

SGMRG MINERS DATABASE GUIDE

PURPOSE OF THE DATABASE

This database, in the form of a spread sheet, lists people who worked in, or were connected with, the mines (mainly coal) of Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Each entry provides summary information about the person and the source of this information. The names of persons and their related date information are as recorded in the source documents. No attempt has been made to decide whether the same named person appearing under two or more entries is in fact the same person. The database is provided to enable researchers to locate and consult the source documents.

FORMAT OF THE DATABASE

Each row of the spread sheet is an entry for a named person giving the source document from which the information has been extracted. Each entry refers to an event where that person was recorded as taking part or was mentioned. Each row is essentially divided into 4 parts:-

Person information

Event Information

Source Information

SGMRG Reference Information

A person may appear under several events and the event may appear in more than one source. For example, an inquest may be reported by two news papers, and there may be more than one deceased and several witnesses.

Person Information

The person information is in columns A to J and has been extracted from the source document for the event. Only the surname is mandatory, as all the other information could be absent in the source. Spelling is as recorded in the source, even when known to be wrong. Dates are as quoted in the source, or calculated from information in the source to give a reasonable estimate. (e.g. year of birth derived from age at death and date of death).

Event Information

The event information is in columns K to Q and has been extracted from the source document. Event type and the year of the event date are mandatory, although the year may be a best estimate. The description/occupation shows what the person was doing for the event, if mentioned in the source.

SGMRG MINERS DATABASE GUIDE

Source Information

The source information is in columns R to X. The source type, source name and year of the source date are mandatory, although the year may be a best estimate. If the transcript reference contains an entry, this indicates that SGMRG hold a copy of the source information. Since this might be subject to copyright restrictions, this can not be made available on the Internet. The comment entry provides additional information, usually linking the person to the event.

SGMRG Reference Information

This is in columns Y to AA and is primarily for SGMRG's own use. The SGMRG Ref. No. should be quoted in any queries related to this database.

DOWN LOAD DATABASE

In order to access the database, it has to be down loaded from the web site by clicking on the Down Load link. This provides the standard download options for opening and saving the file. The Down Load link text includes the version number as Vnn, so that the user can check whether they already have the latest version.

The down load is a zip file which contains only the spreadsheet file, which is named Miners_Index_Vnn.xls, which also includes the version number. The user is then free to use the software of their choice to open the file, search and manipulate the data.