

CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, INC.

> NEWSLETTER No. 142

August 2022

Corporation Reg. No. A0008264A

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Introducing our new President - Brian Rollason

I was born in Falmouth Cornwall, after my family moved from the village of Mylor, Cornwall. I went to Falmouth Grammar School after which I



**b** 3

completed my Teaching qualification at Borough Road College, University of London Institute of Education.

I finished in 1966 and taught for four years at Northolt Secondary College in Ealing, London where I was Head of Geography.

In 1970, I married Jane, a teacher of Maths and PE, and was persuaded to come and teach in Victoria by an Australian exchange teacher (and an ex-Collingwood player hence the family support of the Pies).

We arrived in Melbourne in 1971 and were whisked off to the country town of Portland, where Jane and I learnt how to become Australians.

I was promoted to Preston East High School and we moved to Melbourne to the suburb of Murrumbeena where we still live. After fifty-three years of teaching, I retired in 2018.

We have three children and seven grandchildren which keeps us very busy.

How did I join the Association?

We were driving along North Road, Ormond when this taxi driver kept on waving to us to pull over as he wanted a word. My children kept on asking why he wanted to speak to us. I eventually pulled over to ask what the problem was and he said that he had noticed our Cornish sticker and did I know about the Cornish Association? He said he was the President and would love to see me at our meetings. He took down my address and sent all the information and I joined. I believe this was some time in the eighties.

Moral of the story: have more respect for taxi drivers - you never know what an impact they may have on your lives.



# CAV 2022-2023 Officers and Members of the Committee

President - Brian Rollason Secretary - Ken Peak Committee Members: Jill Beard Robyn Coates Ronald Hawken Evelyn Jones Helen Morgan Max Procter Neil Thomas

Please Note: Vice - President and Treasurer positions - both vacant

# CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

#### **OFFICE-BEARERS**:

President: Brian Rollason II Kinlock Ave Murrumbeena 3163 (03) 9563 7189 <u>bcrollason@outlook.com</u>.

Past President: Ken Peak I5 Shorthorn Crescent Doreen 3754 Ph: 0400 309 469 <u>pkicons29@bigpond.com</u>

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Ken Peak - details above

Treasurer: Vacant

Pastoral Care/Welfare: Evelyn Jones Ph: (03) 9725 0286 ejo65074@bigpond.net.au

Ballarat Branch (Adm. Sec.): Lorice Jenkin Ph: (03) 5332 2920 <u>lajenkin@bigpond.com</u>

Geelong Branch (Adm. Sec.): Ruth Taylor Ph: (03) 5241 4617 <u>drltaylor@bigpond.com</u>

# **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Robyn Coates Ph: (03)9478 6135 0419 551 320 robyncoates@hotmail.com

#### **Membership Fees**

 Single:
 \$40.00

 Family:
 \$60.00

 Life Single:
 \$400.00

 Life Family:
 \$600.00



# Saturday 20th August

Meeting at Oakleigh - *Resources to help your Cornish Family Research.* BYO Lunch at 12 noon, followed at 1.30 pm by the meeting.

This will probably be the last meeting to be held at Oakleigh.

As agreed at the recent Annual General Meeting there will be a minimum of four face-to-face meetings/activities during the year and the rest of the meetings/activities will be held via Zoom.

Two face-to-face meetings are suggested:

- to have activities for St Piran's Day (on or around 5th March)
- 2. A Christmas activity on the second Saturday in December.

More details will be provided after the new Committee has met.

If you have never used Zoom or are still worried about using it, all you need is to be able to connect to the internet using a computer, a mobile phone or an iPad/tablet. You can even dial in using a home phone and hear what is going on, even if you can't see what is happening. Before each meeting, people are sent a link and once you have the Zoom App on your device, you just need to click on the link and you can be involved in the meeting. A practice can always be arranged. Speak with Ken Peak or Robyn Coates if you are interested.

# OVERSEAS REQUEST FOR HELP

Ballarat Branch received a request from Martin Eddy in Cornwall seeking descendants of a William and Thomas Osborne (Junior) known to be in Ballarat in 1866-1867. Contact Keith Lanyon for more information. (kmlanyon@hotmail.com)

#### Pastoral Care

If you know of someone who is unwell, celebrating a special birthday or just needs a cheery greeting, please let Evelyn Jones know the details so she can be in touch.

Evelyn's details are: Ph: 0417 160 658

ejo65074@bigpond.net.au

# CAV NEWSLETTER

The CAV Newsletter is published in February, May, August & November and distributed via email and in some cases by mail.

If you have an email address, please consider having your newsletter emailed. For distribution contact The Secretary.

Deadline for contributions for the next issue: Saturday 15th October 2022

Articles for inclusion are welcome at any time but **must be received** by the **deadline date**. Please use plain text font size 12, without formatting. Photos and tables should be included separately - not as part of a document. Acknowledgment of source is required. The email address for the CAV Newsletter -

robyncoates@hotmail.com

Please mark - Article for CAV Newsletter.

**Cornish Tid Bits** are sourced from the Cornwall Council, BBC Cornwall, Pirate FM News, Falmouth Packet, CornwallLive, Kresen Kernow, Wikipedia

#### **2021-2022 President's Report** AGM July 2022

This is my last report to you as CAV President and I provide it, I guess, with mixed feelings.

Let me say that it's been an honour and a privilege to lead the CAV.

After three years as your President, it's time for the CAV to move forward under great new leadership. We are but custodians of the Association and its proper that we move forward.

It's hard to believe that before I became President in 2019.

Lyn and I were enjoying a holiday in Cornwall before the pandemic.

My grandson was born in 2020 and he is part of what they are calling the COVID generation. Perhaps, I will forever be referred to as the Pandemic President.

However, through the lockdowns and restrictions; through the large numbers of hospitalisations and COVID deaths in our community, the CAV kept calm and carried on.

Our membership held at that time.

Of course, like most organisations, we have experienced a roller coaster ride through the pandemic.

We know that the trends began in 2018, in regard to membership, but attendance at meetings became confronting in 2022.

COVID played its role here and given the numbers this past week, may do so again.

I don't want to go over the issues that face us, as that will be up to our new Committee and you, our members, to address.

However, I want to say that I don't run away from raising these issues with you; I was duty bound to do so. It would have been re-miss of me not to.

On a positive note, I am very excited about our book and I welcome the printing of *Agan Kernow*. It's not my book, it's ours.

What started out as a wonderful wartime story of life in Penzance from Penny Maguire-White in 2019, which I suggested should not be lost to posterity, has morphed into this book.

Sincerely, thank you Penny from the bottom of my heart.

I'm sure *Agan Kernow* will be a best seller and will appear on Oprah's Book List very soon. Yeah right. However, if every member of the CAV, the Cornish Associations of South Australia and New South Wales bought a book, as well as all the authors, we would be in the black straight away. Let alone those in Cornwall, New Zealand, the US

and Canada who will, no doubt also buy the book. Thank you for your patience, as patience is not a Cornish virtue, is it?

Come on folks, get out and buy the book and note that it will be a great stocking filler and a wonderful Christmas present in its own right. My kids will adore it on Christmas Day! 76 stories by 51 authors from all over Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada – you can't go wrong, can you? I bought six copies straight away and I will probably buy more - so get in while its available folks. If you buy ten copies you get ten steak knives with St Piran flags on them. Truly you do. Well, maybe you don't but ahhhh, the book is a great read. The reviews tell me so.

When I look back over the past three years, I can feel proud that our CAV Library was moved intact to be curated by the Castlemaine Historical Society. It was a great achievement for the Committee. I can see that *Agan Kernow* will be a great thing in promoting our Cornishness as well.

We embraced Zoom during lockdowns, when many were quite negative and sceptical.

We had 56 people attend one of our Zoom meetings and a number of times we had well over 40.

Other organisations that didn't keep pace like we did have dropped away as a result.

We broadened our contact with other sister organisations and I know, for example, that Brian Rollason and I attended a meeting of the Toronto Cornish Association (TCA).

Mind you it was at some early hour on a Sunday morning, but I think it was worth it.

TCA members have also attended our meetings and for them it's very late on a Friday night.

This is a great initiative that Zoom provides.

I am pleased to say that the CAV is now able to pay its accounts online which has been another great improvement.

We have done well, in my view, to still have a membership total of 200 in 2022.

All these things are positive and yet we still have issues with falling attendance and a slowly dwindling membership.

We will work through it and remain strong. We need new leadership to encourage new membership and new ways of doing things. I have faith that we can overcome our issues if we stick with the CAV. I know I will.

If I look back quickly on the year past, in July 2021, after our AGM, we had some members talk about their stories from *Agan Kernow*.

In <u>August</u>, our own Helen Morgan gave a brilliant talk about the *Blewetts of Penzance*. Her focus was on the family's impact on Melbourne. Helen charted the Blewetts as builders in the midnineteenth century, and examined the loss of the old Wesleyan school rooms building in Fitzroy, demolished despite National Trust classification in the 1970s. It was a terrific presentation.

In <u>September</u>, Robyn Coates gave us a very wellresearched presentation about *A Cornish Doctor in Rural Australia - Dr Adoniah Vallack.* 

Professor Cate Frieman from the ANU in Canberra spoke to us, in <u>October</u>, about *The Southeast Kernow Archaeological Survey: new insights into Cornish later prehistory.* 

Cate looked at Iron Age/Romano-British enclosures and Bronze Age barrows near the village of Pelynt.

Cornish Association of New South Wales Secretary and CAV member, Chris Dunkerley gave a terrific presentation about Cornish miners in NSW, especially around Cobar, at our <u>November</u> meeting.

Twenty members were able to gather at our Christmas meeting, in December for a Pasty Lunch at Oakleigh.

This was followed by our first Zoom meeting broadcast live from Oakleigh.

Lauris Allen played the piano for some traditional carols.

We had a Quiz and the winner was John Webb from Toronto, Canada.

Shauna Hicks was our <u>February 2022</u> speaker. A former member of the CAV, Shauna now lives in Queensland.

The topic of her presentation was *The Cornish in Queensland with particular reference to the Trevaskis and Rosewarne families*.

She traced the Trevaskis family, who travelled to South Australia and then to Queensland.

In <u>March</u>, Ted and Beryl Curnow travelled from Ballarat to Oakleigh for Beryl to share her presentation, *Reflection: Living in Cornish Culture -*2003-2005.

After 30 years working in various appointments as a Methodist/Uniting Church Minister, Ted was offered a short term appointment working for the British Methodist Church in Cornwall.

Beryl's presentation was accompanied by some wonderful photos.

Margaret Bullen spoke to us in <u>May</u> about *A personal history of a Curno and a small window into the history of Curnow.* Margaret was born in London but her father's mother's name was Curno and from an early age she knew that Cornwall was God's own country and the world really stopped and began at the Tamar.

In June I solved the riddle of *The Mysterious Case of the Gordon Wednesday Football Club and John Peak & Sons of Penzance.* This story was a tale from my family history involving Cornwall, Australia and Rugby of all things.

I find it quite ironic that the Cats face a resurgent Carlton tonight at the MCG and one of the Blues' best players is Charlie Curnow with a complete Cornish provenance. Go Cats anyway!

There are many people to thank over the last three years.

I want to isolate four people amongst the many who have helped me as President.

During lockdowns June Whiffin, our long serving former Secretary, maintained contact with me, even if it was just for a chat. Her counsel was always well received.

As were the wise words of Beryl Curnow who, as an elder of the CAV, is always the voice of reason. Beryl has served on your Committee for many, many years until today and I think that this service should not be forgotten.

Thank you Beryl for all that you have done. More about that another time. I assure you Beryl, that your service to the CAV won't be forgotten.

Finally, I think that the CAV would almost cease to exist if it wasn't for the work of Robyn and Arthur Coates.

The Newsletter, the management of our Membership, the operation of our CAV website, the editing and production of the *Agan Kernow* book – they all have Robyn and Arthur's name on them. I'd recommend them for joint Brownlow medals but Clayton Oliver will probably collect that one this year, in spite of Joel Selwood's efforts last week. They are truly the enduring rock that the CAV is secured to.

I want to also thank Brian Rollason as your current Secretary and now President-elect. Our future will now be in his hands.

Evelyn Jones, as most of you know, does an amazing job, as your Welfare Officer and I want to personally thank her. Anyone receiving a card or get-well messages will know of the beautiful photographs of Cornwall that accompany them.

The last three years have been especially busy for Evelyn and I want to again publicly acknowledge her role.

I also want to say thanks to the Committee who I worked with during the period.

We now meet monthly on Zoom and think that seems to work well.

Finally, I wish the new Committee and its new executive every success for the 2022-2023 period. I believe that it's an exciting time for the Cornish Association of Victoria as we move into a new era.

'Oll an Gwella'

Ken Peak President Cornish Association of Victoria



Editor's footnote (for non-Victorian readers) Ken Peak follows the Geelong Football Club known as the Cats in the Australian Football League (AFL). Carlton is another team in the AFL and called the Blues.

Clayton Oliver is a footballer with the Melbourne Football Club (followed by Robyn Coates) and he had his thumb broken through the Geelong Captain, Joel Selwood, accidentally kicking his hand. Our incoming President Brian Rollason is a Collingwood supporter (known as the Magpies or simply the Pies).

The MCG is the Melbourne Cricket Ground where many AFL and cricket matches are played. It seats around 100 000 people.

The Brownlow is the award given to the AFL footballer who is deemed the best and fairest player for the season (according to umpire/referee votes).

There is often banter about the football at CAV Meetings.

VALE Ruth Eddy-Forster 6.1.28 - 18.6.2022

Long serving Geelong Branch member, Ruth Eddy-Forster died recently aged 93. Ruth's father emigrated to



Australia from Cornwall in 1914. Ruth often spoke about her Cornish family name of Skentelbery. Ruth married Wesleyan minister, Ken Eddy and they had four daughters.

A highlight of Ruth's life was that they were transferred to several parishes in Cornwall. With Ruth being very interested in her Cornish heritage this time of her life was a great joy. Ruth enjoyed collecting Cornish memorabilia; her house was like a shrine to Cornwall.

Ruth was a regular attendee at our Geelong meetings and would present a talk at each meeting on some Cornish snippet that she had come across. Our association would like to extend our condolences to her family, she will be greatly missed by all.

#### Irene Annie Young

31.1.1928 - 10.06.2022 It is with sadness that we report the recent death of our friend Irene Young at Kellaston in Ballarat. She was 94 years of age.



Irene was born in Warracknabeal in 1928 to Bert and Minnie McIntyre and had two sisters, Maisie and Kate and a brother, Ronnie. Her father was a farmer.

Irene married Peter Francis Young in 1949 and they had five sons - Ian (d1953), Robert, Graeme (d1999), Allan and Bruce. Her husband Peter died in 1982 in Horsham.

Irene and her sister Maisie Cunningham were regular attendees at the Ballarat Cornish meetings at both St Cuthbert's and Skipton Street until failing health prevented them from attending meetings. Maisie was a very early member having joined in 1987. Irene joined the Association in June 1999 and was a most efficient and diligent Amenities Officer for the group from 2007 –2010.

We extend our loving sympathy to her sister Maisie and members of her family.





Congratulations to Val D'Angri who

was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to community history preservation in the recent awards. Many people would be aware of Val's skill in this area knowing of her involvement in the preservation

and conservation of the Eureka Flag.

#### Some background to the Eureka Flag

Eleanor Chisholm was an original Ballarat member and Life Member of the CAV. Eleanor's husband, Jack, was the Mayor of Ballarat on several occasions and during his term of office 1971/1972, he was concerned that the Eureka Flag was not on display. It had been packed away during renovations to the Art Gallery.

Jack and Eleanor constructed in their backyard a makeshift pool to wash the flag with a mesh frame to support it and then passed it over to Val to begin the conservation.

Quoting from *The Eureka Flag - Our Starry Banner* (Dorothy Wickham, Clare Gervasoni and Val D'Angri)

I was allocated one of the galleries to carry out the work...the Eureka Flag was a huge ensign measuring about 4 metres by 2.6 metres - all that remains is about 3.4 metres of its original length ... I had a base board, the size of the original flag, constructed and mounted it on trestles ... so that I could reach the centre by kneeling on it.

Because of the fragility of the remaining fabric, and the requirement that the flag be displayed in a vertical position, it was necessary for the flag to be mounted on two layers of backing materials, one layer to be aesthetic, and both of them to provide strength, stability, and a suitable backing for the thousands of couching stitches required to mount the flag and to retain the many areas of frayed fabric.

The backing material was carefully placed and tensioned before anchoring to the baseboard. The Stabiltex material was then placed on top, and was also carefully tensioned before being fixed to the baseboard in preparation to receive the flag.

Next, the flag was placed into position on its backing materials, and affixed by applying rows of

*almost invisible stitches in a twelve centimetre grid pattern.* 

The grid was laid out using threads stretched between pins set up over the flag's surface as a guide for me to follow.

The extensive frayed and degraded areas of the flag, and the perimeters of the torn and tattered areas, were couched down as required. This part of the operation of mounting the flag took me two weeks.

I often worked into the early hours of the morning.

Finally it was time for the carpenters to move in and build the framing for the baseboard and fit the huge glass front so that the flag could be exhibited on a wall over the staircase in the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery in readiness for the unveiling by the Prime Minister the Honorable Gough Whitlam M. P. on 3 December 1973.

In 1980, seven years after I undertook the conservation work and literally 'fell in love' with this wonderful flag, I was informed by an elderly family relative that my Great-Great Grandmother, Anastasia Catherine Withers, was one of the three women who were responsible for sewing the flag. Another was Anne Duke. Anastasia's granddaughter and grandson in 1982 reinforced this information. Indeed, they were most adamant this was the case and offered their memories as proof.

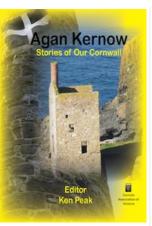
Could the 'W' mark on the flag be her signature? I like to think so.

It is now on display at the Eureka Centre - Stawell Street, Eureka.



#### Agan Kernow

The book is now available for purchase by CAV Members, relatives and friends. The purchase price is \$25 Australian plus the appropriate postage or you may be able to collect it at Oakleigh, Ballarat and Geelong.



This is a 262-page book of 76

stories by 51 authors from across the Cornish diaspora.

More information - <u>www.cornishvic.org.au</u>



#### Post-humous Award

On Saturday July 16th, the Gorsedh held the annual awards presentation for the *Holyer an Gof* book competition.

Each year scores of books are entered for judging books about Cornwall, by Cornish authors, etc. The books are sorted into quite a few categories – fiction or non-fiction, written in English or Kernewek, etc.

One of the categories is "Memoirs," and Howard Curnow's book *Cornwall My Country* took the prize in that category. Elizabeth Curnow, his widow, was there to receive the certificate, which she received with great pleasure in the light of all the time and effort that went into bringing the book to fruition. Howard's last major project.

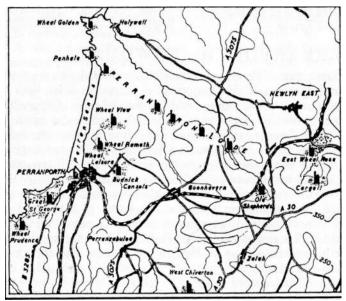
Holyer an Gof requires a bit of explanation. It means "Follower of the Smith," and it was the Bardic name of the late Len Truran. Len was head of a Redruth based publishing house that put out a great many volumes pertaining to Cornwall and her people, a significant contribution to the preservation of Cornish culture. So each year's competition is appropriately named in Len's honor.

A bit more information is accessible at the Gorsedh's website:

\*<u>https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/holyer-an-gof-publishers-awards/</u> \*<u>https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/holyer-an-gof-publishers-awards-ceremony-2022-gallery/</u>

Bill Curnow Florida

Some Nineteenth Century Lead Mines of Cornwall Peter Gardner



(map Barton)

Following my piece in the 2022 May CAV Newsletter (No 141) on the movement of Cornish lead miners to the Daylesford district, it occurred to me that there were a number of other lead mines in Cornwall, in the nineteenth century, that deserved a mention.

The critical point about the East Wheal Rose being that its decline and closure coincided with the gold rushes in Australia.

But with a few short gaps there were lead mines, almost all in the Perranzabuloe district, for most of the century.

In his history of the East Wheal Rose HL Douch wrote "lead was discovered before 1811 when Sir Christopher (Hawkins) granted Richard Oxnam a sett to search for lead, tin and copper in a spot 'near a field called the Deer Park on Treludda Barton' and to take up Wheal Mexico adit and carry it to Wheal Deer Park former workings."

Douch noted that much of this land was barren and in 1814 a rich lode was struck near the surface by drainer Anthony Rose on Sir Christopher's land. He then took the unusual course of developing this mine privately as sole proprietor, which he did for ten years, including constructing and running a lead smelter.

The Wheal Rose was also known as 'Shepherds' and managed by Samuel Grose\* for four years prior to Hawkins letting the mine to adventurers in 1824. Wheal Rose closed in 1832.

The East Wheal Rose was discovered about 1834 and a company, formed about that time, was made

up of 128 holders of £50 shares\*\*.

The ore body appears to have been an extension of the old Wheal Rose line running east-west. Around 1840, substantial north-south reefs were discovered on which the wealth and fabulous profits of the company were founded; dividends of  $\pounds 20$  per share were issued on a quarterly basis and in 1845 the market value of each share was  $\pounds 1500$ .

Throughout the 1840s the East Wheal Rose was the leading lead mine in Britain averaging about 5000 tons of lead ore per annum, worth approximately  $\pounds 60,000$ .

Production fell below 2000 tons in 1851 and the mine closed in 1857.

In the 1880s an attempt to reopen the mine failed, during which the fabulous engine house was built – now at the end of the tourist Lappa Valley Railway.

Overlapping with the East Wheal Rose were the nearby mines of Cargoll and South Cargoll. D.B Barton in his *Guide to the Mines of West Cornwall* noted that "Cargoll and South Cargoll were... worked in the hollow of the downs above East Wheal Rose in the period 1845-1885.

Cargoll was originally an unworked section of the East (Wheal) Rose and was at its most prosperous in 1860s after the latter had closed.

During this period Cargoll produced approximately 14,000 tons of lead ore.

Besides the East Wheal Rose the other major mine was West Chiverton which operated from 1859 to 1886. Barton noted that the mine was "inland from Perranporth... once (the) important Chiverton lead -mining district, centred about a mile west of Zelah. No less than eight separate mines included the word Chiverton in their names, most of them brief ventures that came into being in the 1860s in a wave of local speculation subsequent upon the richness of West Chiverton."

The total production of West Chiverton over its lifetime was close to that of the East Wheal Rose and some internet sources suggest that it was greater, due primarily to the high silver content of their ore.

However as this mine had no smelter they were forced to sell their ore at market prices which declined though the 1870s.

The Cornwall Calling website noted that in "1873 West Chiverton sold 2,224 tons of lead ore with an estimated lead content of 1,668 tons of lead and 70,056 oz. of silver.

The market value for the metals was  $\pounds$ 43,201. However, the mine received only  $\pounds$ 29,929, with the other third of market value going to the merchants and manufacturers. [In the] 1880s a further fall in lead prices virtually finished the industry off in Cornwall."

Sir Christopher Hawkins was well aware that selling the lead ore involved substantial losses to the mine. His smelter worked for at least five years from 1819 to 1823.

During that time the Wheal Rose smelter refined about 3000 tons of lead and more than 120,000 oz of silver, the value of the latter alone was over  $\pounds$ 30,000.

When the mine was let to Adventurers in 1824 they closed the smelter thus becoming dependant on a fluctuating open market with prices of around  $\pounds 12$  dropping to  $\pounds 6$  16s 6d in 1832 when the mine closed.

Aside from the Wheal Rose I am unaware of any other lead smelter operating in conjunction with any of these mines including the large producers.

\*a relation of the author – three generations of his family worked in the Wheal Rose and East Wheal Rose.

\*\* John Giddy, former lead smelter at Wheal Rose and brother-in-law to Sam Grose, originally had 33 shares, but he died in 1835 before the rich northsouth lodes were discovered.

HL Douch. *East Wheal Rose*, D. Bradford Barton, Truro, 1979

D.B Barton. *Guide to the Mines of West Cornwall* D. Bradford Barton, Truro, 1973

https://www.cornwall-calling.co.uk/mines/northcornwall-perranzabuloe/west-chiverton.htm



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/ File:East\_Wheal\_Rose.jpg

### The Cornishmen of Clunes

Some years ago, I was googling and found a very interesting Blog site owned by Wayne D. Knoll. Amongst the many Blogs were several that piqued my interest.

\*Yarra Valley-Dandenong-Gippsland -Western-Non -British Pioneers

(My husband's grandfather was named in this but wrongly stated he came from Denmark and not Norway)

\*The Cornishmen of Clunes

\*From Burra Burra to Ballaarat or Bendigo & Beyond There are far too many to list here.

Clunes interested me as there was a family wedding (Eddy-Miles) there in 1909, and I once taught there for six months many years ago.



The Cornishmen of Clunes - and, the Cornishwomen of Clunes

Wayne states that "it seems certain that the Cornishmen at CLUNES, in the Central Goldfields of Victoria, Australia in the latter half of the Nineteenth Century, were more than half the population of Clunes"

He also states that it is important to take note of the women and seek out and find the female links! He had recently discovered that his JANE family came to Clunes, to reunite with other members of the family who had emigrated earlier. This Blog details many families.

It has ten photos and drawings of Clunes and eleven of Cornwall. Also several maps.

There are several anecdotes from the book- *Early Pioneers in and around Clunes* by May L Townsend 1989 - some funny and some very sad.

(this book is available in the Eureka Library and also Prahran Mechanics Library)

Some of the places pictured in the drawings of Clunes are well known to me, as I walked the

distance from Clunes railway station, down the hill, over the creek and up the next hill to the Primary school. Catching the train at Ballarat Railway station early in the morning and arriving at Clunes at 8am. I was much fitter then.

Wayne has included a long list of names in alphabetical order.

Photos of graves in the Clunes cemetery and stories of some of the pioneers are included.

#### Graves for:

Simon Andrews, born in Illogan; Bennet family; Michael Dunn; Grenfell Abel and Sarah; Hosken grave for Mary Jane; Joseph Trenery and Jane Pearson; Ambrose Saunders Pelham and Jane Robson.

#### Stories about

Mr Humphrey Davey of Clunes and Quambatook and his wife Johanna Jenkin Davey accompanied by a portrait of Humphrey Davey; Abel Grenfel and Sarah Cook; C J Harvey; and the Heath families

There is also a long list of Cornish burials after 1881.

Wayne used Victorian BDM records, and also visited and documented gravestones from the Clunes cemetery; also Creswick databases, histories and the Creswick cemetery as Creswick also had many Cornish families there.

#### <u>Burra Burra to Ballaarat or Bendigo & Beyond</u> This details the Gold Rush East 1851-1876 -Gold Overlanders and Diggers to Victoria from South Australia.

He mentions The Overland Gold Project on our CAV website but Thomas Ninnes is not included in his list of overlanders to Victoria.

There are thousands of names listed, of many nationalities, but very interesting to browse the list if you have time.

#### Details are based on

1.Diggers Pioneer Index BDM Victoria 1836-1889;
2. Birth Index for South Australia 1836-1908;
3.Marriage index for South Australia 1836-19??
4.Shipping Indexes for the colony of South Australia, now a State of Australia.

https://www.blogger.com/ profile/03668022975795483457

Di Christensen - July 2022

#### Cornish in Bendigo

Leanne and Robert Lloyd have been busy in June promoting the Cornish in Bendigo. On Monday 20th June they presented a talk entitled "Cornish Emigration" to the University of the 3rd Age – U3a in Bendigo. While attendance was down on the day for the Family History group, those who were present to hear the talk were very interested to hear about Cornish Emigration and the Cornish in Bendigo.

On Saturday 25th June, Leanne and Robert attended the Eaglehawk Fire Brigade Presentation night to present the Cornish Encouragement Award. The Fire Brigade had been unable to hold the awards for the past two years so it was good to be back presenting the Cornish award again. This award was first given at the Annual Presentation Night of the Eaglehawk Fire Brigade in 1991.

The Brigade offered the Cornish Association of Bendigo & District free use of their meeting room for our monthly Cornish Association meetings. The Eaglehawk Fire Brigade did not request any payment for the use of the meeting room as we were a community group.

In lieu of payment for the use of the room it was decided that the Cornish Association would provide a lump sum each year for the provision of an annual award at their presentation night.

When the Cornish Association of Bendigo & District finished as a group in 2011, a sum of money was given to the Eaglehawk Fire Brigade so that the Cornish Association Encouragement Award could continue for many years to come.

Rob and I attend the Presentation Night each year to present this award to a young member of the brigade who has shown leadership, initiative and community spirit.

The winner of the 2022 Cornish Encouragement Award was Amy Madison.



#### Geelong

Chairperson's Report 2022

It is with pleasure that once again I present this annual report as Chairman of the Geelong Branch of the CAV.

Our small group continues to enjoy each other's company, with our meetings having a happy and friendly atmosphere.

Our branch managed to have five meetings this past year with one being cancelled because of COVID restrictions.

For the November meeting, despite having limited numbers allowed to attend because of COVID restrictions, Geelong Branch members and several guests enjoyed a High Tea at our normal meeting venue.

*Trelawny* was sung and for the first time at a branch meeting, *Hail to the Homeland* was sung.

A toast was proposed to the Cornish Diaspora by Bob Congdon.

Bob was born at Gawler in South Australia and has Cornish ancestors who were copper miners. He spoke of the Brythonic language which connects the Cornish, Welsh and Breton languages. Liz Kraus who was also born in South Australia responded to the toast and spoke about her Cornish ancestors wading ashore at Port Adelaide and settling in Adelaide.

The guest speaker was Neil Thomas who spoke about a distant Cornish cousin, James Martin, who ended up employing over 700 people at his engineering business at Gawler, primarily making steam locomotives.

A High Tea followed with Ruth Taylor supplying the sponge cake and slices.

A very pleasant afternoon was had by all.

For our branch to operate in a successful manner, I would like to express my appreciation of all members and especially Ruth Taylor for her work as Secretary, Bill Martin as Treasurer and Nola Thomas for her work as Meeting Hostess.

> Neil Thomas. Chairman Geelong Branch of the CAV

#### National Celtic Festival

For the first time in several years, the Geelong Branch took part in the National Celtic Festival, held at Portarlington.

With the assistance of other branch members our stall was open for the three days of the long weekend in June.

Despite being partially exposed to the elements a good time of fellowship was enjoyed and interesting conversations about Cornish heritage were had with members of the public.

Neil Thomas

The photos below, hopefully, show how cold it was exposed to the wind and often showers of rain.

<image>

SSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC

**Ballarat** Chairperson's Report 2022

In former times the term 'plague' would have been used to describe the COVID 19 outbreak which is now in its third year. In the older litanies of the church, we prayed for deliverance and protection from such things and perhaps our ancestors had a better appreciation of our vulnerability to 'plague and pestilence' and the havoc created in lives and communities.

I recently learned that two of my great-grandfathers

died in 1919, during the 'Spanish Flu' - both were middle aged.

The cost to us of the COVID outbreak is still being accrued far less than finally calculated, It is far more than financial.

Groups like ours have found their routines disrupted; members made to suffer ill health and isolation; and the attendances have not recovered to pre-COVID levels.

We now approach the business of gathering in groups constrained by a necessary sense of caution. Especially those of weakened health.

However, I have to report that we have been able to gather for most of this year, the exception being our August meeting on Zoom. I thank the people who presented; - Austell Lanyon, Val D'Angri, Julia Walsh, Ted and Beryl Curnow, and Robyn Coates. I have not been able to attend all meetings and I thank Wendy and Arthur for filling the chair. I think that attendances, in the circumstances, have been at least fair, and the presentations good.

It has been good to welcome Ted and Beryl Curnow to our meetings.

Congratulations to Val D'Angri OAM for her well-deserved award.

We acknowledge the passing in death of members: -Glen Bray; Jeff Menhennet; Hazel Luke; and Irene Young.

Our condolences go to friends and families.

We have had the retirement as Treasurer of Ian Jennings. Ian's efforts in his health have been courageous and we thank him for so much. Jim Hocking has had the courage to step into big shoes - thank you Jim.

Di Christensen has found the need to withdraw from the committee because of issues with mobility and we shall miss her input.

I hope that Di will be able to continue at our meetings.

Our committee has otherwise continued and was re-elected unchanged.

I thank you for your confidence in me and I am grateful for the support of the members of the committee: - Wendy Benoit - Vice Chair; Lorice Jenkin – Secretary; Jim Hocking – Treasurer; Robyn Coates and Bev Hocking – Committee members

I see the year before us has the opportunity to serve as a group in which people can find friendship and interest to enrich their lives.

## NEW VICTORIAN DEATH CERTIFICATE

Grieving families will no longer have to share the cause of a loved one's death as they navigate difficult administrative tasks following a loss.

The Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages now offers a new death certificate package, containing the original death certificate and a new legal death certificate, which has some sections removed.

The new legal death certificate excludes the cause of death and burial information and is available immediately, allowing families to start managing the estate of the deceased quickly.

The new certificate will be accepted for administration processes at organisations such as banks, government entities and utility companies.

The original death certificate listing cause of death will still be available as it is required by superannuation and insurance companies.

The certificate package eases the burden of administering a deceased estate, by offering families the choice to censor sensitive information such as cause of death and cutting the waiting time for a certificate for deaths being investigated by the Coroner.

This new approach has been carefully developed in response to community feedback and advice from the Coronial Council of Victoria.

The Council's advice has been informed by the experience of families and support agencies as well as insights provided by experts in bereavement and therapeutic laws.

The certificate package was made possible thanks to \$750,000 in funding provided to Births, Deaths and Marriages from the Department of Treasury and Finance's Regulatory Reform Incentive Fund.

"The death administration process is a really difficult thing to go through – we're simplifying that and protecting the privacy of families and the loved ones they're mourning." (Attorney-General - Jaclyn Symes)

"We know that end-of-life administration is a difficult step during already challenging times for family and loved ones, streamlining the process is a small way we can support bereaved families when they need it most." (Minister for Regulatory Reform - Danny Pearson

"We welcome these important changes. The new

certificates will offer families privacy and dignity – especially in the context of losing a loved one in distressing circumstances." (State Coroner, Judge John Cain)

From the Ballarat News Team Facebook Page

More information at: <u>https://www.bdm.vic.gov.au/deaths/death-</u> <u>certificates-and-packages#why-are-there-two-death</u> <u>-certificates</u>

#### 

#### New Children's Book

The History of the Arch of Victory and its Avenue of Honour, in Ballarat, is detailed in a new book aimed at teaching children about the development of both.



When the soldiers and nurses of Ballarat left for World War One, Tilly Thompson and the Lucas Girls found special ways to honour them.

Three Thousand Eight Hundred and One Trees (and each one has a name) tells the inspirational story of the origins of Australia's longest Avenue of Honour and Ballarat's iconic Arch of Victory.

A children's picture story book , written by Naomi Irvin and illustrated by Liv Lorkin, it is an easy read and suitable to read to young children or for young readers.

Copies are available at Ballarat Collins Booksellers in the Mall, [(03) 5331 6552] Collins in Lydiard Street [(03) 5331 7411] and selected Ballarat cafes. Cost \$20.00.

#### Reminder

Annual renewal notices have been sent to all members.

If you using EFT banking to pay, please make sure to include your Name and CAV Number found on the renewal form.

Life and Honorary Members please ensure that any change of address or phone details are notified to the Secretary.

# cornish tidbits

#### Sea grass experiment

Thousands of seagrass seeds are to be planted off Cornwall to test the best conditions for growing it. Seagrass is able to store carbon dioxide and Cornwall Wildlife Trust believes restoring it could help fight climate change.

The Seeding Change Together project will take place over three years at the Fal Ruan nature reserve.

Thousands of seeds will be planted by volunteers.

#### Delays in new hospital for women and children

A new £100m women's and children's unit at Cornwall's main hospital has been delayed and may now not be completed until 2027.

The cost of the new unit is to come from extra NHS funding announced by Prime Minister Boris Johnson in 2019.

It had been hoped that work would have started last year with a view to completing the centre at the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro by 2024. But rising construction costs mean that the scheme's budget is being reviewed.

#### Extra council taxes for second home owners

Cornwall Council is not set to get powers to charge extra council tax on second homes until at least 2024.

The government included plans on tax premiums for second homes in May in its Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill .

The plans are not expected to be introduced until 2024 - and could even be delayed until 2025 or 2026.

Details of the timing were revealed at a meeting of Cornwall Council's customer and support services overview and scrutiny committee

Under the proposals, local councils would be able to charge double council tax on furnished homes not used as a sole or main residence.

#### Funding for histories

Funding of  $\pounds 18,000$  will be used to tell "untold" histories of working class lives in Cornwall and Devon.

Two community-led projects were announced by Historic England on Tuesday as part of 57 nationally.

In Braunton, Devon,  $\pounds 10,000$  will be used to help set up a railway carriage to share stories of the arrival of the Southern Railway in 1874. In Bodmin, Cornwall, an £8,000 grant means previously unseen photographs will showcase working village lives.

The two projects were chosen to benefit from Historic England's Everyday Heritage Grants: Celebrating Working Class Histories project.

The *Trains Gone By* project will see Live Well Braunton and local men's group Braunton Men in Sheds deliver the project from a "distinctive green Southern carriage" in a car park.

Dartmoor-based community theatre company MED Theatre will mentor volunteers to collect oral histories of those who worked, or still work, on Dartmoor, to produce an exhibition at the Museum of Dartmoor Life and a community play.

The *A Cornish Camera* - Bodmin at Work project will see Kresen Kernow and IntoBodmin deliver stories of the working class of the town using photographs from the George Ellis Collection.

#### **Record temperatures**

Temperatures have soared to a record high for Cornwall of 36C (96.8F). The record-beating heat in Bude topped the previous high for Cornwall of 33.9C (93F) in June 1976.



The highest temperature in Devon was 35C (95F) in Chivenor, just shy of the previous record of 35.4C (95.7F) at Saunton Sands in August 1990.



Almost drought conditions in South West The South West has received just 16% of its summer rainfall so far, and in July some locations in Somerset and Dorset received less than 1mm of rain.

Farmers are clearly worried about the impact on yield, some wheat crops are ready for harvest a good six weeks early, but the yield is down as a result.

Root crops need some summer rain and without it the likes of homegrown South West potatoes could be limited in supply.

The recent heatwave has shown that it is not just south-east England that could be affected. In the South West the abundance of rain especially in the winter is taken for granted - reservoirs and groundwater supplies looked really healthy in January.

Across the UK it has been the driest July since 1984, with an average of 1.5in (37.7mm) of rain, and it is the eighth driest in records stretching back to 1836. The Met Office said it has not just been a dry July, but figures also show that England has had the driest eight-month period from November 2021 to June 2022 since 1976, when the country struggled with severe drought.

Over that period, just 16.6in (421mm) of rain has fallen across England – less than three-quarters (74%) of the 1991-2020 average of 22.4in (568mm).

People in Cornwall are being asked to try and limit their water usage each day in order to maintain the levels of reservoirs, which are vital for wildlife and water supplies in Cornwall.

#### Unexpected finds due to low water levels

Low water levels have uncovered prehistoric treasures beneath a Cornish reservoir.

A collection of cup-marked stones are among the artefacts to have emerged at Stithians Reservoir near Falmouth.

There is also evidence of medieval farmsteads and modern pottery on the shoreline that is usually under water.

#### Goonhilly

Goonhilly satellite station marks its 60th anniversary. The site, on the Lizard, is the world's only commercial deep space station and has been involved in receiving and transmitting many historic events. Its work had also helped the space sector expand in Cornwall.





Goonhilly earth satellite station was built by the GPO on Goonhilly Downs at a cost of £650,000 The site was chosen because it was flat, giving a clear view of the horizon, and its hard rock surface could take the weight of the 1,118-tonne dish - officially named Antenna 1, but nicknamed Arthur Arthur is a 26m (85ft) wide dish and a Grade II listed structure

On 11 July 1962, pictures from America were sent via the Telstar satellite to Goonhilly The project led the way to modern satellite communications.

Over the years, it grew to 160 acres and had more than 60 dishes which handled computer data, fax transmissions, video conferencing, telex communications, TV signals and about 10 million telephone calls a week.

It played a key role in the broadcasting of events in the UK, including several Olympic Games, the Apollo II Moon landing, the boxing matches of Muhammad Ali fights, and 1985's Live Aid concert.

Satellite operations ended in 2006 and the site was closed by BT in 2008.

Private company Goonhilly Earth Station Limited (GES) began to buy the site near Helston in 2011 to create a space science centre for space exploration and science research, finishing its takeover in 2014.

#### Cornwall Crime Statistics

Crime Rate data shows that Cornwall is the second safest county in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

The overall crime rate in Cornwall in 2021 was 44 crimes per 1,000 people, and the most common crimes were violence and sexual offences, which happened to roughly every 23 out of 1,000 residents. According to the data, out of all of Cornwall's larger towns and cities, Truro is the most dangerous. The next most dangerous is Liskeard, and Bodmin comes in as third most dangerous.

There are safer parts of Cornwall, starting with St. Agnes which ranks as the safest area in Cornwall, followed by St. Stephen-in-Brannel in second place, and St. Ives in third place.

# The Royal Cornwall Museum faces closure after a bid for council funding failed.

Cornwall Council said it had had 51 applicants to its culture and creative investment programme from 2022-26, but the museum was not a successful bidder.

The Council's investment programme was very popular and heavily over-subscribed, with submissions totalling nearly £7m for the £1,868,000 it could allocate for the four years.

The Museum is home to a significant archive of local mining history and materials, as well as the Courtney Library and Archive.

The Courtney Library houses a collection of rare books and manuscripts to help with education, research and the discovery of Cornish life and culture.

The Royal Cornwall Museum's latest financial figures to the Charity Commission indicate, in the financial year to the end of March 2021, its income was  $\pounds$ 514 000 - including  $\pounds$ 136 000 from two government grants - and its expenditure was about  $\pounds$ 609 500.

#### 90th Anniversary of Minack Theatre performances

The open air Minack theatre was the brainchild of Rowena Cade, who moved to Cornwall after the First World War and built a house for herself and her mother on land at Minack Point (at Porthcurno, 4 miles (6.4 km) from Land's End).

In 1929, a local village group of players had staged Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in a nearby meadow at Crean, repeating the production the next year.

They decided that their next production would be *The Tempest* and Rowena Cade offered the garden of her house as a suitable location, as it was beside the sea.

Miss Cade and her gardener, Billy Rawlings, made a terrace and rough seating, hauling materials down from the house or up via the winding path from the beach below.

In 1932, *The Tempest* was performed with the sea as a dramatic backdrop, to great success. Miss Cade resolved to improve the theatre, working over the course of the winter months each year throughout her life (with the help of Billy Rawlings and Charles Angove) so that others might perform each summer. Minack theatre currently is used from Easter to September and is open for visitors throughout the rest of the year.







# kernewek Lowender Copper Coast Cornish Festival 15-21 May, 2023



- Celebrating Copper Coast Heritage
   Swanky Traditional Cornish Ale
- Cornish Pasties
- Cornish Ceremonies and Activities
- Food, Music and Entertainment
- Exhibitions and Competitions





## CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC. Reg. No. A0008264A

## Consolidated Financial Statement

#### Year ended 30 April 2022

	CAV Melb	CAV Ballarat Branch	CAV Geelong Branch	Total CAV
Balance - 1 May 2021 (As recorded in 2021)	20,811	3,561	3,919	28,291
* <b>Actual Balance</b> – 1 May 2022 (Discrepancies due to unpresented cheques and recording errors)	20,811	3,501	3,951	28,262
<b>Receipts</b> Subscriptions-new members 80	80			
Subscriptions-renewals 4,936	3,736	940	260	
Door charges	347	70	81	498
Donations with subscriptions Donations-other 130	344	100	30	344
Book Sales Newsletter Subscriptions		116 45		116 45
Total Receipts	4,507	1,271	371	6,149
<b>Payments</b> Rental of premises	2,400		72	2,472
Newsletter printing and postage	2, <del>4</del> 00 664	20	12	684
Catering	209		128	337
Gift Cards for Speakers	756 50			756 50
Office supplies, postage, copying Zoom subscription	231			231
Awards, flowers, death notices	84	42		126
Hire of Van re Library Transfer	428	500		428
CAV share of subscriptions received 686	0	582	104	
Total Payments	4,822	644	304	5,770
Net receipts/(payments)	-315	627	67	379
Closing Balance 30 April 2022	20,496	4,128	3,986	28,610
<b>Bank and cash balances</b> Petty cash (Secretary) Westpac-term deposit Westpac/CBA/Bendigo Bank	50 12,605 7,841 <b>20,496</b>	4,128 <b>4,128</b>	3,986 <b>3,986</b>	12,605 15,955 <b>28,610</b>
	20,770	т, і 20	3,700	20,010