

Northern Mine Research Society

Newsletter March 1976

Annual General Meeting.

Held in the Scout Hut at Skipton on Sunday 8th February, 1976. The 20 or so members who attended heard reports from the retiring Officers who nearly all reported a steady continual growth in membership activities. The main point of criticism was that communications need improving and this must be the main priority. The balance sheet from the Treasurer is included in this Newsletter.

The new Officers elected are:-

President	Mr.M.C. Gill, 38 Main Street, Sutton, Keighley. BD20 7HD.
Vice President	Mr. K. Walls, 33 Gledhow Avenue, Roundhay, Leeds LS8 1LD.
Junior Vice President	Mrs.J. Guthrie, 186 Station Road, Billingham TS23 2PT.
Secretary	Mrs. L..Finch, 10 Exeter Crescent, Killinghall, Harrogate, N.Yorks.
Treasurer	Mrs. J. Griffin, 19 Westfield Terrace, Baildon, Shipley, BD17 5EX.
Editor	Mr. R. Bird, 41 Windsor Walk, South Anston, Sheffield. S31 7EL.
Librarian	Mr.A.P. Finch, 10 Exeter Crescent, Killinghall, Harrogate, N. Yorks.
P.R.O.	Mr.H. Houghton, 29 Parkside Road, Meanwood, Leeds LS6 4LY.
Recorder	Mr.M.C. Gill as above.

The Following seven applications were elected for membership:-

Mr.J.T. Crompton, 28 Knowle Avenue, Cleveleys, Blackpool.
Mr. A. Mackereth, The Chestnuts, Whillington, Carnforth.
Mr.R.S. Beardall, 12 Lytham Drive, Clayton Heights, Bradford.
Mr.D.C. Lewis, 13 Crosshill Walk, Ludy Bridge, Bolton. Lancs.
Mr.T.E. Nutter, 38 Skipton Old Road, Colne, Lancs.
Mr. I.Banoman, 157 Birkinstyle Lane, Stonebroom, Derby.DE5 6LD.

In an attempt to economise on postal expenses several members have volunteered to distribute newsletters etc where possible in their areas. If you would be prepared to help with this, please let me know and send the names of members you would be able to contact - even if its only one or two this would be quite a saving.

Chimney Shaft Excavation.

As you will have seen from the meets card, we have now started digging out Chimney Shaft on Greenhow Hill.

The object of the dig is to try to recover the underground horizontal engine for BRADFORD INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM (or failing that to photo and measure the engine) and maybe as a bonus gain entry into the Cockhill Level.

The shaft is blocked approx 70ft. down by soot and ash and general rubbish, and being only 2' 6" diameter, it is a slow and steady dig.

The winding is being done by means of a hand windless, the kibble being an adapted 5 gall oil drum.

On the surface has been constructed the Pit Head Gear and a N.M.R.S. Mk I type engine house, containing the winch, as well as calor stove and other de-lux welfare facilities.

Anyone contemplating helping on the dig should be aware of the fact that on Greenhow it is always wet - cold - & windy, - so come prepared.

Meets.

Sun. 21st March (additional meet not on meets card) 10-30am.

Mungo Gill. Leader A.P. Finch. Meet at the car park to Stump Cross Caverns (on B6265 between Grassington & Pateley Bridge)

Devon & East Cornwall Commencing Monday 19th April.

Meet at Exeter St. David's Station (BR) at 4pm to be met by Owen Baker.
Mon 19th Camping will be at Ford Farm, Cludleigh Knighton, Nr. Newton Abbot. Tel Chudleigh 3253.

Tues 20th	The Dartmoor Mines	Evening accomodation
Wed 21st	Tavistock/Tamar & Tavy valley Mines	Abbotsfield Y.H.A.
Thurs 22nd	Morwellham-copper port, Mining Museum etc, Gawton Quay, Newquay.	Liskeard Road, A390 Tavistock. Tel 0822/2529.
Fri 23rd	Devon Great Consols, Gunnislake Mines Calstock, Cotehelllee. Ding Dong Mine.	
Sat 24th	East Cornwall. Caradon, Phoenix Mines. New Consols, Kit Hill & Excelsior Tunnel Harrowbarrow - & if time permits The Liskeard & Caradon Mineral Railway.	

Accommodation

Ford Farm at Chudleigh Knighton is an accredited site and was successfully used by a local mining club last year. I would suggest that N.M.R.S. members book direct - to avoid embarrasment of incorrect numbers turning up, forfeited deposits etc.

Depending on their time of arrival there, Owen Baker has kindly offered to discuss evening activities - plenty of good "inns" nearby. Owen will lead members around the Dartmoor mines - time of meet will be arranged on the Monday evening.

Tuesday evening, Owen Baker returns to Exeter, members make their way to Tavistock Y.H.A.

Wed 21st	- all meet outside Abbotsfield Y.H.A. say 9.30am approx.
Thurs 22nd	" " " " " " " "
Fri 23rd	" " " " " " " "
Sat 24th	" " " " " " 9.00am "

In view of Easter, I would suggest that members book as early as possible - I cannot emphasise this too strongly - at Abbotsfield Y.H.A. Tavistock for the evenings of 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Members will be required to join the Y.H.A. Evening activities 'Tavi' a good centre, Hostelrys galore, beautiful country too.

For the record - members will be advised to come well prepared - head and foot.

Abbotsfield was originally the residence of the Mine Manager of Devon Great Consols Mines.

R. Hambrook.

Caldbeck Meet - May 16th Leader M. Goth.

Camping site - on common at Map Ref NY356351 Sheet 83 (Pub at $\frac{1}{2}$ Km range). If there is a large turn up, it is proposed to split into two parties which will change area on second day.

Dolgellau Meet - May 29th onwards. Leader M. Goth.

Camping arranged with Mr. I. Edwards, Dolmelynlyn Farm, Ganllwyd Dolgellau. Tel Ganllwyd 224. Map Ref Sheet 124 SH/26239.

No caravan accommodation, suggest contact be made with Welsh Tourist Board, Dolgellau for information.

Wanlockhead Meet July 10th/11th. Leader W. Harvey. Meet at Railway Station Map Ref NS874726 at 1030am.

Further news from Wanlockhead.- 1976 Summer Programme.

Another Summer School in Industrial Archaeology is planned for the 17th to 25th July. Course fee, excluding accommodation, is £25. Further details and enrolment forms can be obtained from the Department of Extra Mural and Adult Education, University of Glasgow, 57 Oakfield Drive, Glasgow G12.

During the three weeks following this, i.e. 26th July to 15th August, The WANLOCKHEAD MUSEUM TRUST plans to complete the excavation of the 18th century smelter site at Pates Knowes, using voluntary help, & so that the re-building of a Scotch ore hearth can follow at a later date.

The intention is to have a small group working under supervision on the site, with hand tools provided. A mechanical digger will be used to clear some of the overburden. Although some effort will be needed to clear this interesting site, the emphasis will throughout be on a holiday atmosphere, with those taking part joining in for a few days or longer as they wish.

There will be a chance to recuperate in the Wanlockhead Social Club; and a trip underground for minerals etc is a possibility. Helpers, male and female, will make their own accommodation arrangements, for which local facilities include bed-and-breakfast, Youth Hostelling and camping/caravanning.

For a leaflet giving further details, contact:-

G. Downs-Rose, 36 Burton Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire.

A Message from The Editor

Having taken over the responsibility of Editor of Society publications I should like to take this opportunity to make a few observations which I feel are justified at this stage.

I consider the above position to be a very important one, as a Society's work is outwardly judged mainly by the quality of its publications. If these are poor in terms of content and presentation then prospective members and those who already contribute by subscription will become disenchanted and this can only mean a fall in the Society's standards and prestige.

In the past, the Society's Memoirs and Occasional Publications have been in the hands of extremely competent and devoted individuals which has largely been responsible for the good name our Society has enjoyed. I hope to be able to emulate their good examples in so far as editorial work is concerned.

Having said that, I feel it is necessary to add that a journal cannot exist without the co operation of the membership, for it is the latter who make the Society's literature a real and worthwhile project. Therefore please continue with your support by contributing written reports on all

aspects of your work in relation to mining research even though you may not consider they will be of interest to others - it is far better to have a good quantity of material in hand than to be struggling to fill a few pages. If your reluctance to contribute is due to a supposed inability to write, do not let this act as a deterrent since work can readily be made suitable for publication providing that the original is legible.

Whilst on the subject of content, my predecessor Mike Gill, has added "British Mining" to the title of our Memoirs. This, I feel, is a bold and anticipative step to take since this title suggests a 'nationwide' coverage of mining and its history, as opposed to a concentrated study of the more northerly mining fields.

Provided the contents of the Memoirs carry a certain amount of 'nationwide' material, there is every reason to suppose that this step will (or should!) greatly increase the interest value and sales of our literature which, in turn, will enable us to publish at least two volumes (either Memoirs and/or Specials) per year.

It is also desirable to do this so as to give those members value for money who, due to the distance of their homes from our normal operating zone, are unable to take part in our organised activities but still pay their annual subscriptions -- I should know for I joined solely for publications issued!

Therefore, if you have undertaken work on, for example, the study of the construction of the Blakett Level, a historical dissertation on Dolcoath Mine, or some underground or surface exploration of Cwmystwyth, Devon Great Consols, Laxey, Snailbeach or similar widely flung areas, write it up and let's all know about it.

We have already been moving for some time towards this end as witness past publications on the Teign Valley, Flintshire etc as well as short articles of this nature which have appeared in the Memoirs.

Regarding the actual production of Society literature, preliminary discussions and negotiations have taken place between myself and professional printers and this has been latterly very encouraging with a quote which must surely be comparable with present production methods (as yet I am not in complete possession of production costs but base my assumptions on 1974 figures). If professional printing is adopted, there are at least two advantages to be gained. Firstly, due to my home being some-what remote from the Skipton area, the number of journeys are reduced to a minimum if printing and binding is carried out in Sheffield and I am consequently able to keep a close liason with the firm concerned. Secondly, and this is only a hypothesis, a professional finish may help to make the literature a little more attractive to subscribers and prospective purchasers. I hasten to add that the foregoing is in no way an oblique criticism of past methods which, up to now, have answered our purposes extremely well.

Time will tell if the suggestions and thoughts contained in the above paragraphs will bear fruit or are merely the ramblings of an enthusiastic greenhorn!

The address to which to send material for inclusion in "British Mining" is: 41 Windsor Walk, South Anston, Sheffield S31 7EL.

R.H. BIRD. HON. EDITOR.

The Lead Industry of Wensleydale and Swaledale Vol 1 The Mines.

This latest book of A. Raistrick is now on sale in bookshops. Buy yours now and tell all your friends, 'cos the Society receives the Royalties.

Book List.

The following is a list of titles of books in our library that are available to members on loan. Anyone interested in borrowing please contact the Librarian - Adrian Finch, 10 Exeter Crescent, Killinghall, Harrogate, N. Yorks.

Mines & Mining

1. The Mines & Mineral Railways of East Cornwall & West Devon.
2. Mines & Miners of Swaledale.
3. Mines & t'Miners.
4. N.C.M.R.S. Past Publications - details on request
5. Peak District Mines Historical Society Publications - Vol 1 No.2. 1960 until Vol 5 No. 4. 1973 - further details on request.
6. Men, Mines & Memoirs.
7. Kisdon Mining Co. Swaledale Yorks. Pt.III The Boundary of the Company and Guys Level.
8. Treatise on the Exploitation of Mines.
9. Mines & Quarries Reports Stafford District 1901/6/7/8.
10. " " " General Report & Statistics 1904.
11. " " " Pt. 3 Output 1906 & 1919.
12. Miscellaneous Mines In Gt. Britain Mine Inspectors Division Sept 1960, Sept 1961, Sept 1962.
13. Mining in the Lake Counties.

Metal Mines

1. Gazetteer of Cleveland Ironstone Mines.
2. Britains Old Metal Mines.
3. A History of Lead Mining in the Pennines.
4. Lead Mining in the Mid-Pennines.
5. Derbyshire Lead Mining.
6. The Old Metal Mines of Mid-Wales. Pt. 1.
7. Lead Mining in the Yorkshire Dales.
8. Derbyshires Old Lead Mines & Miners.
9. Guide the the Mines of W. Cornwall.

Non Metal

1. Colliery Guardian Vol 197 No 5090.
2. History of the Scottish Coal Industry.
3. The Coal Industry.
4. Pit Ventilation.
5. Rock Distortation caused by Mining.
6. Notes on Bentley Colliery.
7. Great Northern Coal Field 1700-1900.
8. Box Stone Mines.

General.

1. The Geology and Mineral Resources in Yorkshire.
2. British Palaeozoic Fossils.
3. The Lake Country.
4. Adam Brunskill.
5. The Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London Vol 6 Parts 3 & 4.
6. Nidderdale from Nun Monkton to Whernside.

7. Fortunes in Minerals.
8. Resume of the Publications of O.S. Maps 1893.
9. The Pennine Way.
10. The Glaciation of Wharfedale Yorkshire.
11. White Watson (1760-1835) and his Geological Sections.
12. The Pennine Walls.
13. The Face of N.W. Yorks.
14. Glossary of Terms used in the Coal Trade of Northumberland & Durham.
15. Wanlockhead Beam Engine.
16. " , Scotlands Highest Village.
17. " , Mines Library founded 1756.
18. History of the Middleton Colliery Railway Leeds.
19. Geology of the Northern Orefield. HMSO.
20. Teach Yourself Geology.
21. Weales Rudimentary Series - Surveying.
22. The Geology of the English Lake District.
23. Instructions for using the Garforth Lamp.
24. Extracts from a Catalogue of Machine Made Tools.
25. Nidderdale - A brief History & Guide.
26. A Thousand Miles in Wharfedale.
27. The Lead Smelting Mills in the Yorkshire Dales.
28. Survey - Aylesbury Cave (& Mine).
29. Open University (Science)
 1. Geochemical Data
 2. Composition & Structure of the Earth & its Minerals.
 3. Geochemical History of the Earth.
 4. Geochemical Reaction.
 5. " Cycles.
 6. Application of Geochemistry.
30. Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust ; -
 1. Coalbrookdale Ironworks.
 2. David & Sampson (Blast Furnace Blowing Engines).
31. Lady Isabella Waterwheel - Ixley Mining Co. Isle of Man.
32. Opening of Wheal Jane.
33. Steam Engines & Waterwheels.

Industrial Archaeology

1. Industrial Past. Aut. 1975.
2. Industrial Archaeology Vol 6 Nos 1,2,3,4.
Vol 8 Nos 1,2,4.
Vol 9 Nos 2,3,4.
Vol 10 Nos 1,2,3.
3. Transactions of the Teeside Archaeology Group Vol 1 No 1.

Caving

1. Y.I.S. Bulletin 1976 1 (11)
2. Mendip - Its Swallet Caves & Rock Shelters.
3. Proceedings - UBSS Sept 74.
4. Underground in Furness.
5. BCRA Transactions Vol 1 No 3. No. 5 Aug 74, No 6 Nov 74.
6. CRG Index to Newsletters 47-71.
7. Birks Fell Cave Survey.

Other Society Publications

1. L.C. & M.R.S. Vol 2 No 1 North West Speleology
Vol 1 No 2
2. Moldywarps - 7.
3. Leicester Geographical Journal Spring 63
4. Plymouth Mineral & Mining Journal Vol 3 No 3. Vol 4 Nos 1,2,3.
5. Carlisle Geological Society Vol 1 Edit 1.

NORTHERN MINE RESEARCH SOCIETY: GENERAL ACCOUNT 1.1.75 to 31.12.75.

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions - 1974 Membership	£	2.00
1975 "		279.25
1976 "		9.00
Receipts for Pubs (payable to Pub A/c)		4.85
Donation (Foster-Smith)		7.00
Sale of Folders		1.50
" " car badges		4.20
" " metal badges		0.90
Dinner		137.50
Associate members newsletters		8.62
Overpayments		1.75
		<u>456.57</u>
+B/F from 1974		89.49
TOTAL		<u>546.06</u>

PAYMENTS

Subscriptions - CNOC	£	2.00
CRO		3.00
CBA		1.00
AGM		2.00
GM (April)		2.00
Publications - Copy of Moldywarps Pub		0.50
Members copies OP7		23.88
To Pub. A/c		4.85
Donation		7.00
1 team paper (Committee meeting minutes)		1.50
Officers expenses - Treasurers		5.59
" 1974		7.88
PRO 1975		15.49
" 1974		21.13
Secretaries 1975		9.04
Insurance		5.00
Membership Cards		8.18
Car badges		21.60
Dinner		127.48
Dinner refunds		5.50
Research Fund		30.00
Transfer to Skipton Building Society		50.00
Refunds of Overpayments.		<u>1.75</u>
TOTAL		<u>356.42</u>

Debit
Receipts less Payments at 31.12.75
add back cheques not presented to Bank

CASH AT BANK AT 31.12.75	39.62
+ CASH IN DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	229.26
	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>279.26</u>

Receipts o/s; Donation (Shaw)
Cash with Librarian

Payments o/s: Scout hut for GM (Nov) £3.00
1975 Publication N/K
New Society Block 4.86
Presidents plaque N/K
Auditors fee N/K
Research Fund 50.00