

NORTHERN CAVERN AND MINE RESEARCH SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 5

NOVEMBER 1971

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SOCIETY NEWS

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SOCIETY NEWS.

1 - ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS.

Miss Jennifer Goleby is elected to the office of Honorary Treasurer and Membership Secretary, to succeed Mr. N. Scarr.

Mr. Peter Jackson was elected to the office of Honorary Editor at a meeting of the Editorial Committee held at the home of the President, Mrs. Jean Dixon. The Society express grateful appreciation to Mr. & Mrs. Dixon for the availability of the meeting place.

Postal Address of the new officers:-

HON. TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SEC.

Miss J. Goleby,
6, Cavendish Drive,
Guiselley,
LEEDS.
LS20 8DR.

HON. EDITOR

Mr. Peter Jackson,
Dept. of Geology,
Mappin St.
SHEFFIELD.
SI 3 JD.

NOTE: These are address changes in both instances.

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2 - ADDITIONS TO MEMBERS LIST.

- (1) Deleted from last published Members List. Now reinstated :

Mr. W. Keay, 17, Westfield Crescent, Keighley, BD20 5BL.
Mr. C. M. Moseley, 2627, Connolly St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

- (2) New applicants joining for 1972 :

Mr. Julian Holmes,
108, Burnside Avenue,
Skipton,
Yorks.

Full Membership.

Miss Eileen Patricia James, B.Sc. (Metallurgy)
'Greycroft',
Melling Road,
Hornby,
Lancaster.

Tel. No. Hornby 450

Student Membership.

Mr. John Henry McNiel,
12, Woodville Road,
Brierfield,
Nelson, Lancs.

Tel. No. Nelson 63297

Student Membership.

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3 - FORTHCOMING EVENT.

THE PRESIDENTS TALK IN.

The President, Mrs. Jean Dixon, invites all members and friends to the first Presidents Talk In.

This forthcoming event is a new addition to our Programme and is the idea of the President; the idea is full of promise and we trust all members will give it full support.

All members are invited to speak, for a short period (10-15 mins. approx.) on any subject embraced in the AIMS OF THE SOCIETY, or demonstrate Methods or Techniques. Slide and Up and Over Projectors will be available for use.

Time Table: Meet at venue, prior to 3 p.m. Sat. November 20th, 1971. Move off to the Museum of Mines, Earby, 6 miles from Skipton, for private view of this most interesting private museum, run by the Earby Mines Research Group - a small entrance charge is made - (how to find it - from Skipton turn left over the only railway level crossing, up School Lane, 300 yds. on left, top of hill, see small sign, Mines Museum) - programme continued - Return to Skipton for tea and a free evening in town, followed as required by Slide Show of your slides or hopping to the record player.

Sunday : 10-45 - Walking Tour of Old Skipton, or Local Mines (earlier start).

1-30 - Start of Talk In. A series of short talks to be followed by discussion time on each subject. Mr. C. Wade will act as M.C. Speakers so far booking time are M. Gill, R. Walls, K. Walls, D.T. Richardson, J.M. Dickinson, Mrs. J. Dixon, E. Dixon, W. Harvey (if he can get there).

The opportunity is now here to sell your pet subject. Don't mess about, book your time with Mrs. J. Dixon for this event, write her if you want to reserve time in the lecture programme (address - 102, Leeds Road, Eccleshill, Bradford, BD2 3 AY).

Members who arrive on the Sunday, with a Talk unbooked, run the risk of being 'Talked Out' - make our job easier and Book Time.

Venue for the Talk In.

The 5th Skipton Scout H.Q., The Ginnel, Skipton - located at the rear of the Devonshire Hotel. Take the private road down the side of the hotel (access permission has been given) through the gate on to the large private grassed compound and Car Park - the Scout H.Q. will be seen on the far end.

Accommodation.

Mattresses for 20 persons are available, so bring your air bed in case of shortage of beds. Separate room for those who want it, (FEMALES)

Strip heating, cooking facilities, toilets are standard fixtures. Good parking for motor caravans outside on site. The Society will be making a small overnight charge to defray the cost of booking the H.Q. - no charge however, to the Talk In.

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4 - THE MEETS LIST 1972.

A printed Meets List will be issued this year - please note this - this will only be issued to members as your RECEIPT FOR YOUR 1972 SUBSCRIPTION by Miss Goleby. This action is aimed to prevent a repetition of last year's very slow subscription payments, which made it impossible to produce a complete Members List, which in turn led to complaints from paid up Members.

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5 - SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR 1972.

FROM: Mr. M. Butterfield. 1960.

Mr. J. Holmes)
Miss E. James) New Members.
Mr. J. McNiel) With Thanks.

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6 - INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SCHOOL.

A summer school, probably in July, is proposed for Scotland, at Wanlockhead next year. It is intended to excavate the surface workings at the Bay Mine, Whytes Clough and arrange lectures on relevant subjects.

Anyone who desires to be put on the Mailing List, please write to:-

Mr. William Harvey,
23, Orleans Avenue,
Jordonhill,
GLASGOW, W.4.
G 14 '9 LA.

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7 - SOCIETY MEMOIRS AND PUBLICATIONS.

Contributions towards the next issue of the Society Memoirs are always welcome, particularly items of original field work. It would be appreciated if articles were typed double spaced, on one side of the paper only, or written clearly in a similar manner. Illustrations should be on

good quality paper, the illustration not to exceed $8\frac{3}{8}" \times 6\frac{3}{8}"$, minimum line width 0.2mm. If your article includes any larger illustrations please contact the editor.

Proposals for publications in the Individual Survey series are always welcome, with the same conditions applying. Anyone anticipating producing suitable material in the next 2-3 years is asked to let the editor know.

Editor's Address:

P. Jackson, Dept. of Geology,
Sheffield University, Mappin Street,
SHEFFIELD, S1 3JD.

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8 - ITEMS FROM MEMBERS.

Mining News - Peter Jackson.

BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION'S Groverake Mine, at Rookhopehead, Durham, has commenced the construction of a new incline entrance, to the east of the present mine site.

WEARDALE LEAD CO's Burtree Pasture Mine will probably come into production during May/June 1972.

CAMBORNE MINES LTD., is opening a new tin mine at Pendarves, which is planned to start up in October 1971, with an initial production of 87,500 tons of ore in the first year.

SETTLINGSTONES MINE, Hexham, abandoned since Easter 1969, and in use as a public water source, has recently caved-in at surface, on a large scale.

CONSOLIDATED GOLDFIELDS Wheal Jane Tin Mine, was officially opened on October 1st.

CLEVELAND POTASH LTD., are continuing work at their Boulby Mine near Loftus, where the rock shaft will have a final depth of 3716 feet. Other potash projects around Whitby have been abandoned.

At Hingston Down, Cornwall, a Canadian consortium are developing a tin-tungsten prospect by the driving of a sampling adit.

Society Surveys - Notes on Surveys - M. Gill.

It has been noticed that in the last two years the number of new surveys appearing in our midst has dropped to zero. This is rather disturbing as it possibly represents a stagnation in society exploration work in the many unrecorded dales mines and caves.

It may be that the potential surveyors are holding back their work because of the reformation of the central records. I, as Society Surveyor, would welcome all surveys and notes, which need not be complicated, but must be easily understood.

One possible way to layout notes would be:-

Line	Bearing	Length	Remarks
A to B	253° 30'	125'-0"	A=portal, 3' wide x 6' high. Rise at B = 30'0" high.
B " C	271° 00'	35'-0"	B=junction, Arching ends at C.
B " B ₁	132° 00'	62'-0"	B ₁ =terminal fall in shale.

The above notes are usually all that is needed to create a very reasonable survey which could be plotted by anyone without much difficulty. Other useful information incidental to survey note includes the elevation and N.G.R. (to 8 figures if possible) of the survey origin.

Scottish Records - Bill Harvey.

Some research on the pumping machinery used in the Duke of Buccleugh's mines at Canonbie and Wanlockhead has necessitated a study of manuscript sources in the Scottish Record Office. This, of course, provided fascinating references not relevant to the project, and the following are two such that will be of interest and perhaps of value to those seeking historical reference.

The reference to the Bowland lease was among bundles of unclassified letters referred to only as 'Wanlockhead Mine Letters' and, in effect, lost so far as Yorkshire mining is concerned. The notes on costs at the Byreburn coal mine comes from a great deal of material for the years 1769 to 1798. The notes quoted are taken quite at random, but will give a pointer to the material available to anyone wishing to study mining costs at that period.

Handlist No. GD.224. Buccleugh. Box No. 666. Wanlockhead Mine Letters 1813-1820.

"28th April, 1814.

A Proposal by Thomas Watson, William Beauland, Richard Chaffers, and James Falds to take a lease from the Duchess of Buccleugh for a mine in the Forrest of Bowland in the County of York." etc etc.

Two folio pages.

Handlist No. GD.224. Buccleugh. Box 240 'Canonbie Coal Accounts' and Boxes 349 and 350 'Letters with Mr. Keir'

Selections of monthly oncosts for the year 1796.

"To the Overseers Wages £3."

To Thomas Smith for waggene dirt 1/8 "

"To Thomas Smith for taken car of the Gallowis belo ground 6/- "
(The 'Gallowis' were the Galloway pit ponies.)

To John Lord and Co for cuttin the wagonway to the Main Coll
10 & 1/2 yds at 18/- pr yd £ 9 - 9. "

"To John Lord and Co geven them by Mr Keirs Orders to Drink when
maken their Bargain 2/- "

(Giving a drink to seal the bargain is accepted practice at a country market, but this is the first reference I have seen to this in mining.)

"For Sherpen the Collers Tols and kepen the Injins in Repair for a
month £1 - 12. "

"To Robert Wall for a Jacket and Trowsis 10/-

(The Byreburn colliery was regarded as a wet pit, so this may well be an early reference to an issue of Protective Clothing.)

"To Carlina Armstrong for Poder (Powder) £1 - 10."

"To Carlina Armstrong for Candles 8/4."

"To Carlina Armstrong for Whiskey 8/-"

(Carlina kept the mine store, and it's clear that the mine was 'wet' in more ways than one!)

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9 - BOOK REVIEW - P. Jackson

Mineral Resources Consultative Committee, Mineral Dossier No. 1 Fluorspar by A.J.G. Northolt and D.E. Highley. H.M.S.O. 1971, 40p.

A useful summary of fluorspar resources in the U.K., based on previously published sources. Includes a description of present mines and plants, resources, industrial uses and future reserves. The purpose of the booklet would seem a little vague, it being no use to a mining company, and is presumable angled at the general reader.

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10 - NEWSLETTER.

Items for next years editions are required from you - how about it?

Space available for your 'FOR SALE' and 'WANTED' items, Private MEETS, Projects, or Information sought.

Members are reminded that funds are available for anyone doing a project that will be of use to the society, illustrated lecture, mapping, or the location and subsequent purchase of record material. In all cases please write to the Hon. Sec., Mr. K. Walls, prior to embarking on any financial outlay.

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ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER to: D PLATT.
11, Neville Street,
SKIPTON.
BD23 2EU.

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-STOP PRESS.13th NOV.-

Prospects are good,for a further end of year ISS,latest news from new Editor.

The Scout HQ will be open on the Friday night prior to the President s Talk In,NOTE. For this Week End ONLY,we shall be useing the Devonshire Hotel,Skipton, which is on the OTLEY RD OUT, of the Skipton High ST. On the RIGHT HAND SIDE,500yds after leaving the High ST.

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