

MARAZION Memories

NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2005

We are looking
for cine film-do
you have any
hidden away?



Uffa Fox, the world renown yachtsman came to Marazion on 26th November 1954 to speak at the Mount's Bay Sailing Club's Annual Dinner. He is pictured in the white coat with officials of the club including the then Lord St Levan and the Hon. John St Aubyn on the Mount. Dinner was at the Tudor Cafe with roast beef and apple pie on the menu. Mr Fox sailed his new 18ft 'Jollity' in Mount's Bay and this was bought by Lord St. Levan and others soon formed a racing class. In 1954 the club had about 80 members-today it has nearly 600!

PICTURE FROM HARVEY RICHARDS.

DO YOU HAVE SIMILAR PHOTOS? – WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE THEM

Marazion Memories is a two year project created to record the recollections of people in the parishes of St. Hilary, Ludgvan, Perranuthnoe and Marazion. If you are keen to help we would love to hear from you but please be patient as it may take some time before we come to visit!

The project has made an excellent start with the help and support of all the local churches, St Hilary, Marazion and Ludgvan schools, all the parish councils and Marazion Museum.

We will be creating an archive which we will share in various ways. A small group of volunteers meets regularly to promote the project.

LIKE TO HELP? CONTACT
JOHN POLLARD- 07967272808

AN ACCOUNT OF MARAZION REGATTA FROM THE PENZANCE GAZETTE, 31st AUGUST 1842

Next came the 6 oared gigs, for £3: £2: and £1. This race created a good deal of interest; there were hundreds of individuals on the Mount, who followed the boats as they rounded that ornament to the Bay, and thereby kept them in sight throughout the course: three started:—

Victoria, Hayle	St. Aubyn, Mount.
Lance, Mount	

The superiority of the Hayle gig was soon apparent, the Lance, however, ran into the Victoria, and the St. Aubyn shot a-head—but kept her place only for a short time, when the Victoria again took the lead, the Lance followed, and this was the position of the three throughout the remainder of the race, and they finally arrived as stated above.

The four oared gigs followed, for £2: £1: and 15s: four started:—

Sylph,	Mount,	Dusting.
Mary,	Penzance,	King,
Delphin,	Do.,	Pascoc,
Guvrills,	Do.,	Phillips.

These boats came in in the above order.

The finale was a "Gig and Punt" chase for £1.

We are looking for old photos of Marazion school
Can you help?

THE PENZANCE GAZETTE OF 1842 ALSO DESCRIBES THE DINNER THAT FOLLOWED THE REGATTA- 40 GENTLEMEN HAD DINNER AT SEALY'S HOTEL. THE ACCOUNT SAYS THAT THE WINES WERE EXCELLENT AND THE CHAIRMAN, LIEUT. CAMPBELL RN. TOASTED THE QUEEN, PRINCE ALBERT AND THE DUKE OF CORNWALL!

A REMINISCENCE PROJECT PROMOTED BY MARAZION AND DISTRICT FORUM, FUNDED BY HERITAGE LOTTERY

We have started to talk to some of the volunteers who have agreed to share their memories- they offer a fascinating insight into life in Marazion in the middle of the last century!



We are aware that we will be told stories about people who still have relatives living in the town. We will always endeavour to be accurate and will not knowingly print anything which could cause concern or embarrassment to anyone or break copyright. If you talk to us nothing will be published without your permission. We are trying to paint a picture of life in Marazion in the past and can only do that with your continued support and help.

Gay Sagar Fenton moved to Marazion in 1932-Aged 12. Her father was the manager and later owner of the fertilizer factory in Newlyn. The family lived in Feliskirk Lane below she describes just some of her memories of the war.

Marazion Old Vicarage was used as a WVS canteen during the war. There were lots of troops around, guarding the coast. There were dances for the soldiers, mainly held in the church hall. The Irish Fusiliers were billeted in the Goldolphin Arms but there were disputes with Scots soldiers staying elsewhere! In case there was an invasion there was a coastal defence gun on the hills overlooking the bay but it was never fired because it would break the windows of the surrounding houses! The beach had barbed wire and land mines- many dogs were blown up by running on to the beach. There was a pillbox defending the beach and the Fenton girls would hang out of the window to watch the gun firing at enemy aircraft. There was a small beach behind the Goldolphin which was not mined and was used by the locals. Gays father was involved in controlling the Fire Engine which was kept at the Town Hall and he always knew about the raids before the siren sounded. Gay worked on the land and later did night duty at a hostel for evacuees who could not be billeted with families in Alexandra Road. The greatest responsibility was to decide whether to wake the children and take them down to the basement or not when the air raid siren sounded. She remembers a German plane flying over Marazion and firing on the beach. Gay married during the war and went to Redruth to buy curtain material for the dresses. She remembers they were not allowed white icing on the cake- it had to be chocolate!

We are collaborating with the Hypatia Trust who are researching the role of the Land Army in the Penwith Area and would love to hear from anyone with recollections of their work.

We have received memories of many local characters-contact us and let us record your memories-Do you remember:
Philip Calf the Newsagent. He took Bible Class at the Methodist Sunday School but would talk more about his experiences as a ships carpenter and going around Cape Horn!
Arthur Philips the milkman who dispensed his milk from a churn carried on a horse drawn trap. He was also the Chapel organist.
What about Miss Maidments Hat Shop or Mr.Slatterwaite the Grocer? Has anyone got a picture of Mr. Laity's Travelling Grocers?- or Bakers Banana Store where Tarantulas were said to reside!