



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



(Bodmin Monument : J Dagg)



Scorrier Cornwall penny 1812  
Duke of Cornwall's motto  
ICH DIEN (I SERVE)

My tuppence worth: The Bodmin monument seems to be pointing the way upward for Cornwall's future in the space race. The explorative and natural genius of the Cornish people has shown many places in the world how to mine, make a worthy pasty and sing great songs! Therefore, in my opinion, *Spaceport Cornwall* will ultimately be launching satellites from Newquay, a passenger airport ! (James Dagg, TCA)

# Minutes of the meeting of the Toronto Cornish Association

Mar 18, 2023

Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave, Toronto, Ontario

John Webb welcomed everyone at 2:00 pm (EDT).

## Attendees:

John Webb, Mary Webb, Len Snell, Maxine McKenzie, Karen Machmer, Geoff & Moira Pyne, Sue Cox, Marion Stephens, Barbara Gardner-Bray, Peter & Nancy Dale, Diane Buckell, Kathy Oakden.

## Guests:

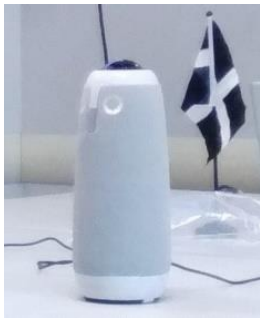
Nicholas Booker (Ohio State University), Robin Snell.

## Regrets:

Elizabeth Vosburgh, Glenda Cook, Rachel Hawes, Ann Tozer, John White.

**Greetings** were sent to the TCA from Liz Broekmann on behalf of the London Cornish Association.

Marion Stephens-Cockcroft 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.



John introduced the “Owl”.

This 360 degree video conferencing device rented from the Town Hall allows anyone who speaks to be found by the device and shown on the monitor screen.

Also tested was the zoom connection (quite successful) between the meeting audience and Bob & Liz Radcliffe and Jim & Jillian Dagg.

(Our first TCA Hybrid Meeting)



Trelawny rang out led by a video played on the big screen TV at Swansea Town Hall !



What we saw with JW in control with OWL in the room. Seen and then heard (when allowed).



TCA CELEBRATED ST PIRAN'S DAY



**John Webb began the meeting with St Piran's Day celebration photos.** (see p 3)



**St Piran's Day** in Truro was attended by the Mexican Ambassador, Josefa Gonzalez-Blanco, and a grand Trelawny Shout with bands and crowds was celebrated in Redruth.



The Mexican ambassador in Truro



The Trelawny Shout in Redruth

St Piran's Day 2023



We were small but mighty!  
TCA Trelawny Shout



St Piran in France  
Made in Cornwall

The TCA did the same at the Duke of Cornwall pub and the Duke of York pub in Toronto and also by sending an advance party to storm city hall with flags and poetry and good will !  
(Well, there was a snow storm as usual for us in these latitudes. But there were **pasties** at the pub)



St Piran's flag at Toronto City Hall  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2023





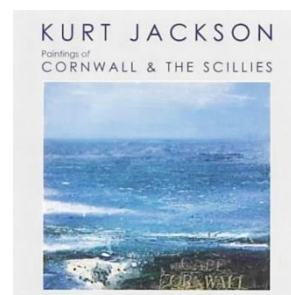
## TCA Presentation for 18 March, 2023: SHOW AND TELL

1) **Marion Stephens-Cockcroft** spoke about Cornish artist, Kurt Jackson and his book entitled *Paintings of Cornwall and the Scillies*, his love of ecology and landscape, the downside to the environment of garbage, his night-time paintings and the permission granted to him to paint inside Crofty Mine.

**Kurt Jackson** (born 21 September 1961) Born in Blandford, Dorset, the son of two painters,<sup>[1]</sup> he developed an early interest in natural history and landscape. In 1984 he and his wife Caroline Jackson moved to Boscastle, North Cornwall. In 1989 they moved to St. Just, Penwith where he has an art gallery of some of his Cornish land & seascapes.

A Plein air painter, he paints in mixed media, drawing inspiration from the Cornish landscape around Penwith and elsewhere in Britain and abroad. Many of his paintings, particularly those we saw in his gallery, reflect a concern with natural history, ecology and environmental issues. In the gallery, but not in this book, was a large seascape. The colours were stunning, but on closer look one could see all kinds of plastic waste in the surf along the shoreline.

(1) References: Wikipedia, Paintings of Cornwall & The Scillies, White Lane Press.



2) **Barbara Gardner-Bray** showed a family heirloom, a silver and ebony baton presented in 1916 to her grandfather, Arthur Henry Gardner, organizer and conductor of the Todmorden Choral Society. (Todmorden is a neighbourhood east of the Don River and once the location of a brick works, two paper mills, a lumber mill, a brewery and other light industries.) Arthur was also conductor of the previous Toronto Cornish Association Choir, as well as being President 1915-16

See Google - Todmorden Mills and the Todmorden neighbourhood in Toronto.

3) Moyra Pyne showed a book entitled *Hodge Memorandum*, full of photos and small poems which came to her from Australia. Her family is connected to Pol Hodge, Grand Bard.



(Whoo-R-U screen view on zoom via the OWL)



5) **Len Snell** spoke about his family connection to the silver mine in Real del Monte, Mexico, the research he undertook and a personal 1994 trip there.

4) **Sue Cox** told us that her DNA test results from two different companies had discrepancies and inaccuracies in the information. Her advice is to be careful what you wish for and carefully check the test information against your own family names and records.

Break: Refreshments: Fairings, scones with homemade raspberry jam and clotted cream, lemon cake, cheese, vegetables and dip, tea and lemonade.



**A SPECIAL GUEST: NICHOLAS BOOKER** was introduced by John Webb.

A PhD student and graduate teaching associate in musicology and ethnomusicology at the Ohio State University, Nicholas is currently attending a conference in Toronto, and is interested in Cornish music and how the Cornish diaspora maintains connections to it.

With guitar accompaniment, he taught the group a lively song. TCA members have attended the Fisherman's Friends musical, hosted the Trelawny Male Voice Choir performance at St Olaf's Church in 2015 and the Wadebridge & St Columb Male Voice Choir at our CAHS Gathering in 2003. Also mentioned was the TCA's participation in the Beaches Celtic Festival. A focus of research on Lake Huron music was suggested to Nicholas; eg: Bruce Mines, Ontario.

Nicholas Booker's research interests include postnational and transnational musical identities, tradition, heritage, commodification and globalization (as noted in his contributor profile for the *University of Toronto 2023 Graduate Music Conference* \*).

He is focused on interactions between folk and traditional music communities around the Great Lakes in North America and in Cornwall in Britain within wider concepts of "Celtic" and North American music. His master's thesis on university introductory music courses is available on ProQuest, and his essay "Remembering the Call: Cornish and American Interactions in Song" will be part of the upcoming book *Oll Hag Oll: Musical Diversity in Cornwall*.

\*See the programme of the conference click on;

[Conference – Music Graduate Students' Association \(utoronto.ca\)](https://utoronto.ca/conferences/)

Or Google - [mgsa.sa.utoronto.ca/conferences/](https://mgsa.sa.utoronto.ca/conferences/)



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## John Webb, TCA Archivist reports:

### TORONTO, IN TIMES OF OLD.

On enquiries with cemeteries around Toronto, it seems that "*groups and associations had purchased graves in advance in large quantities to be used by their members. The members will pay the group back for the use of the grave. This allows groups and associations to have all their members buried together in one area.*" As an example, the St Andrew's Society of Toronto purchased a large burial plot in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in 1886. Scots who died without resources would be buried in "a small piece of Scotland: An official dedication came in 1891 along with a cairn.



In a similar manner, we have this story of Edward Chapman. According to the obit in the Toronto Star of February 1908, Edward Chapman, a Cornishman, had died of typhoid, at the age of 22. His funeral was to be attended by the Toronto Cornish choir and he was to be buried in Prospect Cemetery in a plot registered to the President of the Cornish Association.



Edward had arrived in Canada in April 1907, and he must have contacted the Toronto Cornish Association on arrival in Toronto. The TCA had been re-established in 1904, and by 1907 had grown to 200 members. In his case, it seems the purchase of the plot was a one-off action by the TCA to support the widow and child of a recently arrived Cornishman. The GPS location for the grave in Prospect Cemetery is 43°40'55.6"N 79°27'18.7"W, but currently there are no markers.



## FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

During the last few years, the TCA and many organizations have provided guidance to those researching their family history. In our case, we established a sub-group on Genealogy under the excellent direction of Scott Baker. While the group is taking a break, all the hints, links, suggestions and recommendations have been documented on the Family History Research page of our website. (torontocornishassociation.org)

Many other organizations in the Ontario region provide professional support, and most offer a free link to their Zoom meetings. In particular, we can recommend:

BIFHSGO at <https://www.bifhsgo.ca> and OGS at <https://ogs.on.ca>

For a handy list of upcoming Zoom meetings from these organization, it is worth creating a link to the Anglo Celtic Connections website at <https://www.anglocelticconnections.ca> . You will receive a weekly summary of events, all available on Zoom, and from near and far. Happy research.

### OUR TARTAN

It is with pride that we noted that our Tartan was highlighted in the February issue of the newsletter of the St Andrew's Society of Toronto.



Cornwall, or Kernow as it's known in Cornish, has a unique Celtic heritage and is considered one of the 'Celtic nations'. The Celtic nations are made up of Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, Brittany and Cornwall; some lists also include Galicia and Asturias in North West Spain.

Each colour in the Cornish Tartan has a special meaning: White on Black for St Piran's Banner (The Patron Saint of Tinnerns), Black and Gold were the colours of the ancient Cornish kings; red is for the beak and legs of the Chough, the Cornish National bird and blue is for the sea surrounding Cornwall. The ancient Kingdom of Cornwall is remembered in this tartan, designed by the Cornish poet, E. E. Morton-Nance. He regarded tartan as the "heritage of all Celts" and extolled brave Cornishmen to wear the kilt of black and saffron, "Tints blazoned by her ancient Kings".



And this is an excuse for recalling my travels in Scotland last summer, when I noted that the tales of their historic struggles have remarkable similarities to our own Cornish struggles. (Editors note: Could this be a topic for a presentation?)

Both nations proudly wear their kilts and here we have two TCA members, one wearing the Cornish National tartan, and the other dressed as a Bonnie Prince Charlie wannabe.

A prize is offered for naming the two members.





## THE TCA PICNIC in St Catharines. Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 1921

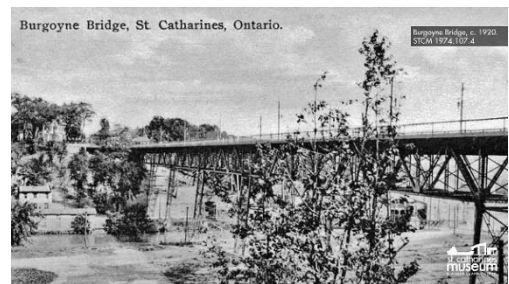


With the kind assistance of the Historical Society of St Catharines, the location of the picnic has been identified, and it was not alongside the lake. In their report, they noted:

“The photograph was taken in Montebello Park, with Ontario Street running behind the group, and Norris to the left-hand side. The Standard newspaper for a week on both sides of the Friday, July 21, 1921 was checked and there is nary a mention of the Cornish group's activities. The picnic happened in the middle of a highly promoted "Old Boys Week" or "Old Home Week" when former St Catharines residents were invited to return to the city from far and wide. And the Cornish gathering just got lost amidst all of the other events going on.”

Judging from the number of people at the picnic, travel must have been by the Grand Trunk Railway, arriving at the station with connections to the Park by streetcar across the newly built high-level Burgoyne Bridge.

Montebello Park was designed in 1887 by Frederick Law Olmstead, the founding father of landscape architecture in the United States, and one of the designers of Central Park in New York City. The park contains a pavilion, playground equipment and rose garden, and continues to be the home to numerous events and festivals throughout the year.



**Recently contributed material in the TCA JOHN TYACKE section in U of Toronto Kelly Library**, including Agan Kernow (Our Cornwall) by Ken Peak, and the current newsletter from the New Zealand Cornish Association. Major contributors to the archives, John Tyacke, Rosemary Bolitho and Len Snell were recognised which showed the depth of the Cornish heritage represented by club members.



## A FAMILY HISTORY NOTE FROM SUE COX (#3 in a series)

William Ching +  
Honour Greenaway

### **William Ching (1653 - 1737):**

William's family were local yeomen in Kilkhampton, Cornwall and farming fairly extensive lands, some of which they owned. William's parents were Humphrey and Katherin Ching. I have only found one other child born to them. William was born on 15 May 1653. This was likely his actual birthdate since, during the time of Oliver Cromwell, justices of the peace recorded births rather than baptisms in the parish register.

William married Susan Judd in 1677. She was a local Kilkhampton girl. They had three children, and they lived at Limsworthy (now spelled Lymsworthy), just outside Kilkhampton village. William would eventually leave half the property to his youngest child, Honour. A hundred years later the property would still be called "Ching's Lymsworthy" even though no Chings were in possession of it. But Susan (or Susanna) died in June, 1689.

Four years later, he married Elizabeth Hockridge (Hokridg). She was fifteen years younger than William. (William's daughter Honour by his third wife would eventually marry Elizabeth's nephew.) Elizabeth and William had four more children, before Elizabeth died in January 1702/3 following the birth of their fifth child, who lived.

So four years later, William married again. He was fifty-seven years old when he wed Honour Greenaway. They had three more children. Luckily, William Ching could afford lots of children. For one thing, he had inherited a reasonably sized estate from his father. His own will outlines extensive properties and possessions. At the time his will was written, all his daughters had married except Honour, the youngest, who was engaged – so all that remained was to settle a reasonable dowry on her.

William died in October 1737. In addition to farms, he had tenements and other property – from Kilkhampton to Stratton – and enjoyed the income from them. He was a yeoman living in Thorne, just north of Lymsworthy, at the time of his death. He was eighty-four years old, an impressive age for the time. Of course, the Thorne farm, too, went to his children. Nowadays you can rent a holiday cottage there for a "farm holiday".

**Honour Greenaway (1677 – 1743):** (or Greenway) was also born in Kilkhampton. Her parents were John and Agnes Greenaway or Greenway, and she was baptized on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1677, one of four children. The parish register is not very revealing about the Greenway family. Nor can I find a record anywhere else. She was 29 when she married – relatively late – and was probably regarded as an old maid by then, though late marriages were not unusual. In spite of William having a herd of children, I'm sure Honour was happy to marry a man of some means and to live happily ever after at Thorne. She was married for 30 years, after all.

When she died, William had left her a fair estate, after providing for any of his children who needed his provision. Honour was buried at Kilkhampton on 16<sup>th</sup> April 1743. Of William Ching's 10 children by three wives, all but one lived to adulthood. But one of his daughter's wedding went down in history.

It was customary at the time for the rector of a parish to appoint a curate who actually did all the work; the rector often lived far away. When Ann Ching was married, the rector was a member of the aristocratic and wealthy Granville family and his curate in Kilkhampton was William Guard who wrote to a member of the Bishop's staff.

*"Kilkhampton, 8ber 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1719*

*"Sir,*

*The reason of my writing to you at present is this. Some few months agoe we had a wedding in our parish church of Kilkhampton (where I am now licenced curate) many people behaved ymselves so irregular yt after ye marriage rites were finished I sent of some, at my own house, desiring ym to be civil in ye house of God for ye time to come. Since yt they have been much worse 2 or 3 times yt I took occasion to speak to them publickly in ye church telling ym they behaved ymselves as if they were at a wake or revel as is commonly call'd in our country and if ye did not behave ymselves better in the future I would take case of ym elsewhere. Yesterday I married a couple very honest respectable persons. As soon as I was got into ye church there were near 100 people 80 more than I*



ever saw on a prayer day. In a little tim after I began they made such a noise that I could not hear the respos of either running from seat to seat and ye like as soon as I came out at uye communion table there was a bustle in ye church ...I am resolved not to marry nor baptize any dey but a Sunday when there is a full congregation till I hear from you. One came just now and tells me twas always a custom to make such rendezvous yt they will always do it for they value as they say neither the Bishop nor his court ...”

“I am Sir your very humble servant

“William Guard”

The first wedding Mr. Guard refers to in his letter is that of William’s daughter Ann.

It’s an interesting glimpse of customs in Kilkhampton and a memorable day for Ann.

## THE MILL-STONES OF PINETUM GARDENS

Holmbush Road, Holmbush, Saint Austell PL25 3RQ

Visited a few years ago by James and Jillian Dagg, **Pinetum Gardens** on the A390, not far from Carlyon Bay, and Charlestown, and St Austell, is a fabulous 30 acre Oriental garden in the heart of Cornwall. A horticultural delight, with over 6000 species of plants carefully labelled and including many other delights such as a woodland garden, arboretum, pinetum (pron: *pie need um*), and a Japanese garden.

The location is a reclaimed 19<sup>th</sup> century tin and copper mining site which was planted with trees when the mining stopped. The development of the main gardens began in 1976.

**The Mill-Stone display is explained by a plaque** on site which tells how the owner of Pine Lodge Gardens, as it was called then, was visiting a local quarry in south Cornwall, when he saw five mill-stones. Being a granite enthusiast, he asked if they were for sale and was given a number in London to call. The phone number connected them to the shipping company, P&O (The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company). The owners of the Gardens wrote to P&O and requested details of the mill-stones, and were pleasantly surprised when P&O agreed to donate the mill-stones to the gardens in exchange for acknowledgement of their gift. The stones were power washed, drilled for support rods and then the three tonne stones were loaded by crane onto a flat-bed and moved to the Gardens. Unloaded by crane in position, the mill-stones are on display with a plaque explaining their provenance.

Quoting from the plaque on site: “(The mill-stones) were originally used for the spice trade and were purchased with a property in Butler’s wharf in the docks at London, where the ships from the Spice Islands used to deliver their cargoes.”

An estate agent’s brochure <sup>(1)</sup> notes that the name Butler’s Wharf is used as a term for the surrounding area filled with other historic buildings just east of Tower Bridge on the south bank of the Thames. The Victorian era buildings in the area were named after the commodities stored in them: Tea Trade, Wheat, Vanilla, Sesame, Cayenne and other buildings were named after spices like cinnamon, cardamom, tamarind, fennel and caraway. Butler’s Wharf, a Grade II listed building and regenerated since the 1980s, is now the location of luxury flats, with restaurants and shops on the ground floor.

(1) Anderson Rose - Wimpole Street, London, W1G 0EF and 31 Shad Thames, London, SE1 2YR  
Google: [pinetumgardens.com](http://pinetumgardens.com) (for the website and details)



There is a coffee shop and a stone barn for staying overnight.



## Sincere Condolences to The Tinney Family

Fern Alberta Tinney (1935-2023) passed away peacefully at The Bridge Hospice, Warkworth, Ontario on Friday March 3rd, 2023. She was a member of the TCA (Toronto Cornish Association) and had a long time interest in genealogy. A special place to visit on her world travels was the Tinney homestead in Penvivian, Cornwall, England. Belleville born, Fern grew up on the family farm at Pethericks Corners, attended Campbellford High School, and after Normal School she taught in Smithfield, Cobourg and then Oakville. Fern held a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology McMaster University, majoring in Indigenous Studies.

Interment - Zion Cemetery, Pethericks Corners.

Memorial donations can be made to Fern's charity of choice,  
The Parkinson's Foundation or The Bridge Hospice - Warkworth.

Online condolences: [www.weaverfuneralhomes.com](http://www.weaverfuneralhomes.com)



### Maxine McKenzie reports:

Discover how **historical newspapers** can help you find fascinating facts about the life and times of your ancestors, with expert tips. The British Newspaper Archive ([britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)) contains tens of millions of reports, advertisements and notices that can help you tell richer stories about your ancestors - the collection spans 1708 to 2003

Historic newspapers, often only 4 pages long and had advertisements and notices on the front page.

#### SEARCH HINTS

1. Don't be restricted to your local paper: Papers had stories from all over the country.
2. Use surnames to search: In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, first names were not always published.
3. Language: language can be unfamiliar; eg: historical events - World War One = the Great War
4. Optical Character Recognition search system: fuzzy, blurred print = difficult to translate to text.

#### SUBJECTS

1. Birth, marriage & death notices: regularly after 1820 + family members who have moved abroad.
3. Civil & army promotions: ancestor was in the civil service or military services
4. Advertisements: by words rather than images - insight into your ancestor's business dealings
5. Debtors: The names and addresses of borrowers and money-lenders
6. Court reports: contain the names of defendants, victims and witnesses - physical descriptions of defendants, and report testimonies, allowing you to 'hear' your ancestor's voice
7. Charitable donations and subscription lists.
8. Public meetings: minutes of public meetings and usually name the committee members
9. News! Stories big and small, local, regional, national and international.

#### SPECIALITY TITLES

*Sporting Times, The Stage, The Era*,  
for seafaring ancestors *Lloyd's List, The Illustrated Police News, The Poor Law*  
and *Union Gazette*  
are suited to family history research.



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### Bad News:

At the end of February, our favourite wee shop in Port Isaac, the Co-Op was severely damaged. A car parked in front burst into flames. The flames damaged much of the front, broke windows and infected stock with smoke. The Wall of Booze is at the back of the store: likely unscathed, and with no injuries being reported, it should open as soon as repairs are made.



### Good News:

The Royal Cornwall Museum's grant of £1,494,284 via the Museum Estate and Development Fund. The museum will perform needed maintenance, protect the valuable collections and continue the educational function it has performed for decades. The Museum of Cornish Life in Helston also received £185,608 for much needed maintenance.



## EVENTOW NESSA TCA KEVEWI (Next Event + TCA Party)

Next Meeting - Zoom  
Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm

Who are the Cornish – Part 3



**John Webb presents Part 3 - Who are the Cornish:** discussing the history of Cornwall's people, now into the centuries of modern times. John showed a video of Pol Hodge, Grand Bard, exhorting people to pay attention to defending Kernow, kernewek and our Cornish identity.

May we add: Kernewek, is not dead, but as the UN says, merely critically endangered.



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

