

This is the Newsletter that contains, for most members, a little card informing them that they are part of the elite, being fully paid-up members of N.M.R.S.

Yours not in? Are you sure? Carry out the following checks before going any further:- Hold this Newsletter by top left-hand corner and shake vigorously.

Has the card fallen out? Yes/No

If No, then repeat the above test on the envelope.

Now has card fallen out? Yes/No

If again No, repeat the exercise, but this time hold the envelope with the open part downwards!

By now you should be one of us.

You're not? Turn the envelope so that you are looking at it face up, and check whether or not you need to alter your name and address to match the one on it. Still feeling inadequate? suicidal? then before doing anything drastic look at your cheque book stubs to see if you've sent Geoff a promise of payment. Experience over the years has shown that in 99.9999% of cases, this oversight is the reason for your dilemma.

If, however, the unthinkable has happened and you suspect that we are, in some small way, responsible for your predicament then contact Geoff Greenough without delay.

Anyone having paid since late January are in a separate category altogether and will receive their membership card with the May Newsletter.

Any late subs., donations, gratuities or begging letters should be sent to Geoff Greenough, 22 Elmhurst Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs FY8 3JH. Enclose SAE if you want membership card immediately - other wise it will be issued with May Newsletter.

Our thanks to all who did pay promptly - it makes the job so much easier.

You may, or may not, have twigged that it is my policy to have the Newsletter ready for distribution immediately following each General Meeting. Now I know the practical isn't always up to the theory, but the idea's sound and with enough practice should come good. To help towards this end, I like to have all bar the last page trypted and adulterated as soon as possible so that all I have to do after the meeting is include any relevant details and the job's a gudden.

You will see now why the last issue started off with the news that subs. would be going up and finished saying "No they wouldn't". Note though that I didn't say how much by 'cos I was only guessing that the Committee would increase them, and then lo and behold they did nowt of the sort.

Meets

The following meets have been arranged, so make a note of details.

Easter - 5/13th April, Cornwall. Leader - J.H. McNeil.

Meet and camp at Chacewater Caravan Park, SW 740440 at 10.00am (except on 5th at 10.30am). Reasonably priced caravan accomodation is available as follows:- 6 berth cara. £35 per week up to 4 occupants or £45 for 5/6 occupants; 6 berth (with toilet) £40 per week up to 4 occupants or £50 for 5/6 occupants. Discount of 10% to NMRS. £25 deposit. No dogs allowed in caravans.

Facilities are also available for tourers & tents at £2.50 per night (2 persons) Extra adults at 50p per night.

Full details from Mr & Mrs C. Flood, Chacewater Camping & Caravan Park, Cox Hill, Chacewater, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8LY. Tel. St. Day (0209) 820762.

May 12th - General Meeting, Sicklinghall Village Hall at 2.00pm.

Spring Bank Holiday - 25/27th May, Wales (Llyn Peninsular). Leaders E. Gray-Thomas & M. Griffith. Meet each day in lay-by opposite The Warren Caravan Park, SH317298 (1 mile north of Abersoch on A499) at 10.30am.

25th - Abersoch area, including Penrhyn Du & Llanengan Lead Mines with associated minerals.

26th - Rhiw, Benallt & Nant Manganese Mines, Llanllawen & Carreg Jasper Quarries near Aberdaron.

27th - Trevor area, including granite quarry & manganese mine.

It is unlikely that underground trips will be possible. The history of each mine & cont'd.....

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the industrial archaeology of each site will be explained and minerals on tips will be identified. Bring a packed lunch on Sunday.

There are numerous caravan sites on Llyn, e.g. The Warren Caravan Park (Abersoch 2046). Small sites include Mr R.G. Jones, Llanllawen Gawr Farm (Aberdaron 223) and Mrs N. Roberts, Llawenan Farm (Rhiw 330).

Further details from Margaret Griffith (Sheffield 557958).

May 31 - June 2nd - National Association of Mining History Organisations Conference at Matlock Bath, Derbyshire. Full details later.

June 29/30th - Dufton & Silverband Mines, Cumbria. Leader F.D. Heaton.

Meet & Camp at Dufton village, NY 688251 at 10.30am. Note Distance from Dufton to the mines is 3 miles over very rough roads. Special tractor/trailer lifts are organised. Intending members should make their intentions known to David Heaton, Bramham Lodge, Wetherby, W. Yorks. Tel Boston Spa 842101, in order that transport is provided for all. No forward booking - No free conveyance.

Sept 1st - General Meeting, Sicklinghall Village Hall at 2.00pm.

Sept 22nd - Coal mines in the Ingleton & Lune Valley area. Leader D.M. Goth.

Meet in car park next to Masons Arms, Ingleton (on A65) SD 691726 at 10.30am.

Oct. 12th - Annual Dinner - details later.

Nov. 9th (Sat) - General Meeting followed by President's Talk-in & Pie & Pea Supper. Sicklinghall Village Hall at 2.00pm.

As you can see we still have plenty of scope to fit in the Meet YOU are intending to lead, so hurry up and let John Mc know where and when! Please contact him at 166 Irlam Rd, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester M31 3NB. Tel 061 747 8652.

The Last, Last, Library Report. (May 81 - Feb 85)

Well, the time has finally arrived when I feel I must retire from this most prestigious position. The fact that I've read every book in the library and siphoned off all relevant material had nothing to do with my decision. Perhaps the constant fracas with the local postmaster may have nudged me a little, but then he retired prematurely anyway and I would like to think I had some bearing on that!! However, to be honest I thought it was time for a fresh face, approach and someone with a better command of English than wot I got. I've been angling for a new typewriter for Xmas from our firm but all I got was a new ribbon and a screwdriver. I know what to do with the ribbon, but the screwdriver mystifies me.

Time for facts & figures:- 113 publications have been loaned to 34 members this year, bringing the total during my term of office to 393½ publications loaned to 112½ members (½ = Harry) without any loss (one near miss actually).

I most sincerely hope that members will continue to use the library and also continue donating any publications of interest. May I take this opportunity in wishing Damian all the best as Librarian and I'm sure he will have the full support of all the members in the operation of the Library.

R.E. Hewer.

..... I'd like to pass on our thanks to Richard for the way he's sorted out the Library over the last few years. The reason he's had to give it up is because earning a crust was beginning to interfere.

A New Mineral.

The very first sulphite ever found naturally, has been discovered by an international team. Much of the analysis was undertaken by UMIST chemists Dr Dick Braithwaite & Dr J A Van den Berg. The new mineral is called Scotlandite since it derives from Leadhills in the south of Scotland (Lanarkshire). An old mineral specimen collected during the last century was examined recently by Dr W H Paar at the University of Salzburg (Austria). Tiny crystal & crystal aggregates in crevices of the specimen matched the properties of no known mineral. Only the latest techniques at UMIST could reveal one of nature's minor secrets. Dr Braithwaite's infra-red spectroscopy revealed a previously

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unsuspected natural sulphite. Further tests by UMIST's unique Surface Analysis Service using a modified SIMS technique confirmed this. Said Dr Braithwaite: "It was an exciting experience holding much of the world's known total supply of a new mineral in my hand. As an example of scientific collaboration and the brilliance of new techniques in tracking down the unknown it is a modern version of the classic scientific detective story." The material supplied to the UMIST team was two fragments no larger than sand-grains - and this was an appreciable part of the total!

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The "management" has drawn my attention to the following article in the A.I.A. Publication "World Industrial History" Summer 1984 edition: By the way, if you're not a member of this august body, why not? Anyone at all interested in industrial archaeology should be an A.I.A. member. Details can be obtained from Stuart B. Smith, c/o The Wharfage, Ironbridge, Telford, Shropshire TF8 7AW.

Now, after a plug like that, I have well and truly purged my conscience of any guilt about using the article without asking.

"The Copper Isle."

Some evidence for the early exploration for copper within the Russian Empire has come to light from an unusual source. The information is contained in a manuscript notebook at the National Library of Wales (NLW MS 15433B) written by the 18th century Welsh topographer and natural historian, Thomas Pennant. Pennant published a number of books describing his travels in Britain and the continent of Europe.

Amongst his notes about Mednoi or 'The Copper Isle', an uninhabited island about 40 miles long off the Kamchatka Peninsula on the Pacific coast of Russia, Pennant makes tantalising reference to an expedition made there in 1763 by a certain Peter Iakorolef, an overseer of one of the Russian copperworks. Navigators claimed to have seen very rich copper ores on the island and some copper had been taken to Kamchatka for making jewellery. Iakorolef apparently found the reports to be true, discovering veins of what was described as 'virgin copper' outcropping in the cliffs, and eroded pebbles of the same material on the beaches. The feasibility of large scale exploitation on Mednoi was reduced by isolation and an exceptionally harsh environment, and it is unclear from the reference whether any serious mining was begun. If this was not the case, however, Iakorolef's investigations were very thorough and included the sinking of trial shafts, for Pennant refers to vessels being pulled onto the shore for the duration of the winter, to a boat bringing miners, and to the death of one miner while sinking a shaft into the copper lodes.

It is a view commonly held, and probably with justification, that major industrialization began in Russia only towards the end of the 19th century, and even later in the country's more remote regions. This curious reference, if frustratingly incomplete, is an interesting reminder that many attempts were already being made by the mid 18th C to bring advanced western industrial practices to Russia and to explore the natural resources of a vast nation.

Peter Wakelin."

At last! some may say, we come to the final installment of Dave Carlisle's 'definitive' work on life in Zambia just after independence in 1964.

What a thing to wish on anybody at the beginning of a new year. Never-the-less read on.

Copperbelt Memories - Part 4.

In the first three parts of this 'tome', I seem to have restricted myself to the work side of Copperbelt life. To be fair, it did take up a hell of a lot of time with a six day week and very few public holidays.

Few Europeans took leave within Zambia itself because there was so little to do. Most of the country is flat, boring bush - we had to drive 120 miles to get some rock-climbing in, one weekend. People therefore accumulated leave - sometimes for three years - and then blew it all on a four to six month trip to South Africa or the U.K. This was often a good way for expatriates to get a bit of extra money taken home. We "old contract" people were restricted to a certain "lump sum" which we could take out when we left. This was another reason for leaving because we'd reached that limit and certainly didn't want to leave money in the country (I think they still have some of mine, in spite of this!)

I once thought I was going to leave the place before I wanted to. It all started one afternoon shift at Muf. West when I caught a particularly idle African ganger drifting fast asleep in a grizzley drive, barely half an hour after the start of the shift. When roused and admonished he promptly landed me one on the chin. Luckily I didn't hit back.

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and had my P.A. for a witness so we got the Mine Police to cart him out.

For those who don't know, assault underground usually results in dismissal anywhere, but with the political situation in Zambia at that time, I couldn't be certain that this would happen.

The following afternoon, before we went down, there was a hearing in the Underground Manager's Office, at which the offending ganger stated forcibly that if he were sacked he would have me deported! For the sake of the other shiftbosses who were waiting to hear the verdict, I couldn't allow blackmail and insisted that the fellow was sacked. After this, I heard that he was supposed to be a big wheel in the UNIP party and because of this I really expected to get my "24 hour ticket" (deportation notice). I never did, but that's not quite the end of that story

Some people are bound to wonder what we did after work and on Sundays. Well, the Europeans kept themselves strictly to themselves - I never heard of any fraternisation at all, though I once went to a beer hall to see what it was like! Apart from a couple of bars in town, most of the outside drinking was centred around the clubs - football, cricket, flying, tennis, rugby, rifle, to name a few. These were partly supported by the mine, as were the non-sport-orientated Mine Club and Country Club (Yes, I was a Country Member). The Mine Club burned down in 1966, but was later rebuilt.

Considering the (then) lowish European population of about 4000, most of the clubs were well patronised in the early evenings, but people often preferred to make their own entertainment by inviting friends round for a "sundowner" or early evening drink & barbeque.

The "thrown together" situation of the European community resulted in a friendly and easy-going social life, but there was always an underlying feud between the older South Africans (especially the "Dutchmen" and the English). The Scots & Irish - of whom there were many - seemed to get on well with everyone.

Zambian Copper provided my first "real" job, but when I came back home most Britishers were of the opinion that no one works out there - the blacks do that, don't they?

In fairness, the working conditions were quite good, but the working hours and the climate combined to make this one of the most demanding times of my life. In a strange way, though, it was deeply satisfying.....

THE END.

D. Carlisle.

It has been noticed that there seems to be a reluctance, by many members, to submit reports of their finds and activities for publication, either in the Newsletter or the Memoirs.

Any discoveries or the results of research, no matter how insignificant they may seem to you, may be of interest to others and be just the bit of information they've been looking for, for the past 50 years, to complete their work that at last gains them their Nobel prize.

I get lots of information passed to me, that although not suitable for publication, for various reasons, is still a valuable acquisition to the Records.

Most of our members visit mines and mining sites, and have done so for years. Have you noticed how these sites have changed over the decades, in many cases without you being aware of it, until one day you go and there's nothing left but a heap of stones or a housing estate.

Three separate individuals go into the same mine: 1 sees it through an Engineers eyes: another as Geologist and the 3rd from an Archaeologists point of view. If the 3 then wrote about what they have seen, we would end up with 3 different perspectives of the same mine. On their own these reports may not seem to amount to much, the level may only have gone a few hundred yards to a fall, for example, but collectively they give a far better idea of the whole. If this then is added to information from a few years ago, "it went for miles last year, & that fall certainly wasn't there".

An account of these things over a period helps to build up an overall picture for future researchers. If however you keep it to yourself it is all eventually lost.

Every little helps.

Book Reviews.

"The British Lead Mining Industry" by Roger Burt, Dyllansow Truran, 1984. pp 344, 25 tables, 5 figures, 2 maps, 9 graphs, 7 appendices. Price £10.95. Stocked by J. Keavey, cont'd.....

.....cont'd Book Reviews.

Yorkshire Dales Railway Bookshop, Embsay Station, Skipton - post extra.

This, the latest book from Roger Burt, is very much an academic study, but has the beauty of being written in an easily read style which, not before time, presents us with a discussion of the British lead mining industry both during its most prosperous years, and during those of rapid decline following 1870 when the volume of the home market increased by 90%. The author has tackled the subject from the view of an economic historian and has been able to make wider comparisons with the effects of the national economy and international events on the level of trade.

There are chapters on: mineral ownership and arrangements for mining; the organisation and finance of the mining companies in the 18th & 19th centuries; mine management; the organisation of the labour force (health, earnings etc); the sale of ore and the price of smelted lead and lead manufacture and consumption. Each of them would readily expand to fill a book on its own, so there must be gaps. Also, the book is a statement about the level of published knowledge in the late 1970's, and must reflect the errors and weaknesses in some interpretations which were then current.

My one major complaint is the unfortunate omission of pagination from those articles listed in the, otherwise thorough, bibliography. This tragedy aside, however, the author, as in his previous books, has made a valuable contribution to the wider study of the non-ferrous metal mining industry, which it is to be hoped will be reflected in the adoption of a less parochial, and more rigorous, approach by future researchers.

Mike Gill (he of the positive views! maybe, perhaps)

I've included this next piece, whilst not a Review being an advert from a Newspaper, will be of interest to many of our members.

Thomas Sopwith's "Account of the Mining Districts of Alston Moor, Weardale & Teesdale"
First published in 1833, and printed again for the first time in over 150 years.

This fascinating book, gives a unique contemporary picture of conditions and life in the early 19th century, in the lead mining area of the North of England.

As a surveyor and an agent for the Beaumont mines, Sopwith's descriptions of the geology and working of the mines, gives an authentic account of the daily life of the miners.

183pp, cloth, in dust jacket - £13.50 inc. postage. The Print run is only 500.
From Michael Moon, 41-43 Roper St. Whitehaven, Cumbria. Tel (0946) 62936.

Who says "no one's doing owt these days"?

Jerry Landless and the Wanlockhead crowd seem to be keeping busy, though playing in water at this time of year is akin to having a sex change operation. Maybe they're getting ready for the cricket season & being Scots are too mean to buy a "box"! They certainly won't be finding any nuts in May!

Wanlockhead

Since my last scribblings, things have been progressing, all be it slowly. The problem we needed to solve (and still do) is to get the non-potholers of the group into the engines. We started digging on the adit, firstly with a Jigger with a two-ton bucket, courtesy of the Wanlockhead Museum Trust. Again, thanks to the Trust, two locals did a good deal of re-timbering to improve drainage. Good job too. We then worked up the adit to a fall which took 4 visits to gain a way through finally, to what we believe is our last blockage in this section?! This is proving more difficult than expected. The summer was passing, and the water level rising. We had passed two pipes through to see how high the water was behind the blockage; one 12' long, low down; one 7' long about $\frac{3}{4}$ way up. Both passed water, so we knew we hadn't far to go. The trouble was that every time we attempted a dig, the water behind the blockage would give it a nudge! Extremely cold water too, so by mutual consent we have backed off until the time is right to return.

Geof, of course, had something else of interest. We started another dig, nice and high this time, to try again access to the site of a vertical pumping engine complete, with luck, the engine itself. We are about 360' in, and possibly 40' from the head of a shaft. Unfortunately we're also up to a big fall, so we will have to tackle this before we can go further. We need to work down to the floor here as we think we may be getting into a stope.

Jerry Landless.

The following item is from the "Western Morning News" of 19th December. The dump material is ideal for gardens - the As_2O_4 - arsenic kills the weeds on paths, but has disastrous results if used for buildings - as the County Council has found to its cost.

Roy Shambrook.

"The Duchy of Cornwall could allow the removal of more than 100,000 tons of mine waste from land behind the village of Luccombe at Stoke Climsland in Cornwall.

The material is the result of more than 100 years of mining activity in the New Great Consols mines including Wheal Martha. The possibility that the unnamed private firm may be allowed to remove and process the dumped material was revealed at a Stoke Climsland Parish Council meeting. The dumped material probably contains commercial quantities of tin, lead, arsenic and silver. At present the Duchy appears to be weighing the financial advantages of granting permission to have old mine tailings processed against the impact of such work on the environment. The removal of this material will inevitably cause a certain amount of dust and disturbance. It is unlikely, though, that there is enough material to sustain a commercial processing operation for more than a year or so. There is also strong likelihood that any plan agreed by the Duchy will include a programme of landscaping and tree planting after the dumped material has been removed."

At the Pie & Pea Supper, Bill Harvey instigated a discussion group, amongst whose members there seemed to be some difference of views. He now throws the subject open for anyone who wishes to contribute their twopenorth.

Old Mines or Grassy Banks.

In October last the Land Manager of the Scottish Development Agency had the remains of the last washing plant at Leadhills overturned, and heaps of fines pushed over the ruins to landscape the site. This was done at the behest of the local Community Council as part of a programme aimed at tidying up the village.

I had heard about the intention to landscape the site, some weeks before. To my mind any attempt to improve the appearance of the village had to be supported, but I believed the site could be worked on without destroying the remaining physical remains. Indeed, with a little imagination, they might be used to create an attractive feature. I discussed the matter with the secretary to the Community Council, and set out my views in a letter to her, copied to the Ancient Monuments Office of the Scottish Development Department.

But before anything further could be done, a contractor turned up with a bulldozer and was told by a village spokesman that there was 'nothing of value' on the site and he could go ahead and flatten it.

The situation is not an uncommon one, and emphasises the gulf between those bodies who seek to preserve the industrial heritage, and those who want to improve the quality of the local environment. Although the S.D.D. are concerned with the one, and the S.D.A. with the other, there seems neither dialogue nor any guidelines. The situation also emphasises the fact that there can be a body of opinion with no happy memories of the industry that once gave local employment, and who see no value in preserving its relics. It must be said that any interest in preservation often comes from outside a local community and may be seen as alien to the community's real concerns.

All over the country old mine workings, ore plants etc., offer a potential for landscaping, creating recreation grounds, and so on. Much is commendable, some disastrous, but all should be the concern of N.M.R.S. members at local level. I think an exchange of views and experiences throughout the pages of the Newsletter would be of the greatest value.

Bill Harvey.

One of the ironies of conservation is that the people who fight the hardest to preserve the past, also do the same if any proposals are made to "despoil" the landscape in the same way nowadays. HH.

From time to time, we print pieces about conservation and vandalism in its various guises, as do all the other Mining Society's in their Newsletters. Imagine, therefore, my surprise when attention was drawn to the activities of a leading Society, who had better remain nameless. They've held what they term a 3 Mines Race, for which a team races round the country and visits a mine in each of England, Scotland & Wales. To prove they'd been, a tin of paint was taken along and evidence daubed in each mine. Just after I'd been told this, I received a copy of their Newsletter and so could read and see

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(photos too, look you), the official version for myself.

The thing that struck me about all this was that a couple of paragraphs below these photos, the Chairman's remarks contained this pearl "...We have not witnessed any major acts of conservation...".!

Yes! Well! ahem!.... HH.

Craven Cross Engine Meet (Obituary) — — — — —

July 1984 turned out to be a proper summer, even on Greenhow, at least for most of the week of the dig. A goodly crowd had assembled on the Saturday morn awaiting the arrival of 'Ironsides' to peg out the site, this was duly done after consulting the findings of a computerised Gezzometre which had passed over the area after escaping from its keepers at Bradford University some time earlier in the year. After 2 to 3 hours work, no one was very impressed with the findings, which turned out to be an old dressing floor associated with West Gin Shaft. Moving across the track, work started at the site of Craven Cross or Engine Shaft, the site of the Engine House was soon found together with the cinder bank and the site of the boiler. We had a copy of the original Watt plan and soon found we had the outline of a building which tallied with the plans, the only difference being that the boiler house was on the opposite side of the engine to that shown on the plan. Work continued in excavating the engine house and by mid Monday morning it had become apparant that there was b..... all there. The dig was continued downwards until the original ground level was reached, from here measurements taken from the plans showed that the base of the engine had been 3' to 4' higher than the ground level at the start of the dig. In other words all reusable stone, including the engine bed, had been removed at some earlier date. In the engine house two obviously authentic bolts were found, together with some from a much later period. Also quantities of thin clear glass (the same type being found at the Reedley Colliery engine dig) presumably from the windows. On the edge of the shaft the base of the Bob Wall foundations were uncovered. The Monday afternoon was spent in backfilling and cleaning up the site.

So what was all the fuss about in the first place? The Craven Cross Engine was the first steam engine to be used on Greenhow and, as far as is known, in all of the Dales. The Craven Cross Mine was leased by a John Wood who was a Tallow Chandler from Pateley Bridge. The vein proved to be very rich and the workings reached a depth of forty fathoms with no great water problems. A Horse Gin and water barrel sufficed to keep the workings dry. From about 1781 to 1784 the mine had made a profit of around £30,000, then disaster struck in the early part of the latter year. The works out a fault full of water which flooded the mine with such speed that all tools were left behind, as well as ore already got to the value of £1,200. Woods lease had only five years to run from the 10th June 1785 so it was imperative for him to drain the mine as soon as possible.

The famous canal engineer John Smeaton, who lived at Austhorpe near Leeds, was contacted and came to Greenhow in inspect the mine. His first report of 5th October, 1784 states "The tubs drawn per hour were forty, but I suspect that it will require somewhat more than double that quantity to draw the feeder when there is no pen of water upon it, that will be at least eighty tubs per hour, and as no fire engine should be calculated to go above 12 hours in 24 to allow for cleaning, repairing and accidents, and to enable it to overcome the feeder in a reasonable time when any stoppage happens, this makes the power of the smallest engine necessary to do this business capable of drawing 160 tubs an hour; that is, as much as the tub gins drew in 4 hours - but to allow for increase of water, which may possibly happen, it will be proper again to double the power of the engine so to draw 320 tubs an hour, in which case if the feeders do not increase it will do its business in 6 hours work per day.

This will require an engine of the common construction (Newcomen type) of 36" cylinder which at 43 fathoms, would work a 9" pump and deliver 219 gallons per minute, and be worked with 28cwt of coals, which if laid down at the engines door at 9d per cwt will amount to £1 1s 0d per 6 hours, and as $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of this expense will be saved to the proprietor by the use of the engine of Messrs Boulton and Watt, this will be a saving upon the present produce of water, in case it neither increases nor deminishes, of 7s per day amounting to £127 15s per annum.

I am therefore of the opinion that Messrs Boulton & Watt should erect an engine capable of drawing 220 gallons Ale measure per minute at 43 fathoms."

The Craven Cross Shaft was rectangular, measuring 4' 9" by 2' 10" clear of any timber or stone lining. To get over the problem of lack of space in the shaft, Smeaton

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proposed to place the two sets of rods in line, by running two chains from either side of the arch head, and connecting them to the top of the rods by means of a cross beam, working to the surface from a depth of 28 fathoms. The second rod would be worked by means of a chain hung from a projection of 9 to 10 inches on the arch head, to work the remaining 15 fathoms. By May of 1785 the shaft had been enlarged on its longest side to compensate for the space taken up by the pumps, a water lodge built and the engine house erected, the engine was due to start work some time about Nov 5th 1785, it was reported as working well in Dec. 1788.

By April 1795, John Horner held the lease at Craven Cross where the engine stood idle, he had it moved to his colliery at Durham which appears to have been done by December of that year. In 1797, Horner was complaining that smoke from the engine was proving a nuisance in the town of Durham.

The only tangible evidence of the engine at Craven Cross is the final sump pipe (10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " diam.) and strainer which is laid on the moor top some distance from the shaft and two more pipe lengths serving as drains under the track leading on to the moor. In the 1984 Memoirs p.19, a section of a Watt engine at the White Grit Mine, Shropshire, which is identical to the Craven Cross engine except in the latter the cylinder is of 34" diameter.

Most of the members who were on the Meet for the week stayed in the 'stone tent' at Duck Street along with Crust and his rocks. On the Tuesday an expedition was made into the Washburn Valley to find the site of Hoodstorth Lead Smelting Mill. It was the season of the high ferns, which made for difficult going, Crust soon retired, making the excuse that his boots had holes in the bottom, but really it was the thought of snakes. The site was located but little is now left, but with the help of a metal detector part of the slag bank was found. The location of the mill came as a bit of a surprise to Malcolm and Steve, who had previously made a survey of a structure near the head of the valley. Anyone with a yen after sheepfolds, please contact Malcolm for a copy of the plan.

Another day was spent in looking for the Spirit Level near Bewerley with no success. Lolly Scar Level was also entered and some digging done at the main fall. On the Wed. a trip was made into Ashfold Gill and the Providence Engine House measured up. In the afternoon we went up to Durham to buy a lead mine and had a fair booze up with the owner in the evening and early morning. The following morning we had a guided tour of the mine, looking up into what appeared to be empty stopes. Didn't buy the mine and returned to Greenhow on the Thursday night when quite a few members spent a jolly evening in the Miners Arms. The Friday started nice and sunny and another attempt was made to find Spirit Level, by dinner time it was raining and out of the saloon bar window the yokels could be seen haymaking in wellies and souwesters, and lo & behold, there on the back of a trailer sat Big Malcolm and Crust. The rain continued and the Meet dissolved at 3.00pm on the Saturday.

J.M. Dickinson.

Talk-in & Pie & Pea Supper Report.

As usual the General Meeting preceeding the Talk-in was the best attended of the year, and resulted in rather a later start than anticipated.

This year, to make sure I got the right tale, I made detailed notes of the whole show. Unfortunately, I seem to have misplaced them for the moment. I know they were put in a place of safe keeping! but "someone" must have moved them! All is not lost, however, but the report will have to be shorter than intended. Maybe that's why they were pinched?

Over 60 members & friends packed the auditorium to be entertained with lectures having a truly international bent. We were taken Gold Mining in Finland, California & South Africa; Sand Mining at Pontefract; Salt Mining in Cheshire; Stone Mining at Bath and identifying artifacts in Derbyshire. We learnt about mine tubs & waggons; Plumbago & Tin, and were given the chance to buy trains in India.

The Pies caused heartburn; the peas wind; and all in all it "were a reet gud do!"

HH.

Society Tackle

The ladders and ancillary gubbings that were owned by the Society have, due to age and abuse, unfortunately had to be condemned. In future we will have to rely upon the good nature of members who own their own tackle and hope they will not be "backwards in coming forwards" as far as Meets are concerned. Would Meet Leaders please bear this in mind when making their arrangements.

Whilst on this subject, is anyone looking after any Society equipment that they think we've forgotten about? By this we mean compasses, chains or tapes etc.

Sale of the Century

Do you want any copies of back issues of British Mining?

Do you want to buy them at bargain prices?

Yes! Then come to the General Meeting at Sicklinghall where you will get the chance to acquire copies of the few issues we have left at special low offers.

Don't forget the date - Sunday 12th May, 1985 at 2.00pm.

NAMHO Conference 1985.

This will be held at Matlock Bath and will be hosted by P.D.M.H.S. I understand the scope of the event will cover lectures; seminars; visits and displays. There are to be trips etc laid on for families, as well as a bonfire & barbeque for Sat. night.

Unfortunately no programme has been sent to me, so I can't give you any more details. If you want to go, then send a LONG STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE, and full details including accomodation & food guides, booking forms etc, will be supplied.

The address for all Conference details is:- Mr. A. Mutter, c/o Peak District Mining Museum, The Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR. Tel. Matlock 4468. The cost is £6.00 per delegate.

Mining '85

The biggest-ever mining exhibition mounted in the U.K. Sponsored by the Association of British Mining Equipment Companies. Held at NEC, Birmingham from 10-14th June, '85.

Opening times. June 10-13 inclusive 10.00 to 18.00hrs.

June 14th 10.00 to 16.00hrs.

Details from:- Mining 85 Organising Director, Richard West, Mining Industry Promotions Ltd., P.O.Box 53, Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 2AG.

2000 Years of Zinc & Brass

A Conference on this topic is to be held at the University of Bristol from June 7-9, 1985. Further details from:- J.H. Bettey, Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, University of Bristol, Wills Memorial Building, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1HR.

Society Officers for 1985

The following members were elevated to Committee status at the A.G.M. and are now filling the following positions:-

President	R.E. Hewer, 36 Benomley Cres, Almondbury, Huddersfield HD15 6LU. Tel. 0484 33943
Vice President	R.E. Burns, 22 West Hall Garth, South Cave, Brough, N. Humberside. Tel. 04302 2767.
Junior Vice President	M. Street, 6 Oakwood Park, Leeds LS3 2PJ. Tel 0532 401542
Secretary	J.H. McNeil, 166 Irlam Road, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester M31 3NB Tel 061 747 8652
Treasurer	G.B. Greenough, 22 Elmhurst Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs FY8 3 JH. Tel. 0253 723987
Recorder	M.C. Gill 38 Main Street, Sutton, in Graven, Keighley BD20 7HD Tel 0534 55588
P.R.O.	H. Houghton, 29 Parkside Road, Meanwood, Leeds LD5 4LL. Tel 0532 748505
Librarian	D.J. McCurdy, 111 Barn Lane, Golborne, Warrington WA3 3PR. Tel 0942 748192
Editor	R.H. Bird 41 Windsor Walk, South Anston, Sheffield S21 7EL Tel 0909 562229

Note ye well that Spotty Hewer is now occupying the White House and is no longer Librarian. This post is now being undertaken by Damian McCurdy, so if you want to borrow any books contact him at 111 Barn Lane, Golborne, Warrington WA3 3PR.

To mark the Society's 25th Anniversary, L.B. Cook; W.J. Houston; J.C. Wade & W. Walton, who are all Founder Members of the Society, were offered, and have accepted, Honorary Membership in appreciation of their 25 years loyal support to the Society.

Mining Facsimilies

Bird Publications are now preparing 4 titles in the series "Special Reports on the Mineral Resources of Great Britain" published by the Geological Survey between 1915 &

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1925. viz:-

- Vol.XXVI. Lead & zinc ores of Durham, Yorkshire, Derbyshire with notes on the Isle of Man.
By R. Carruthers & A. Strahan, 1923 (114pp, 2 plates, 6 text figures). £8.50
- Vol.XXVII. Copper Ores of Cornwall & Devon. By H. Dewey. (76pp, 4 plates, 13 text figures). 1923 £7.50
- Vol.XXII. Lead & zinc ores of the Lake District. By T. Eastwood. (56pp, 1 plate 4 text figures). 1921. £7.00
- Vol.XXIII. Lead & zinc ores in the Pre-Carboniferous Rocks of West Shropshire & North Wales. By B. Smith & H. Dewey. (95pp, 13 text figures). 1922. £8.00

All orders/enquiries etc to Mining Facsimiles, 41 Windsor Walk, South Anston, Sheffield S31 7EL.

Do YOU owe US MONEY?

It would appear that we have some troublemakers in our midst, who will insist upon disrupting Big Hilary's peaceful existence. Her problem is with people who won't pay her quickly enough.

".....Except where payment is through an agent, overseas sales are very awkward to persuade to pay on time. Sometimes it takes 1½ years to squeeze money from them! A small percentage of our own members are guilty of lengthy delays when paying for special publications; some need 2 or 3 reminders to cough up, which all takes time & money on our behalf. PLEASE NOTE that payment should be within one month of invoice date and not three months or more!

To the vast majority of members who do pay promptly - Many Thanks, it does make life easier."

Whernside Cave & Fell Centre

A weekend course "Introduction to Mines" is being run on 21-23 June 1985 at a cost of £43.50 + VAT. Interested? Contact:- The Manager, Whernside Cave & Fell Centre, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5RE.

Helpers Wanted for Society Project.

We have been asked to provide a small display and interpretation centre at Embsay Railway, Nr. Skipton.

At present plans aren't formalised (in fact we're still at the head scratching stage) but one thing is definite - We Need Help! Initially we have to provide a display in an old weighbridge hut. It will have to be simple; concise, vandal proof; easily maintainable and, within reason, not too expensive.

The display, we envisage, will be unattended and probably be mainly in picture form, sealed against dampness & sticky fingers in some way, and suitably mounted in as professional a manner as the pennies will allow. Can YOU help in any way at all? Labourers, as well as craftsmen will be needed both for this and any future phases that may come off.

Any offers of help, or advise on the best way of doing the job to Mike Gill, 38 Main Street, Sutton -in-Craven, Keighley or Dicko (J.M.Dickinson) 8 Hazel Grove Road, Sutton in Craven. Keighley. Tel 0535 34075.

For Sale

Roneo "Rapid 750" Electric Duplicator:- This heavy duty model is the Society's old one and needs a good home. Any kind, prospective owners coming with £100 can take it away - 1st come 1st served.

Form an orderly Q to the R of the doorway!

Available from 29 Parkside Road, Meanwood, Leeds 6.

If you want replies from Society Officers, please enclose S.A.E.

All Newsletter fodder to Me (Harry Houghton 29 Parkside Road, Meanwood, Leeds LS6 4HX.)
Next issue due out mid/late May.

Northern Mine Research Society
General Account

Statement of Income and Expenditure for period 1/1/84 to 31/12/1984

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Subscriptions 1984	£1772.00	Publications	£2125.00
" 1985	1270.50	Stationery	177.32
Donations	245.08	Officers Expenses	
Interest from 1983	23.67	PRO	119.16
" " 1984	187.57	Secretary	42.31
Misc. & Sales	7.80	Treasurer	23.96
Dinner	264.00	Library & Records	72.49
Talk-in	54.75	NAMHO Insurance	127.51
NAMHO Insurance (viaitors)	2.50	Subs. to other Societies	36.00
from Book A/c	2850.00	Hall Hire	21.00
	<u>6746.57</u>	Dinner	247.50
Excess Expenditure over	1360.76	Talk-in	42.79
Income		Misc. & Audit	7.29
	<u>8107.33</u>	To Book A/c	5065.00
			<u>8107.33</u>

CASH STATEMENT

	<u>Current A/c</u>	<u>Building Society</u>	<u>Total</u>
Opening Balance	£427.21	£3900.00	£4327.21
Movement	+ 278.00	- 1638.76	- 1360.76
Closing Balance	705.21	2261.24	2966.45
Bank Balance as per statement			
at 31/12/84.	840.72		
less cheques not presented	135.51		
	<u>705.21</u>		

I certify that this statement is a true and fair record of the affairs of the Society.
for 1984.

J. Pulford 5/2/1985.

Treasurer's remarks

The financial aspects of "normal" recurrent Society activities can be summarised as follows. Book finances, the extra interest on book prepayments & Dr. Raistricks donation are excluded.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Subs.	£2960.50	Publications	£2125.00
Interest (say)	90.00	Stationery	177.32
Donations, sales	14.00	Officers Expenses	257.92
Surplus on Dinner	16.50	NAMHO Insurance (net)	125.01
" on Talk-in	11.96	Subs. to other Societies	36.00
		Hall & Misc.	28.29
			<u>2749.54</u>
		Surplus Income/Expenditure	343.42
	<u>3092.96</u>		<u>3092.96</u>

Treasurer's Report

The General Account and the Book account (overleaf) are presented separately. There has been considerable money transfer between the two during the year, but at the end of '84 neither a/c was in debt to the other, i.e. prepayments earlier put into the General A/c had been transferred and a loan from the General A/c to pay for the books repaid.

During the year, the General A/c benefited from the donation by Dr. Raistrick of the whole of his share of the royalties from book sales - £242.00. This is an exceptionally large gift and the Society is extremely grateful to Dr. Raistrick for his generosity.

549 copies of "The Life and Work of the Northern Lead Miner" were printed and bound. Complimentary copies for authors and others left 532 for sale - this was completed by the end of the year. All expected costs have been paid and the balance in the A/c of £679.65 represents the surplus on the exercise. This is more than expected when it was learned that the printing and binding costs were appreciably higher than first estimates. With hindsight, the surplus would have been higher if we had printed more copies and/

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.....Treasurers remarks cont'd.

/or been more restrictive on the numbers sold to booksellers at discount. However, the actual outcome is an excellent book of which the Society can be proud and a surplus equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of the additional publication to be provided "free" to members in 1985.

Membership has risen to 488 for '84 from 465 in '83, but the rate of increase is now slow.

G.B. Greenough.10/1/85.

Book Account

Statement of Income and Expenditure 1984

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
From General Account	£5065.00	To General A/c	£2850.00
Payment for Books & postage	3441.02	Packaging	50.60
		Postage	396.72
		549 Books	3800.00
		Misc	37.95
		Royalties	691.10
			<u>7826.37</u>
		Surplus	679.65
	<u>8506.02</u>		<u>8506.02</u>

CASH STATEMENT

	<u>Current A/c</u>		
Opening Balance	0.00	Bank Balance as per statement 31/12/84	£1140.02
Movement	+£679.65	less cheques not presented	460.37
Closing Balance	679.65		<u>679.65</u>

J. Pulford 5/2/85.

Publications Account

Statement of Income and Expenditure for period 1/1/84 to 31/12/1984.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Sales to Society	£2125.00	Typesetting	£ 572.50
Aftersales Receipts	2046.77	Printing	1784.57
Building Society Interest	127.06	Postage	481.06
		Stationery	81.79
		Editor's Expenses	32.95
		Purchase of Mineral Stats.	231.08
		Aftersales Expenses	29.73
		Misc.	7.00
			<u>3220.88</u>
		Excess Income/Expenditure	1077.95
	<u>4298.83</u>		<u>4298.83</u>

CASH STATEMENT

	<u>Current A/c</u>	<u>Building Society</u>	<u>Total</u>
Opening Balance	£811.55	£1085.55	£1897.10
Movement	- 174.11	+ 1252.06	1077.95
	637.44		2975.05
Cash in hand to bank	- 28.30		- 28.30
Bank balance per statement	609.14	2337.61	<u>2946.75</u>
Stock at cost on 31/12/84	£792.04		
cash flost	3.77		

J. Pulford
5/2/85.