well over 10 years. Our condolences go out to her friends and family.

We are sorry to report the passing of **Ruth Breen, Cares Blejyow**, who passed away on Saturday 15th December 2018. Ruth was made a bard in 1998 in St Just in Penwith, was an active committee member

of Liskeard OCS and was a Lady of the Flowers at their 2018 midsummer bonfire ceremony held at Bolitho Farm. Ruth's cremation service was held at the Glynn Valley Crematorium, Bodmin on Tuesday 15th January 2019. Our condolences go out to her family including her niece Sue Dixon from Australia.

We are also shocked and saddened to report the sudden passing on Tuesday 18th December 2018 after a short illness of fellow bard **Stephen Gainey, Mab Hirnans**. Stephen was barded in 2012 at Camelford for services to the Cornish language and was involved in ensuring it was spoken and used widely. He also spoke Breton. Together with others he helped translate the Gorsedh Kernow website pages into Kernewek and he was Gorsedh Kernow's Deputy Marshal. His involvement in and passion for our language will be greatly missed and his sudden passing has been a shock to many of us. Stephen's funeral was held at Illogan Church on Thursday 27th December 2018. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jackie and family and his very many friends at this sad time.

Also, we are sad to report news of the passing of bard **Brian Stowell, Scryfer Kynyaf**, from the Isle of Man, who died on Friday 18th January 2019. Culture Vannin said about him that... *"There are few who have done more for the Isle of Man, the Manx language and culture than Brian. The Isle of Man owes him a great debt of gratitude which will perhaps only be fully understood in the weeks, months and years to come."* Brian was made a bard in 2000 at Falmouth. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

We are also very sorry to report news of the passing of former Grand Bard **Dr John Chesterfield, Gwas Costentyn**, who died on Friday 18th January. John was made a bard for services to the Cornish language in 1963 at Giant's Rock, Zennor and served as Deputy Grand Bard from 1985 - 1988 and Grand Bard from 1988 – 1991. He was also *Kledhor* (Sword Bearer) in 1982 when GK was held in St Just. In 1989 he chaired a working group to try and resolve growing difficulties in the language movement. The tapestry cushion, designed and made by the Cornwall Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers and which sits on the Grand Bard's chair, was presented to Gorsedh Kernow in 1990 when John was still Grand Bard, and he went on to become Chairman of the Guild from 2006 – 2011. He was also Chairman of Chacewater OCS from 1990 – 2014. John's funeral was held at St Paul's Church, Chacewater, on Tuesday 29th January. Our thoughts and prayers are with John's wife and fellow bard Christina, *Gwylan* and son Nick.

Sadly, we have also received news of the passing of bard **Rosemary Hereford, Rosen Marya**, who died on Sunday 20th January. Rosemary was made a bard in 1985 at Perran Round, Goonhavern for services to Cornish music. In 2017 local MP George Eustice visited Rosemary at her home in Camborne to mark a special birthday. George Eustice said "Congratulations to Rosemary Hereford on her birthday. Rosemary remembers my great grandfather from the days when she lived at Wall near Gwinear. Many local residents have fond memories of music lessons with Rosemary and she still has an amazing ability to play the piano." Her funeral will be at Holy Trinity Church, Penponds at 2pm on Friday 1st February.

[Nessa Lyther Nowodhow Bardhek / Next Bardic Newsletter](#)

News and information for next newsletter for **May, June & July 2019**, should be submitted by the 15th April 2019 please to Delia Brotherton, *Myrghwyn Melynor*, Honorary Secretary, email hon.secretary@gorsedhkernow.org.uk

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 might not hear about.

Catch up with the latest news about Gorsedh Kernow on our website www.gorsedhkernow.org.uk

or you can find us on  Find us on **Facebook**

or follow us on  Twitter

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