

It makes a nice change to be starting a Newsletter with a "Thank you" instead of an apology.

The Treasurer reports that the number of completed Covenant forms received has been very encouraging - well over half eligible full and family members have signed on.

Less satisfactory, about a dozen of those have not yet returned the essential Certificate of Deduction of Income Tax - without it we cannot claim the money. Would these laggards please stir themselves or, if you never had the form to sign, ask the Hon. Treasurer to send you one.

Contact Geoff Greenough, 22 Elmhurst Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs FY8 3JH.

Future Events.

Spring Bank Holiday 24/26th May. - Lead, Zinc & Copper Mines of Kirkcudbrightshire & Nithsdale Lime Works. Leaders - G. Downs-Rose and W.S. Harvey.

24: Meet at Gem Rock Museum, Creetown at 10.00am.

Visit to Pibble Mine, NGR NX527607 (Sheet NX46/56) a.m.

Visit to Blackcraig Mines, NGR NX448644 & NX442647 P.M.

The Gemrock Museum, Creetown provides a suitable rendezvous on the Saturday for a look at some of the metal mines of Kirkcudbrightshire. G.V. Wilson (Special Reports on the Mineral Resources of Great Britain, Vol. XVII, HMSO, 1920), noted 25 mines in the area ranging from trials to some with 4 -500 tons output per annum, having esoteric names like: Englishman's Burn, Dallash and Pebble Gulch.

The largest mines were Pibble - which boasts remains of a Cornish engine house (NGR NX527607) and East and West Blackcraig whose lode was discovered by a soldier when making a military road to subjugate the Scots in 1763. (NGR NX448644 & NX442647)

25: Further time could be spent above on Sunday, or a visit made to the Woodhead Lead Mines at Carsphairn (NGR NX530937) en route for Nithsdale.

26: The venues for Monday's meets are the Craigdullyart and Benston Limeworks near New Cumnock. Meet at Sanguhar campsite (NGR NS787094) at 10am or at Craigdullyart (NGR NS663153) at 10.45am.

New Cumnock is a microcosm of a sometime mining industry. A number of collieries, including the illfamed Knockshinnoch, once worked a variety of coals, and in the last century there were limeworks, claypits, an iron furnace and a coal/oil plant. There were also mines for lead, antimony, graphite, and barytes in the area, and tradition has it that gold was worked in the hills to the south.

At Craigdullyart there is the remains of a three-bank kiln, and the cavernous mine can be safely entered. A notable feature in the workings are the roads made for the carts that took out the stone. The whole is described by Professor Butt in his Industrial Archaeology of Scotland as perhaps the most impressive site of any limeworks in the country.

Benson was a larger limeworks, but the site is now very ruinous. It is intended that we shall have some local advice as to the features that can still be seen on the surface.

There is much of mining interest in this part of Scotland, and it is hoped that some members will stay over. The remains of a number of limeworks extend along Nithsdale and into Ayrshire, and a list will be provided for any members wanting to explore this largely unrecorded industry. Other visits could include the Lead Mining Museum at Wanlockhead, and the proposed brick and iron museum complex at Dalmellington. Advice as to other mines etc., will be provided by the organisers to fill the remainder of the week for anyone interested. Please contact Bill Harvey prior to the Meet, though some of us will be staying in the area doing whatever takes our fancy according to the weather and mood.

Bill can be contacted at 23 Orleans Ave., Glasgow G14 9LA.

June 7/8th NAMHO Field Meet

This year Earby Mines Research Group are your hosts, and the weekend is based on Aysgarth Youth Hostel, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Aysgarth village, near the Palmer Flatts Hotel, on the A684 road between Hawes and Leyburn in Wensleydale. (NGR SE012884).

There will be various surface and underground trips to choose from, meeting first at the YHA at 9.30 each day, and using own transport. It is hoped to lay on a social "do" on the Saturday night at a local venue.

The Youth Hostel sleeps 60 in dormitories or family rooms sleeping 6 -8 people. You don't have to be a member of the YHA to stay there. The rates are so competitive that you may think it hardly worth camping, viz, per night:

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Bed: Over 21	£3.25	Dinner	£1.90
16-21	£2.50	Breakfast	£1.50
under 16	£2.10	Packed lunch	£1.00

Those wishing to book should write to David Wood, Warden, The Youth Hostel, Aysgarth, Leyburn, N. Yorks (Tel. Aysgarth 260) Mention NAMHO Weekend.

For details of campsites; B & B accomodation and the actual programme, please send an SAE to Dave Carlisle, Hon Sec. Earby Mines Research Group, 2 Florence Terrace, Rosedale East, Pickering, N. Yorks. YO18 8RJ.

June 28/29th Surrey Stone Mines. Leader Nick Catford.

Meet and camp at NGR TQ299539 at 10am each day.

A field is available for camping at the above map ref. ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile from A23 Brighton Rd, 2 miles from Jct 8 M25. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Jct 7 M23). Alternatively B & B can be arranged at a local guest house. There is a £1 per head charge which covers access to all the mines, copies of mine surveys (except Bedlams Bank) and a small booklet.

28th: The morning trip is to Godstone Hill Mine where access is easy (walk in) and therefore suitable for the whole family. The mine has approx. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of galleries and a guided tour will last about 2 hours. Features include a plateway with many of the plates still in situ, a conventional narrow gauge railway and plenty of wooden props. If you prefer you can make your own way round.

If time permits, it may be possible to visit nearby Marden Mine where there are more rails, spectacular roof falls and evidence of war time use.

After lunch, at a pub near the campsite, the afternoon trips will take in Quarry Dean and Quarry Field Mines, both within walking distance of the campsite. Access to the latter is via a 40' fixed iron ladder and should present no problems. The mine can be explored alone (using the survey) and a number of interesting features are to be found near the bottom of the shaft. For the more adventurous (no fat people please) there is a 200' tight crawl at one end of the mine. The mine is partly flooded due to the collapse of a drainage sough in 1820 and it may be possible to arrange a trip to the flooded sections for one or two experienced divers (please ring if you are interested). Quarry Dean is entered via a 12' shaft using a wire ladder. One of the interesting features is a stone lined barrel vault.

29th: Sundays visit is to Bedlams Bank Mine, which should not be explored alone as there are 11 miles of galleries and it is very easy to get lost. Access is via a 10' narrow shaft with a wire ladder. For the fit there is a 4 - 5 hour round trip which should include all the interesting features of this mediaeval mine (including Sledge ruts, iron wedges in situ, a complete horse skeleton, formations, 17th & 18th century graffiti etc). For the less fit there is a 2 hour trip which can be arranged, possibly followed by a visit to the Reigate Silver Sand Mines.

The Surrey Stone Mines are well worth a visit as they are very different from stone mines or quarries to be found elsewhere in the U.K.

Will anyone intending to come please ring Nick Catford on 01 644 0118 before hand so that we have an accurate idea of numbers. (or write to 77 Burleigh Rd, Sutton, Surrey).

July 12/13th Keld area. Leader L.O. Tyson.

12th: Meet at Hogarths bridge (NGR NY871013) at 10.30am. Start with a walk up to the Loanin End Mine along the Swale looking at the Little Moor Foot mines on the return journey. Then along the road to the Keldside Smelt Mill. Have lunch back at the cars, then drive back to Keld village where we will park and walk to the Plate Holes dressing floors. These are, reputedly, the most complete floors in this country and probably in Europe and are best visited in the afternoon to get the best light for photography.

In the evening, weather permitting, a trip to Stonesdale engine house.

13th: Meet at Keld village NGR NY893012 at 10.30am for underground trip to Swinnegill Level, then, time permitting, a trip down Landy Level. Wet suits advisable. Camping at Usha Gap, Muker or Keld.

Sept. 6th. Whitaside Mine. Leader L.O. Tyson

Meet at NGR SD982964 at 10.30am.

Sept. 7th. Sir Francis Mine, Gunnerside. Leader L.O. Tyson.

Meet Gunnerside Village NGR SD951982 at 10.30am.

Sept. 14th General Meeting, Sicklinghall Village Hall at 2.00pm.

Sept. 27th Buckden Gavel Mine. Leader M.R. Needham. Meet Car Park Buckden at 10.30 (NGR SD942774)

Oct. 4th - Annual Dinner - see elsewhere in Newsletter for details.

Emley Moor Colliery

Once again your roving reporter has been out on his rounds - fighting through gales, snow, sleet and a length of chain attached to his leg by his wife - he has managed, under duress to put pen to paper - and little else.....

Emley Colliery has finally closed, a necessary, but sad loss, especially to those who were associated with the mine.

During the past 4 months all the shafts and adit have been filled and sealed. The ventilation shafts were filled with sandstone hardcore and contained a mid-section of clay to form an impervious membrane preventing gas from reaching the surface. The main (man winding) pit was filled with general fill, tip material and bricks etc., and the mid section also had an impervious layer of clay. The shaft sides were removed in the area of the clay fill, until pack was reached. The brick ringing was supported by props, these were knocked out and the clay was immediately tipped down securely sealing the cross section of the shaft/s. The main pit, after initial settlement, was sealed off with concrete, and the winding equipment is in the process of being removed.

The adit (incline) to the mine, which had a conveyor belt running through it taking coal to the screens has been walled up a distance from the entrance and filled with waste material using a slusher coupled to a pulley and back through to a portable winch. The bricked entrance has now been totally covered and landscaped. The main pit buildings are to be saved and converted into small industrial units. The main drainage adit has been left, although access via this route is impossible due to falls and quantities of ochre.

The whole of the sealing operation had been recorded on video by David Craven (Colliery official) (26 copies of the video have been produced but none are for sale - unfortunately) and watching it certainly brings a lump to the throat. A brief history of the Emley Mining Field has been produced by John Schofield - Deputy Colliery Surveyor.

Comments re the closing varied from "Well it was exhausted anyway" to "It would have made a terrific mining museum" -- now THERE'S a thought - but it's too late!

R.E. Hewer.

Book Reviews.

Out of the Darkness - A brief history and description of the Old Quarry, Beer by John Scott and Gladys Gray. Published by Beer Quarry Caves Ltd., 8 Clinton Rise, Beer, Seaton, Devon EX12 3DX Price 95p plus 24p postage.

This is a small guidebook of 22 pages, A5 size with 14 half page illustrations. The illustrations cover historic photos, recent photos of early graffiti, pen and ink studies showing general underground views and illustrations of the various tools used in the mine. The mine appears to have been worked using a form of pillar and stall working since at least the early part of the 18th century until the 1920's, the stone being used for building and sculptural purposes. The authors admit that this is a dearth of documentation relating to the mines and this is obvious from the text but the material available has been used to advantage and makes for an interesting read. This is a useful little guide to have both for future reference and for consultation on visits to the mine.

The mine is open to the public daily as a showmine from Easter to end of September each year 10.00am to 6.00pm.

I.J. Brown.

The Coal Pits of Chowbent. K. Wood, 1985. 116pp.

This publication gives a very detailed account of the development of the Chowbent or Atherton collieries which are situated in the central and north western part of the Lancashire coalfield. It will be of particular interest to those who know the area or have an interest in it. It also describes the development of the remarkable family firm of Fletcher Burrows and the excellent industrial relations which they achieved.

The book begins with a detailed account of developments during the last century. It goes on to describe the national position during the strike torn 1920's and shows how effective good relationships were between the Fletcher and Burrows families and local miners. For example, the Chowbent men were some of the first to return to work at the end of the 1926 strike.

This book presents an interesting insight into mining in a Lancashire coalfield.

John H. Plumptre.

Meet Reports for Boulby and Kirby Thore, 25/26th April, 1986.

Potash is an extremely important mineral, supplying Nitrogen for fertilizers. It is also used for making Gunpowder and its Chloride is used in preparing potassium salts. Caustic potash and potassium hydroxide is used in making soft soap. The chlorate is a source of oxygen and goes into fireworks, matches and explosives. The iodide aids photography and medicine and the cyanide is an agent for extracting gold from ores and a source of prussic acid. The carbonate is used chiefly for making hard glass and soap.

Until World War I the chief source of supply was Germany. Other sources of supply are in the Pacific, the United States and Russia.

The existence of Potash in this area was first discovered in 1939 during a general geographical survey for oil deposits. It was found west of Whitby at a depth of 1370 metres (4150') and it was later found at Boulby at a depth of 1070 metres (3250') and the sinking of twin shafts was commenced in the 1960's.

The shafts have a finished diameter of 18' and are 91 metres apart and are of considerable interest because of the nature of the ground that had been encountered, and because 2 different methods were used to overcome the high pressure saline water in the Bunter Sandstone.

The Grouting and Tubbing method was used in the No. 2 shaft and the Freezing and Steel lining method was used in the other one.

For the Grouting method, a new grout had to be developed with much laboratory and on-site testing.

The Freezing method involved the drilling of freeze holes from surface to a depth of 1000metres and the deflection of these holes into positions later to be intersected by an underground freeze chamber.

The No. 1 Rick shaft is designed for hoisting potash in two counter balance 20 ton skips and is the up-cast ventilation shaft.

The No. 2 shaft has two counter balance cages to handle men and materials and also serves as the down-cast shaft for ventilation purposes.

Most of the mining is out to sea and the production consists of ore and salt. Last year the hoister production was 2 million tons. This produced 600,000 tons of pure potash and the left over salt. The whole mine is very much at the mercy of geology, both now and in the past when shafts were being sunk. The roads are mainly $3\frac{1}{2}$ metres high and are purposely built of the salt deposits which makes them more stable and level. The best of the seams run from 5 - 6 metres thick.

As mentioned, salt is a by-product and really considered a waste, but without these salt deposits, the actual mining of the potash could have even more difficulties than it has today. There is a lot of earth movement and the Mineralogists are kept at full stretch all the time.

The sinking of the shafts would, in itself, fill a book and further information can be obtained from me if required.

May I thank Mr. Petit for permission to visit the most unique mine workings in Great Britain.

F.David Heaton.

British Gypsum Mine Ltd., Kirby Thore.

Gypsum beds are formed by precipitation from water that has been cut off from the sea and later evaporated. It was used by the Chinese and Egyptians of 5000 years ago and was also used as a plaster by the Greeks before 500BC and later by the Romans for both art and building.

Deposits of Gypsum are widely distributed around the world and is widely used in the building industry.

These workings consist of 3 main areas. The grading in some parts is particularly steep and the whole area is mined by drift workings, in sharp contrast to Boulby.

The mines are worked in galleries which are on the whole about 28' high.

There is a fantastically high extration rate of 70% in the Long Riggs Mine. All the workshops are underground and no machinery exists that cannot be serviced or repaired either in situ or without having to be taken above ground.

There is also a fully equipped laboratory for control quality samples and checks for mineralisation levels and percentages. The ore is taken above ground by the sole use of conveyor belts, thus greatly reducing production costs of expensive winding gear.

Production is at a height which would send quivers of enjoyment through the spine of Ian McGregor, and acheives at least 3 tons of high grade ore per man hour.

The mine is entireley non-gaseous, but there are problems geologically aligned to the Penrith sand strata on which the deposits are placed. Water inrushes between this strata and the A and B beds were common in the early development days, but now, thanks to careful probes and extensive forward-planning and with the help of past experience, water inrushes are not such a common occurence.

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This particular mine is set under the old open-cast quarry workings and has been in production for 10 years.

On behalf of our members I would like to thank Mr. Hird and Dr. Holmes for all the trouble they took in showing us round this extremely interesting mine works.

F. David Heaton.

The Society would also like to thank David for a good Meet and also for laying on decent weather!!

Gwynfynydd Mine.

The latest missive from our tame Celt, Eric (The Book) Gray -Thomas, informs us that as well as having acquired a new dog, that the planning application made by Mark Aubrey Weinberg trading as Gwynfynydd Mine to increase the production capacity of the mine by the introduction of a three-shift system of working, the extension of underground workings and surface waste rock disposal areas, installation of effluent settlement tanks, toilet accomodation and the installation of a jigback ropeway system has been turned down. There is talk of the mine closing despite a lot of gold being found, mainly in the Chidlow vein No. 6 Level (Adit). The Snowdonia National Park Planning Committee rejected the plan to take on 35 extra men (they already have 20). The Sub-committee approved the plan, but the problem is where to put the waste.

We all know by now that Geevor Tin Mines have closed down.

Whilst on holiday in Cornwall at Easter, the day we decided to visit the Museum was the day the Shop-stewards went to London and subsequently announced the closure.

The following day, part of a news broadcast, in all seriousness, mentioned that the price of shares in the mine had fallen dramatically!!

The new head-gear at Allen's shaft has been more or less erected since our last visit. We have heard that upon completion of this, they found that they had some sizeable bits left over and couldn't puzzle out where they should have gone. They also found that it had been erected 6 inches or so out of centre, so therefore they couldn't have used it anyway. This is all academic now though.

The Story of Geevor Mine

The Geevor Mine was one of the four mines actually producing tin in Cornwall today. (The others are Wheal Concord, South Crofty and Wheal Jane). It is situated in the village of Pendeen on the rugged north coast of the Land's End peninsular. There have been underground workings in the area since the seventeenth century and there are many ruins of old mine buildings still to be seen. Geevor Tin Mines was registered as a limited company in 1911, based on the old mines of Wheal Stennack and North Levant.

The workings were then mainly around Wethered Shaft, the area now occupied by the Geevor Museum. After the First World War, in 1919, work started on a new shaft called Victory and this is now Geevor's main shaft. Later, in 1965, Geevor was extended to include the Boscaswell Downs Mine. Now the underground workings extend for more than 2 square miles around Victory Shaft and include the Levant Mine which is mainly under the Atlantic Ocean. In the last century Levant was one of the most successful mines in the area, mining both tin and copper ores. Geevor Mine now reaches a depth of over 2000' and part of its future was to have been in further development deeper under the Atlantic Ocean. Geevor had also extended its operations to include Botallack Mine and intended re-opening Allen's Shaft. This shaft was to have been used as a base for the exploration of the undersea extensions of the old Wheal Owles and Wheal Edward workings.

Wanted

"Amongst other things I collect metal miners lamp tokens which bear the name of the colliery they came from or the colliery company. Plain or plastic tokens are of no interest. They are not worth anything, but are part of mining history. If any members have any tucked away and have no use for them, I would be more than happy to receive them. If anyone else collects tokens, I have some that I am prepared to swap".

Please contact John Salmon, 68 Forest Hall Road, Forest Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 0BA.

Damage to Mining Library

Damage estimated at £50,000 has been caused by a burst pipe at the North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers in Newcastle upon Tyne. The institute is one of the most comprehensive libraries in the country.

The damage occurred when a water pipe burst in premises above the Institute. A vault

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containing a valuable collection of books was left streaming in water. The moist-laden books were removed one by one from the vault in a delicate operation with tissues having to be inserted between each leaf - the books were then stood on end to dry. Many, however, will remain unsalvageable, having swelled up with water and jammed themselves into shelves.

Offers of help have been quick to come from other professional libraries in the area and a full-scale 'rescue operation' is under way by Bill Summers, the Branch Secretary and Miss Norwell, the Librarian to retrieve as much as possible from the vault. The services of a professional bookbinder and restorer were given for a week by a local firm of printers in an effort to repair some of the damage.

The Institute was founded in 1852 and proved to be an invaluable store of information both for the mining industry and historians.

Any person who would like to contribute towards the cost of the damage should forward a donation to Mr. W.A. Summers, Branch Secretary, The North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineering, at Neville Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Courses etc.

Two organisations offering courses in caving techniques at all levels of experience have sent me literature, details of which may be of interest to members.

The first, Lizard Speleo-Systems, Farfield Mill, Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5LW Tel. (0587) 20977/20878 seem to cover everything you could wish to learn, as well as selling caving gear. The brochure is certainly impressive.

Yorkshire Dales Caving, the second, again offers what appears to be a varied syllabus to suit all tastes and pockets. Contact them for further details at 'Tengate', Croft Ends, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6JN. Tel (0930) 51662.

The Drapers' Field Centre, Rhyd-y-Creiau, Betws-y-Coed (069 02 494) also runs field studies courses which may be of interest to our members. Brief details are as follows:-
May 30 - June 1. Photographing the Industrial Past.

Aug 1 - 8. Quarries, Mines and their Railways.

Aug 11 - 15. Mines and Minerals in Snowdonia.

Any enquiries should be directed to the above address.

Also Losehill Hall, Peak National Park Centre, Castleton, Derbyshire (0433 20373) is running a course on 10/12th October, 1986 on Minerals Rocks and Fossils.

This next contribution follows on from Part I of Mike Gill's article in the November 1985 Newsletter:-

Research Objectives in Mining History Pt. 2. - The Results.

The 1970's saw a steady increase in meticulous research, and the assimilation of the resulting data into "potted" histories, of mines, mills, railways etc, which have been published, either as monographs or articles, by societies, individuals or commercial interests. This process has, however, resulted in information becoming available in a very fragmentary, and haphazard way.

Whilst recognising that publications have obviously followed differing trajectories, it is my interpretation that they reflect two major levels of writing-up work. Some remained at the caving club newsletter horizon, whilst others drifted off into geological and, more especially, mineralogical discourses, which made contributions of very debateable value to the wider understanding of the history of Britain's mining industry. These, I have termed level 1 and now propose to ignore.

That which I have termed level 2, has various sub-horizons of sophistication, but is generally in the form of the descriptive history. Here, work has often not been sufficiently critical enough of its sources, although there are some encouraging signs of change. By way of one example of the critical approach, we have all recently mourned the neatly argued death (Rieuwerts 1984, 79) of the myth regarding "a supposed long held belief, of the Derbyshire Miners, that no ore would be found either within or beneath a toadstone bed".

At present, the majority of our articles are confined to a description of the site, and that historical data which is fairly readily available about it. Seldom is any attempt made to discuss the wider implications of the site within its region. And, all too often, we expand our knowledge by covering new areas, or time periods, and only rarely by deepening one's approach. In other words, because of our inductive approach,

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we tend to accumulate data sideways. Whereas, the use of a deductive approach would build that data towards a conclusion. This would entail embarking on our research with open, responsive minds, thereby permitting us to think in wider contexts. It is, however, always likely to prove difficult for the technologists, whose response tends to be too narrow.

There is then, a need for a higher level of synthesis in our articles, which could manifest itself as explanatory models. These would be proposed by authors, who should not be afraid of using them to suggest their own interpretation of what was happening in a particular situation. In turn, these models must be tested against any new data which comes to hand subsequently. Nor should we be afraid of encouraging a lively and sustained debate on whatever models are proposed. Hopefully, we are all adult enough to accept rationally argued alternatives to our own proposals.

It has been suggested (Riden 1973, 211) that Industrial Archaeologists should supply raw data to the economic historian for synthesis. Which is fair enough. But, I would suggest that it is also imperative for the Industrial Archaeologist to test, by means of: further fieldwork, research and discussion, the strength of any models proposed by economic theorists.

As was said of Archaeology (Evans 1981, 58) "Our raison d'etre must be seen as the attempt to achieve progressively more accurate explanations of the human past, and not in any apparently more practical objective". Using that thesis, it should be our purpose, even if it means swimming against the current tide of rhetoric, to project I.A., of which we mining historians are but a part, as a serious intellectual discipline, that can justify its elevation above the level of a number of other harmless leisure interests, absorbing hobbies, pastimes, and occupational therapies.

Or, as David Clarke also wrote of Archaeology (Clarke 1973, 6), "The loss of disciplinary innocence is the price of expanding consciousness; certainly the price is high, but the loss is irreversible and the prize substantial".

- Clarke, D. "Archaeology: The loss of innocence." *Antiquity*, XLVIII, 1973, pp6-18.
- Evans, J.D. "Means and ends in Archaeology." Report No.31, C.B.A., 1981, pp55-62.
- Riden, P. "Post-post-medieval archaeology." *Antiquity*, XLVII, 1973, pp210-216.
- Rieuwerts, J.H. "Derbyshire Lead Mining and Early Geological Concepts".
Bulletin Vol. 9. No 2, P.D.M.H.S. Ltd, 1984, pp51-100.

Conservation or Restoration?

"The fate of the washing floor at Killhope, following its excavation is arousing considerable controversy.

The policy of the County Council towards the washing floor is, broadly, to conserve original timber where practicable, to replace rotten and decayed timber and to arrive at an interpretation of the site that enables the Community Task Force workforce to replicate in full those parts where surviving remains are fragmentary.

The aim is to produce a complete washing floor which can be seen, walked on, and used by the thousands of people who visit Killhope each year. This means that the policy is directed towards interpretation and rebuilding rather than traditional archaeological consolidation of remains as found."

The above policy is outlined in the Friends of Killhope Newsletter No. 4 - March 1986, which goes on to ask that any comments/views be addressed to Mr. Ian Forbes, Supervisor, Killhope Lead Mining Centre, Fieldfare, Wearhead, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham.

I understand that this has already generated a fair bit of criticism, and categorised the advocates in the same league as those who wreck railway carriages and bus shelters. It certainly doesn't harmonise with David Cranstone's comments in our November, 1985 Newsletter, referring to the need to leave all serious excavating and preservation to the professionals!!!

If you feel moved to contribute to the debate then I'm sure a letter to the above address will be welcomed?!!

Standard Cap-lamp bulbs.

Lots of the comics on sale in WHSmith's come with "freebies" stuck on the front, & so that our members don't get a Cinderella complex we too are offering "summat for nowt". Cap lamp bulbs. No! don't look in the envelope, yours hasn't fallen off the front page, you've got to send for it.

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One of our members, John Salmon, has acquired a supply and is quite prepared to distribute them upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. (How well so lamp bulbs travel in a S.A.E.!!!!. Ed.)

Anyone wanting to take John up on his offer contact him at 68 Forest Hall Road, Forest Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE12 0BA.

I understand that some members turned up on the Sunday of the last Meet (Boulby - Kirby Thore) expecting a visit to Dufton Mines. Unfortunately, this part of the week-end had been cancelled due to North West Holst having bought the area, following the publication of the February Newsletter, and so it wasn't practical to inform all the membership of the change. Sorry.

To try to avoid inconveniencing people when, due to unforeseen circumstances, a Meet has to be altered or cancelled, we do put a note on the Meets card advising members to contact the Meet Leader prior to the Meet to check all last minute arrangements etc.

Annual Dinner

Following lengthy discussion at the Pie & Pea Supper last November, it has been decided to hold the Dinner a few weeks earlier than in recent years and also to move the venue further South.

To this end our President, Bob Burns, has arranged for the Dinner to be held on Saturday 4th October, 1986 at the Bulls Head Hotel, Cross Street, Castleton, Derbyshire at 7 to 7.30pm for 8pm.

There will be Soup or Fruit juice; Main course of either Roast Beef (Menu No 1)
or Roast Chicken (Menu No 2)
with Veg.; Gateaux; Coffee.

Price is £7.50 per person.

A booking form is attached to this Newsletter, with provision for your choice of main course - please do fill this in for each person.

We would also recommend that you book immediately, so that you don't forget it. Our next Newsletter is not due to be published till around our next General Meeting (14th Sept.), so even if it goes out dead on time, it will hardly give you time to send your booking prior to the dead line of 20th September. Go on - fill it in now.

All booking forms (with FULL remittance) and choice of main course to R.E. Burns, 22 West Hall Garth, South Cave, Brough, N. Humberside HU15 2HD.

There is accomodation available at the Bulls Head Hotel (to be booked and paid for directly with the Hotel), and camping facilities are available at the rear of the Hotel, and also at a nearby site.

There is a proposed underground visit to Odin Mine, Castleton on the following day.

New Society

The holding of the First International Mining History Conference in Melbourne, Australia last year, resulted in the formation of an International History Society, which they hope will play a significant role in the future development of historical work on and in the mining industry.

The Society, based at the University of Melbourne, will publish a twice yearly Newsletter, provide a forum to maintain contact between interested parties and promote a second International Mining History Conference in 1988 to be held, probably, at the University of Essen in West Germany.

Further details of the Society and membership details can be obtained from:-
Dr. Peter Richardson, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria, Australia 3052.

Please send any articles for inclusion in the next Newsletter (due out around the middle of September) to H. Houghton, 20 Parkside Road, Meanwood, Leeds LS6 4LY as soon as possible.

Have a nice day.