

President & Treasurer: Joy Dunkerley (0428 617 830) C.y.C, Bard (Cherya) Email joy.dunkerley@gmail.com
Secretary: Chris Dunkerley C.y.C, Bard (Kevrenor) Email kevrenor@gmail.com
ASSOCIATION POSTAL ADDRESS: c/o 34 CIRCULAR AVE, SAWTELL NSW 2452, Australia
Phone Contact: Mobile 0409 393 059 (OR landline 02 6699 2967) Contact E-mail: secretary@cornishnsw.org
Web Pages: www.cornishnsw.org



No. 416

May / June, 2025

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' chats &
news**

Winter chills - July 2025

Spring has sprung – October 2025

Date/Time and Zoom links will be emailed a week prior.

[Requests for special days / times welcome]

FESTIVALS 2026

Australian Celtic Festival

Glen Innes NSW

The Year of Scotland

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd May, 2026



Visitor Information office:

<https://www.australiancelticfestival.com>

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

NOT YET PAID MEMBERSHIP?

Those receiving your newsletter by post (and IF still recorded as DUE - you will get a reminder on this newsletter & a paper renewal form included.

Those by email, if recorded as DUE, will get a reminder email with a form.

<https://cornishnsw.org/Misc/>

[CANSW 2025 2026 membform.pdf](#)

Instructions are on the forms. Thank You!

[ps. Let us know if we have it wrong!]

PREVIOUS EVENTS

Zoom – 16th April 2025 [10 on line and 3 apologies]. 50th year toasted & plaque 'unveiled']



AGM 8 March 2025 - REPORT EXTRACTS

CANSW Treasurer's Report for 2024

The financial Statement of Accounts for our calendar based financial year of 2024 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 12 January 2025.

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 deficit for the year of \$821.48*

Income for the year 2024 was \$1,098 and expenditure \$1,919.48

cont. over..

Cont ...

In the indicative partial Balance Sheet our current **Assets** decreased by 10% to **\$7,020.21** while **Liabilities** were **\$395.00** – therefore current **net worth** at 31/12/24 was **\$6,625.21**

*** Special notes to these accounts:** 1. 500 post pre-paid envelopes were bought in 2024 year - an additional \$690 expense (these last 2-3 years). 2. Once off net payment for 50 Year Wall Plaque of \$441.08. The deficit is within our expected 2024 budget.

The **current account** (bank) balance at 31/12/2024 was **\$6,610.21**

Westpac A/C online payments now replace cheques. Cheques & cash 'in' can still be received and are deposited in deposit ATM about once a month up in Coffs Harbour.

We are still in an excellent state financially. 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 26 years - to allow all who wish to be members to do so, and is thus great value.

Joy Dunkerley
Hon. Treasurer 8/03/2025

Secretary's Report 2024/25

It was my 39th year as Secretary, and 44th as a member! My personal health – cancer return and chemo has obviously limited me these last months. As well as the AGM, we had one brief Committee meetings (by Zoom) and email / phone contact. For those members who can use Zoom we had four (4) Zoom tea and chat 'get togethers' on a seasonal basis. Feedback welcome!

Our membership number is now 66 households. Six (6) of these are Life memberships. Four new households joined us. During 2024 dormant memberships unfinancial more than 2 years were culled as decided by Committee, thus the drop from 75.

Only 45% (30) of our households are from metropolitan Sydney itself, with 40% (26) in other NSW areas, and 15% (10) interstate (QLD/ACT) 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 have here, and 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, eight (8) of our members do not have, or haven't given us, an email address. Special contact is sometimes needed.

Last AGM I told you that our web pages needed a progressive major underlying rebuild over the next year, leading up to our Jubilee - as much of it's structure goes back over 3 decades and sat on 3 sites. This major work is 99% complete and I commend it to you! Take a look - explore. Soon content can be added and improved – your help will aid that!

As Editor I report that our 8 page Newsletters go out printed, in the post, to 24 members; but by email to 42 (thanks for that cost saving). Dozens more .pdf newsletters are emailed to interested organisations, media, and our contacts across the world. Current print run is 35; 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, as seen via TROVE.

I am also informally involved as an admin on *Cornish Downunder* Facebook page (with a CAV member) and our news can be placed before 816 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 for function organisation and ringing around, with the sales items, and wise input.

Thank you to all the Committee, and particularly to Joy, for their support, trust and patience.

Chris Dunkerley 08/03/2025

AUSTRALIAN CELTIC FESTIVAL 2025 - GLEN INNES, NSW

The 33rd Australian Celtic festival was held on the first weekend in May. The Cornish have been at every one, and this one was no exception! We had 16 members there over the weekend – well done! It was the Year of Brittany – Cornwall – and Wales (the brythonic trio). Because of this we were blessed with the visit of Hilary Coleman and Neil Davey (performing as Dalla Duo) who were official Cornish Guests.



CANSW Deputy Pres. Dr Pamela O'Neill, with Neil and Hilary, before the opening ceremony.



After the Street Parade, 20+ marchers from NSW, Qld, SA and Cornwall - plus Mayor of Glen Innes-Severn, Cllr Margot Davis.



President Joy Dunkerley at the unveiling



CANSW Members from Qld, Josephine and James Polmeer, resplendent in Cornish National Tartan, before the Street Parade (with Chris Dunkerley)



3 Stones from Byng, and the coloured plaque.



Pamela, Matt, Francis, Poppy, Chris, Don & Lowenna

Of course of the special events of this festival for our Association was the unveiling of the 50 Year Jubilee Plaque, in the 'Family Wall'. More details on the plaque are contained on the last page of Newsletter 415.

The three photos above are:

1. President Joy Dunkerley in the process of unveiling the plaque.
2. The Plaque and it's related Stones
3. Some of the Cornish from NSW and SA who witnessed and celebrated the unveiling



CANSW Committee member David Wilks playing with Dalla during the festival



Joy (above) won the cooking contest for Ginger Fairings



Above: Saying goodbye is hard to do, esp. when many life around the state and we see them once a year – above, here fare-welling our long time members from Inverell, Don and Barbara Tom.



Above: It was great to share the limelight with our Breton and Welsh cousins. Our combined group presented a unified presence in the Street parade, and through the festival.



Above: We did have our own Ceremony, the 27th Cornish Stone Ceremony in front of 50+ audience – and it was great to Dalla Duo, and Matt & Margaret Curnow from the Cornish Assoc of SA, with us.

Committee News:

Bank account balance at 30/4/25: \$6,982.71

"I very much enjoyed getting together with those members at Glen Innes, unveiling our 50 year plaque, and there as the Cornish Guardian of the Stones. A trip to SA for the Kernewek Lowender coming up - was a near run thing between Chris' medicals. Joy Dunkerley, President.

MEMBERS MILESTONES

Congratulations to all those with birthdays or anniversaries during May & June.

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

Chris Dunkerley is still continuing Chemo treatment for his Cancer until end May, with positive signs! Immunotherapy long term.

NEWS

TRURO City

Football Club promoted:

Truro City FC make Cornish football history - the first club ever from Cornwall to win promotion to the National League. Read more here: <https://bbc.in/42GtD05> Truro City were champions of the National Southern League. The National league is the 5th highest league behind the EPL, Championship, League 1 & League 2. For the past few seasons Truro has had to use other grounds as their ground was sold by the owners, using grounds in Torquay, Plymouth & Gloucester. This season the new Stadium of Cornwall has been their new home.

KERDROYA

A new landscape art installation in Cornwall has had thousands of visitors since it opened, the site's managers have said.

Kerdroya, a labyrinth on Bodmin Moor made of nearly 450m (1475ft) of Cornish hedging - which combines stone and vegetation, was opened on 21 March. South West Lakes Trust (SWLT), which manages the site, said 5,949 visitors had visited the site up to 8 April, 2025



The monument's creator, Will Coleman, spent five years developing the project - which is made of more than 140,000 granite stones – it is said; there is no need for rush for people to visit Kerdroya; as it was going to be in place "for the next 4,000 years".

Mr Coleman said the labyrinth was "a tribute to Cornwall's timeless craft of stone hedging", which was "a tradition as enduring as the granite kingdom itself". The project was built by master craftsmen and apprentices as a way to pass on traditional stone hedging techniques. "Every stone laid carries a story," Mr Coleman said. Former apprentice James Sampson said: "The structure is going to be there for hundreds of years and it helps with all the habitats and the environment - lots of different aspects to it, it's not just a hedge."



At the heart of Kerdroya is a metal art installation that reflects the shape of the labyrinth and has been crafted by Thomas and Gary Thrussell, father and son metal artists, who live half a mile away from the site. Thomas Thrussell said: "The rainwater fills it and over time it will overflow to the middle and as it empties it goes round the labyrinth itself, so it's a point to ponder and think about the journey you have just been on."

'KING ARTHURS' HALL

A Neolithic site on Bodmin Moor much, much older than its name.



An historic site in Cornwall linked centuries ago to the legendary King Arthur has been found to be up to five times older than previously thought after a new survey was carried out. Historic England (sic) said the findings of the dig at King Arthur's Hall, on Bodmin/Fowey Moor, were the first to confirm the site dated back to prehistoric times. The monument was previously listed as dating back to the medieval period but it is now believed to date back 4,000 years earlier to the Neolithic period by a group of specialists from UK universities.

Dr Tim Kinnaird, from the University of St Andrews, said the findings were a "major revelation". He said archaeologists would "now have to re-appraise our understanding of the prehistoric landscape of Bodmin Moor". "It's extremely exciting that we've finally been able to date construction of this enigmatic monument, previously grounded in myths and legends," he said.

Archaeologists from UK universities were joined by local volunteers for the dig. There had been speculation the site dated back to prehistoric times because of its standing stones, but the new survey was the first to confirm this. Researchers working on behalf of the Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) were joined by volunteers for the dig, which began in 2022. Samples taken from the monument, including pollen, insects and parasite eggs, were radiocarbon dated. The results were combined with other dating techniques, such as Optically Stimulated Luminescence, to give a date of between 5,500 and 5,000 years ago.

Geological examination of the standing stones suggested they came "from within 250m (820 feet) of the site and were possibly dug out from the interior rather than from a distant tor. James Gossip, from the CAU, said the site had been used and upgraded at various times in its history, up to the medieval period.

"Knowing when 'King Arthur's Hall' was built will help us understand this unique monument form better, how it might have originally been used and how it could have been used over time," he said. He said the findings would help answer questions such as whether the stones were "placed there at the time of building or later in prehistory" and if the site was used "as an animal pound or reservoir".

FEATURE STORIES

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

An ongoing series – Governors of NSW, with Cornish Connections - Part 4

'Son of the sea' - Hon. Rear Admiral Sir David James Martin 1989-1990 – Governor No. 34

David Martin was born on 15 April 1933 in a private hospital at Darling Point, Sydney, the only child of Sydney waterside (Drummoyne) born parents Commander William Harold Martin, a Royal Australian Navy (RAN) officer, and his wife Isla Estelle, née Murray. Tantalisingly David was described as being born "yellow as saffron".

His paternal grandparents carried the solidly Cornish surnames of William T Martin and Ada, nee Jenkin. David's Cornish connection and bold inclusion here is thus also by inference, having failed so far to identify the paternal family's detailed links.



His father was killed in action on 1 March 1942 when the cruiser HMAS *Perth* was sunk at the battle of Sunda Strait, when David was still only 8. [Interestingly the memorial service was at Plymouth Naval Memorial, Plymouth, Devon, far from the Sunda Strait]. David was educated at Scots College, Sydney, and in 1947 entered the Royal Australian Naval College, Flinders Naval Depot, Westernport, Victoria, as a Cadet Midshipman. 41 years later after a distinguished naval career he retired with the rank of Rear Admiral. On 5 January 1957 Martin had married Suzanne Milleur at All Saints Church of England, Willaura, Victoria, and they had three daughters and a son.

Later in 1988 Martin received the New South Wales Father of the Year Award and in August he accepted the government's offer to become the State's 34th Governor. Sworn in on 20 January 1989, he was the first former RAN officer to hold the position. His governorship was marked by less formality, but retained the pomp and ceremony. Charismatic, yet able to put people at ease, Sir David became hugely popular and was dubbed the people's governor by the media. In 1990 he had been diagnosed with mesothelioma, from asbestos in navy ships. On 7th August 1990 his term was cut short by this very illness, resigning, and only three days later on 10 August he died aged 57.

Of note also is that David Martin was descended on his mother's line from First Fleet

Marine Lieutenant George Johnston, a Scot, who as we have seen later quarrelled with both King and Bligh when those Governors appeared to intrude into military administration, and as commander of the NSW Corp had a hand in Bligh's deposing, thus briefly became pro-tem 'Lieutenant Governor'.

No. 4 Governor David James Martin - end

Musings and conclusion

Four men of Cornish connection. What might be considered Cornish about them? None with any recent mining connection. Talented, committed, even tenacious - but each perhaps flawed more or less in their own way. What do their stories tell us? I suggest it simply shows that, along with the other stories shared at these Seminars over decades, we Cornish have had profound effects in many ways and across diverse areas and pastimes on this land and people. Certainly King, Bligh, Northcott, and Martin are all worthy of remembering, as our Cornish Australian journey continues.

Chris Dunkerley (Kevrenor) May 2023

SERIES END

QUOTE

"Reginald, son of the King, Earl of Cornwall to all the Barons of Cornwall and to all knights and to all freeholders and to all men both Cornish and English, greeting" – Earl Reginald, in a charter granted to the Burgesses of Truro, c. 1173.

CANSW Public & Members Web Pages:

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

Web page: <https://cornishnsw.org>

'Sites': <https://cornishnsw.org/nsw/Towns%20A-C/CANSWWelcome.html>

Download a digital copy of "CANSW - A Taste of our 50 years - Snapshots & Memories"

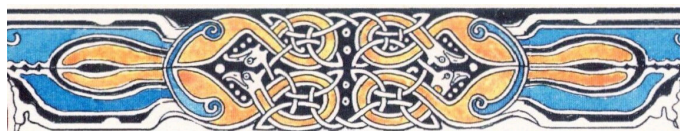
Best Wishes on our 50th:

We have received a number of best wishes and congratulations on making 50 years! Some ...

"Hello Cousin Jacks & Jenny, Congratulations on arriving at the 50th year celebration of your organisation! We know from our own experience how much work went into maintaining such a group. Our Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society has been in existence since 1991 and it has require much energy and dedication but given much pleasure and satisfaction! Congratulations..." Glen Ridour, Bard and President of SWCS.

".. Congratulations on the Association's 50th anniversary. It is a wonderful achievement and so good to read all your events and activities over the years. Best wishes from everyone at Kresen Kernow. Kim Cooper, Library Officer, Cornwall Council."

"Congratulations to the Cornish Association of NSW on your 50 year anniversary. Marion Howard, Bard Eos an Howledhas (Nightingale of the West)."



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!

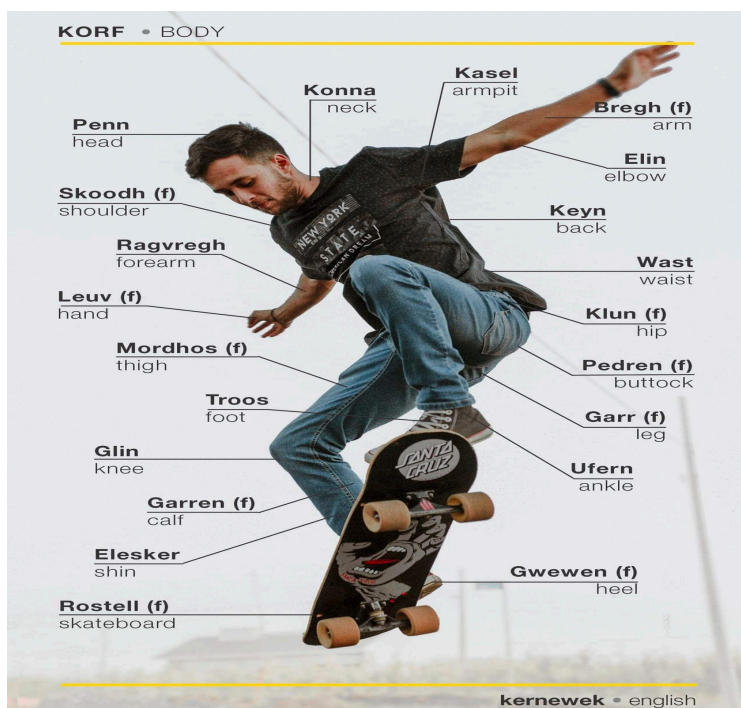
More: <https://www.cornishdictionary.org.uk>

In this issue you will learn about: Our body - Agan Korf

Sayings - Wise words on Ageing

"Aging seems to be the only available way to live a long life." - Kitty O'Neill Collins

Dates coming up ... Feast days of St Petroc, St Breaca 4th June, St Paul Aurelian 12th June, St Samson of Dol 23rd July.



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! *The next Newsletter: No 417 due for the months of , July / August 2025 - copy deadline 6 July.* Contributions, which may be held for future use - electronic – emailed - preferred) are welcome!

Nr. 416 LYTHER NOWODHOW – NSW

Editor: c/o 34 Circular Avenue, Sawtell, 2452 Phone: Mobile 0409 393 059 - or Landline Ph: 02 6699 2967

Email: secretary@cornishnsw.org OR Editor at kevrenor@gmail.com