

# A K HAMILTON JENKIN

Alfred Kenneth Hamilton Jenkin (1900–1980) was born in Redruth into a widely-known and respected Cornish family. The house where he lived, Trewirgie House, had been in the family since the early 18th century. One of its early occupants was his great-great-grandfather, William Jenkin, who became in later life steward to the Lanhydrock family estates, then amongst the largest in Cornwall. It was at Trewirgie House that John Wesley was entertained while visiting Cornwall.



For all those interested in social and economic history, there flowed from the pen of A K Hamilton Jenkin a series of dedicated and inspired portrayals of all things Cornish. It was the first of these, *The Cornish Miner*, first published in 1927, which established him, at the age of 27, as a historian and writer. In the 1930s followed *Cornish Seafarers*, *Cornwall and the Cornish*, *Cornish Homes and Customs* and the *Story of Cornwall*. In 1951 came *News from Cornwall*, and the 1960s saw him engaged in the publication of a vast 16-part series on *Mines and Miners of Cornwall*, running to nearly a thousand pages and the result of 16 years' research involving visits to some 2,000 Cornish mines.

His love for Cornwall can be seen in the gifts of books, manuscripts and maps which he has made to its institutions, including an especially generous donation in 1966 to the Redruth Library Cornish Collection, now part of the Cornish Studies Library at the Cornwall Centre in Alma Place, Redruth.



West End and Fore Street

# REDRUTH TOWN TRAILS

This leaflet guides you on a short walk from the centre of Redruth to the church of St Euny on the outskirts of the town, exploring its historic, architectural and mining heritage, starting and finishing at Alma Place.

It is one of a series of leaflets and trails being developed around Camborne-Pool-Redruth (and included in the short-listed bid to secure World Heritage Site status for Cornish Mining).

## FURTHER INFORMATION

If you are interested in the history of Redruth, more information can be found in the following publications, available at most local bookshops or the **Cornwall Centre, Alma Place. Tel: (01209) 216760**

*Redruth & its People* (1988) and *Victorian Redruth* (2001)

both written and published by **Michael Tangye**;

*Annals of an Ancient Cornish Town – Redruth* by **Frank Michell**,

published Dyllansow Truran (1985);

*Redruth Town Guide* published by

**Redruth Town Council (01209) 210038**

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**Michael Tangye** of the **Redruth Old Cornwall Society**,

**Joan Biscoe** of **The Redruth Story**,

**Moirá Tangye** of **Murdoch House**,

**Terry Knight** of the **Cornwall Centre** and

**Jane Buchanan** of the **West Cornwall Leader Project**.

Research & text by **Michael Tangye**.

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*Redruth Railway Terminus & Coal Depot, mid-19th century.*

*Portrait of A K Hamilton Jenkin by Leonard Fuller, photographed by John Watton.  
St Euny Parish Church.*