

WHO ARE WE?

We were formed in 1979 to act as the national body for mining history in the United Kingdom. There are now over 70 member organisations, including societies, museums, firms, etc. and membership now extends to Ireland.

NATIONAL in our title means that we represent mining history in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

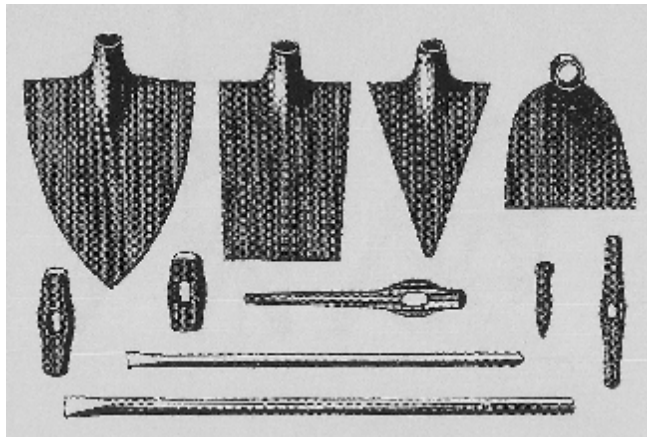
Our **AIMS** are to allow liaison between our members and to act as a single national voice for the benefit of mining history.

MINING history is the study of how metals, coal, stone, slate, etc. were mined in this country from prehistoric times to date.

HELP is given to individuals, government bodies and commercial firms in both practical and academic matters.

Our **OBJECT** is to increase the knowledge of mining history in the United Kingdom and to promote it in all its aspects.

We also have links with mining history organisations in other countries.



WHO CAN BECOME A MEMBER?

There is no individual membership of NAMHO but any *bona fide* organisation with an interest in mining history can apply to become a **Full Member**.

Other organisations who do not qualify under the above, but who are interested in the activities of member organisations, can apply to become an **Affiliate Member**.

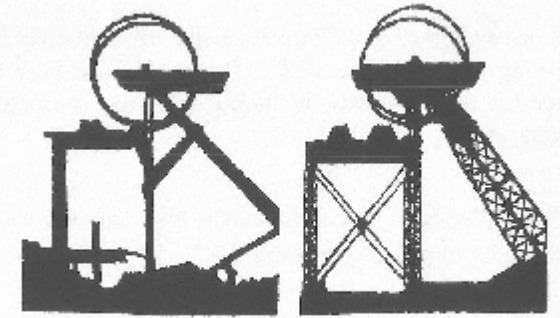


HOW IS NAMHO RUN?

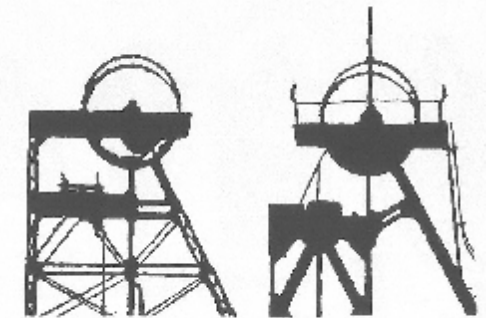
Every Full Member nominates a representative and, regardless of size is entitled to a single vote on the Council which meets twice a year. Affiliate Members are entitled to attend the Council meetings but have no vote. Council meetings often include an underground or mine site visit.

Day to day management is carried out by annually elected officers.

We do not seek to control the activities of our members' organisations, only to act on their behalf.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MINING HISTORY ORGANISATIONS



The focus for co-operation between organisations involved in mine history, exploration and preservation in the United Kingdom and Ireland

WHAT DO WE DO?

These are some of our activities:

1. Codes of Practice

We produce codes of practice and guidelines for those involved in surface or underground industrial archaeology. We can provide a full list but ones generally available are:

- (a) Underground exploration
(One for novices and one for leaders)
- (b) Removal of objects from mining sites
- (c) Collection of minerals from mining sites
- (d) Application of health and safety law to underground exploration
- (e) How to carry out archival research

2. External Liaison

We liaise with public and private bodies over matters of mine preservation and access. We pride ourselves in taking a sensible approach to this since we can take a national overview of the situation.

3. Internal Liaison

We act as a means of allowing members to exchange information and ideas. We produce a regular Newssheet for members in which items of national interest are disseminated.

4. Consultation

We are consulted over planning applications and site scheduling. Not only can we provide archaeological information but also details on the extent and condition of mine workings. Members of NAMHO have served on government committees dealing with mine databases and methods of making entrances safe.

5. Information

As the national body for both the UK and Ireland, we are the quickest way of obtaining information on mines in these islands. The individual members of our organisations hold more information on disused mine sites than any library or record office. If you have a query, we can direct it very quickly to the appropriate organisation or person. We also have links with sources such as museums and libraries having relevant information.

6. Interpretation

Many of our members are museums and we encourage the interpretation of mining sites for the public. This can vary from un-manned sites to full-scale theme parks. We are glad to advise any new scheme that involves some aspect of mining.

7. Conferences

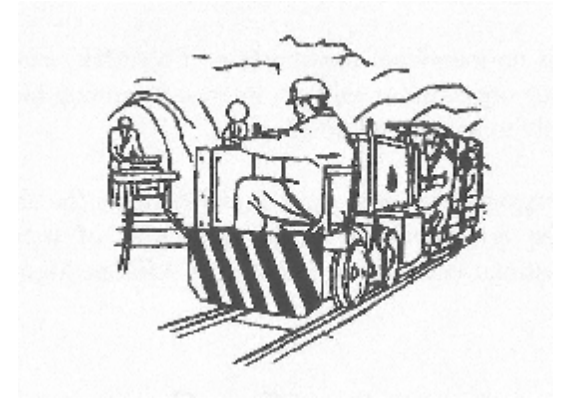
We organise a Mining History Conference every year. This is held in different parts of the region and is hosted by one of our member organisations. It takes place over a weekend and events include lectures, seminars, field trips and opportunities for social activities.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

We are the only body representing the specialised knowledge and skills involved in mining history. As more ex-mining land is developed, the information on such sites will become very important.

We support the publication of papers given at the annual conferences. In 2009, we obtained the contract from English Heritage to begin a significant report on the protection of mining sites in the UK. This work continues in 2012.

We will continue to help everyone to enjoy our mining heritage, whilst maintaining a responsible and professional attitude.



HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

Further information about NAMHO can be obtained by writing to:

The Secretary, NAMHO
c/o Peak District Mining Museum
The Pavilion
MATLOCK BATH
Derbyshire DE4 3NR
England

or visit www.NAMHO.org for more details about the National Association of Mining History Organisations.

