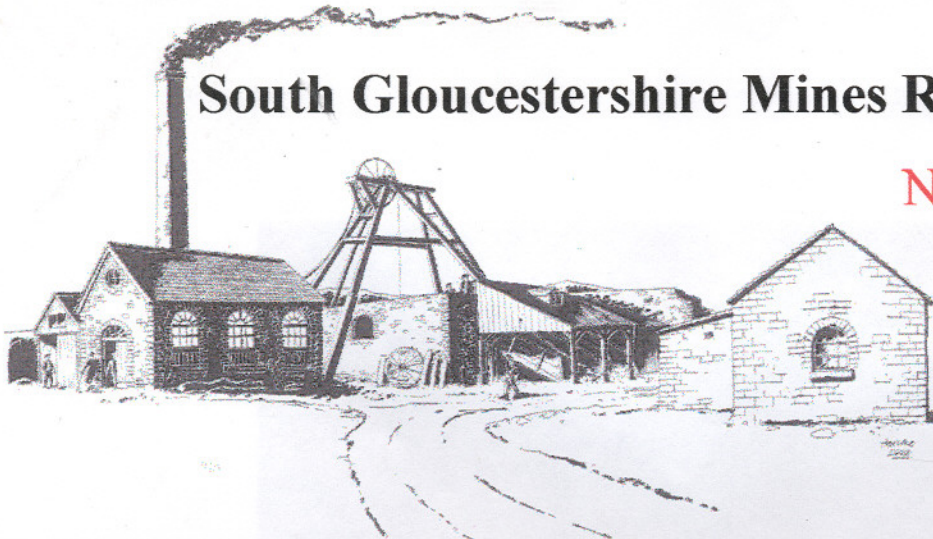


South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group

NEWSLETTER



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SOUTH GLOS MINERAL TUB FOUND THROUGH OPEN DAY AT OLDWOOD

A chance remark at the recent Oldwood Colliery Open Day has led to the discovery of a unique item of local mineral history – a mineral tub, complete less its wheel sets. The tub, which closely resembles the example shown in the photograph below was offered to SMRG Chairman David Hardwick by the new owner of Leechpool Farm, North Yate. It has lain in a barn on the farm for many years and its origins are unfortunately now lost, but it is known that tubs of this sort were commonly used in the local area.



The position of the farm and the lack of clues for certain means that the tub, which is 2 feet wide and probably ran on rails of a gauge of about 18" could have been used in either the coal mining, celestine or lime working industries. All were carried out close by and must have used tubs or trams of this kind to move their product.

David was ecstatic at the find and is now seeking new wheel sets to complete the project

The photograph above, which was taken in the early part of the 20th century in a haulage road : Frog Lane Colliery, Coalpit Heath shows this type of tub in its common working environment. Further clues may come to light when the a full inspection of the tub, which has been removed for restoration, is complete, but it certainly looks as if we have stumbled across a possibly unique survivor from one of the local collieries. Wow!

Look out for a full description of the tub and the on going restoration work including photographs, dimensions and a drawing in the next Newsletter.