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No. 408

March / April, 2024

ISSN 1321-3199

Also lodged with: <https://ned.gov.au/>
Circulation: approx. 140

Newsletter of the Cornish Association of **New South Wales**

50th AGM / JUBILEE Sat 8 March, 2025

PROGRAM

 *Zoom Keskows* - Seasonal
Online ZOOM 'tea & cake' chats
Autumn 'colours' - 3pm Sunday 12 May
Winter 'chills' - late July

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

Events in Planning so far

 **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. Our guardians of the Stones also have events. Ring/email Joy please if you are likely to attend this year to arrange meeting up and to pass on updates.

Festival info & bookings now! Accommodation is tight – please follow up now!

[2025 is year of Brittany, Cornwall and Wales]

<https://www.australiancelticfestival.com>

Visitor Information office:

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

KEEP WATCH FOR

 **END OF YEAR LUNCH – NOVEMBER, 2024**



PAST EVENTS

Our 49th AGM and St Piran's Celebration

was held on Saturday 2nd March, at West Ryde. After most gathered for an informal bistro meal, our AGM was held – details of which are published next page.



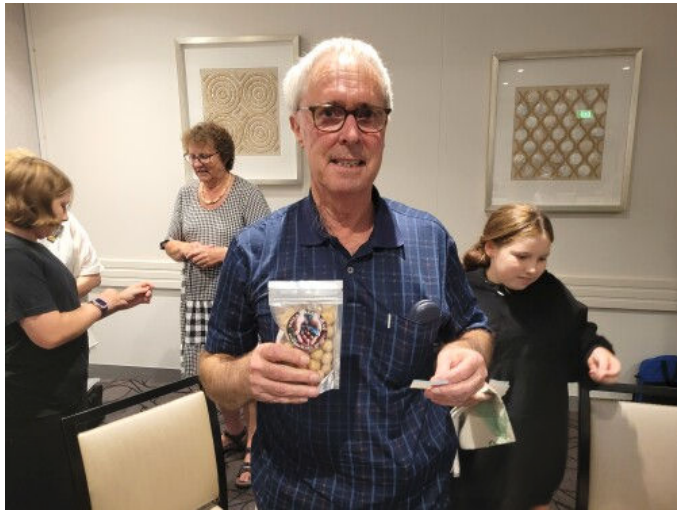
It was also great to have time afterwards to have some chat, fun, learning, and challenges. We heard about our patron saint St Piran and the theories and stories about him. Lucky door prize and sales items were organised by Del Clinton – thanks for your work for the day.

Past events continued ... St Pirans Celebration:

We were also challenged by a quiz kindly put together and run by Pamela O'Neill, heard some lovely music from John Coombs and singing by Jaqueline Belliu. We even spoke a few words of the Cornish language in a 'taster' session. Join us next year, our Jubilee (50th)



Lucky door prize winner – Harvey Langford



First prize winner in the Quiz – John Coombs

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2024/20245 fell due from the 3rd March, 2024

IMPORTANT: Renewal forms have sent out with this newsletter to paper copy receivers to those now due. Those who are already recorded as financial will not receive one. An email will also be sent to those now due who are getting the newsletter electronically.

Sending the form to us, by post or email/SMS helps ensure our records are up to date. Please also let us know of address and/or email changes as they occur.

49th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

We had 16 members present (or on Zoom), and 13 apologies for our AGM on Saturday 2nd March at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde. Thanks for your continued interest and support.

REPORTS

President's Report (2023/24):

Thank you for the honour of being your President for the past year (my 17th).

Lovely to have a small group join me at Glen Innes for the Celtic Festival, some members gather together at Circular Quay in November for lunch, and I met up with Cornish Assoc of SA members in Adelaide in November.

Some personal highlights have been representing the Association at Glen Innes and the contact with some members by phone, email, zoom, and even face to face. Welcome again to our new members who joined during the year.

Sadly we lost four members in 2023/24 (Des Ellery, and 3 Cornish born members – founder member and past President and Bard Russell Cocks, Bard Sonia Reuter, and Dolores Reseigh).

Thanks to Del Clinton for organising the lunch, and all the extra efforts. Thanks to my Deputy Presidents, our Secretary and members of the Committee, for their cooperation, support and friendship. The stone monument that we sponsored for \$200 many years ago, was at last erected in Brisbane and I visited it last month.

It is our 49th anniversary on 16th April. I look forward to our Jubilee (our 50th) and ask you for ideas on how to mark it - we are looking at a plaque at Glen Innes, and a special publication or newsletter! Please volunteer for your Committee or nominate someone.

Keep on the lookout for new members – personal contact is the best recruiter. Thank you. *Joy Dunkerley 2/3/2024*

Treasurer's Report for 2023

The financial Statement of Accounts for our calendar based financial year of 2023 has been completed. A copy was circulated with your

January / February Newsletter. A document is available showing itemised transaction listings.

The Statement consisting of the Income & Expenditure Statement and a partial Balance Sheet was prepared in accordance with the Rules of Association, signed by me as Honorary Treasurer, and circulated to and adopted by the Committee as at 14 January 2024.

It is submitted for formal receipt by this AGM meeting. I therefore move receipt, and in so doing make the following report:

The gross operating result thus was a small deficit for the year of \$40.80*

Income for the year 2023 was \$855 and expenditure \$895.80

In the indicative partial Balance Sheet our current Assets increased by 4% to \$7,789.09 while Liabilities were \$342.50 – therefore current net worth at 31/12/23 was \$7,446.59.

Special notes to these accounts: No pre-paid envelopes or labels were ought last year and this is expected to impact 2024 in the order of an additional \$690 expense. Note: any accounting value of non-current assets (library, sales stock, and misc equipment, etc) is not included. Some 17 members (down from previous 21) had not paid due fees by the end of 2023 which impacted income and bank a/c and we had no sales income. Thankfully however a number of very generous members made cash donations.

The current account (bank) balance at 31/12/2023 was \$7,431.59

During the year we were able to switch on our Westpac A/C to make online payments 'out', 3 of which have now been made. Cheques & cash 'in' are deposited about once a month up in Coffs Harbour.

We are still in an excellent state financially, despite the unpaid fees. The Committee has retained the membership subscription fee at \$15 for at least another year; and this is due from the conclusion of this Annual General Meeting.

Note: The \$15.00 fee has been held now for an amazing 25 years - to allow all who wish to be members to do so, and is thus great value. I can take your subs, with a renewal form please, today, as quickly as you can - after the AGM!

Thank you, and are there any questions for me or the Committee on the accounts or my report? Would someone please formally second the receipt of the financial statement and adoption of this report? *Joy Dunkerley*
Hon. Treasurer 2/03/2024

Secretary's Report 2023/24

It was my 38th year as Secretary, and 43rd as a member! My personal health – stomach cancer, chemo, surgery, and recovery – obviously limited me. However as well as the AGM, we had two brief Committee meetings (by Zoom) and email / phone contact. For those members who can use Zoom we had four (4) Zoom 'get togethers' on a seasonal basis. Feedback welcome!

Our membership number is steady at 58 fully financial households (with new memberships balanced by deaths sadly). Six (6) of these are Life memberships and thirteen (13) have actually paid in advance.

There are 75 household memberships in total covering nearly 120 people, but alas 17 of these memberships are non-financial [2 for 1 year, 4 for 2 years, but oddly 11 for 3 years]. Whilst people are only dropped from our database when they 'resign', lose contact, or we are advised of their death, the Committee will have to soon consider what to do in relation to those so far non-financial].

Only 43% (32) of our households are from metropolitan Sydney itself, with 46% (35) in other NSW areas, and 11% (8) interstate or overseas - so we must think of our activities as a state-wide organisation.

We obviously want more new members, and active ones, to remain a viable association – personal contact is key - we all are crucial to this. I can send you flyers and/or cards to use with interested people.

Our key communication, Six (6) newsletters were again issued during the year; plus a number of Emails. As said, four (4) Zoom meetings. Input from members is very welcome. Whilst on communications, 8 of our members do not have, or haven't given us, an email address. Special contact is sometimes needed.

As Editor I report that our 8 page Newsletters go out printed, in the post, to 30; but by email to 45 memberships (thanks for that cost saving). Many more .pdf newsletters are emailed to interested organisations, media, and our contacts across the world. Current print run is 40; with printed copies also lodged under ISSN with the National Library in Canberra and NSW State Library. An electronic copy is also now lodged under NED with the National Library.

Our web pages are kept reasonably up to date, but issues are arising – so I plan to undertake a progressive major underlying rebuild over the next year, leading up to our Jubilee - as much of it's structure goes back over 2 decades. Then content can be improved. I am also informally involved as an admin on *Cornish Downunder* Facebook page (with a CAV member) and our content can be placed before over 750 people there. Contact with fellow Cornish Associations in Australia, and groups and individuals world-wide, was kept up.

Thanks to all those members who contribute or give feedback - and special thanks to Del Clinton for function organisation and ringing around, with the sales items, and wise input. Thank you to all the Office bearers Committee, and particularly to Joy, for their support, trust and patience.

Chris Dunkerley, Hon. Secretary 02/03/2024

Elections

COMMITTEE for 2024/25

Elected Office Bearers:

President - Joy Dunkerley of Sawtell (0428 617 830) joy.dunkerley@gmail.com.au

Secretary - Chris Dunkerley (0409 393 059; Ph 02 6699 2967) Sawtell ;

kevrenor@ozemail.com.au

(also + Celtic Council)

Treasurer - Joy Dunkerley (+Celtic Council)

The other 10 Committee members elected:

General -

- Jane Donnelly (0433 385 633) of Wareemba janedonnelly27@gmail.com

- David Wilks of Teralba (0432 534 409) davidnrose@optusnet.com.au

- Bruce & Debbie Champion of Constitution Hill (029636 6880) virdgeo@icloud.com

- Sue Thomas of Barrington (02 6558 4132) (+ Celtic Council rep.)

Council) thomascornwall@bigpond.com
- Cathy Olds of Mereweather (0438 613 373) cathyolds@hotmail.com

Specially appointed from those Committee elected at the AGM, to a pro-tem role to assist the President as needed:

Deputy President – Del Clinton of Elderslie / Sussex Inlet – (Email: delclinton@hotmail.com Ph: Elderslie: 02 4658 1925)

Deputy President – Pamela O'Neill of Glen Innes (0498 859 049) pamaladh@gmail.com

Deputy President – David Evans (02 4360 2107) of Pretty Beach adevans@tpg.com.au

Other Ex Officio members:

(Celtic Council reps – up to 5) Chris Dunkerley (DP), Joy Dunkerley, Sue Thomas, and Jacqueline Belliu (0484 698 505) of Narraweena Jaclugh_2@gmail.com

[Another may be co-opted by Committee]

For appointment at first committee meeting:

Editor, Minutes Secretary (both currently Chris Dunkerley) and Family History interest contact: currently Doreen Davis,

email: doreen.davis11@bigpond.com

Committee News:

Bank account balance at 18/3/24: \$7,088.89

[As foreshadowed at the AGM an expense of \$690 has now occurred for 500 prepaid DL envelopes from Australia Post for newsletter and general postage – this will last us well over 2 years, and as well as a bulk discount, pre-empts a price increase announced for later this year]

Income & Exp. 1st Qtr: Income \$388 (Subs so far \$225, Donations \$80, Sales \$83), Expenses (Newsletter \$670 env + \$40.70 print, Op Ex \$20) = \$ 342.70 deficit so far

Progress has been made on firming up wording and locating a stone/s for the Jubilee Placque.

The new committee is expected to meet via Zoom in April.

“Thank you for entrusting me with the presidency again (18th year)! Lovely meeting up again with those there on AGM day. Yes, I do enjoy meeting members, around the state, and on a road trip to Qld in February we were able to meet members Petar and Jess Grulovic, of Glencoe (near Glen Innes). They run the Red Lion which serves real Celtic fare, including meals and proper Cornish cider, gin, and other

delights. If you are travelling the New England Highway up there from Friday to Sunday night, do plan to call in for a meal (and drinks – but you better have a designated driver).



Following the AGM we visited Byng, to check how things are there now in 2024, and to locate some possible stones to go with the proposed 50th year plaque at Glen Innes. Photos are available. Hope to see some of you at Glen Innes, and via zoom, in May”. Joy Dunkerley, President.

MEMBERS MILESTONES

VALE Sonia Reuter (Myrgh Resrudh) died January 2024. [At front of photo below]



A member of the CANSW for nearly 2 decades Sonia was Cornish born, and was Barded in 2016 at St Keverne for her work for Cornwall in

Australia, with the Bardic name Myrgh Resrudh (meaning daughter of Redruth). Married to Rick Reuter for 49 years.

She was a founding member of the former Southern Sons of Cornwall, a Life member (SSOC), and including time as Secretary working hard for Kernow and never lost her Cornish accent. Our condolences to her family and friends and her Cornish ‘cousins’ on the Shoalhaven.

NEW MEMBER

Jacqueline Belliu of Narraweena. Interest – music. Welcome.

Congratulations to all those with birthdays or anniversaries during March & April. Congratulations and best wishes to Kerensa Dunkerley who is due to marry Morgan Frew on Friday 12th April.

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

QUOTE

"The Cornish being a race of men stout of stomach, mighty of body and limb, and that lives hardly in a barren country, and many of them could for a need live underground that were Tinnens." – ‘Francis Bacon, Life of Henry V11’, 1621-22

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 3. Names taken from occupations

A few names are taken from occupations, all to do with the primary occupations of the community eg.

DYER – from Cornish *tyor*, thatcher

LAITY – *leth-ty*, milkhouse, hence dairyman

TRAHAIR – *tregher*, cutter / tailor

MARHACK – *marghek*, rider or knight

ANGOVE – an-gof, the smith (eg. blacksmith) [Angove wines, SA]

HELLYER – helghyer, hunter

Part 4 next time

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

NEWS



Photo: BBC Molly Caudery, Pole Vaulter, from Redruth

24 year old Molly Caudery Pole Vaulter gained the Silver in the 2022 Commonwealth Game, and is now aiming for 2024 Olympics Gold. She is currently the world indoor champion/gold medalist Molly was born in Truro and lives in Redruth, Cornwall.



Max Morrison (above in the new coat) was only 17 when he became Redruth's new Town Crier and inherited a rather drab coat, which had served well for many years, but seen much better days ... but many sizes too big, covered in now tatty gilt braid. The artists of Redruth have got together and are creating a beautiful, contemporary new coat that will, in time, be covered with many embroidered images of Redruth stories and characters.

Max wore the new Redruth Town Crier Storycoat for the first time today as part of the St Piran's Day celebrations. The artists' seven story patches were on display, with many more to come in the future months, years, decades... You won't always see the lining of the coat when Max is in action as Redruth's Town Crier. It's a truly amazing combination of research, gifts of images from people who know and love Redruth, and Tony Minnion's art.

<http://www.perthikov.org.uk>



Photo: Joy Dunkerley inspecting the Brisbane Celtic Nations Standing Stones, at Auchenflower in February, as reported to the AGM. A donation of \$200 from our association to the Celtic Council of Qld some years ago helped a little in getting them erected. They honour the Celtic people who settled in Qld, including of course we Cornish. Qld Cornish people also contributed. If you wish to visit, they are in a park behind Wesley Hospital and

the railway station, and a few blocks east of Regatta Ferry wharf.

Archaeology from 2020-24 upgrade of the A30 between Chiverton and Carland Cross

Evidence of 10,000 years of Cornish history has been unearthed by Cornwall Council's Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) during the work to upgrade the A30 between Chiverton and Carland Cross. Among the finds were tool preparation areas from the Mesolithic period, a Bronze Age burial mound, and evidence of Roman road construction.

The remains encountered span 10,000 years of Cornish history, from the first Mesolithic hunter-gathers re-populating the landscape following the end of the last ice age to relics of the 20th Century's Cold War.

Perhaps the most significant finds were the earliest. At Ventonteague, just west of Carland Cross, the team found a huge scatter of flint tools and waste, marking an area where people had gathered for millennia to prepare tools from flint pebbles carried up from the north coast, which at that time would have been 10 or 20 miles further north than the current coastline.

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

John Coulson Tregarthen - Fellow of The Zoological Society of London – mathematician, educator, naturalist. Described as “the best loved Cornishman of his time”. John was born in Penzance on 9th September, 1854, the son of James Tregarthen of St Mary's, Isles of Scilly / and Morrab Road, Penzance, and Susan Bevan, the daughter of John Coulson of Penzance.

He was educated at Penzance Grammar School and Wren's, and graduated with Mathematical Honours from London University in 1878.

The following year he was appointed Mathematical Master at Trinity College School, a grammar school in Stratford-on-Avon. Coulson bought the school within a few years and was its headmaster for six years, from

1885–1900. In his late forties he sold the school to Marie Corelli and retired back to Cornwall. Here the energetic Tregarthen was able to pursue his naturalist interests fully, and began to write about the wildlife he saw around him. Corelli was soon to become his mentor, recommending him to her publisher, John Murray, and Tregarthen subsequently was to dedicate many of his books to her.

Tregarthen was President of the Midland Cornish Association in 1901, President of the Royal Institution of Cornwall (1927–29), a Fellow of the Zoological Society, a county councillor and JP, and was made a bard of Gorseth Kernow in 1928, taking the bardic name Mylgarer – ‘Lover of Wild Animals’.

In 1881 Tregarthen married Rose, the youngest daughter of W. Huntley Bailey of Maida Vale; they had one son. Tregarthen spent his final years at his house, “Rosemorran”, which is in Edgecumbe Gardens, Newquay, Cornwall. He was the author of eight books (such as “The Life Story of an Otter (1909)”). He died on 17th February 1933 and was buried at St Columb Minor, Cornwall.

FEATURE STORIES

Our Cornish Places Sunny Corner, NSW

Sunny Corner is a small village in the central west of NSW and a former mining area located between Lithgow and Bathurst just north of the Great Western Highway (Route 32), at an altitude of 1,200 metres (3,900ft). At the 2016 census, Sunny Corner had a population of 92 people (down from 626 people ten years earlier at the 2006 census, and a reported ‘over 1,600’ in 1886). It was never officially known as Sunny Corner until it was gazetted in 1885. In consequence the place was brought into existence by the development and success of the Sunny Corner Silver-mining Company's mine, perhaps named after Sunny Corner near Gwennap.



Cornish style Ore Stamps, Sunny Corner (2024)

The township was also called Mitchell's Creek but the local community always called the area Sunny Corner and the name continued in use. The original inhabitants of the area later called Sunny Corner were probably Wiradjuri people.

Silver, gold, zinc and antimony were mined between 1875 and 1922. Despite the mine closing over 100 years ago, the Sunny Corner mine area environment remains toxic.

Although not exclusively Cornish the mining area shows signs of their key presence, including the Ore Stamps and what could be the remains of a Cornish Buddle.



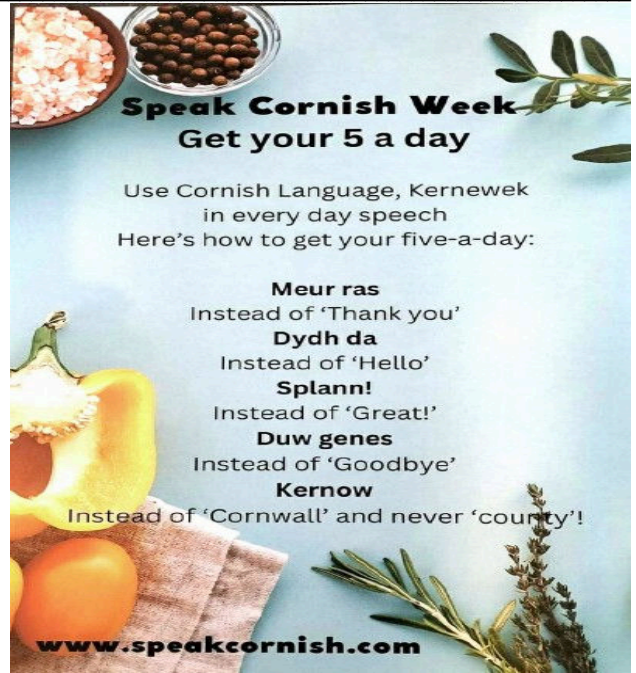
PLAS AN TAVES

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: Speak Cornish Week, coming up in May!



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

Sayings - Wise words on Ageing

"When I was young, I was called a rugged individualist. When I was in my fifties, I was considered eccentric. Here I am doing and saying the same things I did then, and I'm labeled senile." - George Burns

Dates coming up ... *Feast day of St Enoder 27th April, Trevithick Day 25th April Camborne*

Editorial note: 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! Note: With this you will also receive a copy of the Members List. This includes all those considered members, whether financial or not. Check it and let us know of any corrections, or recent changes!

The next Newsletter: No 409 due for the months of May / June, 2024 - copy deadline Frid. 10 May, 2024 Contributions, which may be held for future use - electronic – emailed - preferred) are welcome!

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