



NAMHO Conference 2017-

Request for Speakers

"Mining History Organisations - Achievements and Challenges"

A request from the Lecture Organiser

We are very keen to provide a full set of good lectures over two days of the 2017 Conference, 24th and 25th June, based at Godstone, Surrey. We would like to encourage all mining history organisations such as yours to take this opportunity to showcase a project of which you are rightly proud, whether in progress, completed recently, or finished many years ago.

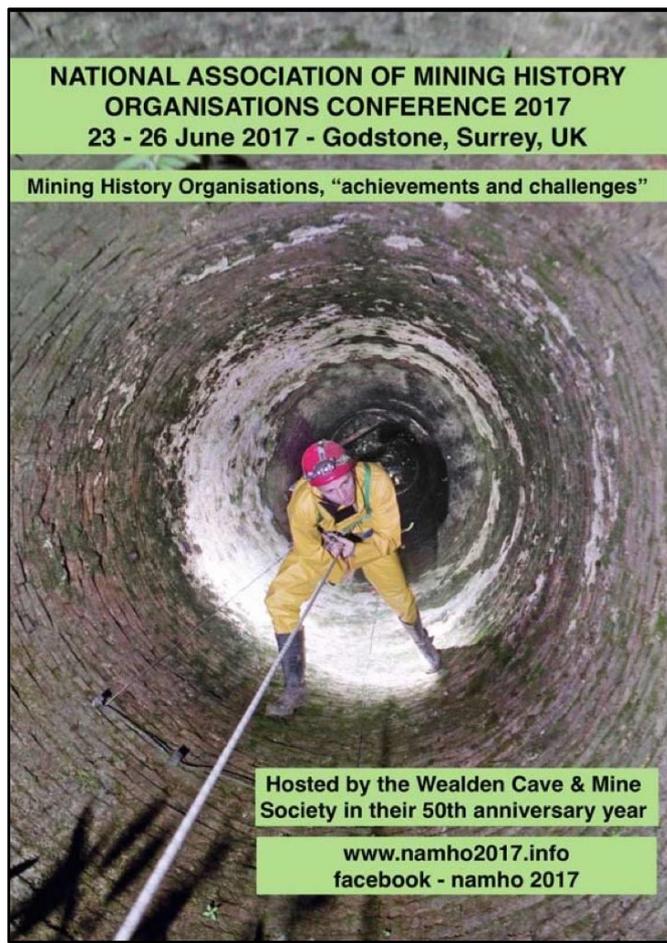
Remember that future projects are not excluded either, so we would be very grateful if you would consider your options and let us know if you as a society would like to take one of the lecture slots. We would envisage that any presentation should last between 40 and 60 minutes, including a provision for a short question session at the end.

We would, if possible, like to hear about the challenges that you had to overcome, and the nature of any issues and benefits derived from working with third parties, such as landowners, agencies of various kinds, or other bodies such as yours.

We are not necessarily expecting any particular style or manner of presentation, so please don't feel constrained to an academic approach. We would like the event to be reasonably informal, inclusive, and above all, enjoyable.

If you would like to contribute, please let me know, including in your reply the subject matter, the length of time you think you need, and a brief summary. If you would like to contribute, but are not yet certain of the details, then just reply accordingly.

Peter Burgess
Lecture Organiser, NAMHO Conference 2017



Acknowledgements

As usual I would like to convey my appreciation to those that have contributed to this edition of the NAMHO Newsletter. I would particularly like to express my gratitude to John Hopkinson for allowing the reproduction of his feature on the 2016 NAMHO Conference, and also Alastair Lings, Ainsley Cocks and Mel Potter for permitting the use of their photographs.

Items are credited to the contributor, unless written/supplied by myself as Editor.

Roy Meldrum, NAMHO Editor

NAMHO Conference 2016 **'Mining and Social Change'**

The theme of this year's conference, hosted by the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland (MHTI), was "Mining and Social Change". Seventy four delegates were registered, and although the lectures were limited to one day (Saturday 18th June), field trips were held from Friday 17th through to Friday 24th, spread widely across Ireland.

There was an international flavour to the lectures, which covered locations as far apart as Montana and Pennsylvania in the USA; Canigou, France in the SE Pyrenees; Sardinia; the Alps, and naturally Ireland.

The programme of eleven lectures got off to a flying start with a lively presentation by Jeanette Graulau from Lehman College, City University of New York (CUNY) on the financing and structure of mining corporations in the 12th to 14th centuries, with particular reference to silver mining in Western Europe and the Balkans.



Dr Peter Claughton and Professor Jeanette Graulau deep in discussion. Image courtesy Ainsley Cocks

Two lectures (John Hussey's and Niall Colfer's) covered quarrying in Ireland of granite and millstones respectively. A further two lectures explored social conflict. In Ireland, Terry Dunne detailed the 1826 to 1834 unrest and strikes in the Castlecomer (Co. Kilkenny) coalfield, during which sadly there was a fatality. The terms "Whitefeet movement" and "whiteboys" were new to me - very broadly similar to the Welsh "Hosts of Rebecca". In the USA, Alan Noonan's paper described the rising amongst the Irish miners in Butte, Montana in 1916 - timely when

considering that 2016 is the centenary of the 1916 Irish rising at the GPO.

Paul Rondelez (originally from Belgium, but now living in Ireland) gave a fascinating paper on iron mining and production (by both bloomeries and blast furnaces) in Ireland in the 17th Century. Sharon Jenkins-Carter continued the iron theme by looking at the effect the heritage of iron mining on the Canigou Mountain in the South East Pyrenees (which ceased as recently as 1985) has on the identity and culture of the local population.

We returned to Ireland and the Castlecomer coalfield with Anne Boran's (University of Chester) talk about her ancestor, Nixie Boran, who had a chequered history in the period 1927- 1935 by leading the coal miners against the triple alliance of State/Church/Landlords. He had visited Russia in 1930 and led a six-week strike of the Mine and Quarry Workers' Union which ended on 20th November 1932. He also fought on both sides in the 1922-1923 Civil War.

More 'Irish coal' followed with Richard Clutterbuck's paper on the landscape archaeology of coal mining in the Mardyke/Slieveardagh area of East Tipperary. He covered features from early "bassett" workings via engine houses to workers' housing and other extant buildings. "Bassett" was a new word to me. It is a method of working shallow coal seams somewhat akin to the bell pits, and would seem to get its name from the dictionary word 'basset' meaning an outcrop.

A double-act lecture by Prof. Robert Wolensky and his brother Kenneth, both from Pennsylvania, described the two schemes prevalent in the mining of coal in the Northern Anthracite Region of Pennsylvania. These were subcontracting and leasing, the former used typically where no more than 20 miners were working, the latter having typically 2,000 miners working on the lease. They described how the labour force fared under each. They went on to describe the wide-spread influence of organised crime, both on the side of the owners and later, the unions.

The Knox mine disaster of 22 January 1959 where twelve miners were killed following the inrush of the Susquehanna River into River Slope Mine was described and used to illustrate the rampant corruption. Unbeknown to the miners, their own Union President, August J. Lippi, was (secretly) the

mine owner! This came out in the subsequent Inquiry, following which six men went to jail. Sadly the twelve bodies were never recovered. The *Wikipedia* entry for this disaster references a book on it written by Robert, Kenneth and Nicole Wolensky! The disaster effectively marked the end of underground coal mining in the area.



*NAMHO Delegates at the lecture programme at DCU.
Image courtesy of Ansley Cocks*

Dan Shields described his sociological research undertaken in 1983 and 1984 following the closure of Tynagh mine, a large post-war lead/zinc mine near Galway, when he interviewed 64 ex-miners and 20 other 'locals'. Differences of views between farmers and non-farmers and between pro-union and nonpro-union persons were explored; the orderly closure of the mine was blighted by a labour dispute.

All the Authors provided brief synopses of their papers; some of the papers may be published in full in the annual *Journal of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland* No. 16, which is due out at the end of the year.

*John Hopkinson,
MHTI Newsletter No.73 Summer 2016*



*Hodgson's Tramway Arch, visit to West Avoca workings
Image courtesy of Alastair Lings*



*Underground at Gleniff Barytes Mine, Sligo
Image courtesy of Alastair Lings*

Around the NAMHO Groups

CATMHS Website and CATMHS Archive

The transfer of our archive from the Ruskin Museum at Coniston to the Armit Museum & Library in Ambleside has now been completed. All the items have been accessioned onto the Armit catalogue. Please try to visit the Armit to give them, and us, some support. Their website is www.armitt.com

The CATMHS website, www.catmhs.org.uk, has been substantially upgraded.

From the home page, if you hover on Resources and then click on Archive you will be able to access the catalogue of CATMHS material at the Armit Museum by clicking on MODES-LIST.pdf

You can also find the full index of our mining plans as an Excel spreadsheet by clicking on CATMHS_Index_v1 .The index will come up as a box with the Excel symbol at the bottom left corner of the page. Click on this. If you then note a PLAN_ID number from column A, and enter it in the 'Search this website' box on the Home page, you will be able to view a pdf of the actual plan. Be patient, it takes a few seconds to download. You will be able to zoom in to examine detail.

There is also a Meets page, where you can find a diary of CAT meets, together with details of how to contact the Meet Leader.

CAT, Newsletter of the Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining History Society, No.124 August 2016

Friends of Williamson's Tunnels

During the last week of July 2016, the FoWT finally emptied the penultimate chamber, the 'Ash Chamber'. So that leaves only one final chamber to go. Once this last section which we call the 'Gypsum Chamber' is empty too, Paddington will be completely empty. This final milestone of a completely empty Paddington could be a matter of weeks away.

Getting this far represents a major achievement for FoWT and all our hard working diggers, who give up their time each week. Emptying the ash chamber and knowing that we are weeks away from an empty Paddington gives us all a great sense of pride. I'd like to think Mr Williamson would be proud of us too.
(02/08/2016)

<https://williamsontunnels.com/category/news-2/>
<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/incredible-pictures-show-williamson-tunnels-11716090>

Rogerley Mine update, June 2016

For quite a few years now we have been invited to visit this mine near Stanhope as part of our meets programme. It has always been very well subscribed to and Cal Graeber has been very generous in the time he has spent with our members and we are very appreciative of this.

Unfortunately a new set of regulations governing the civilian use of explosives has made it much more difficult and expensive for small operations such as those of UK Mining Ventures who operate the mine to acquire and use such things. As a result, at the end of summer 2015 they lost access to the magazine which they had used over the years, which was located in a nearby quarry. Another problem was that Dave, the local miner, announced his retirement at the end of the same season. With these problems UK Mining Ventures are wondering how things will turn out.

*Barbara Sutcliffe,
NMRS Newsletter, August 2016*

Mining around Yate and South Gloucestershire

One of the more heartening aspects of working in local heritage has been the enthusiasm for mining history and archaeology in the local area. It is therefore with great pleasure that I can announce that both South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group (SGMRG) and Yate & District Heritage Centre (Y&DHC) have embarked upon another collaboration to tell the story. This will be the fourth joint effort having already put

together displays on local Mining, Ram Hill Colliery and most notably the full on 60th Anniversary of the closure of Frog Lane in 2009 complete with book, copious oral history interviews and touring display.

Such has been the unstinting efforts of core members of SGMRG that a further exhibition is something of a no brainer. We are keen to tell the story of the work undertaken at Brandy Bottom (who would have thought 15 years ago, there would be a Friends of Brandy Bottom?) and the Serridge Engine site, which is fast becoming, not only a wonderful industrial archaeology project, but also a fantastic heritage site in its own right.

Additionally, Celestine, often overlooked beyond the Yate parish, will get decent coverage befitting its local importance and reflecting the solid research surrounding it over recent years. We are currently investigating whether it is feasible to display the recently discovered Celestine tub found at Yate aka Westerleigh Common as a major artefact linked to the industry.

Y&DHC and SGMRG are coming together to put this display together and are confident it will be popular with general visitors, enthusiasts and also local schools, many of whom have had mining as a local studies topic.

Mining around Yate and South Gloucestershire will be on at Yate Heritage Centre from 11th October to 26th November 2016, opening times are 10.30 - 4.30 Tuesdays to Thursdays and Saturdays. Please phone 01454-862200 or visit www.yateheritage.co.uk for more details.

SGMRG Newsletter, Issue No.46, Summer 2016

Volunteering Opportunities

Force Crag Mine Machinery Conservation Project

The National Trust are looking for mining and engineering enthusiasts to work alongside expert conservators to help clean, care for and record machinery at the Force Crag Mine. The volunteers must be available for five consecutive day from 12th to 16th September 2106 and be comfortable working at a remote and possibly wet and windy site. There will be no underground work involved.

For full details and a link to the application form see:
<https://myvolunteering.nationaltrust.org.uk/opportunity-view?id=4c8b0484-1be4-4f76-bd79-43bbced291e7&distance=16.3>

VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO PROTECT AT-RISK HERITAGE

OREsome North Pennines is a two-year project to aid better understanding and improved management of eight 'at-risk' structures relating to the area's mining heritage. The sites are classified Scheduled Monuments by Historic England. The project will run from 2016 to 2018. The project, made possible thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, will train volunteers to survey and monitor the archaeological, ecological and geological interest on an annual basis, so that any management problems can be detected before they become critical.

Uniquely, the project will provide an opportunity to look at these sites in an integrated way. So any future management of the sites will have due regard to archaeological, ecological and geological features.

In addition to surveying and monitoring, the project will explore prehistoric and Roman mining activity in the North Pennines, about which very little is known. There will also be a programme of events and interpretation material, such as self-guided trails, so that the findings of the project can be shared as widely as possible.

Volunteers are crucial to this project and all are welcome. No previous experience is needed as full training will be given, but anyone with a specialism in geology, archaeology or ecology would be valued. There will also be opportunities for transference of knowledge and skills between these three disciplines.

All volunteers will be required to sign up for at least one year, to attend a training workshop and then undertake survey work as part of a team on an allocated site. Volunteers will also have the opportunity to attend a launch, and end of year review workshop. Support from the OREsome North Pennines Project Officer will be available throughout.

The basic requirements for volunteers are the ability to walk over rough terrain, and enthusiasm to help conserve the heritage of the North Pennines mining industry for future generations. The training will begin in autumn 2016. To become an OREsome volunteer

please contact Sarah Tooze
(sarah@northpenninesaonb.org.uk or call on 01388 528801).

<http://www.northpennines.org.uk/Pages/NewsUpdate/Item.aspx?NewsUpdatesID=202> (01/08/2016)

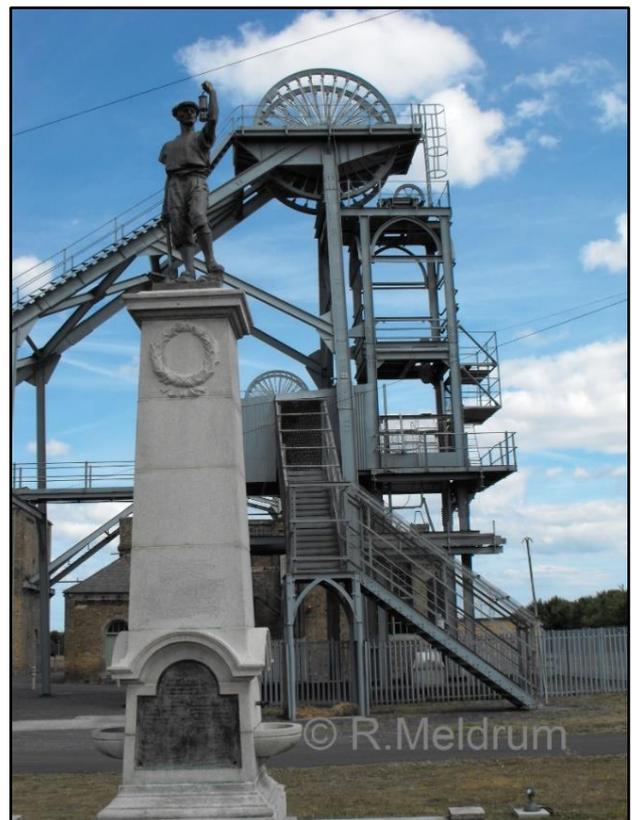
Mining News

England

Woodhorn Colliery Disaster memorial service

A memorial service was held at Woodhorn Museum in Ashington to mark the centenary of the disaster at the colliery on 13th August 1916. Thirteen men, mainly deputies, were killed when a gas explosion ripped through the Main Seam where they were working. At the Inquest held in the September evidence gathered showed a catalogue of failures at the colliery, which made the disaster inevitable. (13/08/2016)

<http://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2016-08-13/memorial-service-held-on-centenary-of-woodhorn-mining-disaster/>



1916 Explosion Memorial at Woodhorn

'Tinth' Anniversary Celebrations

In commemoration of the 'Tinth' (or tenth) anniversary of the mining landscapes of Cornwall and West Devon achieving World Heritage Site status, a series of cultural events have been organised.

Perhaps the most impressive was the largest mechanical puppet made in Britain undertaking a 130 mile trip through the Cornish Mining landscape. The 'Man-Engine' was unveiled at Tavistock on 25th July, continuing over the next 10 days to visit 21 further locations, culminating at Geevor Tin Mine. The response by the public exceeded all expectations. Over 130,000 people saw the 'Man-Engine' first-hand and it was reported worldwide by the media.

<http://www.cornish-mining.org.uk/news>



*The 'Man-Engine' at Geevor Tin Mine
Image courtesy of Mel J Potter*

Groverake Mine update

(As reported on the *Nenthead Mines* Facebook page)

Seventeen years ago the miners on the last shift at the very last industrial fluorspar mine in the North Pennines left work, bringing to an end centuries of mining in the Durham Dales.

Since then the mine headgear with its winding wheels has stood silent at Groverake mine in the Rookhope valley. It has become a well-known and loved landmark, a fixed symbol of a vanished industry.

Local people have become increasingly concerned about the long-term future of the iconic Groverake headgear. Following a public meeting at Rookhope earlier this year they formed a Friends of Groverake

committee to explore what could be done to ensure its survival.

After months of working behind the scenes the *Friends of Groverake* say that proposals to save Groverake are being urgently put together.

Dr Andy Hopkirk, one of the Friends group, comments: "We understand the landowner is willing to consider a formal plan to keep the headgear in place. That's good news but it seems we've only got a month to pull it together so we're getting started right away".

Sherburn Stone Company Ltd are the owners of the Groverake Mine headgear and they have stated that: "The headgear that we own at Grove Rake Mine has great cultural significance and we support all efforts to preserve it in situ. We would gladly donate the headgear to a credible preservation group, but we are very mindful of our obligations to our landlord and to the local authority and all stakeholders would have to agree a way forward."

Notes:

The Friends of Groverake comprises an informal group of interested local people with relevant experience and are currently working with partners and other organisations to put together a business plan for Groverake. (23/08/2016)

<https://www.facebook.com/NentheadMines/?fref=ts>

There is a similar statement on the *Friends of Groverake* Facebook page-

<https://www.facebook.com/Friendsofgroverake/?fref=ts>

Dales Pony Society celebrate centenary at Killhope Lead Mining Museum

As part of their centenary celebrations the Dales Pony Society held a special event at Killhope on 5th August 2016. Three ponies in traditional harnesses and panniers, accompanied by society members in traditional dress, recreated working life at the 19th century Weardale lead mine. (09/08/2016)

<http://www.hexham-courant.co.uk/news/allendale/Mine-ponies-make-a-historic-return-visit-8fdd2079-728f-4a8a-b3ae-0a7ceb338a9a-ds>

Coniston Copper Mines HLF grant update

There are many aspects to the grant, apart from the conservation work and interpretation, which also includes various ecological surveys, as previous ones have shown there are many rare plants, lichens etc. and the new surveys will show if there have been any changes.

On the 6th June conservation work by the contractor started at the Old Engine Shaft wheelpit which has been completed and they are now concentrating on the Thriddle incline. The bat and reptile survey has been completed and no adders or bat roosts were found. The Bryophyte survey has started and there are over 150 species, with three being rare.

Press releases have gone out and Eleanor Kingston and Warren Allison were interviewed for Border News which went out on the 27th May. Minerva Heritage have been appointed project co-ordinator and are looking at the various interpretation aspects of the project which will include involving the public and they have started working with the local schools. Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA) have been appointed to carry out the watching briefs and recording process as well as looking after the volunteers who are taking part in the various archaeological surveys. The first one started at Penny Rigg Mill on the 11th July with an introductory day taking part on the 10th July where Mike Mitchell, Mark Simpson and Warren Allison took the volunteers through the site, describing the history as well as a short trip into the slate closehead just inside the Horse Crag Level.

Eleanor was especially pleased that out of the 24 volunteers who turned up for the introductory day, at least half were new people and the invitation had only just gone out.

During July the lichen survey will commence with work continuing at the Thriddle Incline and associated wheel pit. The survey at Penny Rigg Mill is anticipated to last three weeks with volunteers also carrying out documentary work and an introductory leaflet will be ready for the end of the month

*Warren Allison,
CAT, Newsletter of the Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining
History Society, No.124 August 2016*

Wales

Possible compromise with schools development on Six Bells Colliery site

The initial plans to build a new community primary school near to the memorial to the Six Bells disaster were met with fierce opposition. The *Guardian of the Valleys* memorial, a 20 metre-high steel miner, commemorates the 45 miners killed in the explosion at the pit on 28th June 1960, and the proposed school development would have affected the access to it.

In response to the objections to diverting access, it is now proposed to split the school into two separate areas. The application says "Although this represents an uncomfortable compromise for the school, it has been as a consequence of having to balance its requirements with those of the community." The final decision is expected in autumn, with the committee welcoming further comments from residents. (03/08/2016)

[http://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/14660170.Plans to split proposed school into two to preserve access to the Guardian memorial/](http://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/14660170.Plans%20to%20split%20proposed%20school%20into%20two%20to%20preserve%20access%20to%20the%20Guardian%20memorial/)



Guardian of the Valley overlooking Six Bells

Transformation of Cardiff's Coal Exchange underway

The first phase of the controversial plans to transform the Grade II listed Coal Exchange in Cardiff has begun. *Signature Living* has been given the go-ahead to turn the building into a hotel, spa and events venue.

Currently in a state of disrepair, the Coal Exchange was built between 1883 and 1886 as the centre of business negotiations for the global sales of coal from the South Wales valleys. The first recorded million-pound deal was struck in the Coal Exchange, but with the demise of coal industry in the mid-20th century, trading ceased in 1958. (04/08/2016)

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/work-begun-transforming-cardiffs-coal-11704492>

Divers recover slate wagon

A wagon, which is believed to have been used to transport slate from Dinorwic Quarry, has been recovered from the bed of Llyn Padarn near Llanberis by members of an Anglesey sub-aqua club. The wagon was first discovered by them two years ago and may possibly have been used on the old Padarn Railway.

The remains of the wagon consists of the wooden chassis, one of the four metal wheels, a wrought iron shaft and wagon connecting bar, and was raised by means of a lifting bag. The club have given the wagon to the Llanberis Lake Railway, where it will be put on display. Whether any survey was undertaken with the wagon in-situ or its condition, etc recorded is not known; but we can only hope that due consideration has been given to the preserving this industrial artefact. (06/08/2016)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-west-wales-36992449>

Scotland

Cononish Bulk Processing Trial and first gold pour

Gold has been produced for the first time from Cononish mine near Tyndrum, Stirlingshire. Scotgold Resources Ltd, the mine owners, announced the official launch of their Bulk Processing Trial on 3rd August 2016, with invited guests seeing the plant in operation and the first gold produced in Scotland on a commercial basis.

The company is hoping that the rarity of Scottish produced gold will command a premium price, with around 100 ounces being sent to jewellers to test the market. The trial will also be used to perfect the final processing plant design and a review of the mine's development plan. (03/08/2016)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-36953804>

<http://www.scotgoldresources.com.au/projects/cononish-gold-and-silver-project/>

Miners Freedom Celebrated

The Sir William Wallace Grand Lodge of Scotland Free Colliers marched the traditional 10-mile route of the annual 'Pinkie Walk'. Dressed in formal wear and linking pinkies to symbolise unity, they take to the streets marching from colliery to colliery to mark their rights as free men.

The Lodge at Reddingmuirhead is the last to continue the tradition of marking the rights won nearly 218 years ago to be treated as equals. Until nearly the end of the 18th century miners were basically slaves and bound to mine owners for their entire lives. The first Saturday of August every year is a time to celebrate the hard fought independence from their employers.

The march also commemorates the Redding Pit disaster 25th September 1923, when an inrush of water claimed the lives of 40 miners. (16/08/2016)

<http://www.falkirkherald.co.uk/news/miners-march-to-celebrate-their-status-as-free-men-1-4201035>

Ireland

Curraghinalt Gold Project, Gortin, Co.

Tyrone

Dalradian Resources report that at their Curraghinalt Project "Completion of 492 days working underground, 232 blasts, approximately 960 metres of underground development, partial completion of two test stopes, all with zero noncompliance with regulations and zero lost-time injuries.

Since the beginning of the underground exploration program in 2014, more than 70 inspections have been carried out by various health & safety and environmental regulatory authorities". During the three months ending on 30th June the company spent £3.3M (€3.9M) on asset evaluation including infill drilling and underground development. (10/08/2016)

<http://www.dalradian.com/news-and-events/news-releases/news-releases-details/2016/Dalradian-Reports-Q2-2016-Results/default.aspx>

MHTI Newsletter No.73 Summer 2016

New approach to monitoring abandoned mines

With over 2,400 abandoned shafts and adits to monitor, the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) working alongside the Department for the

Economy, are investigating new methods of improving coverage and safety.

Kieran Parker, Environmental Geologist GSNI, is pioneering the use of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) allowing remote surveying with live imagery being fed to a base station. This has already proved successful in identifying two new collapses relating to the Parkmore Mine, north of Cargan. The mine employed room and pillar mining, and had previously been identified as having a large number of surface collapses. With the mine site now largely contained within a working forest, the felling operations and subsequent terrain making access difficult and surveying hazardous. With identification of the new collapses the area was made 'out of bounds' to both the public and forestry machinery. More extensive will be undertaken to assess the risk and help in planning remediation works. (25/07/2016)

Geoblogy, Blogspot of the British Geological Survey

<http://britgeopeople.blogspot.co.uk/2016/07/the-eye-in-sky-new-approach-to.html?m=1>

Publications

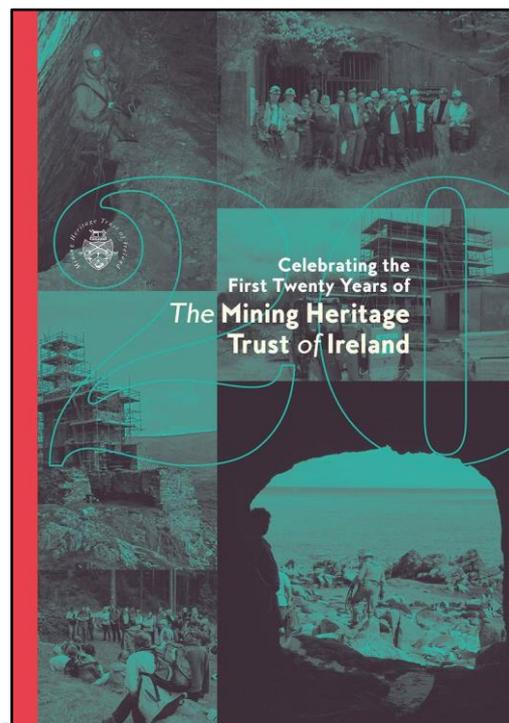
British Mining No.101, The Vocabulary of Coal Mining in Yorkshire, 1250-1850

George Redmonds, Northern Mine Research Society, paperback, 93 pages, illustrated, A5, £12.00, ISBN 978 09014507202

The author has made a series of specialised studies into the vocabulary used in various occupations and is an expert in his field. This monograph discusses the terms used in various aspects of coal mining and gives evidence of where they have been used by miners, administrators and those concerned with the coalfields of Yorkshire. Terms are included only where they are relevant to the period and where contemporary documentary records for them exist.

The monograph discusses the occupational uses of coal, early mining technology, accidents and inquests, manorial rights, monastic influences and post-medieval regulation with respect to the vocabulary used. A 64 page glossary of terms follows which provides the evidence for the words used, together with copious references and an index.

NMRS



Celebrating the First 20 years of the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland

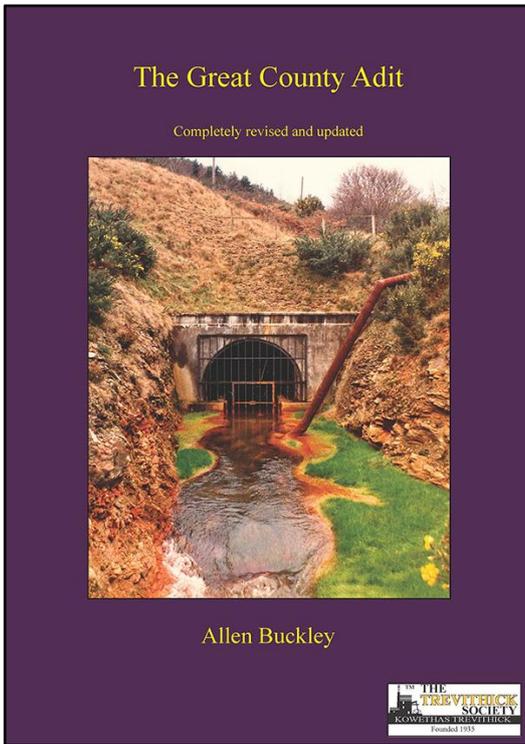
With a Foreword by Michael

Starrett, CEO, The Heritage Council

Contents:

Chairperson's Statement-*Alastair Lings*
Mining in Ireland: A Brief History-*Sharron Schwartz*
20 Years of Mining Heritage-*Matthew Parkes*
Mining the Records: Archives and Historical Resources-*Sharron Schwartz and Matthew Parkes*
20 Years of Community Involvement in Mining Heritage-*Matthew Parkes*
20 Years of Field Visits-*Alastair Lings, Martin Critchley and Sharron Schwartz*
MHTI Conservation Projects-*Martin Critchley*
Mining Heritage Inventory-*Martin Critchley*
MHTI International Collaborative Projects-*Martin Critchley and Sharron Schwartz*
20 Years of MHTI Publications-*Matthew Parkes*
Reflections

This limited edition must-have souvenir booklet is available to members at €15, and non-members at €20, plus postage. Buy yours while stocks last! Contact Matthew Parkes: mparkes@museum.ie



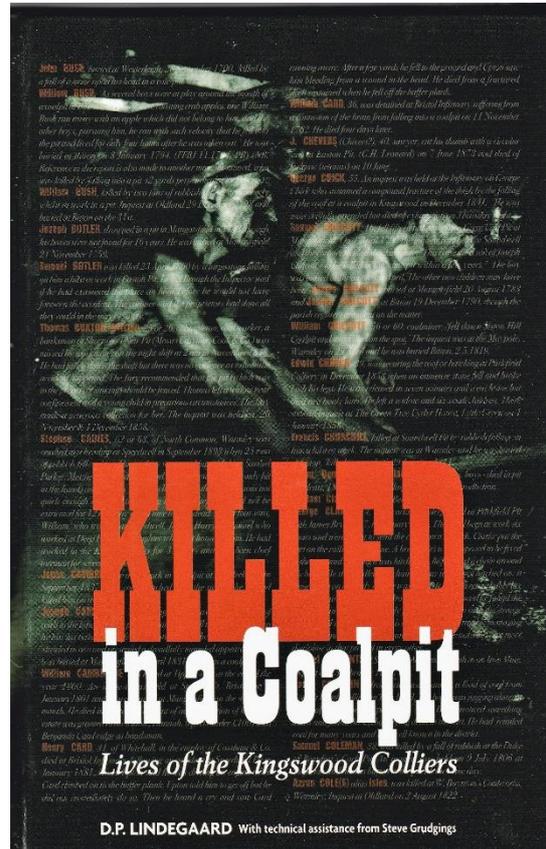
The Great County Adit

Alan Buckley, The Trevithick Society, Available October 2016

Our autumn publication this year is a reissue of an important standard work which has long been unobtainable. The Great County Adit by Allen Buckley was published by the author in 2000 and for some years even second hand copies have been hard to find. So when Allen approached us about republication we were delighted to take the project on board.

The new edition has been completely revised and extended; a larger page format has enabled us to include a much improved set of maps, new illustrations – many in colour – and a gazetteer of what can be seen along the adit’s course. Although by its nature less obvious to observers, there is no doubt as to the significance of this undertaking, remarkable as an example of co-operation between mine owners who were otherwise keen competitors. The Mining Journal in 1843 called it “the most extensive, valuable and systematic undertaking of its kind in Cornwall – perhaps in England and we believe few in the world exceed it in importance.” Allen Buckley knows more about the adit than anyone and has explored most of it during his working life. This is the history of a work of national importance. The Great County Adit should be on sale in October.

Trevithick Society



Killed in a Coalpit: Lives of the Kingswood Miners

DP Lindegaard (with technical assistance from S Grudgings), South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group, hardback, 272 pages, illustrated with photographs, drawings, diagrams and newspaper articles, 234x156mm, £15.00 (plus £2.95 p&p) ISBN 978 0957233133

Though the main theme of this hardback book concerns the accidents, fatal (and otherwise) which befell the coalminers who worked in the historic Kingswood (South Gloucestershire) Coalfield it is hoped that through these tragic events readers will have a real insight into the lives of the miners and their families and the conditions they endured.

The first edition of ‘Killed in a Coalpit’, a catalogue of all the information then available, was self-published as a photocopy by D.P. Lindegaard in the 1980s. The present volume, considerably enlarged and updated, (and professionally published) is the direct result of a chance visit the author made to Oldwood Pits on a Heritage Open Day some years ago. She was surprised when the archaeologists of the South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group who were running the show had actually heard of ‘Killed in a Coalpit’ saying of the book “no-one had ever done this before!” “It is an

enormous understatement to state that I was thrilled with this reception,” she says and credits the encouragement she received then and since from SGMRG members which has enabled ‘Killed in a Coalpit’ to be rescued from oblivion and updated.

Selected chapter headings: The Underground Men, Colliers, Coleminers & Colecarriers; Development of Mining Technology in the Bristol Coalfield; Killed in a Coalpit; Some Lucky Escapes? Heroes; Children’s Employment Commission – 1841; A trip down the Pit - Easton Colliery – 1883; Colliers’ Tales; Survivors. There is an index plus a list of sources and abbreviations. The whole book contains over 2000 miners’ names.

The book can be obtained by post from Roger Gosling
51 Greenhill Road, Alveston, BRISTOL, BS35 3NA
Please make cheques payable to SGMRG

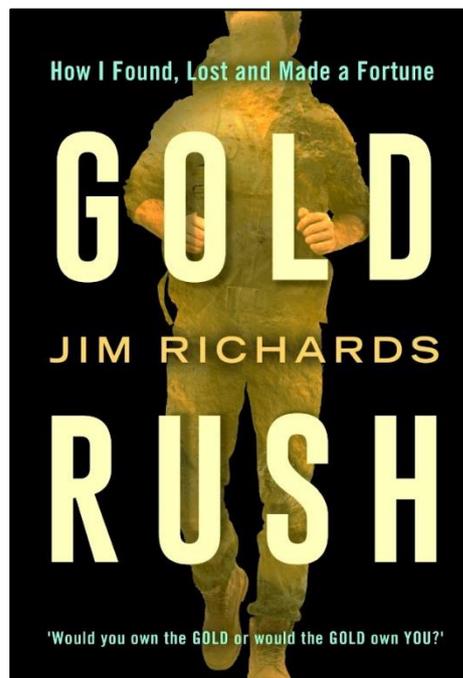
Cornwall’s Fuse Works: 1831-1961

Diane Hodnett, with foreword by Bryan Earl, Trevithick Society, paperback & hardback, 238 pages, PB £20.00 ISBN 978 0993502118 HB £28.00 ISBN 978 099502101

Diane Hodnett has written the first history of this quintessential Cornish industry which spread worldwide. She tells the story of William Bickford, inventor of the safety fuse and the epic tale of the company he founded which as Bickford Smith was a major employer in the Camborne area and had branches in countries wherever mining was significant.

She tells of its assimilation into ICI and ends with the closure of the Tuckingmill factory in 1961. On the expiry of Bickford’s patent, a whole gallery of eager entrepreneurs entered the market and a rash of factories sprang up, mainly in West Cornwall; the book covers their history too. The human story of the workers and some of the dreadful accidents in the industry also has its place. Diane was the first person given access to the Bickford Smith family archive and so much new information is here published for the first time. She has also found a magnificent series of 1924 aerial photographs of the Roskear and Tuckingmill areas at English Heritage and these grace the pages of Cornwall’s Fuse Works.

Trevithick Society



Gold Rush: How I Found, Lost and Made a Fortune

Jim Richards, September Publishing (10/11/2016), paperback, 138x29x205mm, ISBN 978 1910463369

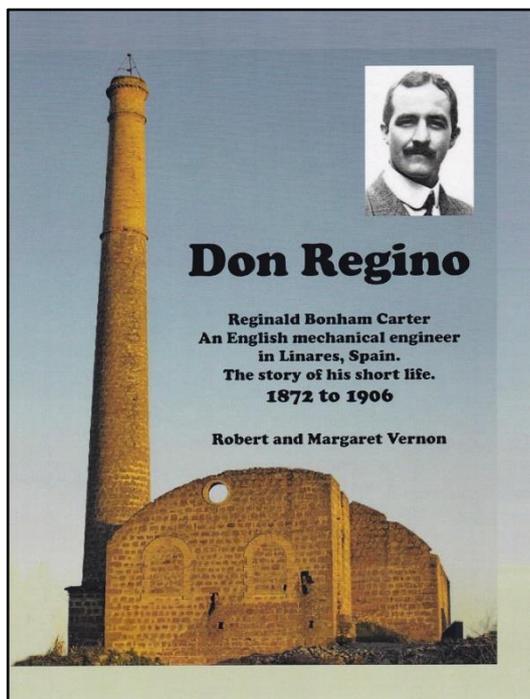
ABSTRACT

Gold rushes have had a major impact on world history; from the settlement of California to the development of Australia, and modern rushes continue to shape parts of West Africa, Brazil, Indonesia and elsewhere. This talk follows the journey of British and Australian geologist Jim Richards who has been involved in various modern-day gold and diamond rushes around the world; prospecting, alluvial mining and exploring for minerals.

Starting out as a guide at the Dolaucothi mine in West Wales, Jim went onto mining bonanza grade gold and diamond deposits from the rivers on top of the tepui plateaus of the Pakaraima mountains of Guyana in South America; hunting for giant gold deposits in the jungles of Laos in South-east Asia; and finding high grade gold mines in the deserts of Western Australia.

Jim’s memoir *Gold Rush* is being published by [September Publishing](http://SeptemberPublishing.com) due out in the UK on 4th November 2016.

Jim Richards BSc(Hons) Geology, MAusIMM, MAIG



Don Regino: Reginald Bonham Carter, An English mechanical engineer in Linares, Spain. The story of his short life 1872 to 1906

Robert and Margaret Vernon, CompletelyNovel, soft cover, 290 pages, illustrated, 189x246mm ISBN 978 1849148962

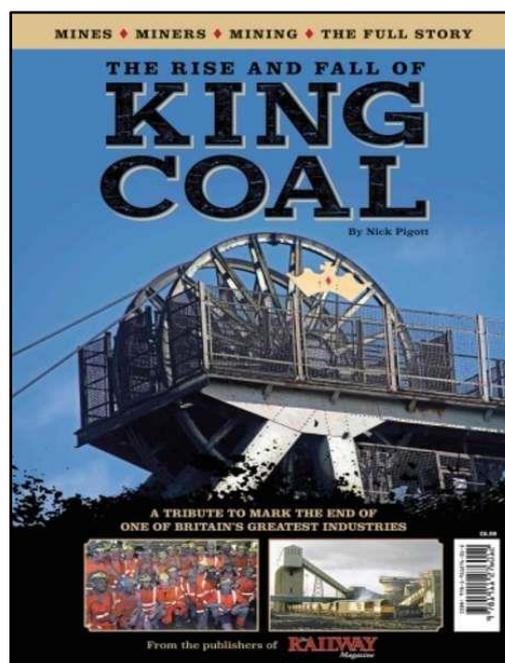
The boom in metal mining in the late 1800s resulted in numerous British workers travelling to many other countries in search of work and opportunity.

Reginald Bonham Carter, a young English engineer, spent eight years in Spain, and played a significant part in the British and Spanish community in Linares, a lead mining town in Jaén Province, where he mainly lived and worked. He was well liked by all.

The Bonham Carter family knew Reginald as 'Reggie', but to the Spanish he was affectionately known as 'Don Regino'. Coming from an influential family, his story is an interesting one.

During this time in Linares, Reginald was a prolific letter writer, many of which have survived. The authors have examined this legacy, and have become very involved with the story of the British contribution to the history of Linares. Rob and Margaret Vernon have a knowledge of British and foreign mining history, and live near Tewkesbury, England.

Provided by Don Borthwick, CATMHS



The Rise and Fall of King Coal - The birth, life and death of the British deep-mining industry

Nick Pigott, Mortons Media Group Ltd (Railway Magazine) £5.99-The 132-page printed version is available from the larger High Street branches of W H Smith; Amazon as a 'kindle' version available for £3.99.

The kindle version is 200 pages and can be looked at on line for free. It has 200 pages. From a quick look (about 10 minutes) it looks very interesting. See <http://tinyurl.com/jhoufax> and click on 'see inside' It's possible to look at a few pages including the list of contents and so it looks quite a thorough summary on coal mining in the UK. The publisher's info is below:

The year 2016 is the first for centuries in which no deep-mined coal has been produced in the United Kingdom. The last of the country's collieries was closed at the end of 2015, bringing the curtain down on a vast industry that at one time had boasted 3,000 mines and employed well over a million workers.

This souvenir edition tells the fascinating story of coal... from its origins in prehistoric swamps to its early primitive mining methods and on to its role as the mineral that fuelled the Industrial Revolution and put the 'Great' into Britain.

Aimed at the general public as well as miners and mining engineers, it explores the history, operation and layout of the collieries, explains the locations of

the coalfields and examines the hazards, hardships, disputes and tragedies that were part of every miner's life. It also devotes coverage to the railways that were a major and inseparable part of all colliery operations, serving the pits faithfully both on the surface and underground.

Finally, with Britain now possessing only a handful of opencast and tiny drift mines while still importing millions of tons of coal from overseas, the UK's energy policy is examined at a time when many Britons are worrying whether the self-inflicted destruction of the deep-mining industry will one day prove to have been disastrously short-sighted.

Roger Gosling, SGMRG

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

6th-11th September 2016: International Mining History Congress, Linares, Jaen, Spain.
<http://www.mining2016linares.com/>

8th-11th September 2016: Heritage Open Days England
<http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

9th-14th September 2016: Association for Industrial Archaeology Annual Conference, Telford. Visits will include Grange Colliery, Lilleshall limestone sites, Snailbeach and Tankerville mines in Shropshire.
<http://industrial-archaeology.org/conferences/annual-conference/>

10th-11th September 2016: European Heritage Open Days (Northern Ireland).
<http://www.discovernorthernireland.com/niea/ehod.aspx>

13th October 2016: The Conservation Challenge, a one-day seminar, Industrial Heritage Association of Ireland
<http://ihai.ie/calendar-of-events/>

22nd October 2016: NAMHO Autumn Council Meeting, 11am at Frosterley Village Hall, Frosterley, Bishop Auckland, DL13 2QW

26th-28th October 2016: ERIH Annual Conference "European industrial heritage - how to tell the international story". <http://www.erih.net/>

25rd March 2017: NAMHO AGM and Spring Council Meeting. Pump Room, Peak District Lead Mining Museum, the Grand Pavilion, South Parade, Matlock Bath, DE4 3NR.

11th-13th May 2017: Inaugural International Early Engines Conference, The Ironworks, Elsecar, South Yorkshire. <http://www.earlyengines.org/>

23rd-26th June 2017: NAMHO Conference 2017, East Surrey. Full details to be announced

Copy Date for the next Newsletter is **10th November**, with publication due December 2016.

Contributions: Email the Newsletter Editor-
editor@namho.org

Or by post-
NAMHO Editor, c/o Peak District Mining Museum,
The Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR

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