

# Torpoint Archives & Heritage Centre,

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President Tremayne Carew Pole

Torpoint Organisation of the Year 2013-2014

Registered Charity No. 1043650

Founder members Pat & Freda Manning

## TAHC REPORT April 2025

Dear Members and Volunteers,

It has been another busy month. The available volunteers met for the Get Together on the first Thursday of the month and the Archives opened as usual 10am – 12 on the second Saturday of the month. Paula and Julie have recorded the childhood memories of three more senior citizens.

The sun shone on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> and the town was buzzing with the Street Market and the St George's Day Parade. The Archives was open and had on display photographs of the first Cub Pack and Scout Troop in the town.



In the picture on the left, the cub master is Leonard Wyborn who died in Alexandria in 1942. His name appears on our war memorial. Cliff Evans, Councillor Rachel Evans' grandfather is the cub who is 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left in the middle row.

Dreckly's Café donated all Sunday's takings to Sarcoma UK to encourage Rohan's effort in the London Marathon.

I wonder if you saw the courageous finish of David Wetherhill, in the BBC highlights of the race on Sunday or his interview on the local news on Monday.

David will enter the Guinness Book of Records for the completing the marathon on crutches in 55 seconds short of six hours? David grew up in Torpoint and represented Team GB playing table tennis in the 2008, 2012 and 2016 Paralympics.

The photo on the right is of David in another race.

As a lad, David was an active member of the Hawk cub pack and his photograph was included in the display at the Council Chambers on Sunday.



Fiona and Tom spent many hours dressing the display cabinets with WW2 memorabilia. These will remain on view for VE and VJ Days.

Bill is organising displays on the walls and Paul has a rolling presentation of WW2 scenes on the large Library TV screen.

Henry and Henrietta are looking very sombre. They are probably remembering friends and family who are no longer around to celebrate the end of the war with them.

Henry is finding it difficult to settle and find a job in civvy street. After wearing uniform for six years, his brown utility style demob suit feels strange. For old time sake he is wearing his RAF cravat and a spitfire pin shaped from a copper penny.

His trilby hat was bought pre war.



Henrietta is desperate for clothes rationing to end! Her dress was handmade by her American cousin from patterned flour sacks.

During the Depression 1930s and WW2, American companies that delivered flour were partnered with Simplicity and McCall's. Small patterns were printed on the sacks.

She is hoping to be sent some nylon stockings soon.



Henrietta has made her own lingerie from parachute silk. It was illegal to do this but she reasoned that a ripped chute could not be reused and nobody would see it anyway...except Henry!

She loved her hat which she bought from Spooners in April 1939. It's been kept safely in its box for the duration. She is proud to wear the RAF brooch Henry gave her in 1940 soon after they got married. It was a token of love and a lucky talisman to keep him safe.

Henry and Henrietta look forward to meeting you in the Library on May 8<sup>th</sup> 6pm – 8.15 pm prior to going to Rendel Park to listen to the Sea Cadet band and then witnessing the lighting of the beacon at 9.30pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mike Pearn'.

Mike Pearn, Chairman

Copy to The Hub Manager (for info).

Torpoint Town Council