

Next Meeting: Googling for Grandma, March 7



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EA Channon, speaker at the October PNCS meeting in Vancouver, hovers over some of the members who attended, including Gord'n Perrott, Dot Hosking Huntley, Sha Sha Alsdorf, Ann Holiday, Doug and Vicki Wolford, Louise and Dick Colenso, Jim Faull, Carolyn Bawden, Alene Reaugh, Liz Ohta, Shirley Ewart, Van Anderson, Pamela Perrott, Bonnie LaDoe and Margaret Porter

Inside

this issue

President's Letter

[Page 2](#)

Meeting and minutes

[Page 4](#)

Best pasty?

[Page 6](#)

Celtic heritage festivals

[Page 3](#)

Cornish news

[Page 5](#)

Cornish web sites

[Page 8](#)

President's Letter

Games inspire many good questions

Dear PNCS Members,

It was a busy summer with representation at several Scottish Games and Celtic Festivals. Dot Huntley and I were in the booth at Coos Bay and Winston. I was impressed by the number of homeschooled children who had many good questions to ask. We got a lot of help from the clan tents, along with questions and camaraderie.

* * *

I would like to ask all members to think about the items we will discuss at the March meeting and vote upon

when the by-laws allow:

- Should we have four meetings a year, one a quarter, rather than three?
- Would you like one meeting to be south of Portland?
- Would you like a social-only gathering sometime between mid-October and mid-January?
- Would you like to be notified when Cornish performers and lecturers visit the area?

* * *

I would like everyone to think of a word/game location of interest.

Dot and I are making a Cornish question game, something with a prize for seventh- and eighth-graders to adults. The prize would be an inexpensive Cornish lapel pin good for both men and women, which when worn gets our group more exposure.

See you at the March meeting in Puyallup! Our speaker, Cyndi Ingle, creator of Cyndi's List (www.cyndislist.com), will walk us through Google beyond the obvious searches.

ShaSha Alsdorf
President

Food, fun and frolic at the festivals

So what's it like to volunteer for the PNCS booth at a Celtic festival? Here's a report from Claudia Hunt, who staffed the booth with Joan Huston:

The Pacific Northwest Cornish Society was proudly in the Clan listing at the fourth annual Hood Canal Highland Celtic Festival last Aug. 30 and 31 at Belfair State Park in Belfair, Washington.

For the third year, Joan Huston and I have staffed the booth and shared the existence of PNCS to people who didn't know that such a group existed.

This year we were able to share that Cornwall was a Celtic nation like Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and was recently granted national minority status by the Council of

Europe's Framework Convention for the Preservation of National Minorities. This move will help preserve Cornwall's culture and identity for future generations.

The music of The Whistling Oysters, Backwoods Irish, and others, many folk and highland dance groups and pipe bands filled the air with memories of our childhoods when cultural differences were more visible in our communities.

We were entertained again by the Seattle Knights, a sword fighting and jousting theatrical troupe that brought us a bit of medieval history and fantasy. The amazing Wolston Farms sheep herding demonstrations gave us a glimpse into the Highlands heritage.

But the games! The athletic games included tossing stones, hammers and weights, but the Caber Toss is always an exciting event to watch! Cabers range in size from 14 feet tall and 40 pounds in weight to 20 feet tall and 130 pounds in weight. A competitor must "pick" a caber, run and toss it so as to land straight out from him or her at a 12 o'clock position. The Caber is tossed for accuracy, and not for distance.

The food booths were great. We enjoyed Cornish pasties the first year, but alas not in the past two years. We did enjoy the Scottish meat pies and sausage rolls however. If you haven't been to one of these, you should plan to attend in your area next summer!

Join the fun at 2015 Celtic games in the Northwest

Better yet, volunteer! Slots are open for two days, one day and half a day. All supplies are provided. Volunteers are responsible for pick-up and delivery of the Cornish Country Store items, canopy and decorations. Contact Dot Hosking Huntley Dot@HoaReserves.com to sign up. Here's the schedule:

April 11	Oregon Scottish Heritage Festival http://oregonscottishsociety.com/Oregon%20Scottish%20Festival.htm	Albany, OR
May 2	South Coast Celtic Fest http://southcoastfolksociety.wordpress.com/	Coos Bay, OR
June 6-8	Bellingham Scottish Highland Games http://bellinghamhighland.org/games.html	Ferndale, WA
June 12-14	Newport Celtic Festival http://ncfhg.com/Celtic_Festival.html	Newport, OR
June 20	Prosser Scottish Fest and Highland Games http://prosserscottishfest.org/	Prosser, WA
June 26-27	Tacoma Highland Games http://tacomagames.org/	Graham, WA
July 10-12	Athena Caledonian Games http://athenacaledoniangames.org/	Athena, OR
July 11-12	Skagit Valley Highland Games http://celticarts.org/?page_id=90	Mt. Vernon, WA
July 17-18	Portland Highland Games and Clan Gathering http://www.phga.org/	Gresham, OR
July 25-26	Pacific NW Scottish Highland Games http://www.sshga.org/home.htm	Enumclaw, WA
Aug. 1	Spokane Highland Games http://www.spokanehighlandgames.org/SpokaneHighlandGames/	Spokane, WA
Aug. 8	Whidbey Island Highland Games http://www.wihg.org/	Greenbank, WA
August	Jory Family Reunion (<i>Details TBA</i>)	Salem, OR
Aug. 15-16	Celtic Highland Games http://www.dcscots.org/Celtic_Highland_Games.php	Winston, OR
August	Newberg Highland Games (<i>Details TBA</i>)	Newberg, OR
Aug. 29-30	Hood Canal Highland Celtic Festival http://www.hoodcanalscots.org/home.html	Belfair, WA
September	Highlander Festival (<i>Details TBA</i>) http://www.hoodcanalscots.org/home.html	Kelso, WA

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

St. Piran's Day Meeting

Saturday, March 7, 2015

First Presbyterian Church

412 W. Pioneer, Puyallup WA 98371

Social time 11-11:30; lunch 11:30 (bring something to share); business meeting at noon,

Program: Googling for Your Grandma with Cyndi Ingle, creator of Cyndi's List

Learn about Google's advanced search options, as well as several more tools offered by Google that will enhance your genealogical research. We'll dig deep into a variety of Google's free resources and learn how to make them work for you.

Minutes of the October 2014 meeting in Vancouver

The October 18, 2014 meeting of the Pacific Northwest Cornish society was called to order by President ShaSha Alsdorf at 12:15 p.m. at the Clark County Genealogical Library in Vancouver.

ShaSha asked the guests - Linda Baxter, and Garry and Kayte Lucas of Vancouver - introduce themselves. She also introduced Shirley Ewart's daughter, Liz Ohta, who brought her mother to the meeting.

The minutes of the July annual meeting in Centralia were accepted as written in the newsletter.

Bonnie LaDoe, who has taken over the family history project from Shirley, asked members to send their Cornish family history stories for the archives.

Dot Huntley gave an abbreviated treasurer's report of about \$2,200 in the bank account. PNCS spent about \$260 on Celtic festivals in Newport, Coos Bay, Portland and Winston, Oregon, and Hood Canal, Washington.

Past President Alene Reaugh suggested we have visitors to our booth sign cards so their names can be added to the E-Vite list. She handed out

business cards for members to give to people they meet with Cornish roots. Carolyn Bawden made a list of Cornish names to hang on the canopy so people can see if they're Cornish.

ShaSha and Dot staffed the booth at two fairs. ShaSha said she was impressed by the number of home-schooled children who had many good questions to ask, and they received a lot of help from the clan tents, which brought questions and camaraderie.

Under New Business, ShaSha suggested that because 51 percent of the membership lives in or south of Portland, she would like to see the by-laws adjusted to four meetings a year, one in Salem or south of there. She opined that it would not be practical to break the Society into two groups because it is too small.

Where the meeting would be held is to be discussed at the next meeting. Van Anderson suggested an ad hoc committee contact members south of Portland for their input. Dick Colenso suggested dividing up with one or two meetings separate and two more central and inclusive of all members.

ShaSha suggested the secretary send out a questionnaire via the Web. She said she didn't want to see the organization get so small it dies on the vine. Dot said she comes 200 miles from southern Oregon and is tired of the drive. She suggested meeting an hour south of Portland, and noted that the group started in the Puget Sound area, but the membership has moved south.

The vote to review the idea of adding a southern meeting was approved unanimously.

Bonnie has a personal profile form for the memorial book, and would like to see profiles on the members-only page of the web site.

Alene reported that the Cornish Country Store has some new items, a map of Cornwall (which sold at the meeting) and two posters for a "wreck sale" of goods apparently salvaged from shipwrecks.

After a talk by the speaker, EA Channon, the meeting was declared adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Holiday
Secretary

Cornish News from Near and Far

California Cornish Cousins to gather in Grass Valley vicinity

The Cornish Cowboy is the theme of the 24th annual gathering of California Cornish Cousins June 5-7 in Grass Valley and Penn Valley, California. PNCS members who have attended previous California Cornish Cousins gatherings have reported a good time.

Back in Cornwall, the pleasure of many miners was to a garden and the aspiration was to own a cow. When they became part of the American West the horizon broadened. Some of those Cousin Jacks who dreamed of a cow ended up with a herd.

An authentic fourth-generation Cornish cowboy will talk at the pasty lunch on Saturday about his great-grandfather, James Ennor, who emigrated from Cornwall to the U. S. in 1847, settled near the mines around Plattville, Wisconsin, and went on to strike gold along a High Sierra stream in Northern California.

Ennor bought 560 acres in the heart of Penn Valley, seven miles west of Grass Valley, and expanded in the 1880s. Duane continues the family tradition and will share his own experiences as a cowboy. Duane participated in the last of the annual cattle drives, herding the Ennor steers from Penn Valley to their high country, summer pasture. It was a 60-mile annual trek along a route that once ran down Main Street in Grass Valley. In Duane's time the trail became even more adventurous than in the early days.

Keynote speaker for the weekend is Professor Roger Burt of the University of Exeter, who will talk about the influence of Masons and other lodges on the Cornish migration. Coming from South Australia is Greg Drew, who will tell us about the Cornish influence Down Under. While in Grass Valley, Greg will be researching his family history. These men from opposite ends of the globe will be en route to the Mining History Association (MHA) gathering in Virginia City, Nevada, which will convene a few days following the Cornish Cousins event.

The gathering will begin on Friday night, June 5, with coffee and dessert and a rare opportunity to visit the North Star House near Grass Valley. The house was the home of writer Mary Hallock Foote and her mining engineer husband, A. D. Foote. Their lives were the basis for Wallace Stegner's Pulitzer-prize winning novel *Angle of Repose*.

For information, go to <http://www.califcornishcousins.org>

St. Piran enthusiasts re-unearth Oratory site

As we celebrate St. Piran, Cornwall's patron saint, a group in Cornwall is digging into the site said to be the first established by St. Piran on his arrival in Cornwall.

Archaeologists and volunteers are working on the Uncovering St. Piran's Oratory Project near Perranporth, writes James Gossip, an archaeologist for Cornwall Council.

Legend says St Piran was born in Ireland but spent most of his life in Perranporth.

The 6th Century remains of St Piran's Oratory - buried at nearby Penhale Sands - are believed to be among the oldest places of Christian worship in Britain.

The remains of the oratory were discovered in the late 18th Century, according to a BBC report. After major digs in 1835 and 1843, the remains were encased in a large concrete structure in 1910 after a number of skeletons - including one of a large headless man - were found.

The structure was removed in 1980 and the delicate site buried in sand to protect its fabric because, at the time, there was no public commitment to protect it.

The new excavation comes after a 14-year campaign for the ruins to be unearthed again. After the dig, the building will be temporarily covered to determine a plan for its long-term conservation.

Each year, St Piran's story is retold in a drama near the oratory on the Sunday nearest to March 5.

There have been moves to make St. Piran's Day a local holiday. One man sent St. Piran's party packs - St Piran's flags, bunting, CDs with Cornish music and St Piran's pub quizzes to pubs throughout Cornwall to stage their own celebrations.

"St Patrick's Day was a publicity stunt by the breweries... they sent out funny green hats one year and 20 years on it's massive," explained Ben Read, who spearheaded the 2011 move. "I believe that Cornwall has got enough character and strength in its brand to match what they did and hopefully we can get more people celebrating it."

The search for the best pasty in the Northwest



Shirley Ewart, her daughter Liz Ohta and Alene Reaugh met for lunch at the Highland Stillhouse near Portland, where they tested the pasty in search for the Best Pasty in the Pacific Northwest.

So far, they report, this is a winner, and all three personally recommend a visit to this pub overlooking the Willamette Falls.

Do you know of a good pasty place? Nominate it!

The perfect pasty?

Shirley Ewart and Alene Reaugh
at Willamette Falls



Highland Stillhouse

201 S. 2nd St., Oregon City, OR 97045
(503) 723-6789

Menu

Traditional beef pasty: Light pastry pouch filled with seasonal vegetables, lean beef and seasoning	\$8.95
Chicken curry pasty: Cubed potato, chicken breast, and vegetables in a light curry sauce	\$8.95
Spinach and cheese pasty: Chopped spinach with feta or goat cheese and mushrooms	\$8.95
Veggie pasty: Cubed potato and seasonal vegetables in a light curry sauce	\$7.95
Corned beef pasty: Corned beef which has slowly been cooked in ale with cabbage and vegetables	\$8.95
All day breakfast pasty: Pasty filled with scrambled eggs, cheese, and meat with sausage gravy	\$7.95
Forfar Bridie (rarely available): Shortcrust pastry filled with minced chuck steak and onions in special sauce ..	\$8.95

How Scotland got Cornwall its minority status

EA Channon returned to the PNCS in October for a second presentation, this time about Cornwall and its new minority status.

He attributed this move to the Scottish independence election last year. Westminster, the seat of UK government, started thinking if Scotland can declare independence, so can Wales, Cornwall and even Northumbria. But at the last minute,

the Scots realized that besides tourism, they had little to support an independent nation. They defeated the measure. He likened it to Clark County becoming a separate state – it wouldn't have the infrastructure to support itself.

The same would be true if Cornwall tried to secede.

“Minority status,” he said, “was just a way for Westminster to calm

the masses.”

At a Centralia annual meeting in July 2012, Channon spoke and played the bagpipes.

He doesn't play the pipes anymore because of the toll it took on his body. Now he's writing series of fantasy novels.

He also made a movie at Mt. Hood, with the help of students from Portland State University.

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Officers

President: ShaSha Alsdorf, CambridgeCt@live.com
Vice President: Craig Pedlar, ccpedlar@comcast.net
Secretary: Ann Holiday, aholiday@seanet.com
Treasurer: Dot Hosking Huntley, Dot@HoaReserves.com
Newsletter editor: Ann Holiday, aholiday@seanet.com

Web site:

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

You can place an order by emailing Alene Reaugh at 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.

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 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

Cornish Connections

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

Cornish Global Migration Programme

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

www.cornishmigration.org.uk

Cornish Heritage Organizations

Federation of Old Cornwall Societies

<http://oldcornwall.org>

The Cornish-American Heritage Foundation

www.cousinjack.org

Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society

<http://www.cornishfest.org/>

New Zealand Cornish Association

www.busby.net/nzca/

The California Cornish Cousins

www.califcornishcousins.org

Cornish Association of Victoria (Australia)

www.cornishvic.org.au

Cornish Websites

Uncovering St Piran's Oratory Project

Project to re-excavate an early medieval Christian chapel near Perranporth associated with St Piran

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/658887744134690/>

Cornwall Connections

A collection of links to all things Cornish.

www.cornwallconnections.peeples.com

Cornish Global Migration Programme

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

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>

West Penwith Resources

Links to resources concerning the far west end of Cornwall.

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

Cornish-American Surname Registry

<http://www.connorsgenealogy.com/CornishAmerican/>

General Genealogy

Washington State Archives

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

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. The founder has spoken at PNCS meetings.

www.cyndislist.com

FamilySearch

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

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

Bureau of Land Management

Search for land patent records by name and state.

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/

BYU Idaho Special Collections

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

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