



South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group

NEWSLETTER

Issue No.3
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Editorial

A Happy New Year to one and all and welcome to this, the third SGMRG newsletter, the publication of which should precede the AGM in April by a suitable period. Quite a bit has been going on since we all last met in December, and despite the demands of the festive season members have been busy on work details and research, the reports of which appear inside this issue. Also we are able to reveal news of some exciting developments in published material and a great opportunity also to acquire a classic mining book at a discount price.

For this one issue Ian Greenfield has taken over from Steve Grudgings as Newsletter Editor to enable Steve to concentrate on his many duties as (Acting) Secretary, ahead of the AGM. Ian worked with John Cornwell producing mining surveys for Bristol Coalmining Archives until the year before last and he was among the original small group who met to consider ways in which the Cromhall Engine House could be saved. From those beery beginnings in the backroom of the Royal Oak at Cromhall, the present group, with its wider boundaries of interest was formed.

The Newsletter is an extremely important part of the *South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group*, since it is the main means by which members are kept informed of what is and has been going on and what is planned for the future. We recognise too, that for some members who are unable to attend working parties or research visits, or indeed meetings at Coalpit Heath, the newsletter provides an opportunity to keep abreast of what others have done or to contribute material to be shared and enjoyed by everyone else.

Consequently it is important that it meets your needs and we welcome therefore your views, suggestions, anecdotes, or criticisms and we will do our best, or rather the new Editor will when appointed, to reflect what the membership wants. Consequently any and all views are invited, and these can be directed to Ian at the address above or by e-mail to him at ijg@canaltime.com.

The proposal is that there should be a bumper edition of this nature once a year and three more condensed issues with less articles but all the news we know. These would be sent out by post on or around the first of June, September, December and March. More up to date information can always be obtained from anyone on the committee by phone and occasionally brief flyers may be issued where circumstances require.

There is one **Special Notice** which I must flag up and urge you all to make a note of in your new diaries. **This concerns the meeting on 3 April 2003 at 7.30pm in Coalpit Heath Miners Institute Hall which, since this is our first AGM, it is particularly important that as many of you attend as possible.** In common with all such groups, SGMRG must hold an AGM in order to select and elect the committee for the coming year and responsible officers for various functions. Equally we have a responsibility to report on what has been done and where your money has been spent. This is important, but you won't get bored as there will be a full programme for the meeting, with a guest speaker and other items of interest. Full details of the programme appear inside. Be assured that the administrative element will be kept to a minimum.