

*Next Meeting: July 23, Fort Borst Park, Centralia*



Volume 13, No. 2

Summer 2011



Margaret Porter serves the potluck to Joan Huston and Coleen Pedlar at the St. Piran's Day meeting in Puyallup (above). At left, Craig Pedlar hangs the Cornish flags, supervised by Amanda Huston.

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# Cyndi Howells shares her List

We had a great meeting in March on St. Piran's Day. Our guest speaker was Cyndi Howells of Cyndi's List. She was awesome. She took us on a tour of her website with an emphasis on Cornwall. Wow, is that an extensive website! If you haven't been there, be sure to visit

[www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)



Cyndi Howells was our guest speaker in March.

gree in mechanical engineering and has been nominated for a position as a math teacher in Africa with the Peace Corps (got to brag a bit!) While he is home, I'm hoping to get him to make some pasties to share at the meeting. He's a great cook!

Our very special program will be from charter member and past president Mary Sisson, who has

Our vice president, Dick Colenso, has resigned for health reasons. We hope he will still be attending our meetings. Get well wishes from all of us. We need to elect a new vice president for the remainder of the year. We would appreciate volunteers for this. How about it Doug?

Our next meeting is our annual picnic on July 23 at Fort Borst Park in Centralia. This time it will be at the Second Kitchen, and we would like everyone to bring some food item to share. My son is home from college, having graduated in May with a bachelor of science de-



Dick Colenso has resigned as vice president. Get well!



Mary Sisson will lead the singing at Fort Borst Park July 23.

agreed to bring her guitar. We will have a Cornish sing-along with some great songs and music. This is something we did in the past, but be missed! Please try to make this picnic, as it is as centrally located as we can get for all to attend. Summer is a great time for singing, music, and a fun picnic. The business meeting will be very short!

-- Joan Huston  
President



# Google, a Cornish inventor and a song

Among the songs Mary Sisson is likely to have sung at the July annual meeting and picnic is "Camborne Hill." We've sung it before, and we all should have had it running through our minds when

Richard Trevithick was honored with a Google doodle on April 12.

That was the 240<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Cornish engineer and inventor, who was born in Tregajorren, in the parish of Illogan not far from Camborne, Cornwall. The doodle takes the letters in "Google" and works them into a steam engine like the one he invented in the early 1800s.

Although he watched steam engines as a child visiting the nearby mines, where his father was a mine



captain, they would have been low-pressure engines of the sort developed by James Watt and Matthew Boulton.

Trevithick's most significant success was the high-pressure steam engine, and he also built the first full-scale working railway steam locomotive. On February 21, 1804 the world's first locomotive-hauled railway journey took place as Trevithick's unnamed steam locomotive hauled a train along the tramway of

the Penydarren Ironworks, in Merthyr Tydfil in Wales.

But he could also lay claim to inventing the world's first car. He built a full-size steam road locomotive in 1801 on a site near the present day Fore Street at Camborne. He named the carriage "Puffing Devil," and on Christmas Eve that year, he demonstrated it by successfully carrying several men up Fore Street and then continuing on up Camborne Hill, from Camborne Cross to the nearby village of Beacon. His cousin and associate, Andrew Vivian, steered the machine.

This is widely recognized as the first demonstration of transportation powered by steam — and it inspired the popular Cornish folk song

## Yowann Byghan's historical novel goes digital

Yowann Byghan's historical novel "The Hawk Ring" is now available as an eBook download on Smashwords at <http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/50096>. You can download a sample (about five chapters) for free to see whether you like it. If you decide to buy the full copy, the standard price is \$4.99 (US dollars) or £3.58 (UK sterling).

Yowann, a Cornish Bard, was president of the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society before he moved back to the UK. He now lives in Scotland while he writes about what is now called Cornwall.

"The Hawk Ring" is the first in a trilogy called The Cadno Coch Chronicles. Colen (Cadno Coch), the main character of all three novels, is fictional, but the stories that make up the volumes in the series are based upon and relate directly to a real historical sequence of events. The Hawk Ring is set in 50 CE, when Cadno is aged 19 and beginning his druidic training. It takes



place amidst the British revolt against the Romans that was led by Caratacos (Caractacus). The second and third novels are called "The Serpent Wand" and "The Eagle Crown" respectively. They span the years AD 50 to AD 84, with Cadno Coch, involved in three major Celtic insurgences against the Roman army occupying Prydain (Britain): the revolt led by Caratacos (Caractacus) in 50; the uprising led by Budduga (Boudicca) in 60/61; and the Battle of Mons Graupius in 84.

The Serpent Wand is set in 60 to 61 CE, and its narrative is interwoven with the story of the British revolt led by Budduga – with Cadno well into his training and already a significant figure among the community of druids.

The third novel, The Eagle Crown, takes place in 84 CE, by which time Cadno has become a senior druid. It covers the period of the Roman advance into Scotland and the Battle of Mons Graupius.

5 Coburg Place

Torquay

Person

April 19<sup>th</sup> 16

My dear niece

I was very pleased to get your nice long letter & to hear you where all keeping well but have cold East Wind & it keeps me very crippled I can only get out of bed & get a bit of food & go back to bed again my feet are very bad

at Rose Craft went out to France chaplain was matter a weeks ago I had 2 thin mutton chops but it is nice for those who miss home & about the Torquay I think we had a child killed age 21 at present the news looks very black Oh it's murder Torquay is full of visitors from London and the north (out of the air raids) Uncle Harry Merritt died last week 77. He married Aunt Jane Kessell, father's youngest sister. She died 10 years ago I think. It's the last uncle we had left. Our bread is getting dreadful. It's quite a dark brown and heavy like pudding. We have ration tickets enough to turn our (-illegible-). 3 little coupons the size of a sixpence each have to be given for 5 shillings worth of meat and the butchers just give what they like. I had 2 thin mutton chops. Long bone fat and about a piece of lean the size of a shilling. My weeks rations 1 coupon for 4 oz of margarine 1 coupon for 2 oz of bacon 1 for 4 oz of cheese 2 weeks And I hear we are to have 3 oz of tea for 2 weeks. Matches, soap and candles very scarce and I hear there is to be no gas next winter and only half cwt coal a week. But we must not look forward, but live one day at a time and trust God who has promised to supply our needs. Thank you for the pretty card. With love to all your affectionate Aunt A. Kessell

## Letter from Aunt Amelia

# World War I hits home in Torquay

By Bonnie LaDoe

Here is another letter from my great-great Aunt Amelia Kessell in 1916. She has moved to 5 Coburg Place in Torquay, Devon. In 1999, a generous genealogist in Torquay was kind enough to take a photo of the building and send it to me.

In this letter, Amelia is feeling the cool weather and can hardly get out of bed. Although she seems much older, she is only 56, and it would appear she no longer works as a maid. She also gives details about some of the boys lost to the war and how her food is being rationed. A great insight into how the "Great War" was affecting the people.

Many thanks to Shirley Ewart for helping me interpret Aunt Amelia's writing and the weights and measures.

5 Coburg Place

Torquay, Devon

April 19, [19]16

My dear niece

I was very pleased to get your nice long letter and to hear you where [sic] all keeping well. We have cold east wind and it keeps me very crippled. I can only get out of bed and get a bit of food and go back to bed again. My feet are very bad. But it is nice for those that get out about. It's dry and the sun

is warm, but the air so cold for old people and invalids and everything so depressing.

All the men are going and the poor boys that we had playing in the streets before the war, killed or wounded.

The aching hearts. A young clergyman, age 28, lodged with me at Rose Craft, went out to France, Chaplain, was killed last month, a only son and his mother a widow. He was so bright and nice. I have had some kind letters and his photo since he left Torquay. And I have just had a letter of another of a only child killed, age 21. At present the news looks very black. Oh, it's murder. Torquay is full of visitors from London and the north (out of the air raids).

Uncle Harry Merritt died last week, 77. He married Aunt Jane Kessell, father's youngest sister. She died 10 years ago I think. It's the last uncle we had left.

Our bread is getting dreadful. It's quite a dark brown and heavy like pudding. We have ration tickets enough to turn our (-illegible-). 3 little coupons the size of a sixpence each have to be given for 5 shillings worth of

meat and the butchers just give what they like. I had 2 thin mutton chops. Long bone fat and about a piece of lean the size of a shilling.

My weeks rations

1 coupon for 4 oz of margarine

1 coupon for 2 oz of bacon

1 for 4 oz of cheese 2 weeks

And I hear we are to have 3 oz of tea for 2 weeks. Matches, soap and candles very scarce and I hear there is to be no gas next winter and only half cwt coal a week. But we must not look forward, but live one day at a time and trust God who has promised to supply our needs.

Thank you for the pretty card. With love to all your affectionate Aunt A. Kessell



# Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

## Annual Meeting and Picnic

Saturday, July 23, 2011

Kitchen No. 2, Fort Borst Park, Centralia, Washington

Meeting from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Social time 11-11:30; lunch 11:30 (bring something to share).

Business meeting at noon, followed by a Cornish sing-along with past President Mary Sisson on the guitar.

Directions to the park:

Take Exit 82 from I-5 north or southbound. Head west to the first left, which becomes a one-way lane at the park entrance. Kitchen No. 2 is on the right, near the restrooms and wading pool and across the lane from the playground.

## St. Piran's Day meeting minutes

Twelve members plus the guest speaker attended the meeting. After the social hour/potluck luncheon everyone moved to the church library for the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by president Joan Huston followed by Margaret Porter reading the minutes from the October 2011 meeting in Vancouver and Dot Huntley giving the Treasurer's report.

Membership is down, and Dot Huntley needs help with advertising, such as putting information in local newspapers. Dot is also going to set up a table at the Awareness of Celtic Nations event in Newport June 10, 11 and 12.

Joan Huston gave information about the 2011 annual Cornish gathering in Mineral Springs, California, August 10 through 14, then played a recorded speech **about St. Piran's Day and the patron saint of Cornwall and its tin mines.**

Alene Reaugh read an article about the controversy surrounding how a true Cornish pasty is made and shaped. It gave us all a good laugh. Alene let everyone know that she will be updating the website with what is remaining in the PNCS country store and new items.

Following the business meeting, the guest speaker, Cyndi Howells, was introduced. **She began with how her genealogy/ancestry website, (Cyndi's List) was started and how it has evolved into what it is today.**

We were the first to see her new website design, which has information on all family history. She puts an overwhelming amount of time and work into updating and providing information. She was getting so many e-mails that she added a "frequently asked questions" page.

She showed her website and explained how she takes on any challenge to find information. She has added the PNCS website, and Dot Huntley is going to send Cyndi more society links to add to her website, [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com).

Cyndi explained that her website is free, but it costs money to upgrade and maintain which she has been able to do through sponsorship ads and donations. We enjoyed Cyndi's informative presentation and appreciate her taking time to attend our meeting.

Submitted by Margaret Porter  
PNCS Secretary



PNCS past president Dick Colenso shows how a Cornishman celebrates Flag Day in Canby, Oregon.



# Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

## Officers

President: Joan Tregarthen Huston, [jhuston@wavecable.com](mailto:jhuston@wavecable.com)  
Vice President: Open  
Secretary: Margaret Porter, [margaretann51@aol.com](mailto:margaretann51@aol.com)  
Treasurer: Dot Hosking Huntley, [doty@jeffnet.org](mailto:doty@jeffnet.org)  
Newsletter editor: Ann Holiday, [aholiday@seanet.com](mailto:aholiday@seanet.com)

Web site:

[www.nwcornishsociety.com](http://www.nwcornishsociety.com)

## PNCS Meetings

First Saturday in March, in the North  
To celebrate St. Piran's Day  
Fourth Saturday in July, Central area  
Annual Cornish Picnic  
Third Saturday in October, in the South

## Cornish Country Store

Our Cornish Country Store is open 24 hours on line and three times a year live at our meetings. We have a good variety of items your Cornish cousins will love. Please check the website to see pictures of all these items:

[www.nwcornishsociety.com/Country%20store.htm](http://www.nwcornishsociety.com/Country%20store.htm)

You can place an order by emailing Alene Reaugh at

[Softwalk2@yahoo.com](mailto:Softwalk2@yahoo.com)

Sweatshirts and T-shirts can be ordered directly from Café Press at <http://cafepress.com/pnwcs>. In addition, PNCS gets a commission on sales made through the website connection to Amazon.com.

## PNCS Library

The PNCS Library is housed with Past President Alene Reaugh. The library welcomes donated books about the Cornish. You can bring donations to one of the meetings or contact Alene at (503) 775-9653 or email her at [softwalk2@yahoo.com](mailto:softwalk2@yahoo.com).

## History of Cornwall on CD-ROM

The Parochial History of the County of Cornwall, a four-volume set of books with lots of information on old Cornish families, was donated to us by our Cornish member, Ron Lake, and we had them put on CD-ROM. They are available to borrow or purchase. Contact Joan Huston if interested in obtaining a copy. [Tregarthen@gmail.com](mailto:Tregarthen@gmail.com) or phone (360) 613-1718.

*Visit Pacific Northwest Cornish Society on Facebook for information on Cornish happenings!*

## Pacific Northwest Cornish Society Application for Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Webpage: \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 individual member  \$25 dual membership  Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

List Cornish names and areas or parishes of interest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send form filled out with check payable to:

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society  
486 Plat B Road  
Sutherlin, OR 97479-9799

# 100 years of the Floral Dance

In May 1911, a young London musician, Katie Moss, visited Helston on Flora Day. What she heard and saw delighted her so much that on the train home she wrote the words and music for a song that would capture her memories of Flora Day forever. It also turned out to be a song that would soon captivate millions and carry the very essence of Cornwall around the world.

The song: *The Floral Dance*.

Ask any Cornish brass band to play it today, and they will set your feet tapping with the version by Derek Broadbent, arranged for the Brighthouse & Rastrick Band in 1976. It nearly topped the Christmas charts that year.

Katie's publishers, Chappells, published *The Floral Dance* soon after Katie got back to London. It immediately sold well, and Peter Dawson's 1912 recording set it on its way to worldwide fame, opening the door to countless other performances and recordings for the next 50 years. Baritones Frederic Harvey, Stuart Burrows and, surprisingly, Stanley Holloway with his wartime concert party, performed it frequently; there were dance band versions by Jack Dorsey, Joe Loss and Geoff Love, while Kathleen Ferrier stands out amongst the few female artists who recorded the song during that time.

Then in the 1960s really strange things started happening to Katie's

Cornish-inspired Edwardian ballad. Out of the blue, four lads from Bristol known as *The Eagles* produced their own pop version on an EP. The result is great fun – as is the Trad Jazz version by the *Ken Sims Vintage Jazz Band*, appropriately featuring the cornet (well, trumpet), clarinet and big trombone of Katie's original band. Several versions can be heard on YouTube.

Katie Moss died on May 3rd 1947 at the age of 66. She was buried in Acton, many miles from the "quaint old Cornish town" that ensured her place in musical history.

Thanks to the  
London Cornish Association

\* \* \* \* \*  
 \* As I walked home on a Summer night      dancing      For I had no boy with me      \*  
 \* When stars in Heaven were shining      In and out of the houses they came      Lonely I should have to be      \*  
 \*      bright      Old folk, young folk, all the same      In that quaint old Cornish town.      \*  
 \* Far away from the footlight's glare      In that quaint old Cornish town.      When suddenly hast'ning down the      \*  
 \* Into the sweet and scented air           lane      \*  
 \* Of a quaint old Cornish town.      Every boy took a girl 'round the waist      A figure I knew I saw quite plain      \*  
 \* Borne from afar on the gentle breeze      And hurried her off in tremendous      With outstretched hands he came along      \*  
 \*      haste      And carried me into that merry throng      And fiddle and all went dancing down.      \*  
 \* Joining the murmur of the summer seas      Whether they knew one another I care      We danced to the band with the curi-      \*  
 \* Distant tunes of an old world dance      not      ous tone      \*  
 \* Played by the village band perchance      Whether they cared at all, I know not.      Of the cornet, clarinet and big trom-      \*  
 \* On the calm air came floating down.      But they kissed as they danced along.      bone      \*  
 \* I thought I could hear the curious tone      And there was the band with the curi-      Fiddle, 'cello, big bass drum      \*  
 \* Of the cornet, clarinet and big trom-      ous tone      Bassoon, flute and euphonium      \*  
 \* bone      Of the cornet, clarinet and big trom-      Each one making the most of his chance      \*  
 \* Fiddle, 'cello, big bass drum      bone      all together in the Floral Dance      \*  
 \* Bassoon, flute and euphonium      Fiddle, 'cello, big bass drum      Dancing here, prancing there,      \*  
 \* Far away, as in a trance, I heard the      Bassoon, flute and euphonium      Jigging, jogg'ing ev'rywhere      \*  
 \* sound of the Floral Dance.      Each one making the most of his chance      Up and down and round the town.      \*  
 \* And soon I heard such a bustling and      all together in the Floral Dance.      Hurrah! For the Cornish Floral Dance.      \*  
 \* prancing      I felt so lonely standing there      \*  
 \* And then I saw the whole village was      And I could only stand and stare      \*  
 \* \* \* \* \*

# Cornish Connections

*This is a highly arbitrary list. Feel free to suggest other Cornish Connections by e-mailing the Editor*

## Cornish Heritage Organizations

*Federation of Old Cornwall Societies*

<http://oldcornwall.org>

*The Cornish-American Heritage Foundation*

[www.cousinjack.org](http://www.cousinjack.org)

*New Zealand Cornish Association*

[www.busby.net/nzca/](http://www.busby.net/nzca/)

*The California Cornish Cousins*

[www.califcornishcousins.org](http://www.califcornishcousins.org)

*Cornish Association of Victoria (Australia)*

[www.cornishvic.org.au](http://www.cornishvic.org.au)

## Festivals and Events

*Newport Celtic Festival and Highland Games*

169 SW Coast Highway

Newport, Oregon 97365

[www.newportcelticfestival.com](http://www.newportcelticfestival.com)

## Cornish Websites

*Cornwall Connections*

A collection of links to all things Cornish.

[www.cornwallconnections.peeples.com](http://www.cornwallconnections.peeples.com)

*Cornish Global Migration Programme*

Collects information about Cornishmen and women who emigrated to England or elsewhere.

[www.cornishmigration.org.uk](http://www.cornishmigration.org.uk)

*myCornwall.tv*

*myCornwall magazine (formerly Cornish World)*

Video and print resources seek to make a difference to Cornwall by creating entertaining, educational and thought-provoking content.

<http://www.mycornwall.tv>

*Keep Cornwall Whole*

A campaign set up by Adam Killeya, Mayor of Saltash, in response to the threat of parts of Cornwall, possibly including Saltash, being split off and joined with parts of Devon for parliamentary purposes.

<http://keepcornwallwhole.org>

*West Penwith Resources*

Links to resources concerning the far west end of Cornwall.

<http://west-penwith.org.uk/index.htm>

## General Genealogy

*Washington State Archives*

Has 94 million records preserved, 29 million of which are searchable online.

[www.digitalarchives.wa.gov](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov)

*Oregon State Archives*

Search for Oregon records on line.

<http://genealogy.state.or.us>

*Cyndi's List*

More than 290,000 links to genealogy sites.

[www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)

*FamilySearch*

Information from Salt Lake City and elsewhere, plus videos on how to get started on your genealogy.

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

*Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation*

Look up your ancestors who came through New York between 1892 and 1924, free.

[www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)

*Bureau of Land Management*

Search for land patent records by name and state.

[www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov)

*Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society*

Meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through May at Bates Technical College, 1101 South Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/)

*Steven Morse.org*

A collection of links to genealogical websites.

<http://stevemorse.org/>

*BYU Idaho Special Collections*

Western states marriage records, oral histories and more from Brigham Young University Idaho.

<http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/>