

Torpoint Archives & Heritage Centre,

The Hub, Fore Street, Torpoint, Cornwall. PL11 2AG.

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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 May 2026

Dear Members and Volunteers,



The photograph on the left turned up recently on Facebook, as a Torpoint Archives memory of 7 years ago. The small group of tired volunteers had packed everything, following the Archives Thirtieth Anniversary Exhibition in the Council Chambers. Over 600 visitors attended on 26th and 27th April 2019 (photo below) and a month later the boxes were ready to be transported to the Town Council's recently acquired, Library and Community Hub.

It was a leap of faith. Torpoint Town Council had initially signed a 3 year lease on the building, the property of Cornwall Council.

We are still here and grateful for the section of the Hub, designed especially for us, by the Town Council. Incidentally we NEVER considered renaming TAHC, THE BOX!



The increased footfall in the new premises has led to the recruitment of the current team of industrious volunteers. However, we are always in need of extra help. The only qualification needed is an interest in Torpoint and its people.

Do you ever look at the website? George is developing that and appreciates hits and comments.

"From ghoulies and ghosties and long leggedy beasties, Good Lord deliver us!"

This is an old Cornish prayer.

If you live in an older house, or walk through the Lawn, or have any experience of "strange" happenings, please email or pass your memories to Ann. Her collection is growing.

A little booklet may be produced eventually.

Ann has also joined Historic England and will add photographs to some of Torpoint's entries on the site.

Joyce and Ann are hoping to get some more Torpoint buildings listed. Albion Road School was built in 1910. As the birth rate has dropped, it is very likely that all the children will soon be accommodated on the Carbeile School site. The Albion Road site is the property of Cornwall Council. Getting it listed may preserve its façade at least. It would be a tragic loss if a developer demolished it



Paul has put a new MP3 display on the large TV monitor in the Hub. As well as photographs from the Archives collection, he has many photographs that he took when he reported for the Cornish Times. Chris and Paul have also copied 3 of the 19th Century ferry ledgers, lent to the Archives for copying, by Tremayne Carew Pole. Completing all the ledgers will take some time.

The highlight of May, was TAHC participation in the Tales of the Tide project. We agreed to support Torpoint and District Old Cornwall Society. The Federation of Old Cornwall Societies and Plymouth Sound Maritime organised a project, funded by Plymouth City Council. Callington, Saltash and Torpoint OC Societies are participating.



On May 26th, a maritime Memory Day was held at the Mosquito Sailing Club. Five TAHC volunteers helped to host the event.

Julie and Paula recorded 10 interviews on the day and will be adding more. Some people were unable to attend on May 26th.

The ages of those interviewed ranged from 22 to 80.

The River Tamar means a lot to them all.



On the left is the full display with Jacki and Leadville, Secretary and Chairman with their Old Cornwall banner and Rosemary with TAHC banner

One of the people interviewed, was Andy Cannon, on the right. He is now employed by Torpoint Town Council, but for many years he was a Captain on the Torpoint Ferry. This was a family tradition. Andy's father and grandfather had been Torpoint Ferry Captains before him.





The grand finale of the afternoon was the arrival of the submarine HMS Anson. She was escorted by 3 tugs and led by a police launch.

Torpointers are familiar with such sights, but it was a real treat for Nev Meek, the President of the Federation Of Old Cornwall Societies and Lynne who accompanied him. Such sights are unknown where they live in mid Cornwall!

TAHC volunteers, Tom and Angela, will lead a walk along the shore in June. This will be a continuation of the Tales of the Tide project.

Also in May, TAHC volunteer June, attended a meeting at Falmouth Maritime Museum. This was the third meeting in connection with a National Maritime project on Smuggling and Smugglers. The exhibition will be mounted in 2027.

Janet and Rosemary attended a reception hosted by the Mayor, Councillor Julie Martin, to bid farewell to Captain Jeremy Ussher. He has left HMS Raleigh to take up a new senior role, helping to shape future naval training.

The Archives would like to congratulate Julie on being elected for a second year as Torpoint's Mayor.

Mike Pearn MBE

Chairman

DATES

Get Together 11 am Thursday June 11th CHAT building
Saturday opening June 13th 10 – 12
Sunday opening June 28th 10 – 2pm

AGM 6pm Thursday July 9th in the Library and Community Hub