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## Newsletter of the Cornish Association of New South Wales

### PROGRAM



*Zoom Keskows* - **Seasonal Online  
ZOOM 'tea & cake' chat  
sessions**

**'Spring has sprung' - October**

**Summer – late January**

Date/Time and Zoom link will be emailed a week prior

### Events in Planning so far



### **Pre-Christmas Members & Friends Lunch**

**Thursday 23 November, 2022**

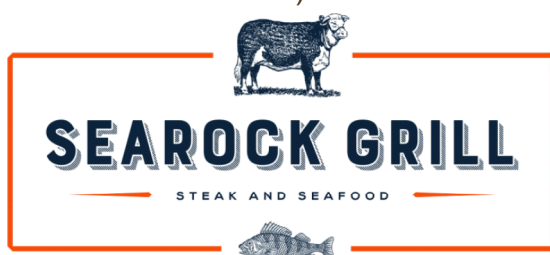
*Searock Grill* - at East Circular Quay, Sydney

Come for an informal get-together. Chose and pay for what you have. A range of quality food of varying prices. If you can get in to Sydney city, please join us for this great chance this year to actually meet and chat! President Joy Dunkerley will be down in Sydney to welcome all.

**Meet at 11.30am** (for noon meal)

**For more information Del Clinton  
on mobile 0428 406 078 or  
[delclinton@hotmail.com](mailto:delclinton@hotmail.com)**

Location: Shop 15 (5 Macquarie Street) but entrance on Opera Quays level, **East Circular Quay**, Sydney (about 200m walk around from ferries)



Lunch Menu link: [https://searock.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Searock-lunch-menu-web-april-2023\\_final.pdf](https://searock.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Searock-lunch-menu-web-april-2023_final.pdf)

P: (02) 9252 0777

<http://www.searock.com.au/>



**Our 49<sup>th</sup> AGM – Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024**



### **FESTIVALS 2024**

### **31<sup>st</sup> Australian Celtic Festival**

**Glen Innes NSW**

**- The Year of Ireland and Man -**



**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
– Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>  
May, 2024**

Yes, we Cornish will plan to again be there!  
*Saturday morning is our parade in town, and the  
26<sup>th</sup> Cornish stone ceremony is on Sunday  
morning.* More info later.

### **Previous Events:**

**Winter Zoom – 3pm Sunday 30 July**



## Committee News:

Bank account balance at 30/8/23: **\$7,767.79**

*"Lovely chat on the last Zoom meeting, even if our numbers were small. Your Committee has met via Zoom on 4<sup>th</sup> September. The following main items were discussed:*

- End of Year Lunch (see this newsletter)
- AGM on 2 March, 2023 (location decided, booking to be made)
- Some changes to the Association's Westpac Societies account, providing online creditor payment options. At this stage cash and cheques we receive can still be deposited at branches.
- Investigate placing a stone and plaque at the Standing Stones site in Glen Innes in 2025 to commemorate 50 years of the Association.
- Celtic Stones monument progress in Brisbane, expected opening 8 Oct.

*See you at our October Zoom, and / or at our November lunch." Joy Dunkerley, President.*

## MEMBERS MILESTONES

**Congratulations** to all those with birthdays or anniversaries during September and October

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

## QUOTE

*"The reverence for wells and springs, and superstitions about them, e.g., Madron Well, may not be merely medieval but pagan" - Rev W S Lach-Szyrma, A Short History of Penzance, St Michael's Mount, S. Ives and the Lands's End District, 1878*

## SOME CORNISH SURNAMES – a series

**TREVENEN** – Chirgwin suggests from *trev-Enyon*, Enyon's homestead.

**TREVISA** – From *trev-ysa*, lowest homestead. Placenames Trevisa, Trezona.

**TRUDGIAN** – Possibly from *tre-ojyon*, homestead of oxen.

**TRURAN / TRUAN** – From *tre(g)wern*, homestead by the marsh,

**UREN** – Chirgwin suggests from personal name Ewryn. Four Bretons named Uren are recorded in Gwennap parish in 1523.

**VINGOE** – Possibly from *(m)ven-key*, stone dog.

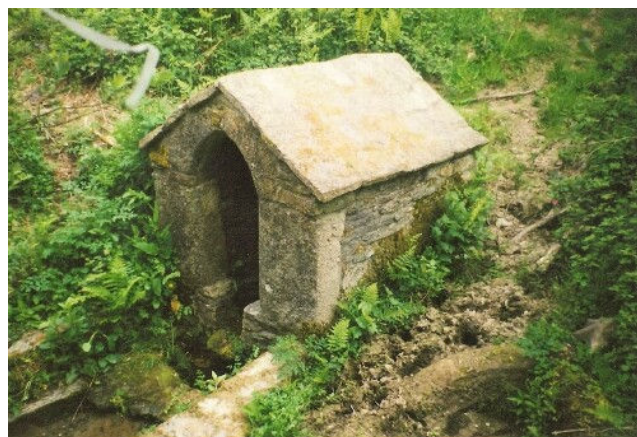
**WREN** – Cornish version from Uren, gwern, swamp/marsh.

*New series to start next time [These names came from the Appendix to 'A Handbook of Cornish Surnames', by George Pawley White, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1981.*

## HOLY WELLS

### ST PEDYR'S HOLY WELL, Treloy Farm -

'The well was restored by the Old Cornwall Society in 1953, revealing the old benches. The well consists of a small chapel pitched roof edifice, the spring following into a large rectangular channel full of watercress.'



Treloy Farm, is about 1 mile north west of St. Colan Church, in the parish of Newquay. Dipping down into the valley and across the stream that runs to St. Columb Porth (aka Porth) you should find the well. Nearby once was a chapel of St. Pedyr (the Cornish form of Peter) named probably after an early Prior. The moor below is Pedyr moor. The waters of the well were said to have healing properties for legs. The well was restored in 1953 by the Newquay Old Cornwall Society.

## FEATURE STORIES

### The Gorsedh and Cornish Bards (Part 2)

*From a talk given by Chris Dunkerley in 2022 & 2023 – Reproduced in 4 parts*

#### PART 2

At the Treorchy Welsh Eisteddfod, in 1928, ten Cornish were accepted as members of the



Gorsedd of Bards. In September 1928 the first ceremony of the Cornish Gorsedd - *Gorseth Kernow* - was held at Boscawen Un, in the Penwith district north of St Buryan. The plan was – and the practice still is – to move the site around Cornwall – East, West and Centre. Henry Jenner was invested as the first Grand Bard of Cornwall in 1928.



The Cornish Gorsedd has only one order, the Order of Bards, wearing blue robes. It was felt that, in Cornwall, all members of the Gorsedh should be treated equally and all wear the blue of bards. This is still the case today, with senior bards and holders of office having a different style of head-dress and/or wearing plastrons (ceremonial breastplates). The current and 22<sup>nd</sup> Grand Bard is Mab Stenek Veur (Pol Hodge). The latest Open Gorsedh were held indoors at Hayle in the west on 3 September, 2022, and for 2023 in bright sun at Padstow on Saturday 2 September. The next host town is expected to be Callington in the east of the Duchy. Of note is that there have been four female Grand Bards in the past 2 decades, with more in the offing.



200 Bards at Padstow, joining in the oath of loyalty to Cornwall, by touching the shoulder of those in front, and thence the 'sword of Arthur' held by the Grand Bard Pol Hodge.

Gorsedh Kernow exists simply but fundamentally to maintain the national Celtic spirit of Cornwall, and is a non sectarian, non partisan political organisation. The Bards of Gorsedh Kernow, well over 1,000 of whom in the 95 years around the world have each sworn an oath to Cornwall as a Celtic nation, to help maintain the national Celtic spirit of Cornwall by studying their own Cornish history and the Cornish language and literature, art, music, dance and sport.

Gorsedh Objects have been: To maintain and give expression to the National Spirit of Cornwall as a Celtic country, and in particular to foster relations between Cornwall and other Celtic countries. To promote co-operation and goodwill. To encourage the study and use of the Cornish language. To encourage the study of Cornish History, Art, Literature and Music and related subjects, and the publication of works on such subjects. To support the holding of a Cornish Eisteddfod and to hold an annual Gorsedh ceremony.



Then Grand Bard, Steren Mor (Maureen Fuller), accompanied by some past Grand Bards.

I have often over the years been asked to talk on Cornish Bards. So, today I will explain what a Bard is, and a bit of Australian perspective.

*What is a Bard and how do you become one?* A Bard is a person who meets the criteria set by the Gorsedd and is invited by its Council, on the recommendation of other Bards, to accept the honour. Not all are Cornish, and not all are born or resident in Cornwall. There are bards in Australia, NZ, other areas of Europe, and North America, invited to become bards because of their work promoting Cornwall, including to the emigrant families and their descendants in



those countries, and many of these make the long trip to Cornwall to be initiated into the Gorsedh and attend the Gorsedh ceremonies.

*Criteria: A person who is considered worthy of bardship must be proposed by an existing bard, who is required to submit a citation to the Gorsedh Council in support of his or her candidate. A citation should not be revealed to the nominee, and should detail the contribution or activities of the person across any relevant Cornish fields, including Cornish language proficiency, other cultural, community or civic work, references etc. [Campaigning or self promotion does not sit well] .... continues in Part 3*

For the full paper go to:

[http://members.ozemail.com.au/~kevrenor/CornishBards\\_CANSWTalk\\_4thMarch2023.pdf](http://members.ozemail.com.au/~kevrenor/CornishBards_CANSWTalk_4thMarch2023.pdf)

## Our Cornish Places

### Hughes Pump House, Moonta Mines, SA



Cornish style enginehouse and round chimney combination

## GORSEDH KERNOW 2023 Padstow

A colourful ceremony in the Celtic Cornish language involving around 200 blue-robed bards took place in Cornwall on Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 celebrating the Celtic spirit of the Duchy. It was hosted at a Grade I listed Elizabethan country house. The highlight of Gorsedh Kernow's three-day Esedhvos Festival, hosted this year in Padstow, the iconic bardic ceremony was held in the grounds of historic Prideaux Place.

Gorsedh Kernow was established back in 1928 with the aim of celebrating and promoting Cornwall's distinctive Celtic culture, and on Saturday inaugurated the 29 new bards

announced last month in recognition of 'their outstanding work in serving Cornwall and her distinctive Celtic identity.'

The 29 new bards initiated during the ceremony in Padstow now take their place alongside the 500 or so living members of the College of Bards of Gorsedh Kernow.



The 2023 ceremony official party was headed by current Grand Bard Mab Stenek Veur (Pol Hodge) in coat, with his Deputy Gwythvosen (Jenefer Lowe) on his left.



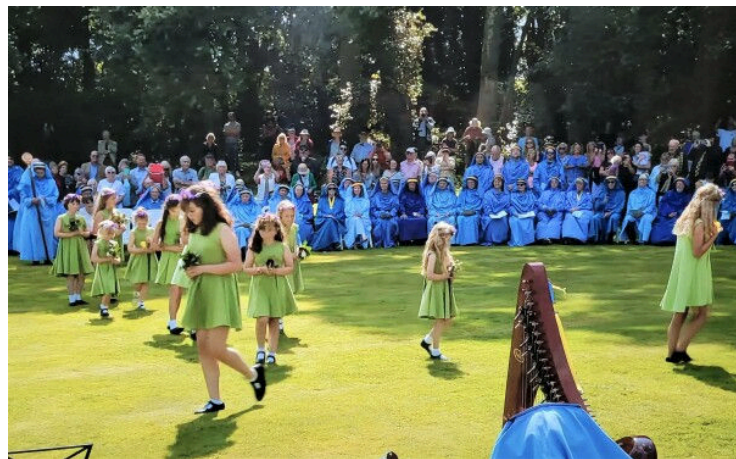
The Horner, blowing to the 4 corners of the world, inviting Bards to hear and respond. Some of the 200 Bards in the circle

*"This year we are welcoming new bards whose work for Kernow reflects both traditional and modern aspects of our Cornish culture,"* said Grand Bard of Cornwall, Pol Hodge, Mab Stenek Veur.

*"Several new bards are involved with Cornish dance and with traditional and choral music. Others are actors and performers who are working with Cornwall's prominent and innovative theatre companies and showcasing their expertise on stage and film, both locally and internationally".*

*"Some are honoured for their work with Cornish cultural events and with the Old Cornwall Society who work to maintain our traditions and extend our knowledge of them. Others work with Cornish institutions such as*

*the Cornish Gig Association, Porthcurno Cable and Wireless Museum and Wheal Martyn China Clay museum while a number are honoured for their knowledge of and work with the Cornish language. All are important to Cornwall and we are very glad to welcome them this year,”* concluded the Bardh Meur.



The flower dancers, heralding the arrival of the Lady of Cornwall with her gift of the fruits of the earth to the Bards assembled.

Sourced from *Cornwall Live* media

Recently deceased Bards, Russell Cocks of NSW and Terry Johnson of SA were acknowledged among the memorial time for those Bards who had died in the past 12 months.

[Photos by Chris Dunkerley from the live stream]

## Notable Cornish, people of Cornwall, and of the diaspora

**Sir Humphry Arundell**, Knight and leader of Cornish forces in 1549

Sir Humphry Arundell was born in 1513 at Helland, near Bodmin in Cornwall, the eldest son and heir of Roger Arundell of Helland by his wife Johanna Calwoodleigh. Roger Arundell was a younger son of Sir Thomas Arundell (died 1485), Knight of the Bath, of Lanherne in Cornwall. Roger's eldest brother was the powerful John Arundell of Lanherne, Receiver General of the Duchy of Cornwall. He married Elizabeth Fulford, a daughter of Sir John Fulford of Great Fulford in Devon, twice Sheriff of Devon. Sir Humphry Arundell grew up to be an experienced soldier. His maternal grandfather had been involved in the Perkin Warbeck rising against Henry VII in 1497. On the death of his parents in 1536 and 1537 he

inherited large estates in both Devon and Cornwall.

In 1549, Arundell became leader of the Cornish army which assembled first at Bodmin and was involved in the Cornish rebellion of 1549, which is also known as the Prayer Book Rebellion, against Edward VI. He became involved partly because he was a good Catholic and a good Cornishman, and also, because as a man of influence, he felt he could control the rebels of their worst excesses. Previously he had been in charge of a small garrison on St Michael's Mount, which had defected to the 'rebels' at the start of the campaign. During the 1549 siege of the city of Exeter in Devon, Arundell and his troops had little artillery but had taken some small calibre guns from Plymouth and other forts of the King, including those on St Michael's Mount, St Mawes Castle, Pendennis Castle and Trematon Castle.

The Cornishmen outside the walls of Exeter made the statement "*and so we Cornishmen, whereof certain of us understand no English, utterly refuse this new English*". Deemed by some the 'Prayer Book Rebellion', for the Cornish it certainly was a crucial point in the use of their ancient Celtic language, but had a wider basis after the losses of the uprising of 1497.

At the battle of Sampford Courtenay, Arundell led a large contingent of rebels from the rear throwing the Royal troops into confusion. The rebels were forced to make another stand at Okehampton, before falling back to Launceston, where he was finally overpowered and imprisoned in the castle. On the 19th August, he was transferred to the dungeons of Rougemont Castle in Exeter, before being taken with other rebels to the Tower of London in September. In November 1549, Arundell was taken to Westminster Hall where he was found guilty of "high treason" and condemned to be taken back to the Tower and later hanged, drawn and quartered on the 27th January, 1550.

The sentence noted that he was "*to be drawn on hurdles through the City of London to the gallows at Tyburn and on the gallows suspended and while yet alive to be cast down upon the ground and the entrails of each to be taken out and burnt before their eyes while yet living and their heads to be cut off and their*



*bodies to be divided into four parts to be distributed at the King's pleasure".*

Sir Humphry appears to have died without children. Elizabeth Fulford survived him and remarried to Thomas Carey of Cary in the parish of St Giles on the Heath in Devon.

Sir Gawen Carew received most of Humprey Arundell's lands. Note that other Cornish leaders of the earlier Cornish uprising of 1497, Thomas Flamank, Michael An Gof and James Tuchet, 7th Baron Audley, had also been executed at Tyburn.

Image: the Arundell coat of arms shield



## GUILDIZE AND CRYING THE NECK

Guldize is an anglicization of Cornish *Gool dheys* "the feast of ricks" (i.e., grain stacks). It is the traditional harvest festival of the Cornish people, though Churches often also held displays of produce of the harvest for blessing. The Guldize festival was held at the end of the wheat harvest (depending on area and weather generally early September) and took the form of a vast feast usually around the time of the autumnal equinox. The ceremony of Crying The Neck took place before the feast, the 'neck' being taken and formed into a Corn dolly, which presided over the celebrations, and was often displayed in the farmhouse for the winter.



Photo 'Pen Yarl' Crying the Neck, Madron, Sept, 2023 - Madron Old Cornwall Society.

*'Crying the Neck'* - This is when the final shock of corn at a given farm or in a given parish is cut and thus the end of the harvest period is both proclaimed and toasted.

There's a lot more to 'Crying the Neck' than just a farmer cutting some corn with a traditional scythe, though. Usually, the farmer, his family, his friends and a strong collection of parishioners gather in a field which has the last patch of corn growing in it. There may be a vicar there. There will almost certainly be children there. There will be an atmosphere of excitement and of giving thanks (well, at least this is the modern take as some ceremonies many years ago may have actually been fairly sombre affairs).

One of the most uniform traditions is for the master of ceremonies (usually the local farmer) to shout finds the last patch of wheat/corn in the field and cuts it with a traditional scythe (a long handled sharp hook). He shouts "I 'ave 'un! I 'ave 'un! I 'ave 'un!" Those present then shout, "What 'ave 'ee? What 'ave 'ee? What 'ave 'ee?", with the reply being: "A neck! A neck! A neck!" After this, everyone joins in shouting: "Hurrah! Hurrah for the neck! Hurrah!"

Crying the Neck ceremonies are organised by members of the Old Cornwall Societies and groups like the Cornish Culture Organisation. The ceremony is conducted in both English and Cornish. Retiring for at least a pasty and a beer or cider is often the case across the dozen or so modern locations.

Traditionally, after the last corn was cut on a farm, its workers and guests from the community went back to a barn or farmhouse to enjoy an evening of celebration. The Guldize feast was famous for its food and drink, including a steamed pudding called Guldize Pudding, which became popular all year round in some Cornish homes. Quite often, a large lamb or beef stew was cooked for the occasion and eaten by the farm workers. Sometimes, the farm workers would try and smuggle the "neck" of corn (the last corn to be cut) into the feast. If they were caught by the people preparing the food, a bucket of water was thrown over them,

but if they succeeded they would receive a kiss from one of the girls attending.



Stock photo of the revived Penzance Guldize festivities.

A number of traditional dances are associated with the events of Guldize including “Cock in Britches”, which copies the process of sowing and harvesting grain. There are still Guldize feasts held in some parts of Cornwall.

Thanks to Cornwall Family History Society for publishing

## NEWS

With the visit to the Duchy of the King, Charles, he was presented with a copy of one of the **Royal Proclamations** regarding Cornwall in the Cornish language, by past Grand Bard Liz Carne, and current Deputy Grand Bard Jenefer Lowe.



It is believed that this year around 100 **Cornish Chough** young have been hatched – a far cry from a few years ago when they were entirely absent.

### FROM THE PAST: Royal Commission on the Constitution (United Kingdom) 1973

The Royal Commission on the UK Constitution, also referred to as the Kilbrandon Commission (initially the Crowther Commission) or Kilbrandon Report 4.3.1

They recognised that the people of Cornwall regard their part of the United Kingdom as not another English county and accordingly they recommended that the designation **"Duchy of Cornwall"** be used on all appropriate occasions to emphasise the "special relationship and the territorial integrity of Cornwall"

### Kernewek/ Cornish language lessons

We wanted to make you aware of our range of online Cornish language courses at Exeter University. We have Beginner and Post-Beginner levels on offer as well as Phonetics and Phonology of present-day Cornish. Please forward this to anyone who might be interested!

Courses start from October 2022 and registration is via web site:

<https://humanities.exeter.ac.uk/flc/evening/languages/>

We are also able to organise tailored courses, e.g. convenient times etc. if at least 7 learners are interested.

Kind regards, Astrid Hermes FHEA, Lecturer in German (E&S) / ELP Coordinator, Language Centre, University of Exeter, Queen's Building (Room 144), Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QH Tel: 01392 72 2192

Email: A.Hermes@exeter.ac.uk

### Penwith parish nicknames (Craig Weatherhill)

Some West Penwith Community nicknames are as follows: BURYAN Boars; ESCALLS Triddles; GULVAL Bulls; HAYLE Sandy-toes/Bar Lincies; ST IVES Hakes/Hake Whippers; ST JUST Bugs/Red-Tailed Drones/Santust Fuggans; LELANT Badgers;



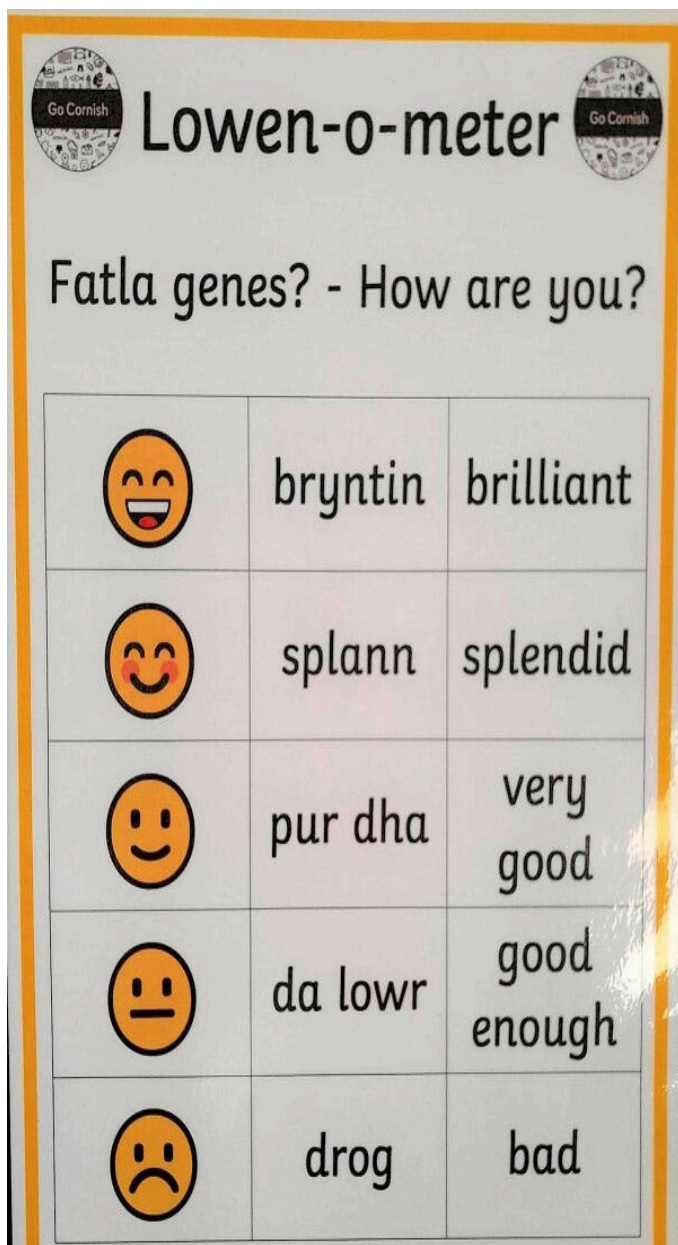
ST LEVAN Witches; LONGROCK Scabs;  
LUDGVAN Hurlers; MARAZION Jews/Market  
Jew Crows; MORVAH Devils/Chick-Chacks;  
MOUSEHOLE Ujiacks/Keggers; NANCLEDRA  
Rats; NEWLYN Pirates/Walk-the-Planks/Rob-  
the-Deads/ Buckas; PENZANCE Scads/Rob-  
the-Turks/Peaze Adders; SANCREED Pigs;  
SENNEN Wreckers/Covers/Bastards;  
TOWEDNACK Cuckoos/Bucks; ZENNOR  
Goats/cuckoos/Charmers/Does.

## PLAS AN TAVES

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

**Pronunciation?** Cornish is mainly phonetic!

More: <https://www.cornishdictionary.org.uk>



In this issue you will learn about: Happiness  
How happy are you today on the meter?



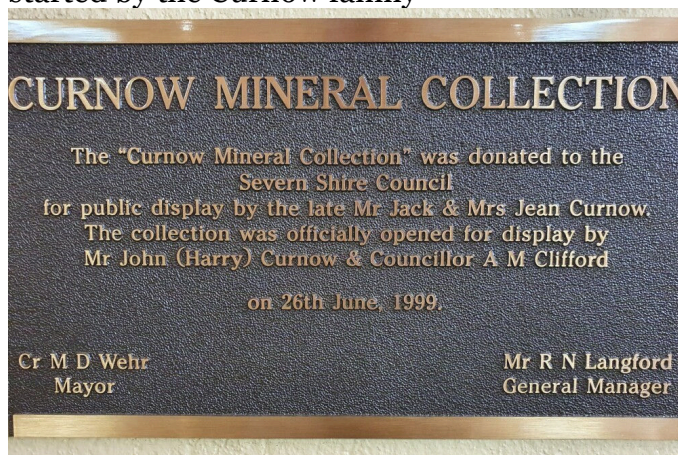
## CANSW Public & Members Web Pages:

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

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

## OUR CORNISH PLACES

At the excellent Ennaville Mining Museum, started by the Curnow family



**Sayings** - Wise words on Ageing

*"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened". - Mark Twain*

**Dates coming up ...** Guldize, Feast day of St Mawgan 24<sup>th</sup> September, St. Keyne 8<sup>th</sup> October, Alantide / All Hallows Eve, St Winnoc 8<sup>th</sup> November.

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

*The next Newsletter: No 406 due for the months of November / December has a copy deadline of 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2023*

Contributions may be held for future use - electronic – emailed - preferred) are welcome!

## Nr. 405 LYTHER NOWODHOW – NSW

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