



The Northern Mine Research Society

Newsletter — May 2001

Society Meetings - 2001

(Note: most of the meetings may be cancelled due to the foot & mouth disease restrictions. - Call meet leader for information)

Saturday, 12 May **Grinton Mines / Smelt Mills** (Swaledale) - Leader: Ian Spensley (01969 625613) Surface and underground visit.
Meet at layby, NGR SE046977.

Saturday, 23 June **Whiteaside / Summerlodge & Moulds** (Swaledale) - Leader: Richard Platt (01204 362892). Mainly underground.
Meet on Askigg - Grinton road at 10.30 am. NGR SD982964.

Saturday, 21 July **Kisdon Hill** (Keld, Swaledale) - Leader: Sallie Bassham (01524 241851). Surface walk. Underground available.
Meet 11 am Keld village. NGR SD896011.

Saturday, 11 August **Swinnergill Level** (Keld). Leader: Richard Platt (01204 362892). Underground.
Meet 10.30 am Keld village. NGR SD896011.

Saturday/Sunday 15 – 16 September **NAMHO 2001** (Bradford) See below for details.

Continued on next page.....

Inside this issue:

NAMHO 2001	2
AGM report	3
Summary of Accounts	5
Mining the Internet	6
Book Reviews	7
Vivian vs Humphries	8
Miscellaneous	9

New 2001 NAMHO Conference

Regrettably, the Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland has decided to cancel the NAMHO 2001 event in Co. Wicklow due to the travel restrictions that are being imposed to control the spread of FMD. The NMRS, with the agreement of NAMHO, has offered to host a replacement conference at a venue near Bradford on September 15th and 16th .

The theme of the conference - "Mining History and Beyond" - will focus on aspects of mining history which have received little attention to date. It will be held in a self contained site at a large hotel. The surrounding area has a wide range of industrial heritage attractions which delegates will be able to visit. See page 2 for further details.

Visit our website: <http://www.ex.ac.uk/~RBurt/MinHistNet/NMRS.html>

Society Meetings - 2001, continued...

Thursday, 27
September

Boulby Potash Mine Contact Derrek King (01609 775811). Limited numbers so booking essential (do not turn up without reserving a place). Please note meet time of 4 pm.

Saturday, 13
October

Autumn General Meeting - slides/social. Details to be announced later.

Saturday, 27
October

Teesdale Hude Valley / Coldberry. Leader Tony Fretwell (01388 605965). Surface and limited underground.
Meet 10.30 am Middleton in Teesdale. NGR NY947255.

Meet Leaders

The secretary will always welcome offers from members to organise and lead a field meeting.

If you have a suggestion for a meet, please contact:

Steve Mitchell (c/o 38 Main Street, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD20 7HD)

New NAMHO 2001 Conference — Mining History and Beyond Bradford, Sept 15 & 16, 2001

A new conference is being organised to replace the cancelled event in Ireland. The theme of the conference - "Mining History and Beyond" - will focus on aspects of mining history which have received little attention to date.

It will be held at the Novotel, off the M606, on the southern outskirts of Bradford.

Because of the urgency of the situation, and contrary to the normal practice of inviting speakers from other organisations, we have established a core of speakers who are recognised as leaders of their various fields, but anyone offering to give a lecture on our theme will, of course, be given serious consideration. A current list of speakers is shown, together with the titles of their talks, on the separate NAMHO notice included with this newsletter.

Details will be going out to member organisations of NAMHO during the coming weeks. A website, carrying details as they are agreed, has been set up:

www.mroe.freemove.co.uk/nmrs/namho.htm

We can also offer a few "field" meets to sites that do not require access to land containing animals. For example, the National Coal Mining Museum is nearby while the Elsecar Steam Centre and the Middleton Colliery Railway are not too far away. There are also industrial, armaments, brewing and railway museums etc.

Meanwhile, for more information, contact:
Mike Gill

38 Main Street,
Sutton in Craven,
KEIGHLEY,
Yorkshire BD20 7HD

Tel. (01535) 635388
email martgill@legend.co.uk

(Note; The Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland very much regrets having had to cancel the NAMHO 2001 conference and hopes to be able to organise another NAMHO field meet in Ireland at some future date.)

Annual Dinner and AGM, West Witton, 24 March, 2001

Nearly two dozen members enjoyed a very pleasant lunch and social gathering at the Wensleydale Heifer in West Witton (not West Burton, as previously advertised) on Saturday 24th March. This was followed by the NMRS Annual General Meeting. Several formal reports were presented by officers of the Society:

President's report (Mike Gill):

2000 was another successful year for the Society. Membership grew slightly and is now as high as it has ever been. Income from membership and publications remained buoyant and this has given us a commendable surplus. This has not been achieved by cutting back services to members, but is the result of a great deal of effort by the Officers together with the support of other society members.

We had a varied list of field meets – including the Dinner and Autumn Meeting, produced four Newsletters and three issues of *British Mining* – all on time. We are also able to hold our subscription rates steady, at £15.00, for something like the sixth consecutive year.

Last year, the Society sponsored a detailed archaeological survey of a piece of mining ground at Greenhow Hill, and those who were at the Autumn Meeting saw some of the results of that project. For 2001, an item to be discussed later is my proposal that we should form a partnership with the Department of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford. Without wishing to pre-empt that discussion, it is my firm belief that it is this Society's clear purpose to push forward the serious study of mining history at all levels. We are now, without doubt, the foremost mining history society in this country and are setting the agenda as opposed to merely reacting to it.

Recorder's report (Mike Gill):

Last year I dealt with a large number of orders for publications and sent details of the society to prospective members. The flow of requests for help, most of them from people searching for relatives who worked in coal mines, has also continued apace. Apart from those questions received through the post and over the telephone, I get a lot of email which is generated through the Society's website.

Donations of material to the Records are always welcome, and I recently bought four new files to accommodate items received in the last year.

I've heard no more about the proposal to put the first ten issues of *British Mining* onto CD Rom.

I gave slightly fewer talks last year, but this year looks like being busier.

The Dales Population Project has continued to grow, albeit a little slower than in the previous two or three years. To give members some idea of the scale of this undertaking, there are currently 128,600 entries in the database and I estimate that this is less than half of what we should be aiming to gather.

The data comes from parish and non-conformist registers, the census returns and mining archives. The advantage of having this data in accessible form is already clear in that it allows me to answer queries and trace people's movements. In the next year or so it will be possible to make informed statements about the populations of lead mining villages from the 17th century to late 19th century. I have also made contacts at the Institute of Cornish Studies, which has a similar programme to trace natives of that county throughout the world.

For over 10 years I have been working with Roger Burt at the Department of Economic History at Exeter University on producing useful tools for researching mining history. One of my contributions has been the production of a greatly enhanced version of the *Yorkshire Mineral Statistics*. This is based on the data for 1845 to 1914, which had been collected by the Home Office and published by Roger in the early 1980s, but I've added to that and corrected it where necessary. The resulting data is far too large to publish as a book, but it is hoped that during this year it will appear as a searchable database on the Exeter website.

My contribution to the publications, in terms of type-setting, editorial assistance and liaison with authors continues to absorb as much time as ever. As I said last year, when there were no takers, what we desperately need is someone to work on publicising the Society and its publications.

Editor's Report (Hazel Martell):

Everything is much the same as it was at the Committee Meeting in January, with our income for the year ending December 31st 2000 being £6440.69. This sum was made up of £6389.72 from sales and £50.97 from interest. Our expenditure was £11,769.93, which included £2669.94 in postage, £8738.25 for printing and £311.74 on stationery. The accounts are being submitted to the auditor.

We made a good start with sales in the last ten weeks of 2001, but there has been next to nothing in the last two weeks, presumably because the foot and mouth outbreak outbreak is making many people unsure of what their Spring and Summer trade will be like.

We currently have a balance of £2812 in the bank, plus cheques for £946 to go in on Monday. So even if we have a poor summer for sales, we won't be too badly affected by it financially.

We also have two monographs in hand which I hope to publish this year, and my note in the last Newsletter has already brought in the promise of some additional material for the Memoirs. Finally, I'd just like to say thank you to all those who responded so quickly to my request for papers for the Memoirs and to say that more manuscripts are always welcome.

Librarian's Report (Sallie Bassham):

Since the AGM on 25 March 2000, there have been 10 loans of 34 items from the NMRS library. Two members have requested photocopies of parts of journals. Most requests are from those researching particular areas of interest or making a systematic search through our journal archive. Some borrowers ask for recommendations, rather than knowing what books or journal editions they need.

We are very fortunate in the number of donated items given to the Library this year, and are very grateful to all who have given duplicate copies of books and journals, sent copies of magazine articles or donated offprints of their research papers. Announcements are made in the NMRS Newsletter about acquisitions of particular interest and up-to-date copies of the Library List may be obtained from the President (paper copies) or the Librarian (e-mail copies only).

Since the Library is located in a Foot-and-Mouth disease "restricted area", visitors may not come to browse until the current epidemic is over and restrictions lifted. Those wishing to visit the library in person are advised to check in advance that the librarian will be at home. Until the Foot-and-Mouth epidemic is over, every attempt will be made to provide a normal service of loans and photocopies.

NAMHO report (Sallie Bassham):

In 2000, the NAMHO Council met on 19 March, 15 July and 1 October. It was to have met on 10 March 2001 at Threlkeld in the Lake District, but that meeting was postponed because of foot-and-mouth disease.

The 15 July meeting was a brief one held in Truro during the NAMHO Conference in Cornwall. During the Conference there were lectures, underground trips, surface trips and tours of mining sites not normally open to the public. Always interesting and worthwhile, I commend NAMHO Conferences to anyone who has not yet attended one [refer to p.2 for details of 2001 conference].

In July 2002, the NAMHO Conference will be in Wales. Details of all NAMHO activities will shortly be available on web pages and are currently published in Newsletters which are sent to the NMRS Newsletter editors, so that NAMHO information can be made available to everyone.

NAMHO supports mining organisations and mining museums – which sometimes includes appropriate lobbying on their behalf. It is also consulted by national bodies and is able to make informed inputs on issues such as the Monument Protection Programme, planning guidance, insurance, proposed conservation strategies, and access and leisure use of disused mines.

Election of Society Officers, 2001/2:

All of the existing society officers were renominated, unopposed, and all agreed to continue in their respective roles for the coming year. The officers are:

President:	Mike Gill
Vice President	Bob Burns
Jnr Vice President	Colin Hindle
Secretary	Steven Mitchell
Treasurer	Barry Sudell

Editor	Hazel Martell
Librarian	Sallie Bassham
NAMHO Rep.	Sallie Bassham
Recorder	Mike Gill
Newsletter Editors	John & Alison Hunter

Research Proposal - Early Lead Smelting in the Yorkshire Dales (Mike Gill):

The Society's funds are buoyant, as the Treasurer's Report [see summary of accounts] makes clear, and it is one of the Committee's responsibilities to ensure that this money is used to further the Society's aims, whilst satisfying the Charity Commissioners. These aims, as defined by our constitution, are "to advance the education of the public in, and encourage the study of, all historical and technical aspects of mining and associated subjects".

With that in mind, therefore, the Society has identified the period before 1570, and in particular lead smelting, as an area of mining history where there are significant gaps in our knowledge. At the AGM, therefore, it was agreed to join with the Department of Archaeological Sciences at the University of Bradford in a one year long pilot study of the "Early Lead Smelting Industry of the Yorkshire Dales". There is a need for similar work in other areas, but the Dales were chosen

for their convenience. The Department will provide its resources and expertise (for slag analysis, dating, geophysics etc), and the Society will make available up to £5000 in order to match funding being sought from the British Academy for this stage of the project. This will allow us to test our ideas and the results will form the basis of an application for national funding to support a more comprehensive, three year project.

A steering group, comprising specialists from within this and other societies, has been formed to oversee the project and monitor the results. It is also intended that there will be opportunities for other interested members to be involved in field work etc. Although the field work element is unable to proceed at present, owing to Foot & Mouth restrictions, please contact me if you wish to be involved in any way.

Membership Statistics (2000):

Honorary	6
Full	406
Family	40
Overseas	<u>7</u>
Total	459 *

* highest membership total ever

Northern Mine Research Society Summary of Audited Accounts, Year Ending 31 December, 2000.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Subscriptions	6202.00	Subs to other societies	51.00
Donations	240.00	Mine Survey	200.00
Misc. Income	45.45	Newsletter Expenses	799.33
AGM & Dinner	319.00	AGM & Dinner	319.00
Interest Received	835.03	Treasurers Expenses	65.63
Autumn Meeting	57.00	Autumn Meeting	158.00
Deeds of Covenant	1817.65	Archive Expenses	189.23
IR Tax Refund	807.56	Insurance	30.00
Total Income	<u>10,327.69</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>1812.19</u>
Surplus of Income over Expenditure:	£8,515.50		

Bank Account Balances at 31 December, 2000:

Lloyds Current Account:	4,064.32
National Savings Account	18,171.94
Total Balance	<u>22,236.26</u>

Mining Biographical Sketches

John Williams (1753—1841)

A banker and mine adventurer, John Williams was born in the county of Cornwall on the 23rd September, 1753. He was the eldest son of Michael Williams (d. 1775), mine adventurer, by his wife Susannah. She was the grand-daughter of John Harris of Higher Cusgame, who married Elizabeth, the only daughter of John Beecham of Trevince, head of an ancient Cornish family.

The father, Michael, was the son of John Williams (d. 1761), who came to Burncoose in Cornwall from Wales to seek his fortune in mining. He left a sum of £10,000, of which the greater part was bequeathed to Michael. The son, John, was educated at the old grammar school in Truro and, on his father's death in 1775, he inherited little more than £1,000, the rest of his father's property passing to younger children.

John at once embarked in mining and, in March 1775, was appointed purser, manager and book-keeper of a mine called Wheal Maiden. His interest in mining rapidly extended thereafter, and in 1783 the duties of superintending a large number of mines induced him to remove from Burncoose to the village of Scorrier, at the other end of the parish of Gwennap, where he built Scorrier House.

Amongst other undertakings towards the end of the century, he took leases upon and worked some valuable sulphur mines in County Wicklow, and he also engaged in business as a metal smelter. Old John, as he became to be known, to distinguish him from his eldest son of the same name, was given the honorary title of 'King of Gwennap', and accumulated the greatest wealth from mining of any family in the county of Cornwall.

He was literally all-powerful in the district, owning nine out of ten of all the mines in the area. From all accounts, he was stern, but just. A nod from him could give a man a living all his days; a scowl could mean the reverse. He was a deeply religious man and a staunch Methodist, worshipping amongst the congregation at Wheal Rose chapel, which he had built not far from Scorrier House. He became the greatest authority on matters connected with mining, and strangers visiting Cornwall who were anxious to visit the mines were

usually furnished with letters of introduction to him.

Between 1795 and 1800 he received a visit from the Bourbon princes (afterwards, Louis XVIII and Charles X). In 1806, having purchased the manor of Calstock in east Cornwall, he developed the manganese industry of that neighbourhood. In 1810 he became a partner in the Cornish Bank at Truro, and in 1812, he contracted with the government, in conjunction with Messrs Fox of Falmouth, to build the Breakwater at Plymouth, employing John Rennie in its construction. In this work his local knowledge, aided by prolonged observation of the tides and currents, was of great value.

In 1832, Old John was abruptly deposed from his throne as head of the family by his son John, who had from an early age shown a business acumen beyond his years. Old John retired to Sandhill, a house on his estate at Calstock, where he remained for the rest of his life.

One of the most remarkable occurrences in John Williams' life was his dream of the assassination of Prime Minister Perceval. On 2nd or 3rd May, 1812, eight or nine days before the catastrophe, he dreamt three times in the same night that he saw a man shot in the lobby of the House of Commons, a place with which he was familiar, and that on enquiry, he was informed that it was Perceval. The impression made was so deep that on the next day he consulted his brother William and his partner, Robert Were Fox, on the propriety of communicating with Perceval, but allowed them to dissuade him. Apart from the importance of the event foreshadowed, this dream is interesting as one of the best authenticated instances of prevision, or second sight. The first account of the dream appeared in *The Times* on 16th August, 1828.

John Williams' first marriage was to Catherine (1757—1826), daughter of Martin Harvey of Kenwyn, Cornwall. By her he had five sons and four daughters. Of the sons, John, the eldest (aforementioned), was born in 1777, married in 1810 and died in 1849. Young John was a member of the Society of Friends, was elected Fellow of the Linnaean Society in 1808 and, in 1828, a Fellow of the Royal Society. Son Michael was born in 1784, married in 1813 and died in 1858.

He was MP for the Western Division of Cornwall from 1853 to 1858. Son William was born in 1791, was created a baronet in 1866 and died in 1870, while son Edward was born in 1787 and died in 1823.

In 1832, after the death of his first wife Catherine, John Williams took a local girl, Miss Edwards, as his second bride. She was aged 25; John was 79. This surprise marriage mortally offended his three sons, John in particular. At a time when the name Williams was one to conjure with very gingerly in the mining world of Cornwall, it gave 'great umbrage to the family'. In an ancient dukedom, such as occurrence could be dismissed off-hand, but in newly risen gentry trying to establish a position in the higher ranks of the county, it was an affront — particularly in so small a county where all Cornishmen are cousins! It was at this time that he was effectively banished from Gwen-

nap to Sandhill. No reports were carried in the local press at that time for fear of reprisal by other members of the family. The only outward sign of the event was a change of name from 'John Williams & Sons' to the new 'John Williams Junr. & Bros.'

John Williams died at Sandhill on 17th April, 1841, and was buried at Calstock, where there is a monument in the church to his memory.

Sources:

Essays in Corn. Mining Hist. 1971, Vol.2
Lyson's Cornwall, 1814
C.S. Gilbert's Hist. Survey of Cornwall, 1820
Hitchin's Cornwall, 1824
D. Gilbert's Cornwall, 1833, ii, 134
West Briton & Cornwall Advertiser, 23/4/1841
Sowerby's Mineralogy, Vols iii & iv

Tony Fretwell

Book Reviews

INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE - Industry, People, Transport. Vol 27 No 1 Spring 2001 44 pp photos, colour cover. 1 years subscription £11.50 from Yorkshire History, Proctor House, Kirkgate, Settle, N Yorks BD24 9DZ

Hopewell Furnace, Pennsylvania, USA: A Brief History by Dr Edward J Connell III. The first forge was built in 1716 and by 1718 was exporting iron bar to England. By 1750 there were over 40 forges. Today the site has been preserved and there is a fine audio commentary activated by infra-red beams.

The Kelly Shiny-Ore Mine, Devon, although a relatively small mine, is of great significance today as an industrial heritage site. The mine closed in 1952, but a local group of mining enthusiasts, The Kelly Mine Preservation Society, were able to lease and restore the site. The micaceous hematite has excellent rust-resisting properties and was used to make, anti-corrosive paint. The workings date from 1797 and consist of three adits. This was probably the last mine in Britain to use candles for lighting and hand drilling.

Iron Mining on the Isle of Raasay, near Skye in Scotland by Rota. The massive iron deposits were discovered during surveys carried out be-

fore the Great War. During the 1914-18 war they were worked by Baird Ltd who mined 140,000 tons underground and 12,000 tons opencast. The mine was entered by the main adit at 330 feet above sea level. From here the ore was lowered down an incline for 1¼ miles to a 4,000 ton ore bin, where it was taken by steamer to Glasgow for smelting. The mine closed in 1919 and in 1941 all available scrap metal was recovered for armaments. The headings were 12 feet wide by 8 feet wide and until recently one was still open. The article is illustrated by 8 fine photos and 3 maps.

Other articles include: An Ancient Gas-Making Plant by Phil Hudson, More about the Royal Armoury Mills at Lewisham by Beryl Williams, Jack Simmons CBE 1915-2000 by Peter Richards, Events to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Settle Carlisle Railway, The Railway Shanty Towns at Ribbleshead, North Yorkshire by K C Jackson and a book review of The Story of the Ribbleshead Viaduct.

Something to interest everybody.

Tony Oldham

THE GREAT COUNTY ADIT—Allen Buckley. Penhellick Publications, Pool, Camborne, Cornwall – ISBN 1 871678 51X, £9.99.

"You will wonder how such a great skill could couch in so base a cabin as their [otherwise] thick-clouded brains" – those of us who have sat through lectures where the Cornish were described as *"older, purer Celts"* could not help but smile at Carew's 1580s description of Cornish miners and their use of adits.

Allen Buckley, who has spent over 20 years studying the County Adit and probably knows it and its ramifications better than any other living person does, has produced a fascinating study of this great undertaking. He describes the growing realisation by mineral lords that, though long-term ventures, adits were crucial to the longevity of lode mining and that mining companies should be encouraged to develop them. He goes on to suggest that the introduction of gunpowder blasting to Cornwall speeded up that process, suggesting that a lot of powder was used.

In the 1740s, following the removal of coal duties, William Lemon was one of the leading instigators of a scheme to drain the Poldice Mine using Newcomen engines, waterwheels and an adit, which was begun in 1748. Blasting reached

Cornwall in 1689, which is late by English standards, and its use contrasts with other areas, where powder was used fairly sparingly until well into the next century. Nevertheless, in its first eight years, the Poldice Deep Adit was driven nearly 1½ miles, which is an average advance of between 17 and 19 feet per week! Sadly, this passes without comment as to how it might have been achieved at a time when other miners did well to achieve a fraction of that.

Once Poldice was drained, branches of the adit were driven into other mines and by the end of the 18th century a complex drainage network, with over 50 mines dependent on it, had evolved. There was another major phase of expansion in the mid 19th century and by 1870 the adit, which by then was generally called the Great County Adit, drained around 12 square miles of mining ground. The book describes the complex system of payments (you'll need to understand fractions to follow it) made by the mines towards the upkeep of the adit, which was overseen by a committee of mineral and mine owners.

Allen Buckley has an easy style of writing and the book has lots of detail, and is well worth the price being asked for it.

Mike Gill

Vivian vs Humphries, March 1837...

Lynne Mayers writes to say that she has transcribed this lengthy courtcase from the Cornwall Assizes, as reported in the West Briton over a period of several weeks during the spring of 1837. The case involves a dispute about the validity of a lease for the Great Perran St. George sett in the parish of Perranzabuloe. Apart from the legal arguments, considerable detail is given about the mining operations and engine houses of the area. Accounts presented by some sixty witnesses provide details of the Great Perran St. George, Wheal Leisure and Bolenna mines.

Lynne has sent a copy of the 22 page transcript to the NMRS library, but is willing to send copies to society members at a cost of 75p to cover photocopying and postage expenses.

Lynne is also researching two other subjects:

The life of bal-maidens in the Cornish and West Devon mines, and

Miners of Afro-Caribbean descent working in the British Isles prior to 1900.

She would be grateful to receive any information that other society members may have collected on these subjects.

Lynne's address is:

Severn View
Blaize Bailey
Littledean
Gloucs GL14 3PA

NMRS Publications

Sorry I've not been able to get the promised monograph to you with this newsletter. I was about to start on the final edit when we heard that the NAMHO field meet in Ireland had had to be cancelled because of FMD and suddenly all my "spare" time which had been scheduled for editing had to be used to help to organize a replacement conference. I've now got a book of my own to write, but, as soon as that's finished, I'll be putting my editor's hat on again to make sure that the monograph will be ready to send out with the August newsletter.

Sir Kingsley Dunham

Sir Kingsley Dunham died on 5th April, at the age of 91. This seems truly like the end of an era for geology and mineralogy, but particularly for us in the North Pennines, an area which "KCD" studied for over 60 years. I suspect we shall not see his like again. His *Geology of the Northern Pennine Orefield*, first published in 1948, and revised and re-issued in 1990 remains the North Pennine "bible".

Ian Forbes

After the good start to the year, sales seem to have gone very quiet over the last few weeks – no doubt yet another victim of the FMD crisis. Let's hope that we have good weather when it's all over, so that people will rush back to the countryside and spend all the money they've been saving while they've been stopping at home!

Hazel

SWALEDALE'S LEAD MINES AND SMELT MILLS

Mike Gill's new book, "Swaledale: its Mines and Smelt Mills" has gone to the printers and will be ready around the end of May. It contains a lot more material on the lead mining and smelting industries of the area and is well illustrated with plans and photographs.

Its cover price will be £19.95, but members can still take advantage of the publisher's pre-publication offer to send it with no charge for postage and packing (which is likely to be around £4.00) as soon as it is published. Copies can be ordered from Landmark, tel: 01335 347349.

Mining History & Related Articles in Other Journals

Tickner, J., 2001, The Coal Porters. *Geographical Magazine*, V.73 (March), p 44 – 47. (Nine above-ground photographs, with extended captions, at and around Ellington colliery, Northumberland.)

Webb, D., 2001, A Cave and Mine Conservation Audit for the Masson Hill Area, near Matlock, Derbyshire. Derbyshire Caving Association, 54pp £12.70. (Expanded from the original 'Masson Hill SSSI Cave Management Plan' to include archaeological features and mines etc.)

Cameron, A. (ed), 2000, *Lakeland's Mining Heritage: the Last 500 Years*. Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining History Society [iii] + 215 pp,

hbk, £15.99 + 3.99 p/p. (Surveys the history and extant relics of the mining industry in parts of the former counties of Cumberland, Lancashire and Westmorland. Mineral products are treated separately, with an emphasis on underground mining in upland areas. Also includes descriptions of industrial transportation systems.)

Guy, A. & Rees, J., (eds), 2001, *Early Railways: A Selection of Papers from the First International Early Railways Conference*. The Newcomen Society [viii] + 360 pp. (Addresses 'railway' transport before 1830, in Britain and other countries. Many of the lines described served mining operations.)

From Paul Sowan

Introducing 121Books Search Service....

We would like to introduce ourselves to members of the Northern Mine Research Society. We understand that your members focus on mining history and would from time to time may wish to find a book that is no longer in print. Whilst we do not wish to intrude, we believe we can provide a useful service to some of your members - at no cost to them, unless they chose to accept a quote. When a book is no longer in print, it is very hard to find. 121Books has the knowledge and experience to track down such books, whatever the subject or age, using a variety of methods. We provide no-obligation quotes and deliver to the customer's door.

We can provide further details of our service in electronic format, or indeed discuss them with you on the phone. Our website is at <http://www.121books.co.uk>.

We look forward to hearing from you,
Anne & Peter

121Books Search Service - the all-inclusive book search service
enquiries@121books.co.uk
<http://www.121books.co.uk>
Tel: London Office 020 8566 7502
Hereford Office 01981 570646

Moving?

If you change your address, please help us by notifying:

The Secretary
c/o 38 Main Street,
Sutton in Craven,
Keighley,
West Yorkshire BD20 7HD

Finally...

Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter. Please keep sending articles and other material suitable for publication - it is greatly appreciated. Items relating to mining in the northern Pennines are particularly welcome. Contributions can be in text (*.txt) format by email or diskette, but please don't hesitate to send submissions on paper if necessary. If sending printed text, 12 point Arial scans nicely. Photos, plans and sketches can also be scanned, but please advise us of the copyright ownership. Diskettes will be returned with the following newsletter unless instructed otherwise. Contributions for August newsletter by 3rd August please, to:

John & Alison Hunter, 3 Leebrook Drive, Owlthorpe, Sheffield S20 6QG
Tel: 0114 251 4883. Email: johnhunter.2000@btinternet.com (note new email address)

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 Newsletter Editor. The accuracy of statements made in articles submitted for publication will not normally be checked by the Newsletter Editor for validity. The responsibility for the contents of articles submitted by individual members, or groups, remains with the authors and cannot be accepted by the Society, its Officers or the Newsletter Editor.