Yeth an Werin dates for your diary: Come and join in! Try your spoken Cornish!

Cardiff: Every first Tuesday from 7.30-10pm at Y Mochyn Du, Sophia Close, Cardiff. Contact Duncan McIntosh at yethanwerinkardyd @gmail.com

Gunnislake: Every last Monday from 7pm at the Queen’s Arms, Albaston, Gunnislake. Contact Shaun Rennie-Plume at shaun_plume@yahoo.co.uk

Gwinear: Every first Tuesday from 8pm-10pm at The Royal Standard, Churchtown, Gwinear. Contact jori.ansell@tiscali.co.uk

Heamoor: Every third Wednesday from 8.30-10pm at The Sportsman’s Arms, Heamoor, Penzance. Contact steve.penhaligon@btinternet.com

Helston: Every fourth Tuesday from 8-10pm at the Blue Anchor, Coinagehall Street, Helston. Contact bodrugan@hotmail.co.uk

Launceston: Every second Monday from 7.30-9.30pm at The Bell, Tower Street, Launceston. Contact sarahcooke211@yahoo.co.uk

Porkellis: Every first Thursday, 7.30pm for beginners, 8pm for fluent speakers, at The Star Inn, Porkellis, Helston. Contact steve@kernewek.org.uk

Redruth: Every last Tuesday from 9-10.30pm at The Bridge Inn, Bridge, Redruth. Contact ray@spyrys.org

St Austell: Every Monday (except bank holidays) from 10am-12pm at Wetherspoons, The Rann Wartha, Biddicks Court, St Austell. Contact Kath at rockjones@tiscali.co.uk

St Ives: Every third Tuesday from 8-11pm at The Cornish Arms, Saint Ives Road, St Ives. Contact tirhatavas@hotmail.co.uk

Truro: Every second and fourth Wednesday from 8-10pm at The Wig and Pen, Frances Street, Truro. Join the Facebook group http://www.facebook.com/groups/yawtruru

Watch out for events during Speak Cornish Week which runs from 25th June to 1st July

Contact Us: Website: http://www.cornish-language.org/

You can find us on Facebook: Kowethas: The Cornish Language Fellowship, e-mail kowethas@hotmail.co.uk and follow us on Twitter: @Kowethas1

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Make cheques payable to Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek. Send to Tony Hak, Skrifennyas an Eseleth, 5 Sherwood Close, BRACKNELL, Berks., RG12 2SB.
Duw genes …..ha Dydh da!  Goodbye ....and Hello!

There was an official farewell at the Kowethas AGM to Dee Harris, who has retired from her post as Kowethas Coordinator. She has been an invaluable support to the Kowethas for the past three and a half years, answering endless queries, organising projects, working behind the scenes, keeping the organisation running smoothly, and sorting out any hiccups. Her retirement gift was presented to her by the Kowethas chairman, Loveday Jenkin.

Since the beginning of January, Emma Jenkin has taken over, and she was officially welcomed at the meeting. Here is Emma’s message to the Kowethas: “Following on from Dee is no easy job, but I am hoping in time that I will become equally knowledgeable. Until then, if I don’t know, I can find out, so don’t be afraid to ask! I live in Truro, where I was born and brought up, with my husband, Conan, and three children, Elowenn, Kelyn and Davey. I have limited Cornish language skills, having taken lessons before having children, but I am hoping that these will improve now that I am surrounded by Cornish speakers. As a member of the Cornish dance group Hevva, I have been lucky enough to have danced not only in Cornwall, but in Brittany and, unbelievably, in Martinique. I can be contacted by phone (07821 782493) or by email kowethasanyeth@gmail.com

‘Tus Val’ in Gulval ……. by Steve Penhaligon

‘Tus Val Karrek Kernow’, ‘Hard Rock Cornish Miners’ is a play written entirely in Cornish by John Parker, who founded our Cornish class in Heamoor about 20 years ago and who still turns out every week to help our more advanced students with their studies. This year, one of the teachers in our group, Roz Peskett, had the idea of basing our play on the song which was sung at every appearance of the Man-Engine on its travels around Cornwall in 2016, ‘Hard Rock Cornish Miners’. Each verse of the song deals with a different character associated with the mining history of Cornwall. Some, like Humphrey Davy, are well-known. Others, like Alfie Crowle, a miner’s son who was hugely instrumental in establishing the game of football in Mexico, are less so.

We approached Will Coleman for permission to use his song for our play and he was generous in his encouragement for our little project. So, John worked hard to write us our play and we persuaded Penny Norman to undertake the tricky task of directing it. Somehow, with incredible patience she managed to fashion a performance from our keen, but wordless but rewarding experience. The play was performed in Gulval on January 13th and it is hoped to repeat it at the Cornish Language Weekend in Newquay on Friday, 6th April.

Prag Na? News

The list of activities is growing….brewery tours, garden walks, pasty making and even wrestling, to name a few. Think of an activity, and there’s an opportunity to use the Cornish language. Any ideas are gladly received by the Prag Na coordinator, Rebecca Lawrence. If you can provide the activity but are not sure about the language bit, then Rebecca can sort that out.

There are several events in March that will have happened by the time you read this. There’s a tour of Skinner’s Brewery, led in Cornish by Pol Hodge, with English translation, and the opportunity to enjoy beer and pasties afterwards. There will be the opportunity to join in with a fun singing and storytelling session with Matthi Clarke and Jan Lobb has used her artistic talents in a series of art classes in Truro.

We approached Will Coleman for permission to use his song for our play and he was generous in his encouragement for our little project. So, John worked hard to write us our play and we persuaded Penny Norman to undertake the tricky task of directing it. Somehow, with incredible patience she managed to fashion a performance from our keen, but in many cases inexperienced, students. Several performers had only joined the class in September, so it was no mean feat for them to participate in this nerve-wracking but rewarding experience. The play was performed in Gulval on January 13th and it is hoped to repeat it at the Cornish Language Weekend in Newquay on Friday, 6th April.

Left: ‘Humphrey Davy’ testing some laughing gas

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