



**National Coastwatch**  
EYES ALONG THE COAST

## **NCI Gwennap Head – Incidents and News 2014**

The early year storms produced the heaviest seas the majority of our watchkeepers have ever seen. At times spray was coming over the watchroom which is 240 feet above sea level. On 12th February a gust reached 103.08mph whilst many were recorded in the high 90's. Fortunately the only damage incurred was the yardarm parting company with the main mast. Later, the mast was taken down for complete overhaul and re-erected with the help of local farmer Michael Semmens who used his JCB with great skill.

The Visitors Room was completely refurbished during the year. Displays depict what NCI does, functions of the rescue services, the history of Gwennap Head generally and wildlife details.

At the end of the summer we assisted the BBC in their producing the new "Poldark" series. Filming took place at nearby Porthgarra cove and also Carn Guthensbras which is overlooked by our station. Shots also took place a short distance away at Botallack, on the North coast, where many old mine buildings feature. It will be very interesting to view the finished product on TV in the Spring of 2015.

The year has been relatively incident free although we did assist the rescue services with communications on one occasion. Two reports were made to Falmouth Coastguard as vessels failed to obey the rules of the Lands End Traffic Separation Scheme.

Just under 6000 vessels were logged during just over 4000 watchkeeping hours, the latter designed to keep our inshore waters and coastline a much safer place.

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