

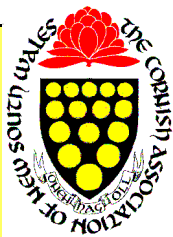
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**No. 383**

**January – February, 2020**

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## *Newsletter of the Cornish Association of New South Wales*

### **PROGRAMME 2020**

#### **SYDNEY BASED EVENTS**

#### **Annual General Meeting**

**Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde  
10am Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Reports (see financial statement attached), Election of Officers and Committee, any AGM business.

Followed by Open Forum meeting.

Please arrive promptly as doors open, 10am, so we can get the meeting underway, and maximize time to chat and enjoy together!

Tea/coffee, Sales table, a time for chat, renewal of memberships etc.



NB:

Proposals for consideration must be with

the Committee by one month prior ie. 28 January.

#### **Informal lunch in club bistro afterwards**

The menu can be reviewed here:

<https://www.releagues.com.au/37>



#### **NEW MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE**

You need – To love Cornwall, and be committed to keeping our Association going. Have a telephone and email for decision making times, OR be able to attend 1 or 2 meetings in Sydney. More details can be provided if interested.

#### **FESTIVALS**

#### **Victorian St Piran Celebrations Ballarat - 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**

Held during the local Begonia Festival, which has lots of interesting activities, and floral displays - so book accommodation early!

Please contact for more information. Chris & Joy OR email: [robyncoates@hotmail.com](mailto:robyncoates@hotmail.com) direct.

#### **28<sup>th</sup> Australian Celtic Festival Glen Innes, NSW – *The Year of Ireland and the Isle of Man***



**Friday 1st –  
Sunday 3rd  
May, 2020**

Some Cornish will be there!

For more information on program of events and accommodation, and booking keep looking at:

<http://www.australiancelticfestival.com/>

#### **A Pleasant Celtic Afternoon**

**Sunday 17 May, 2020**

**Parc Menai**

A Celtic event – More details next Newsletter

#### **Clans on the Coast**

**Saturday 19 September, 2020**

**Tomaree Sports Complex**

Nelson Bay Road, Nelson Bay, Port Stephens

Gates open 8.30am until 4.30pm. More details:

<https://www.clansonthecoast.com.au/>

**MEMBERSHIP DUE FROM 1 MARCH, 2020**

**By Household - \$15.00 p.a.**

**Form with next newsletter, or pay at AGM.**

## Committee News:

Bank account balance at 30/12/19: **\$7,926.29**

See the enclosed Annual Financial Statement for 2019, which has been reviewed by the Committee, and will be tabled for adoption at the AGM.

*"I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. I particularly hope no one was directly affected by the terrible fires of the last few months. I know a number of us were not far from them. Many in our country areas are also affected by the drought and water shortages.*

*Our AGM is coming up on Saturday 29 February. This sees out my 13<sup>th</sup> year as President, and we will vote in a new Committee for 2020/21, the Association's 46<sup>th</sup> year. I would love to have some new faces on your Committee from among our statewide membership.*

*I hope as many of you as can make it, do come to the AGM and our informal meal afterwards. It will be both good to see you and it is important for the continuation of the Association to have you there.*

**Joy Dunkerley, President**

### **A Membership Profile**

Our current Membership list stands at: Seventy Eight (78) households. We always need more. This represents approx. 100 people, give or take a few children and inactive spouses. Seven (7) of these memberships still have the small subscription fee overdue.

It is interesting to note the geographic spread of our statewide Association:

Sydney has only 35, or 45%, of household memberships.

- The rest of NSW has 34 or 44%.
- Also 9, or 11% live interstate or overseas.

[For the rest of the state the breakdown: South (Illawarra-Macarthur-Shoalhaven-SouthCoast) has 9; North Coast & New England 8; Blue Mountains & other West 7; Newcastle – Hunter Valley and nearby 7; and the Central Coast 3.



## MEMBERS MILESTONES

**Our best wishes** to a number of members who have had reported health problems or undergoing ongoing medical procedures.

**Congratulations** to all those with birthdays during January and February.

**Please** let us know of your good news, special events, or of those who are ill.

## QUOTE

*"Now pleasure fills the sparkling glass, Of Cornwall's sons we'll sing; For they are worthy kindness yet, And praise my lays shall bring: For 'tis our Watchword still, Rise, one and all! And where's the heart that will not warm, At "One and All"! - 1<sup>st</sup> verse and chorus of The Watchword of Cornwall, 9 April, 1822 [from Old Cornwall, no. 11, Summer, 1930]*

## SOME CORNISH SURNAMES – a series

**Tredinnick** - From *tre-redenek*, homestead in fern-brake, or homestead by the little fort. Placename in 14 parishes. Found in Mid-west and SE Cornwall.

**Tredrea / Tredray** – From placename Tredrea, St Erth (spelt Tredreu in 1301). Meaning obscure. Found in west Cornwall.

**Tredwen** – Possibly from placename Tredwen, Davidstow (spelt Riguen in Domesday Book, 1068) ie. *res-(g)wyn*, fair ford.

**Treen** – From *tre-ryn*, homestead on the hillside or *tre-dyn*, homestead of the hillfort. Placenames Treen, St Levan and Zennor (spelt Trethyn 1314 ie. *tre-dyn*)

**Treffry** – Possibly from *tre-(b)vre*, homestead on hill. Placenames Treffry, Lanhydrock, Merther, St Gluvias.

**Trefusis** – Placename Trefusis, Mylor. Spelt Trefuses in 12c. Meaning unknown.

**Tregale** – From *tre-an-Galla*, homestead of the Gaul. Placename Tregale, St Cleer (Tregalla 1334).

**Treganowan** – Possible from *tre-ganow*, homestead at the hollow, or *tre-ganyow*,

homestead on the downs. Placename Treganun, Lanlivery (spelt Tregunnou 1331). Found in Truro area.

**Tregarthen** – From *tre-cardhen*, homestead with a thicket. Placename Tregarthen, Ludgvan. Found in west Cornwall.

**Tregaskis / Tregaskes** – From *tre-goskes*, homestead in a shady or sheltered place. Found in mid Cornwall.

To be continued [A reminder that these names come from 'A handbook of Cornish Surnames', by George Pawley White, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1981.]

## HOLY WELL

### Lansallos Holy Well



This well is at the bottom of a slope next to a little lane alongside the church. Lansallos, known in Cornish as Lansalwys, meaning St Salwys' holy enclosure, lies between the villages of Polruan and Polperro on the eastern south Cornish coast.

A settlement of ancient origin, Lansallos is mentioned in the Domesday Book as the manor of Lansalhas and was owned by Robert, Count of Mortain, the Breton half-brother of King William the Conqueror.

The village itself takes its name from a monastery dedicated to St Salwys. Little is known about St. Salwys, he probably lived some time in the ninth century, reputed a son of the King, Geraint. A Celtic church on this site was dedicated but the present church, of tower, nave, aisle and chapel, was dedicated to St. Ildierna in 1321.

## FEATURE STORIES

### LEVANT MINE

The Levant Mine and Beam Engine is located in Levant Road, at Trewellard, Pendeen, Cornwall. This is near St Just, on the west Penwith peninsula. The St Just Mining District was one of the most ancient hard-rock tin and copper mining areas in Cornwall. Its main attraction is that it has the world's only Cornish beam engine still operated by steam on its original site. Currently it the Levant Mine and Beam Engine is a managed and maintained by the National Trust, but it was saved and restored by the Levant. There is also a visitor centre, a short underground tour, and the South West Coast Path leads to Botallack Mine, via a cliff-top footpath.



The property is on the site of the former Levant Mine, established in 1820 and closed in 1930, where tin and copper ores were raised. The mine reached a depth of about 600 metres. It got the nickname "mine under the sea", because tunnels were driven up to 2.5 km from the cliffs under the sea. The surviving beam engine was built c.1840 by Harvey's of Hayle Copper and tin has been mined here for generations, and the mine workings of Levant extend over a mile out under the sea bed. In 1820, the Levant Mining Company was formed with a capital of £400, though Levant Mine first appeared on a

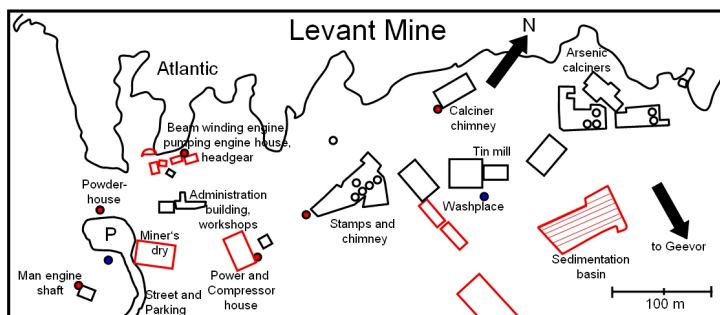


map in 1748. By 1836, 320 men, 44 women and 186 children were employed on the site.



The pump engine is in working order

In Levant's first 20 years of business, £170,000 was made from mining copper. New technology was introduced to streamline production, and in 1857 the now-infamous man engine was installed. This engine carried men many fathoms up and down the mine, to and from work each day. What did the mine produce? Mainly Copper: the original focus of Levant's mining industry; Tin: there are two tin-dressing floors at the mine; and Arsenic: a lucrative but deadly by-product of tin ore.



In 1935, the Cornish Engine Preservation Society, now the Trevithick Society, raised £300 to buy Michel's whim engine and save it from being sold for scrap. This act began the conservation of Cornish industrial heritage.

The Trevithick Society donated the engine and the site to the National Trust in 1967, although members of the society (known as the Greasy Gang) restored the engine to full working order between 1984 and 1992. A joint appeal raised £128,000 in 1990, which paid for rebuilding the boiler house and installing an electricity generator and an oil-fired boiler. The engine

began steaming again in 1992, and runs in steam for several months each year.

Whim engine: Francis W. Michell

Man engine: Michael Loam

Pumping and whim engines: Harvey & Co

The mine can be visited, and tours are available. Joy & Chris Dunkerley toured as part of a Bards visit in September, 2019; and it was most interesting, especially having visited with the Pat Lay Tour in 1992 when it was under the Trevithick Trust.

## Levant Mine Disaster 20 October 1919

Levant's man engine was a form of elevator constructed to take the men up and down the shaft in the deep mine. By 1855 Levant was at about 230 fathoms (1380 feet) below adit, about 1600 feet deep from the surface. For the men the day began and ended with an arduous ladder climb, 60 minutes down and 90 minutes back up, a ladder climb which was taking its toll on the men and adversely affecting the working of the mine. The minutes of the adventurers' meeting of 14 August 1855 record:

*The agents having recommended that a man engine be erected on Phillips Shaft: Resolved that the necessary steps be taken for carrying out the same at once.*

By April 1857 the shaft work and man engine construction had been completed and in June 1857 the cost book included William Thomas and James Henry Edwards, the man engine drivers, for the first time. The days of the long ladder climb were consigned to the past. The man engine was not erected on Phillips Shaft, as the agents had recommended, but on Daubuz's Shaft which soon became known as Man Engine Shaft and was the scene of the terrible accident in 1919.

Man Engine Shaft and the associated engine were extended on two occasions, in 1888 and then again in 1897-8 when it reached its final depth of 266 fathoms below adit (1596 feet). In 1893 the old 20" single acting whim engine which had driven the man engine since 1857 was finally retired after 63 years of service on

the mine. The new engine was to enjoy a much shorter life!

1919 was a tough time for the Cornish tin industry, prices were low and at Levant there was dispute with the workforce. The mine had lost many of its experienced workers to the military during World War One, in 1917 the figure was put at 127 men. Levant was in a run-down condition and rumours circulated about the compromised safety as a result of neglect. Whether the man engine was neglected is difficult to ascertain now and that was not the finding of the inspector who conducted the enquiry into the accident. He attributed the accident to a hard to detect manufacturing flaw in the metalwork which connected the man engine rod to the beam which drove it and from which it was suspended.

However, by 1919 the Levant man engine was the only one left in use and was 62 years old. It is also indisputable that the fall-back safety system, known as catch-wings and designed to prevent the rod from falling down the shaft should it part company with the beam, failed to work in the upper levels of the shaft.

For whatever reason the brutal truth is that the metalwork securing the rod to the beam did fail and the rod did crash down the shaft taking all the shaft infrastructure with it and smashing the so-called safety system. The top 360 feet of the rod, by now broken away from the lower part of the rod fell 276 feet before lodging in the shaft amid the debris and timber which it had dislodged as it fell. This debris pile sheltered the men lower down the rod from the falling rocks and timber and most of these men were eventually able to make their own way from the shaft into the mine and along to skip shaft and engine shaft. Above the blockage were the dead and dying, stranded in precarious locations in the shaft which had been stripped of all ladders, platforms and other timberwork. They were virtually unreachable.

The grisly details of the accident and its immediate aftermath can be found elsewhere and are not repeated here. But it is often overlooked just how catastrophic such an accident can be in a small community, the ripples which spread outward from each individual death intersect and become a community wide wave of bereavement as multiple deaths within extended families take their toll.

<http://www.penwithlocalhistorygroup.co.uk/on-this-day/?id=251>

On the 100 years anniversary last October, a service of commemoration was held in Cornwall at the Miners Chapel in St Just, to remember the men who died in one of the county's worst-ever mining accidents. As part of the centenary, a team restored the graves of 15 of the men who died in the disaster that were buried at the chapel.

## NEWS FROM CORNWALL

**Warrens Bakery** closures: 18 branches of the Cornish-based Warrens Bakery closed prior to Christmas, leaving dozens of staff without jobs. It was also revealed that the company was closing its iconic factory in St Just in Cornwall. The firm, which bills itself as the "oldest Cornish pasty maker in the world", blamed the closure on "continued Brexit uncertainties."

**Rain not drought and fires:** Since the end of September Cornwall has had almost daily rain, with local flooding at times. Hayle and Copper house and the A30 had local flooding before Christmas.

## New Book

### *Growing Up In West Cornwall*

Penwith Local History Group presents this new book, offering a wide range of newly-researched articles, covering the area west of the Hayle River, and periods from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> C. (ie. west of a line Hayle to Marazion).

Cost: 17 Pound 50 Pence, overseas.

Contact the Group: [swalker804@binternet.om](mailto:swalker804@binternet.om)

## CORNISH HISTORY IN 500 WORDS

**Dr. Bernard Deacon**

Yesterday, I was asked to give a short talk on the history of Cornwall. How do you sum up 2,000 years of history in 45 minutes? Tricky. This was my attempt.

A golden age is a period of victory or defeat (or both) which later becomes mythologised and looked back on with pride. A turning point is a time when the flow of history seems to change course.

Cornwall's first golden age was between the departure of the Romans from Britain by 410 and the arrival of the English on our eastern borders in the 800s. This was when Cornwall had an independent existence. At first it was the centre of a larger kingdom of Dumnonia, with an elite trading post at Tintagel and colonies in Brittany. When the Mediterranean trade dried up it became a decentralised collection of communities bound together more by early Christianity rather than by kings and administrators.

Three turning points then occurred over the next half millennium. The Normans arrived in 1070 and gradually extended their overlordship from their early base in the far east at Launceston. Population, trade and towns grew until the shock of the Black Death in 1349. Cornwall recovered rather better than other places. It was during the late 1300s and 1400s that the Cornish language held its own after an earlier retreat, backed by the patronage of Church and Crown. The third turning point arrived with the religious reformation of the 1530s.

This heralded Cornwall's second golden age, one viewed by some as a romantic period of struggle against the encroaching English state. Risings in 1497 and 1549 both failed, their leaders executed for treason. Yet in 1642 the Cornish avenged themselves. They became the spearhead of the royalist army of the west, thus unfortunately backing the wrong side in the British civil wars. The following century was more subdued, at least politically.

Another turning point followed in the 1730s, when steam technology began to be applied to the long-established business of mining. Deep copper mining drove the precociously early industrialisation of Cornwall, its third golden age. This created a distinctive rural-industrial society, where elements of the new and the traditional were stitched together. Population growth and new settlements laid the ground for the enthusiastic reception of John Wesley and the wholesale transfer of allegiance to a vigorous, revivalist Methodism. Meanwhile, Cornish engineers were raising the efficiency of steam engines to hitherto undreamt-of heights in the generation after 1810.

The fifth turning point brought this to a juddering halt in the 1870s when a calamitous fall in the price of copper made its mining uneconomic. Tin mining survived but underwent periodic crises, as in the 1890s or 1920s. Population fell as emigrants fled to the mining frontiers of the New World. The first wave in the 1840s and 1850s had sought a better life on the basis of the demand for their mining expertise. The second wave had little choice but to go as opportunities closed down at home.

A century of de-industrialisation was ended by the final turning point – the counter-urbanisation that set in from the 1960s onwards. This began half a century of mass migration to Cornwall, when it became a preferred site for holidaying and second homes. Demographic change accompanied a social transformation that we are still living through and struggling to cope with.

<https://bernarddeacon.com/2019/10/16/three-golden-ages-and-six-turning-points-a-history-of-cornwall-in-500-words/>

### **SOME NOTED FOLK OF CORNWALL – a series**

#### **Andrew Pears – inventor of Pears Soap**

Andrew Pears was a farmer's son from Cornwall, born around 1770, who invented transparent soap.

His creation of transparent soap came in 1787.



After much trial and error he found a way of removing the impurities and refining the base soap before adding the delicate perfume of garden flowers. His product was a high quality soap, and had the additional benefit of being transparent. Soap refined in this way is transparent and makes longer lasting bubbles. The transparency was the unique product plus that established the image of Pears soap. His method of mellowing and ageing each long-lasting Pears Bar, for over two months, is still used today where natural oils and pure glycerine are combined with the delicate fragrance of rosemary, cedar and thyme.

He eventually moved to London from his home in Mevagissey, Cornwall, where he had trained as a barber. He opened a barber's shop in the then-fashionable residential area of Gerrard Street, Soho, and attracted the custom of many wealthy families. He noticed that the London upper classes cultivated a delicate white complexion whereas a tanned face was associated with the working class who toiled in the outdoors. Andrew Pears realised that there was a need for a gentle soap for these delicate complexions.

In 1835 he took on a partner, his grandson Francis Pears, and they moved to new premises at 55 Wells Street, just off Oxford Street. Andrew Pears retired from business in 1838, leaving his grandson, Francis, to continue the business of the London-based firm of A & F Pears. He died in 1845.

The son in law of Francis was Thomas J Barratt, who is often referred to as the father of modern advertising. It was he who eventually saw the potential of Sir John Everett Millais' painting 'Bubbles' as an ideal advertisement for Pears.

## PLAS AN TAVES

*This is Plas an Tavas = Language Place - Introducing you to some daily Kernewek, the ancient Celtic language of Cornwall today, to practice.*

**Pronunciation?** Cornish is mainly phonetic  
More: <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/the-cornish-language/cornish-language/>

In this issue you will learn:

## HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS IN CORNISH!

('f' denotes a feminine word, hence mutation)  
road.....forth (f) , hens  
street.....stret  
close.....clos  
cul de sac.....forth-dall (f)  
row.....rew  
lane.....bounder (f)  
terrace.....terras  
way.....hens  
blind alley.....hens-dall  
boundary.....or (f)  
main road.....forth vur (f)  
bridge.....pons  
humpback bridge .....pons crom  
crescent.....cromman  
avenue.....rosvu

## Silly Sayings - Church notices

*"Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow."*



## CANSW Public & Members Web Pages:

Please have a look through all the pages on our web site; especially the NSW 'Sites' pages developed by our own (late) Dr John Symonds. Tell your friends! Suggested updates or new content are welcome.

[www.celticcouncil.org.au/cornish/nsw.htm](http://www.celticcouncil.org.au/cornish/nsw.htm)

**Dates coming up ...** St Euny Feast 1<sup>st</sup> February, pirantide in March with St Pirans Feast on 5 March. Fly your flag or wear your badge.

**Editorial note:** The content of this newsletter does not necessarily reflect official views of the CANSW, but rather contributors and sources! If someone is sick let me know (get-well message), or other news please!

*The next Newsletter: No 384 for March / April, 2020 has a copy deadline by 17 March, 2020.*

Contributions may be held for future use but more (electronic – emailed preferred) are welcome!

## Nr. 383 LYTHER NOWODHOW - NSW

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## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2019

## CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF NSW

## Income &amp; Expenditure Statement for 2019 - as at 31/12/2019

INCOME	\$	2019	\$	2018	Change %	\$	2017	Notes
Membership Subscriptions		\$915.00		825.00	11%		960.00	For 2018 or in advance for later years
Fund Raising / Functions								
Fund raising		\$101.50		0.00	#DIV/0!		45.00	Other than donations eg. Raffles, sale pasties
Functions		\$1,100.00		1660.00	-34%		1510.00	Functions, meetings, events
Major functions		\$0.00		0.00			0.00	eg. in past CHW 1994, 96, 98; 25YD '00
Total		\$1,201.50		1660.00	-28%		1555.00	
Sales		\$178.35		193.50	-8%		125.00	
Donations		\$193.00		137.00	41%		92.00	Monetary donations only - not 'in kind'/services
Projects / Other								
Operating		\$8.25		8.87	-7%		8.69	eg. bank interest
Project/s		\$0.00		183.00			0.00	Special projects: eg Drought, Qld Stones, Byng Church
Total		\$8.25		191.87	-96%		8.69	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,496.10</b>		<b>3007.37</b>	<b>-17%</b>		<b>2740.69</b>	

EXPENDITURE		2019		2018	Change %		2017	
Newsletter		\$204.60		861.40	-76%		259.60	Newsletter print/postage (incl. Advance purch)
Functions / Fund Raising								
Fund Raising		\$0.00		0.00			0.00	Prizes etc.
Functions		\$1,621.00		1777.30	-9%		1802.50	Gross costs gen (includes RELC dep)
Major events eg. C		\$0.00		0.00			0.00	
Total		\$1,621.00		1777.30	-9%		1802.50	
Sales		\$30.00		0.00			0.00	Actual cost of sales items obtained
Operating & Projects								
Misc Operating		\$240.00		144.25	66%		80.00	Incl Room hire, t&c, Postage, printing, web site etc.
Affiliations		\$40.00		0.00	0%		40.00	Celtic Council Reps
Materials & Equip		\$0.00		0.00			0.00	
Project		\$1,200.00		200.00			0.00	Projects: eg Byng Chapel, Qld Stones; Drought Appeal
Total		\$1,480.00		344.25	330%		120.00	
Charges / Taxes		\$0.00		0.00			0.00	Bank / Govt charges etc.
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,335.60</b>		<b>2982.95</b>	<b>12%</b>		<b>2182.10</b>	(See unrepresented chqs and kitty recoup)

<b>OPERATING RESULT ON YEAR (- Loss)</b>	<b>- \$839.50</b>	<b>\$24.42</b>	<b>-3538%</b>	<b>\$558.59</b>	<i>Please note Assets &amp; Liabilities below!</i>
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## Partial Balance Sheet \* - Statement as at 31/12/19

ASSETS		2019		2018	Change %		2017	
Balance at bank 31/12/19		7926.29		8765.79	-9.6%		8741.37	As per Westpac Bank Statement
Secretary's Kitty - at 31/12/19		-54.85		-6.50			-67.60	No advance - in debit - recoup owing to Sec
Cash/chqs at hand as at 31/12/19		0.00		0.00			4.00	Various cheques & cash 'in hand' not banked
Current assets - debtors etc.		0.00		200.00	-100%		200.00	Debtor - Deposit held by RELC for SP Lunch '19
<b>Total</b>		<b>7871.44</b>		<b>8959.29</b>	<b>-12%</b>		<b>8877.77</b>	

## LESS

LIABILITIES		2019		2018	Change %		2017	
Unpresented cheques		0.00		40.00	0%		0.00	If any - No. 200299 Celtic Council Affiliation
Misc liabilities - to be paid		0.00		0.00	0%		0.00	Money we owe (other than kitty)
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.00</b>		<b>40.00</b>			<b>0.00</b>	
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION ('net worth')</b>		<b>\$7,871.44</b>		<b>\$8,919.29</b>	<b>-12%</b>		<b>\$8,877.77</b>	<b>On a partial accrual basis only *</b>

\* excludes value of Library, Sales, Equip

## E&amp;OE

This is the official Statement of Accounts of the CANSW for year ending 31/12/2019 in accordance with the Rules of the Association.

J.P.Dunkerley

Honorary Treasurer, CANSW

02/01/2020

(Received and reviewed by the Committee as at 13/01/2020)  
For report, receipt and discussion at the AGM 29/2/2020