

Onen hag oll

The Cornish Association of Victoria Inc. Ballarat Branch

A.C.N. A0008 264A

October 2022 Newsletter

Chairperson

Keith Lanyon
34 Glazebrook St
Ballarat 3350
03 4343 2390

kmlanyon@hotmail.com

Admin. Secretary

Lorice Jenkin
29 Queen St South
Ballarat 3350
03 5332 2920

lajenkin@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Jim Hocking
PO Box 4010
Alfredton 3350
03 5334 3322

jim@go2000.com.au

Newsletter Editor

Robyn Coates
28 Town Hall Ave
Preston Vic 3072
03 9478 6135

robyncoates@hotmail.com



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 1st October 2022 - Doug Bradby

Doug has lived and worked all his life in Ballarat. Educated at Urquhart Street Primary School, Ballarat High School and Monash University, Doug taught history for 30 years at Ballarat secondary schools and over a decade at the Gold Museum, Sovereign Hill.

He has written seven history books for children and three books that explore Ballarat's astonishing mining history.

3rd December 2022 - Christmas Lunch

The details will be discussed at the October meeting.

VAL D'ANGRI PRESENTATION

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Val d'Angri was awarded the OAM.

The investiture took place at Government House on Tuesday 6th September 2022.

To watch Val receiving her award:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Lmaicyxw78>

To save you watching all the awardees, Val features around 57.30 minutes from the beginning.

AUGUST MEETING

Our August meeting was held in the warmth of the vestry of the Skipton Street Uniting Church and was very well attended given the chilly day.

Our own member, Jenny Burrell shared an interesting and informative video presentation she had prepared for the Geelong Family History Society during the COVID lockdown.

Jenny's presentation had the 'wow' factor and those present were given a wonderful insight into the collection of material in the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society's holdings.

Over many years Jenny has been an incredible contributor to this group and as an amazing and generous researcher she has assisted many, many people.

The Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Inc. (BDGS) was formed in 1978 as a breakaway group from the Ballarat Historical Society.

This move made a distinction between local history and family history research.

Meetings were originally held at the School of Mines and then moved to the newly built Library in 1992 where its wonderful collection of resources was held in the Australiana Room until further re-development of the Library saw the collection moved to the Eureka Centre in Stawell Street.

The group now meets at Ballarat North Community Centre, in Walker Street, Soldiers Hill.

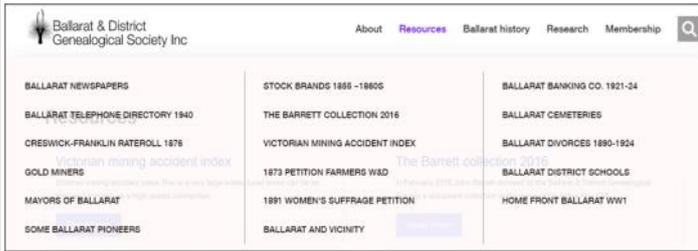
Unfortunately, meetings have been greatly restricted due to the COVID pandemic.

Normally meetings are held on the even months at Skipton Street Uniting Church Hall, cnr Darling and Skipton Streets, Ballarat.

Meetings begin at 2.00 pm and are followed by a shared high tea.



Using images from the BDGS website, Jenny gave us information about the many records which were available to assist those with Ballarat ancestors.



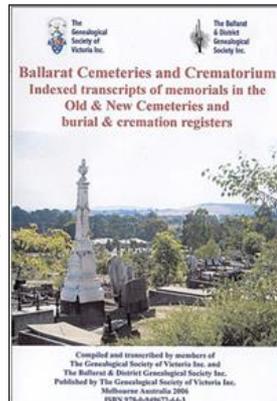
Many of the early newspapers for Ballarat which are digitised and found on TROVE have been funded by the group.

The Ballarat Star 1855-1864 and *The Star (Ballarat) 1865-1924* - these digitisation projects were initiated by the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society in 2011 and funded from BDGS, various grants and generous donations.

The continuing digitisation of *The Ballarat Courier* is a partnership with the National Library of Australia and the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society.

The BDGS has produced several CDs – Ballarat Cemeteries and Crematorium, Buninyong Petty Sessions, Ballarat East Petty Sessions, Ballarat Petitions 1860-1866 and Ballarat Rate Books Index

The Cemetery CD has very detailed lists and is an invaluable resource with much more information than available on the Cemetery's online resource.



Di Christensen's mother, Hazel Williams, was one of the people originally involved in the transcription of headstones.



Another initiative and a useful resource, *Home Front Ballarat*, was launched as part of the commemoration of World War One and holds

many photos and articles of Ballarat people who have associations with WWI.

It has a search facility and can be found at <https://ballaratww1.org.au/>



(Photo Jenny Burrell)

The Eureka Centre houses the BDGS Collection. As well as books bought by or donated to the group there are maps and pictures, microfiche films (with readers) and computers with databases for research.



At the conclusion of her presentation Jenny answered many questions and then our chairperson, Keith Lanyon, thanked Jenny and made a small presentation.



Jenny's presentation can be watched at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdSofflFk4w>

Agan Kernow

Agan Kernow - Stories of our Cornwall is now available for sale for \$25.00.

There are 76 family stories contributed by members from across Australia, NZ, USA and Canada.

See the Cornish Association website for more details -

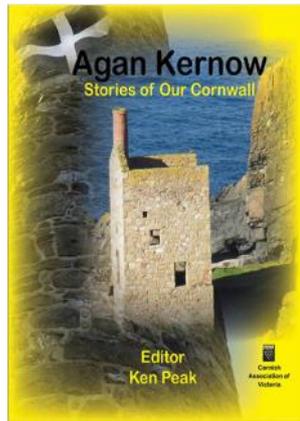
<http://www.cornishvic.org.au/>

You can order on the left hand side of the page. - click the Buy it Now symbol and follow the instructions

or

alternatively Robyn will have copies for sale at the October meeting - send her an email at

robyncoates@hotmail.com to order your copy or by phone 0419 551 320.



Cornish Association of South Australia (CASA)

2023 Biennial Seminar

held in association with Kernewek Lowender at Wallaroo Town Hall, Wallaroo, South Australia on Thursday 18 May 2023

“The Cornish in public life”

The CASA committee is pleased to announce the **Call for Papers** for the next in this premier series of Cornish/Australian history seminars, to be held in South Australia in 2023.

The topic is intentionally broad, allowing for a variety of scenarios where the Cornish, or people of Cornish descent, have made significant contributions (in either their professional capacity, or as a volunteer).

Papers should be in the style of an academic presentation, not workshop orientated. An Abstract should be no longer than 250 words, present an overview of the paper's main theme/s, contain the name/s of the author/s, plus the address and contact details for the main author indicate preference for a 15-minute or a 25-minute presentation indicate possible audio-visual requirements be submitted no later than Monday 7 November 2022

Please send your abstracts and completed registration forms to Noel Carthew, CASA Secretary at ncarthew@hotmail.com

Notification of acceptance by the Association's Seminar sub-committee will be posted or emailed by 30 November 2022.

Completed papers should be sent to Noel Carthew, PO Box 194, Rundle Mall SA 5000, or email ncarthew@hotmail.com

Final date for acceptance of completed papers is 30 March 2023.

NSW STATE ARCHIVES & RECORDS

Thanks to a partnership with Ancestry.com, over 300,000 entries covering the years 1939 - 1958 have been added to the Deceased Estates Online Index. The Index now covers the years 1880 to 1958.

The NSW Stamp Duties Office created a deceased estate file for every individual who died leaving property or other assets ('estates'), which were subject to death duties.

✓ Celebrating Copper Coast Heritage
✓ Swanky – Traditional Cornish Ale
✓ Cornish Pasties
✓ Cornish Ceremonies and Activities
✓ Food, Music and Entertainment
✓ Exhibitions and Competitions

The files contain the papers, correspondence and other documentation relating to the assessment of death duty by the NSW Stamp Duties Office.

To search this online index, go to:

<https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/indexes-a-z>

Go to the letter D for deceased estates and type the name of the person you are searching for. There are further tips listed to help you search the index and how to go about purchasing a copy of the files or if you are visiting Sydney pre-order them for a visit to the Reading Room.

Many other topics are included in the **Online Indexes**.



Cornwall Online Parish Clerk (OPC)

This free service is continually being updated with more transcriptions and records.

Latest updates to the Cornish OPC Database:



Births, Marriages, Burials

Agnes, St.,
Camborne,
Egloshayle,
Ervan, St.,
Helston,
Illogan,
Juliot, St.,
Kenwyn,
Keverne, St.,
Launceston, St Mary Magdalene,
Mullion,
Mylor,
Tywardreath

Other Records:

Royal Cornwall Gazette transcriptions,
Donated BMD certs,
Wills

Reminder about links

If you hold your mouse over the link in blue, press control until the hand appears and click, it will take you to the site mentioned.

A Message from the Grand Bard on the death of Queen Elizabeth 2

Mernans an Vyghternes

Gorsedh Kernow yw, avel pub bagas gonisogethek bretennek, pur drist dhe wodhvos tremenans an Vyghternes. Dres an 70 bledhen eus passys hi re gavas rag kowethas a wrug dos ha bos perthus hag ygor yn y verkyans a genedhlow ha gonisogethow. Trist on ni, ha grasek, ha galari yn kettermyn dell wren ni mires a-rag dhe'n bleujowans a'gan gonisogeth ha yeth ha governans gans Myghtern nowydh, gans y skians ha kerensa rag Kernow heb par. Ynwedh ni a ystyn leuv tomm a dhynnargh dhe Dhuk Wella Kernow, gans tregeredh ha gwaytyans.

Gorsedh Kernow is, as is every other British cultural institution, very sad to know of the Queen's passing.

Over the past 70 years she has presided over a society which has become tolerant and open in its celebration of nations and cultures.

We are sad and also full of gratitude, and mourn at the same time as we look forward to the flourishing of our culture, language and governance with a new King, whose knowledge of, and affection for Kernow must be second to none.

We also extend a warm hand of welcome to Duke William of Cornwall. In sympathy and expectation.

Mab Stenek Veur

Bardh Meur, Gorsedh Kernow
(Pol Hodge, Grand Bard, Gorsedh Kernow)

The Queen and Cornwall

The Queen made many visits to Cornwall over the years, a lot of which she shared with her husband Prince Philip who died in April 2021.

One of the couple's first widely-publicised trips was in 1956. The Queen visited Truro on May 10, 1956, where she was warmly welcomed by flag-waving schoolchildren. She then headed to Liskeard, where there was a similarly enthusiastic reception.

In 1962, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh toured Lostwithiel and Fowey in 1962.

Four years later she returned to Cornwall's capital to open the new County Hall building and went to the seaside for a tour around Newquay, and in 1967 the royal couple spent some time on the Isles of Scilly with the young Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

The Silver Jubilee tour in 1977 saw Queen Elizabeth meet the crowds in Truro and Falmouth, and she attended the Royal Cornwall Show for the first time in 1989 when it was still held at Lostwithiel.

The Queen returned as special guest at the show in 2000 by which time the annual event had moved to its current home near Wadebridge.

The 2002 Golden Jubilee Tour saw the Queen back in Truro and Falmouth, where she launched the RNLI's Richard Cox Scott lifeboat 2002 and her first visit to the Eden Project was in 2006.

The Royal train dropped Her Majesty at St Erth for a Royal visit to St Ives in 2013, when she also stopped by to see the St Aubyn family at St Michael's Mount.

The Queen's last trip to the duchy was in June 2021 when she hosted the G7 leaders at the Eden Project, with the Prince of Wales, Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge.

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/history/gallery/queen-elizabeth-iis-visits-cornwall-6845245>

Queen Elizabeth II: Cornwall lord lieutenant to guard coffin at funeral

Cornwall's lord lieutenant, Edward Bolitho, will form part of a group standing guard around the Queen's coffin in Westminster Abbey during her state funeral.

Due to his role as a member of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, the lord lieutenant will also play a central role in the Queen's funeral arrangements, taking part in the procession from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey on the day of the Queen's funeral, and standing guard around the coffin during the service.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-62852878>

King Charles III: Cornwall proclamation made at Truro Cathedral

A proclamation held outside Truro Cathedral for the county was read first by the High Sheriff of Cornwall, Andrew William, and then in Cornish by the Grand Bard of the Cornish Gorsedh. (Mab Stenek Veur - Pol Hodge)

Town and parish councils in the county also held proclamations on Sunday, including Callington,

Falmouth, Launceston, Padstow, Penzance and St Austell.

Some of those also included Cornish being spoken, such as Penzance's.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-62852878>

Rain fails to dampen Gorsedh Kernow annual ceremony

"Let us begin, here in Hayle, to call for greater respect between all nations and cultures", said the Grand Bard of Cornwall, Pol Hodge Mab Stenek Veur, as he welcomed bards, dignitaries, guests, banner bearers and members of the public to Gorsedh Kernow's annual bardic ceremony, held this year in Hayle Academy.

Despite wonderful weather in the preceding week, rain forced the annual ceremony indoors, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of bards and especially initiate bards.

No less than 19 new bards were welcomed into the Gorsedh by the Grand Bard last Saturday, from all over Cornwall and beyond.

One had travelled with her family all the way from Boston, USA in order to be initiated into the Gorsedh.

The ceremony was also attended by delegates from Cornwall's sister Gorsedhow in Wales and Brittany. The ceremony was live-streamed and can now be seen on the Gorsedh Kernow website.

The Mayor of Hayle, Cllr. Anne Marie Rance, welcomed the Gorsedh back to Hayle for the first time since 1999.

She spoke of the first Grand Bard of Cornwall, Henry Jenner, who lived in Hayle and whose wife came from the town and who was also instrumental in founding the first Old Cornwall Society.

She noted that Hayle Old Cornwall Society will celebrate its centenary in 2023 and it was therefore very fitting that the Gorsedh should be visiting Hayle in the lead up to that anniversary.

Thanking members of the local organising committee for all their hard work and the Mayor of Hayle for such a warm welcome, the Grand Bard spoke of the conflicts in the current world which often stemmed from lack of respect for other nations and cultures.

He highlighted the need to ensure that Cornwall's distinct status and culture is acknowledged and

respected and encouraged everyone to find respect for every nation and every culture.

The colourful ceremony was the centrepiece of the *Esedhvos Festival of Cornish Culture*, which also included an evening where the Gorsedh Annual Awards were presented to both Young People and Adults for achievement in a number of categories across Community and Creativity.

Heritage talks and presentations, drama from Story Republic and an evening ceilidh provided the Friday programme, while a concert with performances from Bryher's Boys singing group, St Ives duo Tir ha Tavas, local musician Tom Dale and virtuoso duo MacQuarrie and Toms, ably compered by Bert Biscoe, topped off the Saturday night.

On Sunday, a taster session on the Cornish language was well attended, as was a guided walk around Hayle by Cllr John Pollard.

An uplifting Evensong service in Cornish at Phillack church, with bell ringing and three choirs in attendance, completed the festival.

<https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk/rain-fails-to-dampen-gorsedh-kernow-annual-ceremony/>

If you would like to watch the ceremony, here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWvbSxPVH0c>

At the beginning of the video, an explanation regarding the Ceremony is heard.

The banner bearers representing various Cornish groups/societies arrive at about 19 minutes and ceremony starts at about 24 minutes.

Enjoy the singing in Cornish.



Cornwall's population of Cornish choughs grows to around 200

This year marks 20 years since the first Cornish born choughs were seen once again out on the cliffs and 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.

In 2002, a pair of choughs on the Lizard, who naturally returned to Cornwall the previous year after a lengthy absence from our coast, successfully fledged three young and choughs have bred every year since.

Now, in 2022, 25 pairs of Cornish Chough were found to have been successful, raising over 70 young, bringing the current population to around 200 birds!

The chough can be seen all over the Duchy with small populations now on the mid and North Cornwall coast as their range continues to grow. Not all the young will survive to adulthood and raise families themselves but the higher the number of chicks that survive each year the more robust the birds become against extinction in the future.

Sir David Attenborough New Series

Cornwall will feature in a new series titled *Wild Isles*, presented by Sir David Attenborough. Sir David will present "extraordinary animal dramas and wildlife spectacles" for the five-part natural history series for the BBC.

The BBC One series, which was filmed over three years using 4K technology, will explain the challenges nature faces and what can be done to make our wild isles wilder in the future.

The natural history series will have an introductory episode explaining why Britain and Ireland are globally important for nature.

The remaining four hour-long episodes will celebrate the Isles' four key habitats: woodlands, grasslands, freshwater and marine.

Greenpeace planning 'boulder barrier' in marine protected zone off Cornwall

In a bid to protect rare sea-bed habitats from bottom trawler fishing, Greenpeace UK says it will drop boulders into waters off the coast of Cornwall. A ship will sail for the South West Deeps, a designated marine protected area around 200 miles off Land's End, within the coming weeks, in a bid to create a barrier.

Despite being recognised as sites of special ecological importance, marine protected areas are not automatically granted any additional legal protection from fishing.

Conservationists want trawling banned in protected areas because it indiscriminately tears up delicate ecosystems such as seagrasses to catch species such as cod, squid and flatfish.

Stories from <https://planetradio.co.uk/pirate-fm/local/news/>

What makes a surname ‘Cornish’?

So what exactly comprises a Cornish surname and how is this different from a surname in Cornwall?

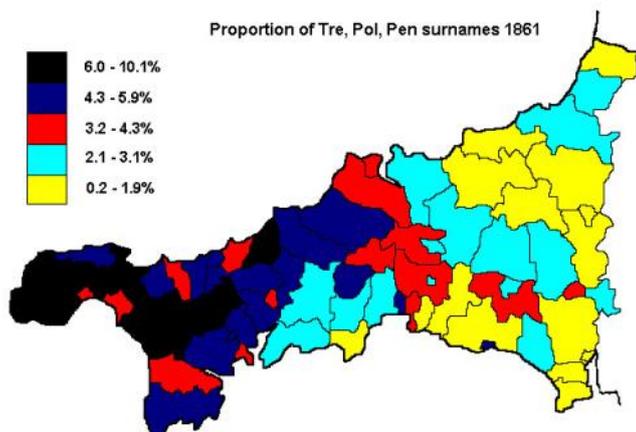
The old saying tells us that ‘By Tre, Pol and Pen, you shall know the Cornishmen’.

Actually, you won’t.

At most, you’ll only know about one in 20 Cornishmen (or women) by these criteria.

Even in the later 19th century, only around 4-5% of people in Cornwall had surnames beginning with Tre, Pol or Pen.

This proportion did however vary, from less than 2% in parts of the east to over 10% in parts of the west.



Proportion of Tre, Pol, Pen surnames 1861

In addition, we could look for those surnames that were most frequent in Cornwall prior to the immigration that began in the 1960s.

In the 1861 census, the following were the 20 most common surnames in Cornwall.

The figure in brackets shows their rank in England and Wales, as provided by a parliamentary report from the Registrar-General in 1853 that lists the top 50 surnames at that time.

- i) Williams (3)
- ii) Thomas (7)
- iii) Richards
- iv) Rowe
- v) Harris (26)
- vi) Martin (33)
- vii) James (35)
- viii) Roberts (9)
- ix) Pearce
- x) Stephens
- xi) Johns
- xii) Pascoe
- xiii) Hicks
- xiv) Harvey
- xv) Bray

- xvi) Phillips (44)
- xvii) Rogers
- xviii) Mitchell
- xix) Hocking
- xx) Jenkin

As we can see, the names differed in Cornwall although the only relatively unique Cornish language name on the list is Pascoe.

Most of our forebears had names that could also be found in England and/or Wales, although they were far less popular east of the Tamar.

Nonetheless, as we know, those bearing these names can be as ‘Cornish’ as anyone with a Tre/Pol/ Pen type name.

As Robert Morton Nance put it in the late 1940s, *‘the most aristocratic of Cornish surnames may record only the loot, by a Norman, of the estate of a Saxon, who dispossessed the heir of a Cornishman, who founded it and gave it his own name with Tre- before it; while the Cornish founder’s heirs may still walk among us bearing perhaps, like so many Celts in Wales, some name such as Williams, Thomas or Richards.’*

While we could quibble about Nance’s definition of an ‘aristocratic’ Cornish surname, and while archaeologists and historians have revised the picture of a simple takeover by the English, now preferring a process of cultural change, the point stands.

If your parents and a grandparent or two were born in west Cornwall and you possess one of the common names of the 19th century, then there’s a very good chance that your forebears were Cornish speakers into the 1500s and 1600s.

Moreover, there’s a third possible way of identifying ‘Cornish’ names. We might ask which names were most unique to Cornwall.

In 1881 the likelihood of encountering someone of the ten names listed below was around 90 times greater in Cornwall than in England.

- Beswetherick
- Daddow
- Keverne
- Medlyn
- Oxnam
- Penlerick
- Sturtridge
- Tellam
- Tremewan
- Vellanoweth

Some of these have their origin in Cornish placenames, for example Tremewan, Vellanoweth or Penlerick.

Others like Medlyn and Daddow originated in personal names.

Meanwhile, Sturtridge and Oxnam come as more of a surprise.

These names are presumed to have originated in places in Devon, but had become restricted to Cornwall by the late 19th century.

If we assume that the purpose of identifying 'Cornish' surnames is to add to our credentials as Cornish, a people now recognised, however belatedly or reluctantly, by the UK Government as an indigenous national minority, then we must surely draw the boundaries as widely and inclusively as possible. That means including the most common and the most unique names in addition to those that more obviously have their roots in the Cornish language or Cornish placenames.

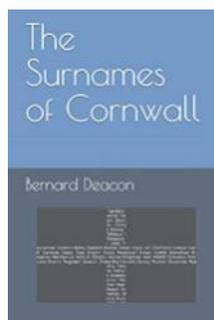
This provides us with a distinct stock of surnames, some exclusively Cornish, some commonly Cornish and some frequently Cornish, but all borne by Cornish people or their descendants.

Cornish studies resources

Cornwall: history, surnames and society, from Dr Bernard Deacon

<https://bernarddeacon.com/cornish-surnames/what-makes-a-surname-cornish/>

Bernard Deacon's book *The Surnames of Cornwall* is an invaluable resource for surnames in Cornwall. It includes the numbers of a particular surname in the 1861 census.



Available through Amazon



Cornwall Council is saying a big thank you to those who helped plant trees for the **Forest for Cornwall**.

With the 2021-22 planting season now complete more than 300,000 trees have been put in the ground in woods, parks, farms, community spaces,

schools, streets and gardens across Cornwall since 2019.

Every tree planted counts towards the 8,000-hectare Forest for Cornwall which is key to helping Cornwall reach its goal to become carbon neutral.

Some highlights of the last tree-planting season include:

*Turning landfill into woodland – With help from volunteers Cornwall Council is transforming a 2.5 acre former landfill site at Wheal Prosper, Lanivet, into new woodland by planting 3,600 trees and shrubs to boost biodiversity and blend with the wider landscape.

*Council farms pilot – Cornwall Wildlife Trust and volunteers planted 1,800 native broadleaf trees on 10 hectares of farmland at one of Cornwall Council's farms at Ruthvoes, near Indian Queens. The scheme is one of HM Treasury's Shared Outcomes Fund pilots exploring ways to get more trees in the farmed landscape. It will enhance the environment for wildlife and link up existing wooded areas without impacting on the farm business. The Council farm pilot is one of a series of Forest for Cornwall trial sites.

*Shelterbelts for wildlife – The Forest for Cornwall team worked with volunteers from Bosavern Community Farm and two other west Penwith farms to plant 800 trees for hedgerow shelterbelts providing shelter for wildlife.

*School mini forests – Mini forests have been planted at Camelford Primary and Secondary schools and St Ives School as part of a research study comparing different ways of establishing new woodlands. The denser planting approach developed by the Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki involves planting up to three times as many trees as normal in one area with the aim to improve soil condition and provide additional shelter.

*Market garden – Volunteers planted more than 5,000 trees at Trenow Fields, near Marazion.

*Landmark trees – A total of 46 town and parish councils across Cornwall planted free, commemorative, Landmark Trees supplied by the Forest for Cornwall and Woodland Trust Emergency Tree Fund to celebrate or commemorate a person, place or event.

Articles and Cornish Snippets may be sourced from the Cornwall Council, BBC Cornwall, Pirate FM News, Falmouth Packet, Cornwall Live, Kernow Matters and Wikipedia