

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dydh da,

We have now moved from our home at the Oakleigh Baptist Church, after many years, and all that remains is the disposal of furniture of cabinets, tables, filing cabinets and chairs.



We held our last open meeting there in August and were given advice on researching our Cornish ancestors by Helen Morgan.

For those who have not started a project, it was very illuminating and certainly spurred on some of our members to look further.

This was followed by an afternoon tea of scones and” heava “cake which was enjoyed by all those who came, (all members followed the Cornish tradition of jam first then the cream.)

In September, we decided that the meeting was to be held on Zoom, as we have planned to have a number of Zoom meetings until we are fully over the Covid situation and members are willing to come to a face-to-face meeting.

I gave a talk on “the Churches of the Lizard Peninsula” which I gave back in May 2011.

Your committee met in October and invited Neil Thomas to give a talk on one of his Martin ancestors, from Gawler in South Australia, who rose to become a man of prominence in the town with his own statue.

Neil preferred to give his talk in front of members and Robyn Coates suggested we could meet at the Darebin North West Uniting Church. The Committee graciously accepted the offer and, in the end, made a very good decision.

The weather conditions were not conducive to travelling but it soon cleared up and we had a dry day.

The parking at the Church was excellent and we were treated to some very delicious slices freshly made by a friend of Robyn and Arthur, John, who was running a cake decorating class at the same time as we were meeting.

He also made a cake decorated with two figures - one of which was a bard and the other a man with his Cornish kilt.

I could not thank him enough for the welcome which was given to us and the cakes.

(see page 3)

Neil gave his talk with slides and this was followed by questions and answers and input from members about their own families.

We also had the pleasure of welcoming the President of the Cornish Association of New Zealand, Judy Wright, who will be with us for a number of years due to a job opportunity her husband was given in Melbourne.

Judy hails from Hayle and also reiterated that the best pasties came from Hayle (you know where! - just in case you don't - it is Philp's) We hope to feature Judy in the future to tell us about herself and the Cornish in New Zealand.

⇒ 3



CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, INC.

NEWSLETTER No. 143

November 2022

Corporation Reg. No. A0008264A

CONTENTS

President's Message pp 1 & 3

Members Notices p 2

Recent Meetings pp 3 - 5

Family History Surprises
Beryl Curnow p 6

William Curnow p 7

William Curnow - The Moss
Master of Newlyn by Bill
Curnow pp 8-9

Agan Kernow for Sale p 10

Bendigo my Cornish
Connections by Max Procter -
pp 10 & 11

Honour Board - WWI- St Paul's
Anglican Church, Bakery Hill
pp 11 - 12

New Members p 12

Bendigo, Ballarat and Geelong
happenings pp 12 - 14

Cornish Tidbits pp 15 - 16

Kernewek Lowender
Information p 16

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Membership Fees

Single: \$40.00
Family: \$60.00
Life Single: \$400.00
Life Family: \$600.00



Saturday 19th November 2022

This will be a Zoom meeting and information will be sent out to all members.

Saturday 10th December 2022

Our Christmas get together will be held upstairs in a separate room at Young and Jackson's Hotel, corner of Flinders and Swanston Streets, Melbourne. The cost is \$50 for a two course meal. The room holds 36 people so please make sure that Helen Morgan (0401 873 385) has your booking.

Saturday 18th February 2023 -

Our speaker will be author Michelle Scott Tucker – author of *Elizabeth Macarthur: A life at the edge of the world* (2019).
A pasty lunch at 12 noon will precede the speaker. Cost \$10. Numbers to Robyn Coates please by Saturday 11th February 2023 (0419 551 320)
Marcus Curnow is happy to take pasty orders and will deliver them to the church on the day.
Speak with Marcus before 11th February - 0421 076 804

The February meeting will be held at Darebin North West Uniting Church - 399A Murray Road, West Preston, located between Park Avenue and McDonald Street.

There is parking behind the church (enter from Murray Road).
A route 11 tram, runs along Gilbert Road from Collins Street and it is just a short walk, a block and a half, from tram stop 43, on the corner of Gilbert and Murray Roads. (cross over the tram lines and walk east).
A Mernda Line train stops at Preston, (from platform 1 at Flinders Street and platform 9 at Southern Cross) and it is about a five-seven minute walk west along Murray Road to the church, past Preston West Primary School.

Pastoral Care

If you know of someone who is unwell, celebrating a special birthday or just needs a cheery greeting, please let Evelyn Jones know the details so she can be in touch.

Evelyn's details are:

Ph: 0417 160 658

ejo65074@bigpond.net.au

CAV NEWSLETTER

The CAV Newsletter is published in February, May, August & November and distributed via email and in some cases by mail.

If you have an email address, please consider having your newsletter emailed.
For distribution contact The Secretary.

Deadline for contributions for the next issue:

Saturday 21st January 2023

Articles for inclusion are welcome at any time but **must be received by the deadline date**. Please use plain text font size 12, without formatting.
Photos and tables should be included separately - not as part of a document.
Acknowledgment of source is required.
The email address for the CAV Newsletter - robyncoates@hotmail.com

Please mark - Article for CAV Newsletter.

Cornish Tid Bits are sourced from the Cornwall Council, BBC Cornwall, Pirate FM News, Falmouth Packet, CornwallLive, Kresen Kernow, Wikipedia

We have booked our Christmas lunch at Young and Jacksons in the city (opposite Flinders Street Station) on the 10th December at 12.30pm with YOU in mind using public transport. The function room holds 36 so if you would like to come, please contact Helen Morgan. It would gladden our hearts to see the room full.

We realise we have many problems to overcome and we may never get back to the halcyon days when members meeting filled the room but we are committed to maintain the Association and not let it go the way of other associations.

We have had an invitation to showcase the Cornish at the Highland Games meeting in March in Croydon and we will plan for this event. We need your attendance at our open meetings and on Zoom and staying with us with your financial support.

Our February meeting will be again at West Preston giving all members who live on the northern and western sides of the city easier access. The meeting will be followed by afternoon tea with some Cornish favourites.

Do not forget to order your copy of our book *Agan Kernow* which I am giving as a family Christmas present. Thanks to Arthur and Robyn for their organisation in selling this. It is so very easy to order and pay online.

I know that it is a little earlier but I wish you a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year (Nadelik Lowen, Bledhen Nowyth Da) and hope to see as many of you as possible at our February meeting.

PS The Fisherman's Friend Part two is now showing as part of the British Film Festival in the Palace cinemas before it comes out on general release.

Brian Rollason

Photos show Brian Rollason with Judy Wright, from New Zealand, and the cake decorated for the CAV Meeting at Darebin NW Uniting Church by John Quai Hoi.



Recent Meetings

August – Family History Month

Based on her ongoing family history research, August speaker Helen Morgan presented on Cornish family history sources in acknowledgement of Family History Month and explored one of the enduring mysteries from her research – all ideas welcome!

A tale of two Emmas

Reconstructing the Blewett family of Penzance (eight children born to Gabriel and Ruth Blewett between 1825 and 1840) reveals the birth, apparently, of twins, baptised at Madron in 1837.

Gabriel and Ruth had two sons called Gabriel, the first dying at only seven months of age, and the second born two years later. The Blewetts also had two daughters baptised Emma, one of them in 1832 and the other in 1837, apparently one of twins.

Presumably, as Gabriel and Ruth had sons with the name Gabriel, they reused the name Emma after the

death of the Emma born in 1832 – but this is not the case.

The two children of the Blewetts' baptised together in 1837 were named Edward and Emma, according to the baptismal register.

Edward lived a long life, eventually dying of old age in America in 1915, his newspaper obituary and immigration records confirming his birthdate as 4 December 1836.

All records relating to the Emma Blewett of this family who survived to adulthood indicate that it was the Emma born in 1832, and that she died of breast cancer in Penzance in 1883 – baptismal, death and burial records exist for her.

The child born and baptised Emma alongside Edward was already deceased by the time of the 1841 census and Helen has not been able to locate a related death or burial record.

(The Emma Blewett who died, said to be aged 5, in early 1841 before the census date was the daughter of a Thomas Blewett of Wherry Mine.)

Helen has viewed the baptism records of both Emmas (baptised 1832 and 1837) using FamilySearch, rather than relying on the Cornwall OPC, which is an extremely useful resource for Cornish family history research, but are transcriptions and as such, prone to error.

Providentially, while the relevant Cornish newspapers included in the British Newspaper Archive are only available from the 1850s onwards, earlier dates have been transcribed and published online at West Penwith Resources.

An excerpt published from The West Briton of 9 December 1836 states, '*On Saturday last, at Penzance, Mrs Gabriel Blewett, of twin sons*'.

Unfortunately, this doesn't solve the mystery of the two Emmas, just adds to it.

Were the children baptised in 1837 the twins noted in The West Briton? Were they two boys or a boy and a girl? What happened to the second child? Would a second child in a family be given the same name as a living sibling?

This prompted Helen to look into same-name siblings and there is some evidence of it (see the links below). The members discussed naming practices in their own families.

Finally, Helen shared her family history website, Dearest, Are you in Melbourne? which contains full references for the above research:

<https://ancestry.helenmorgan.net/>

Academic articles on same-name siblings in the UK:
<http://www.localpopulationstudies.org.uk/PDF/LPS86/LPS%2086%20Spring%20Galley.pdf>
https://www.academia.edu/48689294/Living_Same_Name_Siblings_in_England_1439_1851

Cornwall OPC

<https://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/>

Volunteer transcribers have done this work and it is ongoing, so not everything has been done yet, but for Cornish research this is invaluable, particularly for pre 19th century research.

Because it is limited to Cornwall, it can help narrow in on families (which can be like searching for a needle in a haystack in the big subscription sites). It can be helpful in identifying family groups.

The person search is also a useful way for getting an overview of a person, and the extra searches, particularly the Institution Inmates search, are worth performing.

FamilySearch – Cornwall Parish Registers, 1538-2010

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1769414>

An unbelievably useful free resource, FamilySearch has pretty much all the birth, death, marriage and census information that the big subscription websites have - there is so much that you get a lot of noise, and the filtering isn't quite as good as the big sites. You can search 'records' for person data and often there will be accompanying images with further information. FamilySearch has an excellent wiki, worth consulting for an overview of holdings of genealogical type records, not only in FamilySearch, but elsewhere.

UK Census

<https://www.freecen.org.uk/>

Ancestry and Find My Past (subscription-based) have many record sets in common, including the UK census up to 1911. Find My Past has exclusive rights to the 1921 UK census.

Free options include accessing Ancestry and Find My Past via your local library or via the FreeCen database.

Births, Deaths and Marriages

<https://www.freebmd.org.uk/> and <https://www.gro.gov.uk>

The GRO (General Register Office UK) website is free to use (although you still need to set up an

account) and is brilliant for UK births and deaths from 1837 and recreating families.

Births include the mother's maiden name, which is an enormous help. The search is a bit quirky. Another alternative (no account required) is

FreeBMD, which also allows searching of marriages. In later years the results also include the other spouse's name, while in earlier years it doesn't. In that case, you can note the volume/page number, year and district and then perform a search on those criteria.

This will narrow your search down to a handful of possibilities, which you can then confirm through other sources.

September - Brian Rollason

Through Brian Rollason's illustrated talk, *A scenic trail of churches on the Lizard Peninsula*, members were able to see churches from Mawgan in Meneage, Manaccan, St Anthony in Meneage; St Keverne, Ruan Minor, Grade, Landewednack, Mullion, Cury and Gunwalloe.

Images can be seen here:

<https://www.cornishvic.org.au/docs/A%20Scenic%20Church%20Trail%20of%20The%20Lizard%20Peninsula.pdf>

October - Neil Thomas

At the October meeting, Neil Thomas shared information about a distant Cornish cousin, James Martin, who was a very successful business man in South Australia.

Neil's ancestors, John Thomas of Budock and Sarah Martin of Stithians were married at St Budock in December 1791.

Several years ago, Neil met a woman at Kernewek Lowender who came from Stithians and told Neil that there was a statue of a James Martin, from Stithians, at Gawler, in South Australia.

Neil found the statue and began researching James Martin and with assistance of Viv Martin, a CAV member, was able to establish a connection.

James Martin was born in 1821, at the hamlet of Foundry, named after his grandfather who had established a foundry there, in the parish of Stithians. He was the seventh child of a woman whose husband had died a few months previously. Martin had little schooling and after starting to earn his own money he enrolled in night classes. He had various jobs – making steel shovels, as a millwright in Truro's flour mills, and as a fitter in the Tresavean copper mine. He served as a maintenance worker at a woollen factory at Ponsanooth. All the time James gaining practical

engineering knowledge.

He suffered from asthma, unfortunately made worse by Cornwall's climate and workplace conditions, so decided for his health's sake to try his luck in South Australia, migrating in 1847, working first at Hindmarsh erecting a flour mill.

Determined to work for himself, he moved to the village of Gawler, in 1848, with a dray containing his young wife, some furniture and a few tools.

Gawler seemed a likely spot for development as it was a stopping point between Adelaide and the mines of Burra, the farms of the Barossa Valley, the River Murray and the developing wheat fields of the Lower North.

James rented a blacksmith's shop and began building bullock drays.

Apparently, he could not resist the lure of the Victorian gold rush. He tried his luck at Ballarat for a short time, returning home with a small profit in his pocket.

James Martin established the Phoenix Foundry initially manufacturing various farm implements and then he moved on to mining machinery, engines, pumps, crushing and winding gear.

Eventually he employed around 700 men on a property that covered 18 acres.

The business received several large orders to build locomotives for the South Australian government. Altogether, some 150 locomotives were built with some being sent interstate.

James Martin's influence on the town was far reaching for over half a century. He became known as the "Father of Gawler" and held office in many groups and for eight years he was Mayor of Gawler. From 1865 to 1868, James Martin was the Member of Parliament for Barossa and from 1885 until his death in 1899, he was a Member of the Legislative Council.

James Martin married three times: having two daughters and a son. He adopted his nephew John Felix Martin.

John Felix was made a partner in his adoptive father's business, became General Manager, then Chairman of Directors.

After the turn of the century, James Martin & Co. declined amid changing economic circumstances and was eventually absorbed by Perry Engineering. Samuel Perry purchased James Martin and Company in 1915, closing the Gawler foundry in 1928. That company went on under various names until 2007.

To view the meeting:

<https://youtu.be/9NozISau8Cg>

Family History Surprises!!

Written by Beryl Curnow

How **One Link** can lead to another in joining generations together to add a family history story.

Link 1

In early August I received an email notifying me of the death in Queensland of Professor William (*Bill*) Charles Curnow AM (1938-2022) with a request that I notify William J Curnow (also known as Bill) in Florida USA (CAV Member No 250) to inform him and keep him updated on the Curnow Family Tree.

Link 2

Ted and I had met both the Queensland Curnows and the Florida USA Curnows at the *"First Worldwide Curnow Home Coming in 1990"* arranged by the late Howard Curnow, where 300 Curnows from around the world had gathered and from then had continued some links with both families.

Link 3

William J Curnow (USA) checked his Curnow file and remembered he himself had written an article on a William Curnow 1809-1887 called: *The 'Moss Master' of Newlyn*. and had submitted it to the Cornwall Family History Society Journal No 181 in September 2021.

In reviewing his *'Moss Master of Newlyn'* article again, considering the information he had just received, he was amazed to find he was uncovering the great - great grandfather of the late William (Bill) Curnow) who had just died in Queensland. He was saddened that he had not made the link before to notify him before his passing but was pleased to forward the information and *The 'Moss Master of Newlyn'* article immediately on to the Queensland family.

Link 4

Personally I was very interested to find that William J (USA) in his research of the *'Moss Master of Newlyn'* article had also discovered that Walter Langley one of the renowned 'Newlyn School of Painters' had painted a picture called *'The Sunny South'* 1885 and this painting was actually a painting of the 'Moss Master', William Curnow, in his garden at Newlyn. (1809 - 1887)

This picture is hanging in the Penlee House Gallery and Museum in Penzance.



Link 5

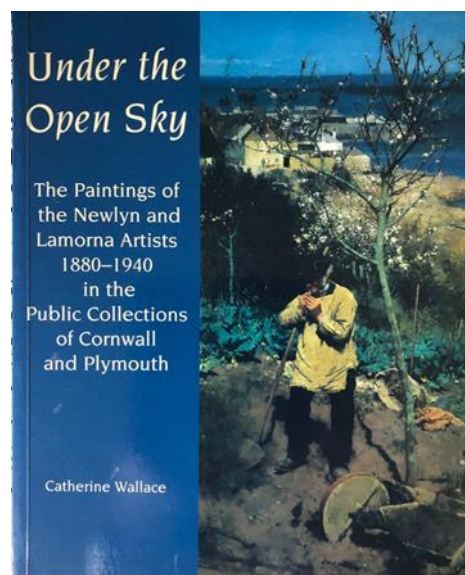
On a personal note:

Whilst living in Cornwall 2003-2005, I was introduced to the 'Newlyn School of Painters' and became quite a fan of their paintings visiting a number of galleries over that period.

Consequently Ted and I brought home a number of books depicting their paintings and cards and were just delighted that one of the books we have been enjoying and currently have on our Coffee Table called 'Under the Open Sky,' *The Paintings of The Newlyn and Lamorna Artists 1880 -1940 in the Public Collections of Cornwall and Plymouth* by Catherine Wallace has that Walter Langley Painting, *'The Sunny South'* in it and also has it printed on its front cover.

How pleasing it is to find out now through the research of William J (USA) this picture is actually a painting of William Curnow, 'The Moss Master' himself.

How exciting. even though our own Curnow ancestral line is not specifically linked.



Link 6

Finally in reading both the Citation of the late William (Bill) Curnow in Queensland and William J Curnow's researched story of William Curnow 1809 -1887 'The 'Moss Master of Newlyn' we can proudly link two notable and gifted men with Cornish heritage and (*with similar genes*) who have both left their outstanding marks (both locally and worldwide) through very significant and positive achievements in different fields of work and study, to benefit society as a whole.

We are very thankful and proud.

Kernow Bys Vyken

Obituary for William (Bill) Curnow

(as mentioned in Beryl Curnow's
article)

CURNOW, William (Bill)

22 September 1938 - 16 June 2022



Professor William (Bill) Curnow AM

William (Bill) Charles Curnow (1938-2022), as a CSIRO Regional Building Development Manager from 1970, was the head of designing and building one of the world's most sophisticated and secure facilities, to be situated in Geelong.

The Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) was commenced in 1974.

The AAHL is now known as The Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), and remains a critical player in Australia's, and the world's, pre-emptive safeguards and responses to life-threatening diseases.

Bill's book, *'Biosecurity By Design Is No Accident'*, details his influence on at least four of the six large scale biosecurity laboratory complexes that exist around the world.

The ACDP remains at the forefront of technology and defined the parameters by which those that followed would be judged.

Bill was subsequently engaged as an independent expert by the United Nations on bio-containment infrastructure for India, Canada and France.

In the early 1980s while still working for CSIRO, Bill was head-hunted by The Office of Corrections Victoria to modernise the Victorian prison system.

Relocating to Brisbane in 1986, Bill was employed at Thiess Pty Ltd, progressing to the role of Executive Manager Social Infrastructure.

Bill continued to work for Thiess until his retirement in 2003 when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, aged 64.

A highlight for Bill was being appointed a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) on 26 January 2010.

The citation reads, *"For services to the construction industry, particularly as an architect of correctional, educational and biosecurity facilities, through the promotion and support of collaborative research projects and as an educator."*

Bill was chairman of the St Peters Lutheran College Foundation in Queensland and later Chair of College Council.

He was instrumental in establishing a second campus of St Peters Lutheran College, at Springfield, Queensland, and in recognition of his business acumen and tenacity, a building was named in his honour - Curnow House. Bill was a devoted Christian man and an active member of the Lutheran church until his death.

He is survived by his wife Margaret and three children, Holly, Karl and Renata.

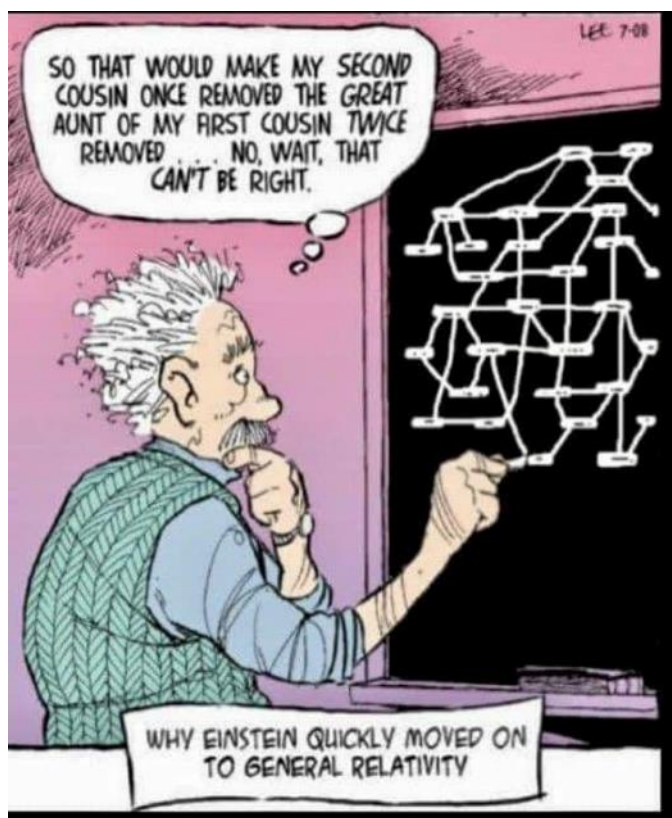
RIP to a remarkable man whose legacy continues to keep the world a safer place.

Indooroopilly 4068

Beryl Curnow has been in contact with the Queensland Curnow family and permission was given by them to include this obituary.

Bill Curnow, (Florida) has also given permission for his story to be included - see next page

A touch of humour



WILLIAM CURNOW (1809-1887)

The 'Moss Master' of Newlyn

By Bill Curnow (04351)

The remarkable life of William CURNOW had a perfectly ordinary beginning when he was born at Penzance during November 1809, the third of six known children in the family of John CURNOW (ca.1774-1857) and his wife Ann CREWES (ca.1772-1842). John, the father, was a farmer and gardener who was born at Gulval. The family's descent can be traced to Thomas CURNOW (1588-1643) and his wife Catherine, who lived with their large family at Towednack.

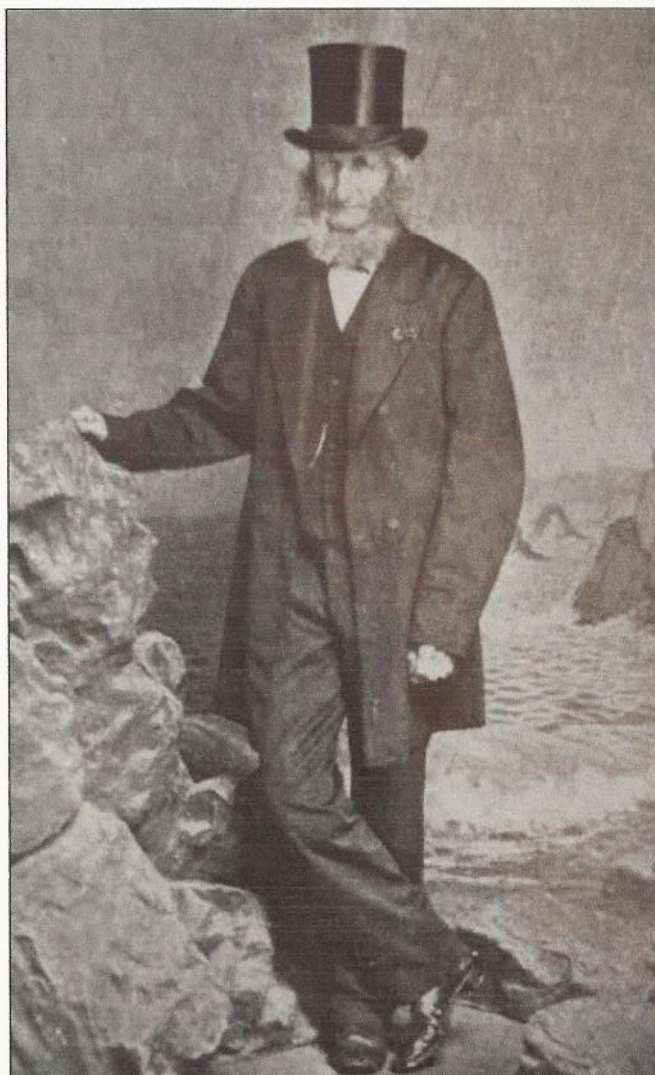
William CURNOW and his five siblings spent much of their childhood at Madron, the brothers quite likely assisting their father in his farming and gardening activities. However, the family relocated to Bollogas in the Parish of Paul no later than 1829. On 22 December 1829, the *Morning Post* of London reported news received via the *Falmouth Packet* of a sad case of infanticide believed to have involved an unmarried female servant who had until recently been employed in the CURNOW household.

During the autumn of 1835, William married Jane KNEEBONE (1807-1874), the second of eleven children in the family of John KNEEBONE (1775-1837), a Paul farmer, and his wife Clarinda WRIGHT (1784-1860). William and Jane became parents of two children. Their son, William CURNOW (1836-1917), was a farmer and subsequently a market gardener and florist. He and his family lived in Paul at Trungle Farm, and at one time he served as clerk and assistant overseer of the Paul Urban Council. His sister was Ann Crewes CURNOW (1839-1936), who married John Matthews BODINNAR (1838-1904) in 1863 at Paul. The BODINNAR family included six sons and four daughters. The elder William and his family lived in Newlyn at Pembroke Cottage with no apparent interruption during the half century from 1841 to 1891.

Following in his father's footsteps, William CURNOW became a market gardener raising vegetables and perhaps flowers as well. The scope of his agricultural business was significant. Census records show that he cultivated 10 acres in 1851, 12 acres in 1871, and 11 acres in 1881; he had no fewer than two and as many as five hired workers during those census years. The work of a market gardener is certainly subject to weather conditions, and William experienced occasional upsets due to the whims of nature. On one occasion, the costly glass greenhouse that he had constructed was pummelled and seriously damaged by the force of a North Atlantic storm.

Of all the market gardeners in Cornwall, there were certainly few, if any, who had a greater passion for nature than William. There is no evidence that he had more than a minimal formal education for a Cornish boy in the first half of the 19th century, perhaps until age 12 at most. However, he was blessed with a strong desire to read and learn. With keen interest in the flora of western Cornwall, he began to transform himself into a botanist by reading, as well as through conversations and correspondence with others who shared his passion for the subject. In his spare

4 Cornwall Family History Society Journal 181, September 2021



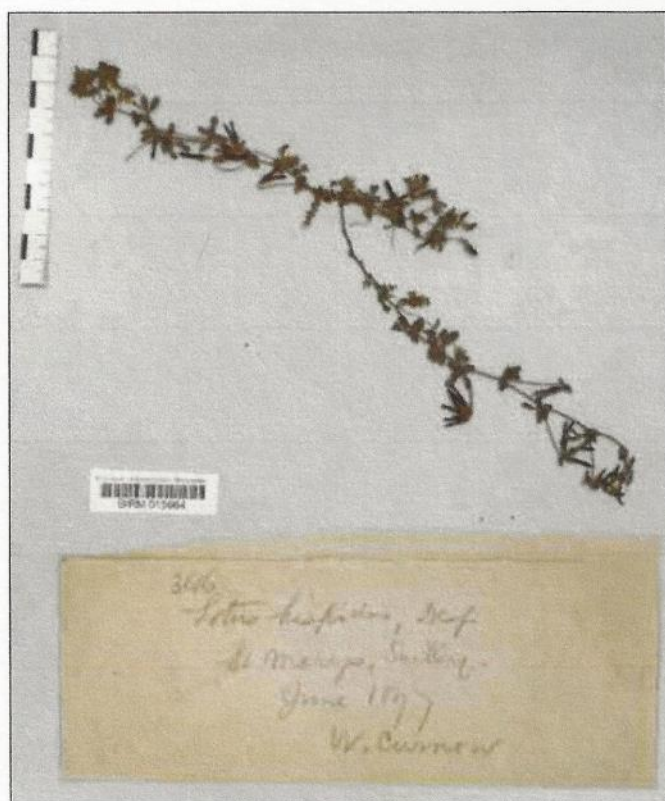
Moss Master William Curnow.

time, he began collecting and drying specimens of the plants he observed in the surrounding countryside. The time devoted to his hobby and the collection he built must have been considerable. *The Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland* has catalogued more than 260 of his specimens that survive today in various collections.

William's 'day job' and source of income were his market gardens. He certainly must have had reliable assistance from his family and hired helpers in order to be able to spend substantial time away from home as he explored the flora of the surrounding countryside. It is known that he collected specimens from all corners of his homeland. From eastern Cornwall he collected *luzula pilosa* (hairy wood-rush) during May 1878 from Hustyn Wood, about two miles south of Wadebridge in the parish of St Breock. Beyond Land's End in the far west, he travelled to St

Mary's in the Isles of Scilly, where he found *lotus subbiflorus* (hairy bird's-foot). His personal herbarium included plants ranging from Devon to as far north as Scotland, but it is not clear whether he collected any of those specimens on his own or received them from correspondents.

William CURNOW had a special interest in plants of the bryophyte's family, including liverworts and mosses. He is said to have spent time in the vicinity of Lamorna observing and collecting species that grew in moist coastal habitats. 'On wet rocks, constantly covered with spray of a cascade descending from a perpendicular cliff' he observed, classified, and collected a member of the moss family called *fissidens curnovii*. That name is now treated as a synonym for the longer revised name: *fissidens bryoides* var. *caespitans*, currently preferred by some. However, William's memory lives on in the plant's common name, 'CURNOW's pocket moss.'



Lotus subbiflorus, a dried specimen collected by William Curnow.

William wrote at least seven articles published in scholarly journals on the 'Bryophytes of Cornwall and Scilly'. His work gained recognition and appreciation from the British academic community, eventually leading to the invitation to become a Fellow of the prestigious *Royal Society*. As a member of that elite organization, he joined a wide circle of highly respected scientists, including Cornwall's own Sir Humphry DAVY (1778-1829), who had been a Fellow for contributions to the science of chemistry.

William CURNOW, age 77, died at Newlyn on 26 January 1887 and was interred at the Paul Cemetery. The eminent British botanist William WEST (1848-1914) wrote a brief obituary in which he said, 'I always found him to be a charming, generous, and earnest correspondent, his letters being delightful.' The burial record describes William as 'an eminent botanist', although he was more popularly known by some as the 'Moss Master'. He is certainly one of the luminary figures not only of 19th century Cornwall but also among British botanists.

The author wishes to express sincere thanks to Marc S FRANK (Extension Botanist, University of Florida Herbarium, Gainesville, Florida, USA) for his patient consultation and assistance in locating images of specimens collected well over a century ago by William CURNOW. Dr Des CALLAGHAN (Consultant Bryologist, Bryophyte Surveys Ltd) generously shared the remarkable photo of 'CURNOW's pocket moss'. Help provided by Angela BROOME (Librarian & Archivist, Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall at Truro), who located, scanned, and shared the rare photo of William CURNOW, is also gratefully acknowledged.



Lotus subbiflorus, or Hairy Birds-foot, as would have been seen on St Mary's.

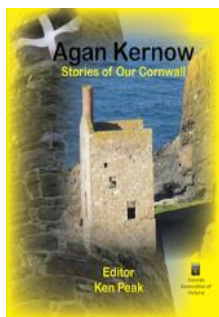


Fissidens curnovii, otherwise known as Curnow's Pocket Moss.

Agan Kernow

The book is now available for purchase by CAV Members, relatives and friends.

The purchase price is \$25 Australian plus the appropriate postage or you may be able to collect it at Oakleigh, Ballarat and Geelong.



This is a 262-page book of 76 stories by 51 authors from across the Cornish diaspora.

More information - www.cornishvic.org.au



Bendigo – My Cornish Connections

As a boy I used to regularly travel by train to visit my father's family at Charlton in northern Victoria.

This meant that we travelled via Bendigo station where we had lunch and changed trains.

I liked looking from the train windows at new vistas either side of Bendigo, but we did not linger there long enough for me to consider the importance that that city had in the earlier lives of my parents or the fact that my father's time there being related to my future birth.

My parents both lived in Bendigo for short periods of years but at dissimilar stages of their lives and their future relationship had no joint connection to Bendigo.

Three of my father's eight great – grandparents were of Cornish ancestry.

I have referred to his Curnow family in a contribution to *Agan Kernow*.

(This book is well worth buying from the Cornish Association of Victoria as a Christmas gift for someone who should have an interest in Cornwall.) My father's other ancestry is from County Durham.

Three of my mother's four grandparents migrated to Australia from Cornwall and went to Bendigo. Her fourth grandparent was born in Bendigo but of Scottish ancestry.

My father was born in Charlton where members of his mother's Curnow family played a prominent part in the town's activities.

At the completion of his secondary education, he went to Bendigo School of Mines in the 1920s where he gained diplomas in Electrical and mechanical Engineering.

Following his family background, he linked with the Methodist church in McKenzie Street. From the point of view of this story that important part that this move played in my future existence is that he formed a close friendship with the minister's son (GC).

When GC moved to Melbourne, at about the same time as my father, GC's mother, then a widow, provided board to young men including my father. These people connected with the Elsternwick Methodist church and this connection's importance to my future will become clearer a little later in this article, as before moving to Elsternwick my father had boarded with a relative in the Footscray area.

My mother, Edna, was born in the Specimen Hill (near Golden Square) area of Bendigo in 1909. Her father (James Eddy) was the son of a miner from St Just in Penwith.

As a young man he engaged in mining activities around Bendigo, sometimes with his father and also as an engine driver in some of the deep quartz mines.

Following one of the Methodist revivals in the Golden Square/ Specimen Hill district he became active in the Methodist church there.

Through this church he met his first wife, my grandmother, Olive Nankervis.

Olive was the daughter of James Nankervis from St Just in Penwith and Mary Allen from Penryn and before that from Gwennap.

James Nankervis had a ham and bacon factory in Golden Square.

My grandfather, James Eddy worked for his father – in – law for a while before deciding that the family's future lay in Melbourne at a grocery shop in Gardenvale and later other commercial and building activities.

(He returned to Golden Square for the last few years of his life.)

My grandfather was a foundation member of the Kooyong Road Methodist Church which was under the superintendency of the Elsternwick church mentioned in the previous paragraph, hence he was active in ensuring its proper functioning as mentioned below.

My father was a competent pianist and played for activities associated with the Elsternwick church. The organ at the Kooyong Road church was played

by my mother's aunt Bertha, the sister of James Eddy.

Bertha wished to be relieved of this position and sought out my father to take her place. He agreed but because he lived in Elsternwick he had no means of transport to Kooyong Road. Therefore, a car roster was drawn up at Kooyong Road and as it happened my grandfather was on this roster. He sometimes delegated his duty to his daughter Edna. Thus, my parents were brought together and were married at the Kooyong Road church in 1930. My birth was to follow some years later.

Therefore, because my mother was born in Bendigo, my father had met a friend in Bendigo and continued that friendship later in Melbourne at a location close to where my mother lived, I believe that my existence is therefore very much due to what happened in Bendigo in 1909 and the 1920s.

It also applies that if James Nankervis's first wife had not died soon after their marriage, I would not be here giving you this information.

Max Procter



Honour Board - WWI - St Paul's Anglican Church, Bakery Hill

A Ballarat historian, Dr Anne Doggett, is writing the stories of those soldiers commemorated on the Honour Board, at St Paul's. There are 177 names on the Board and Anne has researched 108 of them and is hoping to finish by Christmas.

I know Anne has used as many resources as possible to write the stories of these men - The AIF project, The Avenue of Honour Ballarat, families and descendants of those listed, newspaper reports on Trove and elsewhere.

I have family connections to many of the men on the list and it has been very interesting to read her draft stories on them.

Whilst researching some of these men I have also found connections that I did not know.

Did you have any families connected to St Paul's Church, Bakery Hill (Ballarat East), in the late 1800s and early 1900s? Anne is still searching for information on some of the men.

Dr Anne Doggett also researched and wrote the

book *The Church on Bakery Hill* St Paul's Ballarat and its place in the community. Going through the years from its beginnings in the 1850s until recently. This book was published in 2018.

I have attached the list of names on the Honour Board.

If you can assist Anne, please email her on adoggett@optusnet.com.au

Thank you
Di Christensen

Photo - Bakery Hill Plaque, Flagpole, and St Paul's Church, Ballarat East, 2015. Ballarat Heritage Services Picture Collection - used with permission.



- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Ainsworth, SJ | 41 Dane, Dr P |
| 2 Bailey, T † | 42 Dark, EW |
| 3 Barby, A | 43 Davies, FT |
| 4 Bailey, WL † | 44 Davies, Rev H |
| 5 Barnett, CH | 45 Day, D |
| 6 Bennett, C | 46 Day, G |
| 7 Bennett, W | 47 Day, L |
| 8 Besemerer, HV | 48 Dell, OT |
| 9 Bourne, E | 49 Dodds, W |
| 10 Boyce, BA † | 50 Donnelly, RJ |
| 11 Boyce, JF | 51 Douglas, R |
| 12 Boyce, RB | 52 Downey, W |
| 13 Bradby, D | 53 Draper, T |
| 14 Bradby, WJ | 54 Dunn, JNEW, MM |
| 15 Brett, C | 55 Dunn, MG |
| 16 Brett, LN † | 56 Eastwood, F |
| 17 Brownlow, WH | 57 Edwards, AN † |
| 18 Brudenall, H | 58 Edwards, PJ |
| 19 Buchanan, GA † | 59 Elliott, AE |
| 20 Buchanan, WJ | 60 Elsworth, HA |
| 21 Buckman, N † | 61 Forward, A |
| 22 Budge, W † | 62 Fraser, DG |
| 23 Burnell, E | 63 Fraser, JW |
| 24 Bush, HF † | 64 Freestone, E |
| 25 Carling, R | 65 Gallagher, HR |
| 26 Carter, TE | 66 Gent, H |
| 27 Cederholme, WJ | 67 Gilbert, HC |
| 28 Champion, Dr E | 68 Gilbert, WJ |
| 29 Chibnall, AB | 69 Gilbert, WM |
| 30 Chibnall, WL † | 70 Giles, WJ † |
| 31 Cooper, H | 71 Gladman, A |
| 32 Cooper, P | 72 Gladman, F |
| 33 Coward, AC | 73 Gladman, J |
| 34 Coward, F | 74 Glassford, A |
| 35 Cowell, CA † | 75 Glassford, W |
| 36 Cowell, G | 76 Gordon, SG |
| 37 Cox, CM † | 77 Granland, W |
| 38 Cravino, EJ † | 78 Harris, J † |
| 39 Dalzell, F | 79 Harris, J |
| 40 Dalzell, W | 80 Harris, T |

81 Harrison, H	135 Ross, T, DCM
82 Harry, S	136 Salmon, G
83 Hepburn, A	137 Salmon, JW
84 Hiddle, AW	138 Salmon, RA, MC
85 Hiddle, RH	139 Salmon, WG †
86 Hill, TV	140 Scott, T
87 Holderhead, J	141 Sheppard, A, DCM
88 Horman, W	142 Sheppard, C, Méd
89 Horwood, W	Mil
90 James, AA	143 Sheppard, WG
91 Johnson, H	144 Silver, F
92 Jones, AE	145 Stewart, JE †
93 Kydd, RM	146 Stone, ER, MM †
94 Kydd, WW	147 Strahan J
95 Lakeland, WJ, OBE	148 Stuart, W
96 Leeden, HL	149 Swenson, S
97 Lowen, P	150 Thompson, GS
98 Ludbrook, FJ	151 Thompson, EJ
99 Ludbrook, HC	152 Thomson, FCL
100 Ludbrook, JG, MM	153 Titheridge, AD,
101 McGregor, J †	DCM
102 McGregor, RR	154 Trahar, CA
103 McGregor SB, MM	155 Trahar, EA
104 McGregor, WA †	156 Tucker, V †
105 McIntosh, HJS	157 Wade, CA
106 McKay, DG	158 Wade, W †
107 McKay, R	159 Walters, RP
108 McKay, SJ	160 Warburton, VG †
109 Millard, HA	161 Watson, T †
110 Millard, SE	162 Weeks, D
111 Millest, GE	163 Westrup, J
112 Minster, C	164 White, EC †
113 Montague, LE, MM	165 White, GH †
114 Morris, CF	166 White, GP †
115 Morris, JA	167 White, H †
116 Murphy, PJ	168 Whiteley, R
117 Newland, L	169 Williams, Rev FP,
118 Newland, O	MC
119 Nice, CR	170 Wilson, G
120 Nice, RG	171 Wormald, H
121 Nicholson, WRB	172 Wormald, H
122 Palmer, H	173 Wormald, LJ
123 Parker, H	174 Youens, A
124 Parker, W	175 Youens, W
125 Parrôt, EG	176 Zilles, C
126 Parrôt, LHC	177 Zilles, G
127 Parsons, S	
128 Peady, TA, MSM †	
129 Powell, HJ	
130 Powel, J	
131 Ratcliffe, F †	
132 Reed, H, MM	
133 Roff, R	
134 Roff, W	

NEW MEMBERS

We have recently welcomed three new members to our Association:

Margaret Bullen - one of our recent speakers

Carol Boglis - Geelong

Jill Morgan - Ballarat

Geelong

At our September branch meeting a new member joined us - welcome Carol Boglis.

To our surprise it turned out she is related to both the treasurer and the chairman of the branch.

A very animated discussion followed the revealing of this relationship.

It is planned for our November meeting that we will have a luncheon at the Clifton Springs Golf Club rooms.

Neil Thomas

Chairman of the Geelong Branch of the CAV.

Ballarat

The Ballarat

Christmas

Breakup will be held on **Thursday**

1st December at

The Grand, 203

Dana Street,

Ballarat (close to

Lydiard Street) - 11.45 am for 12 noon.

There will be a two course meal with tea and coffee for \$32.50.

Please notify Keith Lanyon if you would like to attend. (0411 512 160).



At our last meeting Doug Bradby gave a fascinating talk about the Ballarat Goldfields, from the beginning of the gold discoveries by shepherds to the establishment of large mines employing many of the Ballarat men. He included the involvement of the Cornish Miners, their successes and their involvement in the development of Ballarat.

Doug has written seven history books for children and three books that explore Ballarat's mining history. Following his entertaining talk, members were keen to purchase copies of his books.

Ballarat also welcomed a new member, at its last meeting. Welcome Jill Morgan.

Bendigo Happenings

After 28 years of collecting and compiling names, dates and stories of Cornish born pioneers to the Bendigo district, I have finally drawn a close to the project.

While I hope more names will present themselves and more stories will be recorded, I have decided to draw a line under the constant and seemingly never ending edits, updates and amendments.

It will be presented, warts and all now to repositories both here and in Cornwall, so the information is available to all who may seek it out. I have removed personal information from the data which will be donated but will never forget the generosity of so many who have assisted me in the recording and the recognition of these thousands of men, women and children who left Cornwall and made their way to Australia, and ultimately to Bendigo.

The more famous of these are well recorded already but for many there is very little information about them and they are easily missed in the annals of history.

I hope that by recording their names I am able to document some of their story.

There are stories of triumph and many of tragedy. Stories of men and boys who never returned from the mines.

Stories of women, worn out and trying to make ends meet when the breadwinners were no longer able to work due to workplace injuries or lung diseases from the mines.

Children left without parents and families trying to survive this new land without other family members and support around them.

Most who travelled so far were never to see Cornwall or family again.

They were the bravest of the brave, true pioneers who came here for a better life and who made their mark – no matter how small.

A few returned to Cornwall, many others moved from place to place – wherever opportunities presented themselves.

We owe them so much and this project is a very small way in which we can recognise them.

I will of course continue to collect stories, to record names and to add more flesh to their bones wherever I can, but these names need to be held where future generations can find them and where their lives can continue to be shared with descendants and researchers well into the future.

Reading the obituaries and stories of the day is

interesting and often amusing.

One such story is that of Grace Roberts nee Sisley who married Stephen Berriman.

The Bendigo Advertiser, Monday 23 September 1912.

OBITUARY. The death of Mrs. Berriman, widow of the late Mr. Stephen Berriman, of Clunes, took place at the Strathfieldsaye State School, the residence of her son, on Saturday, Mrs. Berriman, who was a colonist of 58 years' standing, attained the advanced age of 83 years. Almost to the last she retained all her faculties; her step was elastic, and her figure girlish in appearance. She leaves four sorrowing children to mourn their loss.

Another interesting entry relates to Israel Trudgeon who was well known in Methodist circles.

He passed away, in 1904, at the Methodist Children's Home in Cheltenham and when researching him I found that he had a very close connection to that home and his obituary recorded that he was the "father" of the Cheltenham Home children and with his wife carried out his duties in a very credible manner.

There is an article on the internet which provides a lot more information about his story and it can be found at <https://localhistory.kingston.vic.gov.au/articles/269>

There are stories of intrigue, bigamy, suicides, families left destitute when a parent disappeared and on the flip side, stories of rising from adversity to succeed where many others would fail.

Edward Truscott and his wife Ellen came to Australia from St Just.

They came to Australia with her brother via America in 1863.

Their ship was stranded for some time, on the Great Barrier Reef, before they finally succeeded in reaching Bowen (then known as Port Denison) in Northern Queensland.

While there, the young couple and her brother suffered many hardships associated with early settlement, which were particularly arduous to pioneers from Cornwall, due to the rigors of the climate in far north Queensland.

In addition to extreme heat, they suffered both cyclone and flood by which all their belongings, including their living tent were swept away. So severe were the conditions that Ellen's brother succumbed six months after the party's arrival in the colony.

After two and half years in Northern Queensland, Edward Truscott was engaged in getting timber for

construction of the first buildings in Bowen, but he felt the call of mining which he had been engaged in back home in Cornwall and the young couple travelled to Bendigo, arriving there in 1866. They made their home in California Gully where they reared a large family.

The journey over was not always easy, but sometimes our pioneers showed initiative and displayed skills to help better their situation.

Joseph Harry was one of these people.

On 6th February 1849 Joseph and his wife left Plymouth Sound for Australia on the sailing vessel *British Empire*.

It was not until 6th June, after the lapse of 120 days that they finally entered Hobson's Bay.

On the voyage out Joseph was very popular with his fellow shipmates, for he was the only musician on board, and with his violin, he played to many a dance during the long nights.

Joseph and his wife settled initially in Portland Bay until they left for Adelaide the following year and stayed there until 1851.

They then proceeded to the Alexander diggings before coming to Bendigo on 15th March 1852. They went to Ballarat for a while but settled for good in Bendigo in 1871.

In 1879, Joseph constructed a model mine for the Juvenile Industrial Exhibition which was held in Bendigo.

Its ingenious mechanism evoked many flattering comments from the visitors to that exhibition and it was regarded by many as one of the chief attractions. When the Victorian Gold Jubilee Exhibition was inaugurated, Joseph undertook to construct another model mine and it was also greatly commended.

Article in the Bendigo Advertiser dated 15th February 1901 writes about a subscription list to build the Model Mine for the Victorian Gold Jubilee Exhibition.

Another article in the Bendigo Advertiser dated 20th February 1901 states:

Yesterday the town clerk and Mr G. V. Allen, the secretary of the Victorian Gold Jubilee Exhibition, inspected the model of the mine which Mr Joseph Harry is preparing for the exhibition.

Mr Harry, who has already devoted five months to the work, has made excellent progress.

The model is designed to show the old and new methods of winding, as well as the working of a mine generally, and those who have seen it express the opinion that it will be a great attraction.

The ingenuity exercised by Mr Harry in the construction of the model is everywhere evident,

and when completed it will be a veritable mechanical triumph.

The Exhibition closed in May 1902. Joseph died in August 1903 aged 79 years.

The final piece for this article comes from The Northern Miner (Charters Towers) – 2nd May 1936.

The late Mrs Emily Richards of Grand Secret – better known as "Granny Richards" – was one of those pioneering women to whom Australia owes much.

She had nearly reached her 88th year and the record of her life in the colonies is one which would make the Hon. W. M. Hughes, Minister for Health and Welfare, proud to bare his head in her memory. She was born at Blackwater, St Agnes, Cornwall in 1848, leaving there with her husband and one daughter in 1870 for Australia, the port of disembarkation being Melbourne.

Her husband worked as a miner in Ballarat and Bendigo for some years after which they moved to Cobar, N.S.W. and thence to the Towers in 1886.

A MODEL MINE.—Mr. Joseph Harry, of American Gully, who is 77 years of age, proposes to exhibit the complete model of a Bendigo mine at the forthcoming Victorian Gold Jubilee Exhibition, and, at the meeting of the Miners' Association last evening, a subscription list was received setting forth that the model would be more complete as to details than the one exhibited by him at the Bendigo Industrial Exhibition of 1879. The president explained that Mr. Harry relied on the generosity of the public to assist him in completing his work. Mr. Taylor Horsfield was doing the iron work for the mine and Mr. J. R. Hoskins was furnishing the timber. He commended Mr. Harry's intention, especially as the object was to assist him to support himself and wife in their old age. Mr. Collmann moved that an application for monetary assistance be laid before the half-yearly meeting of the association on Saturday. Mr. Praed, in seconding the motion, said Mr. Harry's object was to prevent the necessity of his receiving benevolent assistance during the eventide of his life. It was a noble aspiration, and he heartily supported the motion, which was carried.

I hope my attempts to record the names of the Cornish Pioneers of Bendigo make all of us proud to bare our heads in their memory.

Leanne Lloyd

CORNISH tidbits

Aerial photographer's England collection goes on view

Thousands of photographic negatives and prints, taken by a pioneering aerial photographer, are being made available to view for the first time.

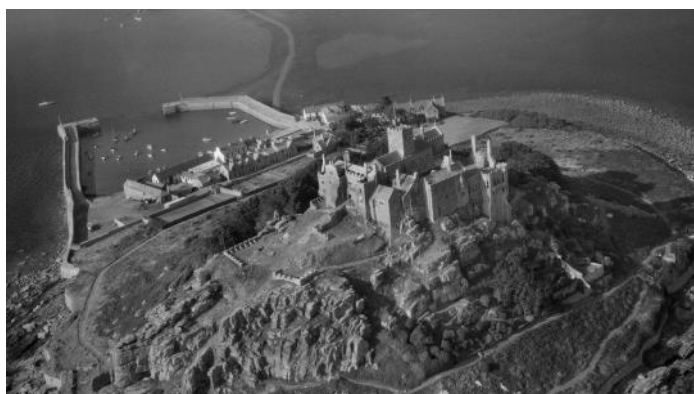
Harold Wingham, who hailed from the New Forest, took photos across south-west England between 1951 and 1963.

Wingham used hand-held aerial reconnaissance cameras to produce images with excellent resolution.

The photographer, who lived in Gloucestershire, died last year.

The collection of almost 2,000 photographic negatives and corresponding prints have been divided into 86 flights and been made available online by Historic England.

This photo of St Michael's Mount is just one example.



The collection is retained in Historic England's archive, which has created three online displays.

Story from:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-hampshire-63319948>

Collection information:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/whats-new/research/celebrating-the-harold-ingham-collection-through-active-participation/>

King Charles III coronation date clash with Helston Flora Day in Cornwall

Flora Day in Helston was due to be held on Saturday 6th May 2023 but has now been brought forward to Friday 5th May.

Flora Day is usually held on 8th May, unless that falls on a Sunday or Monday, then it is held on the Saturday before.

Sixty people have drowned in Cornwall since 2017, including 12 last year.

Cold water shock on hot summer days, alcohol, a lack of local knowledge and the growing popularity in wild swimming have been blamed for a rise in the number of drownings in Cornwall.

According to the Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) 12 people drowned last year, making Cornwall the worst place in the UK for accidental drownings in 2021.

Over the past five years a total of 60 people accidentally drowned.

According to the charity 85% of the accidental drownings occurred in coastal areas, which is more than double the national figure.

Two-thirds (67%) of those who lost their life were actively engaging in activities in or on the water at the time of drowning.

The figures also show that 83% were male, which is in line with the national average.

Drowning affected all age groups with the range of ages of those who lost their lives going from 17 to 86 years old.

The other key factor in drownings was the influence of drugs and alcohol.

According to the RLSS UK, 17% of those who drowned in Cornwall last year were under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, which is lower than the national average of 32%.

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/tragic-toll-more-people-drowning-7690432>

Agreement to secure short-term future of Truro's Royal Cornwall Museum

Following weeks of negotiations between the Royal Cornwall Museum and Cornwall Council, an agreement has been made to secure the museum's short-term future.

The council is providing initial transitional support while the Truro site reviews its business plan and applies for funding from partners to "create a museum for the 21st Century".

Back in July, bosses said the Royal Cornwall Museum could be forced to close after Cornwall Council pulled its funding.

Then, it was not on the list of creative organisations to receive a share of the authority's £1.8 million Culture and Creative Investment Programme.

Since then, more than 5,500 people have signed a petition to save the site and several talks have been held.

Cornwall Council also stressed that it wanted to work with them to find an alternative way forward.

<https://planetradio.co.uk/pirate-fm/local/news/agreement-over-royal-cornwall-museum/>

More than 1000 bodyboards recovered from Devon and Cornwall beaches

More than 1,000 discarded body boards have been collected from beaches across the South West this year.

They were collected by Keep Britain Tidy's Ocean Recovery Project and community groups from beaches including Croyde, Saunton, Bude and Newquay.

A total of 1,011 broken body boards have been collected compared with 1,503 last year.

Ocean Recovery says cheap bodyboards release polystyrene balls into the environment when they break.

Most are made in China and discarded by people on holidays.

Schemes are in place for people to hire proper boards at affordable prices.

Newquay Airport

Work is underway in Cornwall to make ready the first rocket payload that will be launched into orbit from British soil.

The spaceport, at Newquay Airport, will be a horizontal launch site which will be used to send satellites into space - the devices are attached to modified aeroplanes which will take off from the airport and then launch the satellites into orbit while in the air.

Virgin Orbit's customised Boeing 747 *Cosmic Girl* arrived at Cornwall's Airport, Newquay recently ahead of fine tuning preparation.

LauncherOne, a rocket that will be fitted under the wing of *Cosmic Girl*, has also arrived onboard a C-17 RAF aircraft from Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Orbit base in California.

Over the next few weeks a payload of nine satellites from seven military, as well as civilian science and research projects, will be assembled into the launcher rocket with a view that the UK's first space mission from UK soil will take place in November. Most of the launches from the UK will involve small satellites of less than 500kg.

Only one UK satellite has ever been put into orbit on a British launcher: the experimental probe

Prospero was blasted into space on a Black Arrow rocket in 1971 – from Woomera in Australia.

Now that is to be overturned with the creation of a satellite launch industry that the government hopes will be worth £3.8bn to the UK economy over the next decade.

COPPER COAST CORNISH FESTIVAL
Kadina • Moonta • Wallaroo

kernewek Lowender

COPPER COAST CORNISH FESTIVAL
15-21 May, 2023

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

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Government of South Australia
South Australian Tourism Commission

COPPER COAST COUNCIL

**NADELIK LOWEN HA
BLYTHEN NOWYDH DA**