

Registered Charity No. 247283

## NEWS | EVENTS | REPORTS

### Lyther nowodhow mis Metheven / June newsletter

Dydh da oll,

I hope that everyone is enjoying the fine weather as our OCSs carry out their Summer activities.

I am delighted to announce that the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies is partnering with the Cornwall Heritage Trust and Gorsedh Kernow on a partnership initiative project titled "Pobel a Gernow" - "People of Cornwall" - which aims to shine a light on unrecognised people in Cornish history. Members of the public can nominate individuals who they would like to be recognised with a plaque. To find out more about the project and how to nominate someone, [click here](#).

This month I attended the St Ives Mayor Choosing Ceremony. It was a pleasure to join forces with Frank Stevens, the President of St Ives OCS, and ensure we had strong Old Cornwall representation.

Last week I attended a Public History Day at the Institute of Cornish Studies where second year degree students presented the results of some of their projects. In each case they had worked with an external client to conduct some research. The outputs from their projects included documentaries, leaflets, logos, interpretation material, presentations, and a heritage open day. I am now exploring opportunities for students to work with OCSs next year.

Last week I also attended a meeting of Bord Ertach Kernow, in the Guildhall at Helston. The Bord has 4 working groups, with a breadth of work including: -

- Mapping exercise to track heritage at risk from climate change.
- Training material in Cornish Distinctiveness.
- Heritage Expo at Godolphin in September.

I have also put in some work with: -

St Denys & District OCS to hold their latest talk, and to organise a heritage afternoon in July.

Porthleven OCS, safeguarding historic material (see below), and helping to recruit a new committee

The River Camel Boat Trip has proved very popular and was quickly oversubscribed. Apologies to those who missed out this time. I look forward to meeting up with everyone for an interesting evening afloat on the 17th.

Thanks to all of the OCSs who have volunteered walks for our Festival of Walks taking place w/c 19th June. There is a really excellent variety of walks to suit everyone. Details can be found on the Kernow Goth website. I will be taking part in as many walks as I can myself, so I hope we have good weather.

Looking forward, I am very grateful to Padstow OCS, Daphne Hicks and the members of the Events Subcommittee for arranging our Winter Festival at Padstow in October - see below for details.

This week is Volunteers Week. The Federation have a variety of exciting opportunities. Please do drop me line to discuss how you can get involved.

Kernow bys vyken

Nev Meek

[president@oldcornwall.net](mailto:president@oldcornwall.net)

Lewydh - Keffrysyans a Gowethasow Kernow Goth  
President - Federation of Old Cornwall Societies`

## Hwarvosow a-dheu / Upcoming events

A selection of upcoming events in OCS and Federation calendars:

### Save the (updated) dates: Federation Walking Festival Week 19-23 June

The Events Committee are delighted to invite one and all to join our experienced walk leaders for a guided walk of their area.

Guided walks have always been an important and enjoyable part of Federation Summer Festivals, and we hope you will participate in this new event organised by the Federation Events Committee.

New walks have been added and information has been updated - please check the website for details.

These walks are FREE, but please book with walk leaders to maintain safe numbers.

### Walking Festival Dates/Information

#### St Ives OCS

23/6/23

Carnstabba Hill, Halsetown

Midsummer Bonfire - Tansys Golowan



**St Ives  
Old Cornwall  
Society**

**Midsummer Eve Bonfire**  
Friday 23rd June 2023 at 8.15pm



Fire lit about 9.00pm  
**Carnstabba Hill, Halsetown**

**The parking area is through the Halsetown Inn carpark and into the area beyond where the walk up the hill starts from.**

Community singing led by Tristan and Vaughan Bennett.  
Field + bonfire courtesy of Penhalwyn Trekking Stables, Halsetown.

The path to the bonfire will be signposted but it would be useful to bring a torch for your return.

This is the Festival of St John which is celebrated by Old Cornwall Societies throughout Cornwall.

## St Columb Major OCS

23/6/23

Castle-an-Dinas

Midsummer Bonfire - Tansys Golowan



St. Columb  
Old Cornwall Society  
Tre ha pow gwreugh agas gwella

### Midsummer Bonfire TANSYS GOLOWAN



at CASTLE AN DINAS  
St Columb Major  
(Courtesy of Cornwall Heritage Trust)  
On Friday 23rd June 2023  
Fire lit at 8.30pm  
Hot pasties and cold drinks £3.00  
Music & Singing  
Bring your own seating and hot drinks  
Celebrating St John's Eve  
All welcome

## Madron OCS

23/6/23

Bull's View, Madron

Midsummer Bonfire - Tansys Golowan



Madron  
Old Cornwall  
Society



### Midsummer Eve Bonfire



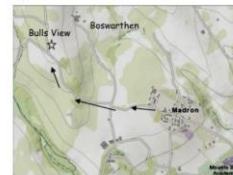
Meet at 8.30pm  
Friday 23rd June 2023  
at  
Bulls View, Madron

This traditional celebration of the feast of St John is held throughout Cornwall by Old Cornwall Societies.



Bonfire hosted courtesy of  
Maddy and Adrian Nicholls,  
Boswarthen Farm.

Images: Margaret Stevens



## Save the date: Federation Winter Festival, 21st October 2023

We are delighted to announce that the Winter Festival will be held in Padstow this year. This will be an afternoon event with pasties, saffron buns and tea to be enjoyed as part of the proceedings!

Please submit your form to Ivor Corkell as soon as possible - we will not be able to accept bookings after the 14th of October, as food orders have to be submitted!

## Winter Festival Booking Form

### **Exploring Hayle**

Trevor Smitheram, President of Hayle OCS is offering to do guided tours around Hayle to include the history of the town, Harveys, and the foundry, between April and October.

If your society would be interested in joining Trevor, he can be contacted by email at [smitheram@btopenworld.com`](mailto:smitheram@btopenworld.com)

**Don't forget to "like" or "follow" the [Federation of Old Cornwall Societies' Facebook page](#) which shares upcoming events.**

If you have an upcoming event you would like to share with other OCSs, please email it to Kate on [newsletters@oldcornwall.net](mailto:newsletters@oldcornwall.net).

## **Derivasow Hwarvosow / Events Reports**

### **OCS Led AONB Walk**

On 13<sup>th</sup> May a walk leader from St Gerrans & Porthscatho OCS jointly led a walk for the AONB around some of the important archaeological sites overlooking Gerrans Bay.

The AONB Monumental Improvement Project has been running for several years and seeks to stabilise a number of important heritage sites within AONBs across Cornwall. OCSs have benefitted enormously from involvement in the project – brush clearance etc., as well as training in walk leading, hand tool use, and geophysical surveys.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> the OCS jointly led a walk of Ringarounds and Carne Beacon, taking in Pendower and Carne, all in Veryan Parish. It was a beautiful sunny day, and the spring flowers backdropped by the sun sparkling on Gerrans Bay made for a wonderful afternoon. Jointly leading the walk was Cathy Parkes from the Cornwall Archaeology Society who was able to provide informed input on the history of the sites visited.

Ringarounds is an Iron Age hillfort, whilst Carne Beacon is a large Bronze Age burial mound. Walkers were able to see the damage done by plant growth, and burrowing animals. Iain Rowe, the AONB activities officer, outlined plans to stabilise these sites. It was a great afternoon enjoyed by all.

If you think your OCS could benefit from being involved in the project please contact our President.

Many thanks to the AONB Monumental Improvement Project for the below photos.



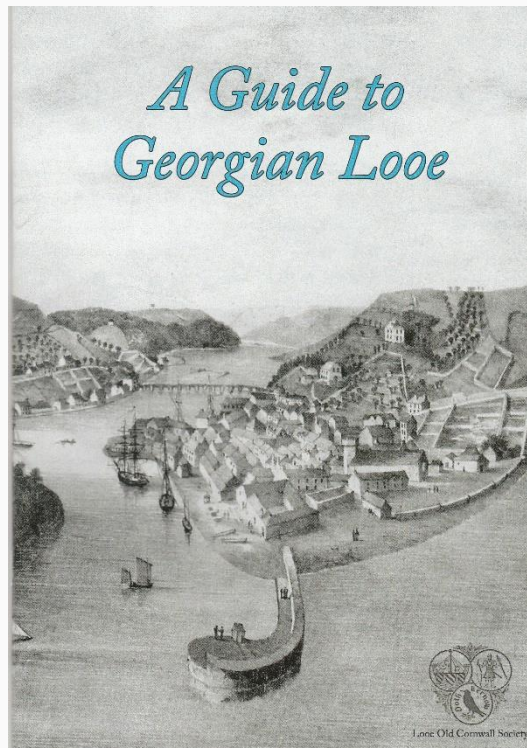
If you would like to contribute an event report to the newsletter, please email [newsletters@oldcornwall.net](mailto:newsletters@oldcornwall.net) with a summary and any photos you would like to include.

## Nowodhow KKG / OCS News

### Georgian Looe - New Booklet

Looe Old Cornwall Society have just published a beautifully illustrated booklet, entitled, "A Guide to Georgian Looe."

The booklet forms part of Looe OCS's Thomas Bond Project, which they are carrying out in order to mark the bicentenary of the publication of the "History of Looe" by Thomas Bond in 1823. Looe OCS have also mounted an exhibition at the Old Guildhall Museum and Gaol in Looe. They are also planning three guided walks exploring the historic sites highlighted by Bond.



Part of the costs of the project were defrayed by a project grant from the Federation. We look forward to hearing more about this project, but well done to Looe OCS for delivering a fantastic booklet.

As part of their Thomas Bond Bicentenary Project Looe OCS are conducting three walks of Looe to also integrate with the Federation's Festival of Walks.

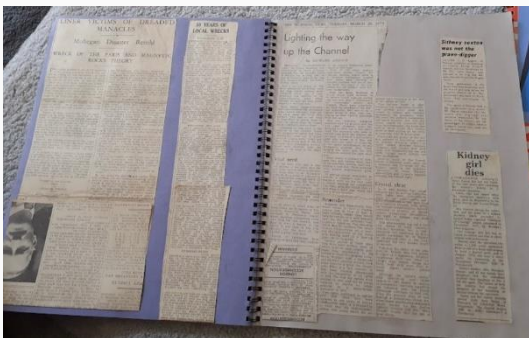
## Scrapbooks Return Home

Porthleven OCS have a proud tradition of recording the events taking place in their community by collecting newspaper clippings. Lionel Curnow who became their Recorder in the 1980s took on the task of organising the newspaper clippings in scrapbooks. He also maintained annual scrapbooks until just a few years ago when he had to step down.

Lionel and the Porthleven OCS were both very keen that the scrapbooks should be safeguarded for future use. They have now been placed in the Federation Archive and will be lodged at Kresen Kernow.

Porthleven OCS are now considering how they can carry on the newspaper scrapbook tradition, and exploring opportunities for a potential digitisation project so that their scrapbooks can be made available to a wider audience.

With thanks to Lionel Curnow and Porthleven OCS.



**We would like to feature news and updates from your Old Cornwall Society - if you would like to share your news please get in touch with Kate on [newsletters@oldcornwall.net](mailto:newsletters@oldcornwall.net)**

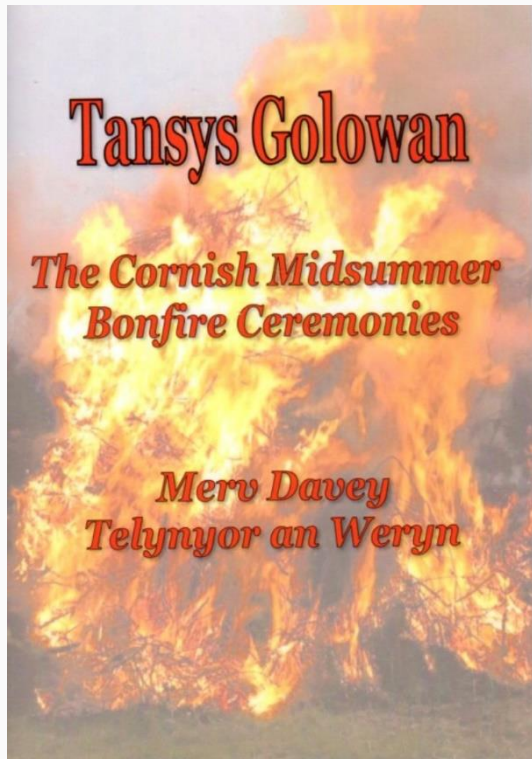
### **Hwarvosow ha Kuntellesow Keffrysians a-dheu / Upcoming Federation Meetings & Events**

- 3/6/2023 - FOCS Executive Meeting, Grenville Room, Lys Kernow
- 17/06/2023 - FOCS River Camel Boat Trip
- 19-23/06/2023 - FOCS Walking Week Festival
- 11/7/2023 - Publications Subcommittee Meeting, 10am Blackwater Village Hall
- 20/08/2023 - Prayer Book Rebellion Commemoration @ Bodmin
- 02/09/2023 - Gorsedh Kernow @ Padstow
- 12/9/2023 - Events Subcommittee Meeting
- September 2023 - FOCS Executive Meeting
- 07/10/2023 - FOCS AGM
- 21/10/2023 - FOCS Winter Festival, Padstow
- December 2023 - FOCS Executive Meeting
- 18/12/2023 - FOCS Carol Service - Padstow Carols at Truro Cathedral
- 9/3/2024 - FOCS Recorders' Day, Kresen Kernow
- 14-21/6/2024 - FOCS Walk Week Festival

If you would like to attend any of these meetings or join a Subcommittee, please get in touch with President Nev Meek on [president@oldcornwall.net](mailto:president@oldcornwall.net).

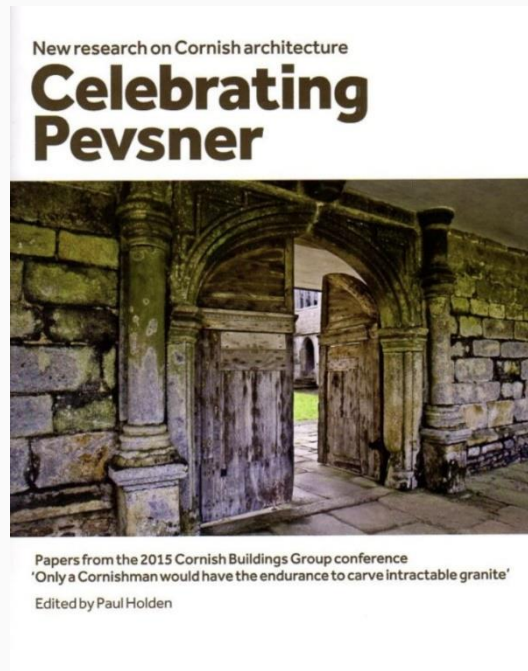
## Lyverji Keffrysans / Federation Bookshop

The Federation Bookshop sells hundreds of books, CDs, leaflets and other items relating to Cornish history and culture - including music, dialect, ancient sites, and much much more.



TANSYS GOLOWAN: THE CORNISH  
MIDSUMMER BONFIRE CEREMONIES,  
By Merv Davey

£2.00



CELEBRATING PEVSNER, NEW  
RESEARCH ON CORNISH  
ARCHITECTURE,  
Edited by Paul Holden

£20.00

[Click here to go to the Federation Bookshop](#)



## Keslesek / Of interest

**Cornish Associations overseas:** We have a section on the FOCS website for newsletters from Cornish Associations further afield and overseas - please [click here](#) to visit it. Bear with us as we are updating this page.

**Cornwall Archaeological Association** - 'From Your Own Correspondents' news can now be found on the CAS website at: <https://cornisharchaeology.org.uk/area-representatives-and-monument-watch/>

## Kestavow / Contacts

[secretary@oldcornwall.net](mailto:secretary@oldcornwall.net) - General enquiries, updates to officers etc.

[website@oldcornwall.net](mailto:website@oldcornwall.net) - Anything to go on website, e.g. programme, posters, updates to contacts etc.

[publicity@oldcornwall.net](mailto:publicity@oldcornwall.net) - Anything to go on Facebook etc. e.g. programme, posters.

[newsletters@oldcornwall.net](mailto:newsletters@oldcornwall.net) - Items for monthly newsletter. e.g. short news items about activity of your OCS, short news items about people associated with your OCS.

[editor@oldcornwall.net](mailto:editor@oldcornwall.net) - Items for Journal. See Inside front cover of Journal for guidance.