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## Newsletter of the Cornish Association of New South Wales

### PROGRAM



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

**Summer – 3.30 pm Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Jan**

**Autumn - April**

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

**Events in Planning so far**



**49th Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday 2nd March, 2024**

**Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde**  
 (Rydedale Rd. eastern side of railway station 200m)

**Beforehand - Informal lunch together**

**Meet in East West Kitchen (club bistro) first**  
**- 11.30 for 12 Noon**

The menu for you to choose from can be viewed  
 here: <https://www.releagues.com.au/media/East%20West%20Kitchen/FINAL%20Menu%20AUG23%20web.pdf>

**Annual General Meeting 1.30pm**



Denistone Room – Upstairs (Stairs or Lift)

*Zoom setup & President's welcome*  
*Attendance & apologies*  
*Reports*

*Election of Office Bearers*  
*Election of balance of Committee*  
*other agenda business*

**followed by ..**

**St Piran's Celebration**

**Get Together**

**2:15 pm – 4pm**

*Gool Peran Lowen*



*Happy St Piran's Day*

Celebrate St Piran and entering our **49<sup>th</sup> year!**

Lucky door prize, quiz, music, brief talk,  
 Kernewek taster + lots of chat! All welcome,  
 members, family and friends!

*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 will again be there!  
*Saturday morning is our parade in town, and the*  
*26th Cornish stone ceremony is on Sunday*  
*morning.* More details later or ring Joy

Festival info & bookings from 1 Feb.

<https://www.australiancelticfestival.com>

Visitor Information office:

<http://www.gleninneshighlands.com/>

## Past Events:

### Lunch at Circular Quay 23<sup>rd</sup> November



This was our end of year 2023 & pre-Christmas lunch. Held at Circular Quay again, we had a good number attending (17) including some members we hadn't seen in a while - plus 10 apologies showed wider interest. Thanks again to Del Clinton for organising, and the little extras.



### Celtic Council of Australia Awards Lunch

18 Nov - Four CANSW members attended, at the Gaelic Club in Surry Hills, in various capacities. This is the Cornish decorated table.



### NSW / Sth Australia Cornish meetup dinner

A holiday visit to Adelaide in November by Joy & Chris Dunkerley, allowed a meetup with some members of the Cornish Association of SA, at a dinner in the Treasury building restaurant.



### Committee News:

Bank account balance at 31/12/23: \$7,431.59  
Enclosed on this newsletter's last page is our official 2023 Financial Statement. This will be tabled for adoption at our AGM. Please read, and any questions to Joy.

*"I enjoyed our lunch together at Circular Quay [thanks for your hard work Del]. Hoping to see some of you at our AGM/St Pirans Celebration on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at West Ryde as we enter the CANSW's 49<sup>th</sup> year."*  
Joy Dunkerley, President.

2<sup>nd</sup> AGM Notice: To be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 ie. 2/2.

### MEMBERS MILESTONES

**Congratulations** to all those with birthdays or anniversaries during January & February

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

### QUOTE



*"England (sic) is divided into 3 great provinces, or countries ... every one of them speaking a several and different language, as English, Welsh and Cornish, and their languages (which is strange) alters on the sudden, as the Provinces part; for in this town they speak English and do not understand Cornish, and in the next town Cornish and not understanding English"* – Arthur Hopton, 'A Concordancy of Yeares', 1616

## 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.

Part 2

### 2. Names from Places of Residence

These are the lost prolific of Cornish surnames. The well known prefixes of CAR or KER (fort or camp), TRE (homestead), POL (pool), PEN (head or end), ROS (heath), LAN (enclosure, incl. monastic/church), BOS (dwelling) and many others are used to form place-names in conjunction with a personal name, an adjective, or other distinctive feature.

eg. CARDEW – car-du, black or dark camp  
 POLMEAR – pol-mur, big pond  
 TRESKEWES – tre-skewys, sheltered homestead  
 PENGELLY – pen-(g)kelly, end of copse  
 ROSEVEAR – ros-(m)veur, great heath  
 LANDRY – lan-(t)dre, churchyard or glebe  
 BOSCAWEN – bos-scawen, dwelling by elder trees.

(It should be noted that the Celtic system of mutation of initial letter under certain circumstances applies. Hence the above 'm' becomes 'v' and 't' becomes 'd'. Part 3 next time

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

## NEWS

### Purchase of Tregonning Hill

Cornwall Heritage Trust has purchased an historic hill near to Breage and Helston,

protecting its heritage for years to come. Tregonning Hill – 194m above sea level at its summit, is currently still on the Heritage At Risk Register. It is the most westerly of two granite hills overlooking Mounts Bay in west Cornwall; the other being Godolphin Hill. Approximately 6 kilometres (3.7 mi) north west of Helston. It has a diverse archaeological landscape with monuments dating back to the Bronze Age. It is also known as the birthplace of the British china clay industry. Much of the site is designated a Scheduled Monument and all of it is within the Cornish Mining Landscape World Heritage Site.

This acquisition aims to safeguard the 70-acre site's future and ensure it remains free to visit all year round. The site has a multi-period archaeological landscape which includes a wide range of historic monuments while the summit of the hill is crowned by the hillfort known in legend as Castle Pencair. It contains ancient Barrows, but also a war memorial, and extensive mineral working and prospecting pits and part of a china clay works notable for being the place where William Cookworthy discovered china clay.



Cornish Heritage Trust CEO Cathy Woolcock said the trust was "incredibly proud" to have purchased the historic site. She said: "The strength of feeling its sale has provoked and the support we have received both from Historic England and the public... has been truly overwhelming." Ms Woolcock also thanked those involved in supporting the project.

She added: “The hill’s story spans a huge breadth of Cornish history which is why it has such complex needs. “Like many of the sites we care for, it is also important ecologically – partly designated both a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation – which requires significant expertise to manage”. “All of these factors made Tregonning Hill a perfect fit for our portfolio and we’re so pleased that we can make sure it gets the care it deserves.”

## Helston Tourist Railway Expansion

The Helston Railway has launched an appeal to raise funds to extend the line to Helston, which will bring tourism and much-needed trade to both the town, district and the Lizard peninsula. The extension over the Lowertown Viaduct towards Helston will also help towards extending the line towards Nancegollan, which was the largest station on the Helston to Hayle branch and was the railhead for the fishing port of Porthleven.



One of the trains at Truthall Halt in 2019 (Photo: Joy Dunkerley)

The current ambition is to lay new tracks towards Helston, but to do that it needs funds and has set a target of £350,000 for the rails, ballast and infrastructure. The railway currently runs on the old line, between Prospidnick Halt and Truthall Halt, with a request stop along the way at Trevarno. Ground-works on the old right of way from Truthall Halt for expansion have started.

The last public service ran 61 years ago, but in recent year progress on restoring the line, and special train trips, has been made by a dedicated group. Future plans include extending the line back towards Nancegollan where a new station and access road will be built, as well as providing better facilities.

Although this is an ambitious target. More information on the railway and the appeal: <https://www.railadvent.co.uk/tag/helston-railway>

## MONTOL



Montol eve 2023, Penzance – Photo: Lucas Knott

Montol Eve, a large festival that occurs in Penzance every 21st December. It is based on some of the Cornish Christmas traditions that were common before the 20th century. The biggest and most important of these traditions is guise dancing. This is a Cornish custom in which people dress up in costumes and masks and then publicly perform, parade, sing, dance and play music. When it gets dark, thousands of people dress like this to take part in three processions. The biggest procession begins at 6pm and ends by burning an image of the sun just outside the town centre.

The sun is the main image used in the festival because the 21st December is often the Winter Solstice. This is the time of year when the day is shortest and the night is longest, meaning it marks the start of longer evenings and warmer days.



Another Cornish Christmas tradition found at the Montol festival is the “Chalking of the Mock”, which is the Cornish version of the Yule log.

It was traditional on Christmas Eve to get a large log to burn. Before the fire was lit, someone drew a stick man on the log in chalk. This was supposed to represent the baby Jesus or perhaps “Old Father Time”. At Montol, this is the final part of the evening and someone is chosen especially to Chalk the Mock and place the log on the bonfire before it is lit.

Words from Cornwall For Ever/Kernow Bys Vyken, a project supported by National Lottery Heritage Fund and several generous donors.

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

#### **Henry Charlton Bastian – Neurologist and Scientist**

Henry was born in Truro on 26th April 1837, the third son of James Bastian, a merchant, and Charlotte Eliza Bullmore. After attending school in Falmouth, he entered University College, London, in 1856 and graduated BA, MB in 1863, and served as Assistant Curator in University College Museum.

In 1866 he married Julia Augusta Orme and they had three sons and one daughter.

He passed the MRCP (1865) and MD (1866) and was quickly elected FRCP in 1870. He became a lecturer in pathology at St. Mary's Hospital, and in 1867 was appointed Professor of Pathology and Assistant Physician at University College Hospital.

He was one of the first neurologists appointed to the National Hospital, Queen Square. There, he conducted original investigations and pursued wide interests both in medical and biological sciences.

He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1868. For over 40 years from 1868 until his retirement in 1912, he served at the National Hospital pursuing his interest in bacteriology experiments. He died on 17th November 1915.

## **FEATURE STORIES**

### **The Gorsedh and Cornish Bards (Part 4)**

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

What does an Assembly ceremony of Cornish Bards in Australia do?



There have been a number of variations on these ceremonies, however an example is the proclamation gathering in Canberra ACT in October, 1995 reveals how they developed. Conducted totally in the Cornish language the ceremony itself began with the sounding of a horn (Corn Glwas) to the four points of the compass, a symbolic call to all Cornish around the world.

The ceremony of peace is performed by the leader, who thrice cries, "*Eus cres* (Is there peace)?" On the Bards thrice replying "*Cres* (Peace)" the proclamation Gorsedh is declared open. The Ceremony of the Offering (flowers symbolic of God's gifts to mankind, usually performed by a young lady (Lady of the Flowers) who acts on the behalf of the young people and children 'of' Cornwall in Australia! After further ceremonials the three fold Cry of Peace is repeated, and the Assembly closed.

In the full Australian Assembly ceremony of which there have been 36 over a 40 year period – the last above in 2023 at Wallaroo, SA, the Lady of the Flowers is joined by a party of girls (mostly) who perform a dance and flowers of the earth are presented. Celtic Harp music usually accompanies the ceremony! Deceased Bards are named and honoured, new Bards are

introduced to the Assembly, and visiting Bards are welcomed. All words and singing are in Kernewek, the Cornish language. Permission to hold these Assemblies must be obtained from the Grand Bard (& Council).



26<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Australia – UOW campus, Nowra, NSW

Currently there are 37 living Bards connected with Australia, and 50 are deceased.

I am very humbled and honoured to be among the 3 most long serving Bards resident in Australia, having been invited 36 years ago - however I stress we have no hierarchy or formal structure here, are governed by the Council in Cornwall, and we are equal to all other Bards around the world.

*Final part.*

*Kevrenor* (Chris Dunkerley)

Web sites for more information:

<https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk>

<https://eisteddfod.wales/gorsedd-bards>

<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~kevrenor/gorseth.html>

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)

For information on the Cornish 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](http://www.celticcouncil.org.au/cornish/gorsedh/gorseth.htm)

## CORNISH SPLITS

Recipe for a Jam or Thunder & Lightning Cream Tea

In bygone days a Cornish Cream Tea did NOT consist of Scones. Until very recently Cornish Splits were preferred and readily available. Harder to find them now, impossible in Australia, so why not bake your own?

A soft milky bread, light as a feather and perfect with jam and clotted cream. As children we loved Thunder & Lightning - Golden Syrup and Clotted Cream, as seen on the right. These days Strawberry Jam is mostly used for Cream Teas but even our later forebears would have made jam with fruits that were on the hedgerows - like Blackberry! Strawberry would have been a real luxury.



**Ingredients** for 20 splits: [they freeze like a dream] 1½ lb Strong Plain Flour [Bread Flour], 3 oz lard, 1 level teaspoon salt, ¾ pint milk [I used semi skimmed, but in olden days it would have been whole milk] about 12 - 14 grams of Dried Active Yeast. That's 2 sachets. [or 1½ oz of fresh], 1 teaspoon sugar

**Making them:** Rub the fat into the flour and salt, until it has disappeared. Meanwhile warm the milk to barely tepid with the sugar, and then whisk in the yeast. Allow to start working until frothy, then pour into the flour mix and bring together. Tip onto a lightly floured surface and start to knead. This will take approx 8 - 10 mins until smooth and the dough jumps back after poking your finger in it. Or, like me with arthritic fingers, you can use a machine with a dough hook!! Cover with lightly oiled cling film, then leave and go off to do your shopping! When it is doubled in size [depends on the temperature of the room - these took just over an hour in my warm kitchen], tip back onto the surface and knead again to knock out the air.

**Baking them:** Divide into 20. - just over 2 oz each. I use a digital flat scale with a plate on top to weigh. Shape into splits and place on a lightly oiled baking sheet. Put to rise again for about 30 minutes.

**Bake** in a hot fan oven - 190 deg C for about 15 minutes. Cool on a rack, then enjoy!!!



Thanks to *Recipes from a Cornish Kitchen*:  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067742208456>

Metric conversion chart:

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/sites/default/files/healtheating/pdf/imperial-metric-conversions.pdf>

## **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: **getting accomodation**

From Go Cornish KLUB KERNOW 1.4 Orright?  
A practice script –

Receptionist: *Dydh da* [Hello – lit. good-day]

Visitor: *Dydh da* [Hello]

Receptionist: *Fatla genowgh hwi?* [How are you?]

Visitor: *Da lowr, meur ras. Fatla genes?* [Ok, thanks. How are you?]

Receptionist: *Pur dha, meur ras. A allav vy dha weres?* [Very good, thank you. Can I help you?]

Visitor: *Res yw dhymm trovya stevel tri hans ha peswardhek* [I need to find room 314]

Receptionist: *A-ugh an grisow hag a dhyghow* [Up the stairs and on the right]

Visitor: *Meur ras. Dha weles* [Thanks. See you]

Receptionist: *Wolkom os ta. Duw genes* [You're welcome. Goodbye]

Video (youtube) and audio online:

<https://youtu.be/3-28Y5klhko>

<https://gocornish.org/resource/klub-kernow/>



### **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)

## **Sayings** – Wise words on Ageing

*"First you forget names, then you forget faces, then you forget to pull your zipper up, then you forget to pull your zipper down."* – Leo Rosenberg

**Dates coming up ...** Feast day of St Euny 1<sup>st</sup> Feb, Perrantide First week of March, St Piran's Day 5<sup>th</sup> March

**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 408 due for the months of March / April, 2024 has a copy deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2024*

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



Oh, dear!



### **Nr. 407 LYTHER NOWODHOW – NSW**

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## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2023

## CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF NSW

## Income &amp; Expenditure Statement for 2023 - as at 31/12/2023

This Year		Comparisons →			
INCOME	\$ 2023	2022	Change %	2021	Notes
Membership Subscriptions	\$655.00	\$720.00	-9%	\$690.00	2020 – moratorium.
Fund Raising / Functions					
Fund raising	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Other than donations eg. Raffles, sale leftover pasties
Functions	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Functions, meetings, dinners, lunches, events
Major functions	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	eg. in past Heritage Weekends 1994, 96, 98; 25YD '00
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Sales	\$0.00	\$215.50	-100%	\$155.00	No Sales income (2023) 2022 is 1 off Celtic Festival GI)
Donations	\$200.00	\$45.00	344%	\$245.00	Monetary donations only - not 'in kind'/services
Projects / Other					
Operating	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	eg. bank Interest only when given
Project/s	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Special projects: eg Drought, Qld Stones, Byng Church
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$855.00</b>	<b>\$980.50</b>	<b>-13%</b>	<b>\$1,090.00</b>	2020 – Moratorium on subs, and Covid closedown

EXPENDITURE	2022	2022	Change %	2021	
Newsletter	\$250.80	\$359.80	-30%	\$961.03	Newsletter print/postage (incl. Env Advance purchases)
Functions / Fund Raising					
Fund Raising	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Prizes etc.
Functions	\$45.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Gross costs (includes RELC meetings tea / coffee)
Major events eg. CHW/	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Total	\$45.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Actual cost of sales items obtained
Operating & Projects					
Misc Operating	\$600.00	\$85.80	599%	\$311.65	Incl 2xAGM Room hire, t&c, Non newsletter postage, printing, web site etc.
Affiliations	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00	Celtic Council Reps subsidy
Materials & Equip	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Project	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Projects: eg Byng Chapel, Qld Stones; Drought Appeal
Total	\$600.00	\$85.80	599%	\$311.65	
Charges / Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	Bank / Govt charges etc.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$895.80</b>	<b>\$445.60</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>\$1,272.68</b>	

OPERATING RESULT ON YEAR (- deficit)	-\$40.80	\$534.90	-108%	-\$182.68	Please note Assets & Liabilities below!
Result on accrual basis	301.70				Due to late payment 2023 & advance payment for 2024 AGM

## Partial Balance Sheet \* - Statement as at 31/12/23

ASSETS	2023	2022	Change %	2021	
Balance at bank 31/12/23	7,431.59	7,472.49	-0.5%	6,937.39	As per Westpac Bank Statement
Secretary's Kitty - at 31/12/23	0.00	0.00		0.00	No advance – in debit – recoup of costs owing to Sec
Cash/chqs at hand as at 31/12/23	15.00	50.00		0.00	Any cheques & cash 'in hand' 31/12 not banked
Current assets - debtors etc.	342.50	0.00		0.00	Debtors - RELC AGM '24 Deposit
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,789.09</b>	<b>7,522.49</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>6,937.39</b>	

## LESS

LIABILITIES	2022	2022	Change %	2021	
Unpresented cheques	0.00	280.00	0%	0.00	
Misc liabilities - to be paid	342.50	0.00	0%	0.00	Money we owe (other than kitty) RELC AGM '24 payment
<b>Total</b>	<b>342.50</b>	<b>280.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION ('net worth')</b>	<b>\$7,446.59</b>	<b>\$7,242.49</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>\$6,937.39</b>	<b>On a partial accrual basis only *</b>

\* excludes value of Library, held Sales items, Equip/Stock

## E&amp;OE

This is the official Statement of Accounts of the CANSW for year ending 31/12/2022 in accordance with the Rules of the Association.

J.P.Dunkerley      Honorary Treasurer, CANSW  
(Received and reviewing by the Committee as at 6/1/2024 \*)  
For report, receipt, discussion, adoption at the AGM 2/3/2024

06/01/24

