



## CORNWALL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL HISTORIANS

### Chairman's Letter

What a lovely day we had in Launceston in July, organised by CALH member Carol Bunbury, and the Launceston History Group. Not too hot and lots to see both around the town and in the wonderful museum at Lawrence House, where we sat in the garden to munch our pasty before exploring the treasures in the house. We started the day with coffee in the Town Hall, followed by a splendid introductory talk on the history of the town. Then we set forth to explore its many narrow streets and ancient buildings. After lunch we drove to Trecarrell where we were welcomed by Neil and Ruth Burden with their usual warmth and kindness. Once again food played its part in the afternoon's enjoyment and there is nothing nicer than eating a cream tea in the great hall at Trecarrell, especially as the Burdens had gone to the trouble of lighting the fire to add to the atmosphere. There will be a fuller description of the day in next year's journal but however good the write-up is it can never do full justice to the day itself, so I do recommend you make the effort to book for next year's outings if you possibly can.

Having said that I missed the final outing of the summer to Penzance, as I was at an Historic Farm Buildings Group conference at Chatsworth, in the Peak District. How I wish we could cut ourselves in two so as not to miss anything. Maybe one day they will invent a 'Virtual Self' that we can plug in, so we don't have to miss anything. In the

## NEWSLETTER November 2018

Our Place on the Internet

[www.calh.co.uk](http://www.calh.co.uk)

meantime I eagerly await the report in next year's journal.

On a more serious note we still haven't got anyone to take over as outings secretary from Marilyn and Ian who wish to retire. Unless someone comes forward soon, there are likely to be fewer, if any, outings from 2020 on, and some of those already organised for 2019 may have to be cancelled. (Continued on next page)

### AGM & Spring Conference

#### The Great War

Two days packed with fascinating presentations.

**Cornish Miners of 251 Tunneling Company - Ken Johns**

**Harriet Trelawney's War - Carole Vivian**

**Communications & The Kaiser's Privateer - Ian Thompson**

**The Home Front - Hazel Harradence**

**100 faces, 100 Stories - Dr Joanna Mattingly**

**Ferrets at the Front and Belgian Refugees - Marilyn Thompson**

**A Soldiers Tale - John Holiff**

**And Much More, including singing Wartime Songs**

AGM starts the day, open to all members

**Kilbirnie Hotel**

Newquay

Sat-Sun – 9 & 10 March 2019

Booking form enclosed and on-line

(Continued from previous page)

Our newsletter editor is also reluctantly retiring due to family commitments. Bob has served us so well for so long I sometimes feel we may have taken him for granted, especially as he lives so far from Cornwall. So it was lovely that he and his wife were able to join the rest of the committee for lunch in June. We produce three newsletters a year and the format tends to stay the same, with members sending in items they want included and dates of events etc. And, as Bob has proved, this job doesn't have to be done by a Cornish based member. Neither does Bob's other job of handling our website. If you don't feel up to taking on both jobs I don't see why they couldn't be turned into two separate ones, so come on members, please step up to the mark. If you don't there will be no newsletters after next February's edition and the website will not be updated after that date either.

Our treasurer, Hugh, is also on the move up country but has said that he is happy to continue as treasurer for the time being, although he probably won't be able to attend committee meetings in person. This is not the first time we have had an 'out of Cornwall' treasurer as Catherine Lorrigan successfully did the job from her Reading home a few years ago.

So, it looks likely there will be lots of changes to CALH in 2019, and your committee have their fingers crossed those changes will not be to the detriment of our society. My thanks to those of you who have helped to make this such a good year for CALH and my hope that 2019 will end up as good if not even better!!!

*Your Chairman  
Carole Vivian  
(01503) 272 309  
carolvivian309@btinternet*

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## Correction to Last Newsletter

In an article by Ian & Marilyn Thompson in the August newsletter, your editor inadvertently confused the fact that most of the donated maps went to the Morab Library, not the Courtney. It is the Morab which will be offering excess maps for sale.

## CALH Membership Cards

Every member of CALH is being issued with a membership card, hopefully attached to this newsletter.

It contains your membership number, which our treasurer uses to keep track of payments, etc. The prefix M denotes ordinary member, J is for joint members and C is corporate members (i.e. a local history group.)

While it is not essential, it would be helpful if you could reference your membership number when making payments and booking activities.

If you haven't received your card, contact Hugh Hedderly at 0796 920 6292 or at [hugh.hedderly@btinternet.com](mailto:hugh.hedderly@btinternet.com)

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## 2019 Dues are Due

Your membership subscription is due for payment on 1<sup>st</sup> January. Current rates are:

- Ordinary members £15
- Joint members £25
- Corporate members £15

If you pay by standing order, please check with your bank that you are paying the correct amount. You can also pay by BACS through your internet bank account. Our account details are: Sort Code 30-12-74, Account number 07789383

If you choose to pay by cheque, send it together with your membership number and address to: CALH Hon. Treasurer, 77 Bodrigan Road, Looe, Cornwall PL13 1EH.

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## Join the Fun at the Conference

The spring conference on The Great War offers an opportunity for members to present a very short snippet about a personal artefact linked to the war. Members interested MUST contact the organisers in advance to participate in the 'Show & Tell'. Also, remember that lunch will be provided on both Saturday & Sunday and you can stay at the Kilbirnie hotel for the week-end.

## Exciting Year of Outings Planned

2019 is shaping up to be another year of interesting days out for CALH members.

The year will begin on Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May, with a visit to the impressive St Ives Archive at Carbis Bay. It is hoped the day will include a train ride to St Ives and a history tour of the town.

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, we will visit Stratton and Poughill churches with Dr Joanna Mattingly and Dr Todd Gray.

July 13<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday, will find us visiting St Neot Village and its Archive, where a very active local group has so much to show, including the results of their ongoing archaeological dig. We'll be meeting at the church.

The last visit will be Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October to Fowey for a talk, a visit to Fowey's impressive museum and a guided tour of the town.

More details and booking forms will be sent out with newsletters and the Journal or can be downloaded from our webpage – [www.calh.co.uk](http://www.calh.co.uk) – as soon as available.

*Ian & Marilyn Thompson  
Joint Outings Secretaries*

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## Carols from the Cornish Diaspora

Ethnomusicologist Kate Neale travelled to Cornish communities in the US and Australia in search of carols which emigrating Cornish people took with them as they sought work and fortune during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. She has collected a library of carols from families, archives, libraries & chapels and brought them home to be sung at a special service in Truro Cathedral the 20<sup>th</sup> of December.

The choir to sing them is being brought together from all across Kernow. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Emma Mansfield at 07803 176416 or at [lovelypublications@gmail.com](mailto:lovelypublications@gmail.com).

## Our Webpage – Time to Upgrade?

It was almost exactly ten years ago when CALH's webpage went live. Tony Wood was the pioneer and at the autumn conference, a show of hands revealed less than a quarter of our members even used the Internet.

How times have changed. Nearly half of our members now have e-mail and 45 percent of our members responded to the questionnaire on updating the webpage. Treasurer Hugh Hedderly is compiling the results which so far indicate 61% favor a members only area, 67% would like back issues of the journal available to members and 72% like the idea of receiving the newsletter by e-mail.

These and other ideas will be used by the committee as it looks afresh at the webpage. After all, in modern technology terms, ten years is truly ancient.

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## Kresen Kernow Progresses

While the Cornwall Record Office in Truro and the Cornish Studies Library in Redruth are now closed, construction on the new Cornish National Archives, Kresen Kernow, is continuing apace in Redruth.

The roof is on the link between the old and new parts of the building and the roofline of the old brewery is now visible. Shelving is being installed in the strongrooms, and cabling, pipework, walls and windows are all also going up, in and around.

While the record office and library are closed, the staff is still answering enquiries, and offering a copies and research service. The online catalogues are also still available to search. Contact through e-mail: [kresenkernow@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:kresenkernow@cornwall.gov.uk) or by telephone: 01872 323127.

You can find out more information about Kresen Kernow at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/kresenkernow](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/kresenkernow).

## CALH Calendar of Events

17 January (Thurs) – **CALH Committee Meeting** – St Augustine of Hippo, Woodland Road, St. Austell - 4:45 pm

9-10 March (Sat-Sun) – **AGM & Spring Conference – The Great War** – AGM open to all members, starts at 10:45 am – Kilbirnie Hotel, Newquay – Booking form with this newsletter & on-line

4 April (Thurs) – **CALH Committee Meeting** – Stuart House, Barras Street, Liskeard – 4:45 pm

22 May (Weds) – **Day Out Visit to St Ives Archive** – Day will include talks and visits and possibly a train ride to St Ives

19 June (Weds) – **Day Out Visit to Stratton and Poughill Churches** – Led by Dr Joanna Mattingly and Dr Todd Gray.

13 July (Sat) – **Visiting St Neot and the local Archive** –

8 October (Tues) – **Visit to Fowey** – A walk around town and a visit to the Museum.

Booking forms for the Days Out will be found on-line when they are available.

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## Royal Cornwall Museum

14 November (Fri) – **Cornish Tommies** – A programme of films in honour of WW1's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary – 6 pm to 8:30 pm – donation entry

22 November (Thurs) – **Rural Idyll to Post Industrial Landscape in 200 years – How our industrial revolution changed the face of Cornwall** – A presentation by Archaeologist and Trustee of the RIC Nick Johnson. 6pm to 7 pm

19 December (Weds) – **Hark! The Glad Sound of Cornish Carols** – Sally Burley and Hilary Coleman recount their experiences of gathering Cornish Carols

helped by the Red River Singers – 1 -2 pm – Free with museum admission.

## Cornish Record Office & Cornish Studies Library

Both facilities are closed as all of the more than 1.5 million documents, maps and records in the Cornish archives are moved to the new combined facility in Redruth. The new archive is expected to be opened mid-year.

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## Cornish History On Stage

9-10 November (Fri-Sat) – **Tommy's Suitcase** – A play by Richard Hope-Pears on MP Tommy Agar-Robartes of Lanhydrock “He chose to give up everything.” – The Keay Theatre, St Austell

16-17 November (Fri-Sat) – at Redannick Theatre, Truro – both shows 7:30 pm – Tickets at 01726 879500

9-17 November (Fri-Sat) – **Hireth (A Cornish word meaning Longing for Home)** – A play by Edward Rowe about WWI – “Some battles were fought over the top, some were fought underground” – St Just Miners Chapel, St Just – Tickets at Hall for Cornwall Box Office 01872 262466

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## Carols from the Cornish Diaspora

20 December (Thurs) – **A Choir Assembled from Across Kernow** – Performing Cornish carols from long ago to today gathered from Cornish communities in the US and Australia – Truro Cathedral - 7:30 to 9 pm (see story previous page to participate)

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## Old Cornwall Societies

24 November (Sat) – **Federation Winter Festival, St Petrocs church, Bodmin** – male choir singing, St Petroc's hand bells, much more – 9:30 am to 5 pm

Robert Lyle  
rhl@lylespridecom