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No. 418
September / October, 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 Kesrows - Seasonal
Online ZOOM 'tea & cake' chats
& news

Spring has sprung – October 2025
Summer zoom - January 2026

Date/Time and Zoom links will be emailed a week prior.
[Requests for special days / times welcome]

Later face to face functions to be decided.



UPCOMING FACE TO FACE EVENTS



Pre-Christmas Members & Friends Lunch

Thursday 27 November, 2025
(Provisional date & place – tbc)

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 has booked accomodation and expects she 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

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

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/>

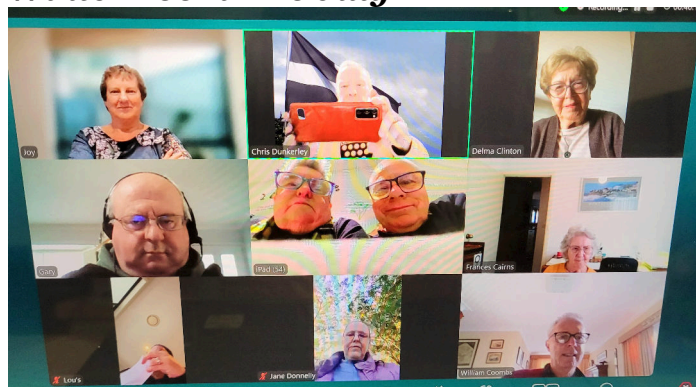
Committee News:

Bank account balance at 31/8/25: \$7, 204.76
Your committee met by Zoom on 26th July to confirm appointments, and set the lunch and AGM date(sat 7 March, 2026. Cost of extra Jubilee mugs reimbursed to Dunkerleys.

"I enjoyed meeting up again with the Champions who visited us in Sawtell. My knee surgery will hopefully still see me travelling to Sydney for the end of year / Christmas lunch, so hoping to see some of you there in November, - and also on our next Zoom Tea & Cake chat in October."
Joy Dunkerley, President.

PAST EVENT

Winter Zoom – 26 July



MEMBERS MILESTONES

Congratulations to all those with birthdays or other anniversaries during September / October

Please let us know of your good news, special events, or of those who are ill. A number of members are unwell or awaiting treatment, but please note:

Chris Dunkerley has been accepted into a Cancer Treatment Trial, travelling down 3 weekly to Kinghorn Cancer Centre, St Vincents Hosp. Sydney - and is now onto Cycle 2 – no bad side effects so far. Far too early yet to know what impact, if any, it is having on the cancer growth. *Joy Dunkerley* had her double knee replacement surgery on 9th September, at Gold Coast Private Hosp. and is healing well and should return home in 2 weeks. Rehab will take many more weeks, so she won't be out and about for a while.

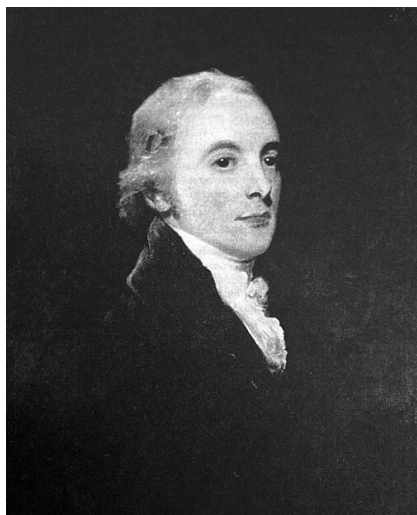
Best wishes to *Del Clinton* for her upcoming surgery, and recovery.

Contact phone numbers: NOTE – Joy & Chris Dunkerley's telephone landline is NO LONGER CONNECTED! Use instead these mobiles: 0409 393 059 for Chris; 0428 617 830 for Joy.

FEATURE STORIES

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

William Gregor – 1761-1817 this Cornish scientist, mineralogist, Clergyman, discoverer of titanium died this day in 1817,



Born on Christmas Day in 1761, William Gregor was the son of Francis Gregor and Mary Copley of Trewarthenick Estate near Tregony in Cornwall.

He studied in Bristol Grammar School, where he first developed his interest in the field of chemistry. He underwent private tutoring and, 2 years later, he entered St. John's College in Cambridge. He graduated with his Bachelor of Arts in 1784 and Master of Arts in 1787. He later became ordained in the Church of England, hence becoming a clergyman and vicar of St. Mary's Church, Diptford.

In 1790, he married Charlotte Anne Gwatkin and they had one daughter Charlotte-Anne Gregor.

Discovery of titanium

After a brief interval at Bratton Clovelly, in 1793 William and his family moved permanently to the rectory of Creed in Cornwall. Here he continued his remarkably accurate chemical analysis of minerals, most of which came from Cornwall

Gregor became fascinated with Cornish minerals when he permanently moved to the rectory of Creed in Cornwall. This was the time when he began chemically analyzing the different minerals found in Cornwall.

It was in 1791 that he was able to isolate calx, the residual left when a mineral combusts or is exposed to high heat, from an unknown metal. He named this metal 'manaccanite' since he got this mineral from the Manaccan Valley in Cornwall. (Later on, another scientist, Martin Heinrich Klaproth, discovered the same metal and named it titanium, believing it to be a new discovery.)

Gregor was later credited for the discovery, but the name titanium persisted and is the only name by which the metal is known today. Titanium was named after the great titans, or giants, of Greek mythology.

Titanium is usually found in igneous rocks, coal ash, plants, and even in the human body. It can also be found in bodies from outer space, such as meteorites, the sun and the moon.

Titanium is a popular alloy with other metals like iron, aluminum, and manganese. These alloys are often used for situations that require the ability to withstand extremes of temperature and lightweight strength. This has

made it a popular metal alloy for industries like aerospace, automotive, medical prostheses and orthopedic implants, and dental instruments, among others. It is also resistant to corrosion from seawater, hence it can be used in desalination plants. The strong, lightweight alloy titanium can also be used in surgical procedures, since it is an element inert in the body. The two most significant properties of titanium are its corrosion resistance and the fact it has the highest strength-to-weight ratio of any known metal. Throughout Gregor's life, he was not only a scientist and mineralogist, but also a pastor, musician, and etcher. He was an original member of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, founded in 1814. Aside from his earlier discovery, he also discovered titanium in the minerals corundum and tourmaline.

Gregor died of tuberculosis on June 11, 1817.

All the known elements in the world would not have been identified and distinguished from one another if not for the work and dedication of their respective discoverers. While not his primary occupation throughout life, William Gregor's fascination for minerals and chemistry led him to discover one of the most important elements on Earth. Because of his discovery, people are benefiting from the many and varied uses of titanium. Today, titanium is used in many applications as an alloy, from aerospace to auto manufacturing, to medical uses such as knee replacements, dental implants etc.

Our Cornish Places

'Cotehele', Moonta SA

Photo below



This very lovely house, on Milne Terrace, opposite Victoria Park, is an Australian style of

19th century large home, but evokes the Cornish heritage of Moonta. Named after the Cotehele House, in Cornwall, a former home of the Edgumbe family, which is now managed by the National Trust in the UK.

PARISHES OF CORNWALL

St Clether is a civil parish and village in Cornwall. The village is situated on the east flank of Bodmin Moor approximately eight miles (13 km) west of Launceston in the valley of the River Inny. The population of the civil parish at the 2011 census was 156.

The original Norman church of *St Cletherus* was, apart from the tower, rebuilt in 1865. The tower is built of granite and is of late medieval



date; the font is Norman and very plain.



Photos 'Captain Craigy Fish'

Arthur Langdon (1896) records five stone crosses in the parish of which four are at the old manor house of Basill Barton. A more common surname of the parish is Venning.

Location: 'What 3 words'
valve.congested.examples OS SX 20229 84590
50°37'60"N 4°32'36"W

If you only visit one holy well in your life, you won't go far wrong with St Clethers well and chapel. You can park at St Clederus church and walk the 1/2 mile quiet path from the graveyard, following the river Inny to a field called "chapel park" where the well and chapel sit in peace. Here you will find no finer example of a chapel and well fully restored and still in use today. The site is magical and has to be experienced to be understood. Out side the chapel is a simple wooden seat. Inscribed on it are the words "*peace is the sound of heaven on earth*" and it's certainly peaceful here.

The 15th century chapel and well were restored in 1897. The restoration was credited to the Rev Sabine Baring-Gould but Rupert White casts doubt on that as there is no mention to it in his biography. The Revd AH Malan could have been more involved in the actual day to day. Either way, both chapel and well are still in perfect working order to this day although the roof was replaced in 2008 and the walls repointed. Quiller-Couch visited it just before it was restored circa 1890 and reported it as "neglected" (which could be why it was restored)

The parish of St Clether (extending to about 3,000 acres) is in north Cornwall, in fact on the northern fringe of Bodmin Moor, its neighbouring parishes being Davidstow to the north-west, Treneglos to the north-east, Laneast to the east, and Altarnun to the south. Essentially devoted to agriculture, the parish has no settlement of any substantial size but consists mainly of isolated farms and dwellings – its population has never exceeded 280 people in the last 200 years.

Another of the children of King Brychan, by tradition, was Cleder (or Clederus in a Latinized form) about whom nothing is known – save that he appears in a list of the saintly offspring of Brychan. The lovely little church dedicated to

him nestles in the valley of the River Inny. Although the churchyard has the distinctive oval 'Lan' shape, it is perhaps more likely that Clether had his original cell slightly further up the valley, where the holy well and Baptistry stand

AN ALPHABET IN CORNISH DIALECT (a series – Part 1) origin forgotten in the mists of time

A is for APSE for shutting the door,
A is for AIGLET, the red haw.
B is for BUSSA for filling with brine,
or maybe for holding red aiglet wine.
C is for CHERKS, left when the fire is dead,
CONTS is the name for cobbles instead.
D is for DROKE, a groove in the floor, and
D is for DURN, the frame of the door.
E is for EVIL, a forked farming tool, and
E is for ECKA, a right silly fool.

NEWS

GORSEDDH KERNOW – CORNISH GORSEDD Marghasyow / Marazion Saturday 6 September, 2025 – Pictorial Record

220 Bards of Gorsedd Kernow, including two Australians (Robyn & Arthur Coates from the Cornish Assoc. of Victoria) and several from North America, gathered together in Marazion with St Michael's Mount as a backdrop, under sunny skies, but in very blustery conditions. Here are some photos:





The Mount was bathed in blue light for the event

'SARDINE'/PILCHARD FESTIVAL FOR NEWLYN ITV News West Country

Newlyn welcomed a newly created festival to celebrate the fishing industry and pilchard hauls in Cornwall. Watch enthusiasts pack the town like sardines on ITVX:

<https://shorturl.at/Xdz97>

CORNWALL COUNCIL 'NATION MOTION'

On July 22nd 2025 the Cornwall Council representatives backed a motion calling that the government formally recognize Cornwall as the fifth nation of the United Kingdom. A motion was followed by a speech by new Council Leader, Councillor Leigh Frost, for the case for recognition as Cornwall should be seen in a "national context".

The Cornish have been recognized as a national minority, including language, by the UK Government since 2014 under a pan-European Human Rights Treaty. According to the [Cornwall Council website](#), Frost mentions that it is not so much a border or a flag: "It's a people. It's a voice. It's shared history and a shared purpose... We're ready to shape our future on our own terms."



petition.parliament.uk/petitions/711355
Petition is independent from Cornwall Council

This was promoted by the publication "[The Cornwall We Know](#)" ([State of Cornwall 2025](#)). It reports the challenges and potentials to lead in areas such as clean energy, critical minerals and innovation. Cornwall deserves national voices and leaves Cornwall possible funding risks unless its status is recognized and strengthened. This will include support from beyond the government, it includes "investment, partnership, and respect."

There was an existing petition by an ordinary citizen to the UK Parliament, which Council and many groups support:



www.petition.parliament.uk/petitions/711355

As of the start of September it had attracted 20,929 petitioners – evoking the famous words of the song Trelawny “20,000 Cornishmen shall know the reason why!” – mostly from Cornwall, but some from almost all of the UK.

At its close (on 11 Sept. 2025) it had 24,011 signatories, of which over 15,000 were from current residents of Cornwall. Enough to generate a formal acknowledgement/response from the government, but not enough to reach the 100K trigger to force debate (far out of reach of a small nation like Cornwall). Only UK registered voters could petition.

The issue will also be brought by Cornwall Council and local supportive MPs, to PM Sir Keir Starmer and the work begins to build support for Cornwall's recognition.

Also readings:

https://cornishnsw.org/Misc/2024_CUA_the-cornish-a-uk-national-minority.pdf

<https://www.cornishassembly.org/Devolution-for-Cornwall.pdf>

<https://mebyonkernow.org/storage/towards-a-cornish-parliament-02.pdf>



QUOTE

"Under the terms of a licence granted to J. Polmarke, he was to expound the Word of God in the said church [St. Merryn] in the Cornish language" – John de Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, Register, 1339]

Dates coming up ... Feast days of St Mawgan 24th Sept., All Hallows Eve 30th Oct., St Winnoc 6th Nov.

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>

To hear the sound of words, visit 'geryow an jydh' / 'word of the day' in the resources section of the Speak Cornish website:

<https://www.speakcornish.com>

In this issue you will learn about:

HENWYN GWANN • ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are describing words. They tell us about nouns, like their **colour, size, feeling, shape, or age**.

da good > da	rudh red > ruth	krenn round > kren	nowydh new > now-ɪ	pedrek square > ped-rek	gwynn white > gwin	byghan small > bee-han	ha and > ha
drog bad > drog	du black > doo	tomm hot > tom	koth old > cough	yeyn cold > yein	bras big > braaz	yw it is > owe	yns they are > ins

In Cornish, to say 'It's cold', we say "Cold it is" and for 'They're old', we say "Old they are."

rudh ha krenn yw

da ha drog yw

yeyn ha gwynn yns

pho-nec-tic-al verbs adjectives

Kernewek • English

NB: These type of learning 'taster' images are the work of a fellow learner, Raymond Bridgewater, helping others.



FAMILY HISTORY – Our appointed contacts to guide you on the start or tricky points in your family research this year are:

Doreen Davis doreen.davis11@bigpond.com and kindly offered at our AGM:

Jill Beard jacken1@bigpond.com

Professional services can also be recommended – contact the Secretary.

Remember that we are members of <http://nswactfhs.org> and that our members are eligible to join their Facebook page for updates on meetings, research, seminars, and conferences. NSWACTFHS has a public Facebook page and a private Facebook group [<https://www.facebook.com/groups/270683911161995>] that our members may join.

CANSW Public & Members Web Pages:

Please take time again to have a look through all the pages on our newly hosted 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.

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

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

More interesting reading material (including 33 talks/papers) is available via our 'Talks' page, links:

<https://cornishnsw.org/nsw/merlib/merlib2.htm>

Reminder **Association Contact Cards** are available – let us know if you want some posted to you.

Also membership flyers, and recipe brochures – let us know whether you want some of those posted, or be emailed to you as a pdf for your printing or forwarding.



Sayings - Wise words on Ageing

"I don't plan to grow old gracefully. I plan to have face-lifts until my ears meet." - Rita Rudner

SALES Reminder

MUGS - remember we now have a few, at a slightly higher price of \$12 ea.

They will be available at next face to face meetings, or can be posted (alas Australia Post is not cheap, and it will be an extra \$11 for post

and packing = \$23). Please let us know if you wish us to put one or more aside for you!



CCA Celtic honours Luncheon

Saturday 25 October

Doors 11:30am for 12:00pm start
Penrith Gaels

Entertainment by the Penrith Gaels
Irish Dancers

Get tickets: www.trybooking.com/DDLXT



CCA AGM to follow (in person & via Zoom)

CANSW members would be very welcome at the Celtic Council of Australia (CCA) Celtic Honours Lunch (& AGM) which will be held on Sat 25th October, 2025 from 11.30am at Penrith Gaels Club, 75 Richmond Rd, Kingswood NSW.

Tickets now available at: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1431709>

CRYIN' THE NECK (Pedn-a-yar)

Three old cronies, Didn't see why
Old Cornish customs, Ever should die.

So they determined, Next harvest come
They'd cry "A NECK", To Harvest Home.

As they determined, So came to be.

Long in the cornfield, Gathered they three.

Old Tom, the bold one,
Fast as he could,
Led to the corner
Where the last sheaf stood.

He took a handful
And held it on high;
Bill and Dick followed,
“A NECK!” to cry.

“Tab’n, what have ’ee?”
“The NECK!” cried he.
Three times they cried
They cronies three.

They made it a garland
And took it to farm,
And hung it on the rafters
To keep it from harm.
And next harvest come
They gave it to show
As a sort of prize
To the best milkin’ cow.

Three old cronies
Didn’t see why
Old Cornish customs
Ever should die.



Poem from ‘A Cornish Gleaning’ by Bernard Moore’

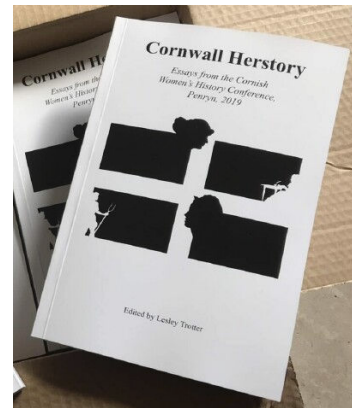
Cornwall Herstory

A book, edited by Dr Lesley Trotter.

A book was published on the roles women have played in Cornish history. This impressive publication brings together the work of a team of researchers who cover the stories of women looks at women in the maritime environment, banking, landed estates, song, eighteenth century politics and the first world war.

The book costs £10 (+P&P) and can be enquired about and ordered by email:

cornishstudies@exeter.uk



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 419 due for the months of
November / December 2025

- copy deadline 9th November, 2025

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

Nr. 418 LYTHER NOWODHOW – NSW

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