



World Heritage Site News – summer 2007

The Duke of Cornwall celebrates Cornish Mining

The presentation of the UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription certificate to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall took place at Cotehele on 10th May. Dr Mechtild Rössler, World Heritage Centre Director of Operations for Europe and North America, addressed a gathering of VIPs, councillors and members of the World Heritage Site Bid Team past and present, during which she described the Site within Cornwall and west Devon as "...one of the great industrial landscapes of Europe." She went on to stress the importance of protecting the inscribed landscapes for the future benefit of all mankind and underlined the necessity of all concerned to work in partnership to this end. His Royal Highness then received the inscription certificate on behalf of the former World Heritage Site Bid Partnership which had dutifully steered the Nomination to its successful conclusion.



Prior to the presentation, His Royal Highness was shown a consolidated engine house at Holmbush Mine in the company of Nicholas Johnson, Historic Environment Service Manager (right) and Chris Hariades, Environmental Programmes Project Development Officer (centre)

During an insightful speech His Royal Highness commented that less than 200 years ago the area was a "...powerhouse of technological innovation and industrial progress and physical reminders of this period could be seen across the countryside of Cornwall and west Devon". The Duke also added that the region had dominated the hard rock mining world for nearly 100 years and Cornish miners, engineers and technology "...came to represent everything that was dynamic

and innovative in the early days of the industrial revolution."

Councillor Adam Paynter, Chairman of the former World Heritage Site Bid Partnership and Environment and Heritage Portfolio Holder, concluded proceedings with a presentation to the Duke of a fine framed photograph of Prince of Wales Shaft, Phoenix United Mine, as a memento of the day.

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/330>



The arrival of the royal party at Cotehele where the Duke is greeted by Deborah Boden, World Heritage Site Co-ordinator (nearest camera), Dr Mechtild Rössler, World Heritage Centre Director of Operations for Europe and North America, and Councillor Adam Paynter, Environment and Heritage Portfolio Holder



Dr Mechtild Rössler presenting the inscription certificate to His Royal Highness

Trevithick Day 2007

April 28th saw the 24th annual Trevithick Day celebrations at Camborne; held annually on the last Saturday in April, this well-attended festival combines an outstanding display of steam-related exhibits with a wide variety of street stalls and other events including model exhibitions, vintage cars, a flower festival and performances by Camborne Town Band.

The day commenced at 10.15 with the Bal Maidens' and Miners' Dance. Children from nine local schools took part with many in period dress. The dancers were accompanied by a fleet of miniature traction engines to ensure the theme of steam was always to the fore!

For the slightly older attendees, Trevithick's Dance at 2.30 gave the opportunity to dress in the Cornish colours of black and gold and celebrate in style.

3.15 pm and the highlight of the day, the Steam Parade. This year a wide variety of impressive steam traction engines took to the streets headed by 'Puffin' Devil' the amazing replica of the famous Richard Trevithick road locomotive of 1801, the world's first practical steam road-going vehicle. She proved to be in fine form this year after having undergone a mechanical overhaul over the winter.

Around 30,000 were expected to attend this year's event and whatever the eventual numbers, the streets were certainly thronged with busy crowds enjoying all the day had to offer in addition to the unseasonable but very welcome April sunshine.

The group of extremely committed individuals whom together comprise the Trevithick Day Association and elected committee are now busily planning next year's event, the 25th to be held, which promises to be something extra special. See you in April 2008!

<http://www.trevithick-day.org.uk>



Some of the many sights being enjoyed by the Trevithick Day crowds



World Heritage Site events

Since inscription last year a series of celebratory and promotional events have been taking place which aim to bring the story of Cornish Mining to a wider audience. These include a presence at this year's Royal Cornwall Show, a display of giant graphic panels at Paddington Station, performances of a specially commissioned play, and a Cornish carol competition.

The Royal Cornwall Show

The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site was present at this year's Royal Cornwall Show with its own stand and display. Crowds flocked to the Wadebridge showground in glorious summer weather on the 7th, 8th and 9th June and saw a series of striking presentation banners highlighting the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site and the international significance of Cornish mining heritage.

The 17 current members of the Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association (CMAMA) were also represented through a colourful display showing images of all the mining-related heritage attractions across the Site.



Cilla George of Trevanno badge making at the show

The stand was ably manned by a number of CMAMA members across the three days of the show and Deborah Boden, the World Heritage Site Co-ordinator, was on hand on Saturday to greet the public and answer questions about the Site, its management, protection and promotion.

The event gave the opportunity to showcase World Heritage Site information with both a mining attractions leaflet and a booklet covering the conservation of mining features on farmland being available. Show-goers also had the opportunity to see the recently produced World Heritage Site introductory video which covers our outstanding mining landscapes using a combination of specially commissioned ground and aerial

material, the latter being particularly impressive in widescreen!

Cornish Mining at Paddington!

November 2nd 2006 saw the official press launch of the World Heritage Site brand, staged on Platform 8 at Paddington Station. The World Heritage Site Office, in association with Cornwall Arts Marketing, devised a series of huge 4m high graphic display panels which highlight the historical significance of mining in Cornwall and west Devon in a truly innovative fashion. A mine chimney is seen combined with a camellia, a giant tin can is shown on the cliffs at Trewavas, and football boots hang from an engine house at Wheal Friendly! These are some of the visual treats that greet the estimated 500,000 commuters which use the station every day.



The World Heritage Site displays on Platform 8, Paddington Station

The event was also marked by the unveiling of a new gourmet pasty made by the trainee chefs at Jamie Oliver's Fifteen Cornwall restaurant and these freshly baked treats were favourably received by all!

Originally due to remain on display until the end of February 2007, the exhibition has been so successful that the panels have been retained for the time being – catch them while you can! The display can also be viewed by logging on to the dedicated website: <http://www.cornishmining.com>



Cornish Mining 'Flower Power'!

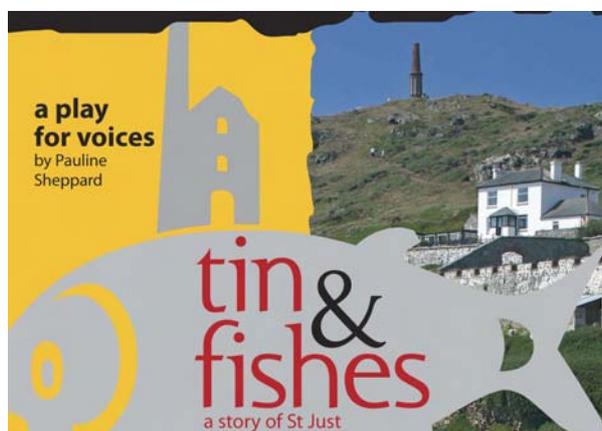
Tin and Fishes

As part of the cultural events programme established by the World Heritage Site Office, an engaging play for voices has been penned by the playwright Pauline Sheppard entitled 'Tin & Fishes'. Produced in association with the St Just Area Regeneration Project and promoted via the Carn to Cove network, the play focuses on life in and around St Just at the time of the closure of Geevor mine in 1990. The novel use of oral testimony collected by the Geevor Oral History Project helps to truly reflect the motivations and feelings of a community undergoing radical change. While being both funny and touching in turn, this engaging work does not shy away from the more pithy aspects of mining life when required!

Performance reviews have been very positive with *the Western Morning News* commenting: "...the writing sparkles throughout with life and authenticity", and *the Cornishman* stating that the "...engrossing story is pure Cornwall".

This success prompted the autumn round of performances to be extended into the spring of 2007.

Further details can be obtained from the World Heritage Site Office (kwillows@cornwall.gov.uk).



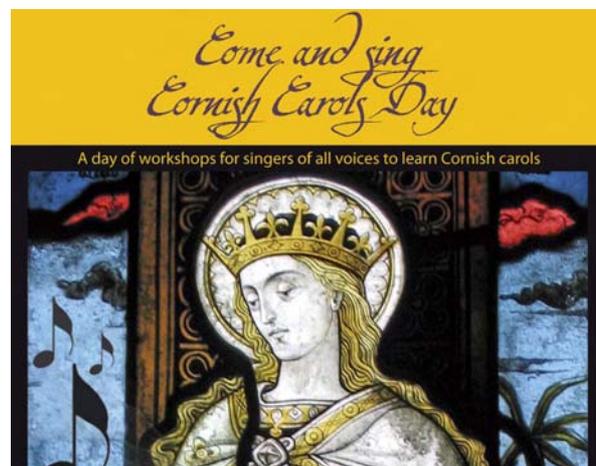
Tin & Fishes

Cornish Carols

As part of the celebrations for gaining World Heritage status, a series of events were arranged through a partnership between the World Heritage Site Office and Cornwall Arts Centre Trust (ACT), highlighting the importance of the Cornish carol tradition.

Thomas Merritt, a composer from west Cornwall in the 19th century, found fame through his arrangements of 'Hark the Glad Sound' and 'Angels from the Realms of Glory', and performances of these remain popular in Cornwall

today. Other renowned musicians of the time included Thomas Broad, R. H. Heath, and W. B. Ninnis who, along with Merritt, brought new inspiration to many through their much cherished music.



Cornish Carols

To celebrate their work and the importance of the carol, a competition and series of performances was arranged for the autumn in association with BBC Radio Cornwall and local schools. With entries split into three categories, for 11 and under, 18 and under, and an adult section, the winners were judged by the composer Jim Carey, the poet Bert Biscoe, and David Frost of Cornwall County Council Music Service. The standard of entries was deemed extremely high, and the winners announced from each category were: David Bassett, in the under 18 section, Christine Jones from the adults, and in the under 12 section, Ella Whiteman and Joanne Dallimore, both aged 10, from St Just in Penwith primary school. The children used a new software programme from Cornish company Topologika that their school purchased to help with the composition.



...Carol competition winners Ella Whiteman and Joanne Dallimore

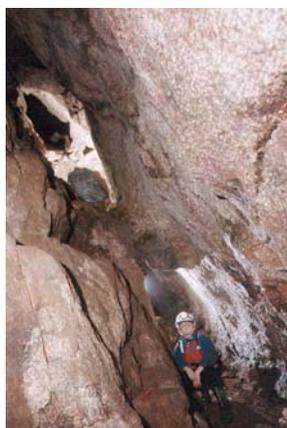
Their winning carol "Christmas is coming" was performed by over 200 Cornish primary school children (from Penwith, Carrick, Kerrier and

Restormel) at a special Cornish Carols Schools' Learning day at St Just in Penwith Methodist Chapel on 17th November, with a prize being awarded by the Grand Bard, Vanessa Beeman. BBC Radio Cornwall also included the new carol in their annual Christmas Carol Service broadcast from Truro Cathedral.

The celebration of the Cornish carol continued on 18th November with a "Come and Sing Cornish Carols Day" at the Methodist Chapel in Redruth. A successful day of workshops was also held with members of the public exposed to the different native singing traditions of Cornwall and other oral singing traditions from around the world.

The Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association

The Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association (CMAMA), established in 2006 by the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site team, goes from strength to strength. Conceived as a self-marketing and promotional organisation for mining heritage related attractions across Cornwall and west Devon, it initially comprised 10 members including mine sites, formal gardens and museums. CMAMA works with the World Heritage Site to ensure a high quality visitor experience of mining attractions consistent with World Heritage status. All CMAMA member attractions have passed a rigorous assessment process to ensure the delivery of an enjoyable and informative visit.



Images representing some of the current CMAMA members... The Royal Cornwall Museum and Poldark Mine

To celebrate the gaining of World Heritage Site status in July 2006 13 sites, including CMAMA members, staged a very successful weekend of open days on the 28th and 29th October: King Edward Mine, Troon; Trevarno Estate & Gardens, nr Helston; Rosevale Mine, Zennor; Cornwall Centre, Redruth; Mineral Tramways, Troon; Liskeard & District Museum; Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro; Poldark Mine, nr Helston; Geevor Tin Mine, Pendeen; Morwellham Quay; Kit Hill Country Park, Callington; Cornish Mines and Engines, Pool; Levant Mine, Pendeen. Most reported a significant increase in visitor numbers

over the weekend and a welcome boost in what is regarded as a shoulder tourist season.



...Mineral Tramways

This year has seen further consolidation of CMAMA with seven additional sites bringing the full membership to 17:

The Count House, Botallack
Levant Mine, Pendeen
Geevor Tin Mine, Pendeen
Rosevale Mine, Zennor
Trevarno Estate and Gardens, nr Helston
Poldark Mine, nr Helston
King Edward Mine, Troon
Mineral Tramways, Troon
Cornish Mines and Engines, Pool
Cornish Studies Library, Redruth
Gwennap Pit, Busveal
Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro
China Clay Country Park, nr St Austell
Liskeard and District Museum
Kit Hill Country Park, Callington
Cotehele Estate, nr Saltash
Tavistock Museum

cmama
Cornish Mining Attractions
Marketing Association

Building on the resounding success of last year's event, two further open days were held on Saturday 31st March and Sunday 1st April which were well received. Plans are now in hand to launch a micro-site, reached via the website of Cornish Mining World Heritage (www.cornishmining.org.uk), which will provide detailed information for visitors and news of upcoming events across the membership.



...Kit Hill Country Park and Liskeard Museum



Please see the News & Press page for regular updates on World Heritage Site events:
www.cornish-mining.org.uk