



Cowethas Kernewek Loundres

London Cornish Association Newsletter

www.londoncornish.co.uk



Nadelik Lowen ha Blydhen Nowydh Da

The sudden change in the weather proves that it is actually winter - although the mild temperatures we have been experiencing might have fooled us up until now! It certainly fooled me and as a result, I have not yet planted my spring bulbs! Fortunately, the Head Gardener at Osterley Park, where I volunteer, tells me that I have until the end of November to get them in.

Since the last newsletter, we have had a very successful Family History Day, with two excellent speakers. We have also had a wonderful visit to the Foundling Museum, which was a follow up to the talk on the Foundling Hospital which we heard last year. We now, look forward to our 2016 social programme. The first event is the New Year's Lunch on 9th January. This is always a popular 'do' where we can catch up with our friends while enjoying a warm and tasty pub meal. We hope to see many of you there. If you plan to come, it would be helpful if you could let us know as we can then ensure we book enough tables. You will find contact details are on the next page.

You will notice in the Forthcoming Events section of this newsletter that two of our traditional events have changed - the dinner has been replaced by a lunch and the AGM and Trelawny Lecture will take place during the April Family History Day. Why?

Even before the LCA was officially launched in 1898, there was an annual Cornish Dinner. These started in 1885 but officially became 'London Cornish Association Annual Dinners' when the Dinner Committee was formed in 1898. The LCA has had an Annual Dinner every year since, with the exception of some of the war years and, I think I am correct in saying, the year King George VI died. In its earlier days, some of these dinners were attended by hundreds of people! Like most Cornish Associations, we now have an aging membership and over the past decade, numbers attending the dinner have declined. In talking to our membership and seeing the changes taking place in other associations which are also facing an aging membership, we have recognised that quite a few of our members are not attending the dinner quite simply because it is at night. They don't want to be travelling late in the evening, and not everyone is willing or able to pay for a night's accommodation in London. Several people

have suggested that we switch to a lunch and so we have decided to try this in 2016.

Although our 2016 Annual Event will be a lunch, there will be little change to the format we are used to. We will still enjoy a pleasant time together, eating a good meal at the newly refurbished Thistle hotel which has treated us so well in the past. The only real difference is that you will be able to go home in daylight. We feel sure that these arrangements will be much better for many of our members and hope that you will give your support to what should be a most enjoyable event.

The other change affects the AGM and Trelawny Lecture. Once again, we have found the support for this event waning. In an attempt to attract more members, we introduced a pasty lunch - but numbers have continued to decline. As it is very expensive to hire a hall in London, this has made the present arrangements unsustainable. Council, after consultation with the Family History Committee, has therefore decided to incorporate these events into the Family History Day on April 16th 2016. This means that people who, for various reasons, have not been able to get to the AGM/Trelawny event in the past will get the chance to attend it if they come to the Family History Day. The Trelawny Lecturer in 2016 will be Paul Holden who will talk about the Agar-Robartes family, a prominent Cornish family from Llanhydrock.

We look forward to seeing how these changes go as we adapt to our shifting circumstances and move forward.

The LCA is very proud of the fact that one of its members (and a past Chairman), Priscilla Oates, was recently installed as President of the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies. She took over the role from another LCA member, Duncan Paul Matthews. We wish Cilla a productive and enjoyable time at the helm and know that, with her passion for Cornwall and its heritage, she will do a 'proper job'.

Space is now running out, so I will end, but before going, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyful Christmas and a peaceful and happy new year.

Kernow bys vyken

Winter 2015

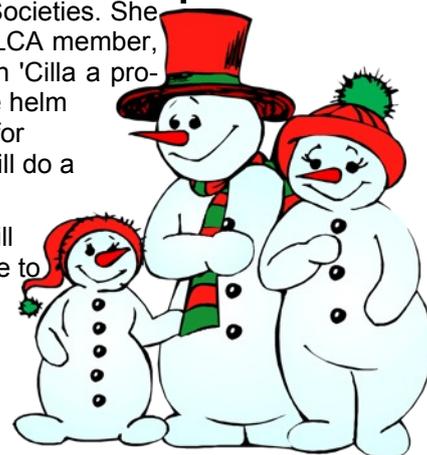
Dates for your diary ...

New Year's Lunch
9th January
2016

**Annual Event:
Lunch at the Thistle**
12th March
2016

**Family History Day:
Incorporating
AGM and Trelawny
Lecture**
16th April 2016

*Further details
of this event
can be found on
page 2*



Forthcoming events

A warm welcome is extended to non-members who would like to attend any of the London Cornish Association events.

New Year's Lunch

Date: Saturday 9th January 2016

Time: 12 Noon

Venue: Penderel's Oak - 283-288 High Holborn, London
(Nearest tube stations - Holborn or Chancery Lane - on the Central Line)

Contact: Liz Broekmann. Tel 07736438315

Join us for a friendly, warming lunch to welcome in the new year.

Annual Event: Lunch at the Thistle

Date: Saturday 12th March

Time: 12pm for 1pm

Cost: £35

Contact and Bookings:

Carol Goodwin - carolgoodwin951@btinternet.com

Tel: 020 83039054

This event replaces our traditional Annual Dinner. In response to requests from several members who find it challenging to be out would prefer to attend an event

Family History Day (Incorporating the AGM and Trelawny Lecture)

Date: Saturday 16th April

Time: 10am - 4.30pm

Trelawny Lecturer: Paul Holden, House and Collections Manager at Lanhydrock House in Cornwall who will speak about the Agar-Robartes family

Don't forget to diarise...

Family History Day

15th October 2016

Past Events

Two interesting speakers participated in the Family History Day in October - Dr Paul Blake spoke on *Manorial Records: the origins of the manor and the manorial system and records produced* and Dr Peter Stanier talked about *Botallack and Levant: mine landscapes in West Penwith*. The following article outlines what was included in the talk by Dr Paul Blake:

Talk by Dr Paul Blake on 'Manorial Records'

Dr Paul Blake came to talk on 'Manorial Records – The origins of the Manor and the Manorial System and Records produced'. Paul is a full-time researcher, lecturer and writer. He is joint author of several publications, writes regularly for Family History Monthly and other periodicals and has acted as an advisor to TV family history programmes.

His talk focussed on the nature of the manor – the manorial system was about 'people' not just the land.

When William the Conqueror came to these shores in the 11th Century, he wanted to know how many people, villages etc there were. These were classified in the Domesday Book which is split into individual sections - villeins, mills, animals, measure of land etc.

Paul mentioned that we can access the Domesday Book as it is free to download at <http://opendomesday.org/>.

The estate of the landowner could include several manors, sometimes in different counties. It could be exactly the same as boundaries with more than one manor in a parish.

There are manorial records to at least the 19th Century and in some cases into the 20th. Early documents were mainly in Latin, at least before the 18th Century.

Manors consisted of a Centre which was the Village, Manor House and Church. Then there was the common pasture, cultivated land and common land.

The physical character would be:

arable, wasteland (common land), woodland, marsh, furze, fishponds and mills.

Paul then went on to explain the Tenure – Lord of the Manor and the Tenants.

Tenants took possession with a handshake as contracts did not exist. Only from the 16th/17th Century would the tenant receive an actual written contract.

'Manorial Rolls' were often in books administered by the Lord of the Manor or an Administrator.

Overall, the King owned the Land.

Onto the 'Manorial Courts'. Court records noted changes in Tenancy. The Courts made Byelaws and punished wrongdoers - eg.

- not cleaning ditches
- keeping hedges clear
- taking wood for fuel (varied from Court to Court)
- disputes between Tenants.

Paul gave a number of examples, on screen, of Manorial records.

He also mentioned that you can find information by searching 'Discovery' at The National Archives - discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manor-search. Paul did say though that not all records from the Local Record Offices would be on there. The only ones that have been incorporated were ones that were on A2A before they joined the two systems together. Anything indexed by the Local Records Offices from that point onwards are not automatically put on to the Discovery site and so would have to be accessed directly via the Record Offices. They are planning to update Discovery to include the continued indexing of the Local Records Offices but that will take time, so best to continue checking with the local record offices.

Apart from records held at the National Archives, there are also records at the Office of Auditors of Land Revenue, The Crown Estate, The Duchy of Lancaster etc.

A most enlightening and comprehensive talk by Paul. He mentioned that to give a more detailed explanation would take 4 hours! - but as we could smell the pasties cooking, felt that 1½ hrs was just about right for our morning!

Visit to the Foundling Museum

Twelve members and friends enjoyed the tour of the Foundling Museum which was a follow-up to Jane King's talk on the Foundling Hospital at the Family History Day in October 2014. The Museum tells the story of the Hospital, which was the UK's first children's charity.

Thomas Coram, a philanthropist who had made his fortune in shipping, was appalled at the treatment meted out to illegitimate children in the 18th century and set up a special 'hospital' in what is now Bloomsbury. From 1739, it cared for thousands of children, educating them and preparing them for work and watching over them until they reached adulthood. After over 275 years, the organisation still cares for young children.

When a mother brought her child to the hospital, she usually provided a 'token' and we saw several collections of these. The mother hoped that one day she would return to claim her child, using the token to identify him. Sadly, only about 3% did.

One of Coram's biggest challenges was getting enough money to keep the hospital going. He worked hard to get the patronage of the great and the good. Amongst his supporters were Hogarth (who became Inspector of Wet Nurses) and Handel, both of whom were Governors of the hospital. Handel put on musical performances, including The Messiah and Hogarth used his connections to encourage patronage. Today, the museum has the UK's largest collection of mid-18th century portraits, including Hogarth's painting of Sir Thomas Coram. The Gerald Coke Handel Collection is also kept at there.

Over the road an area of the original hospital fields has been made into a children's playground. Adults may visit, but only if a child accompanies them!

This is one of my favourite London museums. There is so much to see. It is easy to get to, has a lovely café and is a delight to look around. Definitely worth a visit – and National Trust members pay half price.

Until 3rd January, there is a special exhibition on *The Fallen Woman*



The staircase which was in the boys section of the original hospital.

Condolences

It was with great sadness that we heard recently of the passing of **Barbara Hancock**, a member of both the Bournemouth Cornish Association and the London Cornish Association.

Barbara was a very involved member of the Bournemouth Cornish Association – which included serving three terms as President. One of her greatest triumphs during her Presidency was to convince the Bournemouth Council to fly the Cornish flag on Valentine's Day which was the birthday of Cornishman Captain Lewis Tregonwell, founder of Bournemouth.

Barbara was a frequent visitor to events at other Cornish Associations and her quick smile and kind ways will be missed by many. Our thoughts are with her husband Fred, their family and her many friends.

We are also sad to report that long-time LCA member and Vice-President, **Sir David Wilcocks**, passed away in Cambridge in September, aged 95.

Sir David was born in Newquay and became a chorister at Westminster Abbey when he was only 8 years old. This was just the beginning of an outstanding musical career.

He will be particularly remembered for his choral arrangements of Christmas carols and for his involvement with the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge.

We offer our condolences to Sir David's family and friends.

Recognising a Special Cornishman: Sir David Willcocks

The Summer 2009 issue of the newsletter included a letter which I received from Sir David, telling the story of how he got started on his musical career. It seems appropriate to re-print it in this issue, following the announcement of his death.

I owe a great deal to my very enjoyable start in Newquay. I had two very kind parents and two fine older brothers who are now living in Cambridge aged 96 and 94...both well and happy!

My father was the Bank Manager at Barclays (then at Central Square) and I was born in the Bank. My father sang bass in Newquay Choir as he had a fine bass voice. At the age of 7, the piano tuner discovered that I had 'perfect pitch' (ie. That I could name the notes of any chord that he played on the piano without my watching him). He excitedly told my mother (who was unmusical) that I ought to receive special tuition, as I was playing the piano well for my age.

My mother wrote to Sir Walford Davies (who was Master of the King's Music) and he kindly met me at the BBC in London where he was delivering a series of lectures. He decided to recommend me to Dr Ernest Bullock (later Sir) who was organist of Westminster Abbey who heard me sing and gave the ear tests. Aged 9, I joined the choir of Westminster Abbey and had 4 years of happiness...That was the beginning of 89 years of 'good luck' which made

A' Proper Job' – Toronto's very successful Trelawny Male Voice Choir Concert

Report by Jim Dagg

(From the Toronto Cornish Association Newsletter)



The Trelawny Male Voice Choir acoustics test in St Olave's Anglican Church in Toronto on Tuesday afternoon, 8th September 2015 declared the timber truss-beamed roof and soft grey stone buttressed walls ready and willing, as were the choir of eighty one strong voices singing out, 'Oh, Canada, glorious and...'.

Focus on the word GLORIOUS, because that perfectly describes the richness and power of their sound, and in fact, their whole performance Tuesday evening before an audience of 450 people, a sold-out concert.

David Hutcheon, Church Warden, welcomed the audience, noted the emergency exits, thanked the fire department for their alarmingly quick attendance when the fire alarm tested itself, and assured us the furnace was working well to keep the +30 deg C in the church climbing. Rev. David Burrows offered a prayer. David Williams read the Kernow Grand Bard's message. Choir president David Tangye, and choir president Adrian Abbott introduced the choir, the musical director Elaine Tangye and accompanist Elizabeth Sidebotham. The choristers called out the names of the eighteen individual choirs they represented from all over Cornwall.

Choir and audience sang, *Oh Canada*, and began a couple of hours of grand renditions of songs, hymns and anthems which rode out on waves of heat while happy applause rolled out of St Olave's open windows and reverberated through the neighbourhood of Bloor and Windermere in Toronto.

Their programme spanned the ages, from modern, *The Rose*, to current, *Trelawny*, and ancient, *A Roman War Song*. The choir's talent showed well in St Olave's church, a place built for reverent celebration, when they belted out spirituals *When the Saints come Marching In*, *Ride the Chariot*, and the quieter *Where shall I Be*. Hymns, *Jesus Shall Reign* and *The Lord's Prayer*, respected the origin and tradition of choral singing. The voices of the eighty one men touched the hearts of all people present with *Cornwall My Home*, *West of the Tamar*, *With Cat Like Tread*, *Hail to the Homeland*, *The White Rose*, and cheered the crowd with *Proper Job*, and *The Floral Dance*.

Soloists Colin Arthur, and Jim Christophers, pianist Elizabeth Sidebotham and organist Philip Taylor expressively entertained all with their single accomplishments appreciated by rousing applause.

At the interval, the church emptied quickly to the now well dark outdoors and cooling air drifting (no wind) up from Lake Ontario. The humidity persisted, as did the festive mood of the evening winding down with a raffle of lovely prizes: of special note was a huge gold and black afghan knitted by Jacqueline Tucker, and twelve refreshers from Sleeman Breweries, our main sponsor.

The last act invited an upstanding audience to join the Trelawny Choir's outstanding singing of the anthem of Cornwall, *Trelawny (the Song of the Western Men)* written by Robert Hawker in 1824.

The glorious evening was coordinated by the constant work and terrific organization spearheaded by then president of the Toronto Cornish Association Marion Stephens-Cockroft, the president of the choir David Tangye, and the choir musical director Elaine Tangye. Backing them up was an army of volunteers in Cornwall and Canada organizing and promoting support for the venue...

All the concerts on their tour this year were a resounding success, from Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Cornwall, to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

TRELAWNY MALE VOICE CHOIR OF 2015: PROPER JOB!!

Gool Kernuak - A New Zealand Cornish Celebration

It was a well-attended concert held by the Christchurch Cornish Association on Sunday 13th September at St Paul's Church Hall in Papanui, Christchurch, New Zealand. Everyone was treated to a mulled orange juice when they arrived.

Each table in the hall was full as the St Alban's Community Choir, led by Heather Gladstone Q.S.M., marched in singing the floral dance. With the words for the songs on the tables, the audience were able to join in the singing and there was plenty of foot tapping and clapping along to the music. The programme was composed entirely of Cornish songs including *Hail To The Homeland*, *Sweet Nightingale*, *Trelawny* and of course, the song *There's Something About A Pasty!*

Benjamin Hurley played three accordion duets of Cornish dances with Heather. John Hore played the ukulele, Russell Chambers the harmonica, Nadine Williams and her husband Craig played the tuba and the trombone which gave a real oomph to the music.

Val Moore, one of the four Cornish Bards living in New Zealand, read out a poem about the Cornish language and how some of the traditional words are being lost. She also told a joke or two. Val and Les Mitchell introduced the songs and told of the meaning behind each of them and their significance to Cornwall.

At the end of the concert members of the choir and audience donned hats and danced the floral dance.

The concert was followed by an afternoon tea of traditional Cornish fare including Cornish pasties, Cornish fairings, saffron cake and Cornish cream tea with clotted cream.

Lynnette Hurley

St Albans Community Choir

The 2015 Gorsedh Kernow Conference

Chamber of St. Austell Town Council - Friday 4th September.

Entitled: *The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities – Facts and opportunities*, it was a day-long session exploring the benefits and challenges for Cornwall almost 18 months on after it was designated with National Minority Status at long last.

This was an event that anyone with even the vaguest interest in Cornish Identity wanted to attend, and such was the demand that extra seating had to be found for those who booked their ticket late.

Conference was opened by the outgoing Grand Bard Maureen Fuller, who presented an excellent dual language speech in both Kernewek and English.

The first session was led by Ian Saltern, who put in a lot of work for Cornwall's application document. He stated the importance of the fact that, contrary to press reports, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities *has nothing to do with the EU* – it comes from the Council of Europe (a body with 47 members, 28 of which are in the EU). He outlined the fact that the framework which came into force on 1st February 1998, allows National Minorities to '*express, preserve and develop their culture and identity.*' Interestingly, Saltern revealed that there is no agreed definition among member states of what a National Minority is. Tellingly, France has not signed up, hence a lack of recognition or protection for our Breton cousins, or those in Alsace.

With Cornwall now a recognised member, Saltern emphasised the fact that Great Britain, as a member of the Council for Europe is '*beholden to actively take action in relation to their minority groups.*' One particularly interesting part of the Framework convention appears in Article 12/14 where it clearly states: '*If there is sufficient demand, to ensure within their education systems, adequate opportunities for being taught the Minority language.*' Is this a chance for Kernewek to get back on the school curriculum in Cornwall? One can only hope.

Matt Barton, the Assistant Head of Customers and Communities for Cornwall Council then spoke on what the Council has done, or soon will be doing in terms of the framework convention. Barton believed that 'It acts as leverage as a force for positive change, and can be used as a tool of significant influence which will also create fresh impetus, focus and awareness.' He stated that Cornwall Council is now reviewing its policy towards Kernewek, and outlined the fact that Devon and Cornwall Police now have powers to 'record details and take action of hate incidents/hate crimes against people because of their Cornish identity.' Whilst these words were welcome, it did feel rather like they were merely going through the motions and not using the Minority Status as a springboard to push for greater powers and recognition.

However, things became a bit more positive with the keynote address from John Pollard, the leader of Cornwall Council. He spoke initially about the devolution plan that has been handed to Cornwall from Westminster, and crucially added: 'A Senedh Kernow is the second step. It will happen.' Pollard also revealed that he has told Westminster that Cornwall does not want an elected Mayor, but true devolved powers. He also stated that the Conserva-

tive government has recently refused Cornwall Council powers for funding affordable housing for Cornish people, which is nothing short of an outrage.

On the whole, as you would expect, there was a true sense that the audience were fiercely demanding more powers for Cornwall, whilst welcoming what has already come. There was also a feeling that a number, myself included, are of the opinion that, since the award of Minority Status in April 2014, very little else has happened. The momentum needs to continue and gather pace.

I strongly believe that Cornish primary schools need to be given help to develop their curriculums along the lines of Cornish Culture – and I am more than up for playing a major role in doing this. If we can ensure the very young get a full grasp of their 'native land' and why it is so special and different from the land across The Tamar, then we're off to a good start!

Kernow bys vyken!

NB – if you haven't read the Council of Europe Framework document for the Protection of National Minorities, I urge you to do so, it is vital for Cornwall – go to <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016800c10cf>

Ben Gilby

A Different Kind of Wedding ...

(From article by Wendy Ashendon on the Parish of Gwithian in the 1851 census which appeared in the Spring newsletter of the Cornish Interest Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. Wendy ascertained that the parish where this wedding took place was, in fact, Gwinear and not Gwithian.)

The excerpt is taken from *Life in Cornwall in the Early Nineteenth Century (1810-1835): Extracts from The West Briton*. Selected and edited by Rita M. Barton

"A WEDDING AT GWITHIAN

An extraordinary scene was witnessed at Gwithian on Monday last, in consequence of a wedding which took place there, between two persons who have for many years been inmates of the parish poor-house. The bridegroom, Benedict Hammill, is a most decrepid object, aged 68 years; the bride, who is in her 49th year, is the mother of a numerous progeny, though she never before submitted to the trammels of matrimony. The report of their intended union collected a great crowd round the church, who became so clamorous for admittance, that the clergyman, fearing that they would force an entrance, suspended the service and went in quest of constables to disperse the mob, leaving directions to keep the doors locked until his return. After some time he came back accompanied by the village conservators of the peace, who succeeded in getting the mob to a respectful distance from the sacred edifice, which was at one time feared they would have profaned; but when his reverence was about to resume the service, the bride was not to be found. The greatest confusion now prevailed, and messengers were dispatched in search of the truant, who was shortly seen emerging from the village inn, leaning on the arm of the aged sexton, who had been prevailed on by her entreaties

during absence of the clergyman, to let her out at a side door, in order that by an application to the gin bottle, she might exhilarate her spirits, which were greatly agitated by the unexpected events of the day. The sexton, who has no objection to a cheerful glass, took the opportunity of indulging in a similar libation, and thus interestingly employed, the friendly couple forgot the lapse of time, until they were alarmed by the hue and cry raised after the bride. Order being restored, the sacred rite was performed, and the happy couple returned to the poor-house amidst the shouts, hootings and groans of the assembled multitude."

21 October 1825

St Day Old Church Needs Urgent Help

Dear Cornish friends,

As you are probably aware, a large proportion of the Cornish who left Cornwall in the nineteenth century and travelled all over the world in search of work came from the St Day area. St Day, near Redruth, was the capital of the mining district, said to be the richest square mile (in terms of minerals) in the world. It was a lively, bustling, prosperous place, and the expectation was that it would continue to grow and prosper and become a big town. So when, after the Battle of Waterloo, money was made available to build churches in places that did not have them, St Day built a fine new church, big enough to serve a large town, and in a daring and unusual architectural style. It was opened in 1828. But then, of course, everything changed. Tin and copper prices fell, the mines closed, and the St Day miners set off to settle wherever in the world there was hard rock mining. The little town of St Day suffered greatly - there was great poverty and hardship. And it still had its enormous church to maintain. It was now far too big for the congregation, hard to heat and to keep in good order, but it struggled on for many years. In 1931 the decision was made to remove the galleries which provided far more seating than was necessary. And this caused a hitherto unsuspected problem. The columns were very tall and slender, and nobody realised that it was the galleries which were tying them, and therefore the whole structure, together. It wasn't until 1958, when the Church of England re-surveyed its buildings, that this was fully understood. The church was declared dangerous, and ordered to be closed immediately. The congregation moved across the road to the Sunday School, which has since been extended to form the modern church. And the Old Church, as it became known, was just left - no one knew what to do about it. It was vandalised, abused, and squatted in, and in 1985, after further vandalism, the roof was dynamited, and the remains just left inside the building. It was a sad sight, an open wound in our town.

In 1987 we founded the St Day Historical and Conservation and it was obvious that the main conservation issue in St Day was the Old Church. We resolved to do something about it, and (to cut an extremely long story short) at the initial behest and inspiration of our Breton cousins from a collection of St Day places in Brittany, eventually managed to raise funds, obtain the necessary permissions, and set in motion a major programme of restoration, costing £107,000, which over several years cleared out and stabilised the building, so that it was safe to allow public access (though it still had, and has, no roof.) Since

2001 the Old Church has been open every day from Easter to the end of September; it has welcomed visitors from all over the world, and been the setting for concerts, exhibitions, plays, and a valuable resource site for our local school and for the holding of all sorts of community events - even a wedding blessing. The community has grown to love it and own it once more, and it has become a real asset to the town.



But - there's now a real danger that this wonderful building will be lost to the community. The Diocese of Truro, which has financial problems, is trying to dispose of assets, and wants to sell the Old Church - probably to a developer for conversion into apartments. Naturally we are extremely anxious to prevent this happening - but what to do? The diocese has said that if we can form a charitable trust and produce a business plan showing how the Old Church can raise sufficient funds to maintain itself (a minimum of £3000 per year) they will grant us ownership for a nominal sum - but they've given us almost no time in which to do this, and we have to show evidence of progress by the end of this month - so we have 3 weeks. St Day has not been a prosperous place since the mining collapse, and there is no way such an annual sum can be raised within the town. We have tried our best to think of income-raising activities, but the Diocese is very strict on what it will allow, and so far none of our ideas has been acceptable to them.

Which is why we're writing this. We know, from the many overseas visitors the Old Church has received over the years, and from the tales they have told us of their St Day ancestors, that our town is held in high regard among Cornish descendants all over the world. It occurred to us that if we could find, in the whole wide world, 60 people who felt strongly enough about St Day to pledge to give £50 per year to the Old Church, we would have the £3000 a year needed to keep it open. We're not asking people to send money right away, but we do ask for pledges - and as you can see, we really need them quickly. It's a wonderful chance for people to honour their Cornish mining ancestors in a practical way, and we hope that there will be enough people out there who want to help.

With very best wishes,
Bernadette Fallon, Chairperson and
Mark Johnson, Secretary,
St Day Historical and Conservation Society and St Day
Old Church Appeal Committee.

Looking for something special to do this winter?

Rogue Theatre Presents Magical Woodland Treat

One of 'Cornwall 365's' winter highlights is Rogue's 'Winter Wood' extravaganza. Pass through the Woodland Gate and follow the twisting path. Let the faeries and woodland spirits lead the way with stories and songs. Follow the wandering path and meet Old Man Winter who will weave a tale and reveal the path to your fantastical destination, an enchanted celebration, and a wondrous festivity of wintry marvels.

There will be a show with live music, festive stories, winter wonders, free hot chocolate, a warm place to relax, sparkly face painting and the chance to make your own traditional winter decoration to take home.

The adventure lasts about 2 hours and takes place in a heated marquee and along a path in the wild wood, so come prepared whatever the weather.

The programme runs from 11th to 30th December, with four sessions a day.

Find out more and book tickets at:
<http://www.roguetheatre.co.uk/winter-wood-2015/>

A new book and DVD

We have been notified of the following book which has recently been published. The author, Peter Stanier, was one of the speakers at the LCAs Family History Day in October.

South West Stone Quarries: Building stone Quarries in the West of England

By Peter Stanier
Publ: Twelveheads Press
ISBN: 978 0906294 833

The South West of England has provided quality building stone for many of Britain's finest buildings over many centuries, and continues to do so. Locally the stone contributes to the distinctive character of many of the region's prettiest villages.

Where is the stone found and how is it quarried? Famous names are here, such as Bath, Delabole, Ham Hill, Portland or Purbeck, and top quality stone, obtained in large blocks for building, monuments or engineering work, is quarried as 'dimension stone' or 'freestone'; sandstones, limestones, granite and slate. This traditional industry has seen dramatic changes in methods of extraction, processing, transport and uses over the past 120 years. We follow in the footsteps of the Victorian geologist George Harris, visiting the same quarries he saw and described (with diversions on the way) in Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire and the Forest of Dean, comparing how they work today in a highly mechanised world.

Whether looking at vernacular architecture or the capital's grandest buildings, these stone quarries, large and small, make a major contribution to the character of the landscape and environment around us.

Peter Stanier is the author of *Quarries of England & Wales* and *South West Granite*, amongst many others.

The book can be purchased from bookshops and Amazon or from the publisher -
Twelveheads Press, 2 Woodside Cottages, Chacewater, Truro TR4 8LP

Miracle Theatre Production, TIN now available on DVD

Tin, Miracle Theatre's feature film of love, greed and opera in a Cornish mining town has now been released on DVD.

West Cornwall, 1885. A once glorious tin mine on which the whole town has depended, is on its last legs.

A weather-beaten opera company arrives to give a performance of Beethoven's 'Fidelio' in the town hall and finds itself tangled up in a scam to offload worthless shares in the mine. When the mine unexpectedly yields up new treasures, melodrama starts to spill over into everyday life, reputations crumble and any notion of fair play is abandoned.

The fate of the whole community rests on the courage of one feisty young maid.

The film which cleverly combines hand-made model backgrounds and stunning landscapes using digital technology is based on a notorious real-life banking fraud from St. Just.

Produced entirely in Cornwall, *Tin* played to packed Cornish cinemas earlier this year. The stars in this production are Jenny Agutter, Dudley Sutton and Redruth-born opera star, Benjamin Luxon, alongside Miracle regulars Ben Dyson, Jason Squibb, Dean Nolan and Steve Jacobs.

The DVD can be ordered online at www.tinmovie.com or, contact Annie Ukleja, General Manager & Producer (*Tin*), Miracle Theatre, Krowji, West Park, Redruth TR15 3AJ



New President for the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies

At its recent AGM, Priscilla Oates was elected President of the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, following Duncan Paul Matthews whose term had come to an end.

Although Cornish born, 'Cilla spent her working life as a science teacher on the other side of the Tamar, in Hertfordshire. During this time, she was an active member of both the London Cornish Association and the Thames Valley Cornish Association. She served as Chairman of the LCA in 2003-5.

On her return to the Homeland, she joined the Mullion Old Cornwall Society where she is President.

We congratulate 'Cilla on her appointment and wish her well for her term as President of the FOCS.

News from other Cornish Associations

CANADA

A highlight of the **Toronto Cornish Association's** year was September's very successful Trelawny Choir concert which was organised by the Concert Committee of the TCA. St Olave's Church, where the event was held, 'was filled to beyond capacity' and the 'monies raised by the event far exceeded expectations'.

At the beginning of the concert, the Choir Secretary, Adrian Abbott, presented the Concert Committee and the TCA with a plaque to commemorate their visit and celebrate the evening's festivities.

Member Jim Dagg has written an interesting report, which can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

September was a very busy month for the Association as, apart from the concert, they had a booth at the Beaches Celtic Festival. It was visited by many people who wanted to know more about Cornwall and the TCA.

At their September meeting, Sheer Leetooze gave an illustrated talk on *Prehistoric Cornwall and Tourist Sites of Cornwall*. This included quoits, long stones, stone circles and settlements.

In October, Marion Stephens-Cockcroft talked about *'Life on a Cornish Farm: Childhood Memories'*. This provided an insight Cornish farm life in both the past and present. Her brother still farms there. .

Jim Dagg was the speaker in November, taking as his topic, *'Dagg People in St Kew Parish'*.

AUSTRALIA

In June, members of the **Cornish Association of South Australia** gathered for a 'pasty & soup tea' followed by a sing-a-long of Cornish songs. Members of the Association's Choir were present and would have helped ensure that there was 'a joyful noise'. Sadly, their July outing to the clipper *City of Adelaide* turned out to be a 'non-event' as no one turned up to open the shop or conduct the tour. The group adjourned to the Port Dock Tavern for some warmth and refreshment and had a pleasant afternoon, despite their initial disappointment.

More recent events included a talk on Celtic influences in Spain and a presentation by Philip Payton (now an Adelaide resident!) on *A L Rowse and the great Emigration*. The Association Choir's Christmas concert is due to take place in mid-December.

A sub-committee of the **Southern Sons of Cornwall** is busy planning a Cornish Gathering for 27th to 29th May 2016 which will be held in Shoalhaven. This will be held in conjunction with the Berry Celtic Festival 2016. The special guest at this event will be Maureen Fuller and the focus will be on having a great social gathering, fostering enduring friendships and enjoying all things Cornish. Planned activities include a bus tour of Cornish places of interest in the Shoalhaven, a dinner and participation in the Berry Celtic Festival. On this occasion, the theme of the Festival will be *'The Year of the Cornish'*. There will also be a special church service and a river cruise on the Shoalhaven River.

Their October outing was a barbecue lunch in Lions Park at Sussex Inlet. It is three years since the group last met there for a pleasant lunch by the water.

The SSOC Cornish Dance Group is starting up again and their September newsletter includes a plea to aspirant dancers – with or without experience – to come forward and join in.

In its latest newsletter, the **Cornish Association of Queensland** has revealed that their social programme for the next year is has now been finalised. The first item on the programme is their Christmas get together at the end of November. Future events include a lunch on St Piran's Day, a pasty picnic at the end of May and their Foundation Day celebration in October when they will mark their 22nd anniversary.

Thirty six members attended the 2015 Foundation Day lunch. The entertainment on this occasion was provided by the Red Hot Mama's who *'went down very well'* and *'even got some of us up on our feet dancing'*

The end-of-year lunch of the **Cornish Association of New South Wales** will take place towards the end of November at Circular Quay. Having spent my teenage years in Sydney, I know Circular Quay well and am quite envious of them sitting in that beautiful setting, overlooked by the harbour bridge and the opera house. I am sure their lunch will be a memorable event.

In October they held a very successful Open Library and Social Day which gave members an opportunity to look at the extensive library of books, dvd/cd/tapes, maps etc while also enjoying a get together and a good lunch. During the day, the future of the collection was discussed. It was decided that the library will not be disbanded but a process of culling has begun.

The Christmas lunch of the **Cornish Association of Victoria** will take place in December. The Association has been collecting items for a hamper and one lucky person attending the lunch will have the excitement of taking it home.

At the August meeting, three members spoke on various topics relating to World War 1 and the CAV WW1 database. The talks covered topics as diverse as family stories, statistics relating to Australia's war commitment and some of the roles played by animals. One which I had not heard of before was the fact that *'The European glow-worm made an illuminating and worthwhile contribution to the war effort. These creatures were collected and kept in jars, enabling soldiers to study reports and battle maps and read letters from home'*

Their October outing to Tarndwarncourt near Colac was one of the highlights of the year. On this occasion, they were joined by members of the Ballarat and Geelong branches. Tarndwarncourt is a 175 year old Polwarth sheep property with strong Cornish links: the distinguished Cornish pioneering Dennis family started farming in the area in the 1840s and still farms there. The farm has one of Victoria's oldest surviving homesteads and it is one of Australia's oldest family farms. The family were responsible for developing the Polwarth breed of sheep in the late

1800s. Tom Dennis, who still lives on the farm, will be the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner of the **Geelong Branch** of the CAV.

In October, the CAV held its annual Seniors Day at which a number of people were given the opportunity to explore the library and research centre.

At their February meeting, Louise Wilson will talk about her book *From Buryan to Bondi*. The book looks at the lives in Cornwall and Australia of George Dennis and his descendants.

At the August meeting of the **Ballarat Branch** of the CAV, Alistair and Trish George entertained members with stories about *'The Last of the Smugglers'*, focusing on one of Alistair's smuggler ancestors. In one of their stories they explained *'how Henry's wife hid the bounty while she sat on the barrel feeding the baby, hiding the barrel with her dress while the house was being searched.'*

At their October meeting, Robyn Coates (who was recently admitted as a Bard) gave a talk on *'The 39th: Ballarat's Adopted Battalion'* Robyn's interest in this topic springs from her grandfather and father's service. She explained the history of military training in Australia since the Defence Acts of 1903-4 and later in 1911 with the formation of cadet corps. She explained what records were available and how they could be accessed.

The Branch will hold its Christmas function early in December.

NEW ZEALAND

At its AGM, the **Cornish Interest Group of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists** agreed to purchase two computers for placement in their Family Research Centre. They will enable access to the Cornish Immigration Database and the Cornish Family History Society's online record collection.

CIG plans to create a new 'Members' Interests' list where researchers can let others know about their family history interests, a great way of linking up people with common ancestors.

The Spring newsletter of the Group includes a description of *The Parish of Gwithian in the 1851 Census*, written by Secretary, Wendy Ashendon. There are some very interesting facts and figures regarding businesses, occupations and sizes of farms. She records that of the 5-11 year olds living in the parish (124 in number), 82 were not at school and of these, some were already working.

The article also records (incorrectly) a wedding which allegedly took place in Gwithian in 1825. Careful scrutiny of the article showed that the parish was Gwinear, not Gwithian, reminding us of the need to be careful of accepting, unquestionably, the information we find in family history sources. This story makes entertaining reading and so has been included in this newsletter.

At the end of November, there is to be a combined English and Australian Interest Groups' Research Day at the Family Research Centre. This will give researchers an opportunity to see what is on offer and to get help with family history enquiries.

UK

In recent months, the **West Somerset Cornish Association** has enjoyed talks on how a group of people built a

church in north Somerset, Cornish stories from a policeman's wife and travels in Africa and Cornwall. There was a cream tea in August, an autumn lunch in September and fish and chips in November. Bookings are already being taken for their 'After Christmas' and St Piran's Lunches.

Like so many associations, the WSCA is faced with an aging membership and this has resulted in a change to the format of the programme for 2016: evening events will be replaced with daytime activities. Members are looking forward to the different format and the new experiences which lie ahead.

The **Thames Valley Cornish Association** will hold its Pre-Christmas Lunch at the end of November. Eighteen members are expected to descend on the restaurant in Maidenhead which is popular with the group.

The **Torbay Cornish Association** will hold its 43rd Annual Dinner early in December. Sadly, due to its aging membership, the Association has decided that this will be the final dinner. The Torbay dinners have always been a popular weekend celebration for people from associations all over the country, and will be particularly remembered for their friendliness, great organisation and amazing food – especially the 'pasties and puds' served for Sunday lunch!

The **Homecomers** have had lower attendance at some of their events this year, a cause of some concern. However, they continue to offer very interesting activities. In recent months, they have had outings to Geevor Mine and Lanhedock House and they have enjoyed a lunch at Lilyponds Restaurant at Shortlanesend and a cream tea at the home of Margaret and Norman Woolcocks. Their Christmas lunch will be held at a hotel in Newquay in mid-December.

Something different for your Christmas tree...

A message from the Royal Cornwall Museum

Christmas tree decorations for history lovers

Christmas is as synonymous with crackling fires, stuffed stockings and carol singing as it is with Christmas trees and decorations so why not try something more unusual than the typical bauble this festive season?

Whether you're a Henry VIII fan or simply excited for a lavish Christmas Day, the Royal Cornwall Museum has picked out the best Christmas tree decorations for you - designed to make for a very merry Christmas.

The Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro is selling figures of Queen Victoria, Henry VIII and a Knight of the Realm as luxury Christmas tree decorations. These decorations are memorable keepsakes, lovely decorations for your tree, and make wonderful gifts for family and friends. They range in price from £9.95 to £12.50 each.

Available only at the Royal Cornwall Museum Shop, River Street, Truro, or order by phone on 01872 272205 (plus postage, or free collection).

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xwoovfgmx14wt6f/AADMubjDFt10Lmthps5E0wp_a?dl=0

For further information please contact Sophie Meyer in the Royal Cornwall Museum press office on 01872 272205, or pressoffice@royalcornwallmuseum.org.uk

Rugby

'EXILES' LAUNCH BID TO GO ONE BETTER!

London Cornish RFC head coach Tom Sincock has been looking ahead to the new season in London Two South-West with club press officer Ben Gilby, as 'The Exiles' aim to go one better than their second place finish at the end of their last campaign.

One thing that Sincock is absolutely clear about is that in order to push for a place in London One, the club have to ensure that they have their key players available week in week out this time round. 'The difference between ourselves and league champions Tottonians essentially came down to two issues – one of which was the lack of player availability for key games. We have to be consistent with availability.' The former Redruth and Cornwall county player believes that it is particularly important that Cornish 'address consistency at 9 and 10 to move forward. Tottonians had a very settled 9/10 partnership, which we didn't have.'

With Cornish finishing as runners-up to the Hampshire side at the end of 2014/15 season, they faced a promotion play-off decider at London Two South-East's second placed side Medway. 'It was a great game to be involved in and one we all learned a lot from. I remember a lot of nervous energy both from the players and coaching staff. Losing that match has definitely made the lads hungry to go a step further this season. I believe I've learnt a lot from that match and how we'll prepare in the future for similar 'cup final' type games.'

One of the positives from last season was the emergence of a group of new players into the first team squad, with the likes of Josh Allison stepping up from the 2nd XV, and making a fantastic impact, and the arrival of Tom Baker and Jackson Szabo, the latter of whom moved from Trowbridge. 'Tom and Jackson were great last minute additions and I think we'll see more of their potential this season. Director of Rugby Dickon Moon heard on the grapevine that Jackson was heading to London, and after watching him play for Trowbridge at Guildford in the RFU Intermediate Cup the season before, he was straight onto him.' On top of this, Tom is excited about a new batch of players; 'We have had some great new arrivals who have really impressed in the pre-season games, and we expect them to place a lot of pressure on the current players. I expect there will be a few league debuts coming up.'

The positive air around the club has certainly continued with the pre-season build-up, as Tom revealed: 'The boys have worked really hard and have looked sharp in the friendlies.' He also sees a positive coming out of the delayed start to the league season in London Two this year, which links back to his demand for consistency in selection: 'It has given everyone an extra couple of weeks to spend with their families and friends...so there's no excuses not to be available for our league and cup games now!'

Sincock ended the interview by pointing out that the feel-good factor around London Cornish is not just due to our own form last season, but also down to wider Cornish sporting news - the County Championship win over Lancashire in Twickenham, plus the County Cup win for the Cornish Cricket side and positive news on the

development of a Stadium for Cornwall. If things look bright right now, fingers crossed they'll look positively dazzling come the end of April 2016!

By Ben Gilby

Press Officer: London Cornish RFC



Head Coach, Tom Sincock

The British and Irish Cup: Pirates Match in Richmond

Member Jonathan Henwood has notified us of the following match which members might be interested in:

Date: Saturday 23rd January 14:00

Opponents: London Welsh v Cornish Pirates.

Time: 2pm (Please check this closer to the time)

Venue: Old Deer Park, Richmond.

Are you planning to visit London?

Don't forget to contact the London Cornish Association and let us know when you are coming. If possible, we would love to meet you.

Contact us by email:

lca@londoncornish.co.uk

Or by mail to the address on the back page of this newsletter.

*A warm welcome awaits you at the
London Cornish Association*



Do we have your correct email address? Please make sure that you let us know if your address changes. Quite a few of the addresses we have are bouncing back and so we are trying to update the information we have.

Mem Sec's Meanderings...

Another year gone and we are fast approaching Christmas. Once again I must thank all of you who have paid your subscriptions on time and, to those who have generously included a donation to the Association, I say a special thank you.

As usual there were a number of members who had forgotten to pay and were sent a final reminder in August. Sadly I have since had to remove three people who did not pay their subscriptions for this year even after I had sent them a reminder. Over the years one of these people had joined three times and then after each year didn't pay their subscription and didn't respond to reminders and they have never given any reason why! Could I please ask that if, for any reason, you do not wish to remain a member you let me know and, if possible, why you do not want to continue your membership of The London Cornish Association. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. My address and telephone number are at the end of these 'Meanderings'. I don't like having to write members off for non payment particularly when I do not know their reasons.

You can see that our membership has again decreased and I have to report that as of November, it stands at 215. As I always say, not all of them are living in and around London. In fact, 100 are living farther afield, most in Cornwall but some abroad.

Again I ask if you know anybody who is of Cornish decent or maybe has an interest in Cornwall. If so you may be able to direct them to the London Cornish Association and encourage them to join the LCA. Hopefully they will then choose to become a member. This would be greatly appreciated.

I have mentioned before that when you are abroad you may see some Cornish town, village or place names. We know 'Cornwall' and its heritage has spread around the World, more than that of any other county. This is particularly so in places where mining was involved. As you saw in the last 'Newsletter' this brought a response from New Zealand regarding people's names, which was very interesting. I am, however, particularly interested in place names. There are so many that appear throughout the World. Wherever you go you will nearly always find a town or village with a Cornish name.

Last year I asked if you had seen the 'Last Night of the Proms' from The Royal Albert Hall by either actually being there or simply watching it on the television? I watched it again this year on the TV and was very pleased and proud to see, yet again, a Cornish flag waving enthusiastically amongst the other various flags that were being waved in the audiences. This year the Cornish flag looked much larger than last year and was obviously being waved very proudly - even more keenly than last year. Does anyone know who was actually waving the flag this year?

As always I am constantly looking out for more snippets about Cornwall from the newspapers and various books. As before, I have said that I am trying not to look too deeply into the past and have again found various Cornish-related items in recent newspapers. One was the following article that I read in a national daily newspaper:

- *'Less than 0.1 per cent of the population in Cornwall claim to speak Cornish as their first language.*
- *Nevertheless the County Council is set to order its staff to learn key phrases and greetings just in case a native-speaker calls in.*
- *Such political correctness doesn't come cheap and will be costing taxpayers about £150,000.*
- *The move was announced as part of a drive to widen the reach of Cornish and comply with EU rules on minority languages.*
- *From April next year the Council proposes to deliver basic training in key phrases and greetings for reception staff, while call centre staff will be encouraged to use basic Cornish greetings.'*

I wonder if this will actually take place. One can always hope.

When one of our sons visited Cornwall in October he brought me a copy of *'The West Briton'* from which I was able to find some news that I thought was of interest. Firstly one headline was **'Rumours circulating that mine could be reopened'**. A landmark deal to reopen Europe's last working tin mine could be agreed within the next few months. A number of companies are said to have shown an interest in reopening South Crofty Tin Mine in Pool which ceased operation in 1998. It will be interesting if an agreement is reached and Cornwall's last tin mine is reopened. We shall have to wait and see.

Another article **'Festival is in finest taste'** said that tens of thousands of foodies flocked to Truro for the 12th Great Cornish Food Festival, resulting in many smiles and plenty of well fed people. The organisers said that this year's event, held on Lemon Quay in Truro, was the best yet with up to 40,000 people expected to attend over the three days. It is the largest festival to be dedicated to Cornish cuisine and involved more than 100 food experts, chefs and producers who were able to show off their skills, while the festival marquee had dozens of stalls offering and selling many samples of cheese, cream, bread, ice cream, ales and ciders. Oh dear I missed it!

Another item in the newspaper said that the Helston based international disaster relief charity ShelterBox was to benefit from funds raised at the world premier of the latest James Bond film. They were one of three organisations nominated to benefit from this year's Royal Film Performance.

That is nearly all for now. I hope you have found these 'Meanderings' to be of interest and I hope that that they have brought back memories and given you further 'food for thought'. I also hope you enjoyed our good summer and that you had a good holiday this year. Now, we need to get prepared for a winter which the weathermen tell us will be cold - with a forecast of possible snow at Christmas! We shall see! If you want it or you don't there is nothing we can do!

As I end, I wish you a very good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kernow bys vyken

Graham Pearce, - 'Pengwyth', 17 Trellyn Close, Barming, MAIDSTONE, Kent, ME16 9EF Tel: (01622) 727167

Crowdy Crawn

Cornishman, Humphry Davy acknowledged with a Chemical Landmark Plaque.

The Chemical Landmark Scheme is a Royal Society of Chemistry initiative which recognises sites which have particular chemical interest. A recent addition is the shop at 1 Market Place, Penzance which is now a Rotary charity shop but was originally Peasgoods' Chemist. It was here that one of Penzance's most famous sons, Humphry Davy, served as an apprentice apothecary to John Bingham Borlase.

For most of the time since Davy did his apprenticeship, the site has been occupied or owned by the Symons family. Jon Symons, representing the family, was presented with the new plaque. In a talk at the presentation, Frank James, Professor of History of Science at the Royal Institution, talked about the great influence Cornwall had on Davy. He referred to it as the '*beloved place of my nativity*'.

Cornish Tourism 156 years ago...

West Briton, 6 May 1859 - News

SCILLY - On Easter Tuesday an excursion ship was got up here by the owners of the steamer 'Little Western' which took a large party of pleasure seekers round the splendid new lighthouse on the Bishop Rock, which is a most striking object, being considerably higher than the Eddystone, and exposed to the full rage of Atlantic seas. We understand that during the ensuing summer the 'Little Western' will make excursions round the Bishop, and other interesting parts of the island.

Francis Dunstan (from Cornish-Gen list)

Amazing Result in Prestigious Australian Horserace

One of the most prestigious horse races in Australia is the Melbourne Cup. I remember when growing up in Sydney that even non-bettors would have a bit of a flutter on this race and the country would grind to a virtual halt for the minutes during which the race is run.

This year's race was particularly exciting as it was the first time in its 155 year history, that a woman jockey had won. This triumph by Michelle Payne successfully put to rest the comments of her critics who said that she did not have the skills to win such a race.

For those of us with Cornish links, there was another exciting aspect to the race – the winning horse, which was a 100-1 outsider, was called *Prince of Penzance*. I have been unable to establish why the *Prince of Penzance* was so called, but what I did discover was that his name is not the only link with Cornwall...the horse, which was bred in New Zealand, was trained in Ballarat, an area in Victoria to which many Cornish people emigrated in the second half of the nineteenth century.

After the race, Robyn Short from the *Queensland Cornish Association* contacted various Cornish media to let them know the results. Following this, Radio Cornwall contacted her to ask her to do an interview! We look forward to hearing how it went.

Truronians mean business when it comes to gulls

For some time now, Truro has been under siege from aggressive seagulls. They have become a real nuisance, stealing food from people and scavenging in bins. Their aggressive behaviour has even led them to dive-bomb humans and animals which has, sadly, resulted in the deaths of two pet dogs and a pet tortoise. But now, the Council is fighting back...

As a first step, they are putting a special 'anti-gull' paint called *Flock-Off* on the lampposts around the Lemon Quay piazza where many people eat al fresco. The paint reflects the sun's rays which then dazzle any birds which come too close but does not harm them. To gulls, reflected UV rays are a 'threat' and it is hoped that this will deter them from hanging around areas where there are treated surfaces.

Residents are also being encouraged to take special care with their rubbish and not to feed the gulls as a regular, good supply of food encourages them to move in.

Old colours but a new look

Starting in September and continuing over the next few years, the trains on the Paddington-Penzance line will undergo a programme of rebranding and refurbishing which will affect all elements of the company. The changes include:

- A name change – *First Great Western* has reverted to *Great Western Railway*, a name first used in 1833.
- A new GWR logo based on the original, but with an enlarged W to signify the link with the west country.
- New livery in 'Brunswick Green, the colour of the engines which ran on the original GWR.
- New staff uniforms
- New ticket offices and stations
- New timetables

A range of new posters, which are reminiscent of those from the early days, have also been created. One of these sums up the new-look service with the slogan...'*a 21st century railway that would make Brunel himself proud*'.



<https://www.gwr.com/>

The deadline for the next issue of the LCA Newsletter is

5th February

Please send all contributions to:

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London
W7 3AZ*

Or email to lca@londoncornish.co.uk