



## News from the History Group Research Team .....

Whether you are interested in the house you live in, or your own Family History, researching into these subjects will definitely take you on a very interesting journey.

In the case of your home, no matter how old it is, or even if you live in a new build house, every building has a history. You can find who owned your home, and the land and what it was used for in the past, by using resources like Ordnance Survey and Tithe Maps, Census information, Glebe Terriers, Wills, Leases, Land Registry, Newspapers, and good old Google. As you unravel this story, whether it be your home or family history, it gives you a greater sense of knowing where you come from, and an insight as to who came before you.

Nicola Alford mentioned to me last year, that when she was renovating No. 2 Tregarrick Cottages, she found a One Penny coin in one of the window sills, and it was dated 1915. Now I wondered why and who put or dropped it there, and did it happen during the construction of the building, put there on purpose, or simply fall out of someone's pocket later on, only to be found some 108 years later by Nicola? The "why" was answered, as I found out that it was a superstition that if you put a penny on or in a windowsill, it would ensure you would always have money in your pocket and good luck – so, now we know why, but who? My first point of call was to find the occupants of the cottages in 1911 – the nearest date to the coin. I found that the Aunger family lived in the cottage in 1911, but when were they built? The cottages are not listed in the 1901 census, so they must have been built between 1901 and 1911. So my next step was to look at the newspapers for that timespan for any information. There I found an article in May 1904 stating that the cottages were being built by Messrs. Hooper and Worth, and that they would soon be finished. The Worth part being Joy Armstrong's Great Grandfather, William Henry Worth, so now Nicola knows when they were built, and by who. This doesn't answer the question as to how the One Penny got into the window sill.

At times we just have to find the most probable answer, which in this case again leads me to the Aunger family, but were they still there in 1915? Looking at birth records, their son, Frederick, was born in St. Tudy during June 1914. The next child was born in April 1917 in St. Germans, so it is most possible that they were still living in the property in 1915 and placed the coin there for luck, they may well have been influenced by their Gypsy neighbours living in one of the fields at Tregarrick, that is a story for another time - Mystery solved Sherlock!

**We will be holding a History Open Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March between 1.00 – 4.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.** You can either bring in any information on your own house you would like to share, or we will help you find information about your home. In addition to this, we will be able to help you with your own family history information, and start you off on your trail of discovery, so please come along and share and investigate with us. You don't need to come from St. Tudy, we can investigate all over the UK.

Happy investigating budding Sherlocks!

PAM FREE