



NAMHO Conference, 25-27th July 2014, Bangor, Gwynedd.

Mining Technology: Technical Innovation in the Extractive Industries

A two-day programme of lectures examining some of the technologies involved in winning material from the ground, plus surface and underground field visits to relevant mining and quarrying sites in north-west Wales.

The online booking system has been open since the beginning of March and a considerable number of bookings have been made. The underground field trips are proving popular with some trips already fully booked.

Over the last four thousand years mining has progressed from antler picks and stone hammers, through the mechanical developments of the medieval period and nineteenth-century industrialisation, to the large computer-controlled mining machinery of the present day.

The lecture programme is:

The Welsh Slate Industry: archaeological evidence for development and change-Louise Barker
Metalliferous mineral exploration in North Wales since 1964-Tim Colman;
Mechanisation on the Coal Face: a History-Darran Cowd;
Precipitation Pools on Mynydd Parys-Andrew Davidson;
From Calley to Curr: the refinement of the Newcomen Engine between 1712 and 1790-Steve Grudgings;
Copper and Slate: technological and social change in the extractive industries of north-west Wales-David Gwyn;
Hunter's Machines-Graham Isherwood;
Mine drainage at Mynydd Parys: an intriguing history and recent problems-David Jenkins;
Splitting the Mine: the effect of Buddle's panel method on the increase in extraction rates in 19th century coal mining-Mia McCabe;
Technological Innovation and Adaption: Tyndrum Lead Mine and the German Managers, 1838 to 1865-Catherine Mills;

Electricity in the North Wales Slate Industry-Tim Oulton;
Mine Drainage on Mynydd Parys-David Jenkins;
Dating the Introduction of Gunpowder in the Central Wales Orefield-Robert Protheroe Jones;
Deep mining technology: Devon and Cornwall in the eighteenth century-Rick Stewart;
Welsh Stone Quarries-Ian Thomas;
Prehistoric mining technology: archaeology and experimental reconstruction-Simon Timberlake;
Boreholes: a brief history of an essential mineral exploration technique-Rob Vernon.

For more information and to make bookings see

<http://www.namho.org/bangor2014>

New NAMHO Members

At the NAMHO Council Meeting 09/11///2013 the following museums were accepted as NAMHO members:

Snibston Discovery Museum (Leicestershire County Council),
Radstock Museum, Purbeck Mineral & Mining Museum.

And at the Council Meeting 15/03/2014 **Allihies Copper Mines Museum.**

Further information, including links to the relevant websites, can be found at:

http://www.namho.org/members_museums.php

A word from the Editor

Please accept my apologies for the lack of recent Newsletters. This edition is an interim one and normal service will resume with the June edition

I would like to express my gratitude to those who have provided contributions for this newsletter. Items are credited to the contributor, unless written/supplied by myself as Editor. Thanks also to Peter Jackson, NAMHO Secretary, for distributing the newsletter and forwarding correspondence.

Roy Meldrum

NAMHO Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM was held 15/03/2014 at the Peak District Mining Museum, Matlock Bath, with 22 representatives from constituent groups present.

The following were re-elected as NAMHO Officers: Ian Thomas- Chairman, Sallie Bassham- Vice-Chair, George Price- Treasurer, Roy Meldrum- Newsletter Editor and Peter Jackson was elected as Secretary. We express our thanks to Nigel Dibben for his sterling service as Secretary over the past years, but we haven't lost him as he is continuing as Webmaster. At the following Council Meeting, Peter Claughton (Conservation Officer), Kevin Baker (Museum Officer) and Steve Holding (BCA Representative) agreed to continue within these positions.

Future NAMHO Conferences

At the NAMHO Council Meeting, 15/03/2014, the planning of future conferences was discussed. The matter of organisation, funding, guidance and format was discussed and it was suggested that NAMHO should have a plan for conferences for the next two to three years.

For the 2015 Conference Peter Jackson has booked the village hall at Nenthead for the 22nd-24th May. Due to limitations on the venue the emphasis will be on field trips, but there will be a short programme of talks around the theme of "Wartime and Mining".

The Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland have offered to host the 2016 Conference, with a theme of "Mining and Social Change". For ease of access the MHTI intend to hold the conference in Dublin. The programme of events is likely to include visits to working mines, a series of lectures and workshops, and field trips to mines in County Wicklow.

There were a number of suggestions for the 2017 conference and it was felt that a field meet somewhere in England would make a suitable break from the 2016 Ireland Conference and possible 2018 Conference in Scotland. The question now is where? Do you have a suitable suggestion of venue? Or is there a group that would like to organise, with help and assistance from NAMHO, the 2017 Conference? If so, then please contact the NAMHO Secretary via the Contacts link on the NAMHO website.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1st April-1st July 2014: Through My Eyes: The Miners' Strike 1984/85, Big Pit, Blaenafon, Torfaen, NP4 9XP. See this remarkable exhibition of photographs taken during the Miners' Strike of 1984/85.

14th June 2014: St. Aidans BE1150 Walking Dragline Open Day (2.00pm- 4.00pm), Swillington, Leeds LS26 8AL

6th-13th July 2014: International Mining History Congress & Australasian Mining History Association Conference, Queensland.
<http://www.ct2014miningcongress.com/programme.html>

25th-27th July 2014: NAMHO Conference, Bangor, Gwyned: Full details and booking form at <http://www.namho.org/bangor2014>

26th July 2014: Big Pit's Gala Day, Blaenafon, Torfaen, NP4 9XP

15th November 2014: NAMHO Council Meeting, venue to be confirmed.

Copy Date for the next newsletter is 30th May, with publication due June 2014.

Contributions: Email to Newsletter Editor via the NAMHO website-

<http://www.namho.org/contacts.php> or by post, c/o NAMHO Secretary, Peak District Mining Museum, The Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR

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