



Tam Kernewek

“A bit of Cornish”

CousinJack.org

Facebook.com (Cornish American Heritage Society)

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Cornish American Heritage Society

First Meeting of the CAHS Book Club – The Salt Path

What would do if you lost everything? Your house, your job, and most of your money? Would you decide to go on a 630 mile walk and live out of a backpack, sleeping rough in the elements? That is exactly what Raynor Winn, the author of *The Salt Path*, did with her husband Moth.



We will discuss this amazing autobiography at the first ever meeting of the CAHS Book Club on Sunday January 8th at 4 pm Eastern Time. Please register to be included in the Zoom meeting.

The CAHS Book Club is an informal group that will meet quarterly to discuss both fiction and non-fiction books that have a strong connection to Cornwall. There is no charge to participate.

Sign up now!!!

<https://forms.gle/PT1jzohHAS5guhJP8>

Lewydh Messach (**President's Message**)

Dynnargh! (Greetings)

We find ourselves again at the end of another year! Another quite strange year. In many ways we are seeing how we are coming out of the pandemic. People are returning to congregations. Other congregations have dissolved. Businesses have closed. A couple of my favorite restaurants were closed and promptly torn down! It has been difficult.

My home meeting, The Cornish Society of Greater Milwaukee, dissolved in the spring after about 40 years. Because of my **parents' interest and my (very willingly) tagging along, I have been able to participate in the many Milwaukee Folk Fairs, St. Piran's celebrations, and our yearly May Pasty Luncheon (I remember being the 'Obby 'Oss one year!). And just some good fellowship.**

We have recently lost some wonderful Cornish friends in Wisconsin:

- ◆ Joe Trewyn was the constant leader of the Milwaukee group. Joe was a teacher in the Milwaukee schools for over thirty years, but we knew him as a historian and later a docent at the Milwaukee Art Museum. He was a pressing force in the Society. It was his suggestion and urgency that caused the Milwaukee group to host the 2014 Gathering at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. **He always had a "We can do it" spirit whenever a new opportunity for the Society showed itself.**
- ◆ Another important loss in our group was that of Vern Herman. Like my father, Vern was Cornish by marriage. Vern was the one who steadfastly supported his wife, past president Kathryn Herman, through her service to CAHS, especially with conducting planning sessions for the 2014 Gathering in Milwaukee. He was always present and as Cornish as the rest of us!
- ◆ Recently Dorothy Beckwith from the Southwestern Wisconsin Cornish Society passed. She is somehow a relative **through my Cornish "Laity" surname. Dorothy, Russell Laity, Carin Thomas and my mother, Fran Rusch, worked diligently in the early '90s to put a Laity Genealogy together. (Russell has worked on it ever since. See "Last Name Laity" group on Facebook.)** Dorothy was a historian and a creative spirit. She contributed many stories to Tam Kernewek over the years.

Perhaps this is awkward as a President's Message before the beginning of the Christmas season. But we have an opportunity during these longer nights to think about our lives and how we have spent the many years. I am thankful for my Cornish groups and for the enjoyment they have brought to my life. (And what's next?) A wonderful end to the year to you!

Kesskrifans a-dre Eseleth

*(Correspondence from Societies
and Cousin Jack Website)*

Keweenaw Kernewek 30th Anniversary

What an afternoon yesterday! Keweenaw Kernewek celebrated its 30th Anniversary at the Keweenaw Heritage Center in Calumet.

Thanks to members who put in hours to help. We had to deal with a couple of challenges but fortunately, everyone was flexible and coped. A particular challenge was an out-of-order lift with a part that didn't come in. Moving downstairs created a somewhat crowded space for Noteworthy to perform but they were wonderfully gracious about it. As always, their songs delighted everyone.



Noteworthy and Proper Job alternated selections, making for a wonderful program. . Kernewek Kweenaw is twinned with Cambone and thanks to Dave, the connection with Cornwall worked perfectly. Being able to share

"across the pond" was wonderful. Great to hear from David that they all enjoyed everything as well.

Decorated tables showed the shared American and Cornish heritage. Notice the coasters that Melanie made and offered to everyone attending to take home. Pasties were, of course, the bill of fare, supplemented by coleslaw and a beautiful cake to celebrate the occasion. Because we had to keep to a schedule it was nothing short of wonderful to have so many pitch in to do the cleaning up.



From Keweenaw Kernewek Facebook page October 29, 2022

29th Cornish Festival a Success

Held after a 2 year hiatus due to covid, the festival had many different events to hold the interest of the attendees. The Pop-up Museum's main event was Ron Dunbar's collection of Mineral Point paper memories including a talk and historical photos, post cards. The afternoon speaker was Erik Flesch who told the story of Charlie Curtis, a Cornish stone mason, who had an impact on many of the buildings in Mineral Point such as the Masonic Temple.

Cornish Scoot Dancing was offered by Bryce Wayot. In earlier times folks would attach a metal heel and toe clips to their shoes to reduce wear and tear. This created a distinctive tapping noise when walking on the smooth stone streets.

Saturday night at the Opera House a presentation of HMS Pinafore wrapped up the festival. A pasty dinner was enjoyed at Walker House before the performance.

Next year will feature performing art students from the **Mount's Bay Academy in Cornwall! Mark your calendars** now to head to Mineral Point next September 22-24.

Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society newsletter

Dorothy Ann Beckwith

Dorothy Ann Beckwith, 83, of Belmont, WI, and formerly of Galena, IL, passed away Friday, October 21, 2022, at St. Mary's Hospital, Madison, WI. A graveside Celebration of Life was held at 11 AM, Saturday, October 29, 2022, in Scales Mound Township Cemetery, Scales Mound, IL.

She was a founding member of the SW Wisconsin Society and firm supporter of all things Cornish. She is survived by her son, Christopher.

Dorothy contributed articles for our newsletter many times over the years I have been editor. Always ready to help out the best she could. I will miss her.

Editor



Correspondence con't:

Fame for the LCA! (London Cornish Association)

Sixteen keen members braved the July heat to gather at our usual 'watering hole' – Penderels Oak – to celebrate mid-summer. There was good food and plenty of chat and the fact that some of our members stayed over 4 hours is testimony to the enjoyment of the day.

For a short time during the lunch, we were joined by Jack Murley from BBC Radio Cornwall. He was keen to chat to people in London who had Cornish connections and took this opportunity to interview our Chairman Carol Goodwin and member Jonathon Henwood.

You can listen to the interview here:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0cm8vn0>

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We were able to meet up with Marion Stephens and her friend Karen (from the Toronto Cornish Association) while they were on their trip to Cornwall. They met in London for lunch and since there was no 'ice to break' with their common heritage chat flowed easily. This was a most enjoyable time for us all. Hopefully it won't be too long before we can do it again with other cousins from the diaspora.

You can email the LCA at [ica@londoncornish.co.uk](mailto:ica@londoncornish.co.uk) to let them know you are coming..... Who will be next?

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Gorsedd Adult Awards 2022

The Toronto Cornish Association won both the awards this year. Marion Stephens, President of TCA, was awarded the Pemas Map Trevethan/Paul Smales Award for 'outstanding contribution to Cornwall by someone not a resident in Cornwall'. John Webb, TCA Archivist and Contributing Editor of their newsletter, received the London Cornish Shield for 'outstanding services to Cornwall and Cornish People'.

Both awards were well deserved as Marion and John have done so much for their Association and the wider diaspora especially during the pandemic. During the pandemic they kept their society going with zoom meetings and included anyone who signed in. One of the London members presented a program for one of the zoom meetings.

London Cornish Association newsletter



Kenderwi Kernewek—California Cousins

The Fall luncheon was held at Utica Park Angels Camp. Included a visit to the Carriage House at the Angels Museum. It contains one of the largest collections of wagons and carriages in the country. They saw a logging truck that was pulled by an oxen team and a stagecoach. The day included a pasty lunch with Heva cake and Apple crisp with vanilla ice cream. Oh to be there sounds like heaven! It looks like many hands made light work and included a couple that drove from SoCal to attend.

California Cousins newsletter

Witchcraft and Folklore

Jason Semmens presented a wonderful summary of his investigations into witchcraft in Cornwall in the 16th to 20th centuries. Jason presented many drawings and paintings of various forms of witches and animals that were believed to be working with the devil, such as goats.

Sometimes those believed to be witches were put on trial as felons and sometimes not prosecuted as time went on. **Spells were tried but didn't work and by the 1730s witchcraft was no longer considered real.**

In the 19th Century white witches were consulted instead of going to a judge. They employed magic, spells, and charms for fortune telling, healing, finding missing people and more.

(Jason's talk was recorded if anyone would like to watch it contact: tea-Canada@hotmail.com

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John Webb reports that Doc Martin, season10 will be the last and the family has grown with 2 children and a dog, but the main character is still grumpy. While in Cornwall he caught some of the last episodes. He also was able to **view the newest release of the "Fisherman's Friends—One and All"**.

TCA members will enjoy the brand-new Fisherman's Friends, the Musical on November 30th.



**Correspondence con't:**

In our past newsletter we sent a notice that we were concerned about the future of the Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro. Marion Stephens received a message from Cheryl Mackrory, MP. It thanked them for their correspondence and that after weeks of negotiations with Cornwall Council, an **agreement was made to secure the museum's short-term future**. Cornwall Council will provide initial transitional support while the Museum reviews its business plan and applies for funding to create a museum for the 21st Century. This is good news!

*TCA Review*

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Cornish accent

An online dating app in the UK surveyed 2,300 participants to find out which accents were most attractive. It was prompted **by the fact that 21% say they can tell if they're going to find someone attractive early on a date just from hearing their voice**. Out of the 10 accents listed, the Cornish accent was voted the least sexy. Understandably, it has generated an outcry.

**Our accent is all about the rhotic 'r', which is the 'r' sound after a vowel, as in "car". Cornish people traditionally extend and roll the letter.** It's the sound of exotic promise and granite, the sound of thousands of years of tradition, the sound of "would you like a sausage roll with your paaasty, me luv-verrrr?"

One explanation is that voters weren't thinking of the Cornish accent at all but had been brainwashed by the homogenised Westcountry "ooh aaargh" accent that everyone hears on the likes of Doc Martin, Poldark and Fisherman's Friends - The Movie. That isn't Cornish it's Somerdordevon (a mix of accents from Somerset, Dorset and Devon) and doesn't exist.

There is no denying that Ed Rowe's (Kernow King) moody baritone is alluring as fisherman Martin Ward in the award-winning film Bait, and so is genuine Cornish actress Susan Penhaligon's voice whenever she's used a rolling Kernewek accent in roles. The top-scoring accent was Irish – think Colin Farrell and Graham Norton.

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Kernewek Lowender

2023 will be the 50th Anniversary of the festival. The website, <https://www.kernewek.org/> describes the beginnings of copper mining in the area. In 1859 a shepherd discovered traces of copper in South Australia's Yorke Peninsula. This prompted a rush for mining leases and soon after, mines had been established in Moonta, Kadina and Wallaroo. The three towns became known as the Copper Triangle and the area later became the Copper Coast.

Thousands of miners from Cornwall emigrated to South Australia and the mines flourished.

- ◆ Moonta Mine was the first mine in Australia to pay £1 million pounds in dividends.
- ◆ Moonta once contained the country's second largest urban population behind Adelaide.
- ◆ The Moonta Company produced more than \$10 million worth of copper.
- ◆ The Moonta-Wallaroo mines produced around 350,000 tonnes of copper - nearly half the total mineral production of South Australia up to 1924.

By 1865, Cornish immigrants made up 42% of South Australia's population and by 1875 Moonta had surpassed Cornwall as the British Empire's largest copper region. Today, about 10% of South Australia's inhabitants are of Cornish descent.

The New Zealand Cornish Association celebrated 60 years at each of the branches, the Taranaki with a pasty for each person, the Christchurch branch with a special cake, cut by long standing members, Dorothy Drew and Heather Gladstone.

Congratulations to the New Zealand Cornish Association!



Correspondence con't

Prince William, Duke of Cornwall

The Grand Bard has sent this message to King Charles:
"Gorsedh Kernow is, as is every other British cultural institution, very sad to know of the Queen's passing. Over the past 70 years she has presided over a society which has become tolerant and open in its celebration of nations and cultures. We are sad and also full of gratitude, and mourn at the same time as we look forward to the flourishing of our culture, language and governance with a new King, whose knowledge of, and affection for Kernow must be second to none. We also extend a warm hand of welcome to Duke William of Cornwall, in sympathy and expectation."

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Cornish-speakers saved English from extinction!

A number of websites on the Cornish language include the ironic fact that English was seriously endangered by the 13th century, but was saved from a threatened extinction by large publications such as the Polychronicon, produced in English by three Cornish-speaking scholars: John of Cornwall, John Trevisa and Richard Pencrych. Within 50 years of their contribution, English replaced French as the official language of the Court, and was saved to enjoy its future success.

John of Cornwall, possibly called in Latin Johannes Cornubiensis or Johannes de Sancto Germano was a 14th century scholar and teacher, author of the English grammar Speculum Grammaticale. He is not to be confused with the twelfth-century theologian John of Cornwall who authored the Eulogium ad Alexandrum Papam III.

John of Trevisa was born at Trevesa in the parish of St Enoher in mid-Cornwall, in Britain and was a native Cornish speaker. He was educated at Exeter College, Oxford, and became Vicar of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, chaplain to the 5th Lord Berkeley, and Canon of Westbury on Trym.

He translated into English for his patron the Latin Polychronicon of Ranulf Higden, adding remarks of his own, and prefacing it with a Dialogue on Translation between a Lord and a Clerk. He likewise made various other translations, including Bartholomaeus Anglicus' On the Properties of Things (De Proprietatibus Rerum), a medieval forerunner of the encyclopedia.

A fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, from 1372 to 1376 at the same time as John Wycliff and Nicholas of Hereford, Trevisa may well have been one of the →

contributors of the Early Version of Wycliffe's Bible. The preface to the King James Version of 1611 singles him out as a translator amongst others at that time: "even in our King Richard the second's days, John Trevisa translated them [the Gospels] into English, and many English Bibles in written hand are yet to be seen that divers translated, as it is very probable, in that age". Subsequently, he translated a number of books of the Bible into French for Lord Berkeley, including a version of the Book of Revelation, which his patron had written up onto the ceiling of the chapel at Berkeley Castle. Trevisa's reputation as a writer rests principally on his translations of encyclopaedic works from Latin into English, undertaken with the support of his patron, Thomas (IV), the fifth Baron Berkeley, as a continuous programme of enlightenment for the laity.

John Trevisa is the 18th most frequently cited author in the Oxford English Dictionary and the third most frequently cited source for the first evidence of a word (after Geoffrey Chaucer and the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society). Very little is recorded about Richard Pencrych, beyond being mentioned with the other two men.

*South Australia Cornish Association newsletter*

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## Ballarat Goldfields

At the Ballarat meeting, Doug Bradby gave a fascinating talk about the Ballarat Goldfields, from the beginning of the gold discoveries by shepherds to the establishment of large mines employing many of the Ballarat men.

He included the involvement of the Cornish Miners, their successes and their involvement in the development of Ballarat. Doug has written seven history books for children and **three books that explore Ballarat's mining history.**

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Cornish Christmas Traditions - Christmas Bush

Originally the construction of the Cornish Bush was part of a pagan ritual during the winter solstice. As Christianity grew the process of creating the bush and its meanings were adapted.

Today it represents new life and is traditionally hung indoors on the 20th of December. The three-dimensional wreath represents new life and is made by weaving holly, mistletoe and ivy around a circle of withy (thin willow). On the 20th of December just before midnight some people →

Correspondence con't"



light the candles and dance under the bush in a circle to welcome in the God of Light. Long before Christianity the 21st December was celebrated as the re-birth of the child of the sun and through the love of the **God's new life is born.**

The Christmas and the Dilly

(Old Cornwall Christmas Anthology)
Geo. C Boase - Notes and Queries,
5th series, 21st December 1878

In some parts of the country it is customary for each household to make a batch of currant cakes on Christmas Eve. These cakes are made in the ordinary manner, coloured with saffron, as is the custom in these parts.

On this occasion, the peculiarity of the cake is, that a small portion of the dough in the centre of each top is pulled up and made into a form which resembles a very small cake on the top of a large one, and this small cake is usually called **'The Christmas'**.

Each person in the house has his or her especial cake and every person ought to take a small piece of every other **person's cake.**

Similar cakes are also bestowed on the hangers-on of the establishment, such as laundresses, seamstresses, char-women etc and even some people who are in the receipt of weekly charity call. As a matter of course, for their Christmas cakes. The cakes must not be cut until **Christmas day. It being probably 'unlucky to eat them sooner'**. The materials to make the cakes at this time were at one time given by the grocers to their principal customers.

Superstitions
MA Courtney in 1890

All cakes must be eaten by the Twelfth Night, as it is unlucky to have any left and all decorations must be →

taken down, because for every forgotten leaf of any ever-green, a ghost will be seen in the house in the course of the evening year.

The latter superstition does not apply in all parts of Cornwall, as in some districts, a small branch is kept to scare away the evil spirits.

Cornish Association of Victoria, Ballarat Branch newsletter

Halloween in Cornwall

The Bodmin Jail held several events to celebrate Halloween. The Heritage Tour took them from the gallows to the grave and the anatomy table to the gibbet cage. They learned why executions happened at crossroads, when the last prisoner was displayed in chains and where the bodies of the condemned were buried.

The award-winning Heritage Guides safely navigated folks through the rise of Spiritualism throughout the 1800s as communicating with the deceased grew to fascinate all areas of the population. They then experienced a selection of spiritual communication devices with our world-renowned Paranormal Manager. The dead days have never been so alive.

Visit Cornwall email

What have the Romans ever done for Roche?

Sean Taylor Senior Archeologist at Cornwall Archaeological Unit told the group about the find at the excavation at St Austell to A30 Link Road. Dating from the Neolithic period to post-Roman, these include an 18-acre Roman camp and 28-acre fortlet, an Early Neolithic longhouse, a Middle Neolithic enclosure, Late Neolithic pits, Bronze Age roundhouses and barrows, an Iron Age or early Romano-British roundhouse and post-Roman structures.

Ancient Penwith

West Penwith is home to over 5000 miles of Cornish hedge many of which are older than 4000 years. Laura Ratcliffe-Warren gave a whistle-stop tour of 10,000 years of Penwith history from Neolithic quoits and Iron Age settlements to stone circles and holy wells perched on windswept clifftops. This talk can be watched again at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5Smlt0XyCE&feature=emb_title

Cornwall Heritage Trust—Cornish Story Cafe

Crackington Haven



Halfway between the vacation towns of Bude and Tintagel lies the adorable hamlet of Crackington Haven. I had the chance to visit this little town in May with my buddy JoJo. It served as our first rest stop on our hiking adventure along the northern coast of Cornwall.

After a grueling 10.5 mile day on the Southwest Coast Path out of Bude, JoJo and I mercifully descended into the small harbor of Crackington Haven. The Coombe Barton Inn sat alongside the rocky beach. I had been a little apprehensive when booking our stay here because it appeared to be the only game in town when it came to single night accommodations, but it was a true gem.

After a short rest and a quick shower, I walked over to a hill overlooking the harbor where I watched two kayakers fight the surf into the narrow bay. It was an incredibly peaceful scene, and I was soon rewarded with the most majestic **sunset that I've ever experienced as our star dipped into the sea** in an slow explosion of brilliant colors.

The restaurant at the Inn is pretty much the only game in **town for dinner, but it didn't disappoint. We had a lovely meal** while trying to eavesdrop on the conversations of the locals at the bar. We might have been the only tourist in the place on that crisp evening of the young Spring.

The next morning, we awoke refreshed and renewed for our 12 mile hike to Tintagel. We left Crackington Haven behind us in body but have kept the place very much in our hearts.



Last night as JoJo and I enjoyed drinks and cigars on a fine Fall evening in Atlanta, we talked about our long walk from Bude to St Ives. JoJo said that of all the towns we visited **along that way, he'd most like to return to Crackington Haven**. There is just something magical about that place.

By Johnny Trestrail

Kresen Kernow Updates

Kresen Kernow has acquired Lanhydrock plans. Visitors and fans of Lanhydrock House will be interested to learn the latest news in the archive reports: We recently received over 400 plans for Lanhydrock House and Gardens.

Many of these relate to the rebuilding of the house after the devastating fire in 1881. Every aspect of the house is drawn in exceptional detail, including paneling, cornices, chimneys, windows and staircases. They show the state-of-the-art systems in place to ensure the family's comfort, including baths, stoves, warming arrangements, water supply and drainage, as well as extensive servants' quarters.

Editor: wish I would be able to see the plans as they sound very interesting. If anyone gets over there this next year maybe you will be able to take a photo for me!

The Journal of Genealogy and Family History

This online journal usually has some good papers to read. This one was in a recent email I received. The abstract states that success rates were high with DNA assisting the identification of a birth parent in 48-55% of cases. An additional 20-21% cases, DNA identified grandparents or more distant ancestors. 33-59% of those identifying a parent did so within 6 months, and 78-87% did so within 2 years.

This is the link to the article:

[How successful is commercial DNA testing in resolving British & Irish cases of unknown parentage?](#)

*Written by Maurice Gleeson,
Donna Rutherford, Debbie
Kennett, John Cleary,
Michelle Leonard*



The President Engine and Engine House Recognized by the Gorsedh Kernow

The President Engine House, located in the village of Friedensville in Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, is a massive stone walled ruin sitting beside a beautiful water-filled mine quarry. The property is unimproved and, therefore, access to the ruins and surrounding property is restricted. Prior to 1900, the engine house held what was the largest and most powerful, single cylinder, rotative steam engine ever constructed. Its purpose was to lower the water level in the mine so that rich zinc ore could be extracted. The President Engine, as it was called, was said to be named after U. S. Grant, the sitting President at the time of the **engine's inauguration in 1872. The mines in Friedensville during that period were owned by Philadelphian investors, but the mine management and technical specialists were largely emigres from the county of Cornwall in the United Kingdom.** Although a small region in physical size, Cornwall played a very large role in the development of the steam technologies that transformed the 19th century. Further, the Cornish were world renowned for their knowledge of hard rock mining. Because of this, in the 19th century, Cornish miners and their families were recruited to the far-flung regions of the world where minerals were being discovered and mines were being developed. Sizable communities representing the Cornish diaspora can be found in Australia, South America, South Africa, Spain, Mexico, Canada, and the United States.

The President Engine House in Friedensville is the only surviving example of a Cornish style pumping engine house in the United States. In Cornwall, where a few hundred of these structures survive and dot the landscape, they are the iconic symbols of **Cornwall and West Devon's UNESCO World Heritage Mining Landscape.** Since about 2014, a small team of dedicated individuals have worked to draw awareness to The President Engine and the importance of preserving the Friedensville location as a **surviving example of Cornwall's influential role in both mining and steam technology.** In recent years, two of these individuals have been recognized as Cornish Bards by the Gorsedh Kernow specifically for their role in furthering Cornish identity in the United States by bringing attention to The President and its engine house ruins, which had previously been largely forgotten.

Every year, the Gorsedh Kernow holds the Esedhvos Festival of Cornish Culture in early September. This year it was held in the town of Hayle in Cornwall. The festival includes an impressive ceremony during which new bards robed in blue are hooded and named before all the bards of Cornwall. The Cornish Gorsedh (**pronounced "gorseth"**) was established in 1928 to give expression to the national spirit of Cornwall and to preserve the language, history, and culture of its people; a role first played in ancient Celtic countries by the storytellers or Bards. Bards are elected in secret by the Gorsedh Council and awarded to people who, in their view, have given exceptional service to Cornwall. For their role in promoting their view, have given

exceptional service to Cornwall. For their role in promoting the preservation of The President Engine and its Engine House, Dr. Damian Nance of Stratford, CT was recognized as a Bard (bardic name **Karrek meaning "rock" in Cornish**) in 2018 and, this year, Mark Connor of Bethlehem, PA was recognized as a Bard (bardic name **Jynn meaning "engine" in Cornish**). There are approximately 500 living Bards with about 10-20 new Bards inducted each year.



Mark Connor



R. Damian Nance

On the day following the Gorsedh ceremony, Mark Connor was interviewed by BBC Cornwall radio. In his remarks, Mark highlighted the foundational role that Cornish-born mine leadership and engineers played in the birth of the American zinc industry and in the creation of this landmark steam engine, the essential machine required to support continued mining in the Friedensville area. Mark also discussed the encouragement, interest, and support the project has received from the Cornish-American community which is now located throughout the United States. This year represents the 150th anniversary of the start-up of The President Engine and several preservation initiatives are underway. Despite the engine being reduced to scrap in 1900, we do know a lot about its design. A scale model of the engine, created by Anthony Mount of Devon, England, is the centerpiece of a display on The President Engine at the National Museum of Industrial History in Bethlehem, PA. Last year, Guy Janssen of Schelle, Belgium, made an animated movie concerning the Friedensville mines highlighting The President Engine. This movie can be viewed on youtube.com and on the Friedensville mines website (below). The only surviving metal component of The President Engine system, a 30-foot-long steam boiler, is planned to be rescued from a former furniture factory in Allentown scheduled to be razed soon. The Friedensville property is owned by Lehigh University, and they have provided leadership and funding for planning efforts associated with preservation of the engine house ruins. Lehigh University has received matching **fund assistance from the National Trust's Louis J. Appell, Jr.,** Preservation Fund for Central Pennsylvania and the Keystone Historic Preservation Grant program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Lehigh University continues to seek opportunities to improve the property so that the engine house ruins can be made publicly accessible. More information about The President Engine and the Friedensville zinc mines is available on www.friedensvilleminesheritage.org including how to contribute to the preservation of this unique location as part of the vibrant story of Pennsylvania's industrial heritage.

Engine House con't:



The Friedensville property is owned by Lehigh University, and they have provided leadership and funding for planning efforts associated with preservation of the engine house ruins. Lehigh University has received matching fund assistance from the National Trust's Louis J. Appell, Jr., Preservation Fund for Central Pennsylvania and the Keystone Historic Preservation Grant program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Lehigh University continues to seek opportunities to improve the property so that the engine house ruins can be made publicly accessible. More information about The President Engine and the Friedensville zinc mines is available on www.friedensvilleminesheritage.org including how to contribute to the preservation of this unique location as part of the vibrant story of Pennsylvania's industrial heritage.

Mark Connor

John Gartrell West (1822-1893): America's Great Cornish Mining Engineer

Did you attend the 2017 CAHS Gathering at Gold Hill, North Carolina? If you were there you heard presentations by Mark Connor and Damian Nance. Both spoke about Cornish engine houses and the steam engines that once occupied them. Mark told of a "castle" he saw during childhood whenever the family car drove past the site of an old mine not far from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. That castle-like structure, the last remaining Cornish-style engine house in the USA, was once home to the largest single-cylinder, rotary, Cornish steam engine ever built. The story began during the 1840s when high grade zinc ore was discovered not far below the surface of Joseph Ueberroth's farm. Zinc is a strategic metal not only as a component of brass but also in industrial applications such as galvanizing iron or steel to rust-proof those metals. Miners, including many Cornish immigrants, began the hard work of extracting the ore. By the 1860s the mine reached a depth at which influx of water made operations virtually impossible. Help was desperately needed, and it was a Cornishman who came to the rescue. →

The man was a scion of Cornwall's extended West family, a family of many mining engineers. He was John Gartrell West (1822-1893), born at Crowan. His father was an engineer, and his mother was daughter of an engineer. John married Jennifer Hambley Henwood in 1844 at Tywardreath, close to St. Austell Bay. In 1848/49 he emigrated to the USA where his skills were valued. His wife and their first two children joined him in Pennsylvania during 1850.

In the early years of his career in America, John was involved in erecting an engine imported from Cornwall, the first of its kind in the USA. Not long after he designed the first Cornish engine produced in America. His growing reputation resulted in projects from coast to coast, and in the late 1860s John Gartrell West was enlisted to solve the flooding problem at the Ueberroth Mine. When smaller pumping engines proved inadequate, John designed the **largest Cornish engine ever built. Named "The President"** in honor of President Ulysses S. Grant, the engine had a cylinder diameter of 110 inches, a piston stroke of 10 feet, and a specified 3000 horsepower.



Engine components were cast at a Philadelphia foundry, shipped to the mine site, assembled under John's supervision, and put into service in 1872. The sesquicentennial of that event was celebrated this year when a working model of "The President" was placed on exhibit at the National Museum of Industrial History at Bethlehem.

Since the Gathering at Gold Hill, Mark Connor has made steady progress toward the goal of stabilizing the walls of the engine house and creating a heritage park where visitors can learn about "The President" and the contribution of Cornish immigrants to the development of the USA as an industrial nation. Stay tuned for future updates.

Bill Curnow

THE CORNISH ANCESTRY OF WILLIAM COLWILL
OF JEFFERSON CO., WISCONSIN
By Ronald A. Hill

The Editor regrettably omitted part of the genealogy of this family which continues from the Fall issue here.

James Collins, the progenitor of this multi-named family presents the enigma. Having married in 1679, he was likely born before 1658, during Interregnum, an era when many parish registers were not maintained. It is likely, but not proved, that James Collins was base born, his mother sur named Collins, and the “reputed” father surnamed Colwill, or perhaps vice versa. Parish clerks often have a long memory of these “base born” events and record their versions of the surnames in their registers. It is interesting, however, that the surnames “Collins alias Colwill” and “Colwill alias Collins” persisted into Cornwall, the latest discovered being the 3 June 1819 administration of “Thomas Colwell, otherwise Collins” at Kilkhampton.¹⁴ The most startling discovery: the 23 June 1795 will of Luke Tink wherein he named his daughter Hannah, who had married William Colwill, Hanna “Collins.” Apparently William knew of his family’s dual Colwill-Collins surnames and confided the truth to his father-in-law, Luke Tink.¹⁵

William Colwill’s Direct Ancestral Line¹⁶

JAMES COLLINS alias COLWILL, b. at Holsmorthy say 1650–60; m. at Holsworthy, 27 April 1679, HANNAH MARKS.

Eighth child of James¹ and Hannah (Marks) Collins alias Colwill:

3 viii JAMES COLLINS alias COLLWILL, bp. 15 Jan. 1692/3 at Holsworthy; m. at Bideford, 28 Dec. 1722 SARAH HIX of “Cloton.

Only child of James² and Sarah (Hix) Collwill:

6 i JAMES³ COLLWILL, bp. 26 March 1723 at Holsworthy; m. at St. Endellion, 23 Dec. 174, ELIZABETH GRIGG.

Sixth child of James³ and Elizabeth (Grigg) Colwill:

10 vi WILLIAM COLWELL, bp. 8 Feb. 1762 at Warbstow; m. at Warbstow, 27 March 1788, HANNAH TINK.

First child of William⁴ and Hannah (Tink) Colwell:

11 i WILLIAM⁵ TINK COLWELL, bp. 25 Aug. 1788 at Warbstow; m. at North Petherwin, 3 April 1811, MARY SPETTIGUE

Sixth child of William Tink⁴ and Mary (Spettigue) Colwell:

vi WILLIAM COLWILL, b. 4 April 1824, and bp. Bible Christian Church, Canworthy Water Circuit, 16 April 1824, son of

William Colwill of Warbstow, tailor, and Mary, daughter of Edmund & Elizabeth Spettigue.¹⁷ William was accidentally killed in a farming accident, 23 Sept. 1858, in Farmington, Jefferson Co., Wis.¹⁸ William “son of William Colwill, Tailor” m. Clawton in Devon, 28 March 1846, SARAH CORY, dau. of Samuel Cory.¹⁹ Sarah (Cory) Colwill m. 2nd, in 1868, Richard Peardon, widower of Harriet Spettigue Colwill.²⁰ Sarah (Cory) (Colwill) Peardon d. in Whitewater, Wis., 1 Dec. 1905.²¹

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14 Archdeaconry Court of Cornwall, ref. AP/C/4697, Thomas Colwell alias Collins, administration 3 June 1819, FHL digital 4476829, image 2115.

15 Archdeaconry Court of Cornwall, ref. AP/T/3400, Luke Tink of Warbstow, 23 June 1795, proved 27 April 1796, FHL digital 4476881, image 1153.

16 References (footnotes) for the vital records are listed in the original article in The Genealogist. The numbers are from the genealogical numbering system in the original article.

17 Bible Christian Church, births and baptisms, Jacobstow Circuit (1821–1824) [note 2], fol. 2v, no. 12 (William Colwill).

18 The Palmyra Enterprise, 14 Dec. 1905, as reproduced in Our Back Pages; Obituaries of Cornish and North Devonshire Settlers of Jefferson, Walworth and Waukesha Counties, Wisconsin, USA, compiled by Jean Saxe Jolliffe (Brookfield, Wis., 1992), 1:94. Also see Find A Grave Memorial #9007727 (William Colwill), <http://www.findagrave.com>.

19 Clawton marriage register, 1837–1977 [note 3], 17 (Colwill-Cory).

20 The Palmyra Enterprise, 14 Dec. 1905 [note 18].

21 The Palmyra Enterprise, 14 Dec. 1905 [note 18]. Also see Find A Grave Memorial #9007729 (Sarah Peardon), <http://www.findagrave.com>.

Researching Cornish Wills Presentation Zoom Presentation by Wesley Johnston

January 15, 2023
7pm Eastern Time

Wills and administrations connect a deceased person to those who survived them. Not everyone left a will, but even if your ancestor did not leave a will, their estate may have required administration, and those estate files connect to survivors.

But how do you find out if any of your Cornish relatives had an estate file? And if they did have one, how do you find what is in it? In this presentation, Wesley will show you how to do this on the Internet from home for free via ZOOM.

Here’s the registration link:

<https://forms.gle/1aQYQ81U25XU86q88>

Catch-Me-Who-Can
Continued from Fall issue
By Dr. Pierre J. Fisher, Jr.

In 1805, the Thames Archway Company laid plans to build a 1220-ft. tunnel under the Thames river from Rotherhithe to Limehouse on the north side of the river. The project was started by Robert Vazie, a director of the company and an engineer. He sank the end shafts and started a small pilot tunnel or driftway 5-foot high tapering from 2 feet 6 inches wide at the top to 3 feet wide at the bottom. Vazie ran into serious problems with water influx and asked for help.

By late August 1807, the directors called in Trevithick for consultation and in October 1807, appointed him engineer of the project. The directors hired Trevithick for £1000 (the equivalent of over £80,000 in 2019) if he could successfully complete the tunnel. He went to work and successfully extended the driftway tunnel 950-feet, shoring up the ceiling with iron braces and wooden planks. Then water rushed in through quicksand in the river bed. They pumped the water out and shored up the ceiling, but on 26 January 1808, at 1,040 feet, all hell broke loose. A sink hole developed in the river bed and water poured in, filling the tunnel, almost drowning Trevithick and all of his workers. Trevithick had clay dumped on the river bottom to try to seal the hole, but this failed.

The company directors were being harassed by Vazie and his supporters to dismiss Trevithick. The Thames Archway Company directors vacillated and dithered. On 30th March 1809, the directors decided to open the tunnel construction to public bidders. Trevithick was vindicated in April 1808 by two independent mining engineers — William Stobart from Durham and John Buddle from Newcastle upon Tyne. Quicksand cave-ins and riverbed collapse created disastrous conditions that resulted in abandonment of the project. Capt. Dick offered a solution to the problem⁵—use submerged tubes, but the suggestion was not accepted by the directors and the project was abandoned.

Trevithick had moved his family to London when he began the tunnel project. His family was, reluctant to make the move and were forced into poverty after Trevithick lost his job.

In 1808, he again became interested in developing new applications for his high pressure steam engine. He entered into a partnership with a Robert Dickinson, a West India merchant and patent expert. Dickinson found capital for Trevithick and was more than ready to get patents for him.

The first project in 1808, was to build a new locomotive to run on a circular track⁶ This was set up in London, near Gower Street, as a profitable adventure. The name of the new locomotive was "Catch-Me-Who-Can". Admission to the "Steam Circus" was one shilling, which included a ride in a towed car. The purpose was, not only to make money, but to show that travel on rail →

was faster than by horse. He challenged any horse to run with the steam engine for a prolonged period of time

The Steam Circus project failed because the cast iron rails would not support the



Catch-Me-Who-Can tipped over ending the project

weight of the locomotive. The ground was too soft. He tried to shore the track up with wooden planks, but this did not work and the public lost interest. Actually, the engine toppled over and wrecked. It was abandoned and laid on the ground for several years before it was removed.

Trevithick was disappointed by the response of the people and the disastrous wreck. He designed no more railway locomotives, but he went on to research other projects to exploit his high-pressure steam engines.

He designed and had built a steam dredger and crane that would load and discharge cargoes from ships and also act as a tug boat. However, it did not meet fire regulations and the dock workers, led by the Society of Coal Whippers, vehemently opposed using such a vessel, because they viewed it as a threat to their jobs, and correctly so. The project was killed before it was floated.

In 1809, Trevithick worked on various ideas to improve ships. This included iron floating docks, iron ships, telescopic iron masts, improved ship structures, iron buoys and using heat from **the ship's boilers for cooking. He obtained patents for iron tanks** to replace wooden casks on ships for stowing water, whale oil and hauling cargo.

He designed iron tanks for raising sunken ships by pumping air into tanks attached to ship wrecks. He raised one at Margate and was towing it toward shore, but cut it lose and let it re-sink when the owner reneged on his payment agreement with Trevithick. Capt. Dick was a fair and honest man, but if somebody cheated him, beware.

He supplied engines for iron works, tin and coal mines, boring brass canons, crushing stone, rolling mills, and blast furnace blowers.

In May 1810, he became ill and debilitated for 6-months with typhus. His wife could not take care of him. He required intensive in-house nursing. He and his family returned to Cornwall where he was convinced the atmosphere would restore his health. It must have worked, as he eventually became as robust as ever. →

Catch-Me-Who-Can con't:

This illness was followed by bankruptcy, because his sleazy, unscrupulous partner mismanaged or stole from their business and made poor investments. Bankruptcy hearings began in February 1811 and the bankruptcies were not discharged until 1814. Trevithick paid off most of the partnership debts with his own funds.

In 1812, Trevithick designed the “Comish boiler”. It was a horizontal, cylindrical boiler with a single internal fire tube or flue passing horizontally through the middle of the tank. Hot exhaust gases from the fire passed through the flue thus increasing the surface area heating the water and improving efficiency. These type boilers replaced Boulton and Watt pumping engine boilers at Dolcoath. They more than doubled boiler efficiency.

Again in 1812, he installed a new 'high-pressure' experimental condensing steam engine at Wheal Prosper. At the time, it was the most efficient steam engine in the world. This steam engine **became known around the world as the “Cornish Engine”.**

In 1812, he built the first high pressure, rotating engine to drive corn-thrashing machines. Prior to this, corn thrashing required the use of several horses. He built a plunger pole engine and recoil engine. He built and patented a bit and boring machine for drilling limestone which was used in constructing the Plymouth breakwater.

In 1813, François Uvillé, a Swiss entrepreneur involved in silver mining in Peru, SA, paid Capt. Dick a visit in Cambourne. Uvillé had visited England in 1811, inquiring from Boulton and Watt if their engines could be used to pump water out of silver mines at an altitude of 14,000 feet above sea level? He was advised they would not work efficiently in the thin air of the mountains of Cerro de Pasco. They said it would also be impossible to make an engine that could be disassembled into pieces small enough to be carried up the narrow path to the mines, which reached 17,000-feet above sea level. However, while in London, Uvillé chanced on a working model of Richard Trevithick's high-pressure steam engine in the window of an engine maker, William Rowley. He was struck by the simplicity of its design and how well it was built. He bought the model for 20 guineas and took it back to Cerro de Pasco, Peru where it was successfully erected and tested. At that altitude, water boils at 80°F and the engine worked quite well.

Uvillé ordered nine Cornish engines. Capt. Dick had them shipped to Cerro de Pasco in pieces to be assembled on site. He sent an engineer, Henry Vivian, a pit-man, Thomas Trevarthen and an assistant engineer, William Bull, with specific instructions for setting them up and getting them in operation. The engines and boilers had to be carried over the high Andes mountains, on narrow footpaths with precipitous fall-offs, making the journey very difficult and dangerous. The engines arrived, but they were not assembled as Trevithick had instructed and did not work very well, so Uvillé, sent for Capt. Dick to come and help them. In the meantime, all three men he sent with the shipment died. →

On October 20, 1816 Capt. Dick sailed from Penzance to Peru on the whaler "Asp", accompanied by a lawyer named Page and a boilermaker. He got the engines running successfully, but relationships with the local mining companies soured and he left Cerro de Pasco in disgust, because of accusations directed at him. He travelled widely through Peru, acting as a consultant on mining methods and solving problems. The government granted him certain mining rights and he found mines he could claim, but did not have funds to develop them, with the exception of a copper and silver mine at Caxatambo⁷.

Trevithick was kidnapped and conscripted into the Army of Simon Bolivar, that was fighting for independence from Spain. Bolivar was short of arms and Capt. Dick invented and made a one-piece -stock-and-short-barrel, large bore, cast-brass carbine that would shoot pieces of flat lead. After serving a long-time making guns, Bolivar released him in 1818, and he returned to Caxatambo to work his mine. In 1820, his mine was destroyed by a battle fought at Pasco. He was robbed by the patriots of his money, his tools, and £5000 of silver ore that he had ready to ship to Cornwall. They thought he was supplying silver to the Spanish army. He escaped with his life to Lima, Peru where in 1821, he salvaged a brass cannon and other valuable cargo for the government from a ship that sank while at anchor in Chorrillos Bay, off the coast of Lima. The ship was a Russian, fur frigate, the San Martin, owned by the Chilean government. He was paid £2000, which he had intended to send home to his wife. But instead, he invested it in some Utopian, Panamanian, pearl fishing scheme and lost it all.

In the meantime, back in Cornwall, he was accused of neglecting his wife Jane and family. He had arranged for her to receive payment for coal saved through his patents on the boilers and steam engines, but the mine owners were dishonest and sent her very little money.

In 1823, while passing through Ecuador on his way to Columbia to meet with Bolivar, he met James M. Gerard, a Scottish trader who had just traded a boatload of cotton for a shipment of sugar to send to Scotland. Gerard told Trevithick about new, precious-metal mines opening up on the Pacific side of Costa Rico, on a ridge in the Cordillera mountains. The two went to investigate and found rich deposits of precious metal ores.

After four years there, exploring and making a mine claim, they decided to return home and raise capital for operating the mine. They didn't want to take the long voyage around Cape Horn, so they decided to cross the Isthmus of Nicaragua on foot, from the Pacific to the Caribbean Sea. They started the journey over the mountain and through the tropical jungles accompanied by two students wanting to go to school in England and seven natives. They had a very dangerous and trying experience. They depended on monkeys and wild fruit for food. They were finding it hard to walk along the San Juan river bank, having to cut through dense underbrush along the way. Three natives returned home. The party of the remaining six built a crude raft, on which they floated down the river. It proved to be unmanageable and going over rapids they lost all of their provisions and utensils. →

Catch-**Me con't**:

Later, the raft got hung up on a downed tree on the river. Trevithick got off and, with two natives, crawled along the tree trunk to reach shore. In the meantime, the raft broke loose and the current carried Gerard and two others to the other side of the river. Now they faced the dilemma of joining the two parties. One native tried to swim across the river and drowned, the other made it. Trevithick could not swim very well, so he collected some branches to help keep him afloat. The current kept swirling him around. He came within about ten feet of the other shore, completely exhausted when he lost control of the branches. Gerard held out a limb which Trevithick grabbed and Gerard was able to pull him out and saved his life. They continued walking the Nicaragua bank of the river until reaching Greytown, a small village at the mouth of the river. The trek took three weeks and they were the first white men to successfully cross the isthmus. At Greytown, they must have obtained some fresh clothes as their clothes had been shredded to rags.

The next time we heard about Trevithick was when he was a passenger in a canoe with a native at the mouth of the River Magdalena in Columbia. He had an argument with the native, who purposefully capsized the canoe in the path of a hungry alligator. A wild-pig hunter on shore saw what had happened and shot the alligator between the eyes as it was about to attack Trevithick. Trevithick was in a debilitated state and was struggling. The hunter lassoed him with a rope and pulled him ashore. The hunter then took Trevithick to Cartagena, where, by chance, he ran into Robert Stephenson, who had been trying to sell railroads in South America. Though Stephenson was not very friendly to Trevithick, he gave him £ 50 for passage back to Falmouth. Robert was the son of George Stephenson, the railroad man who did **not recognize Trevithick's invention of the first locomotive to run on rails.**

Capt. Dick arrived in England on October 9, 1827, with no money. All he had were the clothes he was wearing, a gold watch, a drawing compass, a magnetic compass, and a pair of silver spurs. He was received like a conquering hero by his countrymen with great fanfare, shouts of glee and tolling bells. He had been gone eleven years, most of his friends had died and the industrial revolution had greatly advanced.

One of the first things Trevithick did was to look for his son, Francis, at Bodmin school. He walked into the class room unannounced, doffed his white, Leghorn, wide brimmed hat and asked the schoolmaster if his son was there? His son did not recognize his father immediately, but when he did his heart beat rapidly and he was overcome with joy.

Gerard tried to sell shares in the Costa Rico mine to London, Holland and French investors. He died while working the French market. Trevithick was offered £800 for his claim, but turned it **down and received no other offers for the possible "pig in a poke". His mining prospects died. He did not feel like returning to Costa Rico.**

In 1827, he patented a new method of reloading broadside guns on Men of War. He designed a recoil gun, mounted on trunnions, angled at 25°. After firing, the gun would ride up on the trunnions and then return to firing position by gravity. He was unable to sell the concept to the Select Committee of Artillery Officers (Ordinance Board).

Britain got their ice from Greenland. Ships would ply the ocean and bring home large blocks of ice. Trevithick and a friend sat down and figured out how they could compress air to freeze water, **but they didn't follow up on their scheme and it would be forty years before an artificial ice machine would be invented.**

In 1828, he was invited to come to Holland and give the Dutch advice on how to control their flooding. He had no money for passage, so he borrowed £2 from a relative in order to go to Holland and introduce them to the Cornish Engine he thought useful for draining the water from the land.

Walking home with the money in his pocket, he met a beggar. **who said, "Please your honour, my pig is dead, help a poor man."** Having a kind heart, Trevithick gave him five shillings, money he could ill afford to give away.

He arrived in Holland and assessed their flooding situation. In 1362, an intense extratropical cyclone, coinciding with a new moon, had swept across the British Isles, the Netherlands, northern Germany, and Denmark and threw sand on the mouth of the Rhine river, clogging it and causing it to overflow into the countryside. Flooding was as deep as twelve feet in some areas. Holland had always had flooding problems from overflowing rivers and intrusion of the Zuyder Zee washing out dykes. They had dug canals and used windmill pumps to help keep farm land usable and to keep towns from flooding, but these measures were not doing a satisfactory job. They called Richard Trevithick for consultation to find out what suggestions he might have for them. He told the authorities they should dredge the mouth of the Rhine and use the soil to build up the dyke at the Zuyder Zee. He also told them he could build steam-engine pumps that would greatly supplement their windmills, especially during seasons when there was not much wind. He returned to Cambourne, designed and built an engine with a ball and chain type pump that would work very well for them, but the Hollanders changed their mind and did not buy any. Trevithick, in disgust, junked the engine.

He repeatedly petitioned Parliament to reward him financially for his many inventive contributions to society, but his plea fell on deaf ears.

In 1829 he was still redesigning steam engines and patented a closed-cycle, steam engine and a vertical tubular boiler. His mind continued to work and he came up with new ideas using steam power. In 1830, he patented a portable room heater on wheels which consisted of a simple fire box under a boiler with a detachable flu, that could be connected to any chimney. Moveable skirts controlled the amount of heat released.

Catch-**Me con't**:

In 1832, he patented an internal, reciprocating engine to propel ships by a water jet. The Admiralty offered him an iron ship for experimenting, but the promise was not kept. He built the engine at Shropshire and junked it.

He redesigned the steam engine to drive ship wheels so the steam would be condensed and reused as feed water. Prior to that, sailors had to use sea water in their boilers and it crusted the interior of the boilers, making them inefficient.

In 1832, after the Reform Act was passed, he drew up plans for an enormous, 1000-foot, tapering column with an equestrian statue on top to commemorate the passage of the bill. It was to be made out of layers of iron bolted together, tapering from a diameter of 100-feet at the base to a diameter of 12-feet at the top. It was designed with an air-lift inside to lift passengers to the top where they could look out over the city. Air vents were designed strategically to decrease the effect of wind on it. There was a lot of public support, but it was never funded. It **would have towered over Nelson's column (186-feet), St. Paul's Cathedral (365-feet), the Great Pyramids of Egypt (480-feet) and match for the Eiffel Tower.**

On April 15, 1833 Richard Trevithick became gravely ill and died at Bull Hotel in Dartford, Kent on April 22, 1833. He was 62 years of age. He was actively working on a reaction turbine. He was buried a pauper in a Dartford churchyard by his fellow workers. They paid his funeral expenses. His wife lived on to age 96.

He is remembered, as a great inventor, an erratic genius, who never boasted, was a man of action, not words and he lived most of his life in poverty because of his careless handling of money.

On the last Saturday of April each year, Richard Trevithick Day is held in Cambourne. His countrymen give him the recognition he deserves, while Camborne celebrates its history as an **important and major player in Cornwall's historic mining industry.**

Streets are closed and the celebration kicks off at 10:30 am with hundreds of dancing children from local schools, dressed as Bal Maidens and Miners, wind through the streets followed by the adults dressed in Cornish black and gold. Streets are filled with local trade stalls, choirs, brass bands, clowns, buskers, a variety of musicians and live theater. The day ends with the Parade of Steam Engines at 3:15pm.

Why am I so enthralled with Richard Trevithick? It is because **he was a relative on my mother's side of the family and made her surname, Trevithick, famous.** Most of the Trevithick men in her family were miners until the 20th century. My great-grandfather was a miner and harness maker. He arrived at Copper Hill, Tennessee from Cornwall, England with other Cornishmen in 1856 to work the copper mine there.

My Favorite Place By Tony Mansell

Happiness is transient, fleeting, ephemeral, but was it **always so? Weren't we once able to trap it in the palm of our hand, to capture the moment and make it also make it last for ever?**

When I was young, I stood on the quayside at Pennyland and fished with a line baited with mackerel. That was **happiness itself. Didn't the sun always shine and wasn't the box by my side always brimming with crabs?**

I was so proud when folk came to watch and then, as if **making my peace with nature, I'd carry the creatures safely** down the steps where I released them, unharmed, back to their home in the calm blue-grey waters of that wonderful river.

Time does play tricks with our memories, but that was real and the pleasure lasted for ever. I would tell my family of my fishing expedition and when I returned to school from the glorious long holiday, I would relate it to my friends who would listen with envy to the tales of the old fisherman.



We all need a Pennyland. Mine is very real but it also **resides in my heart. I'm told that you should never return to the place you love because you will always be disappointed.** But I have returned; I have stood on the quayside and remembered the time long ago when I was a Looe fisherman.



Tony Mansell

Tony is the author of a variety of books, stories and articles on a wide range of aspects of Cornish history. He was made a Bardh Kernow for his writing and research, taking the name, Skrifur Istor. He is a sub-editor with Cornish Story and a researcher with the Cornish National Music Archive specializing in Cornish Brass Bands and their music.

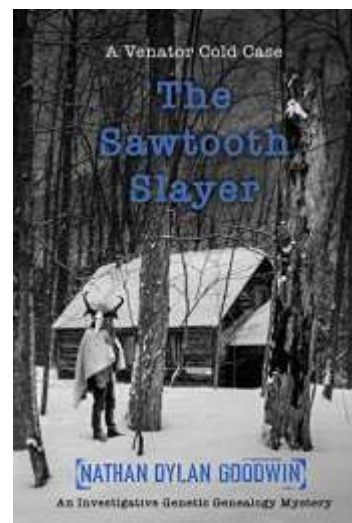
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The Sawtooth Slayer (Venator Cold Case Series Book 2)

April 2020, Twin Falls, Idaho. A serial killer is on the loose. A nameless man is kidnapping young women from their own homes, taking them out of the city to kill them before returning their bodies to random locations around the city. Detective Maria Gonzalez heads up the investigation but has very few leads to pursue. As time passes and fears rise that the killer might strike again with a fifth victim, Maria turns to Venator—an investigative genetic genealogy company—in the hope that they can identify the killer from his DNA alone before he has the chance to take yet another life. Despite her initial reticence to take on the company's **first ever live case, Madison Scott-Barnhart** and her team in Salt Lake City agree to try to reveal the identity of this barbaric serial killer. In the midst of the global pandemic that has closed the Venator office and posed both personal and professional problems for Madison, time is running out on this case.

This is the second novel in the Venator Cold Case series. Although it can be enjoyed as a stand-alone story, for the best experience, begin your journey with *The Chester Creek Murders*.

Available at Amazon.com - Kindle \$5.99 and Paperback \$13.99



RootsTech 2023

Nathan Goodwin and Diahann Southard will be presenting a Murder Mystery session at RootsTech. Genealogist and Genealogy Author together should be a great combination.



RootsTech is the world's largest genealogy conference that brings learning and innovation to all people. Hundreds of classes (both online and in person) offer something for all family history enthusiasts, from beginners dipping their toes in the water to experienced genealogists going for a deep dive.

RootsTech registration for 2023 is now open, and it's an experience you won't want to miss! This year, you can tailor the experience to your needs and interests like never before. Hundreds of online classes will be available globally. Plus, an in-person option with additional classes and opportunities will take place at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The event will take place March 2–4, 2023. Mark your calendars, and register to save your spot.

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/event/rt2023>

Cornish Family History Books
(digitized and available online at FamilySearch)
by Richard A. Hill
Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists

The Tumultuous Achym/Fulford Relationship, with Abstracts of Chancery Court Proceedings and Transcripts of Chancery Decrees and Orders, published by Chaghill Publications, Star, Idaho (October 2003), 208 pages.

[The Achym book was awarded the Jacobus Prize by the American Society of Genealogists as a model family history, October 2004.]

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"The Remarkable Will of Anna Smith—The Clifton and Colwill Families of Week St. Mary in Cornwall," *The Genealogist*, vol. 24, no. 1 (Spring 2010), pp. 1–28



Tintagel Castle, Cornwall

A quote from English Heritage: “This historic site, inextricably connected with the legend of King Arthur, has a long history of erosion . . . The historic fabric of the castle is subject to wind erosion, with gaps visible in the mortar of the walls. The upper mainland ward sits on a fault. Archaeology is regularly lost to cliff falls. Recently parts of the cliff directly in front of Tintagel’s visitor centre have been lost to erosion, affecting the viewing area and coastal path. The charity urgently needs to repair this, and other damage . . . at a cost of £40,000.”

If you wish to donate to this cause:

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/tintagel-castle



Dead Fred’s Genealogical Photo Archive

Photos offer a quick glance into specific points in time—a beautiful wedding, a miraculous birth, an ordinary sunny afternoon—and immortalize them, allowing people to ponder over them for generations. But if you have photos that you don’t know who the people are?

This is where DeadFred.com can help. Created by Joe Bott and maintained by him and volunteers, Dead Fred’s Genealogy Photo Archive—or simply DeadFred.com—allows users to upload old photos of their ancestors and search for photos in numerous ways. Best of all, it is completely free. You don’t even have to register unless you wish to add photos or details to photos.

FamilyTreeMagazine.com



Duk Noweth / New Duke

Following the sad death at Balmoral in Scotland on 8th September, 2022, of Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, Queen of the United Kingdom, and her other Realms and dependencies, and Lord of Mann, at the venerable age of 96, the royal succession fell to her immediate heir, Charles.



He thus became King, styled King Charles, and no longer Duke. On his succession to the throne, the constitutional title of Duke of Cornwall fell then immediately to the eldest living son of the UK sovereign.

This now being William Arthur Philip Louis, William has become the new Duke of Cornwall (in Cornish Duk Kernew). This is his pre-eminent title, higher than his various bestowed titles. Welcome William – may you serve the Duchy and the Cornish people actively, wisely and justly.

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## Gorsedh Kernow Ceremony 3 Sep 2022



**Gorsedh Kernow ceremony in Hayle** This year’s Open Gorsedh ceremony was held in Hayle, on 3 September as part of the Esethvos. Due the very wet and wild weather, after a summer of heat and drought, the ceremony was held inside Hayle Academy.

*Cornish Association of New South Wales newsletter*







Bewnans Kernow

The *Zoom meeting in Spring 2023* will be given by Jane Howells, director of Bewnans Kernow. This has been an **organization since late 2008, which supports “protecting and promoting Cornish culture, heritage and identity.”** They are remodeling the old Penzance Library into a brick-and-mortar office and cultural center downtown. Their long-range goal is to establish further Cornish Heritage Centers in Cornwall, always offering **“a platform to a wide range of specialists and practitioners to share their knowledge (to) provide learning opportunities for different audiences.”**

Watch for the reminder and register link in the February newsletter

### Operating licence for Spaceport Cornwall

Spaceport Cornwall has been awarded an operating licence, enabling it to host the UK’s first space launch. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) announced that the site in Newquay can be used for sending satellites into space.

The first mission is expected to be conducted by entrepreneur **Sir Richard Branson’s Virgin Orbit company in the coming weeks.** A repurposed Virgin Atlantic Boeing 747 aircraft named **Cosmic Girl and Virgin Orbit’s LauncherOne** rocket travelled from California in the US to Spaceport Cornwall last week. A hangar at Spaceport Cornwall Spaceport Cornwall is one of seven spaceports being developed across Britain (Ben Birchall/PA) Their mission has been given the title *Start Me Up* in tribute to British band The Rolling Stones.

The 747 will take off horizontally from the new facility at Cornwall Airport Newquay while carrying the rocket, before releasing it at 35,000ft over the Atlantic Ocean to the south of Ireland. The plane will return to the spaceport, while the rocket will ignite its engine and take multiple



small satellites into orbit with a variety of civil and defence applications. They will be the first satellites launched into space from Europe.

Melissa Thorpe, head of Spaceport Cornwall, said it is **“ready to open up the use of space for good”.**

Virgin Orbit chief executive Dan Hart added, **“The licence is a “key preparatory milestone” and Virgin hopes to launch its first rocket from the site “in the coming weeks”.**



Transport Secretary Mark Harper said, **“Virgin Orbit’s planned launch reinforces our position as a leading space nation as we look to the future of spaceflight, which can spur growth and innovation across the sector, as well as creating thousands of jobs and apprenticeships.”**

Spaceport Cornwall is one of seven spaceports being developed across Britain. The first vertical space launch is expected to take place next year from the planned Saxa-Vord Spaceport on Unst in Shetland. The locations for four **other proposed spaceports in Scotland are: the A’ Mhoine peninsula in Sutherland; Prestwick in South Ayrshire; Campbeltown in Argyll and Bute; and North Uist in the Outer Hebrides.** Another spaceport has been planned at Llanbedr, Gwynedd, in North Wales. The Government hopes commercial space launches will be worth £3.8 billion to the UK economy over the next decade.

*Photo from PA  
By Neil Lancefield, PA News Agency  
Falmouth Packet*

Officers of the Cornish American Heritage Society for the years 2021-2023

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*Tam Kernewek* is a *digital* newsletter which comes out four times a year. .  
Send articles to be included in newsletter to Carolyn Haines, [EMAIL](mailto:cousinjack.newsletter@gmail.com) address above.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS ARE 15 FEBRUARY, 15 MAY, 15 AUGUST AND 15 NOVEMBER

There are no dues. Anyone with Cornish descendants, live in or have an interest in Cornwall is welcome to join.

To become a Kowetha (*friend*) of CAHS, please fill out the following short form:

<https://forms.gle/r3BTE7W3ww4V2h8t9>

Synsas (Contents)

Darvosow (Events)

RootsTech  
2-4 Mar 2023  
Salt Lake City, Utah  
*In person or online*

**St Piran's Day**  
5 March 2023  
Everywhere

Kernewek Lowender  
Copper Coast Cornish Festival  
15-21 May 2023  
South Australia

Cornish Festival  
22-24 Sept 2023  
Mineral Point, Wisconsin

Nominations for New Bards  
Due 31 December 2022