



No. 406
November / December, 2023
ISSN 1321-3199
 Also lodged with: <https://ned.gov.au/>
 Circulation: approx. 140

Newsletter of the Cornish Association of New South Wales

PROGRAM



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

'Long Hot Summer' – January , 2024

'Autumn Colour' - April

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

[Del may have rung, or will ring, some of you]

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



SEAROCK GRILL
 STEAK AND SEAFOOD



Lunch
 Menu

Menu link:

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/>



48th Annual General Meeting

Saturday 2nd March, 2024

Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde
 (Rydedale Rd. near railway station)

Beforehand - Informal lunch

Meet in club bistro first - 11.30 for 12

Noon The menu for you to choose from on the day can be reviewed here:

<https://www.releagues.com.au/37>

A.G.M 1.30pm followed by

'St Piran' Get Together

2:15- 4pm

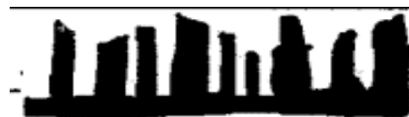
Celebrate St Piran, and entering our 49th year!
Please put this in your diary or calendar now!



FESTIVALS 2024

31st Australian Celtic Festival

Glen Innes NSW - 'The Year of Ireland and Isle of Man'



Thursday 2nd – Sunday 5th May, 2024

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

<https://www.australiancelticfestival.com>

Past Events

Clans on the Coast – September



Clans on the Coast Celtic festival returned in September this year after a few years break, and was held this time at Raymond Terrace, NSW. Four members of the CANSW made an appearance: Joy Dunkerley, David Wilks, Kerensa Dunkerley, and Chris Dunkerley proudly making sure the Cornish were there, and showing off our national tartan.

November 5th Zoom



Committee News:

Bank account balance at 31/10/23: **\$7,408.49**

"Lovely chat on the last Zoom meeting, even if our numbers were small. I hope to see some of you at our lunch at Circular Quay later this month [thanks for your hard work Del], or at the AGM/St Pirans Celebration booked for 2nd March next year at West Ryde as we enter the CANSW's 49th year." Joy Dunkerley, President.

AGM Notice: To be held on Saturday 2nd March, 2024 - Our Rules require any

substantive matter for debate and vote by the members at the AGM to be lodged with the Committee, via the Secretary, "no later than one calendar month" prior to the AGM date.

MEMBERS MILESTONES

Congratulations to all those with birthdays or anniversaries during November and December.

Special mention for our foundation member **Jennifer Meston**, who had her 90th birthday in the last week of October. Her son Barry flew out from UK to be part of the celebrations. More good news for Jen, was the recent birth of her 1st great-grandchild, a great-grandson Luke via her daughter Carol's family. Thanks for keeping us up to date with your news Jen, and we are glad you still are able to enjoy the newsletter despite now limited eyesight.

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

QUOTE

"This language [Cornish] is spoken altogether at Goonhilly and about Pendennis, and at Lands End they speak no English. All beyond Truro they speak the Cornish language." - Richard Symonds Diary, 1644

CORNISH SURNAMES – a short series

It was not until the mid-late middle ages that surnames were first used to distinguish between people with the same personal name. In still brythonic speaking Cornwall, as in Wales, this was even later and followed somewhat divergent patterns to England.

1. Patronymics:

- (a) A father's name was taken and used as a surname, without alteration: eg. Davy, Harry
- (b) A diminutive of the father's name is used, eg. Jenkin, Hockin
- (c) A Christian name, or its diminutive, is used with an English possessive 's' suffixed, eg. Johns, Roberts, Jenkins, Rogers
- (d) The prefix Map (son of) or its residual 'p' is attached to the father's name, eg. Map Robert became Probert, Map Rowse became Prowse, Map Howel became Powell.

Source: 'A Handbook of Cornish Surnames', by George Pawley White, 2nd ed. 1981.

FEATURE STORIES

The Gorsedh and Cornish Bards (Part 3)

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

PART 3

Citations [for nominated people] must be presented without the knowledge of the person being nominated and kept within those who need to know. Each nominee is in turn considered by the Gorsedh Council and, if found satisfactory, she or he is duly invited to become a bard. Obviously not all who are nominated are in the end invited, nor every person feel able to accept taking the oath.

The new Bards choose a Bardic name in Cornish, which is perhaps relevant to their place of birth, their particular vocation or the work which has led them to be invited into the Gorsedh. The names of these new bards are not made public until shortly before their official acceptance into the Gorsedh, now always held on the first Saturday in September.

The Gorsedh also provides other recognition. The Gorsedh Kernow Awards seek to foster and promote the national Celtic spirit of Cornwall, through awarding Awen Medals for outstanding creative and community work that expresses Cornish identity and culture.



They are divided into two categories: "Adults" and "Young People". The Holyer and Gof Awards scheme was established and is organised by Bards of Gorsedh Kernow to promote books and other publications and media about Cornwall, set in Cornwall or the diaspora, or in Cornish (Kernewek).

Australians or those living in Australia have been part of Gorsedh Kernow since 1935 (7 years after its start) when prominent UK born South Australian, Sir John Langdon Bonython (KernowTramor, or Cornishman overseas) was Barded. Two more followed but WW2 intervened before 1951 when Sydney singers Thea Rowe and Breffni Hosking), and SA cartoonist Oswald Pryor were invited. Nine more were added before 1974 when Bute, SA resident Roslyn Paterson was invited for her work establishing the Kernewek Lowender festival on the North Peninsula in SA. Its refreshed links with the current scene in Cornwall brought bardic visitors to Australia, and particularly SA including past Grand Bard Denis Trevanion who held a Gorsedh Proclamation ceremony in Queens Sq, Moonta in 1983, and then Grand Bard Hugh Miners who held a proclamation at Wallaroo Mines in 1985.



Roger Thomas, Hugh Miners, Ros paterson, Cecil Beer, and Chris Dunkerley in 1985

This renewed vigor and warm connections here saw 8 active Bards in Australia by 1987. With work among Bards here and local Cornish Association members past Grand Bard George Pawley White and new local Bard Ron Daw the Gorsedh Council had approved a new form of

ceremony for an *Assembly of the Bards of Cornwall in Australia*, based on the Open Gorsedd. Its first ceremony was held on St Piran's Day, 5th March, 1988 at Sovereign Hill, Ballarat, Victoria with Denis Trevanion leading and 9 other Bards.



Wallaroo, SA Assembly – May 2022

There have now been 36 Assemblies held (18 in SA, 16 in Vic., 1 in ACT and 1 in NSW) and the 2 Proclamations. This is the most anywhere in the world other than Cornwall, though there have been a number of proclamation style gatherings held in North America.



Dancers at an Assembly in Eaglehawk, Vic

.... continues and finalises in Part 4 next time

For the full paper go to:

http://members.ozemail.com.au/~kevrenor/CornishBards_CANSWTalk_4thMarch2023.pdf

For information on the Bards in Australia, go to the NEW LOCATION of the website: 'Bards of the Gorsedh of Cornwall in Australia' at:

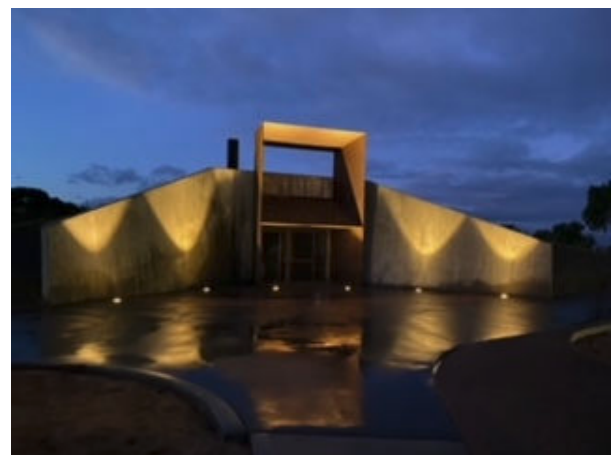
www.celticcouncil.org.au/cornish/gorsedh/gorseth.htm

Our Cornish Places

COBAR

Cobar NSW is a mining area, with significant history of Cornish involvement. See Dr John Symonds project pages for history: <https://www.celticcouncil.org.au/cornish/nsw/Towns%20A-C/checkframe.html>

The museum, and this new Cobar mining memorial are very much worth visiting, see photos below.



Photos: Barry Knight

<https://visitcobarshire.com.au/cobarminersmemorial>

NEWS

Standing Stones Celtic Nations Monument Brisbane QLD

Over many years the Celtic Council of Qld had been planning a Celtic monument of standing stones in Brisbane. Our Association and some members had made donations to help with this project. Delays for various reasons (including issues of Council approvals, and site restrictions at Roma Street Parklands) had occurred. So it was with relief that the final version was inaugurated on Sunday 8th October, 2023 at Moorlands Park, off Coronation Drive, Auchenflower (an inner western suburb of Brisbane). The site can be reached by a stroll from Auchenflower Railway Station, or a walk from the Regatta Ferry Wharf on the Brisbane River.



BYNG Cemetery Records

We have received the email below, due to the wonderful work put in by the late Dr John Symonds on Byng and Cadia, and included for some time on our CANSW web site:

"I am currently doing a research project into mapping and recording the history and details of those buried within the cemetery. I have begun obtaining death certificates, taken photos of headstones (last burial was last year), newspaper obituaries and articles etc and am on a current number of 223 burials.

I noticed on the above website there was a notation about the death and burial of Joseph Stock at Byng Cemetery in 1880, who I have added to my database. I wonder if you have been contacted by anyone else saying their ancestor is buried at Byng, in which case I

would be very happy to hear about it and add it to my list.

The cemetery is still in a very good condition and the lawns have recently been mowed and the gate hinge fixed. I am in touch with the Orange Historical Society, Orange Family History Group, and Mr Will Hawke, current custodian of the Byng Cemetery, seeking their guidance in this project.

*All the best, Mrs Jenny Howarth
jenniferhowarth@bigpond.com
Orange NSW 2800"*

Note: Jenny would love to hear from anyone who either has a relative buried in Byng Cemetery, or knows of anyone else who does. Please contact her direct [but we would love to also know too]. She has promised to keep us informed of her progress.

Cornish Association of Victoria Library

Castlemaine Historical Society in Victoria is now housing a huge Cornish library, perhaps the largest outside the UK.



Castlemaine Historical Society's Ruth Giddings (left), Cornish Association of Victoria's June Whiffen, historical society president Carol Dorman and Cornish association's Moira Drew look through some of the Cornish collection. Picture by Brendan McCarthy (Bendigo Advertiser)

The collection acquired in partnership with the Cornish Association of Victoria (CAV) was unveiled on October 18 this year. It consists of about 3,500 items in a range of formats including books, journals, magazines, maps, CD-ROMs, extracts, photocopies, pamphlets and guide booklets.

The CHS Library contains over 64,000 archived historical and genealogical resources and based

at the Old Castlemaine Courthouse reserve in Goldsmith Crescent.

Video content link below:

<https://fb.watch/nLfwDldgkQ/?mibextid=RUBZ1f>

Our CANSW Library

As reported previously, the remaining part of our Library (a significant amount of material of ours not held by them having gone to join Victoria's library at Castlemaine) was very kindly taken to Glen Innes by our member Pamela O'Neill and is now displayed in her Cultural Centre at The Croft at the Standing Stones. A huge thank you again to Pamela.

"The Croft Celtic Cultural Centre and Cafe is open Thursday to Tuesday 8am to 4pm, as well as hosting special events and educational activities. Everyone is welcome to come in, browse the large collection of books and art, play the games, and/or chat. Meals or coffee can also be had. CANSW members are always particularly welcome. We can also post out a book to members on request" (with postage and return pre-arranged) – the last listing which will give you some idea, is on our CANSW website:

https://members.optusnet.com.au/~kevrenor/canswlib6_2018.pdf

For our Library contact Pamela on pamaladh@gmail.com The Croft website with any updates is at: <https://thecroftgleninnes.com>

New Pre-School opened teaching children to speak Cornish

A woman has opened a new pre-school nursery in Cornwall with a focus on teaching children to speak Kernewek, the indigenous Cornish language. St John Nursery School, in Camborne, was opened in September this year by French-born Emilie Champlaud. She said she had been passionate about the language ever since she moved to the Duchy with her Cornish-speaking husband 12 years ago. The key to success, she said, was the integration of both Cornish and English naturally into the

children's daily routines, and including play and song.



"If we're using it in the classroom they're going to use it at home and share it with their families," said teacher Abbie Richards. Emilie Champlaud added: "Just like native speakers, at first they don't understand - they just understand the context". "Then they relate the context and the word and then they start to become fluent in the language because it becomes their means of communication." [source BBC News]

ANCIENT CORNISH PLACES

Carn Euny



Two millenia old Carn Euny Cornish village from the air that the first timber huts there were built about



200 BC, but by the 1st century BC, these had been replaced by stone huts. The remains of these stone huts are still visible today.

Carn Euny is best known for the well-preserved state of the large fogou, an underground passageway, which is more than 65 feet (20 metres) long. This fogou runs just below the surface of the ground and is roofed with massive stone slabs. The site was abandoned late in the Roman occupation period.

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

Mick Fleetwood

- musician and actor, best known for his role as the drummer and co-founder of the rock band Fleetwood Mac.



Mick Fleetwood was born on June 24, 1947 in Redruth, Cornwall, as Michael John Kells Fleetwood. Fleetwood lived in Egypt and Norway for much of his childhood.

Choosing to follow his musical interests, Fleetwood travelled to London at the age of fifteen, eventually combining with Peter Green, Jeremy Spencer and Bob Brunning, at Green's behest, to become the first incarnation of Fleetwood Mac. Fleetwood would remain the only member to stay with the band through its ever-changing line-up.

After several album releases and line-up changes, the group moved to the United States in 1974 in an attempt to boost the band's success. Here Fleetwood invited Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks to join. Buckingham and Nicks contributed to much of Fleetwood Mac's later commercial success, including the celebrated album Rumours, while

Fleetwood's own determination to keep the band together was essential to the group's longevity. He has also enjoyed a solo career, published written works and flirted briefly with acting and winemaking and even appeared in a 1989 Star Trek episode.

Fleetwood, whose surname was merged with that of the group's bassist John "Mac" McVie to form the name of the band, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with Fleetwood Mac in 1998.

YULE / Christmas (In Cornish: Nadelik)

Was celebrated in Cornwall when it had become unfashionable to do so across much of the rest of Britain. In fact many of the customs we now think of as Christmas traditions were collected in places like Cornwall in the early 19th Century, and introduced elsewhere.

"*Nadelik Lowen Ha Bledhen Nowyth Da*" - Merry Christmas and Happy New year in Cornish.

Numerous distinctive traditions and practices are associated with this time of year in Cornwall including;

- The Cornish Christmas Bunch



- Cornish church towers: being illuminated on Christmas-eve.

- Triumphal arches of evergreens and flags were often seen in towns and villages

- Guise-dancing: Participants dressed in gentlemen's hand me downs and wearing masks would tour the town entertaining others with music and dance. Often led by a "Lord of Misrule" or master of ceremonies.

- Candle Dancing: dancing around a basket full of sand with brightly coloured candles in it

- The Twelfth cake: And the general celebration of 12th night as a feast.

- The lighting and chalking of the Mock or Block. It was a tradition to draw a chalk man on

the Christmas or yule log to symbolise the death of the old year and the start of the new. This was a communal activity and is still performed in public during the Montol festival in Penzance.

- The Cornish Christmas Carols: Cornwall was one of the first sites of the reintroduction of Carols after the puritan times banned them. Cornwall has provided a surprisingly large number of Carols known throughout the world. It is said that the Christmas carol service was invented in Truro, Cornwall in 1880 by a chap called Edward White Benson. The story goes that on Christmas Eve everybody in Truro would get disgustingly drunk, and that the Bishop of Truro (Benson) was so disgusted that he decided to lure everybody out of the pub and into the church with his new service. They had to be bright, easily sung and uplifting: The distinctive tunes of the regional Cornish Carols such as the St Ives and Padstow carols. The distinctive Cornish carol tunes composed by Thomas Merritt. In Australia, the unique Carols by Candlelight in mining areas (later adopted widely).

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: **Nadelik (Christmas)**

NADELIK LOWEN = Happy /Merry Christmas

RO NADELIK = Christmas present

TAS NADELIK = Father Christmas (not Santa Claus)

GWYDHEN NADELIK = Christmas tree

GOLOWYS NADELIK = Christmas lights

KIG YAR ROSTYS = Roast Chicken

AVALLO DOR ROSTYS = Roast potatoes

CARTEN NADELIK = Christmas card

TESEN NADELIK = Christmas cake

CAN NADELIK = Christmas carol

NADELIK LOWEN DYWORTH .. = Merry Christmas from ..

MARIA, YOSEP HA YESU = Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

STEREN VETHLEHEM = Star of Bethlehem.

PRESEP = Manger

KEUR ELETH = Choir of angels



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

Updates have been made to the 'Honours' page: <https://members.optusnet.com.au/kevrenor/CANSWHonours.htm>

**Nadelik Lowen
ha Bledhen Nowyth da**
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Sayings - Wise words on Ageing

"Always be nice to your children because they are the ones who will choose your retirement home." - Phyllis Diller"

Dates coming up ... St Budoc feast day 8th December, St Day 18th January. Tom Bawcock's Eve, Tom Bawcock's Eve 23rd December, Nos Nadelik (Christmas Eve) 24th December, and Dydh Nadelik 25th. Dydh Nowyth da (New Year's day) - 1st January

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 407 due for the months of January / February, 2024 has a copy deadline of 14th January, 2024

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

Nr. 406 LYTHER NOWODHOW – NSW

Editor: c/o 34 Circular Avenue, Sawtell, 2452 Phone: Mobile 0409 393 059 or Ph: 02 6699 2967 - Ring first us to manual switch to FAX

Email: kevrenor@ozemail.com.au