



Tam Kernewek

“A bit of Cornish”

CousinJack.org
Facebook.com (Cornish American Heritage Society)

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Cornwall Online Parish Clerk Database

The records in the Cornwall OPC (Online Parish Clerk) database have been transcribed by OPCs and volunteers from Cornwall Parish Registers and other sources. Access to the database is completely free of charge but we do have some annual costs to pay for website hosting.

These costs amount to several hundred pounds per year and we welcome donations from those who use the database (which can be found at <http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org>).

The database has over 4.6 million transcribed records so surely there is some information about your family there. A team of OPCs can also provide assistance with research relating to a specific parish in Cornwall - free of charge.

Cornwall OPC Database

The records in this database have been donated by volunteer transcribers worldwide. Although every effort has been made to ensure that the transcriptions are as accurate as possible, researchers are advised to consult the originals for themselves.

Sometimes extra clues can be gained by seeing the records in register order, so some are also available either on the OPC website, or on individual OPCs' sites (see the [individual parish pages](#) to find direct links to the material).

Other data can be found via our [Resources page](#)

As copyright remains with the transcribers for all records, permission should be sought for any use except personal research.

If you would like to contribute details from birth, marriage or death certificates then please see [contributions](#).

Please DO NOT link to individual records, as their numbers change when amendments are made.

The OPC group pays for the hosting of this website. If you would like to help with those costs, then please send a donation via www.gofundme.com/cornwall-opc-database. Alternatively we can accept a payment via PayPal to gerrans_opc@btinternet.com. If you have a UK bank account and you would rather send a cheque or use bank transfer then please email Bill O'Reilly (gerrans_opc@btinternet.com) for further details.

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[t.co/11s3arxbz3](#)
yesterday

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Lewydh Messach (**President's Message**)

Lowena dhywgh! (Greetings!)

I stated in my last President's Message how I began to recognize and acknowledge the difference between Cornish and English cultures. I am still processing some of my experiences from my May trip to Cornwall. As I have grown with my exposure to all things Cornish, I have begun to discern the underrecognition and so the underappreciation of the Cornish and Cornwall in modern terms.

As a student of many languages, I have learned the characteristics of Cornish as it relates to the other Celtic languages. The Celts inhabited most of central Europe a couple of millennia ago. The tribes were pushed to the west by the powers of the Romanization from the south and the Germanic tribes from the north. When people ask me now about the Cornish language, I raise both hands showing three fingers on each to represent the Celtic languages; on the left hand the fingers represent the Goidelic languages (Irish, Manx, and Scottish Gaelic) and on the right the Brittonic languages (Welsh, Breton, and Cornish). At that linguistic realization, I acknowledge the separate and equal status of all the languages and their cultures.

The two languages and their representative cultures, Cornish and Breton, have been eclipsed by their overshadowing identification of their ruling countries, Great Britain (England) and France. Though the Cornish language is barely alive (but slowly growing), there are 210,000 native speakers of Breton in the Brittany region of France. Only Welsh has more native speakers! ¹

But back to Cornish recognition.

We are fortunate to live now. Minority cultures are gaining status. Language and cultures are flourishing more. This has been aided by the UK recognition of Cornish as a national minority. The proposal was accepted on April 24, 2014, under the European Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCPNM). This declaration states the same **status as the Scots, the Welsh, and the Irish, who all have "the right to express, preserve, share, and develop their distinct culture and identity."** ² As stated on the website of Kernow bys Viken, the framework means that the UK government should:

- Help Cornish people to maintain and develop their culture and identity.
- Recognize the right of Cornish people to use the Cornish language in public and to display information in the Cornish language.
- Try to ensure the use of the Cornish language for street and place names.
- Provide opportunities for Cornish people to learn the Cornish language.
- Help Cornish people to take part in the cultural, social, and economic affairs of the UK, particularly those affecting them.
- **Help Cornish people to learn about their own, and other people's, culture, history, language, and religion.** ³

One organization that is promoting this framework is Bewnans Kernow, whose subtitle states: "Protecting and promoting Cornish culture, heritage and identity." It has been an organization since late 2008, and now they are opening a brick-and-mortar office and cultural center in downtown Penzance. My intention is for us to learn more about the movement and center in the next edition of Tam Kernewek and have a Zoom presentation about it. Stay tuned!

Continued back page (60)

Kesskrifans a-dre Eseleth

*(Correspondence from Societies
and Cousin Jack Website)*

The Australian Celtic Festival 2022 in Glen Innes was held for the first time in 2 years following the Covid cancellations. It was the year of Brittany, Cornwall and Wales. 23 Cornish made the journey to celebrate and make an impact for Cornwall. The NSW association was smaller than normal but they had a presence and impact bigger than their numbers (worthy of years past). A Gaelic concert, the Opening ceremony outside Town Hall, a Medieval Long Table Dinner at the Stones, and Chat Night, the street parade and the main festivities at the Stones made for a meaningful 4 days.



Cornish Association of New South Wales newsletter

The DNA of Cornwall

In April, Cornish cousins from several countries watched a virtual presentation by Dr Joe Flood of Australia on DNA and Genealogy – The DNA of Cornwall.

Through researching families in Cornwall, Joe established and is the administrator of the Cornwall DNA projects on the FamilyTreeDNA website. He is particularly interested in rare Cornish Y-DNA, and in the prehistory of humanity as revealed in the Y-haplotype.

Through this research, an understanding of the prehistory of the Cornish people, the Beakers, the Germanic peoples and the Danish/Vikings can be developed. *Joe would welcome more males from within our community who have Cornish surnames to participate in the FTDNA project.*

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Like so many associations around the world, the Cornish Association of Victoria is faced with an aging population and dwindling membership. Like the others, they are looking at the future. Zoom meetings during the pandemic helped keep things going, but it is not easy and not everyone is comfortable with IT.

One of the problems they have is that with a dwindling membership, renting venues becomes difficult and relatively more expensive – and this affects programme decisions.

At their May meeting, their presentation had the intriguing title of **'A personal history of a Curno and a small window into the history of Curnow'**.

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The Thames Valley Cornish Association held its AGM in May. A key part of the meeting was a discussion about the future of the Association. Sadly, like so many associations the TVCA is faced with an aging and reducing membership who find it difficult to continue to support the Association as before. The membership will be consulted but it looks as though the TVCA has reached the end of the road. This move is always very sad for any association but what makes the TVCA proposal even sadder is that the decision will have to be made during its 50th anniversary year. They will not go out quietly, however, but hope to celebrate the 50 good years with a meal at which members can share both food and memories.

In mid-February, members of the Bournemouth Cornish Association held their annual flag raising ceremony to celebrate the birthday of Lewis Tregonwell who is considered the founder of Bournemouth. After singing Trelawny, they **adjourned to St Peters Church to pray over Tregonwell's grave.**

London Cornish Association newsletter

60th Anniversary of New Zealand Cornish Association

The association has a huge project they are working on to celebrate their anniversary. Members have been asked to record their connection to Cornwall. It could be a general interest in Cornwall, or a link of a family line to a particular village. The connections will be drawn up on a map for inclusion in a future newsletter and posted on their website. Their anniversary is in August so it will be fun to watch for their newsletter and the map.

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**Correspondence con't:**

This year marks 20 years since the first Cornish born choughs were seen once again in the county.

Conservationists are celebrating the milestone with the news that Cornwall's bird continues to be on the up after another great nesting season this spring. The Cornish Chough Conservation Network said this year 25 pairs, raising more than 70 youngsters, have been found. These new additions bring the total population to about 200 birds.



Kevin Bowers / National Trust

In 2002, a pair of choughs on the Lizard, which naturally returned to Cornwall the previous year after a lengthy absence from the coast, successfully fledged three young. Experts said the chough can now be seen all over Cornwall, with small populations on the mid and north Cornwall coast.

*New Zealand Cornish Association newsletter*



Stunning sunflower meadow in Cornwall comes alive for the children

CornwallLive—by [Lisa Letcher](#) Senior Reporter  
10:28, 16 AUG 2022

Half of the proceeds from the trail are donated to a local **children's hospice Little Harbour.**

There's few things as quintessentially summer as a sea of golden sunflowers, and there's one special sunflower trail in St Austell that comes alive for the children. →

August is the month when they come into full yellow bloom and not for long, making a visit to a sunflower field all the more special.

Their peak bloom time only lasts around two or three weeks, so it's best to visit sunflower fields early in the season for the best chance to see them. After this, some of the flowers may begin to lose their petals.

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Cornwall Heritage Trust

The Trust has been very busy this summer and will also be into the fall. Tours of Caer Bran have proved to be very popular and they have had to open new time slots.



Carn Euny, a well-preserved ancient village, is located near Sancreed, Penzance. The Iron Age and Romano-British courtyard house settlement was occupied from about 500 BC to AD 400. Vital preservation work

was done in May and now will continue in September with volunteers helping. Here is a link to the village: [Carn Euny](#)

The Treffry Viaduct Crib Hut is going to have some conservation work done on it in August. The Viaduct is in the Luxulyan Valley by St Austell. The hut was a place where the workers could take a break from their work.



Members can take advantage of 50% off entry to The Vale of Avalon/Arthurian Centre, Slaughterbridge. Near Tintagel, it is the traditional location of Camlann, Arthur and Mordred's final battle.



## Correspondence con't:

### A Monumental Improvement

The Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) has published its first newsletter. The AONB consists of 12 separate sections which covers almost a third of Cornwall. There are 40 sites spanning over 4000 years of Cornish history. They include Iron Age hillforts, Neolithic settlements, Medieval motte and bailey castles and a WWII airfield. For more information go to:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/54e6ffe7e4b0663b4a777e12/t/62fb8477921ec766c7d35ff6/1660650632850/MI+Delivery+Stage+Newsletter+-+Edition+1.pdf>

### The California Cornish Cousins are hosting fall Luncheons

The Northern area will feature a pasty lunch and an optional tour of the Angels Camp Museum. The Central Coast is looking for a host at the moment to help with the luncheon.

**Southern California will meet at Harpoon Henry's and order off the menu. If you are in the area look them up.**

### Gwenno

A music album by Gwenno, sung almost entirely in Kernewek, has been shortlisted for the Mercury Prize. The album, titled 'Tresor' (treasure), is Gwenno's third full-length studio album and the second to feature Kernewek. Only one of the ten tracks is in Welsh. The songs were written in St Ives but the album was recorded in her home in Cardiff, Wales. The lyrics, in both Kernewek and English, are on her fan website, [www.gwenno.info](http://www.gwenno.info). Her husband Rhys Edwards produced the album.

Gwenno's style can be described as psych-pop. To me, there were influences from Enya, and Clannad with elements of 80s electronic rhythm and traditional folk music. She has rubbed shoulders with the famous, having toured with Elton John as a keyboard player.



Gwenno is the daughter of Cornishman, Tim Saunders, a Bard, poet and journalist who writes in Cornish,

Welsh, Irish and Breton. She was brought up using Kernewek and Welsh as her main languages. In 2019 Gwenno was, herself, admitted as a bard of Gorsedh Kernewek for her success with music in the Cornish language. Her previous album, Le Kov, had been credited with a 15% increase in the number of people taking classes in the Cornish language. You can hear Tresor on Spotify or You Tube or you can buy the album on CD or vinyl..

### Incredible mass gathering of Spider Crabs in Falmouth

Seen at low tide off the coast of Falmouth.

The spider crabs gather because they are vulnerable while they are moulting.

Mass aggregations happen between late summer and early autumn when the crabs crack open their exoskeletons and grow a new outer shell, the Cornwall Wildlife Trust said.



Katie Maggs

The large aggregations are a sign that the populations are healthy. Members of the public have been asked to report any sightings.

BBC.com

**Kernow bys Vyken  
Cornwall forever**



**Correspondence con't:**

Floating wind farm

The possibility of a floating wind farm off the coast of Cornwall has moved a step closer after securing government funding, project bosses have said. Swedish company Hexicon plans to install its TwinHub system, with the hope it could begin operating in 2025.

It would be deployed about 10 miles (16km) off Hayle. Project supporters said it could be a boost to the local economy and help establish Cornwall in the growing renewable energy sector.

Figures have not been released, but it is understood the government funding has effectively secured a fixed price for the power TwinHub would produce for 15 years, making it economically viable.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-62100674>

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Tall Ships

Falmouth will host the start of the Tall Ships Race in 2023, it has been announced. It will be the sixth time the Cornish coastal town has hosted the regatta and race. The event was postponed in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The event will take place in Falmouth on 15-18 August 2023.

Ballarat Cornish Association newsletter

Midsummer Bonfires to celebrate Summer Solstice
Tansys Golowan

The Midsummer Fires are a revival, dating back to the 1920s, of the ancient custom of pagan firelighting at the longest day; it's believed that the date was moved slightly from the Solstice many years ago to St John's Eve, to fit in better with the church calendar. A chain of beacons is lit starting at Carn Brea near Lands End and ending near the Devon border, though currently it isn't possible to see the adjacent bonfires from all sites. Prayers are said in Cornish (if a Cornish speaker is available, which isn't always the case!) before the beacons are lit, and herbs and flowers are cast into the flames. Expect local dignitaries with small crowds of perhaps around 100 people at each site, with blessings and enthusiastic singing of the Cornish anthem



Trelawney. The events are organised by the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, who do so much to keep Cornish traditions alive and in some years there are fires lit on dates around 23rd as well as on the 23rd itself, presumably so that enthusiasts may attend more than one.

2022 fixtures included Redruth Old Cornwall Society at 7pm at Pencoose Farm, St Ives at 8.30 pm at Carnstabba Hill, Liskeard at Bolitho Farm at 6.30, and St Columb OCS at 8.30 at Castle an Dinas – all were on Thursday 21st.



[Cornish Midsummer Fires \(Tansys Golowan\) \(calendarcustoms.com\)](https://www.calendarcustoms.com)

Music from the Clay Country

The Cornish National Music Archives celebrated their first in person event at Wheal Martyn Clay Works in July. From brass bands to choirs, and traditional music to hymn tunes, **we've been** capturing the breadth and depth of music and music making in the clay country – historically right down to the present day.

Since late 2021, and with support from the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, Gorsedh Kernow, FEAST and the Cornwall Community Foundation, the team have been working with local musicians and community groups to gather together information about the musical life of **Cornwall's clay country**. **There are now over 100 articles about** people, bands, recordings, choirs, contests, tunes, songs and dances to browse – check out the project homepage to explore more!

[Music From The Clay Country - Full - Cornish National Music Archive %](#)



Everyone has a story (still)...

We are always looking...

Please share your writing about your Cornish adventures and interests in our newsletter, *Tam Kernewek*. Newsletter editor Carolyn Haines needs your contributions! You surely have a *hwedhel* (folk tale, narrative, story), a biography of an immigrant relative, or recipe that can be shared!

Carolyn Haines at <cousinjack.newsletter@gmail.com>

We also need your participation as a possible speaker. It can be a more formal presentation or a topic for the Kowetha for general discussion.

Please send your ideas!

Please include

- a working title,
- an abstract (the general topic and purpose of your talk)
- details about the content and direction (beginning, middle, end)
- and media (how can we help you deliver your talk on Zoom).

We also welcome suggestions about others you may know, whom we might contact to contribute.

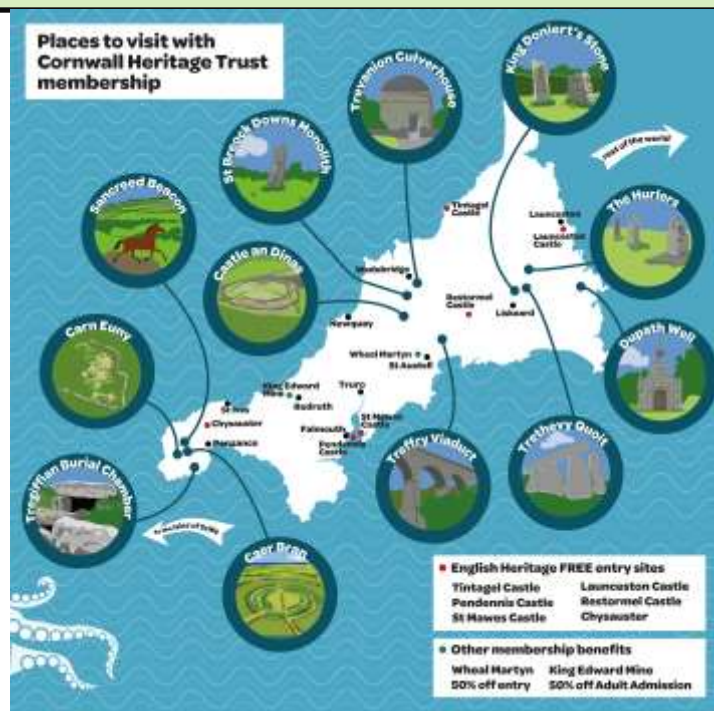
Meur ras!

Thanks for your consideration!

Tom

Thomas Rusch at <cousinjack.president@gmail.com>

**** We received three articles that are in this newsletter and they are both very interesting.... looking forward to more articles, get your pen and GO!**



HOW IT ALL STARTED
FOR ME
By Alene Reaugh



The Merry Maidens

The Merry Maidens is a late Neolithic or early Bronze Age stone circle in far western Cornwall. It is located between Lamorna and St. Buryan and can easily be seen from Highway B3315 about 6 kilometers (4 miles) southwest of Penzance.

This is the period when humans switched from hunter/gatherers to agriculture and food productions. They domesticated animals and cultivated cereal grains. They were a pre-Celtic culture referred to as the Early Beaker Culture.

One day in 2002, I thought about my Cornish grandma Lorraine Hosking and recalled how much I loved her **Cornish pasties**. I didn't know if I had her recipe, so I went to the internet to see if I could find one. I found Ann's Pasty Shop in Cornwall, and she had a book for sale, *The Pasty*, written by her mother, Hettie Merrick. Hettie and I became "pen pals," and later met in person.

I also found an organization called the Pacific NW Cornish Society. I called my cousin Margaret Porter and told her about this group, and she agreed we should go to a meeting. On October 12, 2002, we went to the meeting of the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society in Olympia and became members. Over the past twenty years, we have made many friends through this group.

After Dick Colenso became President in July 2003, he **contacted me to see if I would establish the "Country Store" for the website and sell Cornish items at meetings**. The store has been very successful, with several members providing items for sale.

In 2005, Dick nominated me for a position on the Board, and I agreed to serve as a Vice President. When the meeting occurred in July for the election of officers, I was elected VP; however, no one came forward to be President, so I became acting President by default. The following year I became President and served from 2006 thru 2010. In 2012 I again became President for the next two years. In 2018 I was elected Secretary and Newspaper Editor. I have done the newsletter for four years, and I enjoyed doing that, but now the time has come for me to leave the group and let others take over as Newspaper Editor, Country Store, Secretary, and President.

My husband and I have plans to travel, which will take most of my time.

The Merry Maidens has 19 stones in a circle of about 24 meters (79 feet) in diameter. The tallest stone is about 1.4 meters (less than 5 feet).

It is always difficult to know how their present status matches their original structure. It is believed the stones were placed about 2500 BC to 1500 BC. The site was first mentioned by William Borlase in 1796. There was once a second circle of seven stones but seems to have disappeared by the late 1800s.

It has a burial chamber close to the road. This has a narrow entrance passage, and a vault shaped area. It was probably covered by earth and rubble to form a circular mound.

The Cornish name for the circle was *Dawns Meyn* meaning "dance of stones" or "sacred stones." Folklore states that 19 maidens were dancing after a wedding in the field. They continued through the night with wild music and were turned into stones for their lack of respect to their god. The musicians, two pipers, were also petrified and are much taller standing stones in a nearby field.

It seems several stone circles have 19 members (such as Tregurnow, the original Mên an Tol, and Tregeseal). The number 19 has a significant astronomical significance. A period of 19 years is known as the Metonic Cycle. It is the amount of time which unites the varying cycles of the Sun and the Moon. This shows even at that time, people were interested in eclipse cycles!



Maidens con't:

How did they know these astronomical cycles? How and why did they design the sites? How did they move the stones to the sites and place them so exactly? Fortunately, Cornwall offers many such standing stone (circles or otherwise) to further our curiosity!

<https://archaeology-travel.com/archaeological-sites/merry-maidens-dancing-on-a-sunday-in-cornwall/>

https://www.cornwalls.co.uk/history/sites/merry_maidens.htm

<https://cornishancientsites.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/MerryMaidens.pdf>

<https://www.ancientpenwith.org/circles.html>

Tom Rusch—Photo from *The Cornwall Guide*

Habitats as Heritage at Kresen Kernow



Workshops, film showings and activities about animal and plant habitats were on the menu at Kresen Kernow this August. Jane Darke and Andrew Tebbs were the summer artists this year. These activities complemented their Habitats as Heritage exhibit of 100 paintings of local habitats.

Looking at

plants under a microscope and drawing what was seen, discussions on the impact of mining on flora, learning about the *Red River*, readings of nature poems, making photos with plant juices, experiments on which plants around Kresen Kernow produce the best photographs, and watching a documentary film, *The Wrecking Season*, were some of the activities during this program.

There were also talks about protecting iconic dolphins, porpoises and whales; how to identify various species of seaweed and learning how to preserve them; one about a **Marine Conservation Officer's favorite marine creatures** and stories about their biology and behaviour; and a walk around Redruth identifying trees and drawing them.



Beloved Store Closes Doors

With great sadness it is announced that the Mineral Point Collection is no more. The Shop of Shops has been an established destination in the heart of High Street for twenty years. First opening its doors in 2002, the Mineral Point Collection created a space for up to 30 separate vendors to showcase and sell their unique merchandise without the usual overhead costs in starting their own storefronts.

Included in the collection of shops was the Cornish Corner, the best and only place to purchase all things Cornish for miles around. An added bonus was a course of *Cornish 101*...dispersed free of charge by the Collection owner, Catherine Whitford. **If you didn't know much about Cornwall and its people** when you came in, you knew a lot by the time you left. The Collection was also a great place to drop in for a visit or to meet a Cornish Cousin.

Catherine Hawke grew up in the Linden area and can trace her solid Cornish heritage back to Trehawke Farm which is listed in the *Domesday Book* census of 1086. She became a Bard of the Gorsedh at Camelford in 2012, taking the Bardic name of *Gwerthores Trehok* (*Saleswoman of Trehawke*).



Due to two years of closure due to covid and health concerns, Catherine, who will turn 93 on August 31st, has decided it is time to go. We will miss her and the Cornish Corner. She now resides at Mineral Point Care Center, 109 N. Iowa St., Mineral Point, WI, 53565, and is doing well.

Drop her a card, she would love to hear from you!

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## Cornish Fest Offerings in Mineral Point

Held on September 23-25, 2022, the Fest will include a Musical Theater with Pilot Opera of Madison presenting HMS PINAFORE.

There will be a Pancake Breakfast, the Taste of MP, and a Pasty Supper at Walker House.

Join the Hymn Sing and Cornish Tea, explore the MP Archives and historical sites.

Children will have activities with games and crafts.

## George Bouchier Worgan (1757-1838)

By Brian Oldham

In 1994 the Fellowship of the First Fleeters affixed a small plaque to a headstone in St Martin's Churchyard, Liskeard, which read 'George Bouchier Worgan Sailed First Fleet 13-5-1787. Died 8-3-1838'. After four years training Worgan joined HMS Sirius as Fleet Surgeon at the age of 22. Broadwood Archive Services noted that Worgan purchased a table top piano, with the sound of a harpsichord, from them on April 10th 1783.



DSC01447.JPG

In his book 'Australia Bound', Martyn Brown wrote 'George Worgan, surgeon on the Sirius, entertained on his piano'. It can be presumed that this was the first piano to be heard in Australia and it's recorded that, when Worgan eventually returned to England in 1791, he left it with his friend Mrs Elizabeth McArthur who had settled in the Colony. The full story is documented in the Edith Cowan University Museum in Perth, where the original Broadwood is currently stored.



The Broadwood piano on display in the Edith Cowan University Museum...

On May 13th 1787 a fleet of eleven ships, including the Sirius, sailed from Portsmouth. Their voyage lasted just over eight months and covered over 15,000 miles until they arrived in Botany Bay on the East coast of Australia. Worgan was with the first landing party and soon encountered the native Aboriginal people, who wanted to know the gender of these long haired white skinned strangers. In his journal, Worgan wrote 'As it was not possible for us to satisfy their inquisitiveness by the simple words yes or no, we had recourse to the evidence of ocular demonstration'. Worgan's return journey in 1789 was delayed when the Sirius was wrecked and he and the crew spent a year on Norfolk Island, in the Pacific Ocean between Australia and New Zealand, until they were rescued and their journey continued.



Worgan is third from left.jpg

Worgan married Mary Lawry (1764-1846) in St Martin's Church, Liskeard, in 1793, they had two sons and one daughter. He then put into practise 'theoretical farming methods', firstly at Bray in Morval, then at Glynn in Cardinham. Both ventures made considerable losses which resulted in Worgan being declared bankrupt in 1806.

Despite these failures he was approached by the Great Britain Board of Agriculture to produce a survey of agriculture in Cornwall. His first attempt was rejected so he recruited three amateur farmers, two Parsons and an Admiral, to help him revise the survey. It was eventually published by the Board in 1811, entitled 'General View of the Agriculture of the County of Cornwall'.

1811 was also the year that the Anglican Church founded the 'National Society for the education of children of the poor in accordance with the teaching of the Established Church'. Worgan was appointed Headmaster of the National School for Boys, which was built on the corner of Castle Street and Castle Hill, Liskeard, opposite Castle Park in 1813. The school was short lived and closed in 1825.





## Worgan con't:



Grade II listed Wadeland House and front wall. jpg

In 1836 Worgan built Wadeland House on New Road, Liskeard, and a small cottage alongside, possibly for an employee. Both are now Grade II listed, together with the front wall and gate piers. He had little time to enjoy his new property as he died on March 4th 1838, the cause of death was given as apoplexy, although some local writers give the cause as suicide by hanging. As well as careers involving the Navy, Agriculture and Teaching, Worgan found success as an inventor of farming implements and could be seen demonstrating them at Agricultural Shows across the county. For these inventions he would have drawn on his training while apprenticed to James Sise, Citizen and Wheelwright of London; **Sise paid the duty on Worgan's apprenticeship indenture on September 25th 1772, when Worgan was aged fifteen.**

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## Good News for Moonta Mines Church

The Uniting Church in South Australia advises that the public Expression of Interest (EOI) process in relation to the Moonta Mines Church property has now been completed **and can confirm that the 'Field of Dreams Church' will be the new custodians of the building which will see this place of worship continue to be an important community resource.**

Within their submission the Field of Dreams Church agreed to continue to make the Moonta Mines Church available for important cultural and heritage events in the Copper Coast region and to allow the Moonta Mines Uniting Church to continue to use the building on Sunday mornings for the next decade.

Cornish trees can hold their crowns up high!

A collection of 70 special trees and woodlands is making up an ancient canopy, which is being dedicated to the Queen to mark her Platinum Jubilee. The idea of the canopy was the brainchild of Prince Charles who is concerned about the future of our woodlands and trees and is keen to make people more aware of their importance and the need for us to care for them. In announcing his plans, he said **that trees have 'a profound significance for us all – their steadfast and reassuring presence a reminder of our long serving Sovereign and her enduring dedication'.**

This project has another longer term aim – to use these trees for propagation so that their genetic characteristics can be preserved.

Cornwall can be very proud that three of the seventy trees are in the county. Here is the list of Cornish trees as well as the reason why they were chosen:

Restormel Sessile Oak, Sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*)  
Restormel Castle, Cornwall

This sessile oak sits on a lane in the Fowey Valley alongside Restormel Castle and close to Restormel Manor, the sixteenth-century house of The Prince of Wales in Cornwall. It is a 5.54m maiden oak and is around 400 years old. It has fantastic links to the Civil War, and action took place in 1644 around the tree and the castle.

Antony House Black Walnut, Eastern black walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

Antony House, Torpoint, Cornwall

Estate records show that this majestic black walnut was planted at Antony House in 1785. Its age and location suggests it could have a genetic legacy throughout the UK and beyond. This New World species was introduced to the UK in the late 17th Century.





**Trees con't:**

Twisted Beech, Common beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)  
Tehidy Country Park, Cornwall

An icon of Tehidy Country Park, this visually stunning beech is a favourite with the local Cornish community and other visitors. The reasons for its twisted form are not fully understood. Typical of beeches because of their smooth bark, this ancient tree is etched with graffiti, some dating as far back as the 19th Century.

If you would like to find out more about this project and the list of trees and woodlands which have been selected for the Platinum Jubilee canopy, go to the website - 70 Ancient Woodlands and 70 Ancient Trees - **The Queen's Green Canopy**

<https://queensgreencanopy.org>

*London Cornish Association newsletter*

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Cornwall is not England

Article by former editor Nigel Pengelly and Craig Weatherhill, historian and Cornish bard. (2011)

A great many arguments and counter-arguments have raged regarding the true status of Cornwall. A status that is certainly unique within Great Britain. Why is it unique?



Nigel Pengelly asks historian Craig Weatherhill what is the **real and verifiable truth that lies behind Cornwall's claims?**

Click here to read:

[Cornwall is not England – CORNOVIA \(wordpress.com\)](https://www.cornovia.com)



John Tyacke  
Founder of the  
Toronto Cornish  
Association

John started up the current Toronto Cornish Association by sending out letters to folks he found in the Cornwall Family History Society who lived in the Ontario area. He used the area code of phone numbers starting with 416 and 905. 14 people came to the meeting including Rosemary Armstrong, then president of the CAHS.

In 1995 John made a connection with John Sleeman, head man at Sleeman brewery and was instrumental in getting a monthly supply of beer for our meetings. John was also a consummate researcher and had researched the Sleeman family in Cornwall which helped to prepare the chapter on the Sleeman family in the second volume of *Cornish Emigrants to Ontario*.

John was a keen birdwatcher. For 8 years he traveled from Toronto to the Rio Grand Valley to see the birds resting on their way from Mexico, Central and South America to nesting grounds in the US and Canada.

John opened his home for meetings for several years until the group grew too large. He was known also for his family research and if he came across an interest of someone in the group he would jot it down and give it to them when he got back from Cornwall.

John passed away on 22 Jul 2022. Held in high esteem, the members of the TCA will surely miss John .

## College of Bards of Gorsedh Kernow

Nineteen new bards will be welcomed into the College of Bards of Gorsedh Kernow at Hayle on 3rd September 2022 by the Grand Bard of Cornwall, Pol Hodge, *Mab Stenak Veur*, in recognition of their outstanding work in serving Cornwall.

The citations show a great diversity of commitment to the Cornish community. Some have worked with music, instrumental and vocal, some have recorded history of villages, supported agricultural shows, some have volunteered for a support cause, one has been recognized for beach safety and one in the US by continuing to support the preservation of the only surviving Cornish pump engine in the USA.

The Bards are:

1. Mark Connor, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania U.S.A. For services to Cornish Identity in the U.S.A.
2. Lisa Crosswood, Liskeard. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
3. Sue Dabb, Chacewater. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
4. Ken Downing, Carnon Downs. For services to Cornish Culture in Stithians
5. Sue Ellery-Hill, St.Just. For promoting and protecting the Cornish Identity in Music
6. Trelawney Grenfell-Muir, Boston, U.S.A. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
7. Deborah Hinton, Gorran Haven. For promoting Cornish Identity and Culture by supporting Cornish causes
8. Owain Holland, Newlyn. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
9. Carmen Hunt, Hendrabridge. For promoting Cornish Identity and Culture through Folk Dance
10. Stephen Hunt, Hendrabridge. For promoting Cornish Identity and Culture through Folk Music
11. Tom Kadleck, Liskeard. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
12. Caroline Lane, London. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
13. Kirsty Lauder, Saltash. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
14. David Matthew, Penzance. By examination in the Cornish Language and continuing work for Cornwall
15. William Orchard, Helston. For promoting the Cornish language and Identity in the community
16. Geoff Provis, Launceston. For promoting Cornish Identity through the History of Port Isaac and its wider environs

17. Mike Tresidder, Breage. For promoting Cornish Identity and Culture through Education and the Cornish language
18. Deborah Tritton, Redruth. For promoting Cornish Identity and Culture through Archives
19. Peter Vickery, Bude. For promoting Cornish Identity in Bude

The ceremony to be held in the grounds of Hayle Academy is part of the Esedhvos Festival of Cornish Culture. The procession will be led at 1.30pm from the school, by the Grand Bard of Cornwall, Pol Hodge, *Mab Stenak Veur*.

[Gorsedh Kernow names 19 new Bards for 2022 - Gorsedh Kernow](#)



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## Cornish Story Updates

- Another poem written and spoken by Bert Biscoe: one where every word should be savoured to appreciate the full thrust and vigour of his message. <http://cornishstory.com/2022/06/09/a-cup-of-tea-at-five-in-the-ale-house/>
- David Oates, himself a superb deliverer of Cornish dialect stories, brings us an article about Herbert Lean who he describes as the master storyteller. To back up this claim he includes an audio recording of Herbert telling the tale of the Penponds Outing. <http://cornishstory.com/2022/05/30/herbert-lean/>

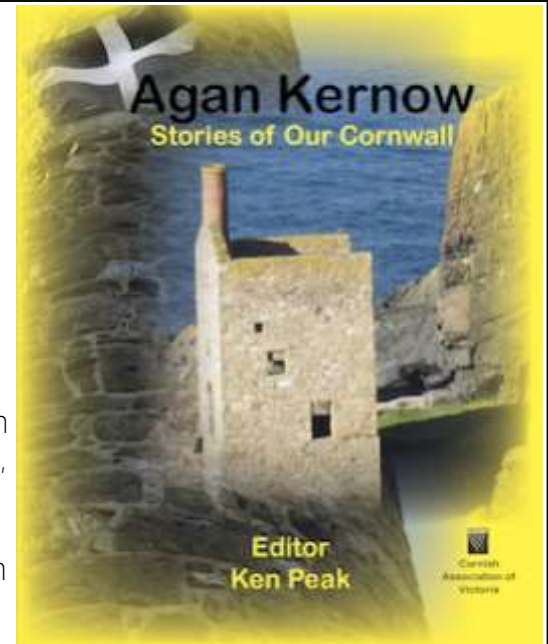
*From Cornish Story June Newsletter*

Taklow a Vern

## Agan Kernow (Our Cornwall) Book

Editor Ken Peak

This is a 262-page book of 76 stories by 51 authors from across the Cornish diaspora. We have stories from Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland in Australia. We also have two stories about the Cornish in Tasmania written by authors now living on the Australian mainland. Stories submitted from folk with Cornish heritage in Canada, the United States and New Zealand are also included.



Many have enjoyed browsing through Readers Digest magazine. Discovering short articles of genuine interest is as satisfying as picking the best items out of a box of chocolates. *Agan Kernow* is that sort of book, especially for those with a passion of all things Cornish. Stories featuring Cornwall in modern times are scattered among the fascinating accounts of the life left behind in Cornwall as ancestors joined the Cornish Diaspora and adjusted to new lives in Australia, New Zealand, or North America. Emotions range from great joy to deep sorrow. A recurring theme is the resilience and determination of ancestors in the face of challenges, even those as great as one Cornishman subjected to forced POW labor on the infamous Burma-Thailand Railway of WW2. It is a splendid book enhancing appreciation of all it means to be Cornish. *Review by William J. Curnow, Bard of the Gorsedh Kernow, Florida, United States*

Agan Kernow can be ordered by emailing Robyn Coates at: [robyncoates@hotmail.com](mailto:robyncoates@hotmail.com)

The book costs \$25 and postage is \$24-37 each book. If more than one book is purchased at a time the cost of postage per book is less, ie. 9 books is about \$10 per book. (Currently a US dollar is worth \$1.45 Australian dollars).

If there are several friends that want the book you might want to go in together for them. I (Carolyn Haines) personally would be interested in purchasing one of the books.

### **Thomas' shaft pumping engine**

A YouTube video of the pumping engine - St Agnes, 1895 – 1913

By Guy Janssen

<https://youtu.be/CUyQFFAtkC0?list=PLeaFkeA7JwX4cvb3B1mDDWYkOA9Vji8Tx>



## Catch-Me-Who-Can

Richard Trevithick  
The Cornish Giant  
By Dr. Pierre J. Fisher, Jr.

(Richard Trevithick was a relative of my mother, Evelyn Trevithick Fisher. He was an amazing Cousin Jack)

Richard Trevithick was born April 13, 1771 near Carn Brae, in the Parish of Illogan, between Camborne and Redruth, Cornwall, England. His father, John Trevithick, Jr. was a silver mine Captain. His mother was Ann Teague. Being an only son, she reportedly spoiled him. He attended a local school for a few years but was not interested in formal education.

His schoolmaster described him as disobedient, slow, obstinate, spoiled, inattentive, truant, but has some aptitude for mathematics. Though he could solve problems, he did so unconventionally.

Young Richard hung around the mines, having free access around them, since his father was a respected mine captain. He learned about practical problems and became a self-taught engineer, who could easily detect malfunctions and came up with many useful solutions, particularly involving engines and pumps.

He was renowned for having super-human strength. He was 6' 2" tall and stoutly built. He was quite large for a Cornishman. Several feats of strength are legend, as described by James Hodge in his book on Richard Trevithick, page 12. He would exercise slinging a 16-pound sledge hammer around his head and could hurl it over the top of an engine house. He approached two men trying to move a large pump barrel weighing about 700-lbs. Trevithick walked over, picked it up, and carried it away on his shoulder.

He was able to write his name on a beam, six-feet above the ground, with half of a hundred weight<sup>1</sup> hanging from his thumb, just to prove his strength. After a dinner meeting, he picked up a stout man by the waist and put his boots to the ceiling.

Though he was strong and tough, he also was known to be gentle and kind in dealing with his fellow men, as long as they played a fair game.

Following, is the chronological order of the aspects of his life's work:

1797 was the year his father died and he married Jane Harvey, a very devoted wife. This is also the year, while working as an engineer at the Ding Dong mine, he made the first models of high-pressure steam engines for pumping water out of the copper and tin mines of Cornwall, England. Steam engines in use at that time were inventions of Thomas Newcomen and James Watt. →

They were atmospheric or low-pressure engines that were quite **inefficient**. **Trevithick's high-pressure**, steam engine used a third less coal than the low-pressure engines. The owners of the mines agreed to pay Trevithick one-third of the savings they achieved on the coal used to fire the steam engines. After a while, they reneged and refused to share any of the savings with him. He had no recourse to force them to pay up. The arrangement had been a **gentlemen's agreement**.

**In 1798, James Watt greatly resented Trevithick's intrusion into his field of expertise and tried many ways to defame and get him out of the way.** Seeking royalties for the use of a condenser he used in his steam engines, Watt filed a law suit, but Trevithick fooled Watt by not using a condenser. Instead, he, used an upright exhaust pipe to allow the steam to escape into the air. **Trevithick's engine was called a "puffer", so named for the sound caused by escaping steam.** By avoiding condensation, efficiency was greatly increased. This new design nullified the basis for **Watt's law suit. This type of engine was first used for winding ore<sup>2</sup> at Dolcoath.** He also applied his steam engine to winding, puddle rolling<sup>3</sup>, forging, blowing air into blast furnaces, pumping and sinking shafts.

In 1801, he built the first, full sized, road steam-carriage at Camborne that was called the **"Puffing Devil"**. **This vehicle had a wooden chassis, a tall chimney and a single cylinder engine in the boiler.** Its maiden run was on December 24, 1801 when it successfully carried six passengers and himself up Fore Street and then continued up Camborne Hill and from Camborne Cross, to the nearby village of Beacon.



*The Puffing Devil running up Camborne Hill*

The life of the Puffing Devil was short lived. On December 28, 1801, he and his cousin, Andrew Vivian, were running the steam carriage on a local road. Andrew was driving and wrecked it when, crossing a gully, the steering handle broke. They pushed it into a nearby shed and went to a local pub for "roast goose and proper drinks." **The drinks were called "Boilermakers," which was a pint of ale followed by a chaser—a shot of whisky.** → 55

### **Trevithick con't:**

worked with the boilers and steam engines did not stop drinking after only one Boilermaker. They usually drank until they were sashed, especially when comforting themselves after suffering a disappointing or bad experience. The men neglected to dampen the fire in the boiler and the engine ran out of water, the boiler became red-hot and set fire to everything combustible in the area— including the carriage frame and shed. Trevithick did not consider this a serious setback, but rather shrugged it off as operator error and went on about his business.

In 1802, Trevithick built one of his high-pressure steam engines to drive a hammer at the Pen-y-Darren Ironworks in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan. With the assistance of an employee of the iron works and under the supervision of Samuel Homfray, the proprietor, Trevithick mounted the engine on wheels and turned it into a locomotive. Trevithick took out a patent for his locomotive and sold it to Samuel Homfray.

To prove his ideas, he built a stationary engine at the Coalbrookdale Company's works in Shropshire that forced water to a measured height, thus measuring work done. The engine ran at forty piston strokes a minute, with an unprecedented boiler pressure of 145 psi.

That same year, he and his collaborator, cousin Andrew Vivian redesigned the Puffing Devil and made an improved road locomotive which they took to London in 1803. The original Puffing Devil he made at Cambourne in 1801, could not maintain sufficient steam pressure for long periods, and would have been of little practical use. This new, 1803 steam-powered road vehicle, he named the London Steam Carriage. He drove it in London from Holborn to Paddington and back. Trevithick became known as Capt. Dick. The carriage attracted a lot of attention, but it was uncomfortable for passengers and proved more expensive to run than to feed and tend horses used for pulling carriages. Nothing further came of it.

This same year, 1803, in Greenwich, an engine of his was being used to mill corn. It blew up, killing four men. The cause was negligence on the part of the lad responsible for running it. The lad in charge turned the job over to an inexperienced, common laborer while he went hunting for eels in a nearby basement. The laborer noted the engine was running faster than normal and stopped it, but did not take off the spanner that fastened down the steam lever or dampen the fire. A short time later, with the steam building up, the boiler blew to pieces. The man tending it failed to pay attention to the steam pressure. The tragedy was not caused by **the design fault, but Trevithick's competitors and promoters of low-pressure engines, James Watt and Matthew Boulton exploited the incident relentlessly, highlighting the perceived risks of using high-pressure steam.** This was a serious setback for Capt. Dick, but he persevered.

To prevent a boiler from blowing up from too much pressure, he incorporated two safety valves that would open →

under extreme pressure. Only one of these two valves could be adjusted by the operator. The adjustable valve was a disc covering a small hole at the top of the boiler. The force exerted by the steam pressure was equalized by an opposite force created by a weight attached to a pivoted lever that kept the hole closed. The position of the weight on the lever was adjustable, thus allowing the operator to set the steam pressure. He also added a lead plug, positioned in the boiler just below the minimum safe water level. Under normal operation the water temperature could not exceed that of boiling water and kept the lead below its melting point. If the water ran low, it exposed the lead plug to heat sufficient to melt it, releasing steam into the fire box, reducing the boiler pressure and making an audible alarm sound, in sufficient time for the operator to dampen the fire, and let the boiler cool before damage could occur. He also introduced a hydraulic method of testing boilers, and invented a mercury manometer to indicate boiler pressure.

In 1804, Homfray was so impressed with Trevithick's locomotive that he made a bet of 500-guineas with another ironmaster, Richard Crawshay, that Trevithick's steam locomotive could haul ten tons of iron along the Merthyr Tydfil Tramroad from Penydarren, Wales to Abercynon, a distance of 9.75 miles (15.69 km). Amid great interest from the public, on 21 February 1804, it successfully carried 10 tons of iron, 5 wagons and 70 men the full distance in 4 hours and 5 minutes, an average speed of approximately 2.4 mph. The London Carriage 5 Homfray, after some difficulty, collected his bet. Some of the short cast iron plates of the tram road<sup>4</sup> broke under the locomotive weight as they were intended only to support the lighter axle load of horse-drawn wagons. Subsequently, the tram road was restricted to horse and wagons.



*Homfray won the bet when Trevithick's engine hauled seventy men and ten-tons of iron 9.75-miles.*

The British have credited George Stephenson with inventing the first steam engine to run on rails, but that is not true. The date was, July 25th, 1814, ten-years after Trevithick ran his steam locomotive on rails.

In 1805, Trevithick designed a barge powered by a steam engine and paddle wheel that was used at Newcastle on Tyne. In 1806, he designed and had built a steam dredge that was used on River Thames.

*Conclusion next newsletter*

## THE CORNISH ANCESTRY OF WILLIAM COLWILL OF JEFFERSON CO., WISCONSIN<sup>1</sup>

His Family Surname—Collins alias Colwell, Cholwill alias Collins, Colwill alias Collins, Collins, Colwell, and Colwill

By Ronald A. Hill, Ph.D., C.G., F.A.S.G., F.N.G.S

William Colwill, son of William Colwill of Warbstow in Cornwall, a tailor, and his wife Mary Spettigue, was born 4 April 1824, and baptized at the Canworthy Water Circuit, Bible Christian Church, 16 April 1824.<sup>2</sup> William Jr. married at Clawton in Devon, 28 March 1846, Sarah Cory.<sup>3</sup> The marriage record names William's father as William Colwill, tailor, and Sarah's father as Samuel Cory, carpenter. Later in 1846, William and Sarah left north Cornwall and migrated to southeast Wisconsin.<sup>4</sup> In 1850, the William Colwell family lived in Farmington Township, Jefferson County, Wisconsin—William, age 26, a farmer, born England; Sarah, his probable wife, age 26, born England; Edmond S., his probable son, age 3, born Wisconsin; and Mary J., his probable daughter, age 1, born Wisconsin.<sup>5</sup>

The ancestry of William Colwill Sr. is complex. Several family descents published on Ancestry.com are at variance with the results of the author's comprehensive study of the Colwill/Colwell family. One result of a massive study of the Colwill/Colwell families of north Cornwall and northwest Devon<sup>6</sup> was the discovery of a quite mobile family who were named variously as Collins alias Colwell, Cholwill alias Collins, Colwill alias Collins, Collins, and Colwill. These alias surnames persisted for over 140 years in both northwest Devon and north Cornwall. Members of this extended family could not be accommodated in any other Colwill/Colwell family living in the area. The purpose of this article is to alert the readers of the Newsletter about the author's article on William Colwill's ancestry.

The Collins alias Colwell, Cholwill alias Collins, Colwill alias Collins, Collins, and Colwill families, of Holsworthy, Devon

James Collins, origins unknown, married at Holsworthy in Devon, 27 April 1679, Hannah Marks.<sup>7</sup> Hannah was apparently baptized at Holsworthy, 25 March 1655, daughter of Abraham and Rachael Markes.<sup>8</sup> Hannah was buried at Holsworthy, 12 June 1706, as the wife of James Collins.<sup>9</sup> James married second at Holsworthy, 15 June 1707, Elizabeth Pearce where James was surnamed Colwill.<sup>10</sup> Elizabeth, wife of James Colwill was buried at Holsworthy, 7 February 1707/8; James Colwill was buried at Holsworthy,

19 March 1707/8.<sup>11</sup> Thus begins the story of the multiple surnames recorded for this family.

The eleven children of James Collins alias Colwill and his first wife Hannah were baptized at Holsworthy variously as:<sup>12</sup>

1. Abraham, son of James Collins & Hannah—bp. 4 March 1679/80.
2. John, son of James Collins & Hannah—bp. 30 June 1681.
3. Thomas, son of James Collwill & Hannah—bur. 8 Aug. 1683.
4. Mary, dau. of James Collins & Hannah—bp. 26 June 1683.
5. Thomas, son of James Collins & Hannah—bp. 13 April 1686.
6. Allice, dau. of James Collins & Hannah—bp. 30 Jan. 1688/9.
7. Hannah, dau. of James Collins & Hannah—bur. 1 Nov. 1691.
8. James, son of James Collins alias Collwill & Hannah—bp. 15 Jan. 1692/3.
9. Abraham, son of James Cholwill alias Collins & Hannah—bp. 13 March 1694/5.
10. Grace Colwill, bur. 14 March 1714/5.<sup>13</sup>
11. Margaret, dau. of James Cholwill alias Collins & Hannah—bp. 1 Jan. 1699/1700.

### References:

- 1 This article is a synopsis of a same titled article published in The Genealogist, vol. 34, no. 1 (Spring 2020), pp. 146-166, continued in vol. 34, no. 2, (Fall 2020), pp. 222-244. This synopsis contains only the direct ancestral line of William Colwill of Jefferson Co., Wisconsin.
- 2 Bible Christian Church, births and baptisms, Jacobstow Circuit (1821-1824), ref. RG-4/101, fol. 2v, no. 12, The National Archives (TNA), Kew, Surrey; Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 590671, item 5.
- 3 Clawton marriage register, 1837-1977, ref. 3577A/PR 7, Devon Heritage Centre (DHC), Exeter, Devon, UK (formerly the Devon Record Office), 17.
- 4 Jean Jolliffe and Elizabeth Ebbott, "Cornish Pioneers of Southeast Wisconsin," *Cornwall Family History Society Journal*, no. 94, Dec. 1999, 4.
- 5 1850 U. S. census, Jefferson Co., Wis., Farmington Twp., fol. 102v, dw. 1527, fam. 1542, NARA M432/1000. Jefferson Co. is about 30 miles west of Milwaukee.
- 6 Ronald Ames Hill, *The Colwill/Colwell Families of North Cornwall and Northwest Devon, Part I: A Complete Account by Parish (400 pages); Part II: Colwill Pedigrees and Indexes to Colwill Vital Records (344 pages)*, published by Chaghill Publications, Star, Idaho (Oct. 2005). These two volumes are digitized on FamilySearch and can be read there. The Holsworthy vital records are included in Part I



**Collins con't:**

7 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837, trans. by T. L. Ormiston, MS, Devon and Cornwall Record Soc. (DCRS), p. 137, FHL microfilm 917146. All Colwill/Collins vital records reported herein were vetted with the original Holsworthy parish registers at the Devon Record Office, now the Devon Heritage Centre.

8 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], 35.

9 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], 201.

10 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], 139. The Colwill/Colwell name has been bolded for emphasis.

11 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], 202.

12 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], bps. pp. 42 (Abraham), 42 (John), 43 (Mary), 45 (Thomas), 46 (Alice), 48 (James), 48 (Abraham), 50 (Margaret).

13 The Parish Registers of Holsworthy, Devon, 1563–1837 [note 7], 204, bur. (Grace Colwell).

Adam said, “We had a total of 85 individuals over the 7-day project, with the largest group of volunteers at one time being about 27 individuals, and many came back for multiple days.” **Most of the images were taken at Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery in Wheat Ridge, Colorado.**



Adam also involved volunteers from outside of his area so additional photos were taken at Bethel Cemetery in Scarville, Iowa; Olinger Crown Hill Cemetery in Wheatridge, Colorado; Rice Lake Cemetery in Bricelyn, and Saint Mary Cemetery in Easton, Minnesota.

Adam said, “I love how simple it is to create a headstone record on the BillionGraves app, and how easy it is to take pictures. “There were multiple graves that I found to be super interesting,” he added. “People from so many different cultures and backgrounds are buried at this cemetery.” There were mausoleums in addition to traditional headstones.



BILLIONGRAVES EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS:  
NEW RECORD SET!



Wow!! A record has been set for the most gravestone photos taken with the BillionGraves app during an Eagle Scout project! Adam Stevenson led his group of volunteers in taking an amazing 59,349 photos!! **Adam and his volunteers didn't** just break the record – they shattered it! The previous record was just over 31,000 photos.

Each of the green dots in the photo represents a picture taken during Adam's project, as well as many of the orange ones. The orange dots and green dots on the map indicate where GPS-linked photos have already been taken. Orange means that the gravestone has been photographed and the names and dates have already been transcribed. Green means the gravestone has been photographed but the names and dates have not been transcribed yet.

Adam has been so humble about his accomplishment. He even wrote to BillionGraves to thank us for helping him, saying, “I would like to thank your organization for helping me through the process of documenting the entire cemetery and completing a requirement to gain my Eagle rank.” What an incredible achievement by an incredible young man!



*Billion Graves blog by Cathy Wallace*

## Pasties on Parade at Calumet's Annual Festival

By David W. Downing

Pasty Festival 2022 took place in Calumet, Michigan, August 20, and I was there! Calumet is on the Keweenaw Peninsula – “Copper Country.” The Friday drive from my home in St. Paul, Minn., I passed through northern Wisconsin, and the adjoining area of Michigan, both once thriving iron mining regions.

In Ironwood, Mich., I spied the “Miners Painted Memorial,” a mural depicting more than 100 miners ready to go down the shaft, many with their distinctive “tiffin” lunch pails in hand. The Ironwood Area Historical Museum had some vintage mining equipment on display, along with a prominent tree-sculpture depicting a miner, a lumberjack, and a railroad worker.

Continuing north into the Keweenaw, I began to see names and signs hinting at old mines and mining heritage. Then, as I crested a rise on the outskirts of Houghton, I saw it: The Quincy Mine. Still miles away, it stood like a monument on a hilltop, looming literally and figuratively over Houghton and Hancock, past and present. There was no mistaking it: I had arrived in Copper Country.

Proceeding north to Calumet, I passed massive nineteenth-century stone industrial buildings, some in ruin, swearing their silent testimony to the massive scale of the copper mining that once dominated the landscape here. The remains of the Quincy mine (open for tours) are part of this landscape.

As I entered Calumet, it warmed my heart to see St. Piran's flag flying amongst those of several nations outside the Copper Mining Museum. Proper job! It was now evening and the streets were quiet, so I walked and drove around a bit to take in the town. Calumet is full of beautiful, old buildings: homes, churches, industrial edifices from the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company, and public buildings such as the city hall and theater. Many are massive stone fortresses, built to impress, and built to last.

The 1888 “Union Building” caught my eye; the stonework bears witness that it was built jointly by the Free & Accepted Masons and the International Order of Odd Fellows. Both organizations were popular with Cornish immigrants. Now home to the National Park Service Visitor Center for the Keweenaw National Historical Park, the three-story structure is also packed with interpretive historical displays.

Saturday, I donned my kilt to proudly represent the Cornish. But it was apparent that, despite the Scottish, Irish and Cornish Celtic heritage of the Keweenaw, someone wearing a kilt is a bit of a spectacle in Calumet. The Cornish National Tartan was designed to tell the story of Cornwall, so it's not only an icebreaker, but a great tool for teaching. I noticed a woman staring at me from a distance, then she approached for a closer look. She thought my kilt might be her own family's Scots tartan, which she said was similar. I explained that it was the Cornish National Tartan, and how it told the story of Cornwall. “You seem disappointed,” →

I said. “Don't you know that without the Cornish, you wouldn't have pasties?” She remained unimpressed.

A cornerstone of Pasty Fest is the Bake-Off, and five commercial pasty makers had entered the competition. I purchased the Pasty Bake-Off kit for \$20. It included one small (but not that small) pasty from each contestant. I sampled all five, picked my favorite and dropped the colored toothpick from that pasty in the ballot bucket. (My favorite -- Slim's Café -- won for the second year in a row.)

I talked to some more locals. One told me quite confidently that pasties are Finnish. Sure, there might be Cornish pasties, too, she said, as though she were humoring me. But those are different.



I tried my hand at rutabaga bowling, and knocked down all ten ketchup bottles with the roll of just one “swede.” I took in the parade, which included the Pasty Fest mascots: a walking pasty named “Cousin Jack,” a sack of potatoes, a carrot, an onion, and a rutabaga. Then came the pasty eating contest, with contestants having five minutes to consume as much pasty as possible.

Leaving Calumet, I toured the Central Mine ghost town, guided by Keweenaw Kernewek members Jean Medlyn Ellis (a Bard of Gorsedh Kernow) and Jan Medlyn. Never officially a town, Central Mine is what was known in the mining world as a “location,” where people lived on company land and worked the mine. Central Mine thrived during the second half of the nineteenth century. But when the mine shut down, the town of 1,200 people nearly disappeared. All that remains are a couple of restored, historic cottages, some ruins, some summer cottages, and the restored Methodist church, which hosts a reunion service every year.

I had a great trip experiencing the mining heritage of the Keweenaw. The Pasty Fest was fun, but it could have used more Cornishness. I encourage you all to attend and represent the Cornish. Don't let those Finns get away with taking credit for our national cuisine! And while you're at, you might have a little fun telling a Finnlander that the sauna is Cornish. Sure, there might be Finnish saunas, too, you can tell 'em --but they're different!

David Downing posts more about his trip at <https://www.facebook.com/CornishMinnesota>

For more information on Pasty Fest: <http://www.mainstreetcalumet.com/pasty-fest.html>



**Lewydh Messach Con't:**

In the meantime, I hope your summer has gone well. I saw that when the heat wave struck London, Cornwall's temperatures were mostly seasonable. Extreme highs in Cornwall were around 90°F (30°C). Autumn is around the corner, hopefully with no more extreme heat, and perhaps we will have a steadier back to school / fall routine that will promote our research and help to celebrate our Cornishness!

Oll an gwella,

Tom

1 <https://brilliantmaps.com/celtic-languages/>

2 <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/people-and-communities/equality-and-diversity/cornish-national-minority/#compliance>

3 <https://www.cornwallforever.co.uk/history/national-minority-status-for-cornish-people#:~:text=Known%20for,the%20Scottish%2C%20Welsh%20and%20Irish>

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| Synsas, Darvosow                            | 60      |

Darvosow (Events)

Gorsedh Kernow  
3 September 2022  
Hayle, Cornwall

Cornish Fest  
23-25 September 2022  
Mineral Point, Wisconsin

Kernewek Lowender  
Copper Coast Cornish Festival  
15-21 May 2023  
South Australia



Cornish Fest 2019 (Mousehole Cat)