



Volume 6 Number 3

Summer 2004

PNCS Grieves Death of PNCS Charter Member

I am saddened to report that Vern Varcoe passed away on April 21, 2004. He had been suffering for many months from cancer. Vern was a friend and Charter Member of the PNCS...Member #29.

Vern Varcoe was born on Aug 26, 1923 in Philadelphia and lived in Vancouver since 1984. He was a WW II veteran. Burial was in Willamette National Cemetery. Vern worked as a flight superintendent for Republic Airlines for 26 years and retired in 1981. He was a member of the Nature Conservancy and Earth Watch and was a world traveler. He especially enjoyed participating in Elder Hostel activities. There was no service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army, PO Box 5559, Vancouver, WA 98668; or to The Nature Conservancy, 4245 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203.

I believe we all enjoyed Vern's social nature and the many stories he told of his travel adventures. He attended several national and international Cornish gatherings. He will be missed. Jim Faull

JULY 17 IS PNCS's 7th ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC

The meeting will be held at Fort Borst Park in Centralia, Washington on July 17th, 2004. We have the building known as Kitchen #1 from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Our meeting is usually from 11 a.m. through 2 p.m. but the way Fort Borst now schedules their facility we must rent for the full time in order to cover our normal schedule. Fort Borst Park is immediately alongside the Interstate 5 main Centralia exit on the southwest side of the exit. The Annual Meeting at Fort Borst Park will have several special workshops beginning at 10 a.m. One will be on Geology (Jean & Team) and another on Cornish Culture and Heritage (Yowann). The doors will be open at 9:30 a.m. and we will not need to rush out after lunch and meeting. We have the room until 5 p.m. so people can linger, visit, bring "show and tell" things, etc. Elections are easy this year as everyone has agreed to run again, so unless you want to run for office, we'll probably have the same cast as last year! (and a great job they are doing!) This will be a Pot luck. Bring food to share and your own table service, bring your Cornish family history, books, picture and some good stories to share.

July 19, 2003

8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Kitchen #1

Fort Borst Park Centralia

Harrison St. Exit off I-5

The President's Corner, By Dick Colenso

It's been an interesting year that will draw to a close in July. Among the fine things that relate to our Cornish Society is the privilege of serving with Bob, Bonnie, and Ann as officers. Each has not only done their job well but also jumped in for extra things. They are good role models for a completely volunteer organization such as ours. At our Annual Meeting we will elect another year's slate of officers. I hope the new team is as fortunate as we.

Lots of others have also stepped up to take the initiative in various undertakings. This Newsletter, our website, the Cornish Country Store, last fall's Celtic Encounter event, and some special meeting programs only touch what our group has done. We have discovered added talents among our membership. Even those of you who live outside the Pacific Northwest now have been verbal encouragement with your e-mails of conversation, ideas, information, and materials. Keep it up.

Aside from the interesting task (game) of searching out and tying in Cornish Family members, I am most deeply interested in reading the transcribed Cornwall newspapers of the era of 1836-1887. In 1836 the two newspapers that covered Cornwall, the West Briton and the Cornish Guardian, merged. Most of the next 50 years of the "new" West Briton papers are on the Internet at the <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~wbritonad/> website. Reading these is one of the best ways to enhance your understanding of your heritage and the way your early family lived. You will get a sense of how Cornwall related to English law and politics in general, peek at the comparative values of that day, see justice in action as court cases are resolved and penalties meted out, and agonize with them as they seek to make a living by fishing, farming, or mining under conditions that tested the best. Of course the present day stands in sharp contrast with 150 years ago. Among other things, there are no "apprentices" to run away from their masters, the punishment for stealing a scarf is not a month at hard labor and a whipping, far fewer ships and boats get beaten onto the rocks with bodies washed ashore, etc.

Life was tough for our Cornish folk and so were they. They complained little, learned how to meet adversity and compensate or conquer, and of necessity became nomadic in search of way to support their families within the limited scope of training and experience they possessed. They stayed in touch with the homeland whether in Australia, Brazil, South Africa, America or any of the many other places they sailed to in search of work. They also transported their DNA and culture to these places and today we can still follow those movements via the trail of pasties, their church, names or physical features, and mining technology.

I will never forget my first visit to Cornwall, Penzance to be specific. As total strangers moving completely on casual hearsay Louise and I arrived in that town, took a hotel room, ate dinner and I went to the phone to randomly select the phone number of someone with my name. There were eight options as I remember. The elderly woman who answered listened cautiously as I explained who I was and that I wanted to find a Colenso link. She should have been skeptical, and I believe she was. But she invited us to her home the next day and as we walked up the walk she watched behind the curtain. She answered our knock with the words, "yes, you are a Colenso." Doris is long deceased and she could never have understood, but her words were my LINK and my welcome home!

From that day I have been C-o-r-n-i-s-h. It's not everything but it completed the trilogy of my self-definition. I was already "American" and a "follower of Jesus" but now the package had a wonderfully new texture that seemed complete. So ask me who I am and, in context, you will know that picture of me, and I am still working at understanding everything this triad means. Reading the West Briton (*isn't that where I started*) fills in more and more detail stroke by stroke.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CORNISH SOCIETY MEMBERS PAGE

In Memory of Vern Varcoe

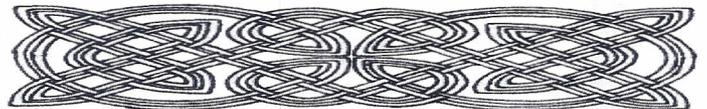
Vern was an inspiration – he was just determined to squeeze every last ounce of adventure out of life, taking on safaris and physical exertions that most of us wouldn't even think about. PNCS has lost a staunch supporter and a good friend. I don't have any specific ideas in mind, but maybe one of the things we might discuss at the summer meeting is whether there might be a simple way to recognize and commemorate Vern's membership and contributions to PNCS. A'n gwella dhis, Yowann

Dateline Western Morning News, Tuesday May 4, 2004 in Living Cornwall, "CORNWALL OFFERS A HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO THE HOMECOMERS"

Dehwelans 2004 was a wonderful introduction to Cornwall and Cornish culture and history which included tours, dancing, music and poetry, arts and crafts and a warm welcome from many local Cornish interested in bringing together all Cornish Cousins from all over the world.

I will share this experience with you at the annual meeting by presenting a video tape of some of the speakers and dancers. I will also have pictures and stories of the people I met and the places I saw. Hope to see everyone at the Annual Meeting, Alene Reaugh

Dear Family, Friends and Cornish Cousins everywhere, Evangeline and I returned from Cornwall on Friday 14 May 2004. We had a wonderful time, saw almost every square foot of Cornwall and also visited London, County Dorset and County Kent. We both were very successful in locating information on our ancestors in addition to attending many village celebrations which included Obbie Oss in Padstow on May Day and Helston Flora Dance. Both of these celebrations are held to welcome the Spring, say goodbye to Winter and are so old nobody knows when they began but expect it was before the birth of Christ. We saw tin mines, stone ruins, castles, impressive estates, art and pottery. We met many new people of all ages and nationality, not everyone was Cornish, and came home with names, e-mail address' and pictures. In addition, we met actual Cornish Cousins and adopted Cornish Cousins, like Hettie & Joe. They were the highlight of the trip for me and are the nicest people you could hope to meet. And this would be incomplete if I didn't mention the Pasties. They are abundant and very delicious. I was eating Pasties everyday while in Cornwall. There is a lot to tell, after all we were gone for a month, but this e-mail will be short as I have a lot of film editing to do, thank you notes to write and be ready to go back to work on Tuesday. Jim and I have already talked of returning to Cornwall in a year. That's all for now, hope to see you all soon. Love Alene



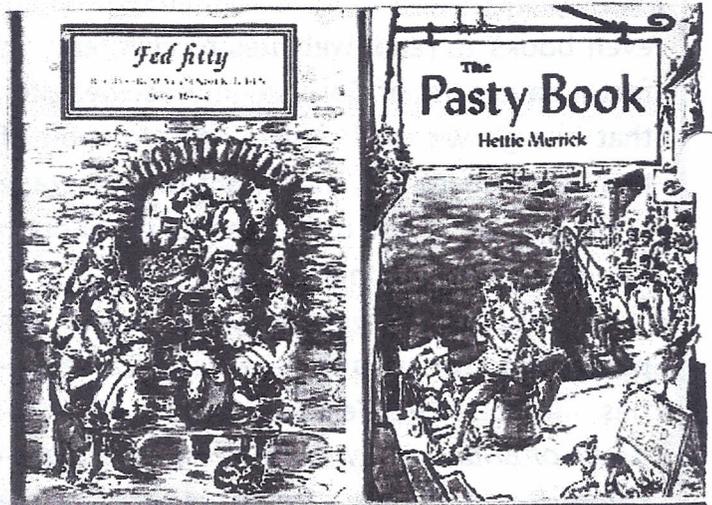
I have just returned from one of the most endearing experiences of my long and full life. I accompanied Alene Reaugh to Cornwall to visit and meet the wonderful people there. Crossing the river into Cornwall was a moment I left to my sleep filled brain but once across I immediately felt the difference. It was like being in a magic reproduction of Washington State. I could name practically every tree and shrub and flower I saw because they are just like ours. Blue bells grow wild and we were there at the peak of their bloom. The history oozed, out of every pore of the walls, hedge rows, churches and medieval castles and rock mysteries. Antiquity is painted across the landscape like a forgotten mystery and can be plucked like a wonderful arm full of flowers just for the paying attention or asking. We were lucky enough to hit 3 special celebrations. The steam engine celebration in Camborne, 'Obby 'Oss in Padstow and Flora Day in Helston. Remarkable to say the least. If you weren't Cornish when you arrived you soon wished you were. The people are the epitome of graciousness. The scenery is awesome and never ending. I soon learned the age of the continuous hedge rows with a little instruction from the natives and was delighted at the blooming of the black thorn and Gorse. The black thorn is like our chock cherry trees and the Gorse is like our Scotch Broom with the

cont on pg 4

Trip to Cornwall cont. from page 3

addition of thorns. In the opening session of the Dewhelen a lovely lady from, I believe, Chicago presented a poem about Gorse and how it seeds its self in the heart of every Cornishman and is reborn where ever he may go. I hope some one can get a copy of that poem to share with all of you. I could write on for pages and I hope I will be asked to in the future but for now may I conclude by saying "I have never been one for bumper stickers but if I were I would have one made that says, "I left my heart in Cornwall." Evangeline Anderson

Old Cornish Fish Wives pre WW I



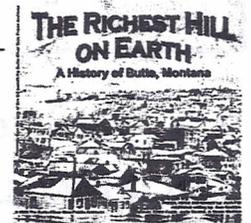
THE PASTY BOOK AND FED FITTY by HETTIE MERRICK ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE CORNISH COUNTRY STORE.

Many of you have seen my copy of these books, but now Hettie has given me personally signed books to sell to you for a fair amount of \$6.50 U.S. These books give you information about the history and folklore associated with Pasties, plus many recipes and stories. If you are interested in placing an early order please email me. I only have 10 of the Pasty Book and 5 of Fed Fitty. Additional may be obtained, however this price may be adjusted by future fluctuations of the dollar to sterling pound. The Books will be available at the July Annual Meeting along with a lot of Cornish things that I picked up on my trip to Cornwall, These things include a variety of Cornish Flags, bumper stickers, original art and crafts and old books. Please note these things were hand picked and are limited in quantity and everything will be sold on a first come first serve basis. If you would like to reserve a copy of either The Pasty or Fed Fitty, please email me at softwalk2@yahoo.com.

Alene Reaugh

THE RICHEST HILL ON EARTH—A History of Butte, Montana

I was given a very informative CD of Butte's history created by funding from Atlantic Richfield Company, proceeds go to Friends of the Butte Archives. It is an interactive CD-Rom made from some information found in The Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives. It browses like a webpage, has a glossary of over 300 terms, a bibliography, 100s of photos, maps, slideshows and videos on Butte's history. I am not sure where you can buy this CD as it was just given to me, I would imagine from Butte Archives PO Box 81 Butte, MT 59703 phone (406) 497-6226. It is a wonderful interesting CD that would be will worth finding it.



CORNISH CULTURE

The Cornish at Home

Like so many features of nineteenth century Cornwall the typical Cornish cottage which housed fisherman, farmworker, miner and quarryman alike, has virtually disappeared from the scene. Those that remain have been altered and extended almost beyond recognition, in order to bring them up to today's standards of accommodation and hygiene. In fact, to see cottages resembling those to be found in Cornwall one or two hundred years ago, and still unspoiled, it is necessary to go to the west of Ireland, There they abound, for progress has overtaken neither them nor their occupants, whose simple way of life also has much in common with the old-time Cornish.

Formerly thousands of these humble dwellings existed in Cornwall, particularly in the more populous mining districts. Characteristically they occurred not so much clustered in villages as scattered across the landscape in a apparently haphazard fashion. This random settlement was governed by the fact the miner usually chose to rent a piece of waste ground which he could clear of bracken or gorse, hearted with sea-sand or other manure to grow a few crops, and build a cottage there into the bargain. The ground rent was low enough for the poorest man to find, but as part of the agreement the lease was drawn up on the three lives basis, whereby the house and the land, however much improved, reverted to landowner on the death of the last of the three lives named in the lease as chosen by the tenant. Not infrequently, the arrangement lasted all too short a time for death came earlier in those days and a man might find himself in danger of being dispossessed, unless able to pay the "fine" customarily required to add new lives and so retain his lease of house and land.

Most cottages of the this class were put together by their owner with the help of friends after their long day's work, so that generally they were of crude construction and met only the most basic require-

ments. It is said, however, that according to one custom, a man who erected a dwelling in a single night retained it's freehold in perpetuity, so that all in all no great amount of time was spent in house building. Of necessity a minimum of cost, too, went into their construction. Four low walls sufficed, sometimes of granite boulders or rough slabs of clay-slate where these materials were readily available but more often of cob—a mixture of straw and glutinous clay of which Cornwall has an excess. Sometimes the walls were made of sods of earth alone. The roof timbers as often as not were filched from a timely wreck, garnered from the nearest beach or brought home secretly from the mine. Upon them were laid either more sods or a thatch of straw, heather or reeds, the whole being secured against the wind by ropes and weights, as say, in Donegal today. More rarely, a cottage might have a roof of small slates rejected by a nearby quarry.

These primitive "cabins" as they were usually called in their day, were excessively damp and dark within, moisture rising from the

Continued on p. 7

Fairings

4 ozs butter	2 tsps baking powder
4 ozs sugar	2 tsps bicarbonate of soda
8 ozs flour	2 tsps mixed spice
4 tbsps golden syrup	3 tsps ground ginger
1/2 tsp salt	1 tsp cinnamon

Sieve together the flour, salt, spices, baking powder and bicarbonate of soda. Rub in the butter and add the sugar. Spoon the syrup into a cup, stand in shallow water in a pan and heat gently until soft. Pour the liquid syrup on to the other ingredients and work in thoroughly. Flour the hands and roll the mixture into small balls. Place on a greased baking tray, well spaced out. Bake at 400 degrees, moving the biscuits from the top to the bottom shelf of the oven the moment they begin to brown.

CORNISH GENEALOGY

Butte's archives a genealogist's treasure-trove

More than 100 years of Butte's loves, deaths, murders and political arguments are contained within the walls of the old city fire station at 17 W. Quartz St.

It's the home of the Butte-Silver Bow archives, which hold county records from the 1860s to 1986.

County archivist Ellen Crain says the archives are far from being the home to moldy and dusty old books.

"You find out about murders, divorces -- a lot of rattling of ghosts," Crain said Monday at the archive's open house. "History is a living thing."

Although the archives' primary purpose is to manage the county's government records, it also is a clearinghouse for families interested in finding information about their forefathers.

"We get inquiries from around the world from people looking for documentation of their parents," Crain said.

Las summer Crain helped an Italian filmmaker who was looking for his parents' naturalization papers. the man's mother, an opera singer, met his father, an importer of Italian wines and olive oil, in Butte.

The couple married and later returned to Italy, Crain said.

"The man was just thrilled to see his parents' legal papers," Crain said.

"A person's search for a connection to the past does not always turn up good news," Crain said.

"Even though the people being researched are dead, you still find out some bad things. one man came to find out more about his father and learned that he was married to a ... woman other than his mother," she said.

Deciphering local legends and proving long-

held community assumptions are among Crain's tasks.

"As a historian we have to have facts for things to be true. And there is a lot of assuming of things that can happen in this field," Crain said.

Among her favorites is the story that the Anaconda Co. maintained files on employees it considered a threat to the war effort during world War II. That had never really been proven -- until the evidence arrived.

"One day somebody found an old filing cabinet with cards in it, dumped it on our table and asked 'what are these?'" Crain said.

The cards turned out to be the files Crain had heard about, but had never known they existed until they were discovered in the old cabinet decades later.

"They were those cards that Anaconda Co. kept -- the ones that had become legend."

The archives operates on a \$54,000 annual budget funded by Butte-Silver Bow government. Stories are written each year by researchers and writers who have scoured the archives' resources, Crain said. Books and movies have been produced from combing through the 1880 jail blotter, or turn-of-the-century cemetery index, or the 1910 widow's pension records, Crain said.

In January, the Lennon Documentary Group will air "Irish in America" on public radio, with an interview with retired Butte Catholic priest Sarsfield O'Sullivan, and historical background from the archives, Crain said.

"The significance of Butte is documented in photos and paper collections that exist," Crain said.

"Which is why it is important for families to think about us when they are cleaning out their basements, she said." "We love any kind of donations that help preserve and keep the history of Butte alive."

Taken from The Montana Standard - 12/16/97
article written by Betsy Cohen

PC/TLC

If a virus doesn't get you, spyware or popups will, if you aren't careful. With all the virus, spyware, popups, and adware attacks lately, it would be nice to be able to combat these problems. Most of the virus attacks are directed at Microsoft products. We can change to non Microsoft products. If you are using a Microsoft operation system, changing operating systems is one solution. But for most of us that is a move of too great magnitude.

But with little disruption we can change to non Microsoft email and web browser programs. I have been using Mozilla email and web browser programs for some time now. Mozilla has most features of MS Outlook Express and Ms Internet Explorer, plus some extra features.

With Mozilla email I can have my email program automatically sort my incoming emails and direct them to folders, just as I could do in MS Outlook Express. Mozilla web browser rarely shows popups. Mozilla is available at www.mozilla.org. Mozilla is not only available for MS Windows, but also available for Mac OS X and Linux.

The above products, both Microsoft and Mozilla, are not immune to viruses and spyware. One must be proactive in fighting them. For viruses you must have an antivirus program. Just having the program doesn't end the virus problem. Next you must keep the antivirus program updated. Antivirus programs have an update service included with the purchase. Use it. Set the update for daily update. Weekly update isn't good enough. I caught a virus using weekly update, since the virus came out in midweek.

For combating spyware, programs that spy on you, there are several very good, highly recommended free programs. Here are two I use, Spybot and Ad-Aware. To download one see www.download.com. Click on Utilities & Drivers. Click on Adware Removal Tools and you will find them there. For antivirus programs also go to www.download.com2. Click on Utilities & Drivers. Click on Antivirus. I have used AVG, which is highly recommended.

JimSindberg,VancouverWA,sindbergj@pobox.com

Cornish at Home continued floor of beaten earth, seeping through the walls and all too often finding its way through a badly thatched roof. Such window openings as there might be were small and often had to await the finding of a piece or two of broken glass or a bottle end before completion. Nor was much comfort to be derived within from the crude and usually home made furniture—perhaps a hard wooden settle, a bench, and one or two stools, with a bed of sorts, usually of sacking stretched on a timber frame. Such luxuries as curtains, rugs, cushions and tablecloths were unheard of, as were ceilings or plastered walls. Inevitably there was no running water and for many cottages not even a convenient well, no sanitation and no form of illumination save the homemade rushlight, or a candle end brought home from the mine. Very soon a man and his wife would have a brood of children to fill their one-roomed cottage and in most cases a wooden staging was nailed up beneath the rafters where they could sleep. In time perhaps six or seven offspring might be crowded there under the damp thatch, their bed not more than straw or sacking. As soon as possible these children were found working the fields or in the mine but for several years the babies remained at home, to fend for themselves if both parents were out working. Many and many a time this unavoidable neglect had dire results, for all too often a child was found dead or injured on their return—drowned, scalded or burned, mauled and bitten by a giant rat perhaps or killed, as in more than one case, by the vicious family pig strayed from its lean-to shed outdoors. Frequently too an unattended child wandered outside to fall beneath the wheels of a passing cart or perhaps down an overgrown mine shaft near by or into the open cess pit which invariably lay near the door.

Continued in the next newsletter

From "Old Cornwall" by S. Daniell

PAROCHIAL HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL

We have copies of the Parochial History of the County of Cornwall, a four volume set of books with lots and lots of information on old Cornish families. This set of books was donated to us from our Cornish member, Ron Lake, and we had them put on CD, so that all our members could enjoy them! They are available to borrow or purchase. Contact Joan Huston if interested in obtaining a copy! Joan@Tregarthen.com or phone 360-613-1718. Or go to www.archivecdbooks.com and check out all their CDs on Cornwall.

CORNISH COUNTRY STORE

I will be your shopkeeper for the Cornish Country Store. We have T-Shirts (white with black design) and Sweat Shirts (black with white design) ready for sale. You will be able to purchase these at the meetings and on the website, www.nwcornishsociety.org In the months to come, I will be adding additional items for sale to include logo cups, pens, bumper stickers, etc to items "Made in Cornwall" by local artists and craftspeople. I look forward to hearing from you for placing an order or offering suggestions on items to carry or other suggestions. Alene Reaugh

PNCS ANNUAL MEETINGS

Members unanimously voted to conduct three meetings each year. The normal schedule will be for a meeting in March (St Piran's Day recognition); July (Annual meeting for election of officers); and October. For planning purposes, the July meeting will normally be at Ft Borst Park and the March and October meetings will be divided between a location in the Olympic Peninsula area for members located in the northwestern parts of the state and the Puyallup-Olympia area for those in the southern locations.

OUR NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Second week in January

Second week in May

Second week in August

Second week in November

Send articles, pictures, ads, notices, whatever, to:

marcy@whidbey.com

Or mail to: Marcia Rothman, 5345 April Dr, Langley, WA 98260

Make sure they get to us prior to the above deadlines to be included in the next newsletter.

PNCS LIBRARY

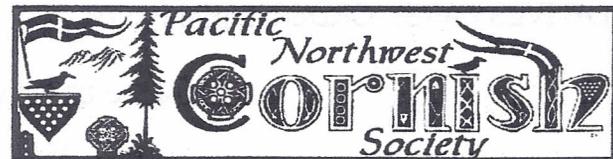
The PNCS Library exists, as of today, May 2004, in cardboard boxes at the home of one of our founding members, Joan Tregarthen Huston. The St Piran's Day Celebration at Robert's Church was a good day for the library, many books went out on loan. The PNCS Library is looking for more books about the Cornish. If you have a Cornish book you would like to donate to the PNCS library call Marcie Rothman at 360-321-9392, e-mail marcy@whidbey.com or Joan Huston at 360-613-1718 email joan@tregarthen.com for more details.

BUMPER STICKERS THAT LOOK JUST LIKE THIS!

GET ONE FOR YOUR CAR, GET ONE FOR YOUR RELATIVES CARS! ORDER THEM FROM

The PNCS Cornish Country Store

www.nwcornishsociety.org

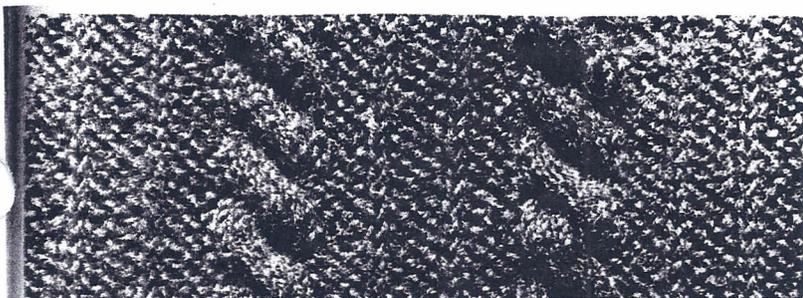


PNCS WEB SITE

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

Webmaster: Mickey Sieracki

Contact the Society rcolenso@bigfoot.com



**Cornish Guernseys –Isles of Scilly
8 rounds**

- Round 1 and 3 : knit
- Round 2 and alternate rounds: (Pearl 3, slip 1 knitwise, Pearl 3, slip 1 knitwise, Pearl 3, Knit 8, repeat to end
- Round 5: Knit 11, cable 8 by slipping 4 stitches on to cable needle and leaving at front of work, Knit 4 stitches from left hand needle, Knit 4 stitches from cable needle. Repeat to end
- Round 7: Knit

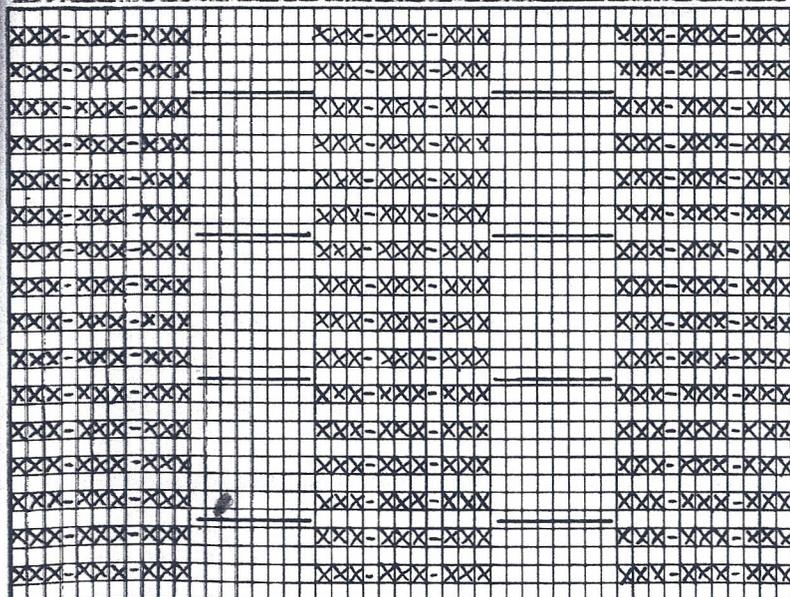
Symbols

= knit

X = Pearl

- = slip 1 knitwise

———— = cable



from "Cornish Guernseys & Knit-frocks" by Mary Wright

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society Application for Membership

Name:

Address:

City:

State/Province:

Zip:

Phone:

Email address:

Webpage:

\$10 Individual member \$15 Dual Membership

List Cornish names and areas or Parishes interested in?

Send form filled out to:

**Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
4335 NE 69TH AVE. PORTLAND, OR 97218**

PNCS Officers

President: Dick Colenso
Canby, OR
(503) 266-4359
rcolenso@bigfoot.com

Treasurer & Membership: Bonnie LaDoe
Portland, OR
(503) 281-0266
bladoe@aol.com

Vice President: Bob Bruce
Puyallup, WA
(253) 845-6258
blbruce21@msn.com

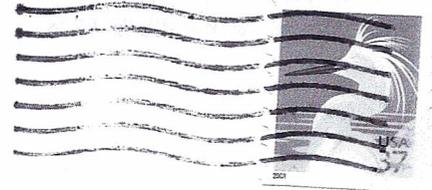
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Marcia Rothman
(360)321-9392
marcy@whidbey.com

Secretary: Ann Holiday
Seattle WA
(206) 935-0346
aholiday@seanet.com

The purpose of this society, organized as a non-profit Corporation, shall be educational. It shall be devoted to furthering Cornish heritage genealogical research in the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

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.
Annual dues are payable as of 1 July.
Send dues payable to: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
Address: Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
4335 NE 69th Ave.
Portland, OR 97218

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
10116 Stoli Lane NW
Silverdale, WA 98383-8826



#37

Bonnie LaDoe
4335 NE 69th Ave.
Portland OR 97218

