

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After a long vacation of six weeks overseas it was good to return to Australia and catch up with my family and friends.



Jane and I had many adventures including seeing London, exploring Oxfordshire, visiting Sicily and its Greek temples and the Roman mosaics of Villa Romana del Casale but the highlight was again a visit to Cornwall.

We stayed in Falmouth for a few days at the Greenbank Hotel where Graham Greene wrote "Wind in the Willows." What better way to start the day by having breakfast overlooking Falmouth Bay with Flushing across the other side and all the yachts at their moorings. So easy to plan the days' walks.

We travelled to Cornwall by train which took over five hours but much more comfortable when I travelled as a student to London on the overnight milk train.

We took the ferry to St Mawes as I wanted to add some photographs to the talk I will be doing this month. A cruise ship of over three thousand passengers was docked in the Bay and passengers were having to take small ferries to Falmouth.

We did not realise the impact of three thousand people would have on the streets of Falmouth especially as the pasty shops were sold out by lunchtime.

From Falmouth we went to stay a Budock Vean a sixteenth century manor house which has been renovated as a tourist hotel.

This gave us easy access to the Helford River and the Gardens of Glendurgan and Penjerrick.

Other walks included The Lizard and a walk from Carbis Bay to St Ives.

Hopefully I will prepare some illustrated presentations for you.

Unfortunately the event I was looking forward to attending was the opening of our own Library in the Castlemaine Historical buildings but due to some health problems I was not able to participate.

I am very indebted to Ken and all those society members who turned up and made the day a very memorable one. I am looking forward to seeing a presentation of the day and feel as if I was there.

We hope to plan a few more functions like this. So once again thank you for all those who planned this and attended.



CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, INC.

**NEWSLETTER
No. 147**

November 2023

Corporation Reg. No. A0008264A

CONTENTS

President's Message	pp 1 and 3
Notices for Members Please note Pasty orders And Christmas Function Information	p 2
Castlemaine - Library Launch and Pictures	pp 3-6
Hosking Kitto Family Bible	pp 7-8
Recent happenings	pp 8-9
Vale Dick Keuris Shirley Lindsay Beverley Pratt	p 9
Augustus Courts Yandell	pp 9-13
Re-discovering Cornwall	pp 13-14
Cornish Tidbits	pp 15-16

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Membership Fees

Single: \$40.00
Family: \$60.00
Life Single: \$400.00
Life Family: \$600.00



Saturday 18th November 2023 at 1.30 pm

Brian Rollason will speak about his holiday in Cornwall during August/September.

This will be an in-person meeting as well as on Zoom.

Zoom details will be sent a few days before the meeting.

Venue - Darebin NW Uniting Church, 399A Murray Road, West Preston.

BYO lunch at 12 noon.

Pasties - for the last pasty delivery of the year, Marcus Curnow is happy to deliver Pasties to the meeting on Saturday 18th November. Please notify him by Monday 13th November on 0421 076 804.

Christmas Lunch details

Ken Peak recently sent a notice to everyone regarding the Christmas Meeting.

To remind you:
Saturday 2nd December 2023 at 12 noon
Venue - Grand Hotel at 203 Dana Street Ballarat.
Cost of the function is \$38.50 per person plus drinks.

Please notify Keith Lanyon from the Ballarat Branch if you are able to attend by 17th November.

**Keith can be contacted
Phone - 0411 512 160
Email - kmlanyon@hotmail.com**

Trains run directly to Ballarat from Southern Cross on the hour from 9.14 am. T

he journey takes an hour and half. Trains return to Melbourne on the hour from 2.20 pm.

The cost for a senior return is only \$5.00 - \$10.00 for non-concession. The venue is three blocks from the

station and people can be collected from the station. There is meter street parking or a multistorey car park at a reasonable rate - first two hours are free.

Speak with Robyn Coates if you would like to be collected from the station (0419 551 320)



Pastoral Care

If you know of someone who is unwell, celebrating a special birthday or just needs a cheery greeting, please let Evelyn Jones know the details so she can be in touch.

Evelyn's details are:
Ph: 0417 160 658
ejo65074@bigpond.net.au

CAV NEWSLETTER

The CAV Newsletter is published in February, May, August & November and distributed via email and in some cases by mail.

Deadline for contributions for the next issue:

Saturday 20th January 2024
Articles for inclusion are welcome at any time but **must be received by the deadline date.**

Please include pictures or tables as a separate file.

The email address for the CAV Newsletter - robyncoates@hotmail.com

Please mark - Article for CAV Newsletter.

Cornish Tid Bits are sourced from the Cornwall Council, BBC Cornwall, Pirate FM News, Falmouth Packet, CornwallLive, Kresen Kernow, Wikipedia

As yet we were unable to find a place where we could hold our Christmas function because like all costs at the moment there has been a sharp increase. The President of the Ballarat branch has given an open invitation to members to attend their Christmas function. (see below)

Ken sent out a warning to members that a number of members had received emails purporting to have come from myself or Ken. Make sure you delete these as they contain information which is wrong including address and telephone number. They may be the result of hacking into Medibank or Optus earlier on in the year. I have now changed the password of my email.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible when we have an open meeting in Darebin for our November meeting on Saturday 18th November where I will give a talk on the significance of the two castles built by Henry VIII and examples of Tudor propaganda.

Oll an gwella,
Brian



Agan Kernow

The book is now available for purchase by CAV Members, relatives and friends.

The purchase price is \$25 Australian plus the appropriate postage. For overseas postage rates speak with Robyn Coates 0419 551 320

This is a 262-page book of 76 stories by 51 authors from across the Cornish diaspora.

More information -
www.cornishvic.org.au

Copies will be available at our next meeting on 18th November and also at our Christmas Meeting in Ballarat.



Launch of Cornish Library at Castlemaine on October 18, 2023

The official launch of the Cornish Library, held at the Castlemaine Historical Society Inc (CHSI) was a celebration of everything Cornish.

Around 90 people, including 28 CAV members, attended the event over the day.

Geelong and Ballarat CAV branches were also well represented.



We celebrated the opening of the Cornish Library, which is now housed at Castlemaine.

As you know this library of Cornish material is the biggest of its kind anywhere in the world outside Cornwall.

We're very grateful to the CHSI for agreeing to take our library as a stand-alone section of their archives.

Thanks also to Carol Dorman, Ruth Giddings, Alleyne and Ian Hockley, and others at the CHSI for the work they did to make it a great day.

It was fitting that exactly 31 years ago, on 18 October 1992, the CAV acknowledged the Cornish heritage of the Castlemaine area by installing a plaque at the engine house of the Duke of Cornwall mine at Fryerstown.



The day began with a Cornish morning tea provided by the CAV.

Thanks to those members who brought a plate with them. We had traditional Cornish Fairings, Saffron Cake, Heava Cake (Heavy Cake), Cornish Splits, Cornish Strawberry Shortcakes, even a Penzance Cake.

A Cornish recipe booklet was prepared to go with our morning tea, which proved to be very popular.



The media were also in attendance - the Bendigo Advertiser and WIN TV.

WIN TV Interviews

[https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=NS-UNK-UNK-UNK-AN_GK0T-](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=NS-UNK-UNK-UNK-AN_GK0T-GK1C&mibextid=RUbZIf&v=161113062748267)

[GK1C&mibextid=RUbZIf&v=161113062748267](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=NS-UNK-UNK-UNK-AN_GK0T-GK1C&mibextid=RUbZIf&v=161113062748267)

Photo in Bendigo Advertiser

<https://www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au/story/8389601/largest-cornish-collection-outside-england-finds-a-home-in-region/>

After morning tea, the CHSI had organised a driving tour of historical sites in Castlemaine and Fryerstown.

We travelled by car and two buses guided by members of the CHSI, who detailed the historical significance of places on the tour.

The tour began in Castlemaine with a drive-by of the land where a house once stood originally built by Hannibal Orchard Rowe (one of the Rowe brothers).

On the road to Fryerstown we passed the Cornish Arms Hotel in Wattle Gully, which is now a private residence.



Then we travelled to Spring Gully, which was an area where many Cornish people lived. You could see the remains of mullock heaps in the undergrowth as well as the remains of the Spring Gully Mine that opened in the 1890s.



The tour then took us to the remains of the engine house of the Duke of Cornwall mine and a CHSI member talked to us about its history.



We then drove to a property called Lambruk, formerly the home of Edward Rowe (another of the five Rowe brothers) built in the 1860s. The owners allowed us on the grounds of the property and it was a beautiful old house and gardens.



The tour finished at the Fryerstown Cemetery, where many Cornish people are buried. Back at the CHSI the official launch took place after lunch. Thanks to Robyn Coates for organising the pasties we enjoyed for our lunch.



What a journey it's been for the Cornish library. In 1986, when the Cornish Association of Victoria Inc. was formed, the library began its life in a cardboard box stored at the home of Frances Warren, our first librarian. Frances would then

bring the library along in suitcases in the boot of her car. The books would be set out on a table for members to borrow, just writing their names and title of the book in a notebook.

We moved more permanently to the Hughesdale Uniting Church in 1991 where they had a locked room.

When that church was sold and under the leadership of President Derek Trewarne, we moved to the Oakleigh Baptist Church, in 2010.

This building had a separate hall in which we could set up the library and also a lockable room.

The library had its own catalogue system operated under the expert guidance of people like Lesley Morton, who was also a member of CHSI.

The library grew with more than 3500 items catalogued.

In 2019, we had to vacate the room at the Oakleigh Baptist Church where we stored our library.

The library was then packed in plastic tubs and stored for two years in our shed.

We had offers from the State Library of Victoria, who essentially wanted to cherry pick a small number of titles, which we resisted.

CAV members, like Ted Curnow, made the case that we should try to keep the library intact.

As a result, the CAV made contact with the CHSI who agreed to take the library intact.

In the past, people like Betty Eggleton, Lesley Morton, Bill and Gwen Phillips, Bill Woodward, Alison and Brian Stephens, Alison and Lindsay Chapman amongst others were very proud of the library and did much to set it up and keep it going. I believe they'd approve of what we've been able to achieve.

Thanks to all those CAV members who have helped out in the library over the years. Your work was not in vain.

A special thank you to our former Secretary June Whiffin and CAV member Moira Drew, without whom the library at Castlemaine wouldn't be functional.

June and Moira have done us proud with their work over a long period of time, which has been a labour of love carried out with meticulous precision.

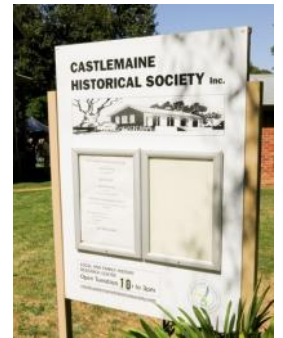
We are proud that the Cornish collection is 'coming home' to Castlemaine where so many Cornish immigrants worked on the goldfields in the 19th century and helped forge our nation.

Ken Peak
Secretary CAV

These two photos show the shelves with contents in good order and quite a few researchers will recognise the blue St Just Research group folders!
 Moira Drew



A selection of Photos taken by Ted Curnow, Arthur Coates and Robyn Coates



HOSKING-KITTO FAMILY BIBLE

Jennifer Burrell



On Wednesday, 18th October 2023 this magnificent family Bible was passed onto the Cornish Association of Victoria on the opening of their library which is now at The Castlemaine Historical Society Inc [CHSI].

They have a great setup in the old Courthouse at 7 Goldsmith Crescent, Castlemaine.

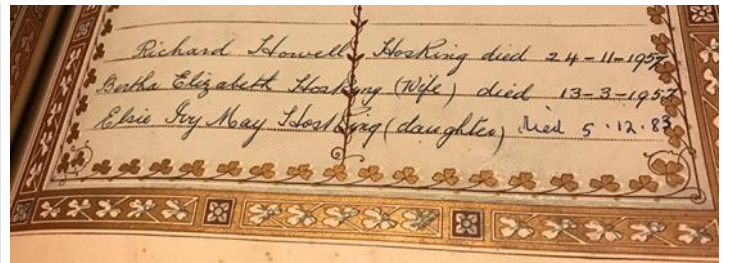


On this site, two other buildings house archives. A timber-lined corrugated iron shed, with compactors, efficiently stores many thousands of items.

This is certainly a fitting home for this massive, museum-quality Bible.

The Bible had been in the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society (BDGS) collection since March 2006 when it was accepted as a donation from the Brunswick Valley Historical Society based at Mullumbimby, in Queensland.

It had been among the possessions of Miss Elsie Ivy May Hosking, a spinster, who died 5th December 1983 and is buried in the Ballarat New Cemetery, along with her father, Richard Howell Hosking and mother Bertha Elizabeth Hosking (m/s Samson) who both died in 1957 at their family home at 302 Gladstone St, Mount Pleasant, Ballarat.



The Bible originally belonged to Elsie's paternal grandparents, Richard Hosking (1846-1902) and Julia Anna Tonkin Hosking (M/S Kitto) (1849-1889) who were married 20 September 1869 at Golden Square, Sandhurst (Bendigo).

Their first five children were born at Sandhurst and next six at Mooropna.

All these births are meticulously recorded in the family Bible along with departures from England for Richard 13 May 1867 and Julia 17 July 1868.

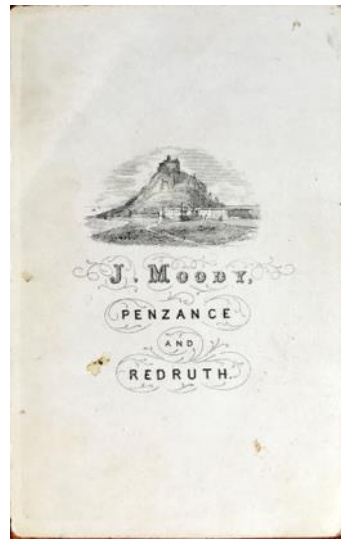
In the Family Portraits section at the back of the Bible there are about 20 cartes-de-viste photographs which generally measure two and a half inches by four and one eighth inches (6.3x10.5 cm).

This photo would seem to be of Richard Hosking (1846-1902) and his parents Simon Hosking (1797-1878) and Sarah (1803-1889) of the parish of St Germoe. most likely taken prior to the departure of their son in 1867.



Printed on the back in green is Preston & Poole, Truro. The motif *e lumine vita* is topped with the three Prince of Wales feathers.

Over the page is the same couple - this time the photograph bears a different photographer's name: J Moody, Penzance and Redruth with a picture of St Michael's Mount.



According to Lenore Frost in her book, *Dating Family Photos 1850-1920*, cartes-de-viste of the 1880s invariably had rounded corners. [p15] Here is an example.



Elsie's Grandma Samson (~1857-1937) was Bertha (m/s Craig) m 1877 to William Stephen Samson.

Research into the Hosking family has not identified any close relatives who may be living. Anyone who is interested can now be sure that this family Bible is now being safely kept in the protection and care of the Cornish Association Victoria and Castlemaine Historical Society Inc., hopefully for many generations to come.

Jennifer Burrell, CAV Ballarat branch member and Life Member of the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society.

Recent Happenings

Taking advantage of the favourable time difference between Cornwall and Melbourne, in August we welcomed John Gamblin, presenting live from Penzance.



I have followed John for a few years now on X (formerly Twitter) – @Gamb0 [the last character is the number zero] – enjoying his year long project to photograph Mounts Bay and St Michael's Mount from his apartment window. John is a founder member and trustee of The Mentor Ring and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. John spoke about 'the pull of Penzance' on him when he retired.

Not originally from Cornwall he was attracted to Penzance by the beautiful architecture and institutions like the Morrab Library, where he now volunteers, and Penlee House.

It was a most enjoyable presentation, especially for those of us who similarly feel the pull of Penzance from our family connections.

John shared a wonderful photograph he'd only just taken of the Abbey Steps and compared it with Stanhope Forbes's well-known painting, *The Inner Harbour – Abbey Slip* (1921) of the exact same spot, both capturing the same sense of life and enjoyment. This led to a discussion about Stanhope Forbes and Penny shared that her great aunt features as a model in a Stanhope Forbes painting. It was great connection to make.

In September we were joined over Zoom by academic Emeritus Professor Matthew Spriggs, now resident in Vanuatu.



Matthew detailed the project to publish the entire body of Cornish language texts pre-1800 in definitive academic editions and provided background for those of less versed in the history of the Cornish language.

One thing that pleased a number of members was learning of Matthew's recent experience of accessing texts at the Morrab library, noting the change post-pandemic in allowing researchers to use their mobile phones to photograph texts. It makes a research visit to Morrab library a lot more efficient and affordable for non-local visitors – I certainly took note of this!

Thanks once again to our speakers for taking the time to prepare presentations and share them with us.

We are always on the lookout for interesting speakers who can present on Cornwall and things,

places and people Cornish, including stories of the Cornish in Victoria and Australia.

If you have something you'd like to present, or can recommend a speaker, please get in touch with CAV committee member Helen Morgan at helen@helenmorgan.net or 0401 873 385.

Helen Morgan

VALE

**Dick Keuris -
05.02.1929 - 17.09.2023**



**Shirley Lindsay -
04.03.1926 - 21.10.2023**



Dick Keuris and Shirley Lindsay.

Dick Keuris was a long standing member of the Geelong Branch of the CAV.

Dick and his wife Maggie were inaugural members of the Geelong Branch of the CAV in 1993.

Dick was our treasurer for a long period of time and was awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation from the CAV in 2011.

Dick and Maggie started off the Hocking Descendants Society, many of whom are of Cornish descent. They were member's number 1 and 2. Dick was the Research Director in Australia and oversaw the data base that ended up having nearly 40,000 names in it.

Unfortunately, we also lost another long time member of our branch in Shirley Lindsay. Shirley was a long time secretary of our branch.

Shirley, who also joined the branch in 1993 was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the CAV. in 2010.

Many of our branch members attended both funerals displaying the Cornish tartan apparel. Condolences were passed on to both families by our Branch members.

**Beverley Pratt -
13.9.1939 – 23.10.2023**

Bev and her husband David joined the CAV in 2007 and were loyal members at Ballarat.



Bev trained as a Deaconess in the Methodist Church at Esperanza College, in Kew and was initially appointed to Sunshine Methodist Mission and then Ballarat Central Mission.

In Ballarat, she met David and they married in 1966 and like many occupations at that time she had to resign after her marriage.

Ten years after the birth of their daughter, Bronwyn, she returned to the work force working as a Chaplain at both the Ballarat Base and St John of God hospitals.

She became the Chaplaincy coordinator and a staff member of the Ballarat Base hospital and was hospital chaplain to the Base from 1978 to her retirement in 2000.

In 1992, the Uniting Church in Australia chose to reform the diaconate ministry and Bev took the opportunity to be ordained as the Rev. Deacon Beverly Pratt.

Bev was instrumental in forging a strong pastoral link between the hospital and the church and laid the foundation for the work of healthcare chaplaincy.

Ballarat Regional Healthcare Chaplaincy developed the former Brown Hill Uniting Church Manse, into a Chaplaincy Centre for the administration of chaplaincy, as well as available for training, meetings, and other activities associated with chaplaincy.

The Centre was named The Bev Pratt Chaplaincy Centre, and officially opened and dedicated on Sunday 31st January 2021.

A number of Ballarat members attended a Thanksgiving service at Ballarat Central UCA on Monday 20th October 2023 to celebrate Bev's life.

The service can be viewed at the following link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NMWgfSeU7o>

Augustus Courts Yandell

Occasionally, Neil Thomas sends me a snippet of information which he thinks would make a good story for the newsletter. Recently, he sent me this photo, which a relative had sent him - a pamphlet found whilst visiting Castlemaine - which began this research.

The man pictured is Augustus Courts Yandell looking resplendent in his Mayoral Robes.



Augustus was baptised at Callington, Cornwall, on 11th December 1831.

Callington is a small town eleven kilometres north of Saltash and fourteen kilometres south of Launceston, located in the Tamar Valley.

Augustus's parents Elizabeth Wenmouth (1797-1876) and John Yandell (1801-1885) had married at Callington on 25th July 1822.

Both signed their names. John Yandell was a painter and glazier.

Elizabeth died in Castlemaine in 1876.

Following Elizabeth's death in 1876, John married Ann Smith in 1877. She died in 1900.

Searching the OPC for Cornwall, I found children for Elizabeth and John Yandell in both baptisms and burials and one in the GRO records.

Baptisms

1823 Landrake with St. Erney - William Henry YANDELL- died in Castlemaine 1886

1828 Callington - John Thomas YANDELL - died in Castlemaine 1867

1828 Callington - Robert Edwin YANDELL - died in 1844 in Cornwall.

1831 Callington Augustus Courts YANDELL – died 1899 in Castlemaine.

1835 Launceston, Wesleyan Methodist - Edward Usher YANDELL - died 1869 in Melbourne.

1841 Birth – GRO records in district of Launceston the birth of George Henry YANDELL - died 1896 in Fitzroy.

Burials

1829 Landrake with St. Erney - Mary Ann Yandell aged 1 year 11 months – born abt 1827.

1837 Launceston, Wesleyan - Edward George Yandell aged 11 days.

1844 West Briton - Edwin Yandell aged 16 - born about 1828.

Menheniot - John Yandell aged 22 – born about 1835.

The 1841 Census sees John and Elizabeth and five sons, William, John, Robert, Augustus and Edward living in the borough of Launceston, Parish of St Mary Magdalene, in Cornwall.

John is listed as a painter but no occupations are recorded for any of the sons. John and Elizabeth and their sons all emigrated to Australia.

- William Henry Yandell (1823-1886) married Mary Ann Ballard at St Pancras Church, Middlesex on 14th August 1847 – he is listed as a painter as is his father. William died in Victoria as did Mary Ann (1880). One son.
- John Thomas Yandell (1828-1867) married Mary Perkin Danger in 1849 in Launceston, Cornwall. Mary died in 1883 in Victoria. One son and one daughter.
- Augustus Courts Yandell (1831-1899) married (1) Rebecca Cooke in Victoria in 1854 – Rebecca died in 1867. (2) married Margery Hokin in 1868 - Margery died in 1916 in Castlemaine.
- Edward Usher Yandell (1835-1869) married Mary Jane Waterhouse in 1856 in Victoria. I have been unable to find a death year or place for Mary Jane. One son.
- George Henry Yandell (1841-1896) married Elizabeth Emma Kemp in 1863 in Victoria. Elizabeth died in 1911. Two sons and five daughters.

The article in the link below, written by an extended family member, suggests that Augustus arrived in South Australia aboard the Ship Bolivar in 1848. I am unable to find the Ship Bolivar arriving at that time and in January 1850, when there is evidence of it arriving at Adelaide, there are no Yandells listed - nor can I find the family listed in the Biographical Index of SA (BISA).

This article describes the arrival in SA, the voyage of Augustus to Victoria from SA, his early life on the goldfields and his life in Castlemaine and is worthy of a read. (on a PC click control and hover your mouse over the link until the hand appears and then press enter)

<https://cpb-ap-se2.wpmucdn.com/thinkspace.csu.edu.au/dist/4/62/files/2016/10/YBM-1lv12fr.pdf>

Using TROVE, there is evidence of John Thomas Yandell in 1851, in Adelaide, as a painter and glazier, and also a John Yandell as a Methodist local preacher.

John Thomas Yandell is also mentioned in Adelaide papers through an escort receipt payable to Mary

Yandell, from the Mt Alexander diggings, in Victoria in 1852.

Evidence of John Yandell as a local preacher is borne out in his obituary:

He was one of the pioneer founders of the Wesleyan Church in the town, and if not the first, he was among the first who preached in the Church, and for many years continued with great zeal as a local preacher ... A number of vehicles followed to the grave, where old identities from Campbells Creek and other districts, who had known the deceased since 1852, had already assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to him, who in that year, with Mr Jeffries, were the two pioneer preachers.

Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917), 5th and 7th December 1885

Family sources, on the internet, suggest that Augustus and his brothers worked at Burra in the copper mines before travelling to Victoria and also that his father may have applied for a job as a Mine Captain before venturing from Cornwall.

Augustus Yandell is in Victoria by 1854 when he married Rebecca Cooke, at Collingwood. Rebecca had been born in Donegal, Ireland c 1826, and she had arrived in Victoria in 1853 and was employed by Major Webb at Waurin Ponds as a seamstress.

Rebecca and Augustus had seven children – only one of whom survived beyond the age of three years.

- Leila Jane Cooke- b 1855 Castlemaine d 1856 Castlemaine aged 6 weeks.
- John David Augustus b 1857 Castlemaine d 1860 Castlemaine aged 3 years.
- George Cooke b 1857 Castlemaine d 1858 Castlemaine aged 1 year.
- John George b 1860 Castlemaine d 1937 Castlemaine.
- Charles Blair b 1862 Castlemaine d 1863 district of Loddon aged 1 year.
- Catherine Rebecca b Castlemaine 1864 d 1865 Castlemaine aged 15 months.
- Albert Augustus b 1866 Castlemaine d 1866 Castlemaine aged 4 months.

Augustus's wife Rebecca died in 1867. The poor woman would have been physically and mentally exhausted having seven children in twelve years with six of them dying so young.

Such a traumatic life for a young woman but one known to many other woman on the goldfields.

A funeral notice announces her death.

FUNERAL NOTICE.

THE Friends of Mr Augustus Yandell are respectfully invited to follow the remains of his beloved wife to the Castlemaine Cemetery.

The Funeral to leave his residence, Campbell Street, on Sunday afternoon at Three o'clock.

W. NIEBUHR,
Undertaker.

Mount

Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917), Saturday 22 June 1867, page 3

Poor woman - she is not even mentioned by name! She is not even acknowledged in Augustus's obituary but is recorded on the headstone of her parents-in-law.



Photo from BillionGraves

Augustus married Margery Hokin, in 1868, probably in Castlemaine though it is not recorded.

Margery's birth was recorded in Port Adelaide SA - 20th August 1848. Her parents are listed as Charles Hokin and Ann Chamberlain Crocker. Charles was a very early settler in Western Australia.

Margery's father's death notice recorded in the Argus on 16th June 1903 states:

Mr Charles Hokin, father of Mrs M. Yandell, died on Saturday at the age of 77 years. Deceased arrived with his parents at the Swan River Settlement, W.A. in 1829 in the Rockingham, the first emigrant ship from England, remaining there till 1852 when the discovery of gold at Forest Creek attracted him to this district. With the exception of a few years spent in South Australia he had resided here continuously.

BISA suggests he arrived in SA in 1848 from Perth; that he was a carpenter; had married his wife Ann Crocker in 1846 and there were two daughters, Margery and Melina, both born in South Australia.

Augustus and Margery Yandell had sixteen children over a 25 year period.

- Alice Margery b 1868 d 1869

- Augustus Charles Wenmouth b 1869 d 1929
- Clara Mabel b 1871 d 1876
- Margery Lilion b 1872 d 1927 (Bailie)
- Arthur Edwin/Ernest b 1874 d 1876 aged 1.
- Violet Ann Elizabeth b 1876 d 1958 (Skrine)
- Rosa Emily b 1877 d 1945 (Broadbent)
- Laura Edith b 1879 d 1929 (Graham)
- Olive Bessie b 1880 d 1965 (Oldridge)
- Elsa Florence b 1881 d 1932 (Biggs)
- Florence Prudence b 1883 d unknown. (White)
- Amy Augusta Beatrice b 1885 d 1885 aged 3 months
- Daisy Lucinda b 1886 d 1967 (Robbins)
- Elma Mary b 1888 d 1982 (Dutton)
- Esther Ruby b 1890 d 1980 (Christiansen)
- Ada Victoria Augusta b 1893 d 1944 (Milnes)

After working as a gold miner, for some years, Augustus worked as a builder, constructing houses and he has been credited with building the first brick home in Castlemaine, carting the bricks from Melbourne.

There are stories on the internet suggesting he had found gold weighing the same amount as he weighed – 14/16 stone – most likely fictitious!

However, he obviously had great success and unlike others who made their fortune, he decided to stay in Castlemaine and serve his community.



Kyneton Guardian (Vic. : 1870 - 1881; 1914 - 1918), Saturday 18 December 1880, page 3

After a few years, of building houses, he began operating as an herbalist – some suggestions from family members indicate that he did some training as a Botanist and Herbalist whilst in South Australia and others suggest that he used remedies given to him by his grandmother living in Cornwall.

A copy of one of his brochures, for the various uses of eucalyptus salve, is pictured at the bottom of the pamphlet shown at the beginning of the article.

Augustus Yandell was involved in the local borough council from 1877 until his death and was Mayor during 1888-1889.

He was also involved in many charitable groups, was a Justice of the Peace, a regular church attendee and

was the owner of the Wheal Margery mine at Chewton.

He also had shares in other mines in the district.



Augustus Courts Yandell with 2nd wife Margery Hokin. John George Yandell, Augustus' son from his 1st marriage to Rebecca Cooke is in centre back. Augustus, Charles 14 yrs, Margery Lillian 11 yrs, Violet 8 yrs, Rose 6 yrs, Laura 4 yrs, Olive Bessie 2+ yrs, Elsie 1 yr. (Public Photos Ancestry)

<https://www.ancestry.com.au/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/16268693/person/929190255/media/50133b2b-154a-4d45-976c-86da59d1fbd8?src=search>

The death and funeral notices tell more of his life. His second wife's death notice also gives an insight into her activities.

[Bendigo Advertiser \(Vic. : 1855 - 1918\), Monday 22 May 1899, page 3](#)

Death of Cr. Yandell - Castlemaine, 20th May.

Cr. Augustus Court Yandell died this day, after a short illness, from heart failure, aged 68 years. Deceased has been one of the borough councillors since 1877 and was mayor during 1889. He is about the largest property owner in the town. He leaves a widow and a very large family to mourn his loss. Deceased, who was a Cornishman, landed in Adelaide in 1848, and came on to the Forest Creek diggings in 1851. For four years he was a successful digger, and used to state that during that time he obtained his own weight—some 16 stone—in gold, having washed off as much as 3lb. weight of gold to the dish.

He then took building contracts. He averred that he built the first brick house in the Castlemaine district. For many years past he has been an herbalist and chemist and continued the business until his demise. He claimed to be the founder of the local Old Pioneers' Association. As one of the borough fathers, he will be much missed, as he was very energetic in the discharge of his duties.

[Funeral of the late Cr Yandell.](#)

The funeral of the late Cr A. C. Yandell took place

yesterday afternoon and was well-attended. Preceding the hearse walked several members of the Pioneers' and old Residents' Association, of which body deceased was an old and active member ...The pallbearers were the Borough Councillors and Old Pioneers ... the burial service was read by the Rev James Mathieson, pastor of the Wesleyan Church ... As the funeral moved from deceased's late residence in Hargreave-street the fire-bell was tolled at minute intervals until the cortege had left the borough.

Mount Alexander Mail (Vic. : 1854 - 1917) 30 March 1916
Death of Mrs Margery Yandell - a pioneer of the district -
an eventful and useful life closed.

The death is announced of one of Castlemaine's most respected residents in Mrs Margery Yandell, relict of the late Cr. A. C. Yandell, which took place at her residence, "Dunheved," Hargraves Street, at daybreak yesterday in the presence of her sorrowing family.

The late Mrs Yandell was closely associated with this district in its inception, arriving with her parents at Fryer's Creek in the early part of 1857, and in the same year they removed to Forest Creek, and pitched their tent on the banks of Barker's Creek, ultimately building their home at Parker Street, east, where she resided until her marriage. Her life had been a long and useful one, blessed with a large family, of whom twelve survive her (one son, and eleven daughters).

She took a great interest in the welfare of the town, and during the year 1888-89, when the duties of Mayoress were undertaken by her, she inaugurated the first reception of the whole of the ratepayers, which took place at the Orderly Room, then just completed.

As a member of the Methodist Church and as a teacher in the Sunday School, her interest was unbounded, and her last thoughts were of the children in attendance there.

As a mother she was one of the best—brave, patient, and loving. Distance was no object in visiting members of her family, and she would go to help and sustain them, never thinking of herself, until now that she has gone to her long rest, those whom she has left behind realise their great loss.

Both Augustus and Margery made significant contributions to the Castlemaine Community. Another Cornish identity for Castlemaine.



RE-DISCOVERING CORNWALL #2

Over two years Rev Ted and Beryl Curnow served the Methodist Church in Cornwall.

In this series they recall impressions and reminisce on their experiences.

The Australian Cornwall Connection.

Unlike the cosmopolitan, "Up-Country" cities of England, Cornwall is isolated, similar in some ways to the isolated outback communities in Australia.

Cornwall is largely characterized by a parochial, mono culture.

As much as we wanted to be anonymous and to merge into the local scene, as soon as we opened our mouths we were identified as people who were different.

Sometimes this led to the inquisitive remark, "You are a long way from home."

We were only aware of two other Aussies living in West Penwith, an imported 'cricketer' and a 'shop assistant'.

We noted that some people could not restrain themselves from seeking us out.

As Aussies we tended to be regarded as "novelty-people," people worthy of some attention, although we insisted that we were more than novelties.

After meetings, on the street or over the phone people were ready to share and tell us of their connection to Australia or New Zealand.

In fact over the period of our stay in Cornwall an amazing picture of relationships with new friends and an associations between our two countries emerged.

A sense of History.

When we arrived in Cornwall I had resolved not spend my time in research by delving into the musty files of the Cornish Studies Centre or Records Office.

I had already established a basic outline of the family tree. I knew where I came from; however, the longer we stayed the harder it was not to be drawn into unpacking more of the fascinating mysteries of the past.

I enquired about the last known village of my ancestors, and I learned there were a number of temporary places across Cornwall called "Newtown."

They had been 'temporary villages' that had housed itinerant miners.

The local Old Cornwall Society at Crowlas near Ludgvan could offer no information, so in spite of my earlier resolve, I joined a local Society and

together we launched a project that assisted in researching the last location of my family.

One forgotten village called Newtown had been located near Marazion and with new enthusiasm and local assistance, our enquiries in 2006 resulted in "Images of Old Newtown Cornwall".

It was my account of the final days that my ancestors had lived in Cornwall.

Two Historic Cornish Towns.

Hayle.

As a Methodist minister I served in both Hayle and St Ives.

As one of the few ports on the north coast Hayle, on the same bay had a history of rivalry with the fishing village of St Ives.

The town bore a few scars of its industrial, shipbuilding past.

As far as the locals were concerned, "nothing good ever came over the bar" (the sand bar at the mouth of the Hayle outlet that separated the two towns.).

Hayle was known for its "Towans".

For me the term remained a mystery for a while. It was an old word referring to its sandy coastline and hills. (Hayle is now promoted for its coastline, beach and three miles of "golden sands")

The Port had been a terminal for coal and ore. Smelting and foundries had supported the ship building of Harvey and Co in earlier days. Up to 1000 animals in the mid 1800s carried coal from ships in Hayle to the mines.

Phillack and a number of small villages had merged to become today's suburbs of the coastal town.

At Copperhouse, smelting started around 1740 when John 'Merchant' CURNOW began building quays on the estuary as one of two shipbuilding communities.

Other towns had become suburbs like Ventonleague where in the chapel we had sung "Now I Belong to Jesus" as I recalled we buried locals, Queeny Dormer and Des Phillips. Des had sold his last copy of "No time for Tears".

Wesley had preached and crossed the estuary at Hayle and now Methodists had a new, neat chapel. I would service other small villages like Angarrack, and St Erth, whereas the local Rev. I recall leading a procession to the cemetery to bury a man with the historic name "Billy Bray."

The once thriving harbor now housed fishing boats. Beyond its Port and maritime history, it had developed a strong holiday/tourist image.

During our time there were plans to redevelop the harbor and even plans to generate and harness energy through wave power.

With the unexpected generosity of the Methodist circuit we were invited to extend our stay in Cornwall by another twelve months and to re-locate in the same circuit to the manse at St Ives.

St Ives.

In early times it had been a small, insular historic fishing village, a place with an ancient Puritan connection.

It was once the base from which John Wesley's preaching mission reached into Cornwall.

Steeped in a variety of Methodist Chapels; during our time there were still six functioning within a two-mile radius.

Our two-storey manse was located in the heart of St Ives.

The narrow cobble stone streets had housed families with similar names so in earlier times locals adopted nick names to distinguish people.

The coastal sea-front village with its narrow streets suited for donkey carts had been divided into two distinct areas.

There was "down-along for fisher folk and merchants and miners occupied "Up-along."

There were many traditions and graphic features of the historic town that could be told but the dramatic sounding of the town siren and hurried launching of the Lifeboat with its trained voluntary crew was similar to the callout of the Fire-truck in Australia.

Now a tourist mecca, St Ives has an artistic heritage and community steeped in galleries.

In 2005 a study linked with Surrey University rated St Ives as among the world's top beach resorts and in the same year the winding coast road between St Ives and St Just was rated as one of the prettiest, most popular coastal drives in the UK. . (to be continued)

CORNISH TIDBITS

South Crofty: Work begins to remove water from tin mine

Work is under way to pump millions of litres of floodwater out of a former tin mine in Cornwall. Owners of South Crofty, Cornish Metals said the mine had eight million cubic metres (283 million cubic feet) of void space, much of which was flooded. Water pumped from the mine will be cleaned at the company's newly-built £7m treatment plant.

It will then be released into the Red River, which meets the sea at Godrevy in St Ives Bay.

The company said it would pump, treat and release 25,000 cubic metres (882,866 cubic feet) of water a day.

The de-watering process, which is expected to take 18 months to complete, is part of work to make the tin and copper mine, which closed in 1998, operational again.

Cornish Metals said the work would allow access to deeper levels within the mine, necessary to complete its feasibility study, expected at the end of 2024.

The company hopes to get South Crofty back into production as early as 2026.

Richard Williams, CEO of Cornish Metals said he hoped the mine would become one of the world's premier tin resources once more.

He added that once in production, the mine was expected to directly employ 275-300 people.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-67217615>

Bid for historic steam engine to return to Trewithin Estate

A piece of Cornish engineering history could be returning to Cornwall as part of a proposed new visitor experience. The Trewithin Estate is hoping to create a new visitor complex, farm shop, cafe and garden on its land near Truro.

Key to its plans is the return of the Trevithick Engine - currently held by the Science Museum - to its original location on the estate.

The steam engine was used at Trewithin for threshing until 1879.

It was patented by the Cornish inventor and mining engineer Richard Trevithick and constructed at Hayle Foundry in 1811.

It has been in the Science Museum's collection for many years, but the Galsworthy family, which owns the Trewithin Estate, said it would like to see it return back home as part of a long-term loan agreement.

The Trevithick steam engine is currently part of the Science Museum's collection

Trevithick is remembered for his Camborne road carriage, nick-named the "Puffin Devil", first tested in 1801.

He was also the first to successfully run a steam-powered engine pulling carriages on rails at Pennydarren, South Wales, in 1804.

Despite his engineering achievements, he died virtually penniless in Dartford, Kent, in April 1833, aged 62.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-67194176>

Cornwall Council over spends

Cornwall Council has overspent by almost £15 million in the first six months of the 2023/24 financial year. The growing financial pressures on the local authority are outlined in a report to the council's cabinet.

The council performance report for Quarter 2 of the financial year shows an overspend of £14.9m - £7m in the first quarter and £7.9m from July to September.

The main areas continue to be in home to school transport (£5m), housing temporary/emergency accommodation (£8m) and housing benefits (£3.9m). In addition, since the first quarter of the year, children in care services have seen increased costs with an expected overspend of £4.3m alongside council pay inflation of £4.1m due to an anticipated pay award.

The saving target for 2023/24 is £50.046m.

It is anticipated £41.502m (83%) of these savings will be delivered during that time, with £29.084m already delivered.

The report recommends to full council that its capital programme be uplifted by £6.315m.

The council announced in September that it will need to cut some services as it faces "difficult decisions" to achieve almost £75 million in savings by 2028.

Its draft budget for 2024/25 sees council tax increasing by 4.99 per cent, which will result in a Band D charge of £1,892.75 for the Cornwall Council element of the charge. This is an increase of £89.96 (£1.73 per week).

A Budget & Savings Review Group has been set up with the objective of reducing the in-year overspend, identifying mitigating actions and "building confidence in the council's ability to deliver its savings over the medium-term financial plan".

The local authority's overview and scrutiny committees are also focused on reducing budget overspends.

The report states that "demand management strategies" are being developed to tackle the main

drivers for this year's overspend - housing and school transport.

The report also highlights an ongoing funding risk within the Spaceport programme in Newquay, specifically in relation to grant funding "due to subsidy control issues".

It states the matter should be resolved by December.

The council is currently undertaking public consultation in respect of budget proposals for 2024/25, which comes to an end on November 12 and the results of which will be reported to the cabinet on February 7, 2024.

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cornwall-council-overspends-almost-15-8877821>

Cornish NHS patients could be sent to Wales for operations

Cornish patients on long waiting lists will be offered operations elsewhere in the UK, including Wales, in a bid to ease pressure on hospitals in Truro and Plymouth, both of which are currently on the highest alert level for pressure and patient safety.

A meeting of Cornwall Council's health and adult social care overview and scrutiny committee heard about plans to improve patient care at the Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro in a bid to ease pressure on the emergency department (ED), tackling queuing ambulances and over-stretched waiting lists for operations.

This would include offering patients earlier operations out of county including in Wales, Somerset and Devon.

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cornish-nhs-patients-could-sent-8823090>

Cornwall locals fight loss of bus stop dating back over 100 years

More than 500 people have signed a petition to save a bus stop which has been a vital part of life in a coastal town for over a century.

Residents are concerned that a new bus stop is less safe as it doesn't have lighting or a shelter, and is more difficult to access for passengers who are disabled or have mobility issues.

The move has been made by bus company Go Cornwall following concerns about buses reversing outside the Safe Harbour Inn at Fowey and the possible risk of causing serious injury or even death. The petition was set up last month and currently has over 500 signatures.

It states: "Since April 2023, the Go Cornwall-operated buses (aka the number 25 red buses and 24 services operating in the evening) ceased serving the Safe Harbour bus stop, moving their stop up the hill to Hanson Drive to accommodate the unwillingness

of some drivers to reverse into the Safe Harbour stop.

This decision was made as an 'executive decision' by the CEO of Go Cornwall with no consultation and no input from the community.

<https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/cornwall-locals-fight-loss-bus-8819177>

Storm Ciaran continues to batter Cornwall

Storm Ciarán has made landfall in Cornwall and the South West of England, bringing with it some very strong winds and heavy rain.

Cornwall Met Office recorded wind speeds of 92 miles an hour in West Cornwall - with it, trees have come down and power supply was affected with many homes suffering power losses

The Met Office issued a severe weather alert for gales, with a significant risk to vehicles using motorways and major A roads in south-west England.

With high tides across much of Cornwall, many coastal towns have experienced flooding. Visitors have been advised to stay away from exposed coastal areas.

Trains services on some lines were cut and schools were closed.

Work on the clean up after Storm Ciaran continues after 419 separate incidents were reported to the highways team during the height of the severe weather.

Cormac received 282 calls reporting fallen trees or large branches at locations across Cornwall, and 112 individual reports of isolated flooding on the roads or in individual properties.

Other incidents included minor landslips, collapsed walls and even missing life rings on beaches.

The way Cornish residents deal with household rubbish is changing.

In the coming months people living in mid-Cornwall, including Newquay and St Austell, will be the first to take on the council's new system.

By the end of 2025 every home will have new bins in the hope of reducing the amount of non-recyclable rubbish produced.

The council says the change will reduce Cornwall's annual carbon emissions by nearly 18,000 tonnes of CO2 each year.

Cornwall is late to make these changes. Of 32 councils in the South West, it will leave only the Isles of Scilly as having unlimited amounts of rubbish per household.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-cornwall-66993333>