



THE TREVITHICK SOCIETY

KOWETHAS TREVITHICK
NEWSLETTER 167 SPRING 2015



The Puffing Devil generating much goodwill, publicity and steam!

Reg. Charity
No. 1,159,639

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Few of these little messages have gone out over the years without a plea for volunteers to help govern and develop this Society. It would be difficult to record the results without using the words 'stony ground'.

Our trustees, who once used to be numbered in their high teens, are now down to just eight and, while they make noble efforts to attend meetings, two of them live a great distance away. One requires no more than the fingers of one hand to record those at a well-attended council meeting.

Over the years the grim reaper and the loss of Cornwall's indigenous industries have deprived this Society of a supply of trustees who brought technical skills and enthusiasm to its governance.

While we mourn their passing we have to appreciate that their replacements have not grown up looking forward to a world of nuts and bolts but a 'smart' one of predictive text in cloud storage. It would be unfair to treat these guys as gifted amateurs as they will bring their own skills and interests which will be the future bedrock of the Society.

This Society has a duty to perform to the declining niche that has worked hard at its varied interests during the past 80 years. It also needs to attend to the needs of those who wish to study and enjoy Cornwall's industrial heritage in their own ways. The satisfactory existence of the Society over the coming 80 years will depend upon its ability and willingness to reach out to both the local and the greater communities it has long been established to serve.

It started with an event on the 19th March, see page 8.

Philip M Hosken

EDITORIAL

The photograph on the front cover was downloaded from the home page of the Trevithick Day website, where it helps to advertise the forthcoming Trevithick Day on April 25th. Very soon the engine will be readied for this year's appearance and the Camborne Hill run. As you can imagine, it will be thoroughly checked over, then cleaned and painted, and generally spruced up.

In the last newsletter Phil Hosken made an error in the Chairman's Address which he wishes to correct: "when listing some of the other items that share an 80th anniversary this year. I can only suppose it was Anno Domini rearing its head as I included Hawker Hunter when I was thinking about Hawker Hurricane. Maybe it was because I was remembering the one I saw at Farnborough in 1952, the day John Derry's DH 110 broke up".

It is sad to report the death of Kenneth Kessell, aged 84, who helped with the restoration of the Levant whim and was very involved in the restoration of a working water wheel.

Colin French

Copy date for next newsletter: June 15th 2015



Established 1935

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

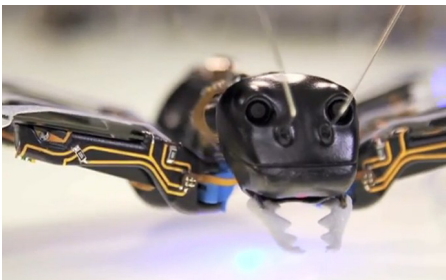
In his note about the 80th Anniversary of the Cornish Engines Preservation Committee Phil Hosken says that in 1970 the CEPS changed its name to the Trevithick Society. It was a bit more complicated than that. The CEPS and the Cornish Waterwheels Preservation Society merged to form the new Society. The CWPS had been formed some years before to cater for the growing interest in industrial archaeology generally but with an emphasis on water power as the CEPS were very much focused on Cornish Engines. The CWPS grew rapidly and was very active but the overall interests were the same and the two societies agreed to merge as equals. I was very much involved in this.

The Trevithick Society moved forward having gained much vigour from the CWPS, the Journal was started in 1973 and a range of publications commenced in 1974, despite reservations from the CEPS 'old guard'.

Michael Messenger

ROBOTIC ANTS

Could Robotic Ants be the future of mining? 3-D printed Robotic Ants may sound like something fearful in the future but they're already here! One look at <http://interestingengineering.com/robotic-ants-could-be-the-future-workforce> and you may not sleep nights.



PUBLICATIONS

Allen Buckley's new book, *Wheal Basset: Five centuries of Mining at Carnkie*, is now available on sale. Details are as follows – 192 pages, large format paperback, £14.99, ISBN 9780957556040. The book covers the very early days of mining in the area, the boom years of the nineteenth century and the struggle for survival of Basset Mines Limited to closure in 1918. The book is particularly timely as we shall be walking this area as part of the 2015 AGM Weekend and Allen will be signing copies of his book on Sunday 17th May at KEM.

Graham Thorne

EARLY TELEPHONE LINES

Liskeard members, Paul Day and Jackie Jenkins continue to research the history of their local explosives industry. In the Cornish Times of 7th May 1904 they have found details of an application by the Postmaster-General to place a telegraph line alongside the public road from East Taphouse to Powder Mill Gate. The line was to connect telegraphically the Powder Works at Trago Mills and Herodsfoot, at that time in common ownership.

This seems comparatively early for such activity in a rural area. Can any members with knowledge of the history of Cornwall's telephone system add anything to the story, we wonder.

Paul Day wrote the history of Herodsfoot in the 2011 Society Journal. This included the story of the 1957 explosion in South Wales of a Burrowite lorry and the remarkable survival of its crew. The driver on that occasion, Noel Hancock of Dobwalls, died peacefully, aged 80, at Derriford Hospital on 8th February. He was the last survivor of the drivers who took Burrowite Explosives from Herodsfoot all over the UK.

Graham Thorne

KING EDWARD MINE

The winter has seen the volunteers busy moving, cleaning and refurbishing. At the “shop end” of the mill the jig, Humphrey spiral and other artefacts have been re-positioned to allow a better display and Roger Kellow is currently busy altering the electrical wiring to suit the new arrangements.

The outside team, under the eagle eye of member Tony Bunt, has been cutting down vegetation in the Fortescues area and discovered various pieces of stone and concrete bases of equipment that had been forgotten many years ago. This has yet to be examined and interpreted.

The Cornish pattern boiler has been moved from the car park to its permanent resting place in boilerhouse yard behind the shop. The Climax drill sharpener has also been moved into the yard and now awaits cleaning and painting. The area beyond the yard adjacent to the old winder house has been cleared and it is intended to display some of the heavier units there but site preparation has yet to be done. Member Phil Porter has been busy painting the outside of the shop which now gives a much cleaner image to the boilerhouse yard.

We are lucky to have obtained a JCB mini-digger on loan and this has already proved an extremely useful tool, not only for digging, but as a mobile crane. One of its first jobs was to lift the cap stones from short section of the calciner flue adjacent to the mineral tramway path to enable volunteer Graham Sowell to clear it out. The machine will then replace the stones and we will have a length of refurbished flue on display to enhance the public's appreciation of what was happening at the site. Graham has taken this on as his personal project. The calciner site itself still requires more excavation to prove exactly where it stood and where the water wheel that drove it was situated. At the northern end of the site the archaeological dig still continues slowly uncovering the hidden remains of cobbled floors, the stamps

boilerhouse and its adjoining boiler feed pump house. Eventually the western edge of the boilerhouse site will be bounded by a Cornish hedge to separate it from the footpath and bridleway which runs through the area. Work has just started on uncovering the base of the chimney which vented both the stamps boilers and the calciner.

The refurbishment of the counthouse and adjacent buildings continues by the contractors but is well behind schedule due to problems of coping with old and listed buildings. Although not under our control this delay means we will have contractor's vehicles on site into our open season but we shall cope. In my book the glass is always half full!

Plans are now well under way for the second phase of the project, which is dealing with the buildings that are under our control. Well advanced are the thoughts on the winder boilerhouse. Once the public have paid their entry this will be the first area they will see and will show a timeline of the Great Flat Lode from ancient hut circles on Carn Brea to more modern times and will include an audio visual presentation introducing them to the general and industrial history.

Part of the HLF funding we have received covers the employment of a Site Officer. He has now been appointed and starts his duties on April 1st. I hope the date is not significant! An experienced museum man, his duties will include the reporting requirements to the HLF, general administration of the business side of the site and publicity. He will report to the KEM board who will continue to be in overall charge of the site, business, general policy and volunteer staff. Oh! I nearly forgot. His name is Alan Renton if you meet him on site. He is house trained and does not bite so have a chat with him!

The site has an exciting future and we need more volunteers. If you feel you can contribute something to Cornwall's little gem then please contact the Chatline 01209 716811. You may just want to play with “the trainset” or perhaps help with official duties such as guiding or reception

duties. Training and advice will be given in whatever guise you wish to volunteer. Does discount on shop purchases, free tea and biscuits, free working clothes and working in a delightful environment make a difference? Go on, come and sample the atmosphere!

K.J.T.R.

SECURING CORNWALL'S INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

A move to secure Cornwall's industrial heritage by bringing together major players in the scene has been initiated at Wheal Martyn. A recent, well organised conference at the museum included addresses by:

John Stengelhofen, architect and former newsletter editor of this Society, Stephen Gilbert, current M.P. for the area Deborah Boden, Co-ordinator of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Ivor Bowditch, former PR Manager for English China Clays and Imerys.

Emmie Kell, a consultant on behalf of the Cornwall Museums Partnership

Kelly Spry-Phare, Development Officer for the SW Heritage Lottery Fund

Yours truly, on behalf of the Trevithick Society.

Each speaker expressed the interests of the organisations he or she represented and offered them as co-ordinating factors in the consolidation of a team to preserve and secure Cornwall's industrial heritage.

Following lunch, there was a series of Workshop Sessions around the museum before a continuation of the conference with addresses by, Dr Caitlin De Silvery, a Senior Lecturer in Environmental Social Science Manda Brookman, CoaST One Planet Tourism Network

The conference was closed by Evelyn Stacey, Chief Executive SW Lakes Trust & Wheal Martyn Trust.

As well as initiating a group to ensure a future for Cornwall's industrial heritage the conference provided plenty of opportunities for networking and future planning. It is intended that a subsequent conference should be held and that the remit of the organisation should be widened to fully achieve its objectives.

Contacts for further information on the conference, its future and its organisation are Colin Vallance CVallance@swlakestrust.org.uk and Gemma Martin WMLearning@swlakestrust.org.uk.

P.M.H.



BOOK REVIEWS

Sail and Steam in the Plymouth district. by Alan Kittridge. Twelveheads Press. Large format paperback in the company's familiar layout. Price £16.50. ISBN 9780906294819.

Members with an interest in the maritime history of Cornwall and Devon will be familiar with the work of Alan Kittridge whose books have covered many aspects of local ports and shipping. His new book "Sail and Steam in the Plymouth district" is a splendid addition to his list of titles.

The new volume covers an area from the Kingsbridge Estuary to Mevagissey in 145 photographs, most of which were new to this reviewer; but this is not just another pictorial album, the captions are comprehensive and bear witness to the level of research involved. The scope is remarkable ranging from the Aveton Gifford Sunday School outing to Atlantic liners in Plymouth Sound. As well as the port of Plymouth we visit tiny quays and creeks. Pleasure steamers, fishing boats, warships and ferries all jostle for attention in its pages.

Sail and Steam in the Plymouth district can confidently be recommended to previous and new readers of Alan's work.

Graham Thorne

Mining in Cornwall & Devon – Mines and Men by Roger Burt with R Burnley, M Gill and A Neill 251 pages softback with CDRom Price £25.00. University of Exeter Press, 2014 ISBN 978 0 85989 889 8

This book, sub titled 'An economic history of the mines, mineral ownership and mine management in the South West of England' is complemented by an extensive database on an interactive CDRom. This offers searches by mine name, ownership & management, company, location, mineral production and source of data. Close to 1470 mines are listed – many under several names at different periods -

with mineral output, dates of operation and location.

The CDRom requires a browser program to operate within but will display most of the information without the need for an internet connection, the exception being to display maps, mining locations and, oddly, Mine ownership. With an internet link, many of the entries also include a satellite image of the location of the mine and a link to the area on Google maps to enable an interactive map with zoom and local images to be displayed.

Compiled by Roger Burt and three co-authors, the book draws on and greatly expands data previously published in his now out of print volumes 'Cornish Mines' and 'Devon and Somerset Mines' published some 20 years ago. The current publication, dispenses with the data on Somerset with the exception of coal returns recorded by the Duchy of Cornwall. Other data sources are Mineral Statistic Returns, Stannary Returns, Ticketing Returns and Mining Companies. Within chapters of the book the author explains the origins of these sources. Ticketing Returns, for example, refer to an auction system initially used only for copper ore sales but later also for tin, while Stannary Returns were a taxation and quality control system for tin, but also recorded other mineral output from each mine.

Data sets cover the 19th to 20th centuries. The Duchy Returns provide rents and royalties due rather than metal production and only for those mines on Duchy land. Mineral Statistic record tonnages of tin concentrates (black tin) or ores produced and, occasionally, metal output or metal content by assaying. Manpower numbers are also accessible from these returns. Stannary Returns provide tonnages, value and key personnel information while Ticketing provides tonnages and value, often for different periods of the mine's life than the Mineral Statistics. Mining Companies data provide company name and key personnel for the period 1850 - 1920.

The book devotes a section describing the data from each of these

sources and includes 49 Tables in sets, each set located at the end of the appropriate section.

The work is far more than simply a collection of statistics, describing, for example, the evolution of mining in the region briefly covering the Medieval period and in more detail the 19-20 centuries. In this period, first copper was exploited in relatively shallow shafts but by the 1860s the value of this fell abruptly due to competition from richer ores imports from Chile, N America and Spain. Thus many mines turned to the deeper deposits of tin and later to arsenic. Copper, tin and arsenic were not the only minerals mined. Indeed, over the period of Mineral Statistics returns, iron ore topped the list at 310 million long tons (Mton). A summary of returns of major minerals is provided in the Table below.

Mined ores of Cornwall & Devon from mid 19th century (long tons x1000)

Mineral	Years	k tons	Form
Iron	1855-1904	310140.0	ore
Copper	1845-1904	6049.500	ore
Lead	1845-1913	4408.230	ore
Barytes	1857-1913	1216.600	ore
Zinc	1856-1913	1157.480	ore
Tin (black)	1852-1913	702.205	conc
Arsenic	1854-1913	202.689	ore
Arsenical Pyrites	1854-1913	196.717	ore
Manganese	1867-1890	111.505	ore
Tungsten	1870-1913	4.950	ore
Flourspar	1874-1879	3.203	ore

In the years 1850 to 1909 Cornwall provided close to half of all UK's non-ferrous mineral ores the figure ranging from 54.6% (1900-09) to 41.9% (1870-79).

In value terms, in the period 1850-59, decennial average returns for Cornish copper ore reached over one million pounds (£1020800) representing

a 55.5% share of all mineral sales in that decade from Cornwall, but values were overtaken by tin in the following decade when sales amounted to £761300 representing a 50.7% share of all mineral value, a proportion that continued to grow in following decades to reach 95.1% in 1900-09 by which time the share in value from copper had dwindled to just 2.2%.

The author does not ignore production in the 20th century. A table of combined output of tin concentrate from Cornwall and Devon for 1920 to 2006 shows a sharp decline post WWII from 3.1k tons in 1920 to 900 tons in 1946 recovering slowly to 1.7ktons by 1969. Data from 1970 onwards is reported in metric tonnes (~10% less than a long ton) which starts to show a revival from 1972 when 3.3ktonne were produced. With the setting of artificially high prices for tin under the Fifth Tin Agreement, output peaked at 5.2 ktonne in 1984 & 85 and then declined following the failure of the agreement in 1986, although output continued close to the 2ktonne level until 1998 when it dropped rapidly to just 500 tonne. Subsequent years are unrecorded as they fell below 100 tonne. In these failing years, output was confined to Geevor, South Crofty and Wheal Jane – the latter being a new mine opened in the 1970s, closed in 1980 but revamped and amalgamated with South Crofty in 1982. Closure was inevitable at the now low price for tin and Geevor stopped pumping in 1991, Wheal Jane ceased mining in 1992 but the concentrator remained in action processing ore from South Crofty until that too closed in 1998. An attempt to reopen South Crofty finally failed in 2012. Despite this, the author sees a potential revival of mining in the South-West, arguing that the rapidly growing demand for minerals from China, India and other Asian countries will once again make mineral extraction feasible. He stresses, the minerals are not exhausted and a change in economics will return the region to activity. Indeed, he makes a passing reference to the revival of Hemerdon wolfram mine (for tungsten) in SW Devon first opened in WWI, then closed but

reopened in 1938, again closed post WWII but is now being redeveloped by Wolf Minerals. It has a measured and inferred deposit of 401 million tonnes of ore of average grade 0.13% WO₃ and 0.02% of tin oxide making it the fourth largest deposit in the world.

In his preface, the author concedes that the data is still only a partial listing of what is available. Never-the-less the combination of the book and CDROM go a long way to plotting the history of mining in the two western-most counties of the UK.

There are a few small quibbles. Using the CDROM is straight forward but occasionally links are unresponsive – possibly when no data had been found for that link.

Some of the tabulated data would benefit from being plotted as graphs which would help to show the volatile nature of the industry's output. While the book is illustrated with 15 black and white excellently composed photographs, the quality of reproduction hardly does them justice. Fortunately the author supplies the URL to the source of these (and many more) photographs, www.cornishmineimages.co.uk which is well worth a visit allowing some of those reproduced in the book to be replaced with graphs, and above all, a sketch map illustrating the nine mineralised zones of Cornwall and the one of the Tamar valley covering W Devon and E Cornwall. The otherwise extensive bibliography does not include reference to the Cornish World Heritage Mining web site where this map and detailed maps of each region can be found www.cornish-mining.org.uk/.

Finally, over their lives, many mines operated under various names. Geevor, for example, was opened as East Levant Mine, then named North Levant Mine from 1841 to 1891 adopting the name Geevor in 1905. A note on these alternative names when displaying the datasheet would be helpful.

The book contains 219 notes and references, an index of around 300 named mines, a bibliography of mine-related books and articles, bibliographical notes

on 41 mine managers, and appendices listing the financial situation of 105 Cornish copper mines and costs of production. For the selling price of £25-00 it is exceptionally good value.

Tim Smith

Member of Council Historical Metallurgy Society and member of the Dartmoor Tin Research Group.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT: A FREE PASTY NIGHT!

The celebration of this Society's 80th anniversary this year enables it to undertake a number of events that attract attention to its activities and, hopefully, recruit members and volunteers willing to participate in its affairs.

One such opportunity arose on the 19th March when, in collaboration with the popular Proper Job male voice singers and MacQuarrie and Toms, talented young instrumentalists, this Society invited the people of Cornwall to share in their festivities.

It was held in the Camborne Science & International Academy where Sheila Saunders and her front of house volunteers welcomed the excited crowds. The Society had invited people who were also 80 years or over this year and they particularly enjoyed the films from the former Holman Bros film unit. Many former work colleagues renewed acquaintances and, not surprisingly, there were several calls for extended 'chatter' time at any subsequent events.

The offer of free pasties must have been a contributory factor that resulted in the maximum number of seats being reserved a couple of weeks before the event. Sadly, many disappointed people had to be turned away at the door.

In a room full with nearly 300 people Philip Hosken explained the Society's past achievements and spoke of its future plans. These included the proposed acquisition of a former Holman Bros building on a World Heritage Site in



A photo call for the over eighties.

Trevu Road, Camborne next to the railway crossing. He said that this building offered all sorts of opportunities for community activities and for youngsters to undertake some hands-on engineering.

Members of the audience were provided with illustrated questionnaires which they were asked to complete with details of the various activities that interested them. The greatest number offered to help with the above building and the Society will form a group to plan its future use. Among those who responded was a gentleman with expertise in architectural CAD and refurbishment work and the recently appointed Cornwall Museums Development Officer.

A site visit to the property, currently being used by Balfour Beatty as a dry store, was arranged for the above volunteers prior to a presentation being made to Camborne Town Council. The promotion of Camborne as the first town in the world with high pressure steam is clearly something that will benefit Cornwall, the local community and this Society.

Following the visit to the building

and presentation to the council, the Society will seek the views of the remaining volunteers. A discussion to ascertain the best way forward is expected to include community use linked to an interest in Cornwall's industrial heritage.

Philip also spoke of the importance of Cornwall's industrial heritage and openings for people of all ages to tick their questionnaires and become involved. These included family history research into Richard Trevithick's descendants so that the Society is able to answer the many queries it receives from all over the world. A genealogical expert is kindly forming a group of those interested.

Another subject was 200-year-old Cornish organic cookery. While this does not immediately look like a Society subject the milling, fishing and farming industries were all an essential part of Cornwall's industrial heritage and they are topics that clearly attracted the interests of many who attended that evening. The local Women's Institute is offering to help with a cook book that reflects Jane Trevithick's undoubted prowess in the kitchen. Her ability to raise



Proper Job entertains

six children virtually as a single mother and manage a hotel in Hayle must surely illustrate ingenuity equal to her husband's.

All this talk about the Society was interposed with enjoyable renditions

and jokes from Proper Job, music from MacQuarrie and Toms and films from the Society's Holman film library. Kenn Shearer had put together the selection of slides and films and pressed the keys to



provide on-screen images all evening.

The audience was told about the research being undertaken into Cornwall's 200 year old shipping industry, something upon which the whole of its mining and engineering industries depended. The former Cornish Waterwheels Preservation Society was represented by one of its founder members and attracted attention from volunteers.

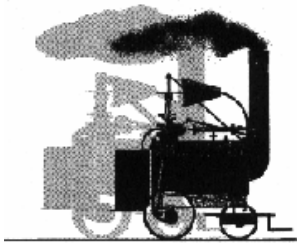
There was a call for officers to help the administration of the Society and the evening ended with the 80-year-olds being given uncirculated 2004 Richard Trevithick £2.00 coins and joining Proper Job in the singing of 'Camborne Hill' as their photograph was taken.

It was clear from the reaction of the audience during the evening and the e-mails subsequently received that a good time was enjoyed by all. This venture in bonding with the community was quite new for the Society and its success was due to the friendly professionalism of Proper Job and MacQuarrie and Toms. The Society is very grateful to them for their kindness and performances during the evening.

Local M.P. George Eustice brought the exciting evening to a close with a ringing endorsement for the Society's future.

Those who were unfortunate to not share in the evening can go to Trevithick Society 80th Year Meeting at Kernowphotos. Go to www.facebook.com/KernowPhotos, click on Photos and scan down. Commemorative mounted copies of the group photo can be obtained for £10.00 each from celebration@trevithick-society.org.uk.

P.M.H.



MacQuarrie and Toms



LEVANT REPORT

The winter maintenance schedule has now been completed. After various minor steam leaks appeared on the inlet steam pipework during last years running season it was decided to strip all the pipework down to replace the gaskets. The strip down of the old pipework was carried out by the Greasy Gang and this gave a rare chance for 'Bureau Veritas' to carry out an internal inspection of the pipe work. It was found that corrosion was setting in on some of the steam pipework coming from the boiler so it was decided to replace that pipework. Any new work has to be manufactured by a professionally coded welder and this was carried out by Penzance Dry Dock where they have a very proficient workforce. An extensive list of other maintenance items has been completed including the fitting of a service kit to the pressure reduction valve.

Work has started to reconstruct a dressing floor adjacent to the newly

finished working jig and NT volunteers from Godolphin House have kindly agreed to help lime-wash the interior of the engine house.

Repairs have been started to the enclosure and head gear at Skip Shaft. When completed the area will be used for interpretation of the mine site.

Progress has been made to opening up part of the underground levels above adit level. Clearing out of waste is progressing well and it is hoped that in the future we will be able to take visitors below ground. Last year we sold 1,371 raffle tickets, which was the best in W. Cornwall for the National Trust. As Levant gets £1 for every ticket sold, ideas for what the raffle money should be used for are open for discussion. The popular suggestion is to contribute to the underground work with a view to it being accessed for tours.

Under the floor in the engine house is the old boiler return feed pump. As we use a modern steam boiler this is no longer used but it is the intention to replace the wooden trap door with an iron grill so





that visitors can see it.

During the 1960s, Geevor Mine reopened the under-sea section of Levant Mine. The original Engine shaft was not being used for pumping so an 'Engart' upcast fan was placed there to extract radon gas from the mine. Unfortunately this fan and its ducting is really suffering from the effects of the salt atmosphere despite attempts to slow down the corrosion. There are now pieces falling off and it is beginning to be in a dangerous condition. We don't think that it is worth saving, and our custodian has to write a management plan stating reasons for demolishing it. There is a similar upcast fan adjacent to Taylor's Engine at East Pool which is in far better condition than ours, and that can be viewed.

Upcoming Events

- The annual evening event with Geevor is on Friday 15 May. Bookings to be made through Geevor and the Levant Whim will be in steam.
- We look forward to hosting a visit for our Trevithick Society members for the AGM weekend in May. Details to be published later.
- Fathers Day 21 June – Neil Burrage is going to smelt bronze.

The Levant/Geevor Discounted Ticket agreement is 20% at both sites this year. Admission to Levant is free to Trevithick Society and National Trust members. Just remember to bring your membership card with you. A substantial discount in the well stocked shop is also given to members of the Trevithick Society.

Energy Saving – How we can utilise and re-use heat from the engine cistern and cooling pond is in progress.

Last year we had around 23,000 visitors. This number could be higher this year due to the screening of the new Poldark series where filming was carried out in the locality including Levant, Wheal Edward and Wheal Owles.

The Whim was back in steam and open to the public for the half term week in February, and is now open for visitors every day except Saturdays.

Ron Flaxman



HIGH PRESSURE ON TWO WHEELS

Those who like making things and have feelings for bicycles and high pressure travel will enjoy a trip to <https://review.bellmedia.ca/view/29441061> where you will see some enterprising Cornish entrepreneurs from downalong Zennor way making progress with a steam bike. They'd like some encouragement at info@zennorphoenix.org.uk and for people to join their crowd funding enterprise.

For those who prefer something even more exciting it can be found at <http://www.thebikecollective.com/rocket-bicycle-sets-207mph-speed-record> but don't try it at home!

SHOW PROGRAMME

It is early in the season but the following dates are in the calendar so far:

- Camborne Trevithick Day, Saturday April 25th.
- King Edward Open Day, Sunday April 26th.
- Bodmin & Wenford Railway Gala, (engine only) June 13th & 14th.
- Camborne Show, Saturday July 18th.
- Bude Heritage Day (Tent only) Sunday, July 26th.
- WESES Steam Rally, Stithians, August 14th/15th/16th.

If you feel you would like to help staff any events on the programme ring the Chatline, 01209 716811 to join the Canary Crew.

1801
Harvey's make the iron castings for Richard Trevithick's 'fire-carriage' – **the world's first practical steam road vehicle** and '...father of the motor car...'

1812
Harvey's supplies part of the **first true 'Cornish beam engine**, designed by Richard Trevithick for Wheal

1803
Harvey's manufacture the castings and wrought-iron boiler for **Trevithick's 'London Steam Carriage'** – another 'first'

1814
Harvey's builds the **world's first rock boring machine** for Trevithick

The new Asda store in Hayle has, behind the tills, a wall devoted to a timeline for Hayle. In the beginning there was Trevithick!

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Society Programme

The West Cornwall Branch meets at King Edward Mine (KEM) at 7.30pm on the 2nd Friday of the month.

The East Cornwall Branch (ECB) meets at the Public Rooms at Liskeard and start at 7.30pm, unless stated otherwise.

Tuesday 14th April (ECB)

The Cornish Connection - The shipping trade between Cornwall and South Wales. A talk by Dr. Tregidga of the Cornish Studies institute, Exeter University.

Saturday 18th May (ECB)

Walk - *Exploring the Luxulyan Valley.* Led by the friends of the Luxulyan Valley. Meet at Ponto Mill Car Park. 11am. Bring packed lunch. Walk will be about 2½ to 3 hours long. The walk will be followed by the Society AGM and meal at Camborne for those wishing to travel on westwards.

Friday 12th June (KEM)

To be arranged.

Tuesday 23rd June (ECB)

Industrial Archaeology of South Georgia – The remains of the whaling industry at Grytvikn. A talk by John Manley

Saturday 18th July (ECB)

An Exploration of The Northern Quarries of Kit Hill. A walk by Steve Docksey. Meet at the northern incline car park SX375724 - bring a pack lunch. 11am.

September (ECB). Date to be confirmed. Film Night or field visit.

October (ECB). Date to be confirmed. *Visit to Hemerdon Mine.*

The West Cornwall programme is not finalised. Meetings will be held as normal.

Contacts

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For up-to-date news follow us at:
<http://teammanley-ts.blogspot.com>

Non members are welcome to all talks.

MEMBERS' BENEFITS

Trevithick Society members are entitled to free entry (on production of the membership card) to the following attractions:

- King Edward Mine
- Cornish Engines at Pool (East Pool Mine and Michell's Whim)
- Levant
- Geevor Museum

Also:

Members are invited to visit Poldark Mine free of charge on production of a valid membership card.

10% off book purchases at Tormark.

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The Trevithick Society, a registered charity, is a recognised body of the study of industrial archaeology in Cornwall. Membership is open to all who are interested in the region's great industrial past, whether or not they live in Cornwall. The Society takes its name from one of Britain's foremost inventors and pioneers of the Industrial Revolution, Richard Trevithick, a Cornishman whose name is inseparable from the development of steam power. This newsletter is published quarterly and, together with the annual journal, is distributed free to members. Letters and contributions are always welcome and should be sent direct to the editor.

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Trevithick Society.

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