

Next meeting: Saturday, March 10, Puyallup



Volume 13, No. 3

Winter, 2012



Dick and Louise Colenso and Joan Huston look up family history following the October PNCS meeting at the Clark County Genealogical Library in Vancouver.

Inside ...

Jottings from Joan

[Page 2](#)

Looking for skeletons

[Page 3](#)

Next meeting

[Page 4](#)

Favorite places

[Page 4](#)

Cornish Cousins

[Page 5](#)

Who we are

[Page 6](#)

Flora Days

[Page 7](#)

Cornish Connections

[Page 8](#)

Happy Birthday to us! PNCS turns 14

Membership has fallen some, and we'd like suggestions on how we can build up our membership. Please bring any suggestions to the next meeting in Puyallup on March 10.

This is our St. Piran's Day meeting but 5 days late! We will have a guest speaker, Carolyn Harkness, who will tell us about the lives and contributions of the Cornish people in the Pacific Northwest. Also be sure to bring something to share for our potluck lunch. Social time at

11am, followed by lunch and a brief meeting before the speaker.

We also need to have elections at the July meeting to find a new president, vice president and secretary — Dot will probably continue as Treasurer if voted to. I will NOT seek re-election!

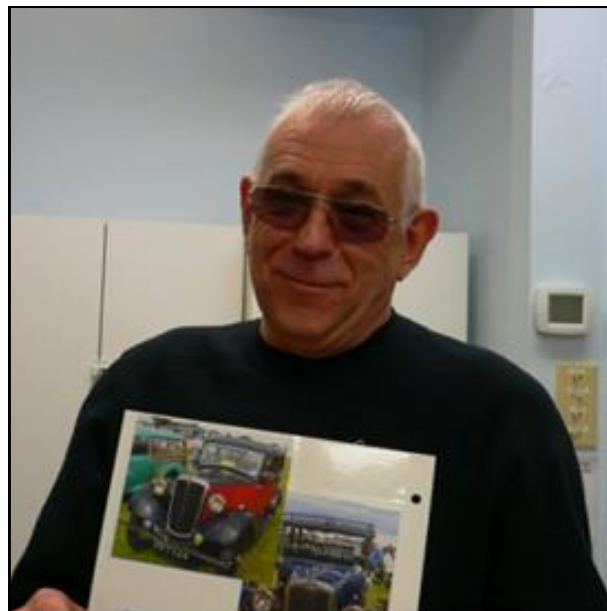
We need a nominating committee to nominate the next officers, so if you volunteer to do that, you probably won't get nominated as President! Let me know if you'd like to

volunteer to be on the nominating committee.

I started this organization with Marcie Rothman, 14 years ago this month. So we should declare our March meetings as birthday meetings for our Society along with St. Piran's Day Happy 14th year, PNCS!

Below are some of our members, can you name them?

Joan Huston
PNCS President



Shaking the family tree in Vancouver

Several PNCS members opened the door to the Clark County Genealogical Library after the October meeting in Vancouver.

“No skeletons,” reports Bonnie LaDoe,

“but I did confirm a third marriage for my great, great grandmother Upton. I had written it down years ago but didn't have a source. I also got leads on a branch of the Uptons who lived in Vancouver, Clark County, in 1870 and I now have some possible marriage records to follow up on.”

Dick Colenso didn't find any skeletons, either.

“Maybe that's a good discovery in itself, eh?” he remarked later. Dick and Louise Colenso took advantage of the experience of the library staff and PNCS President Joan Huston. The librarian is following up on some process questions he asked, and Dick says he found it helpful to



spend time with Joan to find out where his family lines begin.

His grandfather came to the USA via Canada and Canada is/was way behind in organizing those records and making them available. The librarian said he believed they have made progress and is checking that out, and if so, he would guide Dick to the right place for continuation of the search.

“If it works, I could get some really

helpful info to verify dates and his pathway into the USA,” Dick said. “From Penzance, we find him next in St. Paul, Minnesota, married (again) and with a new baby (my Dad). I know where he met my Grandma (a Canadian) but not how they came into the USA.

“If Canada gets going in organizing their immigration records I hope to find Grandpa's pathway.”



Bonnie LaDoe pores over some of the records in the Clark County Genealogical Library.

Minutes of the October 1, 2011, PNCS meeting

The fall meeting of the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society took place at the Clark County Genealogical Museum in Vancouver on October 1, 2011. President Joan Huston called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

There was no old business. Treasurer Dot Huntley gave the Treasurer's Report. The treasury has received an additional \$10 for orders from Amazon.com made through the Website. Logo items are available through Café Press, which is also on the Website. Dot reported that the Money Market Account totals \$2,497.48 and the checking/savings account has \$862.42. She plans to move \$500 to the Money Market Account. She reported funds are lacking from members who have not yet paid their dues. Newsletter editor Ann Holiday suggested separate mailings for members, lapsed members and

non-members, with appropriate reminders.

Discussion ensued about the dwindling membership and what can be done to generate excitement in the organization. Craig Pedlar suggested contacting historical societies with meeting announcements, and President Huston directed the news letter editor to send excerpts from the newsletter to the webmaster to announce coming meetings. Publicity to newspapers needs to go out four weeks in advance of the meeting. It should contain a local contact name and number for each newspaper.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as published in the newsletter, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Holiday

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society St. Piran's Day Meeting

Saturday, March 10, 2011

First Presbyterian Church

412 W. Pioneer, Puyallup

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 our speakers, Carolyn Harkness and Patricia Davis from Heritage Quest Research Library in Sumner, who will talk about the Cornish in the Pacific Northwest.

What's your favorite place in all of Cornwall?



PNCS President Joan Huston claims the Isles of Scilly as her favorite Cornish place. What's yours? Do you have any pictures to share? E-mail them to Newsletter Editor Ann Holiday at aholiday@seanet.com.



Global Migration Programme director finds Cornish history in graveyards all over the world

From Kenderwi Kernewek

California Cornish Cousins winter newsletter

Headlining this year's 21st Annual Gathering of the California Cornish Cousins in Bridgeport, June 8-10, will be Michael Kiernan, director of the Cornish Global Migration Programme based at Murdoch House in Redruth, Cornwall.

"For many decades the Camborne School of Mines produced graduates who spread to every mining area in the world; often they were following in the footsteps of fathers and grandfathers," Mike notes. "I think it was the Irish in me, but I broke the trend and became a post graduate student the year *after* my son graduated. A year later I had gained some knowledge of the old techniques of Cornish mining and the historic mines of Cornwall and was elected a Master of the Camborne School of Mines as well as being awarded an M.Sc. from Exeter University."

In the subsequent years Mike has helped in various heritage projects within Cornwall - saving and documenting the archives of Geevor Mine, helping out at the National Trust Engine Houses at Pool and Curator of Tolgus Tin Streaming Works. But his passion is burial grounds where he spent an "unhealthy time" surveying and recording.

He discovered memorials to family members who died in distant climes, so he started to visit those faraway places.

"My first full overseas survey of a

'Cornish' cemetery was in Real del Monte in Mexico. Since then I have followed in the footsteps of many Cornish miners to burial grounds in such diverse places as Ireland, Wales, Spain, Cuba and the Malaysian Peninsula," he said

"I was introduced to Murdoch House in Redruth a few years ago and became a member of the management committee that runs this charity," he explained recently.

The Cornish Global Migration Programme was started in this historic house (the first house in the world to have gas lighting - William Murdoch invented the means of capturing and using coal gas for lighting in this house in 1792). At the start of 2011 Mike was elected Director of the CGMP and has been updating the vast database that his predecessors have built up over the years.

"We now have around 60,000 Cornish migrants recorded and are now concentrating on quality of our information as much as adding new candidates," Mike reports.

During his visit to Bridgeport in June he plans to explain and demonstrate the CGMP migrant database.

"Given half a chance," he added, "I will also give a short presentation about a 'Cornish' burial ground I found in central France and show how that survey has not only added to the migrant jigsaw but created a small stream of Cornish miners who passed through Italy, Switzerland, Russia and eventually to California."

More information about the Pro-

gramme can be found at

www.murdochhouse.org.

Mike promises to bring a laptop with the entire file, so attendees can search for family in the database.

Want to attend?

Here are the details:

Dates: Sign-in begins at 5 p.m. Friday, June 8, 2012. Registration deadline is May 31.

Headquarters: Bridgeport Memorial Hall, 73 North School Street, in the historic little town of Bridgeport in the eastern Sierras.

Activities: Explore Bridgeport and the surrounding area and the evocative ghost town of Bodie.

Accommodations: Most accommodation options are within walking distance of the hall. Helpful websites:

www.bridgeportcalifornia.com

www.parks.ca.gov.

Meals included: Friday Night buffet dinner (pork or fish); Saturday pasty picnic lunch (beef or veggie); Saturday barbecue dinner (steak or game hens)

Registration: Full registration is \$85 per person and includes all meals and Saturday activities. Partial Registration is \$75 per person and includes everything except the Friday buffet. Children age 7 - 12, are \$40, and kids 6 and under are free.

Mail checks, payable to California Cornish Cousins, to Pat Carson, 3300 Narvaez Ave., Sp. 16, San Jose, CA 95136.

Include the number of full and partial registrations and names, addresses and meal choices for each person.

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Officers

President: Joan Tregarthen Huston, jhuston@wavecable.com
Vice President: Dick Colenso, rwcolenso@canby.com
Secretary: Margaret Porter, margaretann51@aol.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

Helston Flora Day 2011 on YouTube

Perhaps Helston's greatest claim to fame is the internationally famous festival of the Furry, or Flora Dance. This is held every year on May 8 unless that day falls on a Sunday or Monday, when it is held on the preceding Saturday.

Thousands of visitors throng the streets all day and there's a carnival atmosphere from dawn to well into the night.

You'll find the town decked out with bluebells, gorse, laurel leaves and colorful flags. Dancing begins at 7 a.m., and at 8:30 there's the mummers' play known as the Hal-an-Tow, at several venues throughout the town. Watch St George and St Michael slay the Dragon and the Devil, cheered on by a crowd dressed in Lincoln green and Elizabethan robes.

The children of the town dance at 10 a.m., at midday there's the principal dance, with invited participants



Cornish Bards gather at Flora Day at Helston in this photo from the blog of Andrew Wallis, Independent Cornwall Councillor for Porthleven and Helston

in top hats, tails and dress gowns; and a final dance at 5 p.m. The dancers weave in and out of the shops, houses and gardens behind the Helston Band playing the famous Flora Dance tune.

The origins of the dance are certainly pre-Christian and are con-

nected with ancient spring festivals all over Europe. Nowadays its ancient intention of ushering in prosperous harvests goes hand in hand with the splash of color all over the town, the joyous music and high spirits of all involved.

From the Helston web site

Enjoy the music and dancing from the comfort of your computer chair

Click on the thumbnail to open the video on YouTube. If that doesn't work, copy and paste the link into your browser



The First Dance
http://youtu.be/P_Rm0IT-Nwk



The Mid-day Dance
<http://youtu.be/xzNFTIKwk90>



Gorseth Proclamation 2011
http://youtu.be/R_rmfTS8Ns



Flora Day 7 am Dance
http://youtu.be/hu1zUt_tMQc



Hal en Tow
http://youtu.be/q_fm_QkYVvQ



Helston Gorsedd 2011
http://youtu.be/1XtWvKdQ_Co



Gorsedh Kernow, 2011
<http://youtu.be/UTHatAqt4V8>



Children's Dance
<http://youtu.be/Eb4hc7Qxr1E>

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

New Zealand Cornish Association
www.busby.net/nzca/

The California Cornish Cousins
www.califcornishcousins.org

Cornish Association of Victoria (Australia)
www.cornishvic.org.au

Festivals and Events

Newport Celtic Festival and Highland Games
169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365
www.newportcelticfestival.com

Cornish Websites

Cornwall Connections
A collection of links to all things Cornish.
www.cornwallconnections.peoples.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>

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 spoke at the March 2011 PNCS meeting.
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/

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/>