NAMHO National Association of Mining History Organisations

Newsletter No. 86, December 2018

NAMHO Conference 2019 Call for papers

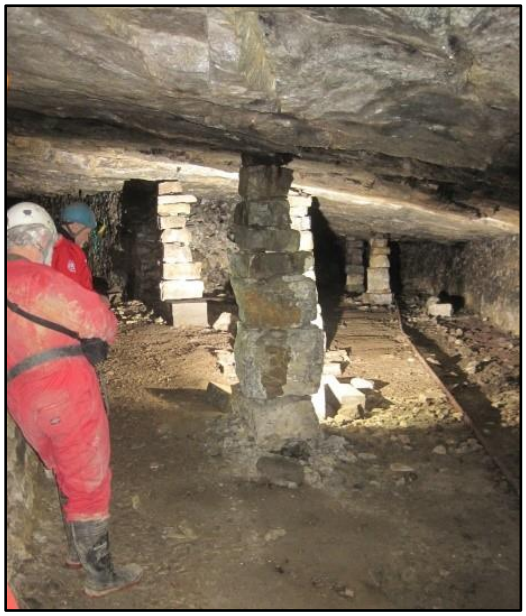
Hosted by the Cambrian Mines Trust
4th-8th July 2019
Llanafan, Ceredigion, Mid-Wales
(Based on the Lisburne Hall)

Mine exploration as a research tool - applications in mining history, geology and archaeology

Mine exploration, using speleological techniques, takes the researcher into a new and potentially rewarding aspect of mining history and archaeology. It also provides a very different view of the geology and mineralogy to that seen at surface.

The lecture programme at NAMHO 2019 seeks to provide an insight into the research potential for mine exploration and those who use their speleological / caving skills to access abandoned mines.

Offers of papers should be sent to Peter Claughton - P.F.Claughton@exeter.ac.uk or telephone on 01437 532578



United Kingdom Mines, Minerals and Miners: their impact on the First World War and following decades

(NAMHO Seminar held 18th November 2018)

Peter Claughton had arranged this seminar to mark 100 years since the armistice at the end of the 1914-18 war. Our venue was the Heritage centre at Carnforth railway station which has a pleasant warm meeting room. Our audience totalled eleven people including the speakers.

Warren Allison took us through the history of Carrock Mine in Cumbria which is one of the few places in the UK where tungsten ores can be found. Warren covered the known history of the mine including more recent conservation works which have preserved some of the site features. Peter Claughton outlined the impact of the 14-18 war on the UK iron mining industry and the requirement to improve output and efficiency of the home island mines. Peter's thesis is that there were limited improvements in those areas. David Sables then spoke about Coal and Coal Miners in war and peace, in which he covered the impact of actions by national political leaders on the coal industry. David's talk stimulated much discussion from the audience and showed that mining enthusiasts also take a keen interest in national political matters.

It is disappointing that so few people came to the seminar - I would be interested to know why we did not have a big audience. Anybody want to comment via the Newsletter?

Peter Jackson

NAMHO Conference Planning

As all members know, there has been an annual conference since 1999 and before that a biennial conference. Often, the planning and organisation of the conference falls to a willing member organisation but at times there may be a wish for a smaller body to set up and run a conference but the body may lack the personnel to carry it through. A number of representatives have discussed this informally and it has now been suggested that there should be a team of people who are willing to organise, plan or simply advise on aspects of forthcoming conferences. This was discussed at the Council Meeting in November and is to be taken further at the AGM in March 2019.

At this time, we feel that the necessary roles which people may be willing to take up include: accounting, booking, website, advising on catering arrangements, advising on accommodation and camping, arranging talks, negotiating with traders, and arranging publication of proceedings. There may be other useful roles people could provide including help on the days of the conference (technical support, reception, communications, teas and coffees, a bar, managing parking/camping etc.) but the primary aim is to help a small group of organisers – or even an individual – to get the conference under way. Some of these activities may well require "site visits" to the conference area to see local venues and meet suppliers while others may be possible to carry out from home. I have specifically excluded arranging trips as this will need considerable local knowledge but it is still possible for someone to act as adviser to the organisers in this respect.

In advance of the AGM, I (Nigel Dibben – current Chairman) would appreciate comments, suggestions and even offers to take part in such a group. Having had experience in running a conference and subsequently helping with booking and websites, I am willing to put my own name to that aspect of the organisation. Please contact me direct or post on the NAMHO Facebook.

NAMHO contact details here
NAMHO Facebook page here

Nigel Dibben, NAMHO Chairman

NAMHO Newsletter Distribution

At present, representatives of organisations are sent a link to the latest newsletter by the NAMHO Secretary. This will continue but it is now possible for any individual in a member organisation to subscribe to receive their own copy directly. The link to subscribe is on the newsletter page of the NAMHO website: www.namho.org/newsletters. In 2019, we will ask representatives to say if they want their name adding to the list of subscribers.

Nigel Dibben, NAMHO Webmaster

Acknowledgements

I would like to convey my appreciation to all those that have contributed towards this edition of the NAMHO Newsletter. Items are credited to the contributor, unless written/supplied by myself as Editor.

Roy Meldrum, NAMHO Editor

News from around the NAMHO Groups and Museum Members

South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group

SGMRG are undertaking a project on the *Harry Stoke Drift Mine*, which was situated to the north of Bristol. We have started gathering material relating to the drift mine at Harry Stoke, which was open between 1954 and 1963.

SGMRG plan to share these memories with SGMRG members and the local community, and are particularly keen to record the memories of those who worked there and those who knew people who worked there. A number of oral histories have already been taken, but we are keen to expand this.

Do you know anyone that you think might like to talk to us, or has something that would interest us?
If so, please contact Steve Hillyard, 24 The Bluebells, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 8BE or s.hillyard00@btinternet.com or 0117 923 6595.

Nenthead Mines Conservation Society
NMCS has applied for Asset Transfer of the site from Cumbria County Council to the Society. The business plan has been accepted by the area committee and it is hoped that the County cabinet will consider the application in the first quarter of 2019. NMCS continues to caretake the site and is planning conservation work for 2019. The modern waterwheels have been sold to a project at Coniston Copper mines in Cumbria.

Coal Authority contractors are working on a river defence project adjacent to Nenthead village. The objective is to prevent a 20th century mine slimes dump slumping into the river. This dump was the last one used by Rampgill Ore Dressing Mill, which was finally demolished in October 2018. The buildings have been recorded prior to demolition. (04/11/2018)

Peter Jackson, NMCS

East Midlands Coal Mining Heritage Forum
At the NAMHO Council Autumn Meeting the East Midlands Coal Mining Heritage Forum's application for Associate membership of NAMHO was approved. The Forum was set up in 2017 with the main aim of improving communication and networking between coalmining heritage groups and interested individuals in the former East Midlands coalfields region. They hold regular meetings and organise relevant workshops. More information is available on the website at http://www.miningheritage.co.uk also on Facebook

Forum members at their recent meeting at Papplewick Pumping Station, Nottingham

Mining 101- University of Exeter

The University of Exeter is running a range of free short courses in 2018 and 2019 across locations in Cornwall. These courses aim to develop skills and knowledge, which will be useful in your workplace or better prepare you to enter a job sector that you would like to move into; whilst also providing an introduction to higher education.

Mining 101 will be delivered by a team of academics from the Camborne School of Mines at the University of Exeter Penryn campus, this course aims to introduce you to the mining life cycle and allow you to gain a broad understanding of the mining industry.

The module will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks using online lectures, PowerPoint presentations, documents and reference material in pdf format, mp3 podcasts, videos, e-tivities, discussion boards; and through face to face teaching, and includes three half day campus based study sessions.
Whilst the course is primarily online, there will be three half day sessions on the Penryn campus. Whilst the actual dates for this are yet to be finalised, it is anticipated that they will be in weeks 1, 6 and 12.

The course will cover the following units::

- Unit 1: Introduction to the Mining Pipeline and forces driving the demand for minerals and exploration activity
- Unit 2: Geology, rock properties and processes of mineral deposit formation
- Unit 3: Mineral Exploration programmes and techniques
- Unit 4: Extraction- the main mining methods
- Unit 5: The main mineral processing techniques
- Unit 6: Mine closure and impact
- Unit 7: Mineral economics and the mining business landscape in Cornwall

Upon successful completion of this course you will be awarded 15 credits at Level 3 in Mining 101.

Read more at
http://www.exeter.ac.uk/cornwall/events/returntolearning/mining101/#iGwJgYXWqwxdkfOa.99

Mining and Heritage News

England

Northern England

1826 Pit Disaster Memorial

A new memorial to those that died in the 1826 Stargate Pit disaster has been unveiled in Bryton, Gateshead. An explosion in the early hours of 30th May 1826 took the lives of 38 men and boys, one was aged just 10. The new memorial, near to the site of the pit, includes the names and ages of those that were killed. https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-45539755 (16/09/2018)

Preserving Local Mining Heritage

The Cleveland Mining Heritage Society (CMHS) have been discovering and exploring the rich mining history of Cleveland and North Yorkshire for almost a decade. As they uncover old mines they unintentionally create potential problems of members of the public entering in to hazardous areas and also disturbing or destroying valuable artefacts. Thanks to a series of grants made available by ICL Boulby members of CMHS have been able to install security gates to the entrances to these old workings. (22/11/2018)
http://www.icl-uk.uk/preserving-more-than-a-century-of-local-mining-history-from-loss-and-destruction/

North Pennines

The following news from the North Pennines was provided by Peter Jackson

Barneycraig Mine, West Allendale, Northumberland

Coal Authority contractors continue the work to prevent slimes dumps washing into the River West Allen. This work has required a major rebuild of the river bank retaining walls. Protective membranes are also being placed over the exposed areas of slime dumps.

The remains of the old dressing mill foundations have been protected. The mine shop building has been conserved and part converted into a camping barn. The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Allen Smelting Mill, Allendale, Northumberland

Major conservation works on the smelting mill remains have now been completed. An Interpretation panel and a phone hub have been installed on site. New interpretation panels have also been placed on the line of the horizontal flues and chimneys. Parts of the site are scheduled as Ancient Monuments.

Current proposals are to excavate the mill waterwheel pit and install a modern waterwheel. The support team has a facebook Page at Allenmill Volunteers Group.

North Pennines AONB Oresome project

This project ended in October 2018. Interpretation leaflets have been developed for Brandon Walls, Whitesyke and Nenthead sites.

Reports and images for the eight Oresome mine sites will be available via the AONB website at http://www.northpennines.org.uk/our-work/oresome/

Whitesyke Mine, Alston, Cumbria

Coal Authority contractors are working to repair the culvert west of the road embankment. The objective is to prevent contaminated mine material washing into the River Tyne and to help to prevent a blockage of the culvert.
East of the road embankment, protective work on the stream banks has been agreed. The objective here is to prevent material washing into the stream. The whole is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Presser Mine pumping engine house, Derwntdale

This building is a disused waterworks pumping engine house. It was built to house a steam pump for a public water supply using an old lead mine shaft. The shaft is no longer in use for a water supply and the buildings have been emptied of equipment. The site is Listed.

The owners have applied for planning permission to convert the structure into housing and build new houses on the surrounding land. Local people have objected to the proposals. It is possible that the chimney is the original lead mine chimney and it may be that the foundations of the mine pump engine were used for the waterworks engine.

Wear Rivers Trust, Durham

The Trust has appointed Paul Atkinson as project officer for river restoration projects. Contractors are installing timber dams and weirs in the Middlehope valley and will also be working around Killhope and Cowhorse mines. The objective is to reduce the movement of mine waste silt into the River Wear. Site archaeology is being recorded.

Scotland

Research into implications of carbon dioxide from old mine workings on new build housing

The Scottish Government have commissioned research in to the prevalence of carbon dioxide in disused mines and possible implications on new residential developments. In 2017 a report published by NHS Lothian reported on cases of ill health experienced by residents on a recently built estate in Midlothian. Investigations concluded that high levels of carbon dioxide detected in the properties were of historical coal mine origin, most likely from oxidising coal deposits. The properties were subsequently demolished.

The report made recommendations relating to the Scottish Building Regulations, advising that mine gas mitigation measures be mandatory in new residential developments within former mining areas as designated by the Coal Authority. The research project commissioned by the Scottish Governments will explore how typical the NHS's findings would be if the building regulations weren't modified. (17/10/2018)
https://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/article/research-project-to-investigate-carbon-dioxide-in-disused-mines-and-potential-implications-for-new-homes

Landscape Legacies of Coal (Scotland)

If you currently live, or have previously lived, in an old colliery village/town in Scotland and/or you have memories that you are willing to share, such as watching the demolition and/or landscaping of the bings; if you played on the sites as a youngster, you still visit the sites today or you simply miss the headstock in the landscape would you be willing to contribute to the 'Landscape Legacies of Coal' project by filing in a e-questionnaire at https://stirling.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/landscape-legacies-of-coal. The questionnaire will take around 10 mins.

The aim of the study is to establish official and unofficial landscape biographies of these ex-colliery sites. How they have been re-purposed and redeveloped, how the industry has been remembered or commemorated, or not as the case may be, and how the sites have been understood, experienced and used by the local communities from closure to present day.

The survey is being undertaken by Catherine Mills (history) and Ian McIntosh (sociology) at the University of Stirling. For more information about the project (which also includes the creation of heritage walks that narrative the story of coal through the remaining landscape features) see http://stir.ac.uk/1nf or visit our Facebook page here

NAMHO members (or others) with stories to share are encouraged to help Catherine in this research. A flyer about the research is available HERE

Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site

Approval has been given for the construction of the Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site on a former coal mine to the east of Glasgow. The project proposed by the Natural Environment Research Council and the British Geological Survey has been given the go-ahead by Glasgow City Council and South Lanarkshire Council. Work at the research hub will focus on exploring if old coal mines can generate harnessable low-carbon heat for domestic use. (29/08/2018)
http://www.mining.com/old-coal-mines-glasgow-host-geothermal-research-lab/

Wales

Programme to clean up polluted rivers

Natural Resources Wales has awarded the Coal Authority a year-long contract as part of a programme to clean up polluted Welsh rivers. The contract is part of the Metal Mines Strategy for Wales, launched in 2002, and will include the development of a long term metal mine programme for Wales, a series of feasibility studies and other mine related assesments.

The project will look at proposals for remediation works at Dylife, Frongoch-Wemyss and Cwm Rheidol mine sites. It will also include treatment of mine waters from Cwmystwyth and assesments of Parys Mountain. (20/11/2108)

Further details here

Publications

British Mining No.105, The Lead Mines of Strontian

Stephn Moreton and David I. Green, Northern Mines Research Society, paperback, A5, 96 pages, illustrated with maps, plans and black & white photographs, £12.00, ISSN: 0308 2199

This account of the lead mines of Strontian is an exhaustive history from their first recorded exploitation in 1714 to the baryte mining of Strontian Minerals Ltd in 1991. The research includes information from the documents of Sir Alexander Murray, the Mackenzie of Delvine papers and the archives of Minworth Ltd, who carried on the last of the mining.

The geology of the area is described as are the complications resulting from the Murray's support for the Jacobite cause, when the mines' gunpowder was the subject of government investigations. The dodgy dealings of the York Building Co. (1730-1737) were one of the most outrageous scams ever perpetrated. The mines' situation on the West Coast of Scotland ensured their involvement in the aftermath of the 1745 rebellion. Even in 1748, the mine lessee, Luke Walker was 'relieved to have a party of troops boarding with him' – feelings not normally expressed by inhabitants of the Scottish Highlands. However, the mines were immortalised by the discovery of the mineral strontianite in 1761, in which the element strontium was identified in 1791 and isolated by Sir Humphrey Davy in 1808.

A succession of lead mining companies worked here until 1983 when Strontian Minerals Ltd changed the landscape by mining baryte on a massive scale. A detailed analysis explains why this operation nearly succeeded but, in the end after eight years, failed like so many mining ventures.

British Mining No.106, Memoirs 2018

Editor-Richard Smith, Northern Mines Research Society, paperback, A5, 94 pages, illustrated with plans, maps and black & white photographs, £10.00 ISSN: 0308 2199

Contents:

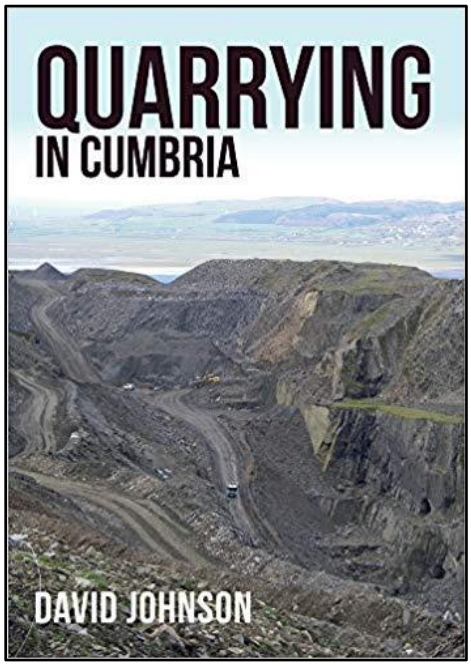
A History of Pooley Hall Colliery- *N. A. Chapman*
A day in the life of the Selby Coalfield complex, Wednesday 29 May 1996- *N. Rowley*
The Clifton Hall Colliery explosion 1885, Messrs. Andrew Knowles & Sons and the Staffordshire miners connection- *P. Cutler*
Between the Rock and a Hard Place, attempts at high Explosive manufacture on the Isle of Man- *P. Joseph*
Further notes on the Mid-Cumberland Coalfield- *G.Brooks*
The New California Mine- Cefn Coch and Berth-Lwyd gold mines revisited- *R. Callender*
Limestone quarrying from the glacial deposits of Trawden Forest, a forgotten industry- *P. J. Murphy*
Arcall's Jigger, Cwmbyr Mines, Machynllth, Wales- *N.A. Chapman*
The far NW of the Central Wales Orefield: Melyn Llyn Pair, Corbet Dyfi and Tyddyn Briddell- *D. James*

The Notebook of a Devon Great Consols Mine Captain: 1886 – 1900

William Woolcock, Trevithick Society, compiled by R J Stewart & R E Waterhouse, A4 paperback, 68pages, rrp £11, ISBN 978-0-9935021-6-3.

William Woolcock worked at Devon Great Consols during the later years of the mine's decline. His notebook has been transcribed by well-known Society authors, Rick Stewart and Robert Waterhouse who have also provided a detailed background commentary.

The years covered in the diary find the once great copper mine struggling to survive, mainly through sales of arsenic. This was also the period when Devon Great Consols was engaged in an ultimately fruitless search for tin at depth. Woolcock working at Wheal Emma was much involved in this.
https://trevithick-society.org.uk/autumn-publication-now-published/



Quarrying in Cumbria
David Johnson, Amberley Publishing, paperback, 96pages, 180 illustrations, 234x165mm, rrp £19.99, ISBN: 978 1 4456 7246 5

The exploiting of stone in Cumbria dates back to the Neolithic period when volcanic rock from the high Lakeland fells was worked to make hand axes. In Roman times sandstone was extensively quarried for building Hadrian's Wall and forts like Carlisle. The industry expanded in the Middle Ages as stone was needed for high-status buildings like castles, tower houses and monasteries as well as for bridges and, later on, for dry-stone walls and road building.

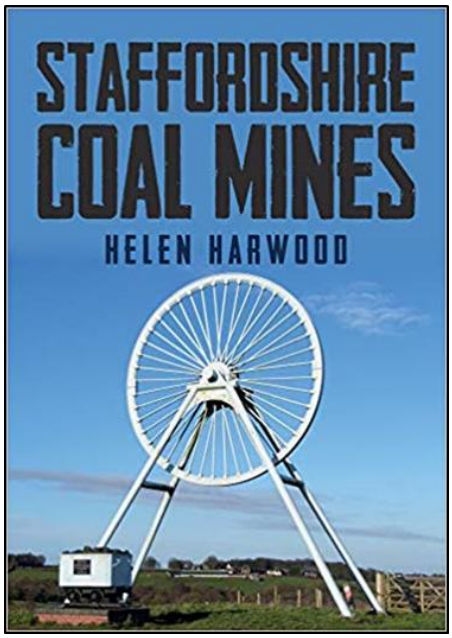
Cumbria has a wide variety of rock types that proved suitable for building and other uses, and quarry workings, large and small, can be found across the county. Countless abandoned quarries exploited limestone, sandstone, flagstone, slate, granite, sands and clays and gypsum, and quarrying was a major local industry in the fells, along the west coast and on the Pennine edge. For many centuries, men laboured in difficult and dangerous conditions, in all weathers and in very remote locations, to supply increasing demands for stone products, many of which were exported. Some quarries still operate today, supplying markets across the country. The story of how stone was won is an important part of our disappearing heritage: this book explores the rich legacy of quarrying across Cumbria.

(Publishers synopsis)

Staffordshire Coal Mines
Helen Harwood, Amberley Publishing, paperback, 140 illustrations, 234x165mm, rrp £14.99,
ISBN: 978 1 4456 7787 3

Which colliery was known as the 'Fair Lady'? And where was the deepest mine shaft? These are just two of the many questions answered in this history of the Staffordshire coal mines and the collieries that were bedrocks of local communities.
From their early beginnings in Roman times through to the growth of the Industrial Revolution, subsequent depressions and strikes until the last closures in the 1980s, Helen Harwood takes us on a journey through the history of the mines that shaped the county of Staffordshire through the ages. Coal heated our homes, powered the railways, and fuelled the pottery kilns and the steel foundries, and later the power stations. It was the industry generations depended upon and united the county in a shared experience of hard work and danger.

(Publishers synopsis)



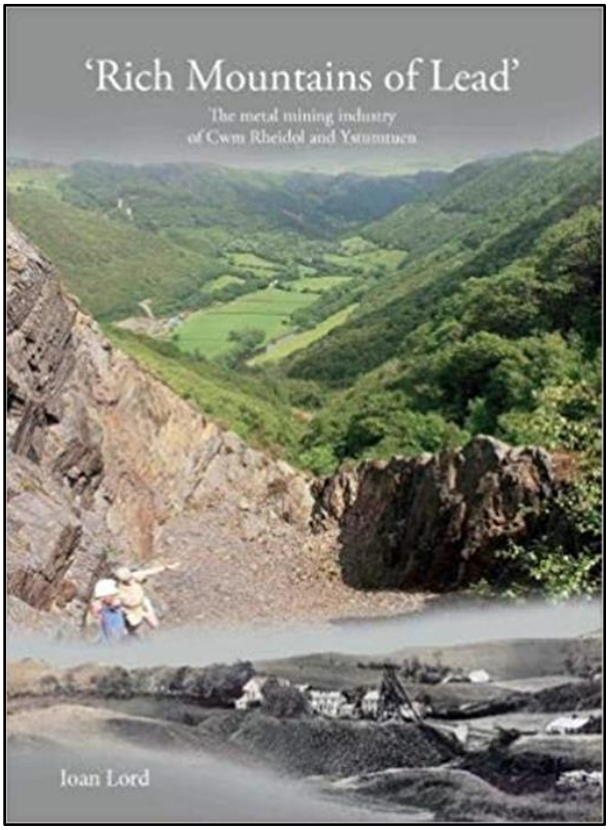
A Forgotten Industry: The alum shale industry of north-east Yorkshire Paperback
Peter Appleton, Boroughgate Books, paperback, 282 pages, 17x1.6 x24.4cm, £15.00, ISBN-13: 978-0993367410

For some 270 years, the escarpments and coastal cliffs of north-east Yorkshire were home to England's first great chemical industry, the alum industry. Described by one writer as "a science-based industry, at a time

when there was no science on which to base it", for the owners and proprietors of the works, it was an opportunity to try to create monopolies, form cartels, and make or lose fortunes. For the workers, especially those in the quarries, it was an opportunity, quite literally, to change the face of north-east Yorkshire.

What was alum? A medical cure-all from Roman times to the late-medieval period. An essential substance for dyers and tanners. A fire-retardant. A water purifier. Some of its properties, known about since the Egyptian civilisation, are still relevant in today's world. Whilst concentrating on the operations in north-east Yorkshire from 1600 to 1870, the story of this industry is told from its origins in Egypt to the beginning of science-based industrial production. The people who made this industry; landowners, proprietors, works managers, and the full spectrum of the workforce, are all discussed. The activities of the alum sloops, sailing ships used to transport the raw materials and finished product, are explored in some detail; so are the supply and distribution networks. Alum production from shale was a process rooted in alchemy. Its demise was brought about by the industrial application of scientific chemistry.

(Publishers synopsis)



Rich Mountains of Lead: The metal mining industry of Cwm Rheidol and Ystumtuen
Ioan Lord, Vale of Rheidol Railway, Hardcover, 272 pages, A4, £45.00, ISBN: 978 0954454630

This remarkable book is the first full study of the industrial archaeology of Cwm Rheidol and Ystumtuen. Firmly based on printed, manuscript and oral authorities, it explains the history and workings of each of the mines in the district from ancient times until the 20th Century. It describes, from personal observation, the surviving remains, both under and over ground. It will be of great interest to students of metal mining in mid-West Wales - and to those who see from the road and the narrow gauge train, the broken walls and piles of rock which mark on these beautiful hillsides, the graves of long departed industries.

272 pages, heavily illustrated with colour and b/w photographs, this hardback book is a gem of information for those who wish to know about Mid Wales metal mining and industrial archaeology written by a man whose life-long work has been exploring the archaeology of a by-gone industry.

Minerals of the English Midlands
Roy E. Starkey, British Mineralogy Publications, hardback & softback, 432pages, 276x218mm, illustrated, £35.00 (softback), £50.00 (hardback)
ISBN: 9780993018237 (softback)
ISBN: 9780993018220 (hardback)

The English Midlands, as defined for the purposes of this book, extend from the Welsh border in the west, northwards to the boundary of Derbyshire and Yorkshire, across to the eastern margin of Northamptonshire and southwards, roughly to the line of the M4 motorway. Included, are the counties of Cheshire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Rutland, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and Worcestershire, a total area of some 30,000 square kilometres (11,600 square miles). It is an area of diverse geology, varied landscape and steeped in industrial history.

The bulk of the book is a descriptive account of the minerals to be found in the above counties. This is followed by a review of historical collectors and collections, together with the activities of mineral

dealers. A concluding chapter briefly mentions the various decorative stones associated with the area – Blue John, Alabaster, Ashford Black Marble etc. Mining and quarrying have been of pivotal importance to the economy of the English Midlands. As a consequence of this, the area has produced a wide range of interesting mineral specimens. Examples of these are to be found in local and regional museum collections, and especially at the Natural History Museum in London. However, such was the importance of Britain in the development of mineralogy as a science that specimens from the English Midlands are to be seen in collections all over the world.

The Derbyshire lead mining industry will, be well-known to many readers, and more recently, baryte and fluorite, minerals formerly considered as waste products, became economically important, in the production of drilling mud, and as a flux for steelmaking, respectively. Many small-scale opencast operations enjoyed a brief resurgence during the latter years of the twentieth century, but today only Milldam Mine, under Hucklow Edge remains in production. Elsewhere, the gypsum mines in Staffordshire and Leicestershire and Winsford Rock Salt Mine in Cheshire continue to keep the mining tradition alive in the Midlands.
There are many excellent publications which document the industrial heritage and mining history of the Midlands, but few of these include any significant mention of the wealth of fine mineral specimens which have resulted from centuries of extraction. We are fortunate indeed that thanks to the efforts of miners, mineral dealers and collectors over the past few hundred years, many interesting and beautiful specimens have been preserved for us to enjoy today.

The author has been privileged to have obtained unprecedented access to both private and public collections, resulting in the inclusion of numerous previously unpublished photographs of mines, quarries, mineral specimens and artefacts made from them. The book will appeal to all those interested in the geology and industrial history of the area, visitors to the Peak District National Park, mineral collectors and museum curators.

(Publishers synopsis)

Farewell, King Coal: from industrial triumph to climatic disaster

Anthony Seaton, Dunedin Academic Press, Hardback, 246 pages, 234 x 156mm, £24.99,
ISBN: 978 1780460772

When the last deep coal mine in Britain closed in 2016 it marked the end of the most transformative era in the history of mankind. In writing this account of the rise and decline of the coal industry and its effects on the health of the miners, of those who worked with coal products and of almost all of us who have breathed in the pollution from its combustion, Professor Seaton points to the often hidden adverse consequences of transformative technologies. He also traces the early history of the discoveries that led to the concept of man-made climate change and discusses the converging threats to civilisation from unregulated technological advance. 'I look back on the decline and death of the coal industry with mixed feelings and say, echoing the words of Shakespeare's Richard II, "Farewell King Coal". But I watch with interest the decline of oil as a fuel, soon perhaps to be followed by gas, a switch away from fossil fuels driven by understanding of climate change. This is my personal obituary of coal in the context of an individual's medical career and a population's increasing understanding of mankind's place in the ecology of the Earth. It is the story of the most disruptive technology ever introduced by mankind and the consequential increasing prosperity of the western world, but also of the deaths and diseases caused by coal, its mining, utilisation and combustion, and of the scientific disputes that surrounded the medical discoveries. As such, it is an important part of the story of mankind's unending struggle to survive on this restless planet in harmony with the animals, microbes, and plants that share it with us.' From the Introduction by the author.

Over 5,800 Collieries of Great Britain- The complete A to Z. Colliery names Pre 1947 Owners Areas & Dates Volume 2

Colin Jackson, softback, A4, Laminated Covers, Spiral Bound, 92pages, £20.00 (plus £3.50 p&p from Moorebooks – www.moorebooks.co.uk)
This book has been advertised recently, but was published 17 years ago. The cover says it is volume 2, but I'm sure it means edition 2 as the list is complete from A to Z.

The main part of this book is a tabulated list 90 pages long, in alphabetical order, of over 5800 collieries. As the book title says, the list has

- Name of Colliery
- Pre 1947 owner
- Situated (eg Barnsley or Durham)
- Dates (this is a range of years)

Checking entries for some of our local mines, the book has for example Frog Lane, Rangeworthy, Parkfield, Mangotsfield, also Harry Stoke is listed though mining didn't start there until 1950s (so some later mines are included).

As part of Colin's preface says "Once again many people will have different opinions of dates and colliery ownership and this will always be so. I don't think anyone can list all the correct dates for collieries over the years, it is so intense and a minefield to those who try, as I have found out. Collieries that have been working then closed over the years then re-opened years later under a different name even slang names, so many pits could be listed twice."

This is a really good source of information and took the author many years to compile.

The book was apparently compiled pre internet so a lot of ground work went into it, sadly Colin died some time ago; the book is now available by kind permission of Colin's daughter.

Roger Gosling, SGMRG

Copy Date for the next Newsletter is **10th February** with publication due March 2019.

Contributions: Email the Newsletter Editor-
editor@namho.org
Or by post-
NAMHO Editor, c/o Peak District Mining Museum,
The Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

20th-25th May 2019: HYPOGEA 2019, 3rd International Congress of Speleology in Artificial Cavities, Dobrich, Bulgaria. http://www.hypogea2019.org/

5th-9th June 2019: Mining History Association Annual Conference, Michigan, USA.
https://www.mininghistoryassociation.org/

19th-21st June 2019: The Archaeometallurgy in Europe 2019 conference. http://aie2019.argum.hu/index.php
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