

The Parish of MAWNAN in Cornwall

PENWARNE HOUSE
 The Penwarne family exercised considerable influence in the area during the Middle Ages. Gardens open to the public occasionally in the spring.

BAREPPA
 The three cottages in the hillside on the Mawnan side of the hamlet housed miners from the adjacent arsenic mine. A succession of Packet Captains occupied Bareppa House. (From 1688-1850, the Packet Service, carrying overseas mail, was associated with Falmouth.)

TREGARNE MILL
 In 1621, Tregarne Mill served the manor of Boskensoe. There were two mills - the upper one ceased working in the middle of the 19th century and very little remains. The lower mill was working until the mid thirties.

BOSKENSOE DOWNS
 Temporary landing strip for Sir Alan Cobham's Flying Circus and Cornwall Aviation Company in the 1930s, when passengers enjoyed flights over the Helford River.

BOSVEAL CROSSROADS
 The woods provided perfect cover for a large US Army storage depot in 1944. Stone and ash from old mine workings were rolled to make a firm surface for tents and vehicles.

WHEAL ANNA MARIA (Wheal - mine)
 The Engine Shaft, still visible but overgrown by bushes, is at the head of the creek. It took its name from Anna Maria Pender of Budock Vean, on whose land it stood. Copper and silver were mined here from 1833 onwards. A final attempt was made to re-open it in 1906.

HIGHER PENPOLL nestles in a valley, beside a stream which joins the Helford River at Anna Maria Creek. In the 1820s, most of the young people from the seven farm labourers' cottages emigrated to America.

OYSTERS
 The Romans ate them; lovers relish them; Lewis Carroll had them walking with the Walrus and they are farmed at Porth Navas. The Prince of Wales (Edward VIII) was a visitor and, in more recent times, Prince Charles, Duke of Cornwall, has been welcomed.

TREBAH WARTHA
 A little cluster of houses which were initially Trebah estate workers' homes. The Tower House was the laundry, water being stored in the tower.

BAR HOUSE (with its concrete jetty) was home to Claude Worth (died 1936), Moorfields Hospital surgeon and well-known yachtsman. From the local paper, The Falmouth Packet 1930:
The Royal Cruising Club celebrated its jubilee by meeting on the Helford River where members were the guests of the vice-commodore, Dr Worth at Bar House. Boats of five ton and upwards came from all over Europe for the event.

BAR BEACH
 Shellfish Collectors: Please leave the tradition of triggig (scraping cockles from the mud) on Good Friday to local people, so conserving the shellfish, which have greatly diminished. Watch rather than participate!
 In 1943, Lord Runciman's yacht *Sunbeam II* anchored off Bar Beach to become the base for a Special Intelligence Service (SIS) unit. With Special Operations Executive (SOE) already ensconced in two nearby properties, *Ridifarne* and *Pedn Billy* with its thatched boathouse on the foreshore, they were involved in clandestine sea communications with Brittany and further afield.

THE HELFORD FERRY
 On-demand passenger and cycle ferry operates from 1st April (or Good Friday) to 31st October. The earliest known reference to a franchise for the operation of a ferry is by a Charter of King Canute in 1023. Horses and carts were transported until the beginning of the 20th century, with the animals swimming astern, tethered by a rope.
 Tel: 01326 250770 E-mail: info@helford-river-boats.co.uk

TREBAH GARDEN
 A sub-tropical paradise with a stunning coastal backdrop. Open everyday of the year from 10am. Entry is free to the visitor centre, shop and cafe. Tickets are valid for 7 days.
 Tel: 01326 252200
 www.trebah-garden.co.uk

POLGWIDDEN COVE
 Trebah's private beach, accessible from the main garden entrance only. Early in 1944, a military road was created in a few days from the established road to Helford Passage. The foreshore was encased in a concrete mat and a 150ft (46m) jetty protruded out into the river. In June 1944, the US 29th Infantry Division embarked for the assault landing on Omaha Beach, Normandy.
 Tel: 01326 252020

GLENDURGAN
 Glendurgan was given to the National Trust in 1962 by the Fox family. There is a lovely mix of native and exotic plants and a puzzling maze. The village of Durgan is at the foot of the valley garden. Open to the public from February to October, Tuesday to Sunday. Tel: 01326 252020

DURGAN
 This thriving fishing cove with fish cellars, donkey sheds, coal yard, chapel and ale-house was purchased in 1823 by Alfred Fox. The Schoolroom was built over a fish cellar in 1876 by Mr Fox's son-in-law, Sir Joseph Pease. At the same time, he demolished *The Two Cutters* ale house on the opposite quay, replacing it with *Quay Cottage* and *Beach Cottage*. Several of the cottages are now holiday lets.

PORTH SAXON
 A chain of pill-boxes (relics of WW2) from Rosemullion Head to Helford Passage, includes the one overlooking the beach from the east.

GREEN LANE
 (NT land - not open to the public)
 This grassy track between little stone built hedges is a relic of the main route connecting Trebah to Trerose. Up to the end of the 18th century, most of the county's merchandise was carried on the backs of mules and ponies along such lanes.

BOSLOE
 In 1880, Chatham Cottage was enlarged and renamed Bosloe. From 1920-1939 it was occupied by Lord Rendlesham. His yacht, *The Lady Bee*, was crewed by Durgan ex-fishermen. One of his hobbies was the hybridisation of daffodils. Bosloe is now split into three National Trust holiday apartments.

MAWNAN CHURCH
 The ancient earthwork, within which St Maunanus, a Celtic saint, established his church, remains as a section of the churchyard's western hedge. In the 13th century, a more substantial building was erected, with the Tower added 100 years later. A request from Trinity House in 1842 to whitewash the Tower as a guide to mariners was never followed up! The Cornish inscription over the lych gate has been translated *It is good for me to draw nigh unto God.*

TREROSE
 The manor of Trerose originally comprised all the land between Maenporth and Porth Navas. From 1635-1642 the manor house was occupied by the governor of Pendennis Castle, Sir Nicholas Slanning.

St EDWARD'S Catholic Church
 The church was built in 1964 on land donated by Mrs Alice Pilgrim of Nansidwell Hotel (now a private residence) in memory of her husband.

CARWINION is a classic Cornish granite and sandstone manor that has been the home of the Rogers family for 200 years.

BREAM COVE
A large party of us met on Meudon Beach (Bream Cove) to draw a seine for Prof. Owen. We all lounged on the beach most peacefully, John Sterling reading some Tennyson to us.
 CAROLINE FOX 1818-1871.
SEINING was an in-shore daytime operation which entailed encircling a shoal of pilchards with a large net. The fish were drawn in nearly on to the beach, where they could be kept alive and taken out and cured in manageable quantities.

FINE AND BRAVE LANE
 An old mule or pony track which was used to transport sea weed, sand and lime from the limekiln at Maenporth to dress the acid soils of the inland fields. In Cornwall, with no local limestone, kilns were set up beside the sea, where limestone could be shipped in and burnt.
THE LEGEND OF FINE AND BRAVE LANE
 During the French wars, the women of Mawnan hurried down the narrow lane, pitchforks in hand, to repel an invasion from a French ship nearing Maenporth. Glimpses of their red petticoats persuaded the French that a company of Redcoats was approaching, so they sailed away. The men of Mawnan, proud of their women's initiative, declared it was a *fine and brave thing to do*, hence Fine and Brave Lane. Of course, the name may be a corruption of *fyn an bre* - the boundary of the hill - for the lane lies below an Iron Age earthwork, known as the Round Field.

