

[To all Society officers with known email addresses, FOCS Exec Committee, FOCS Editorial Board]

Hello

As you'll know, the first Old Cornwall Society was established at St Ives in 1920. Whilst that Society will be celebrating, of course, the Federation wishes to mark the occasion too, hopefully with a series of events throughout Cornwall. 100 years of existence is no small achievement for any organisation, and Old Cornwall has done a great deal in that time.

To that end, there are some exciting plans in the making, one of which is to produce a centenary history of the movement. Happily, Peter Thomas of the St Agnes OCS has agreed to help us with the historical elements, as he has already carried out research into some of the prime movers for a number of bardic biographies published by Clive Boutle for Gorsedh Kernow.

So that the book is not wholly text and retrospective, we should also like the book to include a substantial section illustrating the achievements of Old Cornwall Societies in pursuing its declared aims - "Gathering the Fragments..".

In the cultural field these might include sustaining the Midsummer Bonfires and Crying the Neck events, but you might have other local examples where your Old Cornwall Society has been actively involved in continuing or re-establishing past customs.

The preservation, maintenance and repair of local antiquities has featured prominently in our past, as well as the clearance and protection of footpaths, setting up commemorative plaques, and so forth. Some societies have collected artefacts and set up Museums or Exhibitions. All of these things lend themselves to photographic illustration with suitable captions, and so it would

be helpful if your Society can offer some for possible publication. Even if your Society has done no very recent projects such as this, you might have images from the past. We'd like some early examples as well as modern ones.

2020 might seem some way off, but producing such a book requires a lot of work and so time is actually quite short. I hope your Society will be willing to help. If so, I should be glad of an indication as soon as you can manage it of any material you might be able to offer for inclusion.

Thanking you in anticipation!

Best wishes

Terry Knight

Editor, FOCS

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