

Cornish history is fascinating ...

For example, did you know that:

- steam engines that ran on roads were invented in Cornwall, well before George Stephenson developed his Rocket?
- gas lighting for street lights and lighthouses was invented in Cornwall?
- the well-known Pears' soap was invented by a young Cornish chemist?
- smuggling was often referred to as 'Free trade' or 'the Art of Concealment and Evasion'?
- Australia's most decorated naval officer in World War II was of Cornish descent?
- William Thomas Angove, a doctor from Cornwall, began Angove's Winery in SA in 1892?

Come along and hear about Cornish contributions to medicine and welfare!

A full-day Cornish History Seminar has been held in Kadina or Wallaroo as an integral part of each Kernewek Lowender since 1997. (Before that, from 1979, a less formal combination of lectures and social events was held in Adelaide.) The first time a bound book of the papers given was in 1999 and since 2001 each seminar has featured papers relating to an overall theme. The themes have been wide-ranging: mining and engineering of course but also farming, other agricultural pursuits, creative arts, religion, politics and every-day lives, among others.



Gorsedh Kernow award winner

The seminars have been very successful and are well-regarded internationally as well as in Australia. The 2017 seminar, on the theme 'Another side of Cornish life – Music!' was recognised as an outstanding example of Preserving Cornish heritage and traditions by receiving an Awen award from the Gorsedh Kernow in 2018, the only activity from outside Cornwall to be honoured in this way. 'Awen' means 'essence' or 'inspiration' and the three slanting rays on the award's Celtic symbol represent truth, wisdom and love.



Some recent presenters, including Cornwall's Grand Bard, Merv Davey, demonstrating Cornish bagpipe-playing



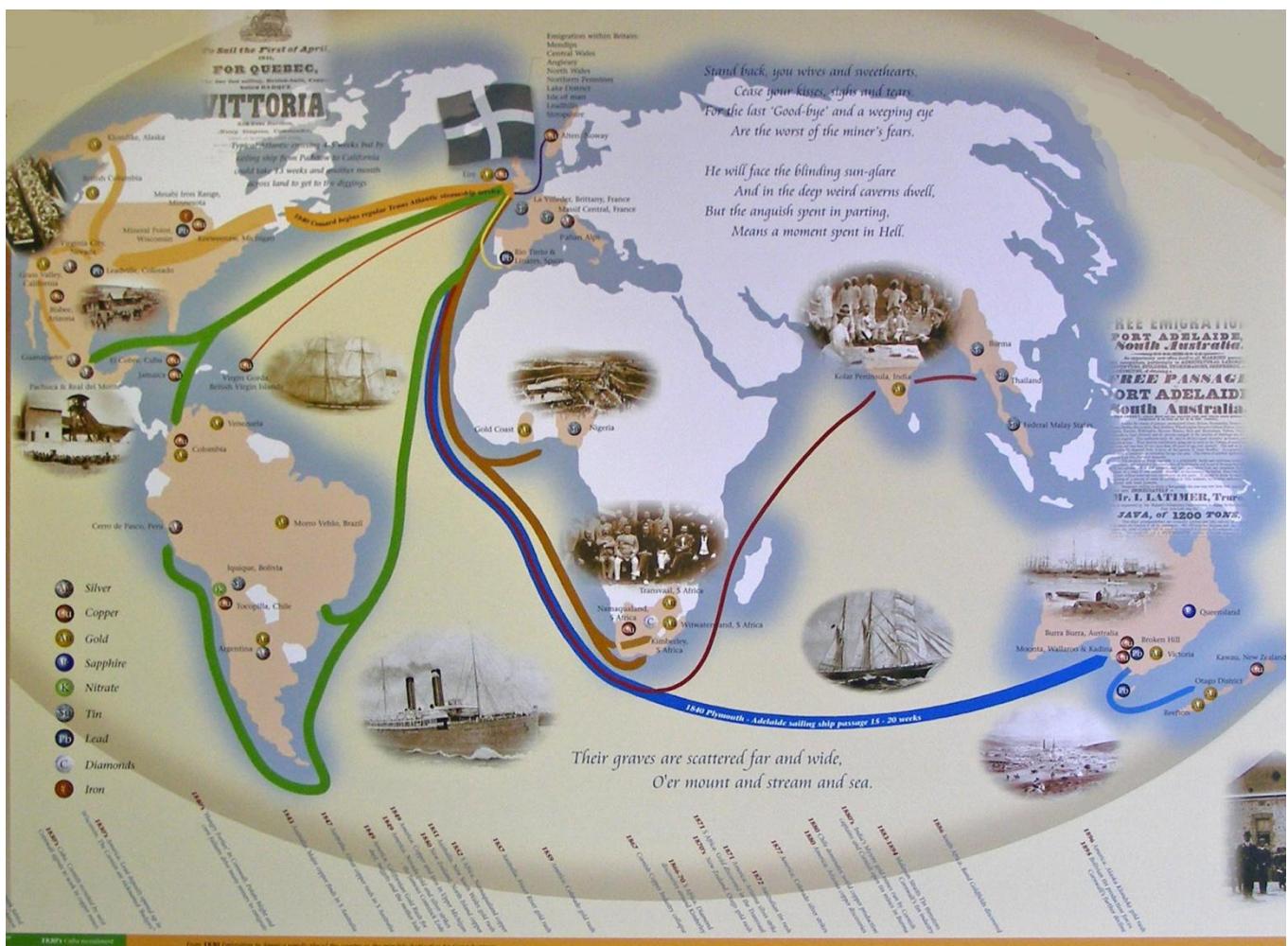
2013⇒

⇐2019



COUSIN JACK'S WORLD

The Cornish miner overseas



*Their graves are scattered far and wide
O'er mount and stream and sea*

This poster, placed among the many Tregellas tapestries at a museum in Redruth, Cornwall, illustrates the influence of 'Cousin Jacks' on mining in many parts of the world. Two of the tapestries, which tell the histories of events and people in Cornwall over six centuries, are shown here, as commentary on the wide range of influences Cornwall had on world-wide history.

The development of Methodist Churches around the world grew from the extensive work of Charles and John Wesley in much of Cornwall during their lifetime in the 18th Century.

'Cornish Giant' Richard Trevithick built on the work of his Redruth neighbour, William Murdoch, to produce the first full-size road locomotive and carriage, the 'Puffing Devil'. It was demonstrated in Camborne, with six passengers, in 1801.

