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Jonathan Macartney Ball MBE

I am a proud Cornishman, husband, father and grandfather. I'm an Architect and a Bard of Gorsedh Kernow. I am the co-founder of the Eden Project in Cornwall and remain one of the project's most enthusiastic supporters. I am an ideas man – who has a love for humanity, for his community and for his planet. Few things give me greater pleasure than enjoying Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly with family and friends. I have been married to Victoria since 1974 and we have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Cornish Heritage: <http://jonathan-ball.com/>

My Cornish heritage, my local community, and my lifetime love for the Isles of Scilly are, along with my family, the greatest influences on my life with my hometown of Bude at the centre of this. I am a past Chairman of Bude Chamber of Commerce, past Chairman of Bude Round Table and have served as a Bude Rotarian for approaching 30 years. I have been a member of Bude Rugby Football Club since its foundation and was made a Life Member in 1984. I have been a member of London Cornish RFC since 1965 serving as choir master for the club's renowned social reputation in rugby circles and I now serve on LOCOG, the club's Organising Committee of Old Gits now living in Cornwall who promote this exile club in the County.

RNLI: <http://jonathan-ball.com/>

One of the most important aspects of my life has been voluntary service to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. I joined the crew of Bude Lifeboat in 1966 serving until 1993, with my last eight years as Senior Helmsman. On my retirement from the crew in 1993 until 2007 I served as Deputy Launching Authority for Bude Lifeboat, then serving on RNLI Council from 2007-2013.

In 1989 I was awarded the RNLI lifeboat crew Long Service Award. In 2002 I was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal for services to the RNLI. In 2010 I was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation Surf Life Saving Australia in recognition of outstanding support for and contribution to Surf Life Saving Australia. I co-wrote the RNLI Beach Lifeguard programme that brought the RNLI into Beach Lifeguarding, and served as the only non Irish member of the Bandon River Raft Run Committee in West Cork which, for a number of years ran the largest fundraising event for the RNLI in the Republic of Ireland. I was choir master of the Bude Lifeboat Singers for more than 30 years, a community choir which raised funds for the Institution and other charities.

Public Speaking: <http://jonathan-ball.com/>

I have been an enthusiastic conference and after dinner speaker since my student days, but my early Eden experiences have put me in demand to talk about the project, and the process of its creation. After my journey through the Royal Courts of Justice I have, by necessity, become knowledgeable in the area of intellectual property protection and the safeguarding of creative ideas. This hard won experience has resulted in many requests from audiences wanting to know how a citizen from a small town in Cornwall survives such a demanding assault to well being.

Spirit Of Place: <http://jonathan-ball.com/spirit-of-place/>

The Spirit of Place Bude is a celebration of prose, poetry and architecture in the form of a public exhibition on behalf of the Royal Institute of British Architects, which is to be held in Bude Castle March/April 2014. Through carefully matched poetry, prose and photography the ambition is to form a poignant reflection of the history of the town, the beauty of the landscape and how architecture fits into this setting as the buildings in which humanity live, work and play.