

Federation of Old Cornwall Societies

Paul Phillips – Dialect Recorder

Society Secretaries, please read this out at your meetings, thanks (and as often as you like.)

Dear members,

We are about to launch a new theme, in fact two new themes! Interest has been shown in recording peoples Nicknames, which led on to the recording of town and village collective Nicknames.

The intention of this circular is not only to advise you but to invite you to heartily participate; so if you have friends or know of past inhabitants who were well known by their Nickname please send them to me in the first instance and I will collate them and forward them to Tony our Webmaster.

Naturally there are a few things we would like you to include as far as you are able, namely the person's Name, Nickname AND where possible the reason for such a handle. Were they given the Name because of the way they looked, was it the way they spoke. Maybe it was because of an incident that happened in their life or perhaps merely a 'Hand-me-Down'. It might of course have arisen from their occupation. I feel sure you will know what we are looking for; as with dialect a mere list of words is of little use to anyone and most uninteresting. Non Cornish folk are NOT excluded; I think it will be just as interesting to know the reason why someone came amongst us with a Nickname as if it originated here. The one requirement is that they must have resided here at some point.

Pleased don't hold back because you think we may already have it; I have a jolly good strainer that I usually use for cabbage, but I can use it for this job equally as well!

I look forward to my In box being jammed full!! Alas I never had a Nickname that I know of.

Regards to you all,

Paul Phillips (details as per website)