

Welsh Mines Society

REPORT OF FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL FIELD MEETING HELD AT CWMYSTWYTH, 22nd JUNE 1980.

About 40 members and friends were welcomed and I was able to state that membership was now 90 of which 80% resided outside Wales, mainly scattered over a wide area. I offered to carry on for the time being as general factotum and this was accepted unanimously.

1 Representatives The idea of regional representatives to send in suitable items for the Newsletter was put forward and the following kindly volunteered.

South & Mid Wales Mr. J.B.Groucott, 37,Trefonen Way, Llandrindod Wells.

North Wales Mr. C.J.Williams, 12,Wold Court, Hawarden, Deeside.

England Mr. N.Dickinson, 5,Owen Walk, Fox Hill, Sheffield.

2 Subscription It was unanimously agreed to raise this to £1 payable on 1st January each year. By this means the Society can aspire to at least two Newsletters annually, with funds to spare for other purposes. See also para 7.

3 N.A.M.H.O. I gave brief details of the role of N.A.M.H.O. Its aims and potential benefits were well appreciated, including insurance against accidents or claims for only 20p annually per member. A decision to join was made and the Society is now (July 1980) officially a member.

The question of protection of mine sites against various forms of attack including afforestation, was discussed, and will be considered in more detail between myself and Mr.C.J. Williams before taking up with N.A.M.H.O. Mr. Williams has kindly consented to represent us at N.A.M.H.O. meetings.

4 Frequency of Society Field Meetings It was felt that two per year should be held, and agreed that the next will be at LLANGYNOG mine, grid ref. 052257 on 14 September 1980,12 noon. We shall also visit Craig Rhiwarth and Cwm Orog if time permits,both very interesting sites.

It was also considered scope existed for subsidiary meetings,perhaps with specific purposes in mind, which could be announced from time to time on an ad-hoc basis. It was felt we should not attempt publication of articles etc. as other outlets already existed.

5 Other Business a. Forestry Commission David and Marilyn Palmer were unable to attend, but wrote to say that their proposed I.A.Course at Esgair Hir was now abandoned, because in spite of prior notice the Forestry Commission had bulldozed the area under investigation. This further illustrates how the Commission in practice plays scant regard to sites, whatever it may claim to the contrary, and confirms the urgent need for action as mentioned in the first Newsletter. b. Publicity Means of publicising the W.M.S.will be discussed at Llangynog, 14th September.

6 After the meeting, Mr. Simon Hughes led members over Copper Hill. The sites of various workings were visited,also the extensive network of hushing gullies that crossed the whole mountainside like a web. Several members also explored Bonsall's Level, and the day's events concluded about 5pm.

7 Subscriptions I have taken into account any money received from members since 1st January 1980 as counting for this year, and your balance now due for 1980 is A number of members have already paid.

8 Next Meeting (see also paragraph 4) Llangynog, 14th September, commencing with a brief discussion of society matters. There is an inn nearby for refreshments and accommodation if required.

We now have the basis for a good society but much depends on material sent in for the Newsletter. Please let me have what you can, plus any comments, observations or personal projects in hand.

David Bick, Pound House, Newent, Glos.
29/7/80. 'Phone :0531820650