

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CORNISH SOCIETY

Volume 1 Number 1

Spring - Summer 1998

Welcome to our first issue of the newsletter of the PNCS.

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The purpose of this society, organized as a non-profit corporation, shall be educational. It shall be devoted to furthering Cornish heritage/genealogical research.

The objectives of this society shall be:

(A) To provide communication regarding heritage/genealogical information pertaining to Cornwall, England, for the people in the Pacific Northwest of the United States.

(B) To promote the preservation of public and private Cornish heritage/genealogical material.

(C) To cooperate with other organizations in the furtherance of mutual objectives and to provide a link to the Cornish American Society and to Cornwall.

A Big Thank-You to the Cornish American Heritage Society for all their help in getting our Society going. Special Thanks to Jean Jolliffe and John Heydt. For those of you that are not yet members of this organization, you can e-mail Jean at: jjoliff@post.its.mcw.edu
Or write to: CAHS
5 Hampton Ct.
Neptune, NJ 07753-5672

A Piskey's Face Amiss

by Thomas Tregarthen Huston

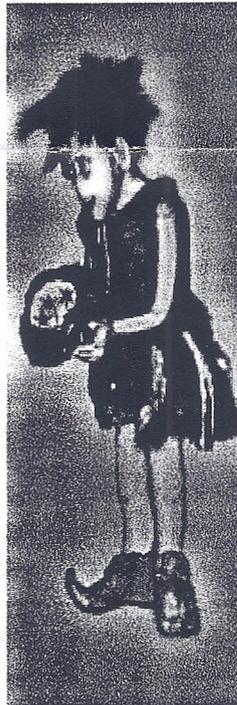
I sat upon the moor.
The dewy grass 'neath me.
An remarked with delight,
"I spy a Piskey!"

He was a dinky fellow.
An a good one for sure.
Who went about his work—
(f pluckin' squills is labour!

I watched this for a while.
Not knowing what to do.
I'd ne'er seen a Piskey work.
An that's for certain true!

So calling out to him I did.
An standing 'top the mead.
Said, "Ay there, little man!
Whence do ye tread?"

O what a sight indeed.
When the Piskey did me hear!
He dropped all his flowers.
An flounced about with fear!



I said, "Ay dinky fellow,
Don't ye be afeard!
I am but a cheeld, see.
Wee meekly as a bird."

When the Piskey calmed,
He turned to me to face.
An ivers a thing to see!
His nose was out o' place!

"O Piskey, deary me," said I.
"Your face is all amiss!"
An then the Piskey laughed,
Disappearing in the mist!

So I tell thee now,
When on the moor beware,
Ye best not insult a Piskey.
Or give 'im such a scare!

THE FIRST ANNUAL PICNIC WILL BE HELD
ON JULY 18TH IN A
CENTRAL LOCATION TO MOST
MEMBERS. KEEP THIS DATE OPEN! WE
WILL LET YOU KNOW THE TIME & PLACE.

Cornish Society News

10th Gathering of Cornish

July 28 through August 1, 1999:

Penkernewek will host the 10th Gathering of Cornish Cousins, sponsored by the Cornish American Heritage Society of North America, in Pen Argyl, PA.

They will offer tours, a trip to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty to look for ancestors (better vantage point?) on Aug. 2, varied workshops, lectures on everything from Genealogy to instructions on making the food of the Cornish—Pasties—workshop sessions, entertainment daily, hospitality night, high tea, pasty picnic, banquet, and a Sunday brunch to mark our closing will provide something of interest for everyone. Every day will be filled with events from morning to night. Children's activities will also be part of plans.

They will soon have registration forms ready for mailing, along with information on this region. If interested send your name and address to Harry Bray, 301 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Pen Argyl, PA, 18072, or e-mail: hfbray@epix.net Visit their web page at <http://www.slatebelt.com/cornish.html>

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CORNISH SOCIETY MEETING

The first meeting of the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society will be . . .

May 30th at 1:00 p.m.,
at

Cascade Natural Gas Co.
6313 Kitsap Way
Bremerton, WA,
in the Meeting room.

Anyone who would like to leave her car behind and walk on the ferry, we can arrange to pick you up from the ferry in Bremerton; please let us know ahead of time. The auto ferry leaves Seattle at 11:45 a.m., the passenger-only ferry leaves at 11:00 a.m.

★ **THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWSLETTER** ★

Bring your ideas to our first meeting: we will need a name for our newsletter—maybe a name in the Cornish language—and an emblem representing our Society, or . . . ?

Also, this is your newsletter, so we hope you have a story or anything else you would like to share with everyone by contributing it to the newsletter.

Contact: Marcia Rothman at (360) 321-9392 or e-mail roots@whidbey.com
or Joan Huston at (360) 613-1718 or e-mail jhuston@sincom.com

CORNISH CULTURE CORNER

CORNISH DIALECT

Wisht uz a winnurd—Feeling and looking ill, miserable. Winnard is a bird like the fieldfare and redwing, which looks sad and “wisht” in the cold weather.

Tiddun knaw good I tellee—I cannot over-emphasize that there is no merit in what you are saying.

Oo da she think sh iz un?—She has an unjustified air of considerable self-assurance.

Guss on withee—Get away with you.

Goine Truraa morra aree?—Are you going to Truro tomorrow?

LANGUAGE

The Beginnings of Cornish

Cornish first emerged as a distinct language after the Saxon invasions of Britain in the fifth to eighth centuries AD finally drove a permanent wedge between the native Britons of the northwest and those of the southwest. Before the Saxon invasions, a common language now called Old British (or Brythonic), albeit with dialectal variation, was spoken across the whole island of Britain, as far north as Strathclyde in Scotland, and as far south as Brittany (in the French hexagon). This language had been spoken across the majority of this island since long before the Roman conquest in AD 43, and hundreds of years before even the birth of Christ. It was brought here during the Iron Age by invading Celts from the continent.

RECIPES

Cousin Jack Cookies

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 2½ cup flour | 1 cup sugar |
| 1½ tsp baking powder | 3 tsp nutmeg |
| 1 cup shortening, oleo,
or ¾ cup lard | 1 cup currants |
| 2 eggs | |
| 1 tsp salt | |
| 1 tsp vanilla | |

Moisten currants with ½ cup water or milk.

Add the dry ingredients.

Mix in the shortening, eggs, and vanilla.

Add the currants with the water (you may need to add more to hold).

Roll cookies out and cut with a cookie cutter.

Bake at 350°F oven for 12-15 min.

CUSTOMS

Hurling

Hurling is a Cornish sport. It is a game of skill requiring a nimble hand, quick eye, swift feet, and a set of good strong lungs. It consists of two teams, usually between two parishes, with each team having 40 to 60 able-bodied men on each side. They hurl about a three inch diameter, silver-plated wooden ball that is gilted and has a common motto inscribed on it, “Gware wheag yeo gware teag” (Fair play is good play). The game is played running down the streets of the town for a distance of three to four miles, catching the ball dexterously when it is thrown up, and carrying it off expeditiously in spite of all opposition from the other team. If not impossible, it is also thrown into the hands of a partner, who in his turn exerts his efforts to convey it and run to his own goal, which can be three or four miles away.

NEWS FROM CORNWALL



Cornish Solidarity

Help support the the Cornish folk of our beloved Cornwall, join the Cornish Solidarity movement

Cornish Solidarity Objectives (summarized):

1. Attain 'Objective One Status' for Cornwall
2. Secure Cornwall its *own* Member of the European Parliament (MEP).
3. Cornish Development Agency (with teeth).
4. University for Cornwall.
5. Democratic control over our own health service.
6. Support for our traditional industries and culture and language.
7. Environmental protection for our coastline.

For inquiries and you can send membership to their membership secretary:

Susan Bowen
Fenten Linnow, Trevalga,
Boscastle, Kernow, PL35 0EG. UK
or

Cornish Solidarity c/o Cornish Home Centre
12 Fore Street, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 1AZ

*Membership: £3 (individual); £5 (family)
(Please send in UK pounds sterling)*

CORNWALL goes to TWICKENHAM

CORNWALL, playing with pride and passion, came so close to emulating the feat of their 1991 predecessors in a cracking Twickenham final, per Sports Editor David Henderson.

A singing, swinging sea of black and gold gave Cornwall's greatest sporting event of the year at the headquarters of English rugby a carnival-like atmosphere. The happy band of enthusiastic supporters backed their team all the way and, despite a disappointing result, were proud of the total commitment by their heroes.



For the whole story go to <http://www.cornishguardian.co.uk/>

INTERNET

Do you have access to the internet? Do you want us to publish your e-mail address and homepage address? Let us know!

Cornwall has its own mailing-list called **CORNISH-L**. This is a busy list and you are apt to learn a lot about Cornwall there. It is for anyone who is interested in Cornwall, a good place to meet a cousin or two!!

To subscribe, send the word "subcribe" (without the "quotes") *as the only text in the body of a message to:*

cornish-l-request@rootsweb.com

Some helpful Cornish url's

Cornwall Online:

<http://www.cornwall-online.co.uk/>

Cornish ConneXions:

<http://www.connexions.co.uk/>

Cornwall Connect:

<http://www.chycor.co.uk/>

Cornwall Web:

<http://www.cornwall-net.co.uk/>

Genealogy Corner

Queries

This space is saved for your queries.

Member Interests

Supply us with your Cornish surnames and we will publish them here.

[continued next page]

CORNISH GENEALOGY CORNER

continued

GENEALOGY HELP

Each newsletter will feature some kind of genealogy information to help you in your research.

ROYAL INSTITUTION CORNWALL (RIC)

*Courtney Library, Royal Cornwall
Museum, River Street, TRURO TR1 25J
Phone: +44 1872 272205 (ask for Library)
Monday to Saturday: 10 - 1 and 2 - 5
Closed every Bank Holiday.*

Appointments for microfilm:

<http://www.cornwall-online.co.uk/ric/>

• BOOKS

Holdings: approx. 30,000 volumes.
Works include Cornish village, town, parish, and county histories (some from the 17th c.). Also guidebooks (19th/20th c.); trades directories (from 1793); telephone directories (from 1948).
Methodist history and a substantial coverage in the Rolls series and 19th c. Public Record Office publications (State Papers).

• MICROFORMS

Cornish parish registers—50% of county available, from mid-16th c. to 1959.
Census 1881 (Cornwall and Devon only), International Genealogical Index (Devon and Cornwall only) on microfiche.

• PERIODICALS

Cornish journals and newsletters:

• NEWSPAPERS

• MAPS

• PHOTOGRAPHS

Abt. 35,000—some from the 1850s but principally from 1880 to 1910.

• DATABASES

Cornish-built ships from 1790s.

• INDEXES

Cornish Inns and Innkeepers, watermills and the History of Truro. Surname indexes to the documents collections Phillimore and Taylor Cornwall Marriage Register series; Marriages of mariners, soldiers, Custom, Excise Officers 1754-1837. 19th c. local newspapers include Cornish People Overseas (1840-1885); Cornish Memorial Scheme (emigrants); Migrants from Cornwall (UK only); etc.

• DOCUMENTS

30,000 documents (from 12th c.), principally estate papers of local land-owning families.

• CATALOGUES

Catalogues, lists of documents, and other finding-aids are available in the Library.

PNC'S FOUNDING COMMITTEE

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Membership: Individual Membership: \$10.00
Dual Membership: \$15.00
Lifetime Membership: a one-time payment of dues equal to
fifteen (15) times the current annual dues.
Charter Membership: Opportunity ends Dec 31, 1998
Annual dues are payable as of 1 July
Send dues payable to: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
Address: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
10116 Stoli Lane NW
Silverdale, WA 98383

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