

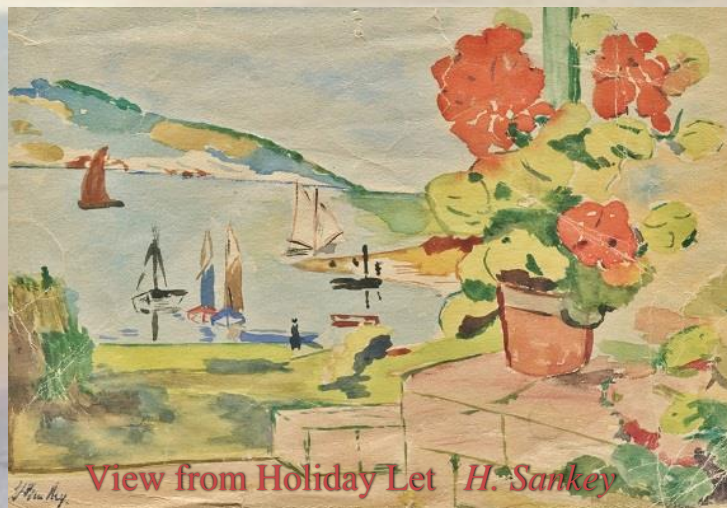


[www.torontocornishassociation.org](http://www.torontocornishassociation.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/TorontoCornishAssociation>

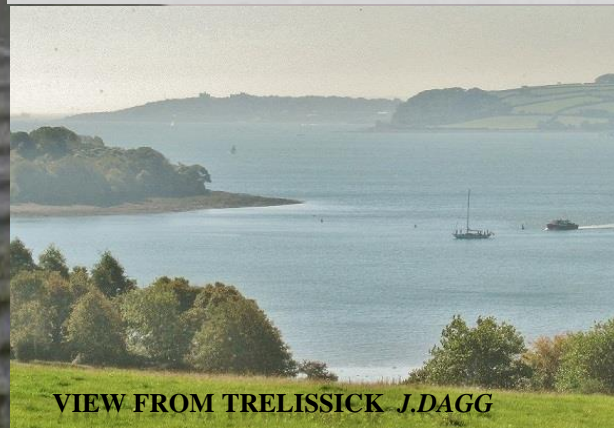
Toronto Cornish Association  
Welcome to our  
June Meeting



Falmouth Harbour *H. Sankey*



View from Holiday Let *H. Sankey*



VIEW FROM TRELISSICK *J.DAGG*

**'Tis the season for sea views and fun in the sun!  
Cheers to the summer solstice!**



**THE TORONTO CORNISH ASSOCIATION**  
**ZOOM Saturday, June 17, 2023 2:00 pm (EDT)**

Note: attendees may appear, or not, or twice.

***Kevrenogyon (participants):***

Marion Stephens, John & Mary Webb, Jim & Jill Dagg, Bob & Liz Radcliffe, John White, Shirley Symons (Cornwall), Glenda Cook, Peter & Nancy Dale, Geoff & Moyra Pyne, Ann Tozer, Gary & Catherine Vivian, Michael Gichard, Ann Radcliffe (Italy), Maxine McKenzie, Carol Goodwin, Dick Richards (London), Daphne Blunden Williams, Liz Broeckman (London), Carolyn Haines (CAHS).

**Regrets:**

Brian Oldham, Barbara Gardner-Bray, Wesley Johnston, Karen Machmer, Deborah Powell-Wells, James Tinney, Elizabeth Vosburgh

Marion Stephens-Cockcroft welcomed everyone and read the land acknowledgement expressing our true thankfulness for being allowed to share the land of the indigenous people who were here long before other cultures were impressed on this part of the world.

“Toronto sits on the territory of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, part of the Dish with One Spoon territory, a treaty between the Haudenosaunee (Six Nations) Confederacy, the Anishinaabek and allied nations.”

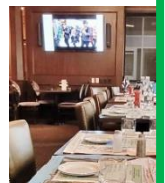
**EVENTOW NESSA +/-or KEVEWI TCA (Next Event +/-or TCA Party)**

Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 CAHS /TCA joint meeting ZOOM (3pm PDT, 5pm CDT, **6pm EDT**, 11pm BST)  
***Amongst the Cornish : The formation of Cornwall & the Cornish identity in the Early Medieval Period.***

John Fletcher (BSc Environmental Sciences), author of *The Western Kingdom: The Birth of Cornwall*, a thriving kingdom and culture located in the far SW of Britain. John Fletcher (Facebook - 'Morvleydh')

Hosted by CAHS on zoom - to register Google: [cousinjack.org/contact](https://cousinjack.org/contact)

Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 12:00 Noon Summer Get Together Party (Kevewi TCA)  
 at the Duke of Cornwall pub, 400 University Ave, Toronto, ON M5G 1S5



The Toronto Cornish Crew (the TCC) continues to coordinate meetings via Zoom and in person. With annual costs for TCA operation being reduced, **membership fees and renewal applications are waived until further notice.** However, we have expenditures for Zoom, printing & mailing and memberships of sister Cornish organizations. **Donations continue to be needed** as before and will be gratefully received.

(Make a cheque payable to **The Toronto Cornish Association** and send it to

TCA, c/o 2611-33 Empress Ave, Toronto ON M2N 6Y7

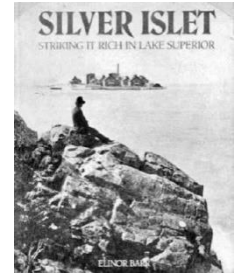
(For e-transfer - contact [rradclif@sympatico.ca](mailto:rradclif@sympatico.ca) or [eradcliffe@sympatico.ca](mailto:eradcliffe@sympatico.ca) for instructions)



## OUR PROGRAMME FOR 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023

**John Webb**, TCC Leader, offered an apology for our sudden change in the programme. Sadly, our speaker for today, Elle Andra-Warner in Thunder Bay, Ontario had her voice severely impacted by the long-term Covid she is suffering, and she would not be able to speak to us for more than a few minutes.

John and Elle will re-schedule for a later date, the story of **Silver Islet** mine, one of several important mining locations in the Canadian Great Lakes area. We recall John Tyacke's study of the Bruce Mines development and are becoming aware of more and more historic mines in Ontario which were worked by Cornish miners.



### John considered Plan A:

Just returning from a tour of Normandy, Brittany, and the Channel Isles, John said he was not surprised to find out that Cornish miners were very active in the Channel Isles in the 1800s and 1900s, and perhaps that story could fill the bill for today.

**Our apology**

Postponed to a later date

**Plan A**

*More stories of those  
Cornish silver miners*

St Martin, Guernsey	1833-1845
Sark	1836-1847
Silver Islet	1868-1884
Cobalt	1908

Amanda Johns  
Silver Age and Tour Guide  
Tours available

SILVER MINING  
ON SARK

**Plan B**

- Crowdy Crawn
- Visits to Cornwall
- The Scottish Isles
- Short Break
- Upcoming events
- Final Words and music

For example, Amanda Johns, tour guide - Guernsey and Sark, is a grand-daughter of a Cornish miner in that region. John did buy her book, *Tours of Guernsey* (below) describing the silver mining there in the 1830s and 1840s. Unfortunately, a talk by Amanda Johns was not possible at this time.

**The solution for today is Plan B** (as in the slide below), a variation on the meeting format we used when we were able to meet at the home of Ann Crichton-Harris and John Senders.

**Crowdy Crawn**  
*from around the world*

Kemewek Lowender  
Copper Coast,  
South Australia

Falmouth International Sea Shanty Festival 2023

**Other events in Cornwall in June**

- Royal Cornwall Show in Wadebridge
- Golowan Festival in Penzance
- Midsummer Eve Bonfire at Sancreed Beacon

## CROWDY CRAWN

**John Webb:** slide no. 1 (p. 3 above) We are connecting with other groups around the world. For example, Ken Peak, Secretary of the Cornish Association of Victoria, Australia often joins us and is in the picture of **the Bards at Kernewek Lowender** on the Copper Coast, the largest annual Cornish festival in the world. If he was on zoom with us today it would be 3 am his time. The TCA library has a copy of the book Ken edited, *Agan Kernow: stories of our Cornwall*, 76 stories written by 51 authors from four countries of the worldwide Cornish Diaspora.



The picture of the Bards was sent to us by Jan Lokan (Hon. Life Member TCA) who co-edited with Philip Payton the book *More than Miners: Cornish Essays from South Australia*. Jan Lokan: BA Adelaide U, and PhD Education, Ottawa, Canada. Philip Payton: Emeritus Professor of Cornish & Australian Studies Exeter University, Professor of History at Flinders University, and Honorary Professor: Australian National University.

June is a very active month for people in Cornwall, and those who wish they were there to attend the **Royal Cornwall Show** at Wadebridge, the **Golowan Festival** in Penzance, and dance at the **Midsummer Eve Bonfire** at Sancreed Beacon and other places.

In their second movie, the *Fisherman's Friends: One and All*, the group performs *The Last Shanty* at the Minack Theatre. The chorus, *A Sailor ain't a sailor ain't a sailor anymore* has accompanying hand gestures that are being performed by the people in the picture - **The Falmouth Sea Shanty Festival**.

[Have a listen on Google] [youtu.be/rsa-lXaVvXw](https://youtu.be/rsa-lXaVvXw) [and also] [youtu.be/4Bo5zVvtwhU](https://youtu.be/4Bo5zVvtwhU) )

**John Webb:** slide no. 2 - **A trip to Normandy and Brittany:**



Mont Saint-Michel, Normandy



The Apollo Line



The Celtic Nations

Mont Saint-Michel - 350 steps to the top (an effort), and similar to St Michael's Mount in Cornwall.

The Apollo Line connects Skellig Michael (SW Eire), St Michael's Mount (Cornwall), Mont Saint Michel (Normandy), Sacra di San Michele (Spain), Santuario di San Michele (Italy), Santo Monastero di Taxiarchi Michail (Greek Island of Symi), and Monastero Stella Maris del Monte Carmelo (Haifa, Israel).

The Celtic Nations Flag: clockwise - Cornwall, Ireland, Galtcia, Brittany, Isle of Man, Scotland, Asturias and Wales.

Next, John looked at the crowd for **more crowdy crawn** and spied Jim Dagg eagerly holding up a picture.

**Jim Dagg** told of **an incident in Cornwall in 1972** when he and Jill were taken on a pub crawl by their hosts. They ended up at one very friendly establishment in Bude. During conversation with a few regulars at the bar, a local photographer asked the publican to hand Jim a framed picture displayed



behind the bar. It was a photograph of a ship that was taken in dense fog. Jim was challenged to explain how it was done. The reward would be a pint! Luckily, Jim had once worked for a photographer, so he instantly suggested ultra-violet film and filter. Correct! Pint won!

The ship in the Bristol Channel in the fog was the WW2 vintage **Arc Royal** aircraft carrier.





**Bob Radcliffe** told us about his **1832 Reform Bill jug:**

I inherited the jug from my maternal grandfather, Charles Ivey, a tenant farmer who lived in St Minver and St Endellion parishes all his life. He died in 1947. The jug honours the Royal Assent to the Reform Bill on 7 June 1832. Bernice Cardy, Collections Officer at the Swansea Museum in Wales (I wrote to her in 2007), was of the opinion that the jug was made by the Swansea Glamorgan Pottery in 1832/3.

The picture of Earl Grey on the mug is of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl, largely instrumental in passing the Act, who later became Prime Minister. He also gave his name to Earl Grey tea when he was gifted the tea. The 4<sup>th</sup> Earl Grey gave the famous cup to the football league in 1909. I have no idea why or how the mug came into my family. Trade between Padstow and South Wales?

Shirley Symons spoke to Liz and I this afternoon after the meeting and told us she is friendly with the current Earl Grey! She will mention our meeting when she next meets him. It's a small world!



JD ed. via Google: The British Museum has on display an egg from Whitehaven pottery 1832.

The Representation of the People Act 1832 (Reform Act, etc.) in England and Wales made major changes to the electoral system. Getting the vote: small landowners, tenant farmers, shopkeepers, householders w/ annual rent of £10 or more. Among the “reforms” was an “**explicit statutory bar to women voting by defining a voter as a male person.**”

Jillian Dagg reminds us of ‘Canada’s Famous Five’ women who fought to overturn the Canadian Supreme Court ruling (March 14, 1928) that women were *not* “qualified persons” in Sect. 24, BNA act. The Famous Five petitioned the sole higher authority: The Privy Council in England. Oct 18, 1929 the Lord Chancellor of the Privy Council, **Lord Sankey** (one of Jillian’s not-so-distant family antecedents) and the committee, found that the meaning of “qualified persons” could be read broadly to include women, **reversing** the Canadian Supreme Court. Lord Sankey wrote: “*[t]he exclusion of women from all public offices is a relic of days more barbarous than ours*”, and, “*to those who ask why the word [‘person’] should include females, the obvious answer is why should it not*”? The Famous Five: Emily Murphy, Henrietta Edwards, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney & Irene Parlby.

**Marion Stephens visited the Art Gallery of Ontario** to see the current exhibition *Cassatt–McNicol: Impressionists Between Worlds*, artworks, paintings, prints and sketches by two women Impressionist painters, **Mary Cassatt** (USA, 1844–1926) & **Helen McNicol** (CDN, 1879–1915). McNicol’s paintings on display at the AGO are portraits, landscapes and seascapes all of girls and/or women in various activities. This painting (right) is of two art students; one sketching and the other looking at an art book. Helen, the daughter of a Vice President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, studied in Europe, England and **Cornwall**.



During her visit to see the exhibit, Marion discovered that **McNicol had attended the St. Ives School of Art under the tutelage of British Impressionist Algernon Talmage, RA** (1871 -1939) who also tutored Emily Carr during her studies at St Ives. (There is also light in the shadows.)

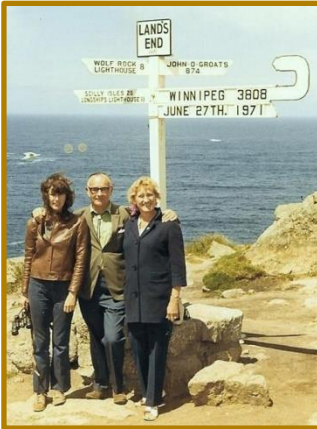
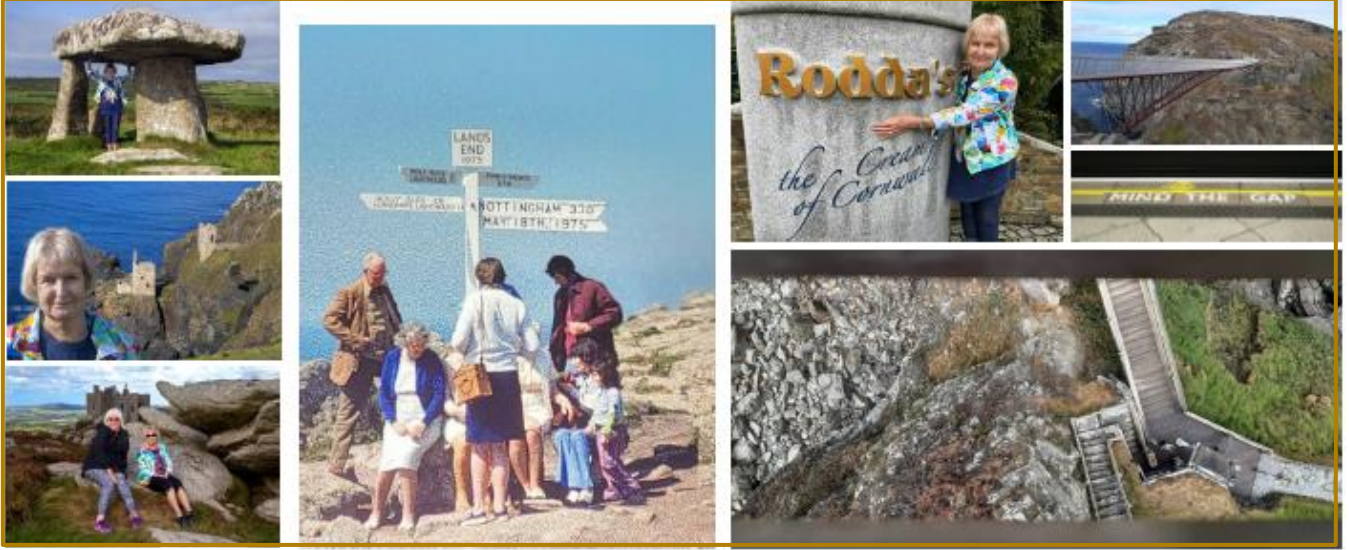
**Diane Buckell** has a postcard circa 1964 of Port Isaac with herself, in yellow, sitting on the Platt. Also there is Jeremy Brown, the little boy, now leader of *Fisherman’s Friends*, with his Dad. (They confirm it.) In those days there were a lot of Browns in Port Isaac. I ran my family’s shop, the Pharmacy in *Doc Martin*, for two summers, as a gift store. It was a “hobby”. In those days I spent my winters in Canada working in Ski Lodges and my summers in Cornwall. Those **were** the days!

## VISITS TO CORNWALL

### Mary Webb, 2022:

John had asked his brother-in-law, Terry Harry (of *Cornwall Yesteryear*), to show Mary some of Cornwall's historic sites she never saw when she was a teenager. Lanyon Quoit, Botallack Mine, Carne Bray, Rodda's Creamery, Tintagel Bridge - the new one with the gap! (Or take the hundred steps down and up.) Lands End picture from 1975 (Mary's parents, who never took her anywhere and would say, living in Newquay, the best part of the world, why would you go anywhere else?)

John played a comment from a visitor on finding the signpost missing, was told it cost £10 for it to be erected for photographs. Apparently at 5pm , it was removed and locked away.



Jill added, her parents apparently did not pay for the sign to be up for the picture in 1971.

(Not sure about that.)



Or was it £10  
for the loo?

## John White - 2023 visit to Cornwall:

Having spent some time in England visiting other relatives, when it came time to head for Cornwall, John feared he was catching the cold that was lurking about just then in one of the people they were visiting. Joanna said he must do a Covid test. He tested positive! Odd, he thought. He felt fine. His



symptoms were slight and nowhere near as bad as the person who had the cold - who tested negative!

In Cornwall for a family reunion of about forty people, John and Joanna had to rent a property, an isolation abode, in order to protect others from Virus Carrier John. But, Joanna never caught it. In St Ives, he had to meet all his relatives at arm's length, although he felt completely well. Farewell lunch was not missed because just before returning to Canada, he tested negative.

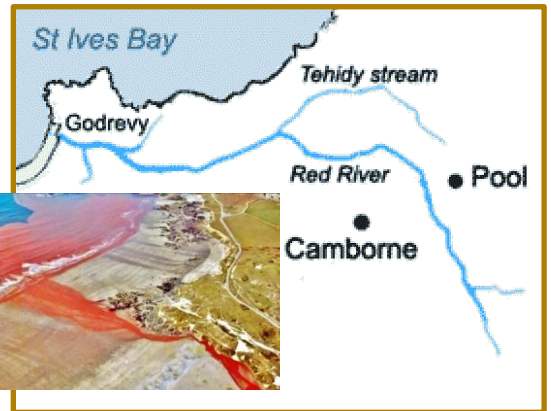


**Daphne Blunden** visited Cornwall at the time of the coronation of King Charles III. At the Minack Theatre - gorgeous weather.

They also saw a film called the Red River (BBC 4) - the story of the river which empties at Gwithian and Hale beach at Godrevy into the sea. The river used to be red in colour because of pollution, and is now on the way to being cleaned up.



Cornwall's Red River



Poet John Wedgwood Clarke explores the Red River in Cornwall and finds that it is slowly showing signs of coming back to life. Extracts from John's poem, "Red River at the A30 Culvert" \*, reveal his mixed thoughts about the river's toxic legacy, but as he meets both those with a connection with the river's industrial past and who care for it today, he finds new hope for its future.

\*You can find the poem at: <https://redriverpoetry.com/making-the-poem/a-new-poem>

## John Webb - CORNISH CONNECTIONS IN The Scottish Isles

Who remembers  
my presentation on  
the prehistory of Cornwall?

This was the final slide



But, with COVID,  
it was not to be

Until September 2022.

The tour was on,  
and I finally joined the group



Not specifically a Cornish story, but there are Cornish connections.

The tour grew out of the fascination John has with: Who Are The Cornish? At the end of his presentation, a couple of years back, pre-Covid, he made a wish to be able to join the tour. Last year, he did.

When travelling through all those areas, he noticed how the features were quite "Cornish" in style: beaches, cliffs, harbours, and storms.

Scotland, however is famous for more than prehistoric standing stones.

## The Neolithic age - A time when the farmers arrive

and the agricultural revolution led to the creation of a new world order,  
centered on Orkney, between 3,300 and 2,800 BC

Ring of Brodgar, Stones of Stenness, Maeshowe tomb, Skara Brae. Ness of Brodgar



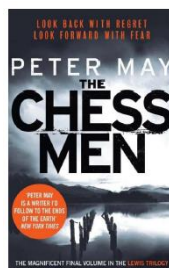
A new world order was created by the emergence of farmers out of the Fertile Crescent in the Middle East and Mediterranean basin. When farmers arrived in Britain, they settled in the Orkneys which are out of the way and not greatly disturbed by modern farming methods.

John visited Neolithic henge monuments, the Ring of Brodgar (+/- 5000 yrs old) and stones of Stenness (+/- 5400 yrs old). The restored Neolithic village of Skara Brae was covered in sand by the storms after it was abandoned +/- 2500 years ago. It was somewhat uncovered by a huge storm in the mid-1800s and again in the early 1900s. Proper excavation found out the dwellings were well preserved. The walls of flagstone (easily worked hard sandstone) being covered with earth would be well insulated.

### The Isles of Lewis and Harris (furthest north in the Hebrides)

have the **Callanish Stone Circle** and Avenue. The TV series *The Outlander* used a mock-up of the

circle. Peter May's books *The Chess Men* and *The Black House*, are worth looking at, The chess men are real Viking stone carvings found in the sand. The black house was one of the real houses of the people of the islands. The third book is the *White House* (being stuccoed).



**On to Shetland**, part of the Norway empire where the Vikings used existing Neolithic dwellings and rebuilt them. Jarlshof settlement (middle) and a peat cutter beyond (best local home fuel).

The round tower is a *broch* on Mousa Island. A dry stone built double-walled tower forty five feet high, is a good example of the more than a hundred Iron Age towers in Shetland.





For the Netflix subscribers and knitters among us, Shetland's own DI Jimmy Perez was there to meet us in Lerwick and it was wool week on the island.



We recall the longest scarf project and the TCA participation. Is there a Wool Week journey in store for any of the TCA or ready for the ferry ride?



The  
Hogwarts  
Express  
to the Isle  
of Skye



All visitors to Scotland must go to the Isle of Skye where Gulf Stream warmed waters keep the climate mild enough for near-tropical plants. And everyone must watch the famous Hogwarts Express cross the viaduct.

(Thanks from John to Terry Harry for many of the photos he uses in presentations.)

## Looking ahead to July

*Note the change from our regular day and time*

A joint meeting with CAHS Sunday, 16 July at 6pm.

## Amongst the Cornish

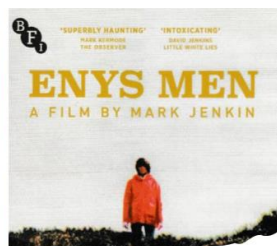
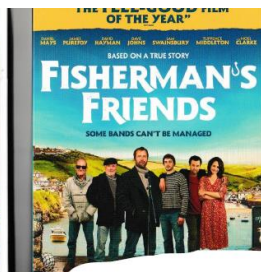
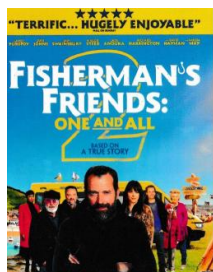
The formation of Cornwall and the Cornish identity in the Early Medieval Period, by John Fletcher

How did the fledgling Cornish survive the eventual rise of England to preserve their own identity, language and culture into the modern era?

Hosted by the CAHS, on Zoom, register at

<https://www.cousinjack.org/contact>

See page 2 for details on how to contact and register for the presentation - 16 July 2023



Looking  
further ahead ....

Thanks again to John Sleeman who sponsored the TCA and who sent refreshment (via the beer truck to JW's after Ann Crichton-Harris could no longer act as our contact.) Sleeman's Brewery is the official refreshment at the Canadian Open Golf Championship.

We have three movies waiting to be shown at future in-person meetings.

## Bayeux Tapestry, a model for the Tregellas Tapestries

With thanks to Len and Carol Snell



58 embroideries were created by the Tregellas Foundation established by Rita Tregellas Pope (L) in the 1990s to 'advance the knowledge and understanding of Cornwall's cultural heritage'.



The tapestries were made by embroiderers from across Cornwall and each takes a theme from Cornish history or mythology and vibrantly illustrates it.

Some of the tapestries are often displayed at Kresen Kernow, and the rest can be seen in the strong rooms (by pre-arrangement only). The full selection is digitized.

**Kresen Kernow**, Little Vauxhall,  
Redruth, Cornwall TR15 1AS

kresenkernow@cornwall.gov.uk tel: 01209 61 4430

The TCA got involved through Len and Carol Snell and sponsored one of the embroideries.

To wind up the session, John played a song by the Countrymen, *Cornwall My True Home*. He also showed some of the displayed embroideries.

*My tuppence worth:* **Cornish language revival:** [newsletter@e.cornwalllive.com](mailto:newsletter@e.cornwalllive.com) reports Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek (The Cornish Language Fellowship) promotes Cornish through publications, projects and events, and runs a Cornish-language bookshop called Kowsva located at Heartlands in Pool. For Kernewek learners, Internet resources and apps help Cornish to be learned by more than 4,000 pupils in 23 schools in the Duchy. Cornwall Council funded "Go Cornish" for Primary Schools provides free Cornish lessons for pupils.

Google: [skrolanyeth.wordpress.com](http://skrolanyeth.wordpress.com)

For all of this kernewek poem:  
diberthys a'n bys aswonny  
yn kub gwag gwrys a basbordh  
my a dhryft a-ugh rosweyth estren  
ow hwilas



James Dagg TCA



## TORONTO CORNISH ASSOCIATION REVIEW

*Aiming to preserve Cornish heritage,  
and stimulate interest in Cornish traditions, local history, genealogy, and culture.*  
Contributing editor: John Webb, Editor: Barbara Gardner-Bray, Publishing editor: James Dagg