



# Cowethas Kernewek Loundres

## London Cornish Association Newsletter



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

Autumn 2017

Since our last newsletter which came out in June, so much has happened in the LCA. At the end of June, we heard the devastating news about our Chairman, Francis Dunstan, who, after a short period of illness, sadly passed away. He was such an important figure in the LCA that it is hard to imagine life without him. The regard in which the membership and other Cornish cousins held him was clearly shown by the messages we received from all over the world and by the good attendance at the funerals in High Wycombe and Cornwall.

Since Francis' illness and death, Council has worked hard to keep things going while we 're-group' and we are confident that the Association is on track for a good future. We would like to record our thanks to everyone who has been there for us during this difficult time - from our President, Sir John Trelawny, who has been tremendously supportive and encouraging, to our members who have offered help in various ways and to those who have shown their support by attending the two lunches which we had after we lost Francis.

The good news is that Carol Goodwin has agreed to take over as Chairman and we have a new member of Council, Chris Richards. These appointments will help us to take the LCA forward.

In this issue of the newsletter, you can read Council's vision for the LCA. It looks good and will hopefully take us into the future in a positive way.

After the traditionally quiet period over summer, we are about to embark on our new social programme which, we hope will appeal to our members so that they give us their support. You can find details of forthcoming events in our newsletters and on

the LCA website – [www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk). Please do keep a check on the website as that is where we will include impromptu event opportunities which are too late to be included in the newsletter or any other news we want our members to get. We know from the enquiries and correspondence we get that this website is being increasingly visited and it has brought in several new members since it was re-vamped.

The first big event on our 2017-8 social programme is the Family History Day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. These days are always very interesting and include a selection of good speakers who talk on a range of subjects with a Cornish and/or Family History theme. The days include a pasty lunch and cream tea and there is always time to catch up with friends. This October there is the added bonus of being able to meet Carol Goodwin, our new Chairman.

Over the winter, we will have a couple of pub lunches – one in November and one in January to welcome in the new year. We know these are always popular with members so we hope to see many of you there – and we are keen to get your suggestions for other pubs we could visit.

In ending, I would like to say a big thank you to those people who sent in items for this newsletter. I always appreciate your support but do so even more at this time when we have been so busy with LCA matters following Francis' death. Please keep up the good work!

### Dates for your diary ...

**Family History Day**  
**21st October**  
**10am - 4.30pm**

**Informal Lunch**  
**25th November**  
**12 noon**

**New Year's Lunch**  
**6th January 2018**  
**12 noon**

*Further details for these events can be found on page 2 and on the website.*

### Looking further ahead...

**St Piran's Tea**  
**3rd March 2018**

**Annual Dining Event**  
**17th March 2018**

**AGM and Trelawny Lecture**  
**21st April 2018**

**Family History Days**  
**21st April 2018**  
**&**  
**13th October 2018**

*Details for these events will be provided in future newsletters and on the website*

*From time to time, opportunities for impromptu events arise. If these miss the newsletter, they will appear on the LCA website.*

**Please keep an eye on the website:**  
**[www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk)**

**Deadline for the next Newsletter**  
**is**

**5th November**

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

# Forthcoming events

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

## Family History Day - 14th October

See below

## Informal Lunch - 25th November 12 noon

A chance for a get-together before Christmas.

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

## New Year's Lunch - 6th January 2018 12 noon

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

**Contact for both lunches:** Liz Broekmann  
Email: lbroekmann@outlook.com  
Tel: 020 3638 6817

## London Cornish Association FAMILY HISTORY DAY Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017

### Speakers:

#### **Mrs Elaine Henderson**

#### **'Harrassment from Heaven – Wills and Probate in two Cornish parishes c1750-1850'**

Based on recent research by volunteer researchers for the Victoria County History Trust of Cornwall, this talk looks in detail at the wills of residents of two different parishes: the rural St Stephen-in-Brannel and the prosperous town of Launceston. Using a range of wills and documents Mrs Henderson illustrates how variously the lives of others can be affected by a few written words.

#### **Mr Bruce Johns**

#### **'The Dancer and the Drum'**

Bruce Johns is descended from a Cornish family who came to London around the start of the nineteenth century, and has both written and published a book about their experiences using material in his possession supplemented by original research. In this short talk, Mr Johns introduces his book 'The Dancer and the Drum' and speaks about his project tracing his ancestors' journey from Redruth to varying degrees of prosperity (or its reverse) in the capital.

#### **Mr John Jolliff**

#### **'Cornwall's Secret Army'**

During the dark days of 1940 Britain made preparations for invasion by the enemy. Local units in the West Country were established whose men were to go into hiding and carry out acts of sabotage and guerrilla warfare when the invading army arrived. Information on the Army was kept secret even from the men's wives. Mr Jolliff, a member of the Cornwall Association of Local Historians, the Looe Old Cornwall Society and the Polperro Family History Society, presents an illustrated talk on this story generally and on the Pelynt patrol in Cornwall in particular.

### Venue:

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church  
235 Shaftesbury Avenue  
London WC2H 8EP

(nearest underground stations are Holborn and Tottenham Court Road)

### Time:

10am to 4.30pm

### Fee:

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

This includes coffee on arrival, pasty lunch with saffron cake, and a cream tea.

### Contact:

For booking or further information:  
Gill Penny ([g.n.penny@btinternet.com](mailto:g.n.penny@btinternet.com); Tel: 01908 316317)  
Carol Goodwin ([chynoweth@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chynoweth@hotmail.co.uk))



# News of Past Events

## Lunch on the Thames and meet-up with the London Cornish Pilot Gig Club



*Cornish camaraderie in the sun*

A small group of five met for lunch at the Waterman's Arms in Richmond. After a tasty meal, we strolled the short distance along the Thames to the boathouse used by the London Cornish Pilot Gig Club. They were just getting set up for the afternoon and were still busy putting up the Cornish bunting as we arrived - but the bar was open and there were cakes on sale so a few of us went into the boathouse to make some purchases before moving outside to sit with several of the club members in the sun. We

were made very welcome and it was good to see how well the different generations mixed – a good omen for the future!



*A St Piran's flag flies over the Thames at Richmond*

## Midsummer Lunch and Rosyer Lecture

Sixteen members and friends – some from as far as Australia – gathered at one of the Association's favourite watering holes, *Penderel's Oak*, for the midsummer lunch. It was a good event with Cornish camaraderie and a chance for plenty of chat over a meal.

About 4 people went on to the Rosyer Lecture at City Lit where they enjoyed a lecture on Christmas carols in South Australia and Carolina.

## Awards

Our congratulations go to the following members and cousins who have recently received awards which are either given by the LCA or linked to the Association

### **Honorary Vice President of the LCA**

We congratulate **Graham Pearce** on being made an Honorary Vice President. This recognises his incredible contribution to the LCA over many years, particularly as Membership Secretary. He was also Chairman of the Association on two occasions - 1984-6 and 1991-1993. For as long as I have been doing the newsletters, he has been contributing a column of 'meanderings', initially as those of the Mem Sec, but since last year when he stepped down as 'Mem Sec' they have been the musings of a member - and are just as entertaining.



### **Certificate of Appreciation**

Congratulations to **Tony Wakeham** who was awarded a *Certificate of Appreciation* when he stepped down as a member of Council at the last AGM. This award recognises the incredible contribution Tony has made over many years, particularly as a member of the Social Committee when he organised many, very popular outings from walks to museum visits. He always did a great deal of research and managed to unearth an amazing number of Cornish-linked gems around London. Apart from this, he was always there to provide a pair of hands when help was needed.



### **London Cornish Association Shield 2017**

Sincere congratulations go to **Anne Parsons**, the Honorary Secretary of the Bournemouth Cornish Association who received the London Cornish Shield at the Gorsedh Kernow Awards Ceremony this year. The Award recognises 'outstanding services to Cornwall and Cornish people' and with her record of service over many years, she is a deserving recipient.

### **London Cornish Association Pewas Map Trevethan / Paul Smales Medal 2017**

We also congratulate **Del Clinton** of the Cornish Association of New South Wales who is to receive the Pewas Map Trevethan Award at the Gorsedh Kernow Awards ceremony his year. This Award recognises *services to Cornwall by someone living outside Cornwall*.

# Francis Elliot Dunstan

13<sup>th</sup> October 1936 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

*Let the messages from around the world speak for themselves...*

*He was an untiring work horse for the Association*

**His loss will be great but his legacy will live on.**

*I remember him well. A lovely gentleman indeed*

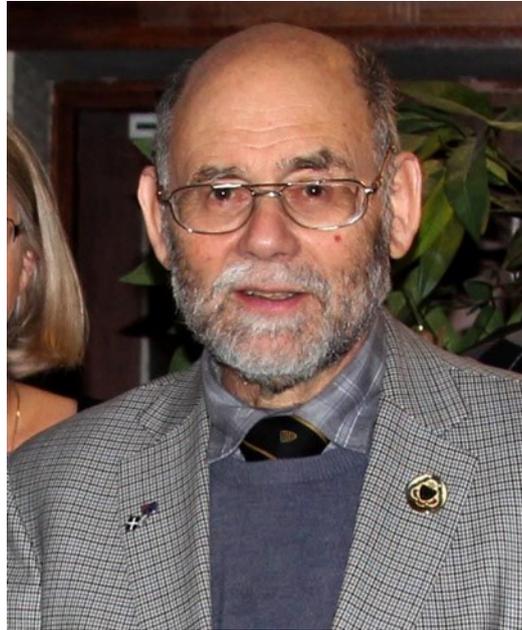
*Francis was a very special person*

*He will be remembered for his warmth, his sense of humour, his entertaining talks, his passion for Cornwall, his incredible support to those working with him - and his wonderful accent*

*[I] was always struck by his pleasant and friendly nature when he led the meetings.*

*Francis Dunstan was a name known around the world, even by those of us who had not had the honour of meeting him*

*He always did a 'proper job'*



*Francis was the first person I got to know at the LCA and I always valued his friendship. I can't imagine the LCA without him*

*I am devastated and at a loss about what to say. R.I.P. dear friend.*

*Thanks to Robyn Coates (Ballarat) for sending this lovely photo to us*

*Francis was a great stalwart of the LCA and a great lover of Kernow...He helped so much with Gorsedh research*

*[I] always try to be at the Family History Days, where Francis always greeted you as if you were an old friend and made you welcome. Such a kind man and he will be so sadly missed by the London Group.*

*Francis was so hard-working for everything he believed in – his church, his friends and, as we know so well, Cornwall. He will be very much missed ... May he rest in his so well-earned peace.*

*Francis was a great stalwart of the LCA, and a great lover of Kernow.*

*He worked tirelessly for us and we owe him so much.*

*Such sad news*

*He is remembered fondly and his contributions will never be forgotten. He was so supportive of the Cornish here in Bendigo and was always keen to know what was happening around the Cornish world.*

*He was a wonderful mentor and a dedicated Cornishman never losing his distinct accent and his deep love for his native county.*

*I have spoken a few times now for the LCA and Mr Dunstan has always been so welcoming and kind to me. I am sure committed people like him are very difficult acts to replace.*

*I have happy memories of meeting Francis, and exchanging emails over the years.*

*We know that he will be very much missed by his family and the members of the London Cornish Association*

*Our much-loved Chairman Dr. Francis Dunstan. He will be greatly missed.*

*What a wonderful, caring and considerate man Francis was.*

# Francis Elliott Dunstan.

*A personal memory from a long-time friend*

The day I heard of Francis' death and had it confirmed, I suddenly felt old, vulnerable and bereft. There was an emptiness of a kind I had not known before – a link that had kept my Cornishness alive had gone.

I had to do something positive, but what? Aha! I know! I walked down to the local Sainsbury's and bought a carton of R...s clotted cream and contrary to my doctor's dietary instructions, throughout that day and the next, systematically ate several sacrifices on the altar of remembrance – jam and cream on bread, cream and treacle on splits, cream on rhubarb tart and various other combinations. Each mouthful was a toast to Francis and many memories surfaced during this time.

Francis, or Elliott, as I knew him in childhood, was one of the most Cornish of Cornishmen. Being a few years younger than me, he was a 'little boy' and I 'a big girl' and we lived in different villages, Carnkie and Rame Cross, part of Edgecumbe, (well, Rame Cross had the shop, Edgecumbe had the chapel) – these were villages less than a mile apart, separated by a few fields, Rame Common and postal addresses – Helston and Penryn/Famouth.

We used to walk the road from Carnkie to Rame Cross, but went over fields and stiles to Edgcumbe, a much shorter route – unless we had on our Sunday clothes to go to chapel for a special event – perhaps an Anniversary service or a visiting male-voice choir. Then we usually took the longer route by road to avoid the possibility of getting caught up in brambles or dirtying our shoes with cowpats, thus preserving our dignity.

In later years Francis and I kept in touch, meeting occasionally, and indulging in long telephone calls from time to time. He would drop back into local accent and dialect easily, and it would immediately transport me back home.

Francis was the son from a second marriage of widower Alonzo Dunstan; his older half brother was Jim, organist and choirmaster at Carnkie Methodist Church for many years. Jim and Thirza, his wife, who lived in a bungalow right at the top of Carnkie hill, gave piano lessons. My tutor was Thirza, who would hold a book or paper above my hands, never allowing me to look at my fingers while I was playing. I don't think she ever rapped my knuckles, but I made many mistakes!

Lilian, his mother, as far as I remember, was a local preacher in the Falmouth circuit. His father, Alonzo, worked for our local 'department store' and rode a motorcycle between various villages, calling in at people's houses to take orders for groceries and all sorts of goods stocked at Rame Cross Store. Each visit, he would recite a well-rehearsed list of what we might need, such as: 'Lard, marg., butter, sugar, tea, bacon, flour....' and so on. He wrote in a book of order forms with an indelible pencil. It fascinated me to see it turn purple when he wet it on the tip of his tongue to write under the title: 'J. H. JAMES, Grocer, Draper and General Merchant. Boot and Shoe Warehouse.'

The order was delivered a couple of days later in cardboard boxes on the back of a lorry. I found several of these order forms used as a filling behind a framed family photograph, dated 1933/4. They included: Puritan Soap, liquo-

rice for black cake, Bird's custard powder, 1 England's Glory (box of matches), Bi-car Soda, 1 Lyles, (pound of golden syrup), ½ cheese, ½ marg. washing soda, bl. Nuggett (Black shoe polish). Each order included Farley's baby rusks (for me!) and signed by Alonzo.

If asked, Francis could provide each and every detail about the layout of Rame Stores departments, both inside and out. Groceries and household goods, shirts, vests, corsets, Liberty bodices, boots, soles and heels, rugs, to name but a few. Outside, the big stuff: Cattle feed, poultry feed, and more than I can remember. I wish I'd asked more questions!

Francis went to the Boys' Grammar School in Falmouth, then on to University in Birmingham and soon after, enjoyed life working in Beaconsfield for Perkin-Elmer, of biotechnology fame. (Analyse! Analyse!) He acquired a love of spectrometers and collected (at home) enough superseded machines to start a museum.

All his life Francis Elliott had a deep love of music, pipe organs (a couple of redundant chapel organs were also given house room) and choirs.

Organist, choirmaster, singer; raconteur, mimic: "My dear loife, the dear of'n!" and friend to us all.

For all the blessed memories you shared or have made, we thank you, F.E.D.

*Jo. Mary (Spargo/Hearn) Connelly  
June 2017*

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The following poem, which was also written by Jo. Mary Connelly, was read at the High Wycombe memorial service on 24th July 2017. I am sure that anyone who knew our Chairman would agree that it really captures *'the essence of Francis'*.

## Coming Home.

"Ullo, me ansum," Peter said,  
And opened up the gate.

"We didn't spect you *quite* so soon,  
Still, better'n bein' late.

No need to 'Take the Chair' – just sit!  
At last you can be free.

Take off that heavy chain – relax –  
Enjoy your cup of tea.

You've worked enough. Rest up a bit,  
Catch up with ev'ryone.

There's no use frettin' now you're 'ere  
'Bout jobs you aven't done.

No more reports as Gen'ral Sec.  
Your Chairman's work is done  
And Fam'ly Hist'ry, lectures, talks.  
It's time you had some fun.

You've timed it well, 'tis pasty day –  
And do not ask, "Whose make?"  
No shop-bought 'ere! They Cornish maids  
Soon taught us 'ow to bake.

There's top or side crimp, take your pick,  
They're all the same inside  
Made to our perfect recipe.  
We call it 'Cornwall's Pride.'

For crowst, there's saffron cake and splits  
With jam and clotted cream.  
Hog's pudden, pilchards, rhubarb tart  
Will be tomorrow's theme.

Your mansion's in the Southwest wing  
Past Somerset and Dev'n.  
Right down the end. Yes, that's the place  
You Cornish know as heav'n!

A choirmaster and organist,  
You offered up your best:  
Recitals, anthems, introits, hymns.  
So please enjoy your rest.

Spectrometers you will not need  
To occupy your hands.  
You like pipe organs – we've the best!  
And brass and silver bands!

But you've regained your perfect pitch  
In hearing and in voice,  
So join the heavenly chorus, boy,  
And make our hearts rejoice!

Through ling and heather on the moor  
At last you're free to roam;  
You'll walk the cliffs and smell the sea.  
Yes, Cornwall calls you home!"

## The LCA looks to the future...

The LCA has lost one of its very great treasures: Francis Dunstan. As our Chairman, he was an inspiration. Always ready to support the Association, he will be remembered as a hardworking, loyal, generous and kind person who always had time for '*one and all*', from the newest member to the most senior person on Council. His leadership, his humour and his warmth will be greatly missed – as will the Cornish accent which he never lost!

When an organisation loses an important asset, it has to look to its future and make decisions about the best way forward – and this is the process the London Cornish Association is going through at present.

One of the earliest priorities at these times is to identify a leader who can take the Association into the future and the good news is that **Carol Goodwin** has agreed to take on the Chairmanship, something which has been endorsed by our President, Sir John Trelawny. Carol has already demonstrated her commitment to the LCA by successfully taking on other important roles. She is a key member of the Family History Committee and works hard to make our Family History Days the success they are. She is also our Membership Secretary and website coordinator. In any language, this is a big responsibility and those of us on Council will do what we can to support her and help with the workload so she is not only able to carry out her responsibilities as Chairman but hopefully, also enjoy them.

As far as Council is concerned, there is more good news. The number of serving members has become very depleted – the bulk of the work is currently falling on the shoulders of three members, two of whom work full time – and so it is very challenging to make sure all the background work keeps going while also trying to organise and run a social programme. We are pleased to report that we will soon have another pair of hands on Council. He is **Chris Richards** whose day job is a digital journalist. He is incredibly enthusiastic and, very importantly, is a member of the younger set. We hope this will help us strengthen the much-needed link with the many younger Cornish people we know are in London.

The Association, like so many Cornish Associations around the world, is faced with an aging population which means that there are fewer people attending organised events and even fewer to do the administrative work. With this in mind, Council is looking carefully at the way we do things, ensuring we set realistic goals which will enable the London Cornish Association to move forward in a positive way.

So, how will these changes manifest themselves?

- *Family History Days* – we currently hold two of these a year. They are the most popular of our events and we plan to continue with them
- *Trelawny Lecture* – these prestigious lectures on Cornish subjects have been a key event on the social programme since 1987. Traditionally they have been held as part of the AGM but as numbers attending the AGM dropped, Council took the decision, in 2016, to incorporate the AGM and Trelawny Lecture into the April Family History Day. This worked well then and was repeated in 2017. We plan to continue this way in the future.
- *Annual Dining Event* – two years ago, the decision was taken to change from a dinner to a lunch in response to requests from members who were finding it challenging to attend an evening event. The lunches have been very popular and we plan to continue with them, although the format may need to change slightly in time.
- *Other events*
  - In recent years, it has become clear that pub lunches are a popular outing for our members. We will continue with them and have scheduled the next one for 25th November at the *Penderel's Oak* in Holborn. While *Penderel's Oak* is a popular venue with our membership, we are keen to hear suggestions for other similar, reasonably priced

venues. Please bring your ideas to the lunch in November.

- In March this year we held a special St Piran's cream tea at the South Bank Centre. Surprisingly, this appears to have been the first time the LCA has marked our Saint's day – mainly because of its proximity to the Annual Dinner. This year's event was well received and so we plan to repeat it on 3rd March 2018 – and hopefully continue with further celebratory teas in coming years.
- We may, from time to time, be offered opportunities for impromptu events after the newsletter is printed. These will be publicised on the website – [www.londoncornish.co.uk](http://www.londoncornish.co.uk) where you can find information on all our events. Please do keep checking.
- We are keen to broaden both our outlook and our appeal by engaging with some of the other Cornish groups in London such as the London Cornish Rugby Football Club (watching a match?), the London Cornish Pilot Gig clubs (combining a pub lunch in Richmond with one of their events?) and the Wreckers Wednesdays. These will give us new experiences and help us link up with younger, potential members which will help ensure the Association's future.

We feel confident that there is a secure future for the LCA as it enters a new era which embraces broader appeal and new experiences for both our traditional members and potential new ones. To be successful, we rely on our membership for support. Please do keep in touch, give us feedback, let us know your ideas – and very importantly, come and join in some of our activities.

## LCA representatives at the Lady Mary Holborow Memorial Service at Truro Cathedral

On a glorious sunny day, with a light breeze and the bells pealing, we made our way to the Cathedral for the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Lady Mary Holborow DCVO.

The nave was filled with people, extending also to the side aisles. The organ played and the service commenced with clergy, family and royal representatives, together with representatives of organisations and charities processing up the nave.

It was a very moving and impressive service, many tributes paid, prayers and praise together. The service closed with a tremendous rendition of *Trelawny* by the whole congregation.

We were welcomed to stay for refreshments, and came out into the sun to enjoy tea and cakes on the Cathedral lawn. We met a lady who had known Lady Mary since the '50's when she and Geoffrey lived in Feock, and a gentleman who confessed there had been a tear in his eye during the service. All agreed it had been a fitting tribute to Lady Mary who certainly was a very good friend to the London Cornish Association.

*Catherine and Don Foster*



*LCA members had the pleasure of meeting Lady Mary at our 2011 dinner when she was the Principal Speaker*

## 'Trelawny's Men celebrate their Golden Anniversary

We offer our congratulations to the Pelynt Male Voice Choir who celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The Choir started in 1966 and some of the founder members are still singing with the group!

To mark the anniversary, the Choir spent a weekend singing at four prestigious venues in Hampshire – Winchester Cathedral, Christchurch, Winchester, Romsey Abbey and Christchurch Priory.

Coming from the parish of Pelynt, the home of Bishop Jonathan Trelawny, they have been given permission by the current baronet, to be called '*Trelawny's Men*'.

**Please remember to let us know if any of your contact details change...**



If there are any changes, please let the Membership Secretary know. You can do this by email at [lca@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:lca@londoncornish.co.uk).

If you do not have access to email, you can contact the editor at the address on

the back page of this newsletter.

*We urge you to let us know about any changes so that you continue to receive your newsletters and any other communication from the LCA. We currently have a situation where we have recently been informed that two members left the address we have for them several years ago. One member has a standing order and the other pays promptly every year. Sadly, we have no way of contacting them so they are not receiving the newsletter to which they are entitled. please let our Membership Secretary know.*

**Please make sure you put the LCA on the list of those you inform when you move!**

## Condolences

### **Dr Francis Dunstan**

It was with shock and tremendous sadness that we heard of the death of our Chairman, Dr Francis Dunstan at the end of June. He is already greatly missed. You can find some of the tributes to him on page 4.

### **Lady Carol Trelawny**

We were saddened to hear of the death of an old friend of the LCA, Lady Carol Trelawny. When her husband, Sir John Trelawny, was our President, she was incredibly supportive of the Association, always attending our Annual Dinners and making sure there was a good Trelawny presence at the Annual Service by encouraging her family to join her.

Lady Carol will be missed by the many members who knew her. She was described by one such member as a 'wonderful woman' – and that is what she was.

### **Lady Mary Holborow**

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Lady Mary Holborow in June.

Lady Mary served as Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall between 1994 to 1911 (quite something for a non-Cornish girl!) and was always very involved in the Cornish community, supporting a large number of organisations and community groups in the County.

She was the guest speaker at our 2011 Annual Dinner and entertained us with (often humorous) stories of her life as Lord Lieutenant. She was also a regular visitor to the LCA stand at the Royal Cornwall Show.



*Our thoughts are with the families and friends of all these special people and we send them our condolences.*

## The World's Largest Male Choral Festival

*The Lion Sleeps Tonight* was the last item by the members of Saint Petersburg Boys' Choir at the eighth Cornwall International Male Choral Festival in the Spring. You will have to imagine the eerie screams of the other inhabitants of the African veld. With their energetic conductor, Vadim Pchelkin, they were indeed welcome visitors to the county as were men and boys from Australia, Grass Valley in the USA, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway and the Czech Republic. There were several English choirs, one from Scotland, six from Wales, but, surprisingly, no Irish who joined with our own songsters to provide a joyous week-end of lovely music throughout the length and breadth of Cornwall at such a variety of venues.

I cannot recall who won which competition but the gift of vocal music was paramount. It is encapsulated in three items – *Singers Of The World Unite*, *What Would I Do Without My Music*, and *How Can I Keep From Singing?* – but my personal favourite was Manifestum's vocal setting of *Finlandia*.

Once again, the Festival Board, with sponsors, councils, patrons, hotels and volunteers coped marvellously with what must have been a logistical nightmare. I am already looking forward to Spring 2019!

*Mary Watters*

## What's happening at Kresen Kernow?

Construction work continues on site at Kresen Kernow and we are nearly 'out of the ground'. A new steel frame has been put into the old brewhouse, including some of the original, refurbished, iron columns. Most of the render has been removed from the internal and external walls, and local company Ed Faull Stonemasonry are now cleaning, repointing and rebuilding where necessary. The foundations for the new archive store are almost finished and include 179 piles drilled deep into the ground by another local company, Saxton Drilling Ltd. Where the piling has been finished, the concrete ground beams are being poured for the external walls of the archive store. The next big task is the laying and pouring of the concrete slab throughout the building. The size and layout of Kresen Kernow is really beginning to take shape.

A reminder for researchers, Cornwall Record Office will be closed to the public from the beginning of May 2018, and only a limited enquiries and reprographic service will be in operation from this date. The Cornish Studies Library will be closed from September 2018, although there will be limited availability of some collections before then. Kresen Kernow is due to open in December 2018.

## London Cornish's Perran Bear takes a summer break in Cornwall and Brittany, France

I was, very kindly, invited to attend a wedding at Mount Edgcumbe House, South East Cornwall in early June. Travelling down by car the day before the weather was very warm and sunny but believe it or not, on the actual day of the wedding, the weather was 'mizzle' – mist and drizzle! Fortunately though most of the photos were taken in the delightful rooms of Mount Edgcumbe!

Mount Edgcumbe has always been a land of romance and adventure; it was from here in 1588 on Cornwall's rugged South Coast that the approaching Spanish Armada was first spotted and beacons were lit to warn Plymouth.

Mount Edgcumbe House (1547) was a pioneer building in the development of the great Elizabethan country home. Its revolutionary layout reversed centuries of defensive design with the house looking outward to maximise the spectacular views. The House was struck by incendiary devices in 1941 and fire gutted the interior. The family rebuilt the house using the original walls and turrets and furnished it with possessions which had been saved from destruction. Today visitors can enjoy portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds and the well-known Newlyn Artist, Alexander Stanhope Forbes.

The landscape park is 865 acres and is Grade 1 listed.

Of course, the next day the weather was glorious once more, so we went on a long walk in the Country Park and had a lovely pub lunch in the village of Kingsand!

A few days later, I travelled on the overnight ferry from Plymouth to Roskoff, Brittany. Whilst in Brittany, which is very reminiscent of Cornwall, I visited Morlaix which is 'twinning' with Truro. The Truro-Morlaix Twinning Association was created in 1979.

Morlaix is in the Department of Finistere. A tidal river that almost completely dries out at low tide reaches the town where there is a lock into a marina.

There is a viaduct over one end of the town where I managed to climb the innumerable steps to the first level!

A very lovely place to visit and well worth the journey on the ferry!

Carol Goodwin



*Perran Bear accompanied Carol on her travels and was spotted resting on her car after the long climb up the viaduct!*



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## From the Archives

While going through some of the vast quantity of archive items our Chairman Francis Dunstan had stored in his house, I came across some things I think will interest or amuse our members. From time to time, I hope to include quotes from them in the newsletter.

Lurking at the bottom of one box was a book entitled *Cornish Recipes: Ancient and Modern* which was issued by the Cornwall Federation of Women's Institutes was published in 1930. The book, as would be expected, includes a range of Cornish recipes – in some cases several versions of these recipes. For instance, there are 10 recipes for Saffron Cake and 18 different types of pasty!

Especially fascinating is a chapter headed: *Remedies: Medical and Otherwise*. Some examples:

### For Baldness

Rub the part morning and evening with onions until it is red, and afterwards rub with honey (Truro WI Centre)

### Grandmother's Embrocation

½ pint white vinegar  
½ pint turpentine  
2 squares camphor  
2 new laid eggs

Mix vinegar and turpentine together, shred camphor and add the eggs whole, then beat together until creamy. Put in bottles, allowing room for shaking. It will keep any length of time. Is splendid for rheumatism or stiff joints or cold on the chest. Rub well in till it glows. (Kilkhampston WI)

### For Hoarseness

Rub the soles of the feet before the fire with garlic and lard well beaten together. (Devoran WI)

These 'cures' might fix the condition, but there is no guarantee your friends will stick by you!

## The Miner's Chapel in St Just lives on

In previous newsletters we have mentioned the plight of the Methodist Chapel in St Just – also known as *The Miners' Chapel* – which was faced with closure at the end of August. The chapel had served as a place of worship for 184 years and the proposed closure was deemed necessary because of a diminishing and aging congregation and high running costs.

The news of the proposed closure resulted in an outcry in the community and a determination to save it. The chapel needs £1million for urgent repairs and for maintenance. Another £1million is needed to develop programmes which will help ensure the chapel's sustainability. Proposals for the building's future use include the setting up of a heritage centre, increasing the use of the facilities by community organisations and running a regular programme of concerts and exhibitions.

A fundraising campaign was launched on 19<sup>th</sup> August at a performance, in the chapel, by the St Buryan Male Voice Choir, the Marazion Apollo Male Choir and Pendeen Silver Band.

The concert also celebrated the life of Paul Woolcock, the former landlord of the Commercial Hotel in St Just who was a key figure in the St Just Community.



## Newquay Aquarium responds to The European Commission's 'World Aquariums against Marine Litter' Campaign

The European Commission is calling all aquariums to educate visitors on the global reality of marine litter in a 'World Aquariums against Marine Litter' campaign. Aimed at providing practical solutions, this campaign hopes to bring the issue of marine litter to the attention of thousands of people across the globe.

Steve Matchett, General Manager at Newquay Aquarium said: *"It's a good opportunity for us to engage with our visitors who have enjoyed the marine life in the aquarium and to highlight the impact that we have on the marine environment through thoughtless pollution."*

Newquay's Blue Reef Aquarium has currently turned one of its exhibit spaces into a marine litter display. The display is designed to highlight how visitors can help mitigate the problem of ocean-bound plastic.

Marine pollution is one of the key topics being discussed by global leaders at the #OurOcean international Conference, Malta, 5-6 October 2017.

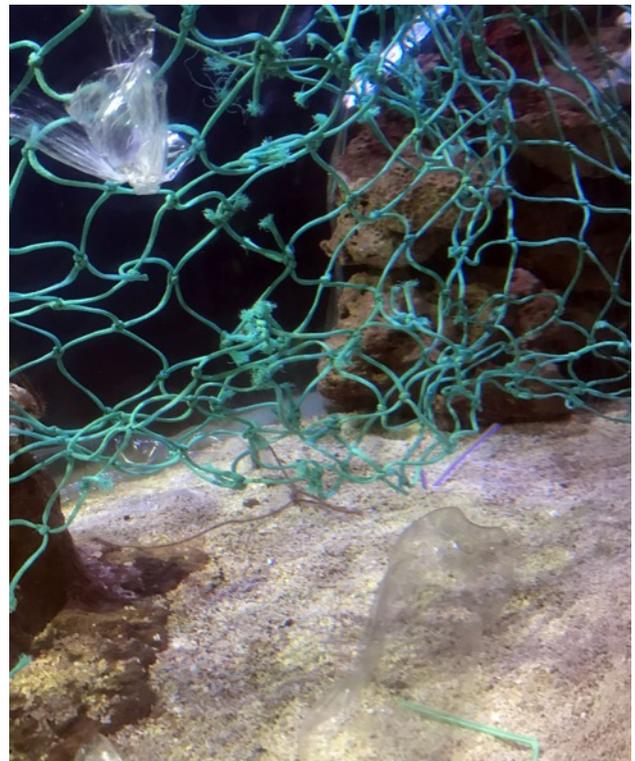
Millions of tons of litter accumulate in the ocean and millions of marine animals die every year because of marine litter. In some areas, micro plastics already outnumber plankton by six to one. It is estimated that by 2050 our seas could contain more plastic than fish and 99% of seabirds could have ingested plastic.

This action was officially launched by EU Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Karmenu Vella on Thursday 27 July at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco, in the presence of H.S.H. Prince Albert II.

For more information visit the dedicated website - [www.ourocean2017.org](http://www.ourocean2017.org)

*Blue Reef Aquarium, Newquay*

### *Marine Litter Display at the Newquay Aquarium*



## Did You Know...

... the man who is credited with reforming the postal system, improving its efficiency and making it more reliable was a Cornishman who was born in St Columb Major?

Ralph Allen was born in 1693 and started to work in a post office while a teenager. The following extract is from an article about him which appeared in the December 1965 copy of *Cornish Magazine*.

... At the age of 11, Ralph Allen was placed in the care of his grandmother, who kept the Post Office at St Columb, Cornwall, which had been established in 1704. He was later sent to Exeter, and in 1712, at the age of 19, he was Postmaster of Bath.

By the age of 27 he controlled the Bye-Way and Cross Road Posts for all England, and by the time of his death had so extended and improved the postal network that its management was transferred from Bath to Lombard Street.

Mayor of Bath in 1742, friend of Pitt, Gainsborough, Garrick and Pope, Allen was a man of great influence for good in many spheres of life.

A memorial stone at Biscovey, his Cornish birthplace, placed by the Postal History Society, records that "While organising and immensely improving the postal system of the realm, his encouragement of the architect John Wood, and his use of Bath stone from his quarries, resulted in the creation of the City of Bath as it now stands".

One of the ways Allen improved the efficiency of the postal system was to change the route the mail took so that the post did not all have to go through London. He also introduced 'signed-for' mail after realising that post boys were often delivering mail incorrectly.

Allen built a home at Prior Park, near Bath. The buildings now house Prior Park College but the landscape gardens belong to the National Trust and can be visited.

## Christmas is around the corner. Looking for gift ideas?



With its proud industrial heritage, rugged coastline, stunning beaches and enchanting moorland, it is not surprising that nearly one third of Cornwall is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Evocative Cornwall is a Cornish company which produces a unique calendar and range of greetings cards, with images taken from the county's places of outstanding natural beauty. The greetings cards are designed to be multi-purpose, deliberately left blank so that the message can be personalised. The images are real, soulful and evocative.

The unique Evocative Cornwall calendar has become a 'must have' for thousands of people all over the world. It includes not only beautiful images of Cornwall but also a month by month listing of many annual events, festivals and celebrations taking place throughout Cornwall. It even includes a little of the Cornish language.

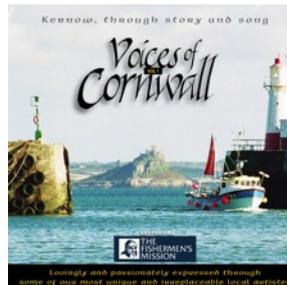
You can view the range of products available from Evocative Cornwall by visiting their web page – <https://www.evocativecornwall.co.uk/>

### **Special offer for LCA members**

The company is offering LCA members a 10% discount until the end of the year. To get the discount, enter the code **LCA2017** into the appropriate box at the checkout.

*This is a great opportunity to get special Cornish calendars for your friends and family!*

## Another gift idea for lovers of Cornwall



Cornwall is renowned for its singing and yarn-spinning and this CD, which brings a variety of both, which should appeal to anyone who enjoys the musical and storytelling culture of Kernow.

The CD can be bought for £10 from a variety of Cornish galleries and shops as well as from the website – <http://voicesofcornwall.co.uk/the-cd/>. (Web purchases are liable to a P&P charge)

All profits from the sale of the CD will go to *The Fisherman's Mission* in Cornwall who will use the funds to support active and retired fishermen and their families.

### **To whet your appetite, here is the playlist for the CD:**

- Charles Causley – *Cornwall*
- Twin Harmony – *Crossing The Bar*
- Liz Harman – *Departure*
- The Mousehole Male Voice Choir - *Home Home From The Sea*
- Stephen Hall – *Flute And Arrow*
- Julie Kernow – *Hunrosow*
- Bert Biscoe – *Story of Cornwall (Part 1)*
- Douglas Williams – *The Old Woman*
- Simon Parker – *The Cornish Lord's Prayer*
- Marazion Apollo Male Choir with St. Michael's School Choir – *I'll Go With The Strength Of The Lord*
- John Harry – *The Chapel Organ*
- Annamaria Murphy (Kneehigh) – *Teeth*
- Brenda Wootton – *Pasties And Cream*
- Rene Nash – *The Mount*
- Boilerhouse – *The Sheep-Stealers*
- Annamaria Murphy of Paul (Kneehigh) – *Shoes*
- Fisherman's Friends – *Silver Darlin'*
- Pauline Sheppard – *The Cats Of Boleigh*
- Miners and Friends in St. Just – *The Old Grey Duck*
- Ben Batten – *Bucca's Computer*
- Buccas Four – *Camborne Hill*
- Frank Ruhrmund – *My Town, Newlyn*
- Skyll Glas – *Farwel*
- Liz Harman - *Nicky's Tale*
- Bert Biscoe – *Story Of Cornwall (Part 2)*
- The Mousehole Male Voice Choir – *From Cornish Cliffs*

## Cornwall Community Foundation awards grants to Coverack flood victims

The residents of Coverack and surrounding communities are beginning the long recovery process after the devastating floods of 18<sup>th</sup> July. Cornwall Community Foundation has made its first grant awards from its Cornwall Emergency Fund, a fund designed to help people get back on their feet after unexpected disaster events.

CCF Grants Manager, Kirsty Phillpott, says, *'As time has gone on, people in and around Coverack have begun to realise the full extent of the damage and the short term problems it creates for them. We are getting new applications to the Cornwall Emergency Fund daily. First payments have now gone out.'*

The Cornwall Emergency Fund is partnering with the Cornwallive Coverack Disaster Appeal to match fund the money raised. To date the Appeal has raised more than £6500. Kirsty continues, *'This initiative has been great. People have responded to help a Cornish community in need and we have the application processes already in place to ensure the money gets to where it is needed quickly.'*

St Keverne Parish Council has set up the St Keverne Parish Appeal Fund through CCF with donations received by the Council. The Fund will be augmented by special fundraising events organised by the Council. Distribution of the grants awards will be directed by the Parish Council and managed by CCF. The Fund applies to St Keverne, Coverack, Porthallow and Porthoustock.

CCF Chief Executive, Tamas Haydu, comments, *'We are delighted St Keverne Parish Council have decided to set up a Fund to support local people affected by the flood. I visited Coverack and met Parish Councillors and was so impressed by the resilience of the local community and to see communities supporting people in need. We are working with St Keverne Parish Council, Cornwall Council and the other support agencies to ensure the grants quickly get to the people who need them.'*



Source: CCF

## Cornish Maritime History Conference '17 National Maritime Museum Cornwall Discovery Quay, Falmouth Saturday, 14th October 2017



**Captain Barnard Mathews of Penzance and his crew**

We are happy to announce the eighth conference on maritime Cornwall. This biannual day continues to prove popular and each time we get the opportunity to hear new information from researchers busy in the archives. There are plenty of opportunities to chat with fellow attendees and to explore the museum.

Our speakers cover the ages from medieval to the early twentieth century and include:

- Pru Wells: *Samuel Rickard, a 19th century Cornish Master Mariner*
- Charlotte McKenzie: *Francis Bamford and the slave trade*
- Helen Doe: *Brunel's Great Western steamship and its Cornish connections.*
- Roderick de Norman: *American forces in Cornwall in WW2*
- Peter Skidmore: *The struggles of Truro in maintaining its river navigation*
- Victoria Jenner: *The Maritime Cornish Churches Project*
- Tony Pawlyn: *The Dutch Master Mariners Club, Falmouth 1917.*

Early booking is recommended as this event is always very popular.

Admission 09:30, conference starts 10:00 and ends 16:30

**COST:** Adults £30, Museum Ticket holders £25 (all tickets include all refreshments, lunch and admission to the Museum and Library).

Tickets can be purchased from the front desk at the museum or over the phone 01326 313388

# News from other Cornish Associations

## UNITED STATES

The newsletter of the *Cornish American Heritage Society* reveals that plans for November's 18<sup>th</sup> Gathering of the Cornish Cousins in North Carolina are well underway. The theme of the event is *'If Picks and Shovels Could Talk'* with the focus being on the early gold mining activities in the Piedmont region of North Carolina and in particular the contribution made by Cornish miners.

The workshops will emphasise the social and scientific aspects of mining in those far-off days and there will be a range of activities and themes from ghost stories to presentations on Cornish engineering.

In early May, the members of the *Cornish Society of Greater Milwaukee* gathered for a pasty lunch. The photographs of the laden tables which appeared in their Summer newsletter show lots of delicious fare in addition to the pasties.

The entertainment at this event was provided by Trefor Williams who sang Celtic folk and spiritual songs as well as some Cornish tunes which he had found in a book of Cornish songs. Between items, he told the group about his childhood in Wales and provided an insight into Celtic history and traditions. The gathering was closed by Art Anove who said the Lord's Prayer in Cornish.

News from the Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society is that the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Cornish Festival will take place in Mineral Point at the end of September. This family event will have as its theme, Piskies and Tommyknockers and will focus on traditional small town Cornish attractions including good food, great music, songs and stories. The programme of events and activities will cater for all ages. One event which looks particularly interesting is the 'Sights, Sounds and Stories of Cornwall' which will be presented in three parts – Life in the old country, the journey to America and At home in a new land. To find out more, visit the website [www.cornishfest.org](http://www.cornishfest.org).

## CANADA

Members of the *Toronto Cornish Association* have had an exciting and varied programme over the last few months. In May, Jim Dagg gave a presentation on Cornish music while in June, Michael Gichard talked about the Gichard Family in Cornwall tracing the family back to 1547! With the upheavals in Cornwall in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the family moved out and he does not believe there are any left in Cornwall today. In July, Sue Cox (who some of our members met at a family history day last year) talked about the Suffragettes. The annual picnic took place in August.

Forthcoming events include the movie *Brown Willy* which will be shown at the Revue Cinema in Toronto in September. Although not officially a part of the Toronto International Film Festival, the screening will take place when that festival is on. Tickets will be available for TCA members and friends as well as the members of the Revue Cinema Club. John Webb is hoping to have some 'tourist' videos of Cornwall as well as some videos of the Fisherman's Friends shown before the main feature starts

*'to warm the audience to the Cornwall of beaches, songs and pubs.'*

A couple of weeks later, in October, some of the staff at Oshawa's museum will give a presentation on the impact of Cornish immigrants to the Oshawa area. But, it is November's meeting which really caught my eye...members are being asked to bring their own family 'scandal' stories to share. According to the minutes of the May meeting, it is proposed that contributors would spend about 5-10 minutes sharing their *'genealogical gems'* – although the actual time they need will be determined by *'how juicy the particular scandal is!!!'* It sounds like great fun.

## AUSTRALIA

In June, ten members of the *Cornish Association of New South Wales* met up for a pasty and chat at Bondi Junction (an area I know well from my university days at UNSW!). Their June/July newsletter includes a photo of what is labelled *'A Mining Barista?'* It is so clever that I am sure they won't mind us including it here.



Pasties seem to feature prominently in their programme (not surprising for a Cornish Association) as once again, in August, members met at Betty Bevin's house for a pasty day.

It was the year of Ireland at the 25<sup>th</sup> Australian Celtic Festival in Glen Innes in May but there were still plenty of Cornish there, with members of the CNSW helping to make up the numbers. Several members also went down to South Australia for Kernewek Lowender where they took part in a week of 'Cornish fellowship and fun'.

In July, members of the Southern Sons of Cornwall spent a leisurely day in Kiama where they had the chance to visit the market, the beaches or the famous Kiama Blowhole.

An auction fundraising day is due to take place in September. The beneficiary will be PAWs n TALES. There will be a talk before the auction and a chance to pat the beautiful dog which will also be attending. Members will also enjoy a lunch.

The monthly meetings of the *Cornish Association of South Australia* have been very varied over the past few months, ranging from a talk by TV reporter Sarah Hancock

to a soup and pasties evening. There was also an interesting presentation on 'The Green Man'.

The Association organised a seminar on Cornish music at Kernewek Lowender in May. A quartet from their choir provided some examples of some of the different styles of music which were sung by the early Cornish migrants in Ballarat and Moonta. The keynote speaker was Kate Neale who talked about 'Sweet songs of the old home: Cornish carols in South Australia'. This was followed by Matt Curnow's presentation of a paper by Graham Bartle OAM, who was unable to attend. The talk was entitled 'A Cornish corner in Mt Pleasant, Ballarat and during it, the quartet sang Mt Pleasant carols – both traditional and some which Mr Bartle had arranged. After tea, the Grand Bard, Dr Merv Davey spoke on 'Folk song, dance and identity in Cornwall' which included information about and a demonstration of Cornish bagpipes. This was followed by a range of other talks on music and musicians in Australia and Cornwall.

The Ballarat Branch of the Cornish Association of Victoria was well represented at the 42nd Kernewek with nine members attending.

In June, their Guest Speaker was CAV president, Derek Warne, whose talk was entitled 'From Copper to Coal'. It included some reference to one of his own ancestors, Samuel Vine from Cornwall. The Lord Nelson Gold Mine in which Samuel worked was closed in 1900 and he and the other miners were encouraged to go and work in the newly opened coal mines in Gippsland.

In August, the speaker at the Branch's meeting was Dr Harris, a local doctor who is also the deputy Mayor of Ballarat. He and his family spent some time living in Cornwall a few years ago.

## NEW ZEALAND

The national biennial meeting of the **New Zealand Cornish Association** was held in Christchurch in early May. Before the meeting, members enjoyed a pasty lunch and, to get into the 'Flora Day' spirit, a small group of musicians entered the hall playing the Furry Dance. Some members of the St. Albans choir provided a selection of musical numbers while an 'Obby Oss' made a surprise visit with its teaser who danced, accompanied by the Padstow Morning Song.

**The Taranaki Branch** held its AGM in February. For some time, the Branch has been questioning its future. To this end, it carried out a survey of members to gauge their support. The results showed that members were in favour of continuing to meet and share in the friendship and entertainment. They will meet quarterly in future.

The Branch has found a new meeting place in a retirement village and held their first meeting there in May. The venue was suitable for showing DVDs on Cornwall. A surprise visitor at the May meeting was local entertainer, Peter Galvin, who entertained everyone with music, poetry and a bit of comedy.

## UNITED KINGDOM

Since the beginning of 2017, members of the **West Somerset Cornish Association** have met monthly at various

places to eat. Numbers attending these functions have varied but have generally been reasonably good.

At their AGM in January, it was decided to drop the number of people serving on the Committee from seven to three. This was because the Chairman/Secretary decided he would stand down at the end of 2017. Sadly, this could mean the end of the WSCA, unless someone comes forward to replace him.

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## Would you like to get involved in a crafting commemorative project? Cornwall's Regimental needs your help...

**Can you help us to create a handmade tribute to the soldiers of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry who died in the First World War?**

4,282 soldiers of the DCLI were killed during the First World War. We aim to commemorate each and every one of them with a handmade poppy.

For this project we will need 4,282 knitted, crocheted, felted or stitched poppies to be part of our museum exhibition in November of 2018. Anyone making poppies for us is very welcome to dedicate them to a DCLI soldier and we will record the dedications in our exhibition. If you'd like to donate more than one poppy we would be extremely grateful.

Guidelines: You are welcome to express your creativity in any way you like, and we would love each poppy to be completely unique, but there are just a couple of guidelines for the poppies that we would ask you to follow. Poppies must be:

- Handmade in any textile medium
- Up to 4.5 inches in width
- Ready to fasten – a simple fastening such as a safety pin on the back is absolutely fine.

In terms of style and design, it's up to you! Many of the poppies which have been contributed already are knitted, although we do have some impressive felted and embroidered pieces – we'd love to see what you can come up with!

Patterns: Some of our friends on the museum's Facebook page have posted different patterns for knitted poppies in the comments section of our posts. Other patterns could be found in places like Ravelry.

For Local Crafters:

There will be a 'deposit box' in the museum Library (ask at the desk) for people to donate any unused wool, buttons, textiles or any other knitting/sewing items relating to this project. If you're planning to make us a poppy you can choose what you need from the box if you would like to do so.

JJ Lee Wool Shop in Bodmin's market arcade have kindly offered to give anyone donating poppies to us a reduced price on their poppy wool.

Once your poppies are made, please send or deliver them, along with your name and any dedications, to:

*Cornwall's Regimental Museum  
The Keep  
Bodmin  
PL31 1EG*

# My Meanderings...

My wife, Jenny, and I were greatly saddened when we heard the news that our Chairman and General Secretary, Dr. Francis Dunstan, had died at the end of June. He joined the LCA in February 1985 and has always been a hard working member including taking on many duties over the years. He was also an enthusiastic member of Thames Valley Cornish Association where, again, he took on many duties including Chairman. He will be very sadly missed.

Now back to looking at my books... I read the following in *A Geography of Cornwall* that was published in 1854:

## THE TRADE OF CORNWALL

*The chief trading port of Cornwall is Falmouth, and Falmouth Harbour the first safe anchorage to vessels entering the channel. A great trade is also carried on from Truro. The other ports are Penzance, Hayle, Charlestown, Newquay, Padstow, Bude, Fowey, Port Isaac and Looe.*

*The exports to foreign parts are pilchards, tin, copper and lead. Exports to other English ports are china-stone, soap-rock, antimony, arsenic, mundie, granite and slate, which are sent to Bristol, Liverpool, Plymouth and London.*

*The foreign imports are tobacco (entered only at Falmouth), timber, grain, flour, sugar, rum, cotton, from America; fruit, wine, brandy, wool, salt, from Spain and Portugal; cheese and butter from Holland; hemp, tar, iron, linen, sailcloth, timber, grain from the Baltic; fruit, oil, silk, salt from the Mediterranean; fruit, wine, brandy, flour, cattle from France.*

*The British imports are timber from Quebec; coal from Wales and Sunderland; groceries, ship-chandlery, earthenware, salt, manufactured goods in iron, cotton, wool, from London, Bristol, Liverpool and Plymouth.*

*The woollen manufacture at one time flourished in Cornwall and Tregoney was the place of export; later it was established at Menheniot and Callington, but is now decayed. There are large iron foundries at Hayle and Perranwharf, where the most modern steam engines in the world are made; and there are powder mills at Perran and Herrodsfoot, and other places. There are some paper manufacturers.*

As you can see from above this was how trading was in 1854. How different to today! Yes, we have the ports, but they are not used as they were in 1854.

Now for a complete change of subject...

My wife, Jenny, was reading the last LCA Newsletter and saw a number of references to daffodils, particularly where it mentioned that Cornish daffodils were on the tables at the Association's Annual Lunch. This stirred her memories and she wrote the following snippets of 'time gone by':

*During the war years I lived on the green in the village of Point near Truro. My father, with others, joined Carnon Downs Home Guard where one of the other members was his friend Alec Gray who was a specialist in growing miniature daffodils. After*

*the war we moved to Penpol living opposite Alec Gray's daffodil field, it was then we discovered the names of some of his introductions Jack Snipe, Minnow, Hawera, Piper's Barn and not to be forgotten the very popular Tête-à-Tête.*

*Alec Gray had two sons, Michael and David. Michael eventually had a daffodil farm in the Isles of Scilly. I do remember when I was about five or six David sent me a card asking me to marry him. I did not accept! But who knows, if I had, I might have been growing daffodils today!*

Well that is all for now and once more I hope you have found these *Meanderings* to be of some interest.

As I have said before, be prepared for the weather, but don't worry that summer is nearly over and we will be approaching autumn in September when, as usual, we will be complaining that it is getting colder and the days are drawing in.

Never the less, I hope you have had an enjoyable summer and wish you all the best for the rest of year.

Before I finish, I ask, again, for support for the London Cornish Association, please remember that new members are always welcomed.

*Kernow bys vyken*

Graham Pearce

## Rugby in London

### **Forthcoming Fixtures for Cornish rugby teams playing in Greater London**

*Saturday 2nd September*

Ealing Trailfinders v Cornish Pirates 3.00pm

*Friday 17th November*

London Scottish v Cornish Pirates 7.45pm

*Saturday 25th November*

Richmond v Cornish Pirates 3.00pm

*Jonathan Henwood*

### **Exciting news from the London Cornish Pilot Gig Club**

The LCPGC launched its new plastic gig at an event at the Royal Docks Adventure Centre in August. And her name? – 'Ansom'. What could be better for a Cornish boat? We wish the Club, and all who row with it, everything of the best as they continue to grow.

# Crowdy Crawn

## Beavers return to Cornwall

Recently on TV, you might have seen a film clip of some beavers being released in Cornwall. They are part of a project to reintroduce the animals which were hunted to extinction 400 years ago.

The Cornwall Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Valley Farm are introducing the beavers in a fenced area near Ladock village where they will be monitored both for themselves and their impact on the environment. It is hoped that the beavers will make the water cleaner and help reduce flooding.

In order to carry out the project, ongoing funding is needed and to this end, donations may be made. You can make a donation – and find out more about the project – via the project website <http://www.cornwallwildlife.org.uk/beaverproject>.

## Vote for Cornwall's Man Engine

Just over a year ago, an incredible 'Man Engine' spent two weeks marching 130 miles through the Cornish Mining Landscape. At 10 metres, it was the largest 'puppet' ever built in Britain and its march formed part of the celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of UNESCO's award of Mining Heritage Status to Cornwall.

Since its great march, it has been engaged in educational activities with Cornish children at about 30 schools. Camborne School of Mines and Geevor Tin Mine worked together to run mining heritage workshops during which about 1500 children explored their mining heritage and undertook a variety of activities including building working water pumps.

The Man Engine will soon be heading off to pastures new, firstly to South Wales and then to the North of England.

The initial project was supported by National Lottery funding. To continue its work, further funding is needed. You can help their bid by voting for the Man Engine in the National Lottery Awards – once online and once by phone. The contact details are:

*Website:*

<http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/project/man-engine>

*Phone:* 0844 836 9676

***Make sure you vote soon.***

## Cornish Restaurant Is the Best In Britain!

In August, the Good Food Guide announced its 2018 list of top 50 restaurants in Britain – and number one was Port Isaac's *Restaurant Nathan Outlaw*.

The Restaurant Nathan Outlaw is Nathan's flagship restaurant in Cornwall but he also has three others in the county and one in London, all of which serve only seafood, mainly from Cornwall. The Restaurant Nathan Outlaw, which was founded in 2007, is a two-Michelin-star restaurant.

Nathan moved to Cornwall at the age of twenty and it was while he was training with Rick Stein at The Seafood Restaurant in Padstow that he developed his love of seafood cookery.

If you want to be tempted, look at the restaurant's website: <https://nathan-outlaw.com/restaurant-nathan-outlaw/>

## A Novel Way to Raise Funds

In 2016, the Methodist Church made the decision to close the chapel and school room in Godolphin Cross. The villagers were desperate to save the building which is the only community space in the village.

After doing the usual fund-raising things they were still short of the amount needed to purchase the building and decided to adopt a somewhat 'cheeky' strategy. They approached the Emir of Dubai who is the head of the Godolphin horseracing empire, pointing out to him the link between the village and the second Earl of Godolphin who bred the Arabian horses from which most modern thoroughbreds are descended. A generous donation from the Emir enabled the chapel to be bought.

The Godolphin Cross Community Association is now engaged in raising further funds to fully restore and refurbish the building so it can be used for community activities.

## Oh no me 'arties, the pirates missed the boat

Over the August bank holiday weekend, a 'piratical' challenge took place in Penzance when the town attempted to snatch back from Hastings the world record for the number of pirates in one place. To be counted as a pirate, participants needed to wear two pirate accessories – such as a sword or eye patch.

Penzance first won the Record for having the largest number of pirates in one place in 2011 but lost it in 2013 and again in 2014. On this latter occasion, they had more than enough pirates signed up but at the end, the official count saw them trailing by 77.

This year, they were more than ready for a return bout and challenged Hastings again. A successful recruiting campaign meant that they had enough participants to break the existing record of 14,231 pirates in one place at 4pm on the Sunday. It was very disappointing, therefore when the time came for the count and the *Pirates of Penzance* fell short. Why?... because some of the them had decided to wait in the pub – and failed to return in time to be counted!

In responding to the results, Dick Cliffe, the mayor of Penzance, said *'It is a disappointment to ... miss out by such a small amount. The pirates of Penzance is an expression everyone knows – not the pirates of Hastings. They are just impostors.'*

Methinks we are likely to see another challenge in the near future!

The deadline for the next issue of the  
LCA Newsletter is

**5th November**

Please send all contributions to:

The Editor  
55 Brownell Place  
London  
W7 3AZ

Or email to [lca@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:lca@londoncornish.co.uk)