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newsletter of the Cornwall & West Devon Mining World Heritage Site

Winter 2011/2012

DEVELOPMENTS AT KING EDWARD MINE

World Heritage Site Familiarisation Days

An MOT for the mining landscape

Conservation at Caradon

A Taste of Tin

WELCOME

In this the winter edition of Cornish Mining we catch up with recent activity at King Edward Mine, Truro, where volunteers have been uncovering hidden archaeology while others have been working away at the nearby Great Condurrow Mine site and renovating its rare mine shaft headframe. The many supporters of King Edward also have major plans for the future of the site and we get an insight into some of these. Continuing the heritage conservation theme, the Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project has recently been funding work at the extensive South Caradon Mine site on Bodmin Moor, and we look at progress with this.

The concept of World Heritage status is not always easy to grasp and explaining this, and why a particular World Heritage Site is important, requires careful consideration. Through the recent World Heritage Site Familiarisation Days we see how accommodation providers and other tourism businesses are being introduced to our spectacular mining heritage for the benefit of visitors.

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Cover image: King Edward Mine from the air
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Monitoring the condition of the World Heritage Site is a mandatory requirement of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention and, in this edition, we learn of the landscape 'MOT' which has recently been undertaken on some of the Cornwall Council owned properties surveyed as part of a Site-wide study.

This spring will mark the official launch of the Big Lottery funded Heartlands Project at the historic Robinson's Shaft complex, Pool. Part of South Crofty Mine, this major project promises to showcase the outstanding mining and engineering heritage of the area and in the next edition of the newsletter we will be looking at this exciting new development - so watch this space...

Ainsley Cocks, Editor, WHS Research & Information Officer



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An example of the engineering heritage preserved at King Edward Mine, Truro





King Edward Mine from the air
Barry Gamble © Cornwall Council

DEVELOPMENTS AT KING EDWARD MINE

Recent conservation works

Volunteers have recently been busy conserving what is understood to be a unique feature of British mining heritage. The mine headframe at Vivian's Shaft, Great Condurrow Mine, Beacon is small by usual mine standards but was constructed in 1930s to facilitate training for students attending the world renowned Camborne School of Mines.

Constructed by Holman Brothers of Camborne to a design by Head Wrightsons of Thornaby-on-Tees in 1936, the Condurrow example is probably the oldest surviving headframe in Cornwall in addition to being the smallest. Efforts were being made to adapt the Great Condurrow site for student training at this time following the abandonment of the underground facility at the nearby King Edward Mine. King Edward had relied on the pumping undertaken at the deeper adjoining Wheal Grenville Mine but the closure of the latter in 1921 ultimately resulted in the

flooding of King Edward. Following the fitting-out of Great Condurrow it saw sustained use as a student training facility until the official closure of the site in 2005.

King Edward Mine had, by this time, closed for student training and was subsequently restored and run as a visitor attraction by local volunteers. Fortunately the Carn Brea Mining Society was in a position to purchase the Great Condurrow site in 2008 thus protecting a site of considerable historic importance, not only to mining in the Camborne area but to the whole of Cornwall.

The commencement of conservation work on the headframe also coincided with the welcome news that it was to receive a Listing designation (Grade II), acknowledging appropriately its historic importance nationally. This designation came about as a result of efforts by the World Heritage Site and Historic Environment teams which had

submitted a formal proposal for Listing to English Heritage in 2005.

Having not been maintained for some years the steel of the headframe had suffered considerable deterioration and, on inspection, urgent attention was found to be required. Fortunately due to the timely intervention of an anonymous donor and financial support by the Friends of King Edward Mine and Great Condurrow, the funds were available to undertake the necessary conservation. The headframe was fully scaffolded by Early Rise Scaffolding, Troon, enabling the much-needed shot-blasting and painting to take place. After considerable hard work the volunteers are delighted with the results of their efforts, and Tony Brooks, volunteer co-ordinator and Honorary Mine Manager has expressed his appreciation of the generosity of the anonymous donor, who made possible the preservation of this important piece of Cornwall's mining heritage.



Above: the Great Condrurrow Mine Headframe in 1946 and, below, during installation in the 1930s

At King Edward the volunteers, in addition to their other activities, have been busy clearing the former tramroad embankment that used to deliver broken ore to the Cornish stamps at King Edward for crushing. Constructed between c.1880 and c.1907, the tramroad embankment connected with a whim (hauling) shaft in the western part of the mine.

Below: the deteriorated headframe before restoration



It is very well preserved with its stone rubble facing intact and is possibly the best example of such a structure in Cornwall

FUTURE PROJECTS

Medium term, there are ambitious proposals for King Edward, to enhance the visitor attraction and bring back into use several redundant Grade II* Listed buildings. King Edward Mine is the best preserved pre-1915 mine site within the World Heritage Site, and the Museum features a unique collection of tin dressing (processing) machinery which volunteers demonstrate in use. A Master Plan has recently been prepared on behalf of King Edward Mine Ltd and Cornwall Council, which identifies a phased implementation programme. This is proposed to commence with a small-scale project in 2012-13 to develop use by families and school groups, enable volunteer recruitment and training, and deliver special events. A funding decision is currently being awaited from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Additional funding bids, including a major bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund, are proposed to be submitted in



May 2012 for a £1.2million project for King Edward. This will refurbish most of the buildings, and provide both a new exhibition about the 'human story' of King Edward Mine and a Young Engineers' Hands-On Discovery Room in the boiler house. The project will also include a café, bike hire facilities, craft workshops, new toilets, and additional marketing and events. If funding is approved, the project will be in operation until 2015.

Further phases are also planned for future years, including restoration and reuse of the extensive Count House complex, and the addition of an 'Engineerium' to store and display part of the Trevithick Society's considerable collection of documents, media and artefacts.

THE 34TH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINING GAMES - KING EDWARD MINE, 2012

King Edward Mine will also be in the news later in the year as the venue for the 34th International Student Mining Games. First held in North America in 1978 in honour of 91 mineworkers who died in the Sunshine Mine disaster in northern Idaho in 1972, it has subsequently become something of a memorial to all mineworkers who have died through mining related causes.

The aim of the Games, which take place at King Edward on 31st March and 1st April, is to showcase traditional mining techniques many of which were developed or perfected in Cornwall. The competition also has the added benefits of bringing students together and serves as something of an informal recruitment event, bringing mining and engineering students to the attention of mining companies, some of whom are

Right: A job well done – the proud volunteers at Great Condurrow after the successful completion of works

Below: the well preserved stone facing of the recently uncovered ore tramroad embankment

associated with the Games. Sponsors for this year's event include major players in mining and engineering, including Gold Fields, Sandvik, SRK Consulting, British Gypsum, Tetra Tech and Imerys.

Students from the UK, America, Canada and Australia will be taking part with around 40 teams vying for victory in what promises to be a very competitive series of events. There are seven disciplines in total, including jackleg drilling (using a Holman's 303 machine with an air operated jack), hand drilling (making a hole for shot-firing by hand, using a hammer and a drill steel or borer), gold panning, surveying and track laying - setting up and tearing down a section of track, including sleepers, rail, connecting plates and bolts, against the clock. The events are divided into women's and men's categories with some for



mixed teams also. There is, in addition, an Alumni event for former students and this, along with the women's and mixed events, takes place on 31st March, with the men's competitions occurring the following day.

The Games are being arranged by students of the Camborne School of Mines and are sure to be an interesting and entertaining spectacle for spectators also, who are most welcome. The 33rd Games were held in 2011 at Reno, Nevada, and a men's team from the Camborne School of Mines achieved 17th place overall.

2012 promises to be a particularly interesting year at King Edward and the many volunteers are to be congratulated for their generosity and ongoing dedication in the cause of mining heritage conservation. ■

Thanks to Jeremy Williams, World Heritage Site Project Development Officer, for information on the proposals for King Edward; to Sid Geake and Tony Brooks of the Friends of King Edward Mine, for photos of the headframe restoration; and to Pete Brown of the University of Arizona College of Engineering for kindly supplying images, the latter taken at the 32nd Games held in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia in 2010.

For further information on King Edward Mine, the 34th Mining Games, or the University of Arizona College of Engineering, please log on to the following websites:

www.kingedwardmine.co.uk

www.34iimg.com

www.engineering.arizona.edu



'Digging in the dirt' – scenes from the 32nd International Mining Games held in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia in 2010, and a taste of what can be expected at King Edward Mine in the spring when the Games comes to Cornwall

World Heritage Site Tourism Familiarisation Days: At Geevor Tin Mine with Mike Simpson



WORLD HERITAGE SITE FAMILIARISATION DAYS

The concept of the World Heritage Site Familiarisation Day was arrived at in 2007 as a means by which the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site team could introduce local tourism businesses and accommodation providers to the topic of World Heritage and what this means in terms of enhancing the experiences of visitors. Being a multi area, multi feature 'serial' World Heritage Site, Cornish Mining, as an inscribed landscape and concept, could be said to be somewhat more difficult to describe than other UNESCO Sites. While much cultural evidence survives of the impacts of metalliferous mining relating to Cornwall and west Devon, both locally and globally, the detail of this requires careful explanation if its true significance is to be imparted.

The first familiarisation day was held in west Cornwall in March 2007 where a pre-booked group attended the free event and visited some of the principal mine sites of the St Just Mining District. The group toured the Botallack Mine site in the company of Cornwall Council Senior Archaeologist Adam Sharpe and later travelled to the nearby Geevor Tin Mine to experience a twentieth

century mine, operated as a visitor attraction by Pendeen Community Heritage. The event proved to be very well received with those attending benefitting from the opportunity to engage more fully with the rich mining heritage of the area. Subsequently other familiarisation days have been held at Caradon Hill, and also in east Cornwall and west Devon, including Tavistock.

In recent editions of Cornish Mining we have highlighted the aims and achievements of the World Heritage Site's Discover the Extraordinary Project (DtE) which has facilitated major improvements to a number of mining heritage attractions across the Site which are members of the Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association (CMAMA). As part of the marketing specific phase of this ambitious project the DtE team have been holding further familiarisation days and these have focused on the Central Mining District - the Camborne and Redruth area of the Site - and have included King Edward and East Pool mines, two attractions highlighting the incredible engineering heritage of Cornwall. Most recently the Luxulyan Valley and Charlestown areas have been covered,



Above: Morwellham and the visitor's tram into George and Charlotte Mine

Below: In the newly rebuilt winder and compressor house at King Edward Mine with volunteer Frank Kneebone giving a tour

Bottom: At East Pool Mine, Pool, with Jane Affleck of the National Trust



with the visit including the Wheal Martyn China Clay Museum as the interpretative Area Centre for this part of the World Heritage Site.

The familiarisation days have proved to be a notable success and during November 2011 six trips were held with over 120 people taking part, representing 63 individual businesses. The feedback from these trips has been overwhelmingly positive: "Very informative & inspirational", "Will recommend to guests", and "Very well organised and explained", "One of the best organised, planned days ever". The World Heritage Site and DtE teams have found that accommodation providers and others in the local tourism industry are eager to learn about what makes our mining landscapes special and how they can best communicate this for the benefit of their clients. Further trips are being planned by the team for March 2012 with more to follow. ■

For further information about the World Heritage Site familiarisation days or information about how to take part please contact Silvia Dunn, DtE Project Marketing and Visitor Information Officer, at:
sdunn@cornwall.gov.uk



Above: Discover the Extraordinary Marketing Officer Silvia Dunn greets accommodation providers at Wheal Martyn China Clay Museum

Top left: Deborah Boden © Cornwall Council
Remaining: Silvia Dunn © Cornwall Council

Some of the World Heritage Site assets owned by Cornwall Council included in the recent Cornwall Council Holdings Survey;

Right: The imposing pumping engine house at Marriott's Shaft, South Wheal Frances (Basset Mines).



AN MOT FOR THE MINING LANDSCAPE

The state of preservation of those aspects of the mining landscape which contribute to the outstanding universal value (OUV)¹ of the World Heritage Site is a principal concern when considering effective management. The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site is the largest in mainland Britain, at just under 20,000 hectares, and comprises a range of diverse component features, making the issues of preservation and monitoring complex.

As part of the data gathering required to inform the six-yearly UNESCO Periodic Reporting process, a mandatory requirement for all World Heritage Sites, mining-related heritage features contributing to the OUV of the Cornish Mining WHS, and within Cornwall

Council (CC) ownership, have recently been assessed to determine their relative state of preservation. The assessment, essentially a form of MOT for these components of the WHS mining landscapes, was undertaken by Adam Sharpe, a Senior Archaeologist within Historic Environment, Cornwall Council. The OUV features in CC ownership were targeted specifically, to deliver condition assessments in advance of any local government funding becoming available for conservation works. Due to the variety of components within the Site, the survey was wide ranging and addressed all the principal features in CC ownership which are deemed part of the Site's OUV - its cultural importance in global terms.

In order to facilitate this work Cornwall Council's geographical information system (GIS) was first used to identify which OUV components were within the Council's ownership and where these were located within each of the ten areas of the Site. The data prepared during the bid phase for World Heritage status was particularly useful in undertaking this task. The monitoring methodology then employed was based on

Right: The compressor house at Marriott's Shaft





Above: problems with surface erosion at the West Basset Stamps site

The encroachment of scrub at the William's Shaft site, Dolcoath (above), and at the Betty Adit works (below)

that previously devised for the World Heritage Site Photomonitoring Survey, produced in 2010², where a 'common standards monitoring' approach was applied, and the OUV features duly categorised as being, for example, Favourable or Unfavourable. This approach was considered to be the most suitable to handle the quantity and variety of components which together comprise the Site's OUV; the survey was to produce approximately 12,000 images, taken across the Site, and 991 entries were made within the final report spreadsheet.

Following a filtering process to determine which of Cornwall Council's holdings were considered to contribute to its OUV, a list of 70 features was prepared, this including former mines with their component engine house, mine shafts and chimneys, calciners, compressor houses, count houses, a clock tower and dressing floors, leats, a foundry mill pond, mineral tramways and an arsenic refining works, two monuments, a volunteer artillery drill hall, a former mining bank and two granite quarries, one of these in active operation.³ At this stage those features which were considered to be of borderline condition at the time of the Photomonitoring Survey were re-examined to provide additional detail on their current state.

The conclusions of the survey were, on the whole, rather encouraging as these indicated that the majority of sites and features in Cornwall Council ownership were found to be in a Favourable condition overall. At this juncture it is appropriate to mention the role played by the various mining heritage projects in recent times in ensuring that many of our principal mining features have been conserved. The wide-ranging Mineral Tramways Trails project, the Wheal Peevor Project, a number of projects at Geevor and other conservation initiatives have made a significant contribution to the preservation of our mining heritage for future generations

to enjoy. Moreover, the degree of local commitment demonstrated through this is thought to have played a part in securing the World Heritage Site designation, given that it indicated that local authorities attached significant cultural value to Cornwall and west Devon's mining landscapes.

Across all ten Areas of the World Heritage Site, by far the greatest number of Cornwall Council owned OUV assets are located within the Camborne and Redruth Mining District (WHS Area A5). Here there are 35 sites which include engine houses, dressing floors and leats, and, of these, 10 were identified as requiring some



remedial work. In the main this related to a lack of vegetation management since the extensive conservation and safety works undertaken during the 1990s. Many of the sites here are suffering from major encroachment of scrub which is, in some instances, limiting access considerably. Within the St Just Mining District (WHS Area A1) Geevor Tin Mine has been noted as requiring some attention, though this relates principally to the buildings within the Wethered Shaft area of the mine, near the entrance. These buildings were, in the main, not prioritised as part the consolidation work undertaken at Geevor from 2007 to 2008, and their future use is currently under consideration.

Following the completion of the survey and report, it is now available to local authority Historic Environment managers and other stakeholders to inform future funding bids to undertake the necessary consolidation and vegetation management, or related initiatives. The Cornish Mining WHS team would also encourage owners of other important elements of the Site to consider the future management of these following the lead taken by Cornwall Council working in partnership with the WHS team. ■

Thanks are extended to Adam Sharpe for additional information regarding the surveys and for permission to reproduce the various site images.

- ¹ In relation to the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site this can be interpreted as those features deemed to collectively represent the scope of landscape change caused by metalliferous mining and which are of acknowledged cultural significance to humanity.
- ² Sharpe, A. (2010) Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, Cornwall and West Devon Photomonitoring Project 2010, Truro: Historic Environment Projects
- ³ Sharpe, A. (2011) Cornish Mining World Heritage Site: Condition assessment of CC Holdings, Truro: Historic Environment Projects, p.10

Below: The former mine club at Geevor Tin Mine

Bottom: The conserved Prince of Wales Shaft engine house, near Minions



CONSERVATION AT CARADON

The landscape of the south-eastern corner of Bodmin Moor was to be radically changed following the discovery of major copper deposits on the south western slopes of Caradon Hill in 1836. This somewhat remote upland area was dramatically reshaped as individual mines were developed and a major influx of mineworkers, mainly from west Cornwall, swelled the population. Along with the mines and miners came the transport infrastructure. The Liskeard & Caradon Railway (1844-1917) was to transport thousands of tons of copper ore to East Looe (via Moorswater) for shipment to the Welsh smelters, return coal and sundries to the mines, and convey cut granite from quarries established to take advantage of this ready means of transport (north of Minions).

Today this concentration of industrial activity has left a rich legacy of mining landscapes and buildings with some receiving statutory protection as Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings. While the significance of the area's heritage is well appreciated, over 100 years of abandonment has taken its toll on the masonry of buildings and features left to the elements. It was against this backdrop that the 'Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project' (CHAHP) was conceived to, in part, undertake the required conservation using project funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the South West Regional Development Agency, and the former Caradon District and Cornwall County Councils.

The Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project is a £2.8 million scheme, the project area of which covers approximately 65 square kilometres (25 square miles), and includes the settlements of Pensilva, St Cleer, Minions, Upton Cross and part of



Liskeard. It is a community focused project which aims to conserve mining and prehistoric sites, protect wildlife, retain local distinctiveness, and to inform and involve residents, landowners and schoolchildren in aspects of their local heritage. The Caradon Hill area has one of the greatest concentrations of Scheduled Monuments in the country and forms part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site. The project area also includes SSSI designations (Special Site of Scientific Interest) due to rare Cornish Path Moss and other Bryophytes that have adapted to copper rich environments. Part of the area also lies within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), with most of the remainder designated an Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). The CHAHP project also includes an interpretation programme to help local people enjoy and find out more about the area's heritage, including a community play and community celebrations with creative artists. Education projects are also involving local schools and, in doing so, helping to deliver the National Curriculum using the focus

of local studies. The remainder of this article focuses on the project's mining heritage programme specifically.

After a detailed appraisal of the mining heritage of the area it was proposed that a range of conservation and mine safety works be undertaken at the following sites: West Phoenix Mine, New Phoenix Mine, West Caradon Mine, Craddock Moor Mine and South Caradon Mine (the latter a Scheduled Monument). These mines include the sites of fifteen engine houses (of which two are largely extant, six are partially extant, and seven have low lying remains), and a number of boiler houses and chimney stacks (ten nearly fully extant).

The most successful producer of copper at Caradon was undoubtedly South Caradon Mine and it was here that the initial discoveries were made by the Clymo brothers, Peter and James, and Thomas Kitto in the mid 1830s, this being the first major discovery beyond west and mid Cornwall at this time. Moreover, such was the richness of the ore body revealed that South Caradon rapidly grew into one of the most productive

The Holman's Shaft pumping engine house, part of South Caradon Mine complex and within the Caradon Mining District of the World Heritage Site; the distinctive 'man in the moor' outline, formed by a collapse between the top chamber window and the engine spring beam openings below, has been preserved as part of the recent conservation work

Colin Buck © Cornwall Council



copper mines in Cornwall, being ranked by Barton⁴ as the seventh largest copper producer in Cornwall and Devon. Between 1845 and 1886 a recorded 202,204 tons of copper concentrate were produced to the value of £1,519,557.⁵

Today the South Caradon site retains a wealth of mining features which give an excellent indication of the breadth and scale of operations here in the nineteenth century. South Caradon is also the most complete copper mine-head complex within the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, this fact also reflected in its status as a Scheduled Monument. In addition to retaining the substantial structural remains of six groups of iconic shaft-head buildings and structures, two of which are Listed Buildings, this mine also has the best-preserved dressing floor, miners' dry and ancillary buildings of any copper mine in the World Heritage Site, and retains numerous features of the mine's water management system and mineral tramroads. Given the National and World Heritage Site importance of this mine, the industrial archaeological project finances have been focussed on building conservation works specifically. This will reduce the number of features within the site in need of attention that have led to it being included on the English Heritage Scheduled Monuments at Risk Register.⁶

During the lifetime of the conservation scheme at South Caradon (2011-2013), it is planned that works be undertaken on the following sites: the Holman's and Kittow's Shaft complexes, the Jope's Shaft complex, and the Sump and Pearce's Shaft complexes. It is also proposed that limited structural consolidation and vegetation management be undertaken at and around the Miners' Dry and buildings near the mine dressing floors, if project funding permits.

Site works started on 11th July 2011, with low level re-pointing at the Kittow's Shaft complex (to the masonry remains of the man-engine house) and at the Holman's Shaft site. Here the pumping engine house was scaffolded by the end of September 2011 with the initial work centred on rebuilding the wing wall lintels. This enabled the majority of the building to be stabilised before work could be focussed on the more unstable western elevation, containing the section of limited collapse known locally as the 'man in the moor', due to its outline shape resembling that of a figure. Works to South Caradon

Right: The Holman's Shaft engine house before and after the recent works



are ongoing and scheduled to be completed by April 2013.

In addition to work at South Caradon, funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Rural Development Programme for England, the South West Regional Development Agency and Cornwall Council has been used to complete similar building works at West Caradon Mine (Edmond's and Elliott's engine houses), Craddock Moor Mine (Harris' engine house chimney) and at the New Phoenix rotary engine house, between 2009 and 2010. All told, this much-needed conservation should ensure these nationally and internationally important mine features are preserved for future generations to enjoy. ■

Thanks are extended to Colin Buck, Senior Archaeologist, Cornwall Council, and Andy Robinson, CHAHP Project Manager, for kindly supplying information and images used in this article. For further information on the CHAHP project please see the website: www.caradonhill.org.uk

4 Barton, D.B. (1968) A History of Copper Mining in Cornwall and Devon, Truro: D Bradford Barton Ltd., p.96

5 Burt, R., Waite, P., & Burnley, R. (1987) Cornish Mines - Metalliferous and Associated Minerals 1845-1913, Exeter: University of Exeter Press, pp.82,83

6 See: <http://risk.english-heritage.org.uk/register.aspx>





A TASTE OF TIN

As announced in the previous edition of Cornish Mining, Miracle Theatre have been offering audiences the opportunity of a glimpse behind the scenes at their upcoming production 'Tin', a melodrama involving love and money, opera and mining. Miracle has a considerable track record in delivering innovative comic theatre in Cornwall and has, moreover, been touring throughout the UK for 30 years.

'Tin' is based on a novel which was published in 1888 by Richard Edward Boyns, writing under the pseudonym of Edward Bosanketh. Richard Edward (b.1857) was a solicitor based in west Cornwall who dealt with the business affairs of his father Richard, or 'Banker', Boyns (b.1831), a well respected grocer, farmer, bank manager, and purser to a number of local mines, including Wheal Owles and St Just United. Financial matters were to turn sour for Richard however leading firstly to his disappearance and later to his reinvention as a Minister for the Episcopalian Church in North America.

The publishing of 'Tin' was to cause quite a considerable stir locally as a number of

allegations were made in it which cast the local banking industry in a poor light. The Bolitho family, owners of Bolitho Sons & Co. [Mounts Bay Bank] (1807-1889), which became part of the Barclays Bank group, were incensed by the various allegations made within the work. So strongly was this felt that the Bolitho's took the trouble to purchase and burn as many copies of the book as could be found!

In Taste of Tin, Miracle Theatre Director Bill Scott, along with other contributors and cast members, has been giving readings from the play, and explaining the background to the story set in west Cornwall during the difficult mining times of the 1880s. The readings were intermixed with a selection of video clips during which a number of contributors discussed the historic context to the story and the importance of Cornwall's metalliferous mining heritage.

The event held at the Burrell Theatre, Truro, on 7 December was attended by the World Heritage Site team and was very well received by an engaged audience who responded readily with questions at the close

addressing aspects of the play and its interpretation which had sparked particular interest. The Taste of Tin events have also been generously supported by FEAST, a programme devised to deliver outstanding art across Cornwall.

'Tin' is to tour Cornwall and Devon during March and April 2012, and is being produced in collaboration with English Touring Opera. Commissioned and principally funded by the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Cultural Events Programme, Tin is sure to increase awareness and appreciation of Cornish Mining culture and its rich heritage.

'Tin' can be experienced at the following venues and please see the Miracle Theatre website (www.miracletheatre.co.uk) for further details on performance times and ticketing arrangements.

Heartlands Project, Pool

Tuesday 20th March to
Saturday 31st March

The Count House, Botallack

Monday 2nd April to
Monday 9th April

The Wharf, Tavistock

Wednesday 11th April to
Thursday 12th April

Sterts Theatre, Upton Cross Liskeard

Tuesday 17th April to
Saturday 21st April

The Hall for Cornwall, Truro

Monday 23rd April to
Tuesday 24th April



For further information on English Touring Opera and Feast Cornwall, please log on to:

<http://englishtouringopera.org.uk>

www.feastcornwall.org



Scenes from 'A Taste of Tin'

Right: Cast members watch a clip of Cornwall Record Office Archivist David Thomas discussing the history behind the story, which in turn inspired the play.

Below: an example of the clever model work to be used in a proposed film version of the story



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