

# THE TREVITHICK SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 7

NOVEMBER 1974

Edited by J. Hodge at Trannack House, Penzance

## 1974 A. G. M. Weekend

Looking back over the weekend one can only be grateful that the Society was spared the heavy rain and high winds of the following Monday and Tuesday. While the beginning of autumn was obviously near, the sun shone fairly consistently over the weekend, despite heavy rain in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Spreading over three days, the weekend got off to a gratifyingly popular start when 50 members attended a lecture at Treswithian School, Camborne, at 7-30 p.m. on Friday 20th Sept., given by Professor R. R. Pennington of the University of Birmingham, who was obviously fascinated by and the master of his subject. Many interesting points were discussed in a question session, after which the meeting expressed its gratitude to such a skilful lecturer who generously gave up part of his holiday to speak to our Society.

On Saturday morning 20 or 30 members visited Holmans Museum and were able to see the many interesting exhibits and the Rostowrack engine turning under compressed air. The large number of members was a gratifying response to the kindness of our membership secretary, Ramon Thomas, in opening the museum. At 11-30 62 members - twice last year's number at Robinsons engine - collected at Taylors engine house to hear Mr. Trounson give a fascinating talk on the history and method of working of this 90" engine. A note of some of Mr. Trounson's remarks is contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

While waiting for the coaches to take members to Falmouth Docks the only rain of the day fell, but had stopped in time to allow two parties of members - totalling about 100 - to walk around the Docks. Historical and technical information is given elsewhere in this newsletter.

After an excellent tea, the Annual General Meeting itself was held with 67 members present, and the minutes appear in this Newsletter. The Meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.

On Sunday morning a coach with about 35 members left Camborne Free Car Park for Kennal Vale at Ponsanoth, where another 35 members were present to be guided around by our member Mr. Bryan Earl. The Council will be considering the possibility of a large scale excavation and survey programme of the surviving buildings.

Lunch was taken at the Norway Inn by 45 members in most enjoyable surroundings. Afterwards some members walked around the buildings of Perran Foundry - and then the A. G. M. was over for another year. The Secretary could relax after avoiding any obvious disasters, and have at least another 8 months to decide on next years programme. Members suggestions would be most welcome.

Paul Stephens.

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the TREVITHICK SOCIETY held at 6-30 p.m. on Saturday 21st September, 1974 at Treswithian School, Camborne.

1. Apologies:- The Secretary reported the apologies of Mr. L. G. Bullen and ten other members.
2. At the wish of the meeting the minutes of the 1973 A. G. M. were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the proceedings.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. The Society accepted, with regret, the resignation of the Treasurer, Mr. Trevor Furse. The Chairman recorded that Mr. Furse had been Treasurer of the Cornish Waterwheels Preservation Society for two years, and of the Trevithick Society from its inception, having kept the Council "on the rails" by his experience and advice. As a result of other heavy commitments Mr. Furse now felt he had to resign, and the Chairman thanked him on behalf of the Society - which expression of gratitude was echoed by the meeting.
5. (a) The Chairman announced that Mr. Michael Messenger had agreed, at the Council's request, to serve as Treasurer, and having worked for some years in a bank and being active in the Society and in research, was felt to be an excellent candidate for nomination. Mr. Messenger's election was proposed by Mr. Gordon Richards, seconded by Mr. Dennis Jenkin, and he was elected unanimously.  
(b) The re-election of Mr. Paul Stephens as Hon. Secretary was proposed by Mr. J. Trounson, seconded by Mr. Rodney Law and carried unanimously.

(c) The Chairman announced, as his sad duty, the resignation of Mr. A. K. Hamilton Jenkin from the Council - one of its longest serving members and an early member of the Cornish Engines Preservation Society. He was sure that he expressed the feelings of the meeting when he spoke of its admiration for all his efforts, assisting in the preservation of Cornish Engines, mining research, and his many publications. Mr. Jenkin expressed his personal regret and sadness and thanked the meeting for its kind remarks.

It was explained that the Council proposed two additions to the Council:- Mr. Colin Yelland who has recently been appointed China Clay Area Correspondent, and Mr. Justin Brooke a member and mining and financial historian.

These were proposed by Mr. D. Harris, seconded by Mr. B. Michell and unanimously elected; together with J. Hodge, J. Trounson, J. Stengelhofer, R. Law and P. Young, the Council members retiring by rotation.

6. The Hon. Secretary reported to the meeting on the activities of the Society for the past year. (Set out in full elsewhere in this Newsletter - Editor)
7. The Treasurer reported to the meeting on the accounts for the year ended 31st Dec. 1973. It was proposed by Mr. R. Thomas and seconded by Mr. M. Messenger that the report be approved, and this was carried unanimously.
8. Mr. Trounson reported that by and large all was well with the preserved Cornish Engines. The Kerrier District Council and National Trust were discussing a Compulsory Purchase Order for the proposed car park at the East Pool Whim Engine, and planning permission had been sought for the re-erection of the boiler house, (and the addition of a Sales Office) and estimates accepted for the machinery required to turn the engine. The boiler purchased from St. Clements Hospital, Truro, was now being stored by the National Trust at Bodmin. The restoration of the Wheal Coates engine house had been completed and Mr. Trounson voiced the deep concern of the Council over the state of repair and long term future of the Crowns engine houses at Botallack.

Mr. Trounson made a plea against the demolition of any more engine houses and called for the recognition by owners, public officials and the general public that, far from being eyesores, the engine houses were in fact an integral and loved part of the Cornish landscape.

The future of the 110' East Pool and Agar stack adjoining Taylors engine house was referred to, and Mr. Trounson felt that with its fire-brick liner it was of considerable interest and value - and not in as bad a condition as suggested. Mr. Trounson felt that it was an outstanding stack, full of architecture, forming part of the local townscape and showing off the engine house.

#### 9. Chairman's Review.

The Chairman first recorded with regret the death of our member Mr. Crowe who had been Chief Engineer at John Browns at Clydebank, and later with the North British Locomotive Co., and who had been President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, retiring to live at Feock. He then congratulated Mr. H. R. Hodge on election as a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd, in recognition of his work on agricultural history. The Society was asked to express its thanks to Mr. Don Ingham and his helpers for all their efforts at Treswithian School, and to Mr. Don Hill for acting as the Society's Clerk of Works in the dismantling of the Tuckingmill dipperwheel and round frames.

Congratulations and thanks were also expressed by the Chairman to the Hon. Secretary for the organization of the events of the A. G. M. weekend, the general work of the Society, and in particular the successful publications programme of the Society, in conjunction with the Journal Editor.

Thanks were expressed to the local press for giving reports of the Society's activities and printing book reviews, while the Chairman sought contributions from more members for the Newsletter.

The Society's efforts to establish its own museum had to some extent been delayed by local government re-organization, but it was noted that Penwith District Council had now advertised for a Museums Officer which was felt to be an encouraging sign.

Discussion was invited as to a possible appointment of a Publications Secretary to relieve the Secretary of part of the Society's work.

Lastly, the Chairman thanked Cdr. Favell of Penberth for his kind offer of mill machinery, which the Council had regretfully decided not to pursue, although expressing the Society's gratitude.

#### 10. Any other Business

Mr. A. K. Hamilton Jenkin commented on the poor selection of publications on sale at the National Trust engines, but the Hon. Sec. replied that this was outside our control and to some extent the result of delivery problems experienced by the Society. Mr. Jenkin also made a plea for articles to appear solely in the Journal, and not the Newsletter, but the Chairman and Mr. Trounson supported the present arrangements which had been specifically and deliberately agreed by the Council. Mr. Tangye felt that the Newsletter and publications were excellent publicity for the Society, and valued by members.

Mr. Richards suggested that the appointment of a Publications Secretary should be pursued at the meeting, but after discussion it was agreed to ask any potential volunteers to contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

Mr. Trevor Furse suggested that the A.G.M. might be held in the spring to be closer to the period covered by the accounting period last ended, and it was agreed that this should be discussed by the Council.

The Chairman then declared the Meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT  
(September 1973 - September 1974)

Mr. Chairman and fellow members, I am extremely glad to be able to welcome so many of you to this year's A.G.M. and especially glad to be here myself. Those of you who may not have had replies to your correspondence as rapidly as you would wish in the last month or so will, I hope, forgive this delay which was due to my absence from the County due to illness. Luckily, the majority of the arrangements for this A.G.M. weekend had already been made and the organization was in any event in the capable hands of our Meetings Organizer, Mr. Don Ingham and his wife, who kindly dealt with all postal applications and to whom our thanks are due. While on this subject I feel we ought to again record our thanks to Mr. Ingham for the use of the School for our meeting, and to his wife and Mrs. Harris for again providing such an excellent tea. Before reporting on the activities of the Society over the past year, I would like to make one or two announcements concerning the future. Firstly, tomorrow afternoon after lunch at the Norway Inn, members will, by the kind permission of the manager of J. Bibby & Co., Ltd., be allowed to have a look around the buildings of the old Perran Foundry which may well be of interest to members buying the Society's reprint of that firm's trade catalogue. As the mill will in fact be working at that time members are asked to take particular care in the yards to avoid lorries, fork-lift trucks and other dangerous moveables. Looking further into the future, the proposed date for the 1975 A.G.M. of the Society will be Saturday and Sunday the 20th and 21st September 1975. The events this year seem to now to be spread over three days and I have received a comment from one member that in future years it might be an idea to have two alternative field day itineraries so as to avoid too many people at any one industrial site. This will, I am sure, be considered by your Council. Lastly, the subject of Conferences. In March this year, a group of members attended a one day conference at Exeter University held by Industrial Archaeological Societies in the South West Area which next year will be held at Worcester. We hope to give details in the Newsletter and any members from Cornwall thinking of attending might care to contact me to see whether arrangements can be made to share transport. Similarly, members attended the annual conference of the Association of Industrial Archaeology last weekend at Keele University, at which our Society was asked whether it would be prepared to extend an invitation to the A.I.A. for the conference in 1976. Again this will be considered by the Council at their next meeting, but it could well be of interest to members of the Society living in Cornwall who by a combination of the A.I.A. Conference and our Society's A.G.M. and Field Day would have available the opportunity to attend a wide range of top rate lectures on varied industrial topics. The A.I.A. Conference next year will be held in the North East during the weekend of Friday, Saturday and Sunday the 12th, 13th and 14th of September and again members of our Society will be attending and shared transport arrangements are a possibility.

I hope that we have left sufficient time tonight for members to be able to comment on the work of the Council and activities of the Society over the past year and criticism and ideas will I hope be accepted with good grace. So far as the Council is concerned, it is always trying to ensure that a wider group of members take an active interest both in the organization of the Society and its activities and certainly if the A.I.A. Conference does come to Cornwall in 1976 we shall be looking for volunteers to help on the organization side. Lastly, may I just record that some ten members have written to me giving apologies of their inability to attend this A.G.M.

Turning now to the activities of the Society, perhaps the logical place to begin is with preservation work. Over the years we have arranged for the preservation of such varying items as the Treamble Water Wheel, the Tregargas Water Wheel, Stamps, Horse Gear and a Lathe, the engines themselves and most recently a 1926 Compressor donated to the Society by Messrs. Holmans. As the Vounder Clay Dry, the use of which has kindly been loaned to us by English China Clays, was not suitable for its storage it is now being kept on industrial premises at Roche by the kind permission of Mr. Michael Bamber. This storage facility is however strictly temporary and the Council would be extremely glad to hear from any member who might be able to offer the use of a suitable store.

The main preservation activity this year, however, has been the dismantling for Penwith District Council of two round frames and a one hundred and twenty bucket, 26" diameter double sided dipper wheel from the Streamworks below South Crofty at Tolvaddon. These items were purchased by the District Council at our suggestion and the Society was then responsible for their dismantling, transportation, and storage. I am glad to say that this has now been completed, to some extent with the assistance of South Crofty who were kind in extending the period allowed for dismantling. A loyal working party turned out week after week in some pretty bad weather and I would particularly like to thank Mr. Don Hill who supervised the overall work and might fairly be described as the

Society's dismantling overseer for lack of any other suitable title. Our other member of the same name kindly marked the round frames and supervised their dismantling in an orderly manner, recording the work for future re-erection and we are indebted to him for ensuring that we worked in a methodical manner. The working party really never exceeded six in number at any one time and unfortunately consisted almost entirely of Council members. I will not go through the entire list, but would just like to mention the name of Dicon Nance who attended with absolute regularity, having to travel up from St. Ives. We are grateful to Mr. Peter Young and Mr. Len Williams, both members of our Society, for lending lorries in their ownership for transportation of dismantled pieces. It is eventually intended by Penwith District Council that these items should be re-erected at Old Slades Yard, Hayle, forming some of the exhibits of a proposed Industrial Museum which would be established by the Council in association with our Society. The Society has prepared a detailed report on the feasibility of such a museum which is now ready for printing. With the reorganization of local government I regret to say that the Council has not been able to make as much progress during the course of the year on this important topic as it would have liked. However, we are now awaiting confirmation from the Chief Technical Officer that the report may be printed for circulation to members of the Penwith District Council.

Lastly, on the subject of preservation, a group of members this morning visited Taylors Engine House and were able to look at the adjacent stack which is proposed to be demolished by South Crofty. While initially South Crofty was not prepared to contribute to the cost of restoration it now appears that the mine may be prepared to do so up to the cost that they would have incurred in the demolition. In view of this, I have again contacted the National Trust and Cornwall County Council, who originally agreed to contribute one quarter of the cost each, which together with a proposed contribution from the Society might have been sufficient to ensure restoration rather than demolition. I very much hope that this stack will be available for inspection to members next year, but we must be prepared for the possibility that it will not. I feel strongly that companies or individuals purchasing sites or buildings which contain structures of industrial archaeological interest should realise the strength of public opinion against their demolition or severe alteration and accept that there is a social responsibility to maintain such buildings for the benefit of the community.

The other major and new activity of the Society during the year has been the expansion of our publications. The 1973 Journal was forwarded to all members who had not actually collected it at our last A. G. M. and the 1974 Journal is now in the hands of those attending the A. G. M. today and will be forwarded to the remainder of the Society's paid up members very shortly. I am glad to say that the cost of printing this year's Journal is similar to that of last year, although we have slightly reduced the size of the print order. Our thanks must be extended to Richard Church of the Headland Printing Company in Penzance who has handled all our printing work to date in, I think you will agree, a most satisfactory manner. From the point of view of the officers of the Society we must be grateful to him for unfailingly co-operating when work was requested at short notice. The financing of our publications has been by way of the establishment of a separate publication fund to which the sum of £500 was transferred from General Society Funds. The balance standing to the credit of this publications fund now stands at £815, although we are still awaiting invoices for the cost of various of the publications. However, it appears that the publications fund can become self supporting. Our publication efforts have been brought to the notice of the general public by press reviews in all the local papers which have been often lengthy and generally, I am glad to say, favourable. Indeed, I think it fair to say that we are now establishing a good relationship with the local press which seems willing to take note of our activities and deems them to be worthy of being brought to the attention of the public. We have given details in a previous Newsletter of the Society's retail outlets for our publications and asked members to patronise them for other publications wherever possible. I am glad to say that since that date we have obtained other outlets of which details will be given shortly. Special thanks must be given to both Tolgus Tin and Wendron Forge which have given considerable support by way of ordering our publications. Generally for the ease of accounting and administration on my behalf we have insisted that orders should be in multiples of 10 and apart from the Royal Institution of Cornwall and The National Trust we have refrained from accepting orders on a sale or return basis. These latter two outlets will be accounting for sales on the 31st March next and later this month respectively and it is therefore difficult to give an exact report on the state of the sale of publications, especially as the bulk of the sales is contained in a period not being dealt with by the accounts being produced today and also because copies have been ordered and delivered but not yet paid for. In view of the increasing stock of publications the Council has effected Insurance Cover of £1,000 on the stocks in our hands. Future publications by the Society are intended to include an off-print of the article on the Camborne School of Mines contained in this year's Journal, a biography of Sir. Goldsorthy Gurney by our member T. R. Harris for publication in February next to mark the centenary of his death, and a bound volume of Newsletters indexed by our Council member Michael Messenger. You will have noticed in the last Newsletter that the Society has appointed area correspondents who kindly agreed to submit articles on matters within their areas. Among existing publications of the Society, ties and long playing records of the Bi-centenary service are still available, as are the Society's range of postcards which have recently been extended and re-ordered. Among our other new publications are Society car stickers which we hope you will all wish to acquire to give constant publicity to the Society and it's work.

The second publication of the Society, which was the history of Dolcoath Mine by Mr. T. R. Harris, has to date sold extremely well, 568 copies being distributed to retail outlets and 159 individual orders received by the Society. Our next publication was the Pennan Foundry Catalogue published jointly with Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, of which delivery has been taken only fairly recently. So far 167 copies have been sold to retail outlets and 85 to individuals. Lastly, has been the reprinting of the 1753 Stannary Laws, copies of which only became available one week ago and sales of which to date amount to approximately 60. We anticipate, however, that in view of the attempts to reactivate the Stannary and Convocation procedures this publication should prove topical and sell extremely well. Our thanks are due to Professor R. Pennington who kindly agreed to write an introduction to the reprint and who gave up part of his holiday to lecture to the Society last night.

During the year your Council held meetings in September and November last and in February, March, May and July this year. Of this total of six meetings, two members attended all meetings, six members attended five meetings, two members attended four meetings, two members attended three meetings and four members attended two meetings. Only one member of the Council was unable to attend any Council meetings during the year. This year will see a larger change in the membership of the Council than last year with Michael Messenger taking over as Treasurer from Trevor Furze. Our thanks must be extended to Michael Messenger for agreeing to take on the extra work involved as Treasurer, but particularly we must thank Trevor Furze for his years of service as Treasurer to the Society. As Secretary I know the work that has been involved, particularly during the latter period when membership has been growing and the Society generally more active with, among other items receipts of Field Days and Publications to be dealt with and accounted for. A welcome should also be extended, I feel, to our two new Council members. Collin Yelland will strengthen our links with the clay industry and English China Clays in particular, while Justin Brooke will, as a result of his broad experience in financial and mining company matters, give the Council fresh experience from which guidance on many matters can be drawn.

Last year I was able to announce that our membership stood at 527, even after allowing for deaths and resignations of members and striking off a considerable number (106) from our membership list due to non-payment of subscriptions, whereas it was 567 in 1971 and 571 in 1972. This year, I am happy to say that this trend has continued with the addition of 257 new members. The bulk of the 101 members reduced from our membership list again relates to members not paying subscriptions. This means that the total membership to date amounts to 583 making us almost certainly the largest local industrial archaeological society in Great Britain. Our membership is satisfyingly widely spread throughout the United Kingdom. The officers of the Society will shortly be circularising those members removed from our mailing list in the last three or four years to see whether in view of the increase of the activities of the Society they would be to rejoin on payment of arrears of subscriptions. When a Society reaches our size a Secretary is constantly giving thanks for the existence of a separate membership Secretary and although perhaps one of our unsung heroes, I must record my thanks, and I am sure that of the whole Society, to Ramon Thomas who deals with all our membership arrangements, including posting the Newsletter and Journal to members. Concerning this latter item, the Council has decided to ask overseas members to pay a voluntary £1 overseas postage supplement.

Some of you attended Professor Pennington's lecture last night and all members have been given notification of the series of evening lectures arranged for the winter months in the last Newsletter. We hope that these will prove popular and be well supported by members and their friends. During the year the Society organized Field Days to the Caradon Hill area and a boat trip up the Tamar Valley. The Society's thanks are expressed to Mr. Trounson and Mr. Shambrook who acted as our guides at Caradon and to Mr. Frank Booker who gave a commentary on our journey up the Tamar River. Although the basic arrangements for the A. G. M. were agreed in Council, the administration of bookings has been ably organized by our Meetings Organizer, Mr. Don Ingham and his wife. In view of my absence from the County I think it is fair to say that they averted a disaster in our organization. Finally, one or two general matters which may be of interest to members. While the rapid increase over the year in the price of tin has resulted in the Mount Wellington Mine deciding to proceed to a production stage, we have been considering the effect on old mining activity of the proposals of some local authorities to clear derelict mining sites with the aid of central government funds. Although praiseworthy, perhaps, in aim, these areas do have an attraction of their own and accurately reflect an era. Indeed, they are often some of the only open spaces available to the general public. Obviously safety must be a consideration, but I think many members would feel it to be a loss if all these sites were cleared. We have, unfortunately, not been able to obtain from the local authority mainly concerned detailed site plans so as to be able to ascertain whether any engine houses or particularly significant surface working areas were likely to be affected.

As a result of the production by a commercial firm of a Trevithick Medal the last A. G. M. decided that Mr. Symons, a Council member of long standing, should be presented with such a medal on his retirement and this took place in February. Also relating to the memory of Richard Trevithick, have been the discussions with the Dean of the Cathedral and the Cathedral Architect with a view to the Society arranging for the placing of a plaque as a memorial of the life and work of Richard Trevithick, under the existing window in the Cathedral showing scenes of miners at work at Dolcoath. This has now basically been agreed and only the preparation of a detailed drawing by our Council member Mr. Stengelhofen, its approval by the Dean and Cathedral Architect, and the execution of the necessary work remain to be undertaken. It is hoped that an unveiling ceremony will be arranged which can be attended by members.

A. P. F. S.

5

## FALMOUTH DOCKS

(See Map in August 1974 Newsletter)

Falmouth flourished as a terminal for the famous 'Packet ships' of the postal services from 1688 to about 1850. Then, at a time when wooden ships were giving way to iron, and sail to steam, plans were made to form a company to build a tidal harbour and dry docks. The necessary Parliamentary powers were obtained in 1859 and a site of 150 acres was taken at the foot of Pendennis Head at the mouth of the River Fal. The first ship dry docked in 1861 and by 1863 the Eastern and Western Breakwaters and the second dry dock had been completed by the Falmouth Docks Company.

To meet the requirements of shipping using the port, a ship repairing business had been developed in the town. This firm moved to the docks in 1868, and became Cox & Company (Engineers) Ltd.

During the 1914-18 War, the Admiralty took control of the ship repairing business and started the excavation of No. 3 Dry Dock. At the end of the War the Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company and Silley, Cox & Company, Limited, as they are now called, were acquired by the London Ship repairing firm of R. & H. Green and Silley Weir, Limited, to whom the construction of the fourth dry dock, the extension and equipment of the wharves and the provision of the modern repair shops is due.

Falmouth also played an important part in the second World War from 1939 to 1945. Despite aerial attacks, a constant stream of vessels of all descriptions was repaired, converted or fitted out for the special needs of the times. The port was also used as an embarkation point for troops and stores in connection with the Normandy landings in 1944.

Since 1945, development has again been extensive. The new County and Duchy wharves were completed in 1958 and the rebuilding of No. 2 Dry Dock (now renamed Queen Elizabeth Dock) to its present size has provided the necessary facilities for super tankers and other vessels up to 90,000 tons deadweight.

There are two port authorities in Falmouth, the Falmouth Harbour Commissioners and the Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company, the jurisdiction of the latter authority being surrounded by that of the Falmouth Harbour Commissioners.

The Falmouth Docks now consist of four dry-docks, the largest, Queen Elizabeth, being 850' long by 130' wide, and is the largest privately owned dry-dock in the country. There are in addition a number of ship repairing berths adjacent to the dock basin from which the dry docks lead. There is also a land tank cleaning installation for the disposal of oil residues from tankers and other ships. The docks are now owned by the P & O Group.

Cargoes are not, as such, handled at the docks where there is a traffic in various grades of oil for bunkers and ships' stores. Certain other commodities are handled within the Falmouth Harbour Commissioners' area, and there is a long term anchorage up the River Fal under the control of Truro Corporation Harbour Master.

Among Machinery still in use is a railway steam crane manufactured by Cowans Sheldon & Co., Ltd., at Carlisle (No. 2841) in 1918 with a 5 ton lifting capacity, and 3 0-4-0 saddleback locomotives of standard gauge, being:-

- (1) No. 1530 manufactured by Rickett & Sons Ltd., at Bristol in 1919.
- (2) No. 1632 manufactured by Hudswell Clarke & Co., Ltd's Railway Foundry, Leeds in 1919.
- (3) No. 3597 manufactured by R. W. Hawthorn and Leslie & Co., Ltd., at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1926 and marked "FD & E Co. No. 3".

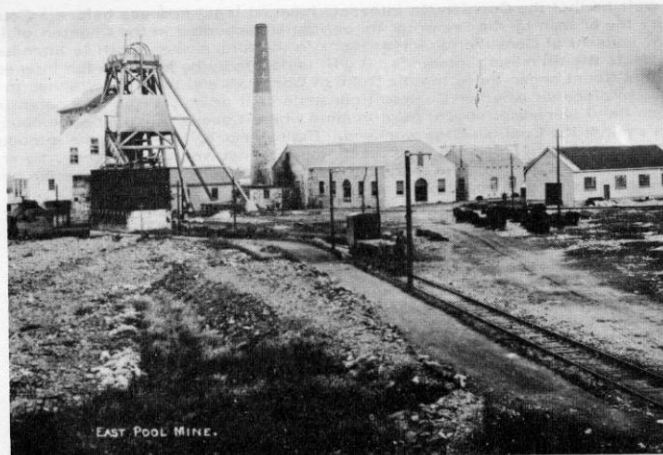
The pumping equipment for the Queen Elizabeth Dock was supplied in 1958 by Drysdale & Co., of Glasgow.

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## FALMOUTH DOCKS VISIT

Several members on the recent visit to Falmouth Docks were curious as to the origin of the ship "Pinghu" that was in the yard. Lloyd's List for 30 September reports that it is the first ship belonging to the People's Republic of China to be refitted in a British ship repair yard and that the name "Pinghu" means "Calm Lake".  
M. J. M.

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East Pool Mine, showing the threatened chimney stack.

#### STANNARY CONVOCAATION

In view of the reprinting by the Society of the Stannary Laws published by order of the last Convocation to be held in 1753, members may be interested to know of the various moves earlier this year to re-activate the Convocation. As the Lord Warden and Duke of Cornwall refused to convene a Convocation (although it is felt that this could possibly be enforced by an application to the High Court for a writ of Mandamus) an earlier procedure to summon a Convocation was invoked by the Clerk to the Court of Haldhu. Twenty four Stannators gathered at Lostwithiel on the 20th May for a preliminary meeting. Various of the Stannators expressed doubts as to the legal effectiveness of the meeting without the Convocation having been properly summoned. The Press and Television were in attendance and the meeting of the Convocation subsequently received wide local and national coverage. Various correspondence in newspapers may be of interest. Mr. Gershon Ellenbogen of 4 Kings Bench Walk, Temple E. C. 4 commented that "Ever since the revolution of 1688 Parliament has been the supreme lawmaker. The Royal prerogative itself is only the residue of discretionary or arbitrary authority which at any given time is legally left in the hands of the Crown. (Dicey), and it has continually been whittled down by statute which affected it not expressly but by implication. How then can a privilege granted by a Royal Charter of 1508 be effectively invoked against the current counter-inflation legislation?" M. O. Hood Phillips of Birmingham University Faculty of Law went further in saying that "Even if the recent meeting of the Tinnars Parliament at Lostwithiel was duly summoned and presided over by the Lord Warden of Stannaries or his Vice Warden it appears that the Charter of Henry VII (1508) as quoted by Professor Pennington was intended to refer to statutes, acts, ordinances, etc., made by the King in Council and was not intended to apply to Acts of Parliament." These comments were extensively refuted by Professor Robert Pennington who has recently lectured to our Society on the subject and who has published a History of Stannary Law. While agreeing that the particular Convocation was not in fact properly constituted and summoned he was quite clear as to the remaining existence of a body of legislative and judicial substance for the Stannary Law system and in a letter of reply printed in The Times stated that "Like Professor Hood Phillips, I was first inclined to think that the reference to "statutes" in the Charter of 1508 was to enactments of the King in Privy Council or the Duke of Cornwall in the Duchy Council, and that the consent of the Convocation of Twenty-four Stannators provided for by the Charter was not necessary in the case of Acts of Parliament. However, it is quite clear that the contemporary meaning of the word "statutes" in 1508 was Acts of Parliament, and the contrast between this word and the reference in the Charter to "Ordinances and Proclamations" which were enactments of the King or the Duke of Cornwall, was intentional. Holdsworth in his History of English Law Vol 4 Page 99 says "by the latter part of the fifteenth century legislative acts which possessed the Authority of Parliament were clearly distinct from legislative acts which did not possess this authority. Statutes were quite distinct from ordinances or proclamations. But though the king could not make a statute he had not lost all his legislative power. He still possessed the power to make ordinances or proclamations". Chief Justice Coke in the fourth Volume of his Institutes, Fo. 25, makes the same point, and he was of course, writing only a little over a century after the Charter of 1508 was issued. There can, therefore, be no doubt that the Charter did require Convocation's assent before enactments by the Westminster Parliament were passed affecting tin mining in Cornwall, and this is still the position today. It is true as Mr. Ellenbogen points out, that the Courts of this country do not hold Acts of Parliament ineffective once they have been passed. This is less because the Court recognises that Parliament may enact anything it wishes, than because the Court holds that it is incompetent to question the regularity or propriety of an Act once it is on the Statute Roll. With regard to legislation which has already been enacted

it, therefore, may well be that the Cornish tin interests have no legal redress before a Court of this country, despite the breach by the Crown of its obligation embodied in the Charter of 1508 to obtain the necessary consent of Convocation. However, in the future when a bill is introduced in Parliament which affects the tin mining interests, it will undoubtedly be possible for interested Cornishmen to obtain a Court order directing the Duke of Cornwall and the Lord Warden to hold a Convocation in order to discover whether Cornwall consents to it or not. This is a potential embarrassment which the Government should bear in mind when it seeks to enforce the counter-inflation legislation against the Cornish Clay workers. Furthermore, if a bill were introduced in Parliament to cancel the Charter of 1508, the tin mining interest would, of course, be entitled to invoke the procedure of the Charter, and there can be no doubt but that a Convocation held under it would refuse to consent to its own abolition."

Paul Stephens.

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#### CORNISH INDUSTRY 100 YEARS AGO

This Article will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.

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Members may be interested to know that the Society's publications are now stocked by the following additional bookshops:-

Carnglaze Slate Caverns, St. Neot.  
Barretts, Chapel Street, Camborne.  
John Olliver, Fore Street, Redruth.  
Book Centre, St. Ives.  
Duchy Parklands, St. Agnes.  
Royal Institution of Cornwall, County Museum, River Street, Truro.

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Society Car Stickers are now available from the Secretary at 23 Merrick Avenue, Truro, at 10p each + 5p postage and it is hoped that all members will wish to take this opportunity to publicise the work of the Society.

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#### IMPORTANT

The January 3rd Meeting of the Society to be held in our series of winter lectures will now be held at 3.30 p.m. at Holmans Museum, Camborne, and (not at Treswithian School, where all the others of the series will be), and will comprise a discussion forum and contributions from such members as wish to raise specific topics or display slides.

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#### UNDERGROUND FIELD CENTRE AND MUSEUM

DERELICT underground workings at Rosevale Mine, Trewey Farm, Zennor, are to be used as a field centre and museum by West Cornwall mining and mineral club.

Penwith District Council's Development Services Committee gave the scheme their conditional approval at Monday's meeting.

Chief Planning Officer, Mr. Peter Smith, told the meeting that Zennor Parish Council was sympathetic to the application, but recommended refusal on the grounds that the project was very near the St. Ives-Land's End main road. As far as they could see, there were not parking facilities on or near the site.

Mr. Smith recommended approval for two years in the first instance, with a condition that no buildings or signs be constructed on the site above ground level.

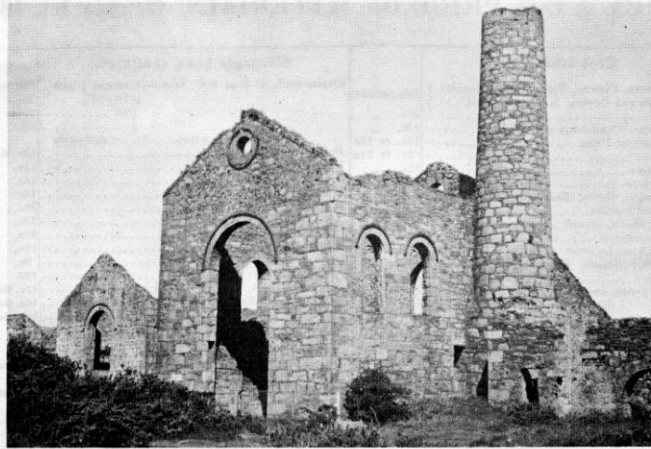
He said that the derelict adit workings would be used as a field centre for exploratory purposes only. It would not entail any new building, and would involve no more than 12 visitors, under the guidance of officers of the club, at any one time.

In the first instance a temporary permission would be suitable to enable control to be retained should unforeseen circumstances occur.

From The Cornishman of 26th September, 1974.

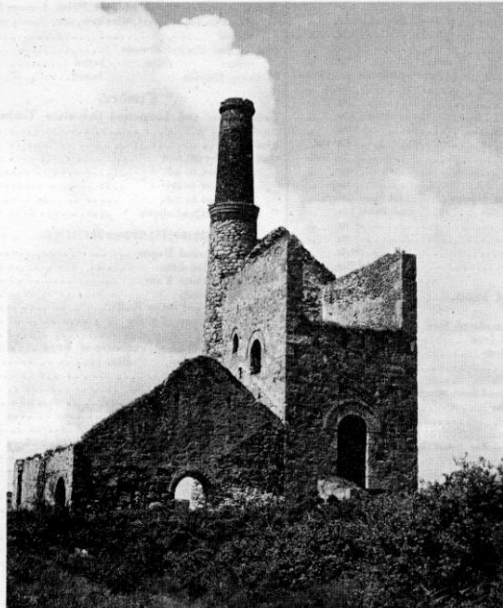
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Basset Mines - South Frances Section.

This unusual engine house contained Marriotts compound engine; with 40" and 80" cylinders. The Bob to the pump rod, was housed below floor level, and it was erected in 1897, and worked for only 21 years, when, lacking a buyer, it was broken up. The Basset Mines finally closed down in 1918.



This is the engine house of the one time beam winder at West Frances mine, and stands adjacent to the pumping house where Pascoes 80" was installed.

These photographs are reproduced by kind permission of our member Mr. G. C. White of Burnham, Bucks.

# HAYLE FOUNDRY.

HARVEY & Co's PRICE OF MATERIALS, October 1st, 1840.

Cast Iron.		Wrought Iron, continued.	
Cylinders, Covers, Pistons, Piston Caps, Nozzles, } Air Pumps and Covers, bored and turned . . . . .	26s. per cwt.	Chains made of Best S.C. Iron—11, 16 and 3/4 inch 9, 16 and 3/4 7, 16 ditto of B.B. Scrap . . . . . 3s. per cwt extra	23s. per cwt. 25s. " 26s. " 27s. "
Cylinder Cases . . . . .	21s. "	Boiler Plates, Shropshire . . . . .	13s. 6d.
Cylinder Bottoms, Condensers and Bottoms . . . . .	18s. "	Kibble Plates, faggotted . . . . .	15s. "
Steam and Education Pipes . . . . .	10s. to 13s.	rolled . . . . .	14s. "
Feed Pipes . . . . .	11s. "	Hoop Iron . . . . .	14s. "
Beams, cast open . . . . .	15s. "	Sheet Iron, single . . . . .	16s. "
ditto, cast close . . . . .	15s. "	double . . . . .	16s. "
Gudgeons, Troughs, Shafts, Bearing and Top Blocks } Sockets and Saddles . . . . .	8s. 6d.	treble . . . . .	20s. "
Gudgeons and Shafts, turned . . . . .	13s. "	Nail Rods . . . . .	11s. "
Fly Wheels, complete . . . . .	9s. "	Iron—Common . . . . .	9s. "
Segments and Arms for ditto . . . . .	12s. "	Tough . . . . .	12s. "
Centre Pieces for Wheels, Capstans, &c. . . . .	12s. "	Crown, S. C.—9, 16 and 3/4 inch . . . . .	15s. 6d.
ditto . . . . .	10s. "	ditto—7, 16 . . . . .	16s. 6d.
Spur Wheels, 1 cut, and above . . . . .	12s. "	ditto—3 . . . . .	17s. 6d.
Bevil ditto . . . . .	14s. "	Knights extra refined and B. B. scrap 2s. 6d. extra	
Cranks . . . . .	10s. to 22s.	<b>Stails.</b>	
ditto . . . . .	16s. "	Gad or H-2 . . . . .	34s. per cwt.
Hot Water Cisterns . . . . .	12s. "	Best Hoop-L. Blister . . . . .	40s. "
Man-hole Branches and Doors . . . . .	17s. "	Best Double Converted . . . . .	50s. to 55s.
ditto . . . . .	17s. "		
Fire Door Frames, Sleepers, and Fire Bars, cast open	6s. "	<b>Brass.</b>	
ditto . . . . .	8s. "	Best Composition Metal Plunger Poles, Linings for } Air Pumps, Covers, Buckets, &c. bored and } turned . . . . .	1s. 7d. per lb
Dampers and Frames . . . . .	7s. "	Bearing and Bucket Brasses . . . . .	1s. "
ditto . . . . .	9s. "	ditto . . . . .	1s. 3d. "
Plain Pumps, 4 inches bore and above, and Windbores	8s. "	Working Barrels . . . . .	1s. 6d. "
Short ditto . . . . .	1s. per cwt. extra		
Working Barrels . . . . .	10s. "	<b>Timber.</b>	
Plunger, Knee and H-Pieces . . . . .	16s. "	Balk—Dram and Longsound Debuture Timber . . . . .	per foot
Doors and Bottoms for ditto . . . . .	6s. "	Birch . . . . .	
ditto . . . . .	8s. "	Elm . . . . .	
Clack-seat Pieces and Doors . . . . .	12s. "	Oak—Under 30 feet . . . . .	3s. "
Plunger Poles for Shaft work, 6 inches diameter } and above . . . . .	26s. "	30 feet to 50 . . . . .	3s. 3d. "
ditto under 6 inches . . . . .	30s. "	50 feet to 60 . . . . .	3s. 6d. "
Stuffing Boxes and Glands . . . . .	20s. "	60 feet to 80 . . . . .	4s. "
Valves, Seats and Clacks . . . . .	10s. "	80 feet and above . . . . .	4s. 3d. "
ditto . . . . .	16s. "	<b>Miscellaneous Articles.</b>	
Whim Shieves, 4 feet diameter, light pattern . . . . .	10s. each	Cordage—Round Ropes . . . . .	44s. per cwt.
3 6 inches . . . . .	14s. "	Flat ditto . . . . .	46s. "
3 0 . . . . .	8s. "	White Yarn . . . . .	5d. per lb.
2 0 . . . . .	7s. "	Hemp . . . . .	5d. "
1 0 . . . . .	7s. "	Lead—Sheet, per entire Roll . . . . .	23s. per cwt
Capstan and Whim Shieves, all sizes, heavy patterns	9s. per cwt	part of ditto . . . . .	25s. "
Flat Rope Shieves . . . . .	9s. "	Pig . . . . .	20s. "
Traa Wheels . . . . .	12s. "	White Ground, exclusive of Kegs . . . . .	21s. 6d.
ditto . . . . .	12s. "	Red ditto ditto . . . . .	
Tram Saddles . . . . .	6s. 6d.	Tallow . . . . .	per gal
Stamp Heads and Grounds . . . . .	7s. 6d.	Oil—Rape . . . . .	per gal
ditto, with long shanks . . . . .	9s. "	Linseed . . . . .	per bar
Cans for Stamp Axes . . . . .	6s. "	Tar . . . . .	per cwt
Backing Plates . . . . .	8s. "	Pitch . . . . .	per bdie
Dressing Plates and backs for Grates . . . . .	8s. "	Laths—Heart } American . . . . .	1s. 10d. "
ditto . . . . .	12s. "	Sap. } American . . . . .	1s. 9d. "
Crushing Rolls, cast in sand . . . . .	8s. "	Slate—Scantle . . . . .	1s. 6d. "
ditto, cast in chills . . . . .	9s. "	Common . . . . .	1s. per m.
Mandrills . . . . .	16s. "	Lime for 1 Ton or upwards . . . . .	16s. 6d. ton
ditto . . . . .	22s. "	Less than 1 Ton . . . . .	9d. per cwt
		Bricks—Bridgewater . . . . .	5s. per 100
<b>Wrought Iron.</b>		Flintshire . . . . .	8s. 6d. "
Plain Cylindrical Boilers, made of Best Common } Plates, and Best Rivet Iron . . . . .	10s. per cwt.	Stourbridge . . . . .	15s. 6d. "
Whim Kibbles, hammered Iron . . . . .	10s. "	Grindstones . . . . .	6s. per cwt
ditto . . . . .	10s. "	Engine Shag . . . . .	per yd.
ditto . . . . .	8s. each		
Wine Kibbles . . . . .	14s. per cwt.		
Tapered Rod Plates, hammered from scraps, 6 inches } wide and under, in Slabs . . . . .	14s. per cwt.		
ditto 7 inches wide . . . . .	13s. "		
ditto 8 inches wide . . . . .	17s. "		
ditto 6 inches wide and under fitted in lengths, } and holes bored, complete . . . . .	18s. "		
ditto, square holes cut out . . . . .	19s. "		
ditto 7 inches wide, holes bored complete . . . . .	19s. "		
ditto ditto square holes ditto . . . . .	20s. "		
ditto 8 inches wide, holes bored ditto . . . . .	22s. "		
ditto ditto square holes ditto . . . . .	32s. "		
Miners' Shovels . . . . .	52s. "		
Steel Point ditto . . . . .	5d. per lb.		
Flat Thread Tops . . . . .	16s. per cwt.		
Valve Iron . . . . .	12s. "		
Faggotted Iron, single . . . . .	14s. "		
ditto double . . . . .	9d. to 1s. 2d.		
Piston and Air Pump Rods, complete . . . . .	per lb.		

HAYLE FOUNDRY - Harvey & Co's price of materials, October 1st, 1840

This interesting price list has been contributed by our Cornish Member Mr F. B. Michell.

CARN BREA MINING SOCIETY sends the following particulars:-

" The Society was formed in 1974 to encourage the study of all aspects of mining, geology and mineralogy in the South West of England. The Society was purposely based amid the traditional tin and copper mining area of Redruth-Camborne to be as convenient as possible to the many people who have a special interest in the mines of Mid and West Cornwall.

To achieve the aims of the Society, regular lectures are arranged where members can listen to talks, and see films and slides illustrating the varied aspects of mining past and present. Field meetings are arranged at the many places of mining activity where members can study 'on site' their particular interest.

Practical involvement is encouraged with the facility for interested people to join small sub-groups within the main stream specializing in old Mines Exploration, research into old Mine Records and plans, and preservation and conservation of Cornwall's mining heritage.

Deep mining in the South West has been carried out since Ancient times and has been predominantly for tin, copper, arsenic, lead, zinc and iron. However, surface workings for china clay, road-stones, barytes and other products are considered.

All aspects of mining history are covered including geology, mineralogy, mining methods, mineral prospecting, mine surveys, drainage and treatment of ore, the writings of early mine historians, as well as economic and social histories.

The Society intends to publish research data carried out by members and other interesting articles. In time, it is hoped that the Society will form a reference library for use by members.

Membership is open to all interested people, and enquiries should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. R. Williams, 'Roselena', Peace, Carnkie, Redruth, Cornwall.

All indoor meetings are normally held at the Craft Centre, Tolgus Tin, Redruth, on the third Tuesday of each month at 7-30 p.m. Any interested person is most welcome to attend."

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#### INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

150th ANNIVERSARY OF PASSENGER RAILWAYS

22nd - 26th September 1975

In 1975 celebrations will be held in the United Kingdom to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Passenger Railways and the opening of the Stockton to Darlington Railway. The Senior Chartered Engineering Institutions, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical, together with the Signal Engineers, will be mounting an International Conference in London 22-26 September 1975.

The Conference will be under the patronage of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG, KT.

Highlights covering the 5-day period are:-

- \* Technical Papers by distinguished speakers, which will discuss the science and practice of Railway engineering now and in the future.
- \* Exhibition and cocktail party - sponsored by London Transport.
- \* James Clayton Lecture to be given at Imperial College - sponsored by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, followed by a conversation at the Science Museum, Kensington.
- \* Technical visits to Railway exhibitions at Derby and Preston.
- \* Musical Evening at the Albert Hall as guests of the British Railways Board.
- \* Conference Dinner at Grosvenor House Hotel.

Full details from:- Secretary, Railway Division, Institution of Mechanical Engineers,  
1 Birdcage Walk, London, SW1H 9JJ.

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#### COUSIN JACKS OVERSEAS

ONE of the reasons the Cornish were so successful in adapting to fairly harsh conditions overseas was the fact that frontier life in America, for instance, was little different from making do on short commons and hard living in their home county.

So, at least, suggests, John Rowe in THE HARD ROCK MEN (Liverpool University Press, £5.50), a title that refers to the enduring qualities of the miners, as well as to the particular type of ground in which they worked.

In search of something better, many Cornishmen crossed the Atlantic in the late 18th and 19th centuries. The miners were accompanied or followed by farmers and even small tradesmen hoping for a better life.

11

The book is their story, a work of scholarship and study, but full of life and interests, as it traces the motives, habits, customs, and reputations of the Cousin Jacks (or maybe cussin' Jacks) who helped to build the American nation.

From the Western Morning News of 11th October, 1974.

Boswell & Johnson Travel (York) Ltd., tell us that they are organising two Industrial Archaeology Week-ends in York. The first will be over by the time this is issued, the second is on 21-23 March 1975. The programme covers canals, railways, bridges, museums, etc., near York and will be conducted by Stanley Tyson B.Eng. C.Eng., of the University of Hull. Address for full details:- Sir Thomas Herberts' House, 11 Lady Pecketts' Yard, York. YO 2NF. (Tel: 0904-52232).

A New Journal: Veteran Machinery - published for the Broadwater Collection Trust and Museum, Obtainable only on postal subscription £2.40 per annum - 6 issues. First issue November 1974. Address:- Grade Magazines, Sheldon Way, Larkfield, Maidstone, Kent. ME20 6SE.

A limited edition (400 copies) of the first translation into English of "Traite de l'Exploitation des Mines" by Antoine-Grimould Monnet (1734-1817), published in Paris in 1773 is being published, by the author, R. T. Clough of Stoneleigh, Utley, Keighley, W. Yorks, at £5 a copy. Contains several plates of early pump mechanisms as well as many other mining activities.

Not Cornish either, but members may like to know that Frank Barker's son, John, who is senior Assistant Archivist to Essex County Council, has just had published by the Council "Essex and the Industrial Revolution".



"Near nuff won't do, got to be zact."  
"Tee zact."  
"Well, tha's near nuff."



"Damn 'ee, I've taught 'ee all I know, and neow theece dunnaw nuthin'."

Reproduced with permission from "Cornish Pasty" by Oswald Pryor.  
Published by Rigby Limited, Adelaide, Australia.

Our member A. C. V. Hawke of 28 Manor Park Close, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 0LF who operates the "Chough Plan Service" writes as follows:-

"I would like to draw Members' attentions towards a special offer that I am making in respect of Trevithick Society members. As you may be aware, the Chough Plan Service exists to provide (mainly) railway modellers and enthusiasts with accurate, large scale track layout plans (or plans of any feature for that matter). This is done in two ways. Firstly, I have already published a small range of track plans (which are mostly of Cornish prototypes, as you will see from the copy of the booklet which I have enclosed), which will, I hope, expand over the years, and secondly, a well-established ordering system is now in operation in conjunction with the National Library of Scotland, whereby copies of similar plans may be obtained at low cost, as xerox copies. Provided that features are well defined, plans of almost anything can be obtained, and while my especial interest is in railways, and particularly Cornish railways, this would obviously cover such features as mine surface features, and other industrial remains.

As a special consideration for Trevithick Society members, I am prepared to offer them a reduction of 20% on Chough Plans covering Cornish prototypes, the booklet, and any Xerox plans supplied through the Plan Service, provided that they cover Cornish subjects. This reduction covers the price of each item, calculated on the total to the nearest penny, but does not include postage and packing charges.

The survey and revision dates of Cornish 1:2500 plans that I can supply are between 1859 and 1888, and 1905-07, with certain areas only, revised sometime later, before 1923. My supplies obviously depend upon the Library's collection, which, although good, is not complete in respect of Cornwall. In the near future (starting some time in the new year, I shall also be able to supply Xerox copies of 1:500 plans at the same rates to Members of the following towns in Cornwall, at the following dates:

St. Ives	1876
St. Austell	1878-79
Redruth	1877
Bodmin	1880
Camborne	1876-77
Falmouth	1877-78
Penzance	1875-76
Liskeard	1881
Truro	1877-78

These plans show an enormous amount of detail, and on all buildings accessible to the public, even ground floor plans were drawn. The plans cover only the main part of each town."

#### Annual Subscriptions.

My first duty as your new Treasurer is the perhaps not so pleasant one of demanding your money as all subscriptions are due on 1st January next.

For simplicity a renewal form is attached and this should be sent with your cheque or postal order to the Membership Secretary, Ramon Thomas, c/o Holman's Museum, Camborne, Cornwall. Members who pay by Bankers Order should IGNORE this form and this notice, since their Bank will take care of the renewal. This method of payment saves everybody a great deal of effort and a Bankers Order will be gladly sent on request.

Can I also mention the benefit the Society receives from Deeds of Covenant. Being an incorporated body with charitable status the Society can claim from the Inland Revenue about 40p for every £1 received under such a Deed. This is of considerable help to our funds and we shall be pleased to supply the appropriate form.

Finally, can I ask you to help your officers by paying promptly; why not pop the renewal form and your subscription in the post now?

Michael Messenger.

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#### THE TREVITHICK SOCIETY: Membership Renewal 1975

To The Hon. Membership Secretary:  
Ramon Thomas, c/o Holman's Museum, Camborne, Cornwall.

Please renew my subscription as under to the Trevithick Society for the year ending 31 December 1975:

*FULL MEMBER	£1.00
*FAMILY MEMBER	£1.50
*JUNIOR MEMBER	£0.25
*CORPORATE MEMBER	£5.25

(\*Delete as required)

All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "THE TREVITHICK SOCIETY" and crossed.

Mr./Mrs/Miss ..... Please send: (tick)  
Address ..... RECEIPT .....  
..... BANKERS ORDER .....  
..... DEEDS OF COVENANT .....  
.....

13

#### POSTSCRIPT

Following the announcement at the AGM by Mr. A. K. Hamilton-Jenkin of his retirement from the Council of the Society, a resolution was passed at the next meeting of the Council on 11th October, 1974. It was resolved that Mr. Hamilton-Jenkin should be made an honorary Life Member and that he should be presented with a Trevithick Medal.

At the meeting held at Treswithian School on November 1st to hear Mr. T. R. Harris' talk on "Cornish Foundries", I had pleasure in making the presentation to Mr. Hamilton-Jenkin. In doing so I referred to his great services to the Society's objects and to the study of all things Cornish. His many books are spread over a very long period and I quoted from his preface to the first edition of "The Cornish Miner", published in 1927. After speaking of his friendships with miners and mine captains he said "It was not until later years that I started to turn my early enthusiasm to account, but the candle once lighted was never put out, and from being an admirer only I became a student of the subject, past and present. If, as time has gone on, I have been able to take any share in helping to revive public interest in the fine old industry which in later years has passed through so severe a depression, or to put on record the endurance and heroism of the miners who have lived in, worked, or emigrated from the areas, I feel it but a scant return for what they and the industry has given to me in the way of heartfelt sympathies and a student's joy". The latest of his books, on Devon mines, is just about to be published, nearly fifty years after this was written.

In response Mr. Hamilton-Jenkin gave a fascinating series of reminiscences. He recalled how he remembered at the age of two, he had been taken out of his pram and put to sit on a wall from which he could watch the stream girls raking slime in the pits below. His interest in mining dated from that day and at four or five he started walking to the Carn Brea Mines. He first went underground when he was 15 at Williams Shaft, Dolcoath, and since then he had been in more than 50 mines in Cornwall besides many others in the rest of the country, and right up to the northernmost coal mines in Scotland.

His family had been actively concerned with mining in Cornwall for over 200 years and his ancestor William Jenkin went to live at Trewirgie, which is still his home, in 1770. This Jenkin knew Richard Trevithick.

Mr. Hamilton Jenkin also expressed regret that the Trevithick Medal had not been struck in time for two who above all others should have received it from the Society - Treve Holman and Tregonning Hooper.

After the presentation those present much enjoyed Mr. Harris' talk and the subsequent discussion.

Reminder . Don't forget Justin Brooke's talk on December 6th on "The Lighter Side of Mining in Cornwall" also at Treswithian at 7.30 pm.

J. Hodge.