

# THE NEW BOOK OF LOSTWITHIEL

DIAMOND JUBILEE EDITION

Barbara Fraser

Lostwithiel lies at the upper tidal reaches of the River Fowey, hidden away by richly wooded hills. A small town, proud of its heritage, independent spirit and genuine friendliness, it is loved and cherished by all who live here. In *The New Book of Lostwithiel* the town's story is told from its beginnings as a vital port developed by the Normans and as the centre of the tin industry and the administrative capital of medieval Cornwall. During the Civil War, the town was occupied, besieged and badly damaged but, thanks to political patronage in the eighteenth century, Lostwithiel recovered, to be kept going in turn by improved roads, farming, iron mining, the railway, and the 'milk factory'. Lostwithiel is now developing a reputation as the 'antiques centre' of Cornwall. Today Lostwithiel, with its many traditions, institutions, clubs and societies and its strong sense of community, has a character that is all its own.

First published in 2003 and quickly sold out, this new edition of *The New Book of Lostwithiel*, published to coincide with the Diamond Jubilee, brings the story of the community fully up to date. A new section highlights what has happened since the book was first issued, including the devastating floods of November 2010 which caused considerable disruption and distress for both residents and businesses and the subsequent visit by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall to meet the residents affected and the emergency services involved. More positively, the Brunel Quays restoration and development of the railway buildings project is nearing completion, with the old carriage works and maintenance building now providing both residential and light industrial accommodation whilst a busy dental surgery occupies part of the ground floor level. Finally, new images capture how the Jubilee was celebrated.

This unique publication is a vital record of the history and inhabitants of the ancient parish of Lostwithiel, presented in a single volume for all to treasure.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

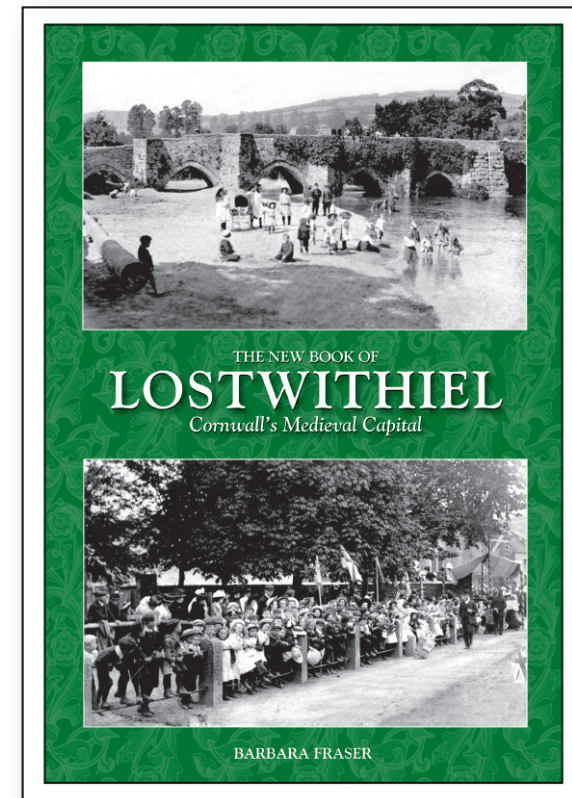
The late Barbara Fraser came to Lostwithiel with her husband Ian in the 1980s. Intrigued by the town's rich heritage and encouraged by the local people, she wrote her first volume, *The Book of Lostwithiel* in 1993. Barbara was a trustee of the Lostwithiel Museum Association and edited a local history journal, *Lostwithiel Past and Present* from the mid-1990s until 2009. Barbara led a team conducting heritage walks within the town and was constantly learning about this historical settlement. She was subsequently involved with the Lostwithiel Forum Development Trust and the Cornwall Council's Historic Environment Service in preparing a detailed Characterisation study of the town.

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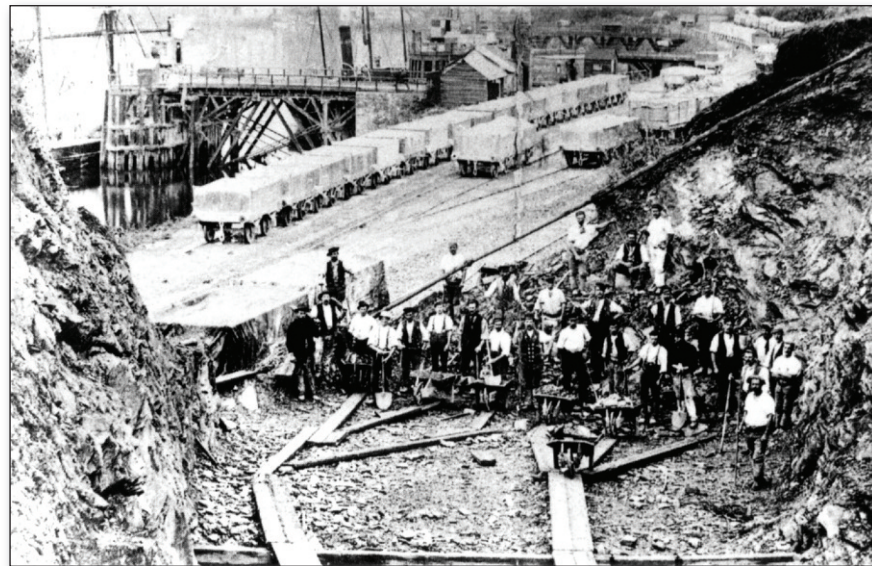
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1st Lostwithiel Brownies, 1981.



Lostwithiel Bridge in the flood of 17 November 2010.



Cutting the line to Lostwithiel from Fowey (the docks are in the background) before 1869.



Right: The creamery vans, ready for action, 1933.

Below: A WI party at the Royal Talbot Hotel, 1951.



Example of a double-page spread.

◀ THE NEW BOOK OF LOSTWITHIEL ▶

Stumpy House, 1840 (1798) 1841.

Read, writing, skating on 1 November. It was the practice of the village school to read the Bible every day. The children were taught to read the Bible and to write. The school was held in the schoolhouse, which was built in 1841. The school was held in the schoolhouse, which was built in 1841. The school was held in the schoolhouse, which was built in 1841.

▶ POWER, INFLUENCE & SERVICE ▶

Right: Mrs. F. C. ...

Robert ...



Diamond Jubilee Sports, Monday 4 June 2012.