



NAMHO Conference 2014



Roman Shaft- Debbie Wareham, GOES

Three cheers for the organisers of NAMHO 2014

By common consent, the NAMHO 2014 Conference held at the University of Bangor was a resounding success - and this, despite some of the rumblings amongst a few beforehand. We also need to remember that the offer, then the decision to go with Bangor, came comparatively late in the day due to circumstances outside NAMHO's control. Considerable tribute is therefore due to the main organising team – Simon Lowe, Angela Gawthrop and Dave Linton as well as a largely hidden supporting cast - Nigel Dibben, Pam Cope and Pete Jackson. Sincere apologies for anyone I have omitted. I found the booking arrangements exemplary.

The technology theme was widely appreciated. Not only was this thread well maintained in all sixteen presentations, the ground covered could hardly have been more varied.

Bangor proved to be a first class location as a base for the 29 field trips, which were generally well supported with 148 takers. It was clear that a significant number of the delegates had not visited Bangor previously and were pleasantly surprised. I've visited my brother who has lived in the city for years, but found its eccentricities even more of a challenge, driving with a

barely functioning clutch! I understand that the accommodation was top rate – I only experienced the dinner at the hall, which couldn't be faulted.

The initial hard bargaining with the University hosts, at times on a knife edge, resulted in an excellent venue with parking (yes – free into the bargain), reception, lecture hall, the 16 club and trade displays and snacks only seconds walk apart. Praise also must therefore go to the University staff for their courtesy and kindness – the abrupt officialdom of many conference venues was completely absent.

After the sad loss of George Hall last year, I was very pleased, indeed surprised to see his *Metal Mining in Mid-Wales 1822-1921* launched at the beginning of the conference. I first met George quite accidentally, when visiting his Gloucester bike shop for parts in about 1962. Pulling together his incomplete drafts, prepared in respect of an anticipated M.Phil submission to the Department of History and Welsh History, Aberystwyth, must have been daunting in any circumstances, an achievement all the more remarkable in being completed in unbelievably short time-span. Particular thanks are due to David James who edited the text, supported by a number of Welsh Mines Society members.

Ian Thomas, NAMHO Chair



Trade Stands in the Great Hall- Simon Lowe, Aditnow

NAMHO Conference 2014: A Conference Delegates View

This year's conference was held at Bangor University. The University started life in 1884 as the University College of North Wales, funded by donations from quarrymen and other local people. The lectures were held in the Main Arts Building, most of which dates back to 1911 and is built of Cefn stone from Clwyd, and Precelly slate from Pembrokeshire. Accommodation was available about 10 minutes' walk away, in the Ffriddoedd Halls of Residence, built in 2009. The Conference was attended by 135 delegates, and organised by the AditNow Mining History Society with support from Nigel Dibben, Angela Gawthrop, Dave Linton and others.

The theme was "*Mining Technology: Technical Innovation in the Extractive Industries*". There were 16 lectures covering subjects ranging from "Mechanisation on the coal face" to "Precipitation Pools on Mynydd Parys", dates ranging from "Prehistoric Mining Technology" to "Metalliferous Mineral Exploration in North Wales since 1964" and locations from Devon, Cornwall up to Tyndrum in Perthshire, with a good focus on Wales. During the breaks between lectures delegates could visit the displays set up by researchers, clubs and organisations such as I.A. Recordings, Moore Books and Starless River.

As an alternative to the lecture programme there were a variety of fieldtrips arranged within a 60 mile radius of the University. The 26 underground visits to 11 areas ranged from photographic visits, exploration using Single Rope Techniques, to the classic Mona – Parys Through-Trip which includes wading chest or neck-deep in water with an "interesting" chemistry and biology. Two surface tours were offered, along with seven Do-It-Yourself visits mainly to the local mining and quarrying visitor attractions.

I found the online booking system easy to use. The conference venue was readily accessible by public transport, with the accommodation nearby. Both the accommodation and the catering were excellent, provided by very friendly staff. The NAMHO Conference Pack and administration was first-rate. Unfortunately, I didn't manage to join a fieldtrip, but the lectures were excellent, and I was very impressed by the depth and breadth of knowledge of the participants.

Top marks to the AditNow Mining History Society, their helpers, speakers, fieldtrip leaders, exhibitors,

sponsors, landowners and the University for making this a most interesting and enjoyable conference. Thank you.

Alastair Lings, Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland

NAMHO Conference 2015

NENTHEAD, Alston, Cumbria 22nd - 25th May 2015

Organised by the Nenthead Mines Conservation Society.

The Conference Themes will be:

- 1. Mining Industries of the North Pennines and adjacent areas*
- 2. The Relationship between the UK Mining Industry and War*

The conference venue will be The Village Hall at Nenthead, near Alston in Cumbria. The Village Hall does not have overnight accommodation. The Conference Website will include a list of accommodation providers and campsites in the North Pennines.

The organisers welcome all offers of support including Conference Papers, Surface and Underground events, exhibitions and displays.

Conference details will be published later in 2014 on the NAMHO website at www.namho.org Conference contact point is Peter Jackson: admin@nentheadmines.com , phone 07718385646 or 01642564100

*Pete Jackson,
Nenthead Mines Conservation Society*

NAMHO Conference 2016

The conference will be arranged by Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland (MHTI) and it is likely to be in late June 2016. 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.

More information will be published as it becomes available. www.mhti.com

BCA REPRESENTATIVE(S) WANTED

NAMHO is a constituent body of the British Caving Association but what does this mean and are NAMHO and its member organisations making the most of this?

BCA aims to provide a 'one stop' access to all that is needed in underground exploration in Britain (and beyond) looking to provide services with respect to Conservation and Access, Equipment, Training, Legal Advice and Insurance but most members are only likely to be aware of the Insurance provision (and possibly have little understanding of that).

The operation of BCA is overseen by the Council. The Council consists of representatives of the Regional Caving Councils, Constituent Bodies and a small number of representatives of clubs and individual members. The BCA Council normally meets four or five times a year (one meeting following the AGM). Most of these meetings are currently held at Pinvin (near Evesham), Worcestershire and last from about 10.30 am to about 4.00 pm – travel expenses are paid for attendance by approved representatives.

There are also Conservation and Access, Equipment and Training Committees that meet a number of times a year, as judged appropriate – again expenses are paid for approved representatives. The relevance of these committees is reasonably self-evident but it is probably worth emphasising that the Training Committee oversees the operation of the Local Cave & Mine Leadership Assessment Schemes. NAMHO with all Regional Caving Councils and Constituent Bodies are entitled to send a representative to all Committee meetings.

Some specific examples of interaction with BCA are:

1. Insurance is a benefit of BCA membership – the membership categories of BCA are currently being reviewed and are likely to be revised.
2. The Training Committee is keen to financially support a training activity that is of relevance to mine activities – some clubs have had support for external SRT training but this could be something completely different.
3. There is clear interest in the interactions with Forestry Commission regarding access to mines (current discussions with regard to North Wales mines are being handled by Cambrian Caving Council Conservation & Access Officer).

4. Ropes used in Borneo have shown substantial degradation presumed to be acid attack – questions have been raised at BCA about ropes left in-situ in mines and possible acid attack.

Steve Holding has been the representative to the governing council and general meetings and he has attended committees where practical and when considered to be important for NAMHO member organisations. Having carried out this role for a number of years, for 2015, Steve intends to step down as NAMHO representative to BCA Council but would be happy to support by attending some committees or assisting someone else by attending the Council meetings as an observer.

NAMHO is looking for somebody to replace Steve Holding as representative to BCA Council. It would be desirable to spread the load and have others represent NAMHO at the various committees. Any interest should be expressed to Peter Jackson, NAMHO Secretary: (p.jackson@ntlworld.com) – further information can be obtained from Steve Holding (steve_holding@blueyonder.co.uk).

NAMHO and the CRoW review

NAMHO Officers are reviewing the situation with regard to CRoW (The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) following a meeting of the British Caving Association Conservation & Access Committee. The meeting discussed at length the impact of CRoW on cave and mine exploration. The draft minutes can be read on the BCA website by following [this link](#). Member organisations are welcome to send comments to the NAMHO Secretary by 30 September 2014.

Radstock Museum: Forty years on – Mining the Past

On 31st August 1973 the last load of coal was raised from Kilmersdon Colliery. A month later, on 28th September, the last load was raised from Writhlington Colliery signalling the closure of the Somerset Coal Field. In the years since, pitheads have been dismantled, their buildings demolished or used for other purposes and the visible evidence of mining in Somerset has slowly dwindled. A generation has grown up knowing little about the industry that shaped the communities in which they live.

In September 2013 the 25th annual Miners' Reunion marked the 40th anniversary of the closure of the coalfield. Pupils from our three local secondary schools also attended the reunion at the start of a yearlong project, 'Mining the Past'.

The Project:

"Mining the Past" is a joint project between Radstock Museum, the Radstock Midsomer Norton & District Museum Society, and Norton Hill, Somervale and Writhlington Schools. It is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Somerset District Miners' Welfare Trust, the National Union of Mineworkers (South Wales Area) and the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation.

Over the last twelve months pupils at the three secondary schools have been involved in a variety of activities to capture and preserve the experiences of former Somerset miners. The results of their work will be recorded in a publication produced by Radstock Museum and has formed the basis for an exhibition which will be staged at Radstock Museum from September 2nd to September 27th this year.

Beginning:

"Mining the Past" began with a half-day conference, bringing together pupils and staff from the partner schools and ten former mine employees at Radstock Museum. A slide show and introductory lecture on the history of the coalfield was provided by Dennis Chedgy, after which the attendees were split into groups. Each group contained a mixture of pupils and staff from the three schools, Museum volunteers and two or three former mine employees. This gave the pupils the opportunity to ask questions and begin to learn about the experiences of those who worked in Somerset's coal mines.

From the outset, pupils' perceptions were challenged. Many were disappointed to find that the men they were talking to did not necessarily work at the coal face... but when the groups came back together there was plenty to talk about.

As the conference drew to a close, teaching staff from the schools helped pupils to identify the questions that would form the basis for the next stage of the project: a questionnaire. This was to be used in interviewing as many former mine employees as possible. Using the same questions meant that answers could be compared.

Interviews: On 9th September 2013 a dozen pupils from Norton Hill, Somervale and Writhlington joined former

mine employees at the annual miners' reunion to ask for their help. Nearly half responded to the invitation to visit the schools, taking part in the interviews just before the autumn half term. Others who were unable to attend the interviews completed the questionnaires by post.

Using the questionnaire they had helped designed, and recording some of the interviews for future use in schools, pupils took notes of the answers and learned more about what it was like to work at the Somerset pits.

Reviewing the work:

A second half-day conference was held on 22nd November 2013, bringing pupils back together to discuss their findings and to consider what they thought were the important messages to share with others. One of the biggest surprises was the sheer variety of jobs. "Until we did this, I thought mining was a bunch of men going down a hole in the ground with a pick axe," said one pupil.

This conference agreed a framework for the exhibition and identified areas for further research within schools.

Further research:

During the spring and summer terms, pupils continued work in their own schools. Reading articles and books, looking at old photographs and talking to family members who remembered the industry helped pupils broaden their knowledge and share it with their peers through school assemblies and newsletters.

The activities taking part over the spring and summer terms included: former mine employees joining pupils at Norton Hill's history club; Museum volunteers working with pupils at Somervale and Writhlington; pupils visiting local sites in search of evidence of coal mining; and pupils from all three schools visited Big Pit in South Wales.

Results:

Pupils who have participated in the project have learnt a lot from the men who worked in the Somerset coal industry. By sharing their findings through publication, they are helping to spread that knowledge among their peers and the wider community and to preserve it for the benefit of future generations.

Copies of the interview questionnaires, research materials and DVDs made by the schools now form part of the resources in each school. At Writhlington,

Head of History is using the work of the last year to develop a unit of work based on our local history.

The final step in the process was to bring together the results of the work in an exhibition 'Mining the Past'. The exhibition at Radstock Museum runs from 2nd-27th September 2014, with this year's Miners' Reunion on 8th September 2014.

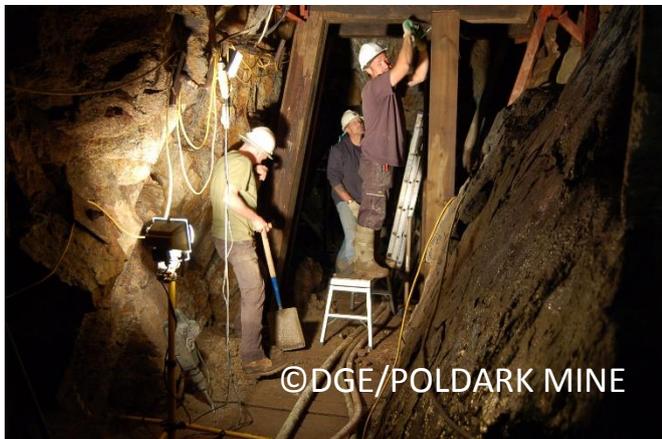
For more details please see:

www.radstockmuseum.co.uk or email info@radstockmuseum.co.uk

Nick Turner, Manager/Curator Radstock Museum.

Poldark Mine

Poldark Mine & Open Air Museum is open again under new ownership and management.



Underground, Poldark Mine

The old company is no longer since the sale of Poldark Mine in May, the museum and offices having been ransacked as the last act of vandalism by the departing owners who had run the place down for the past 14 years and sold off a number of important items and on departure removed or sold off a number of items including the collection of minerals created by Peter Young the late founder of the museum.

Peter was very supportive of the new vision for the mine and we were able to assure him just a few weeks before he suddenly and sadly passed away that the future of his creation was assured albeit as a heritage museum and tin mine. Peter was delighted to learn that some of the articles that were sold off were due to be returned and that 2015 is to be an excellent year for Poldark (Wheal Roots) Tin Mine and Open Air Museum due to the BBC filming on site. A memorial service is due to be held in the gardens during September to celebrate Peter's life and his discovery and subsequent opening the mine for future generations.

The mine and gardens re-opened in June this year following major works in the mine itself and this allows a 45 minute guided tour of the labyrinthine workings and an overall visitor experience that takes around an hour with an excellent audio visual presentation on the World Heritage Site that the mine is part of. Tin working went on here for thousands of years. It was mechanised in 1493 which makes it probably the oldest recorded site of its type in the world. The water wheel pit and its mile long leat survive to this day.

The deeper part of the mine is being worked on by engineers at present in order to extend the underground tour into the lower levels and depths of the mine and offer a full hour's tour of the 18th century workings. The mine continues to be the only complete mine being pumped in Cornwall that is open to the public. Some 35,000 gallons of de-watering a day make an annual total of 50 million litres - an expensive procedure as electricity is being used to do this work, out of over 3,500 known Cornish Mines Poldark is a unique survivor and is full of atmosphere. There are a number of historic winding engines and an elderly 1850 beam engine that was the very last to work in commercial service in Cornwall. It was re-erected at the museum in 1972 and can be seen in its ponderous motion from time to time.

There is a new vision for Poldark Mine and Open Air Museum concentrating on the mine and the heritage of an amazing location that is also the home of a Scheduled Ancient Monument, the Trenear Mortar Stone in use for tin processing since the Bronze Age - an incredible record and the veritable cradle of tinning in Cornwall.



BBC Film Day, Poldark Mine

The team of guides include veterans who have been guiding for many years and are popular with visitors. Two of the guides actually held their weddings underground as the mine is licenced for weddings and

civil partnerships. The new series of Poldark is due to be broadcast on the BBC in the New Year and the underground sequences were filmed at Poldark Mine just a few weeks ago just as they were in the 1970s. A number of the mine's artefacts such as the unique 1844 3 cwt Ting Tang bronze mine bell are being used as genuine props for the new series.

Poldark Mine is now under the management of David Edwards who was the involved in the concept of the company that opened Llechwedd Slate Caverns in Blaenau Ffestiniog in 1972 and was to become their first General Manager. Llechwedd was the very first underground quarry or "mine" in the UK to be opened to the public at the time and has won many Tourist Board awards and accolades since.

Poldark Mine was opened in 1976 as Wheal Roots, and was also the first Tin Mine to be opened to the public, a position it holds to this day as it is the only deep mine experience possible in Cornwall. In 1977 it was named Poldark Mine due to the popular BBC series that was partially filmed there at the time, it was visited in vast numbers at the time. The series of books written by the late Winston Graham were nearly all launched at the mine where he was a regular visitor until near the end of his life.

Visitor numbers since the mine has re-opened are excellent and most tours are fully booked each day, particularly so in inclement weather when visitors arrive in great numbers.

The mine's web site has up to date information www.poldark-mine.co.uk

David Edwards, Poldark Mine

Clipstone Colliery Headstocks

As part of the National Coal Board (NCB) post-war redevelopment programme, a 'Koepe' or Friction winding system was installed at Clipstone Colliery, Clipstone, Nottinghamshire. Instead of the usual tower mounted winding system, ground based winders were used. This required the need for headstocks with pulley wheels or 'sheaves' mounted one above the other.

The metal headstocks at Clipstone are approximately 65m tall, the tallest in the UK when built. The central winding house contains two electrically driven 'Koepe' winders and two motor generator sets to convert the AC supply to DC.

The headstocks were listed in 2000 as an "early example of the 'Koepe' system". British Coal closed and mothballed the colliery in 1993, but it was re-opened in 1994 by RJB Mining (later to become UK Coal). The colliery finally closed in April 2003.

The Coal Authority, who have responsibility for the site, made a listed building consent application for demolition, and all but the headstocks and winding house were demolished.

The future of these iconic structures remains uncertain. In 2003, a referendum was held in Clipstone and the villagers voted for demolition of the whole site! However, interested in preserving what remains of the colliery is on the increase. A local community group, Clipstone Colliery Regeneration Group (CCRG), has been formed to campaign for the restoration and transformation of the headstocks into a visitor attraction with community and leisure facilities.

Concern for the possible de-listing and subsequent demolition of the headstocks has been raised to NAMHO. Peter Cloughton, NAMHO Conservation Officer has since been in contact with CCRG and is arranging a visit to the site in early September.

There is a petition to save Clipstone Colliery headstocks, which can be found at:

<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/61497>

There is also a Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/saveclipstonepiththeadstocks/>

CCRG: <http://www.clipstoneheadstocks.co.uk/>



Clipstone downcast shaft headstock, Roy Meldrum

Yorkshire Dales Mining Museum at Risk

In an effort to save money, Pendle District Council have terminated the small annual grant paid to this unique venue. Unless alternative funding can be found it may not continue in Spring 2015 after the winter break.

Situated in the Old Grammar School, Earby, formerly part of Yorkshire's Craven District, it started in the early 1970's as a display of Dales mining relics assembled by Earby Mines Research Group. In 1997 a charitable trust was created and a 25year lease on the building was signed. After obtaining substantial grant aid from English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the building was completely refurbished, re-opening in 2006.

Now, with full wheelchair access, interpretative displays, an attractive tearoom and small shop the museum was recently described in the Yorkshire Dales Review magazine as a "hidden gem".

A Museum Trust spokesperson said, "We are very grateful for the financial support provided by Pendle District Council and indeed for all the grant aid which we have received. We do not need substantial amounts to survive and the Pendle District grant gave good value for money. For under £5 000 per year the Council had a unique attraction staffed by volunteers. What we need now is a modicum of financial support and a few more volunteers to help at weekends. Without these things we must be concerned about the future. (07/08/2014)

<http://www.yorkshiredalesminingmuseum.com/>

David Carlisle

Publications

Mining History Volume 19, No.1, Summer 2014

Peak District Mines Historical Society Ltd., Softback, 77pages, illustrated with photographs and plans, ISSN 1366-2511

Trevor D. Ford- The Geological Setting of Old Lead Mines of Ashover and Crich, Derbyshire

Chris Heathcote- A Gazetteer and History of the Lead Mines within the Liberty of Tideswell, Derbyshire: 1189-1945

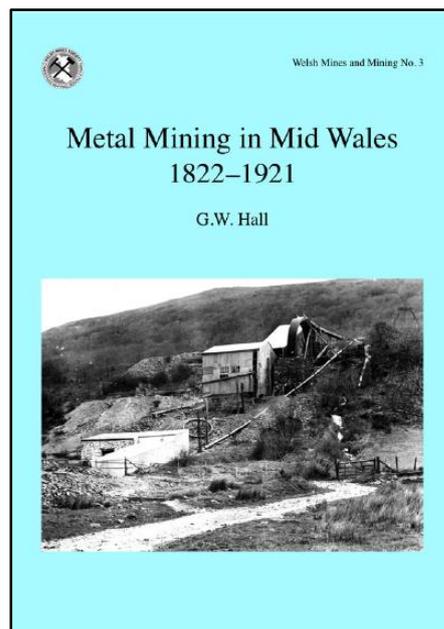
Metal Mining in Mid-Wales 1822-1921

G.W. Hall, Welsh Mines Society, Paperback, 130pages, illustrated, £12.00, ISBN 978-0956137722

The late George Hall occupied a unique position in mining scholarship in Britain, not only from his seventy-year career in mine promotion, management and field-based research but from his possession of a near-complete run of the Mining Journal covering the greatest days of the Mid Wales Orefield, an area very dear to his heart.

Lying between the expanded gazetteer approach of David Bick and the exhaustive monographic treatments of some individual mine sites by various authors, this publication commemorates George's encyclopaedic knowledge of the orefield and fills a major gap in its documentation. It draws on his intimate knowledge of the content of the Mining Journal, otherwise difficult of access, and not only charts the historical development of the mines but also gives a vivid picture of how they were worked, funded and managed and of some of the heroes and villains whose actions variously resulted in spectacular profits and financial scams of the worst kind.

The text comprises George's work in progress for submission for an M.Phil. Degree, edited for continuity and augmented with introductory material and relevant illustrations by David James.



So you think you're tough? - Getting Serious about Gender in Mining

Dr. Jean Laplonge, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 202pages, 22,9x15,2x1,2cm, ISBN 978-1499137743

This new work brings together many years of research and on-site work exploring gender in the mining industry. It offers a challenging and unique approach to help resource professionals understand contemporary research on gender, and to start to think beyond the "women in mining" debate.

"The preferred view of gender in the mining industry today assumes gender to be a natural part of who we are-that we behave as men or as women because that's who we are. But we must start to think about how the everyday practices of the business of mining help to produce the genders of its employees. We must also start to consider how wider cultural understandings of gender affect the way we work as men and women in mining."

The author of this new book, Dr. Dean Laplonge, has presented his ideas on gender in resource industries at conferences all over the world. As one of the founding directors of Factive, Dean has been committed to exploring why the mining industry has ignored so many ideas about gender that have been so prominent in gender studies over the past few decades. In this book he challenges resource professionals to recognise how "gender" must be understood as something far more complex than numbers of women.

"Masculinity is important, particularly in an industry like mining. There's a need to explore practices of masculinity in the workplace. This is important when trying to understand the impacts of gender on safety and on workplace cultures. More broadly, there's also a need to think about how a business or workplace is already gendered, and what this means in terms of the kinds of men and women who are preferred on site."

Dean Laplonge is Adjunct Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales, Sydney; and a committee member for the Gender Sector Study which forms part of the Mining Industry Human Resource Council's (MiHR) Sectoral Initiative Program - Labour Market Intelligence project in Canada. He has completed extensive research and work in the fields of safety communications and gender for government departments and resource companies. Dean lives in New Brunswick, Canada.



A Complete Guide to the Engine Houses of west Cornwall

Damian Nance & Kenneth Brown, Lightmoor Press, 184pages, printed in full colour throughout, 21x21cm, £18.00, ISBN 978-1899889853

Nowhere in the world has metal mining been of greater importance than it has in Cornwall, and it is in recognition of this extraordinary heritage and the global influence of the pioneering technology developed here that the county's mining landscape was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2006 on a par with the Pyramids of Giza and the Great Wall of China. During the 19th century, Cornwall produced most of the world's copper and tin, as well as substantial quantities of lead, silver, arsenic, tungsten, zinc, iron and uranium. What made this unparalleled productivity possible was the development, pioneered by Cornishman Richard Trevithick, of the Cornish beam engine, a reciprocating steam engine capable of driving pumps that could keep the ever-deepening mines free of water.

Although few of these great engines survive, many of the buildings in which they were once housed remain to this day, forming characteristic features of the Cornish landscape that have come to symbolize the county's rich mining heritage and now stand as silent monuments to the mining industry for which the county was once justly famous. This book introduces these remarkable engine houses by providing an illustrated guide to those in West Cornwall using

contemporary and archival photographs supplemented with brief descriptions of the engines the buildings once contained, simple interpretations of some of their key features, and short histories of the mines of which they were part. It is not an exhaustive treatment, nor is it meant solely for the enthusiast, but rather, it provides an overview intended for all those interested in these historically important structures. Together, the authors bring over a century of expertise to this fascinating guide. Damian Nance is a St. Ives-born geologist with a lifelong interest and knowledge of Cornish engine houses, and Kenneth Brown is a leading expert on Cornish mining history and co-author of the highly popular "Exploring Cornish Mines" series.

Publisher's synopsis

'The Last Great Cornish Engineer: William West of Tredenham'

John Manley, Trevithick Society, 196 pages, £14.99, ISBN 978-0957566026

Note: Publication due 13th September 2014

William West (1805-1879) was part of that generation of engineers which brought the performance of the Cornish engine to its peak. Born of humble stock in Camborne, he rose to prominence not only as a mine engineer but as an adventurer, banker and contractor. He was reputed to have erected more engines in his career than any man in Cornwall.

A short and flattering Sketch of the Life of William West appeared in 1880, just after his death, but since then he, and his contemporaries, have been unjustly neglected. John Manley's new life includes the full text of the Sketch with new information about the life and work of this major Cornish engineer.

Trevithick Society

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2nd-27th September 2014: Mining the Past Exhibition, Radstock Museum, Waterloo Road, Radstock, BA3 3EP. See report above for further details.

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11th-14th September 2014: Heritage Open Days.

Various venues, full details:

<http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

13th September 2014: Jubilee Colliery Open Day, Newhey, Rochdale, Lancashire, 1-3pm. Guided tours of the excavations. For details see report in NAMHO Newsletter No.68, June 2014.

13th September 2014: Snibston Gala, Snibston Discovery Park, Coalville, Leicestershire. Includes colliery tours, Snibston Co-op Brass Band, mining memorabilia, local history groups. Full details:

<http://www.snibston.com/>

15th November 2014: NAMHO Council Meeting, 10.30am at Rising Sun Inn, Mosely Green, Parkend, GL15 4HN

21st March 2015: NAMHO AGM & Spring Meeting, venue to be confirmed.

Acknowledgements

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, Editor

Copy Date for the next newsletter is 10th November, with publication due December 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