

South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group

Objectives of the Group include:

- the general promotion of awareness, appreciation and conservation of the mining heritage of South Gloucestershire;
- to create and maintain an inventory of surface and underground mining heritage;
- to actively participate in, facilitate and promote physical surveying and documentation of the extant mining heritage;
- to create and maintain a catalogue and library of information to assist research into all facets of mining history and development;
- provide publications and a newsletter;
- to undertake general mining history educational initiatives;
- to initiate, support and/or participate with others in the development of examples of mining heritage as tourist amenities;
- to promote a "Code of Practice" in relation to visiting and accessing sites above and below ground;
- to provide representation on mining heritage to relevant statutory authorities.

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Where were the mines in South Gloucestershire?

Locations of mineral working in South Gloucestershire includes:

Coal mining

Over a large area of the district –from the south of the district in the Kingswood area and parts of Bristol, to Cromhall in the north – Including: Cromhall/Rangeworthy/Yate/Coalpit Heath/Westerleigh/Pucklechurch/ Siston/Downend/Mangotsfield/ Hanham/ Kingswood

Iron mining

Frampton Cotterell/Rangeworthy/Iron Acton

Lead and Silver mining

Alveston/Itchington/Almondsbury

Celestine

Open Cast in the Yate/Wickwar area

Stone

Quarries and Mines throughout the area.

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South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group

A group concerned with local mining heritage

What is THE SGMRG?

South Gloucestershire has a rich and varied mining history, of which many people will be unaware. The date of the earliest mining is lost in antiquity the last coal mine closed as recently as 1963. Other open cast mining continued later than this. There are still many reminders of our mining heritage throughout the district.

This leaflet introduces the South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group, which was set up by local people to understand record and where appropriate to preserve what remains of what was once an extensive industry, for the present community and for future generations.

A newsletter is published quarterly and regular meetings are held with visiting speakers. The group also organises research initiatives, digs and physical restoration, country walks through areas of mining interest and local talks to community groups.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The group exists to explore, research investigate and help to preserve the remaining mining heritage of South Gloucestershire. If you share that interest, and would like to become more involved in our many events and activities why not fill out the form below and post it to the
Treasurer, Roger Gosling

**51 Greenhill Road, Alveston,
BRISTOL, BS35 3NA**

Please include a cheque or postal order for the membership fee, currently £15 per person for the year. Membership benefits include a quarterly newsletter, free admittance to group events walks, talks and visits

Please print these details clearly

Name.....
Address.....
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Telephone.....
Fax.....
e-mail.....
My main interest is in:
.....
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WHAT DOES THE SGMRG DO?

There is a full programme of events planned each year including walks talks & visits as well as fieldwork, archival research and recording.

There is something for all ages, abilities and interests

Walks, Talks and Visits

Several members have given talks to local groups on specific subjects & on mining in the area generally. There are also several meetings each year where members can get together socially and listen to speakers on relevant subjects. Visits also take place to relevant sites both locally and further a field. These include walking and car tours of local areas, providing members with an opportunity to share recent discoveries as well as for new members and other groups to experience the wealth of local remains that still exist.



Fieldwork

The group have a number of active projects including archaeological investigation, recording of physical remains and preservation works to surviving structures.

Research

The Group is gathering a significant amount of information from a wide range of sources. Archival research of record offices is revealing a wealth of information about the area. Some of it scattered across the country and putting the jigsaw puzzle together is an ongoing but rewarding task.



Recording

In addition to the measured surveys of the fieldwork projects a programme of general recording has been instigated to ensure details and information is not lost. This includes establishing a photographic archive (both new record photographs and details of old photographs). An Oral history project recording the memories of those with knowledge of the industry either through their own experience or family members, and an index of artefacts that were used in or relate to the mining industry in this area.

Publications

A Group Newsletter is published quarterly. As well as the activity reports of what the members have been doing since the last update there are some interesting articles on mining practice in this area and beyond, book reviews, details of mining memorabilia, and items about new discoveries that have come to light.

The group & individual members also produce other publications & items periodically.