

THE NORTHERN MINE RESEARCH SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER**AUGUST 1994**

Forthcoming Events

Saturday, 11th September.

Swaledale. Summer Lodge and Whitaside Mines.

Meet at Summer Lodge Smelt Mill on the side of the Askrigg/Grinton road, NGR SD965948, at 10.30 am.

Leader: L. O. Tyson.

Note: Due to circumstances beyond the Leader's control this meet may have to be cancelled. Anyone intending to go along please

Saturday, 12th November.

General Meeting, Pies and Peas, Slides, etc.

Village Hall, Sicklinghall, near Wetherby. Starts at 2.00 pm.

Booking form enclosed with this newsletter.

**Saturday, 10th June 1995 &
Sunday, 11th June, 1995.**

Cross Fell/Nenthead.

Start from Kirkland Church, NGR NY645325, at 10.00 am each day. Cross Fell is home to numerous unexplored mining remains. Prospective attenders should anticipate route marches of over 20 miles each day. Bearing in mind the nature of the terrain and the elevation, Nenthead is proposed as an alternative in the event of bad weather. Leader: Roger Bade.

Plenty of notice for this one, so there is time to get your boots broken in! Maps needed are OS 1:25,000; *Outdoor Leisure 31 - Teesdale* and *Pathfinder 578 (NY62/63)*.

For further details contact Roger. Tel: 081 540 6229 (Home) or 071 283 7500 (Work).

July, 1995.

NAHMO Conference.

This will be hosted by the Shropshire Caving and Mining Club. Further details will be given when available.

Meet Reports

Northern Pennines, Garrigill and Tynehead. 21st/22nd May, 1994.

The object of the weekend was to investigate the numerous mining remains that lie along the River South Tyne from Black Burn to its source.

During the weekend seventeen sites were visited, four levels unknown to the author were found, five other levels were investigated, one through trip was completed and a smelter flue was identified. As well as the two sites known to the author, but left unvisited, numerous items for further investigation were recorded.

Saturday's highlight was Calvert Burn Mine, (NY753359) where the level led eventually into some fluorspar stopes which warrant a rope equipped return. A more modern relic of fluorspar reworking, namely a large chute down a tip, is also worthy of note.

Providence/Teesside Level (NY764339) is also worthy of photographic attention, with the grilled level cut into a small cliff by the Tees. The level itself did not develop into anything exciting.

In contrast, Tynebottom Mine (NY739418) lived up to its reputation. A through trip was made through the flats. The evidence of mineral collecting was, alas, all too evident, with many fine pink, green or blue stalactites very badly damaged. They do appear to be gaining again and one can only hope that they will be allowed to repair themselves. The recent reprint of *UK Journal of Mines & Minerals, Issue 2, p.21*, gives an insight into the rare minerals present. According to the article, the pink mineral is Erythrite ($\text{CO}_3(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$), the light blue mineral, Serperite, $(\text{Ca}(\text{Cu},\text{Zn})_4(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O})$ and the emerald green mineral is Brochantite $(\text{Cu}_4(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6)$.

Also on Sunday, Dry Burn Level (NY723429) was investigated. Even though it is on strike with Rotherhope Fell Vein, the straight nature of the level suggests that this was a later access to this and other veins in the vicinity.

With the party whittled down to three by Sunday afternoon, Ashgillforce Level (NY758404) and Ashgillfields Level (NY755401) were visited to conclude. The most noticeable feature of Ashgillforce is the large surface bouse teams which are in a very good state of repair.

At Ashgillfields, after 50 yards, a shaft is encountered. This can be seen on the surface, but it is rather intriguing that this shaft is dry and yet no lower exit to the river South Tyne is known. An electron investigation may well be called for. The level continues but soon becomes drowned in mud.

Many thanks to all members who attended. (7 on Saturday, 2 extra on Sunday.) Your contributions were greatly appreciated.

Roger Bade

Swaledale, Old Gang and Surrender Mines. 18th/19th June, 1994.

About 16 members gathered on the Saturday morning at Surrender Bridge in weather which could best be described as atrocious to say the least. Gale force winds and driving rain in "flaming" June! Despite the meet leader's crossed fingers it was decided that the proposed walk should go ahead. Very brave lot in the NMRS!

The party, suitably clad, set out to visit the Low Smelt Mill at Foregill Gate on the Arkendale road where a hurried explanation of the site took place. We then proceeded to the High Mill where, due to the winds, an even more hurried explanation was uttered by a rather frozen meet leader to an equally cold, but still enthusiastic group. From here we walked over to Wetshaw Bottoms and then, struggling against driving rain, fought our way to Wetshaw Head.

During the walk, which taxed even the hardier members of the group, young Kathy fell victim to the extreme weather conditions (assisted, I believe by lack of sleep the previous night due to a romantic assignation!!). With medical assistance from various concerned members, and a Mars bar, hypothermia was averted and a pale looking lass returned to the fold with a pair of gloves on her hands. After a hurried snack behind a wall we dashed, as fast as the gale-force winds would allow, past Surrender Mine (no explanation of the site) to Old Gang Beck and the Brandy Bottle Incline. As we walked down the gill, the sorry state of the Level House and the Bridge were a cause of concern to us all. At the Old Gang Mill the party separated, one group (including our erstwhile but obviously sturdy invalid) exploring a level (name unknown) opposite the mill, while the rest of the bedraggled party wandered back for a hot drink provided by Sue.

A rather diminished group gathered on Sunday morning with the cloud cover breaking and offering the promise of warmer weather. One group of masochistically inclined individuals set off to encounter the rather dubious delights of the Hard Level/Brandy Bottle through trip, whilst the remaining eight members drove to Gunnerside village. We then proceeded up the gill in brilliant sunshine, visiting various sites en route. A wander up Bunting Level offered some respite from the sun after which we visited Blakethwaite Mill and made our way back to the cars by the Moor Road.

Despite the terrible weather on Saturday the meet was, I hope, enjoyed by all. It was nice to see some new faces attending and equally pleasant to see the Houghtons again after a long absence. (By the way - the elastic band held out!) Many thanks to all who attended.

L. O. Tyson

Wanted - Meet Leaders for 1995

The meets programme for 1995 is being prepared now. Will anyone interested in leading a meet please contact the Secretary as soon as possible?

Please come forward by mid-November (at the very latest) and give details of the date, time and place (with NGR) at which to meet. This will give us time to get them on the meets card.

Offers to: Malcolm Street, 7 Salisbury Street, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire. HX6 1EE. Tel. 0422 839749

Society Matters

The Treasurer would like to thank all those members who have kindly made donations to the Society's funds. He apologises for the fact that this item was inadvertently omitted from the May Newsletter. Please note the treasurer's change of address. It is now Colin Hindle, 19 Durham Street, Langley Park. Co. Durham. DH7 9YJ. Tel. 091 373 3740

The Society now has a rather fine new recruiting poster, thanks to Bob Burns. Will members please contact Bob with suggestions for displaying them?

Bob Burns, 3 Queen Elizabeth Way, Barton upon Humber, Lincolnshire. DN18 6AJ. Tel. 0652 635523

Publications News

At last I can start off on an upbeat note and say that sales are going well and money is coming in very nicely. Sales of BM 47 (Alston Moor) are picking up now, thanks to Ray's efforts in the area, and both BM 46 (Grassington) and BM 49 (Wharfedale) are selling well. The latter was reviewed in the Keighley News and the Craven Herald and Mike was asked to do a signing session at the Craven Herald Bookshop on Skipton High Street on the morning of July 2nd. This resulted in the sale of almost £140's worth of books to the shop - proof, if it were needed, that publicity is **A GOOD THING** and that every opportunity for it should be enthusiastically grabbed!

Work on BM 50 (the 1994 Memoirs) is progressing well and I think I can now safely say that BM 51 (due in May 1995) will be the Grinton Mines. I am very conscious of the fact that this will mean that three out of the last four monographs will have been about Yorkshire, however. Although this has been useful from a marketing viewpoint, it is **NOT** a deliberate policy and I should be very pleased to hear from anyone who is thinking of writing about mining in any other part of Britain.

Meanwhile, to try and broaden the geographical range of our available monographs, I am currently doing additional print runs of BM 35 (Goginan) and BM 38 (Marrick), as both have almost sold out. I am also looking into the possibility of doing reprints of some of our older publications, including some of those published at A4 size as we now have the technology to do these in the A5 format. As most of these are now long out of print, however, the copyright on them no longer rests with the Society and so what I can do depends on the willingness of the various authors. (For those members who have been with us for a long time and therefore already have copies of these earlier publications, I should like to point out that I'll be financing the reprints out of my sales and **NOT** out of annual subscriptions, but copies will be available at the usual members' discounts.)

And now, many thanks to those members who took the trouble to write to me, via the February Newsletter - and apologies for not having replied in May, but, for those of you who don't know, Mike's still laid up in bed most of the time since his illness last summer and I'm trying to look after him and the house, whilst running a business and being Editor, so I'm not overwhelmed with spare time. (I must be honest here and say that Mike is currently doing most of the routine tasks associated with being Editor and also doing the technical bits, while I'm doing the actual editing, as this saves him from getting too bored and also relieves some of the pressure on me!)

My first comment is that the A5 format is here to stay. A4 might make for better plans, but, as Dave Blundell so rightly said - and it was confirmed at the Craven Herald Bookshop - A5 is what booksellers prefer. It fits on the shelves and, with perfect binding, has a spine wide enough to show the title.

My next comment is that I have never said that our publications are primarily for our members and this is **NOT** my policy, especially where monographs are concerned. They are aimed at as wide a market as possible - and our current level of sales proves that I'm beginning to get it right. (Memoirs, by their nature, are far more difficult to sell, but I'd be more than happy to sell more if I could!)

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who's offered support, be it moral or financial, and everyone who's made suggestions. These have all been given careful thought and I now have several plans (at A5, of course!!) in mind.

1995 will mark the 35th anniversary of the Society's foundation, as well as the 20th anniversary of our use of the title British Mining. I'd like to celebrate both by capitalizing on what we're good at - publishing mining history. Start sending me your articles **NOW** for the 1995 Memoirs and let's do it with style!

Hazel Martell, Editor.

Mine Pollution

There is concern surrounding liability for pollution from abandoned mines and contaminated land. Toxic water from the closed Wheal Jane tin mine flooded the Carnon River in Cornwall in January, 1992, less than a year after pumping stopped despite local pleas to the owners, Carnon Consolidated, to continue. A deadly 'cocktail' of minerals, including cadmium, zinc, iron and arsenic, spread through Restronguet Creek with its oyster beds and out into Falmouth Bay. The whole bay was turned a muddy orange colour which could be seen up to 10 miles out to sea. It is still not known what long term effect this had on the marine life in the bay, but there is great concern that various food chains vital to fish and birdlife could have been entered and possibly destroyed.

Eight million pounds has been given by the Department of the Environment to fund a clean-up programme and pumping and treating of the water from this mine has been restarted. In March, the National Rivers Authority began building pilot plants, at a cost of £1 million, to treat the water which is highly acidic as well as containing heavy metals. A similar amount is to be spent on treatment of the River Pelena near Neath in West Glamorgan where five discharges affect some 17 km of the river. Details of the system appeared in the May newsletter. The Authority is, however, understandably reluctant to become involved in long-term treatment of contaminated sites and abandoned mines as they feel that this would prejudice their status as regulators.

After taking legal advice the National Rivers Authority decided to prosecute Carnon Consolidated after a spokesperson admitted that existing legislation failed to determine who was responsible for this pollution. Pressure on the government to take action to avert such pollution has increased with the threat of European Union prosecution. The environment directorate in Brussels has written to the UK Government demanding an explanation of the pollution in the Carnon Valley.

A broad coalition of groups, including the ACC, the CBI and the County Landowners Association, is pressing for key changes in the Coal Industry Bill. Eleven organisations under the umbrella of the Coal Liaison Group want the Government to accept amendments to make the proposed coal authority responsible for meeting claims arising from coal mining subsidence and for a review of the current legislation to close a loophole in the Water Resources Act, 1991, which allows an escape clause relating to minewater from abandoned mines. The present position in England and Wales is that some 200 km of rivers and streams are affected by coal mines and 400 km by metal workings.

As well as the south west, there is particular concern in County Durham which, with the closure of Easington Colliery, now has no operating deep mines and relies on continued pumping by British Coal. "This is the first time a whole coalfield has been abandoned rather than individual collieries", said a Durham County Council spokesperson. "They are all linked together and no-one knows quite what will happen or where the minewater will go when the pumps are switched off".

Dave Blundell & W. A. R. Wright

Information Wanted

Faithful Cookson was a mid-Victorian promoter of mining companies. His dealings were somewhat less than honest and his business partners were equally shady. He operated mostly in the West Country but, in the late 1870's and early 1880's, he began to be involved with lead mining in Swaledale and possibly elsewhere. He was born in Chester (Cheshire), but may be related to the Cooksons of Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham or Newcastle upon Tyne.

If anyone has any references or information please contact: Bridget Howard, 7, Chalden Place, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. TN39 4NF. Telephone: 0424 844764.

Books

Rhosydd Slate Quarry

Some further comments on the piece about this which originally appeared in the May newsletter.

The book in its first edition was excellent. A pity that more haven't been written about the area to the same high standard. Anyone who is interested in slate workings and doesn't know the area is missing a treat. Rhosydd is easily accessible by foot from Tan-y-Grisiau. The walk is of great interest and mostly in fine mountain scenery. However, Ffestiniog Slate have applied, or intend to apply, for planning permission to rework the mine. Whether this will be successful is another matter. The local council are apparently in favour, but no doubt, country groups will oppose the application. If approved, access will be obtained by driving a road through the Cwm Ortin Mill Level and then by improving the Rhosydd track. The present appearance of the area will be altered. Mr. Williams does not intend to alter or destroy any of the historical buildings. Some of the underground machinery would be preserved. Fforwm Plas Tanybwllch will be involved in the recording of details of the mine and assisting in the preservation of the machinery.

Is it correct to include in the review that "there is a straightforward through trip"?

Page 44 of the first issue does describe a through route, but it doesn't read as being straightforward. The journey along 9 adit is without problems, and possibly the ascent of 5/9 incline to floor 6. After that rock movements and rock falls seem to be the order of the day. The greatest care is necessary. Rhosydd and the surrounding area is marvellous; it would be sad if this statement led to any form of accident.

Peter Donovan

A Mineralogy of Wales - Richard E. Bevins.

This is a new publication launched by the National Museum of Wales, Geological Series No. 16. Foreword by Professor M. G. Bassett.

This is the book for the serious mineralogist as well as the amateur. It contains a wealth of details on mines, minerals and sources of information, all presented in a very readable way. It is a large format book (A4 size) of 146 pages in softback binding. It contains over 100 excellent colour photographs of specimens, introduced by a section on the mineral wealth of the country.

The price is £25 (£27.50 including postage) and the book is available from the National Museum of Wales. (ISBN 0 7200 0403 9)

Eric Gray-Thomas

The Collieries of Northumberland Vol. 1 - James Tuck.

As the title suggests, this is the first in a series of reviews, mostly by means of photographs, of the Northumbrian coal mining industry. This volume consists of 112 pages with 113 photographs. One of 26 collieries featured in this volume is Backworth, 6 miles NE of Newcastle, which apparently operated a barium plant from 1935 to 1978. According to Dunham (p95 & p286), the extraction of barium chloride brines ceased at Backworth in 1947. Further investigation is required.

In the book the author appeals for other interesting photographs of the coalfield. If any members can help, please contact him.

The book costs £9.50 + £1.00 p&p and is available from the author, J. T. Tuck, 21, Ingoe Close, Blyth, Northumberland. NE24 5EG.

Roger Bade

Electrical Technology in Mining (the dawn of a new age) - A.V. Jones and R.P. Tarkenter.

Apart from a mention of the locomotive at Greenside lead mine, this book, which is volume 15 in The Institution of Electrical Engineers' History of Technology Series, confines itself almost totally to the application of electrical technology to coal mining.

The authors trace the growing need for flexible power supplies as mines became larger during the 19th century and the period of extensive experimentation with electricity in the last quarter of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

It is hard for most of us to imagine life without electricity, but we are reminded that, as with all innovations, there was a range of competing systems. Introduction was patchy, because many collieries already had extensive steam plants, and mine owners not only faced the choice between dc and ac, but had to choose between on site generation and coupling to fledgling public supplies. The book describes how pioneers of dc installations became victims of their own progress when they were faced with scrapping their systems in favour of more efficient ones using ac, especially those using Tesla's three-phase induction motors after 1888.

The general poverty of technical education in Britain and the lack of agreed standards led to many dangerous developments, such as inadequately insulated cables and motors with little or no flame-proofing. The authors discuss the establishment of professional bodies and their role in forming electrical legislation and introducing suitable education.

Most of the book is written at a level which can be understood by the layman, but in places it was just above the reviewer's head. A few extra lines of explanation would have sufficed. Nevertheless, it is invaluable reading for students of coal mining history and good background for anyone interested in modern metal mining.

It is published by Peter Peregrinus Ltd. on behalf of the IEE, in Association with the Science Museum, size 229 by 148 mm; casebound, 206 + x pp. The cost is £29.00. (ISBN 0 86341 199 1)

Mike Gill

The Mines and Mining Men of Menheniot - Stephen Bartlett.

Tin and copper mines dominate most books on Cornwall and the lead mines, with the exception of East Wheal Rose, have generally received scant attention. Therefore a major book on the silver-rich lead mines of Menheniot is to be welcomed.

Stephen Bartlett's well researched book of 144 pages weaves information from many sources, especially the Mining Journal and censuses, into a very readable account of the mines. His enthusiastic storytelling style reveals the history of the mines and particularly the characters involved in a considerable amount of detail. Many snippets of personal information are cleverly used to flesh out and bring to life the mine adventurers.

The lead mines whose ores often yielded 45 oz. of silver to the ton, the presence of which was detected in old tin trials, only became active in the middle of the nineteenth century. The book explores the effects which the sudden rise and eventual fall of the mines had on the village of Menheniot. Each of the mines is covered by a separate chapter and later chapters deal with mining accidents and transport. The book is well referenced and has extensive appendices on production figures and census information. A minor quibble is the thin and shaky description of the geology and mineralogy of the mines.

The book is attractively produced on high quality paper in hardback with numerous photographs and sketch maps. This is a book well worth having and it illuminates a neglected area of Cornish lead mining with an exceptional amount of human interest.

It is published by Twelveheads Press, Chy Mengleth, Twelveheads, Truro, Cornwall. TR4 8SN. The cost is £15.95 post free.

R. Alan Williams

Industry and Agriculture - Post Medieval Upland Landscapes in Northern England

A conference with this title is being held at Van Mildert College, Durham University, and will run from the evening of Friday, 31st March, 1995 to the early afternoon of Sunday, 2nd April. There are a number of speakers and subjects covered include mining and smelting activities from Derbyshire to the North Pennines. There will be a field excursion to Cockfield Fell. It is expected that costs will range from around £20 non-residential to £95 fully residential, with reductions for members of the organising societies and a limited number of subsidised places for students and the unemployed.

Booking forms are available from Eric Instone, SPMA Conference, The Cranstone Consultancy, 267 Kells Lane, Low Fell, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear. NE9 5HU.

Further papers on relevant topics are invited. Potential contributors should contact the organiser, David Cranstone, 267 Kells Lane, Low Fell, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear. NE9 5HU. Tel: 091 482 2004

New BBC Television Series

BBC Television is to produce a series of investigative programmes which may include mining topics. The series will enable people with an interesting story from their own, their family's or their community's past to investigate the story on BBC TV.

One of the stories being considered is that of a Nottinghamshire miner, now redundant, going in search of former NUM adversaries to trace the origins of the rift between the NUM and the Nottinghamshire miners.

The BBC is inviting anyone who has an interesting mining story, which they wish to research, to contact them with a view to their story being used in the series. They are looking for stories about which little is known or which would challenge what we think we know about the past.

If you think you can help, the person to contact is Beverley Hopwood, BBC Features, Broadcasting House, Whiteladies Road, Bristol, BS8 2LR.

T' Owd Man's Shovel

In 1875 miners from the Alderley Edge Mining Co., working at Brindlow, discovered some old hammers along with an oak shovel that had been very roughly used. The find was reported by Dr. J. D. Sainter in *Jottings of Some Geological, Archeological, Botanical, Ornithological and Zoological Rambles Round Macclesfield*. However, this remarkable shovel then disappeared from view.

It might very easily have been lost had not a student of Manchester Grammar School, one summer day in 1953, allowed himself to be distracted from his Greek into browsing through Sainter's book. He remembered seeing the shovel and returned to his old classroom at Alderley Edge Council School.

The shovel had gone from its place but, undiscouraged by the caretaker's gloomy prediction that it had gone to the tip, he found it tidied away under the stage along with other lumber. Attached to it was a typewritten label: "Interesting old oak spade found (1875) at Old Copper Mines, Alderley Edge, Cheshire." Such was the boy's enthusiasm that the headmistress suggested that he kept the shovel.

He showed the shovel to "experts" in the British, Manchester and Ashmolean Museums, but none would agree that this crude object was the prize he claimed it to be. It was variously dismissed as a Victorian child's spade, a Tudor winnowing fan or a sleán†, just possibly medieval. So he kept it for forty years and met a more sympathetic archeologist.

The shovel was accepted for Manchester Museum's collection by its present Keeper of Archeology and with Science and Engineering Research Council support was sent for dating to the Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit at the University of Oxford in May, 1993. Came the reply that the wood from which the shovel had been made had been cut around 1750 BC - well into the middle Bronze Age. Not only was the shovel itself ancient, exciting enough, but at last the date for the first working of the mines themselves was confirmed.

It is beyond coincidence that the schoolboy who neglected his Greek for the jottings of a Cheshire antiquarian, the persistent youth who hounded sceptical museum curators, and would wait until the moment was right, was Alan Garner, the novelist whose writings - notably *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen* and *The Moon of Gomrath* - have brought new life to the legends of Alderley Edge.

†Sleán (slane) - Long handled Irish turf cutting spade.

Tim Jeffcoat

South Crofty Mine

The government has thrown a lifeline to the last Cornish tin mine by offering to waive up to £23 million in loans to the South Crofty Mine. These loans were made in the 1980's following the collapse of the international tin price with the expectation that they would be repaid from profits, but the continuing low price of tin means that there is no realistic prospect of such repayment. The decision will allow South Crofty to launch a £1.8 million share issue to enable it to continue trading. The issue requires a minimum subscription level of £1 million. Waiving of the repayment of the loans is conditional on South Crofty raising the minimum subscription by the closing date of 4th August.

The news was welcomed by Carnon Holdings, who own the mine. The managing director said: "This is very good news. It allows us to push our share flotation and raise the minimum subscription."

W. A. R. Wright & Mike Gill

Teaming with Rain?

Being easily irritated by bad spelling, I have been wondering for some time why most of our present writers use the term *bouse team* to describe the storage places for lead ore, which often appear, several in line, at northern mining sites. I have always known these rows of storage bays as *bingsteads*, but accept that they were probably used as temporary storage for both bouse and bing. Surely, if the term now used is to be correctly spelled it should appear as *bouse team*. In the West Riding of Yorkshire the verb *to teem* was in common use in the 1930's and simply meant to *pour out*. The phrase "teeming with rain" is still in common use, though in my childhood we were more likely to say that it was "chucking it down".

Bruff¹, in his comprehensive glossary of lead mining terms used at Greenhow Hill in Yorkshire, defines *team* as "A Receptacle for broken ore or bouse is called a *team*. the material is teemed into it". He then goes on to describe an arrangement for preliminary washing of lead ore, which is much the same as that given by Raistrick and Jennings² for a kiln. In the even more substantial glossary for lead mining in Derbyshire, given by Kirkham³, neither *teem* nor *team* appears anywhere. Both Bruff and Kirkham do mention *bingsteads*, Bruff giving the dialect spelling of "bingsteead".

I think that most of us could define team as a group of people combining to work together to achieve a common aim. I do not have a row of dictionaries on my bookshelves, but I doubt if there are alternative spellings. The two words in question have distinct spellings and meanings. Neither can be used as a synonym for the other. I think it is useful to employ the correct spelling which serves to remind us of the origin of a technical term. What do our readers think?

References

1. Bruff, H. J. L. *A Glossary of Mining Terms in Common Use Among the Miners of Greenhow Hill in Yorkshire*. - Trans. Yorkshire Dialect Society, pt. XXIV Vol. IV p. 23-54 (1923)
2. Raistrick, A. & Jennings, B. *A History of Lead Mining in the Pennines*. - Longmans (1965)
3. Kirkham, N. *Derbyshire Lead Mining Glossary*. Cave Research Group (1949)

J. O. Myers

According to my dictionary "team" comes from the Anglo-Saxon noun *team*, meaning family or team. "Teem", however is from the Old Norse verb, *tæma*, meaning to empty. This may explain its use in areas of Scandinavian settlement such as Yorkshire. Sopwith in "An Account of the Mining District of Alston Moor, Weardale and Teesdale (1833) on p.136 refers to "bouse teams". - Ed.

Finally

Thanks to all who contributed to this Newsletter and who sent good wishes to the new editor. I am sure that you will all join me in saying thank you to Phil Clayton for his work as former newsletter editor. This is your newsletter and is, in many cases, the only channel of communication between members, so please, keep the contributions rolling in - they are much appreciated.

Contributions for the November Newsletter by October 31st please to: **Keith Nolan, West End Cottage, Woodhall, South Duffield, Selby, North Yorkshire. YO8 7TG. Tel: 0757 638503.**

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of its correspondents and are not necessarily agreed with or shared by the Northern Mine Research Society, its officers or the editor. The accuracy of submissions is the responsibility of the authors and will not necessarily be checked by the editor for validity.
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