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newsletter of the Cornwall & West Devon Mining World Heritage Site

Winter 2013

Grant award for King Edward Mine

Pick a date with the Cornish Pirates

125 years of the Camborne School
of Mines

Mines Moors & Minerals

Completion at Consolidated Mines

Geevor Tin Mine wins again!

Scenes of Copper Point Mine

The pumping engine chimney at Copper Point Mine, Virgin Gorda © Simon Chapman

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Cornish Mining Partnership Board Chair Julian German, with Kelly Flynn, Simply Cornish Hampers, and Silvia Lowe, Manager of the Discover the Extraordinary project, at the launch of the new 'Heritage Hamper' at the Old Ale House, Truro, on 28th November. Please see page 26 for a link to Simply Cornish.

<http://www.simplycornishhampers.com/cornish-hampers/heritage-hamper>



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WELCOME

King Edward Mine has featured many times within the pages of Cornish Mining and in recent years developments at the former training facility of Camborne School of Mines have included the reconstruction of the Winder and Compressor House, through funding delivered as part of the WHS Discover the Extraordinary programme. King Edward has now scored again in securing just over £1 million in European Convergence funding to renovate the former mine Count House and Carpenters' Workshop, both Grade II* Listed buildings. See page 3 for more on this exciting development.

Many realise that World Heritage status is beneficial in raising awareness of aspects of culture, but the financial impacts of the status are little known. A recent report commissioned by UNESCO has now addressed this, however, and reveals the financial benefits of its activities within the UK. The Cornish Mining WHS has been identified as having been particularly successful in securing funding for a range of projects and through generating income for partner organisations. The findings of the report, entitled: 'The Wider Value of UNESCO to the UK 2012-13', are covered on page 6.

Stories within this Winter edition of Cornish Mining also include the Discover the Extraordinary team's excellent new 2014 calendar, produced in partnership with the Cornish Pirates rugby team, the completion of the recent conservation work at Consolidated Mines in the Wheal Maid Valley, and a look at some fantastic photos of a nineteenth century Cornish mining migration destination in the British Virgin Islands - Virgin Gorda and its Copper Point Mine.

Ainsley Cocks, Editor, WHS Research & Information Officer

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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Cornwall and West Devon
Mining Landscape
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006



GRANT AWARDS FOR KING EDWARD MINE

In October it was announced that £2 million will be available to conserve and adapt for workspace two important historic buildings at the King Edward Mine site near Troon. Situated within the Camborne and Redruth Area of the World Heritage Site, King Edward covers over 20 acres and was the former training facility of the internationally renowned Camborne School of Mines (See page 10). In mining education it was unique, with underground workings, surface ore dressing mill and classrooms all available for the benefit of students. King Edward also has the distinction of being the oldest essentially complete mine site in Cornwall (dating from 1897-1907), and constitutes part of the Outstanding Universal Value, or international significance, of the World Heritage Site.

A bid by the Economic Development & Culture team of Cornwall Council has secured a £1,126,248 grant from the European ERDF Convergence Programme which will help renovate the former

Count House and Carpenters' Shop complexes, which have been empty or under used in recent decades. The buildings are acknowledged as being of great importance by English Heritage and are Listed Grade II*, a ranking given currently to only 5.5 per cent of the 370,000 plus Listed buildings registered. Such was the deteriorating condition of the two buildings, however, that these had been placed on the English Heritage national 'Heritage at Risk Register', which records particularly problematic structures under threat.

The King Edward site has been in the ownership of Cornwall Council since 2009, and most of the site is operated as a mining museum by a charity and maintained by dedicated volunteers. Cornwall Council has contributed £800,000 towards the cost of the restoration project for the two buildings, and the work will include the creation of nine letting workspace units, with revenue from these being available to maintain the buildings in the future.

Cornwall Councillor and World Heritage Site Partnership Chairman Julian German commented: "World Heritage Site status for Cornish Mining brings with it international accountability and the responsibility to ensure that sites such as King Edward Mine are preserved. Investing in the conservation and refurbishment of our historic industrial buildings so that they find new economic uses not only safeguards their future, but contributes to the local economy, and often in the most deprived areas of Cornwall. The project will provide high quality, distinctive accommodation just outside Camborne, supporting the knowledge economy and creative industry sector."



The Carpenters' Workshop (foreground) within the King Edward Mine site, c.1912
Copyright © King Edward Mine Archive

Deborah Boden, Co-ordinator of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, said:

"Sympathetic reuse of mine buildings such as these is welcomed by the World Heritage Site Office as it ensures their future sustainability. This project will restore the Count House and Carpenters' Shop complexes to a very high standard, and thereby enhance the rest of the site which is operated by volunteers as King Edward Mine Museum."

Tony Brooks, Chair of King Edward Mine and a long standing volunteer, said:

"This is great news, both for the site and also for the volunteer team that make King Edward Mine Museum what it is. The fact that the application has been a success is a reflection of the enormous amount of work that our partners the officers from Cornwall Council, Cornwall Development Company and our consultants have put into the project. For us it ticks all of the boxes – our historically important mine

buildings will be conserved, work spaces will be created that we hope will be filled by local people and the income generated will be available to maintain the buildings."

Francis Kelly, Inspector of Historic Buildings for English Heritage in the South West, added:

"We are delighted to hear about the generous ERDF grant towards this important community project. King Edward Mine is a remarkable survival, now the oldest complete mining site pre-1920 left in Cornwall. It is special to many people on account of it being a mine training school until 1995. Nearly all the buildings on the site are Listed Grade II* and three are on our Heritage at Risk Register. Research commissioned by English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund working with Oxford Economics and Colliers International reveals that rescuing historic buildings does have a positive impact on the UK's economy and has the proven ability to contribute to growth."

In October 2012, King Edward Mine had previously benefitted from a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £35,700, which enabled the Museum volunteers to deliver an expanded programme of activities for school parties and families, and to facilitate improved interpretation of the site and the Great Flat Lode landscape within which it sits.

Robert Webber, Cornwall Councillor for Camborne Treslothan, commented that the latest funding would help employment and the economy in the area, and:

"...ensure that the remarkable mining heritage of the Great Flat Lode is preserved for future generations to enjoy and gain inspiration from."

The King Edward Mine workspace project is the product of much planning by a range of stakeholders, and is phase one of a two phase development. Phase two will be a £1.5 million project to conserve the Museum buildings, enhance visitor interpretation and provide much-needed café facilities. The aims of phase two are to restore the other Grade II* Listed buildings to good condition, improve the quality of the King Edward visitor experience, and make the site more financially sustainable. The funding for detailed project development of phase two

was approved in November, including a grant of £54,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

To find out more about the projects and the workspace units being created, please contact Tamsin Daniel (within Cornwall Council's Economic Development & Culture team) at: tamsin.daniel@cornwall.gov.uk. ■

For more on King Edward Mine Museum, please see their website: <http://kingedwardmine.co.uk/>

King Edward Mine with the Count House and Carpenters' Workshop to be renovated and adapted for nine workspace units using European Convergence funding

Top: Adam Sharpe © Cornwall Council

Middle: © Cornwall Council Historic Environment Projects

Bottom: Adam Sharpe © Cornwall Council

Aerial view: Barry Gamble © Cornwall Council





UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE BENEFITS CORNWALL AND WEST DEVON



Scenes across the World Heritage Site: The Robinson's Shaft Engine at Heartlands (Main image); Botallack Mine (Top); and below: Bedford Square, Tavistock

A report recently produced by the UNESCO National Commission in the UK has concluded that its activities in Britain are contributing significantly to the nation's economy. The report, 'The Wider Value of UNESCO to the UK 2012-13', highlights examples of where the membership of UNESCO is bringing financial gains to communities up and down the country. Bodies across the UK are said to be benefitting to the sum of £90 million per year through the UK's membership of UNESCO, the United Nation's Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

UNESCO is the United Nations agency responsible for World Heritage Sites internationally and has formal links with over 180 designated Sites in the UK and Overseas Territories through its various programmes. The finances generated by activities relating to UNESCO in the UK include investment, tourism revenue, and project grants, and have contributed to a wide range of regeneration and conservation initiatives.

The report highlighted in particular the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site as one of the UK's most active in this respect, with an

average of £3.8 million of additional revenue attracted per year since its UNESCO World Heritage status was conferred in 2006. This represents a 100 per cent increase over the situation previously.

Deborah Boden, the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Co-ordinator, commented that: "UNESCO World Heritage Site status has contributed to the millions of pounds invested in conservation and regeneration projects in Cornwall and west Devon's mining landscape - over £94 million since inscription. Equally important is the impetus it has given to developing new tourism and commercial partnership opportunities, attracting substantial external funding which has enabled a transformation in the presentation and promotion of this Site. This has helped local businesses to use the World Heritage status in support of their own growth aspirations and to create local jobs."

Part of the contribution to this figure in recent years has come through the activities of the World Heritage Site's Discover the Extraordinary Programme (DtE), which commenced in 2010. The project has since been delivering improvements to selected member sites across the network of the Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association (CMAMA), through the upgrading of visitor facilities and enhanced World Heritage interpretation. The project is mostly funded by the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and is delivering a total of £2.4 million on a range of objectives which, through working with CMAMA, have done much to raise the profile of the WHS (please see the previous editions of Cornish Mining from spring 2010 for more on DtE).

The UNESCO report also concludes that the national figure of £90 million per year is some six times the UK's annual contribution to UNESCO's operations, and constitutes a significant financial return on investment. The cost to the UK of membership of UNESCO in 2012 was £14.1 million, or around 23 pence per person, and the returns underline the monetary worth of this.

Wheal Coates (below), and (top right) the Hard Rock mining museum at Geevor Tin Mine, and the Chi an Bobel (People's House) at Heartlands

Professor W. John Morgan, Chairman of the UK National Commission of UNESCO, commented that, "This is the first report to value UNESCO associated work in the UK in such a systematic way. While there can be substantial financial benefit to organisations which use their UNESCO affiliation, the report shows that there is often a wider motivation for seeking UNESCO status, such as social and environmental benefits."

James Bridge, Chief Executive of the National Commission added that "Organisations and communities from all around the UK are telling us that their affiliation with UNESCO makes a difference to them by bringing in much needed finance, and getting wider recognition as part of a globally recognised body."

Beyond the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site receiving such recognition, the report reveals that between them, UNESCO sponsored Chairs at UK universities secure an estimated £2.9 million extra a year in fees, sponsorship and grants through the UNESCO label, and that the five UK Biosphere Reserves together brought in some £10.4 million in multi-year funding for biospheres and their partners in 2012. While the focus of UNESCO's principal activities are mainly beyond promoting financial gain, this report highlights the real world economic impact of its programmes across a number of spheres as a direct by product.

Elsewhere in this edition of Cornish Mining we take a look at an example of World Heritage Site status in action, with the completion of recent work in the Wheal Maid Valley, near Crofthandy. At the Wheal Virgin site within the valley, World Heritage status has enabled Natural England to deliver £270,000 of Higher Level Stewardship funding to undertake important mine site conservation work (see page 12). ■

For more information on the activities of UNESCO in the UK and to read the full Commission report, please see: http://www.unesco.org.uk/what_is_membership_of_unesco_worth_to_the_uk





Valley and, after much work, finally struck a promising ore body, the richness of which was to increase share values in the mine from £5 to £2,000 in a matter of a few months - a 400-fold increase. South Caradon Mine thus came into being, and was soon joined by neighbouring mining operations wishing to exploit the western and eastern extensions of the lodes beyond the confines of the South Caradon sett - the fittingly named West Caradon and East Caradon mines. These and others created the Caradon Mining District, which was to possess some of the longest lasting copper producers in Cornwall and Devon, outliving most of the competitors in mid and west Cornwall. The intense focus on copper mining also sparked renewed interest in tin production, and Phoenix Mine and Marke Valley became important producers in the own right.

Produced by the Liskeard Information Centre and the Liskeard & District Museum and funded by the East Cornwall Local Action Group and the Caradon Hill Area Heritage Project, Mines Moors & Minerals offers more than an excellent introduction to the area as it contains links to a series of specially commissioned podcasts, each of which focuses

MINES MOORS & MINERALS

While many are aware of the mining heritage of Bodmin Moor and particularly that relating to the south eastern area around Caradon Hill, to others these uplands are largely unknown: a bleak landscape of windswept low vegetation interspersed with rough granite tors. Within this landscape lies an incredible story, however, of Victorian mining success and a population explosion. A recently published guide to the area's industrial archaeology entitled 'Mines Moors & Minerals', introduces the major changes which effected moorland life during the nineteenth century, and the geology and minerals which enabled these to come about.

While the exploitation of tin is understood to have been taking place on the moor from around 4,000 years before present, this production was dispersed and did not lead to lasting changes in moorland settlement patterns. Though some 'deep' mining for tin is understood to have been pursued during the later Middle ages, superseding the shallow tin streaming of earlier periods, it was not until the mid 1830s when mineral production, this time of copper, took on major proportions, which brought thousands of hopeful mineworkers onto the moors.

In 1836 Captain James Clymo and his two sons were pursuing suspected copper lodes on the south western flanks of Caradon Hill in the Seaton



on a different aspect of life on and around the moors. While much of the content centres on locations within the Caradon Area of the World Heritage Site, outlying villages beyond the Site are also included, specifically Menheniot and Herodsfoot. These were significant to industry in their own right, known for silver-lead mining and gunpowder manufacture.

Five podcasts are available from the website of Liskeard Town Council, with each of these being narrated by a specialist or authority in the subject or location highlighted:

- 'Minions' is narrated by geologist Calum Beeson, and explores copper and tin mining on the moors;
- 'Liskeard & Caradon Railway' by railway expert Alec Kendall, highlights the mineral railway essential for the transport of ore and granite to Looe for shipping;
- 'Menheniot' by archaeologist Colin Buck, uncovers the silver-lead mining heritage around the village;
- 'Moorswater' by historian Iain Rowe, explores this once important transport interchange for mineral traffic between Caradon and Looe; and
- 'Herodsfoot' by Blue Badge Guide Mark Camp & former explosives' worker Paul Day, who together lead the listener through the 'explosive' history of the village and the nearby Burton Wood.

Both the guides and the podcasts also have the additional benefit of being available in four European languages, English, German, French and Dutch.

The new podcasts also complement well the existing series of audio trails available on the Cornish Mining website, produced by the Discover the Extraordinary programme. These cover eleven locations across the World Heritage Site, including Botallack, Levant and Geevor in West Penwith, St Agnes and Charlestown in mid Cornwall, and Tavistock in west Devon. To find out more and how to download, please log on to: <http://www.cornish-mining.org.uk/activities/29/all/all> ■



For further information and links to the Mines Moors & Minerals podcasts, please pick up a free copy of the guide, available at: Liskeard Museum, Stuart House (Liskeard), Minions Heritage Centre, Looe Tourist Information Centre, Launceston Tourist Information Centre, and Kernow Mill (Trerulefoot). Alternatively, please log on to: <http://www.liskeard.gov.uk/audiotrails.aspx>



Some of the features highlighted within the new 'Mines Moors & Minerals' podcasts: Preceding page - granite setts of the Liskeard & Caradon Railway above the Gonamena Incline near Minions (main image); Houseman's Shaft engine house at South Phoenix Mine with (bottom), Jope's Shaft engine house, South Caradon Mine

This page - the Bellingham's Shaft engine house at Wheal Jenkin/Marke Valley (top); the Liskeard & Caradon Railway (with sheep) at South Caradon; and the Holmans Shaft engine house, South Caradon

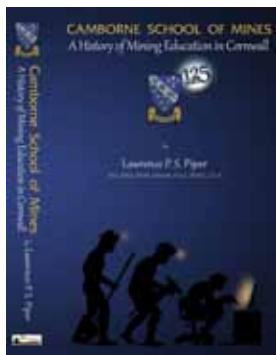
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125 YEARS OF THE CAMBORNE SCHOOL OF MINES

Below: The cover of the soon to be published history of the Camborne School of Mines, by Lawrence Piper



This year marks the 125th Anniversary of the Camborne School of Mines, the internationally renowned school of mining engineering and geosciences based at the Combined Universities in Cornwall (CUC) campus at Tremough, Penryn.

The Camborne School of Mines, or CSM, is the result of the late nineteenth century amalgamation of a number of dispersed mining schools in Cornwall, which came together largely through the efforts of John J. Beringer, who would become the first Principal of the School.

While Cornwall was internationally known for its mineral production in the nineteenth century particularly, and is described by Dr Roger Burt, Emeritus Professor of Mining History with the University of Exeter, as '... probably the most important mining district in the world...' during the 1840s and 1850s, the creation of the current integrated mining school was to be far from straightforward.

During the latter nineteenth century a variety of education initiatives were on offer to prospective mining students at different

times and places, including a number of day and evening school classes.

This fascinating story has now been explored in a major new work by Lawrence Piper a former Principal of what is now Cornwall College. 'The Camborne School of Mines: the History of Mining Education in Cornwall', which is being published by the Trevithick Society in co-operation with the World Heritage Site Office, is a thoroughly researched and readable work, charting the many twists and turns in the development of a single mining school and how this has adapted to suit changing times.

In order to mark the passing of 125 years, Saturday 9th November was chosen as the day on which the anniversary celebrations would take place, which culminated in an evening event at the Stannary Refectory at the Tremough Campus. This provided a welcome opportunity for students past and present to come together with the leading lights of the School. Professor Frances Wall, Head of CSM, was on hand to set the scene and provide the formal welcome, and Dr

Tony Batchelor, former lecturer in mining at the School and Project Director of the Geothermal Energy Project in the 1970s, gave his thoughts on the School, and its international reputation and achievements.

In addition to this, the CSM staff arranged a series of events to mark the passing of 125 years which included the creation of a 'Live Wall' on the web, an interactive forum on the CSM website designed to showcase the many and various achievements since the School's founding in 1888. The Live Wall includes information about the mining industry and its importance to modern society, the story of CSM, and the reminiscences of former students from around the world.

Professor Frances Wall said: "We are all very excited about celebrating this landmark occasion with the most important part of our history: our staff, students, alumni, collaborators and supporters. CSM has grown from fairly humble beginnings to now be regarded, quite rightly, as one of the best multi-disciplinary mining schools anywhere in the world.

"Our achievements over the past 125 years are a source of pride, inspiration and motivation for everyone who is part of the CSM community, past and present. We are sure that the celebrations will highlight just what we have achieved together so far, and also our plans for the future."

Over the years the CSM has secured an international reputation through its pioneering research in the fields of resource sustainability, environmental protection and health and safety in mines.

The event also enabled the Trevithick Society and the World Heritage Site to showcase the new publication, and Philip Hosken, Chairman of the Trevithick Society, and Ainsley Cocks, WHS Research & Information Officer, were on hand with display materials, to talk with guests and to take advance orders.



Top: Aerial photo of Camborne School of Mines (© CSM); Above: The Singing Seagulls (left) and the 'Dr Andy Wetherelt All-Stars' entertain guests in the lecture theatre

It is hoped that the book will have been finalised and that copies are available for purchase by the time this newsletter is released.

Beyond the recent celebrations, the CSM has just hosted the 35th International Conference of Safety in Mines Research Institutes, held at the Central Hall, Westminster, from 15th -17th October.

Here the latest developments in mine safety technology and disaster management were highlighted, and CSM researchers covered the use of laser scanning and 3D modelling in mine accident investigation, among a range of topics. The CSM is today acknowledged as having had an international impact on the mining industry, through supplying well trained graduates who remain in great demand.

2013 also has the distinction in marking the 20th anniversary of the School's formal merger with the University of Exeter which, in 2004, led to the CSM's relocation to Penryn and

the current purpose-built facilities at the Tremough Campus.

It is not everyday that a 125th birthday is celebrated and the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Partnership extends its congratulations to the Camborne School of Mines and all those who have been associated with it, past and present. And here's to 2138 and the next 125 years! ■

For further information on the Camborne School of Mines and the 125th Anniversary, please log on to: <http://emps.exeter.ac.uk/csm/>

For more on the Trevithick Society and how to obtain a copy of 'The Camborne School of Mines: The History of Mining Education in Cornwall', by Lawrence Piper, please see: <http://www.trevithick-society.org.uk>



The recently completed conservation work at Consolidated Mines within the Wheal Maid Valley

COMPLETION AT CONSOLIDATED MINES

Back in the winter of 2012, Cornish Mining covered the mine site conservation work then being planned for the Wheal Maid Valley near Crofthandy in Gwennap. This work included the consolidation of three historic engine houses and two chimneys, which are some of the oldest within Cornwall and the World Heritage Site.

Originally part of the Wheal Virgin section of Consolidated Mines, the features at the Taylor's and Davey's shaft sites were the product of the renowned nineteenth century mining engineer and entrepreneur John Taylor of Norfolk working with the Cornish engineer Arthur Woolf. Together during the 1820s and 1830s they are understood to have trialed and perfected the high pressure steam pumping engine, building on the breakthroughs delivered previously by Richard Trevithick, and effectively defining what was to become internationally known as the 'Cornish engine'. While Woolf initially favoured a compound engine approach, where two cylinders of different sizes were used in tandem on a common

connecting rod, experimentation revealed that a large single cylinder using steam expansively was to be the more efficient method.

The work at Consolidated Mines was made possible through the generous grant funding of Natural England which, through its Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) scheme, was able to cover 100 per cent of the consolidation costs. In order to initiate the project, however, Ann Reynolds, Cornwall Council Senior Archaeologist, and David Hazlehurst, Case Officer with Natural England, worked with Ainsley Cocks of the World Heritage Site team to prepare a list of sites of importance to the World Heritage Site which were in need of attention.

In the case of the Wheal Maid Valley and in order that the project could be realised, the support of the site owner Gwennap

Parish Council was required, as under the terms of the HLS funding the landowner has also to be the Agreement holder. Gwennap were to prove to be totally supportive from the outset however, and the enthusiasm and commitment of its representatives, Kevin Furnish (Chairman), Ray Humble (Vice Chairman), and Alan Blamey (Clerk to the Council), were to be clearly evident throughout.

A total of £270,000 was finally committed for the site works by Natural England, and the project management consultancy PDP Green



The project partners with a portrait of the man who made it all happen, John Taylor

of Truro was appointed through tender to oversee project delivery. On the ground, the building consolidation was undertaken by Darrock & Brown Ltd., conservation builders based in Bodmin with considerable experience in the sensitive restoration of historic structures.

Archaeological supervision is a requirement of all restoration projects of this kind, and the role was more than ably fulfilled at Consolidated Mines by Adam Sharpe, Senior Archaeologist with the Historic Environment department of Cornwall Council. Adam has many years of experience in providing archaeological guidance for mine site conservation work of this kind, and was able to work closely with both PDP Green and Darrock & Brown in devising the most appropriate ways in which to consolidate the features, and also how to address problem issues as these arose. Adam has also produced the specially commissioned learning material for the Wheal Virgin site, which is soon to be installed as the final stage of the HLS works.

Work commenced on site in the late winter of 2012 and continued through the spring to completion in the late summer of 2013, well ahead of the initial planned finish in March 2014, due to a welcome restructure of the project timetable. The work largely progressed without any significant issues apart from a degree of vandalism which occurred during the early stages of the site works. This did not present a major problem, however, and the contractors were able to work around this and deliver the works on time and under budget – a considerable achievement.

The project was eventually concluded at the end of August with the resultant conservation being of a very high standard and a credit to all the partners involved. The World Heritage Site Partnership wishes to extend its thanks to David Hazlehurst at Natural England, Cornwall Council Senior Archaeologists Ann Reynolds and Adam Sharpe, and to all at Gwennap Parish Council, PDP Green, and Darrock & Brown Ltd., for their commitment to the project, and



for together delivering such a high standard of conservation work.

Charlotte near St Agnes, please see future editions of Cornish Mining. ■

While the works at Consolidated Mines have now been successfully concluded, further conservation projects are either underway or are in the pipeline within the World Heritage Site, and for details of upcoming work at Wheal Busy near Chacewater and also at Wheal Coates and Wheal

For further information about Natural England and the Higher Level Stewardship scheme, please see: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>



Top: At the recently completed Taylor's Shaft engine house; Below: before and after works at the Davey's Shaft whim engine house; Bottom left: Cornwall Council Senior Archaeologist Adam Sharpe (left) inspects the works with contractors; bottom right: a view of Taylor's pumping engine house, chimney, and whim engine house and chimney, before the commencement of works.

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UNESCO MONITORING MISSION VISIT TO CORNWALL AND WEST DEVON



UNESCO Assessors visit the World Heritage Site – top: South Quay, Hayle, and above: Bedford Square, Tavistock

The World Heritage Site Partnership Board recently hosted the visit of a team of international assessors to Cornwall and west Devon as part of a UNESCO investigative Reactive Monitoring Mission. The visit, requested by UNESCO following the annual meeting of its World Heritage Committee in June 2013, took place between 3rd to 6th October.

The team of specially selected international experts in the fields of heritage management and industrial archaeology followed an itinerary agreed with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and English Heritage, to address the varied interests of the assessors. While the assessors were given a flavour of the whole World Heritage Site, the principal sites visited were Tavistock (Bedford Square and the Canal), South Crofty Mine (at Pool), and Hayle – the latter where UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee had requested the halting of a supermarket development on the town’s South Quay.

During their four day visit the assessors were introduced to the extensive scale

and complexity of the World Heritage Site which encompasses coastal, moorland and valley landscapes in addition to the more urban settings of the former mining towns and villages. The assessors were also shown recent examples of the many conservation and regeneration projects undertaken since inscription in 2006, including the major Heartlands regeneration work at Robinson’s Shaft site in Pool. The assessors were impressed by the number of projects undertaken since inscription, and were surprised to learn that nearly £95 million in capital funding had been secured for conservation and regeneration initiatives across the World Heritage Site since 2006.

Commenting on the Mission visit, the Chairman of the World Heritage Site Partnership Board, Julian German, said: “Whilst the mission was tasked with considering all aspects of management of the Site, it principally focussed on the three major development proposals that had been reported to the World Heritage Committee this summer.

"We won't know for some time what the outcome will be, but the WHS Partnership did everything possible to make the inspection run smoothly, with the help of numerous partners who demonstrated their support and commitment. We believe the inspectors went away with a positive impression of the extensive conservation, community outreach and tourism projects delivered since we were inscribed in 2006. These achievements were highlighted in the UK UNESCO Commission's own recent report on the value of UNESCO membership, which identified the Cornish Mining WHS as generating the greatest investment of any UK Site. (Please see page 6 for more on this)

"During the visit the assessors were also introduced to planning officers of West Devon Borough and Cornwall Councils, who gave clear presentations on each of the respective planning developments, which we hope will enable the Mission to form a better understanding of the various planning issues."

The Mission assessors will be compiling their report over the coming months and this will be presented at the 38th Session meeting of the World Heritage Committee in Qatar, in June 2014. ■



The UNESCO appointed Assessors tour Cornwall and west Devon as part of the recent Monitoring Mission visit. Below: Kerstin Manz (UNESCO World Heritage - second from left), Joseph King (ICCROM - third from right), and Helen Lardner (ICOMOS Australia - second from right), with Mike Simpson, Mine Manager at Geevor Tin Mine (centre), and members of Cornwall Council Planning, and the Cornish Mining WHS Partnership Board and Technical Panel

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For information on the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and their work, please see: <http://whc.unesco.org/>





PICK A DATE WITH THE CORNISH PIRATES



Top: The Cornish Pirates line up at Heartlands; and below: at the launch of the joint World Heritage/Cornish Pirates 2014 calendar, at Waterstones, Truro, on 9th November

Much has been written in previous editions of Cornish Mining about the World Heritage Site's Discover the Extraordinary (DtE) programme and the achievements of this in terms of delivering improvements to visitor facilities and interpretation at mining heritage attractions across the Site. More recently the efforts of the DtE team have turned to 'visitor gifting' and the concept of working with third parties to deliver a financial return to fund WHS conservation, based on a small percentage of the sale price of individual products sold.

The latest marketing initiative of the DtE team has been to work with the Cornish Pirates, Cornwall's premier rugby team, to produce a specially commissioned joint calendar for 2014.

From Kit Hill in the Tamar Valley to the underground of Poldark mine, from the iconic engine houses at Heartlands to the cliff tops of St Agnes, the Cornish Pirates team has been professionally captured out and about in the Cornish Mining landscape, which has

provided stunning backdrops to create a series of powerful action and group shots. All these have been skilfully captured by local professional photographer Toby Lowe. Each month features a different location and Pirates team member, and the views provide a different take on what are, to many, very familiar parts of Cornwall.

Cornish Pirates fans had the opportunity to meet some of the players at a calendar launch and signing event which took place at Waterstones booksellers in Truro, on Saturday 9th November. With a limited edition print of only 1,000 copies, all proceeds from the sale of the calendar are going towards supporting the Cornish Pirates, with a generous share being donated to the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site to help protect and conserve this living landscape.

The calendar brings together two iconic Cornish brands which have a shared history. Mining not only shaped the landscape but also the physiques of the men who worked underground. It was a physically tough

environment and consequently their bodies became perfectly suited to the game of rugby. It became a popular sport within the mining communities and the mineworkers made up a large part of the official local teams. When the Cornish miners migrated to work globally, they took their culture with them and are credited with introducing rugby to South Africa and beyond.

Charlie Gray, Marketing and Visitor Information Officer with the DtE project, said: "It has been a pleasure to collaborate with the Cornish Pirates to produce this one-of-a kind calendar. The photographer has captured the players in fantastic action shots which, against the dramatic mining backdrops, highlight the passion and authenticity of the players in a way which is different and unique.

"The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site is a living landscape and we hope that by enjoying this beautiful calendar people will feel inspired to get out and explore the amazing Cornwall and west Devon landscape and discover more about how mining shaped the world we live in today."

Simon Raynes, fitness coach for the Cornish Pirates, added: "For many of our fans, Cornwall and mining is part of their heritage, so it was great for the boys to learn more about this and feel really connected with the different areas of the Site. They gained a real appreciation of the landscape and support the work of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site with what they do to preserve it.

"The images are really powerful and the calendar will make the perfect Christmas present for fans of rugby as well as fans of Cornwall."

The new calendar is priced at £9.99 and is available to buy from Waterstones in Truro as well as Cornish Pirates' outlets, including Whirlwind Sports and at the home games in Penzance. ■

For further information on all things Cornish Pirates, please see: <http://cornish-pirates.com>



Clockwise from top left: The Cornish Pirates at Charlestown, Wheal Coates, Kit Hill, and at the launch.

Copyright: calendar images Toby Lowe © Cornwall Council





SCENES OF COPPER POINT MINE

Copper mining is first known to have commenced at the island of Virgin Gorda, within the British Virgin Islands, in 1835. The British owned Virgin Gorda Mining Company initially recruited a small group of 36 mineworkers, mainly from the St Austell district, to work what would be known as Copper Point Mine. A total of 31 men and 5 women were employed at the outset, which were overseen by Captain Joel Hitchins, formerly of Fowey Consols Mine near Tywardreath. Local labour was also employed to a significant extent, and 13 masons and carpenters, 55 labourers, and 64 women were engaged. The large number of women employed would have been working on the mine's dressing floors, preparing the ore by hand as was the practice in Cornwall at the time.

A Cornish type pumping engine was secured for the mine in 1840 to dewater the workings, and this was duly shipped out from Cornwall. Originally manufactured by the Perran Foundry at Perranarworthal in 1836, it is understood to have been acquired by the company second hand after a spell working on a mine back home. Though the early years yielded promising amounts of copper ore and native copper also, the company



struggled to obtain sufficient funds to continue development work and offset rising costs, an unsustainable situation which was to cause the mine to cease working in 1842.

Some 17 years passed before the site was looked at again but in March 1859 a new company known as the Virgin Gorda Mine Adventure took possession and worked the ore body producing a recorded 721 tons of copper ore, valued at £10,120, during 1861. Burt quotes other interesting figures in connection with this company's operations during the same year: 454 tons of coal was consumed, £243 was spent on 'mining machinery', 190 gallons of engine oils were used along with 26,000 feet of timber, and 12 tons of dips (tallow candles). The combined outlay for



Views of Copper Point Mine at Virgin Gorda, within the British Virgin Islands
Copyright: © Simon Chapman; and © Lin Briggs (copper mine sign and engine beam images)

the above may have been to a large extent responsible for the mine being abandoned the following year, by which time it had reached a depth of around 40 fathoms (73m), and had been worked out under the sea.

Copper Point Mine was to the subject of prospecting again during the First World War and later by a Canadian company during the 1970s, which undertook an exploratory drilling programme to prove mineral reserves. The dumps of historic mine waste understood to have been in the vicinity of the engine shaft are thought to have been disturbed and to a degree pushed over the cliff edge at this time. This action has left only the remains of the pumping engine house, its chimney and one other mine building on site. Two other

important examples of Cornish mining heritage lay in the surf of Handsome Bay below Copper Point, however, these being the two cast iron side plates of the engine beam or bob, as made by Perran Foundry in 1836. This beam once connected the steam cylinder of the engine to the pump rods descending in the adjoining shaft, and is thought to represent the oldest surviving beam from a Cornish engine, anywhere in the world.

Wider interest in the mine and its heritage value has fortunately grown over the years since the 1970s, leading to the mine being declared a National Park by the Government of the British Virgin Islands in 2003. The site is now managed by the National Parks Trust.

Copper Point Mine has attracted many photographers over the

years and recent contact with Penzance guest house proprietor and photographer Simon Chapman (<http://www.camillahouse.co.uk>) revealed that he had visited the site and taken a series of images. Lin Briggs, a World Heritage Site Champion based in Lerryn (<http://www.lerryncottages.co.uk>), similarly got in touch and provided images, and thanks are extended to both Simon and Lin for making these excellent views available. ■

Further reading: Burt, R. (1981-2) 'Virgin Gorda Copper Mine, 1832—1862', *Industrial Archaeology Review*, Vol. VI No.1, pp.56-62.



Top left: the cast iron side plates of the pumping engine beam, made at Perran Foundry, Perranarworthal, in the surf at Handsome Bay (© Lin Briggs); bottom left: a partially surviving Cornish boiler (© Simon Chapman)



The pumping engine house and chimney within its setting at Copper Point
Copyright: © Simon Chapman





FROM ROTORUA TO PENZANCE – STUDENTS FROM NEW ZEALAND VISIT CORNWALL



Main image: Geevor Tin Mine, one of the sites to be visited during their stay in Penzance; Above: Students from Rotorua Girls High School at a stop over at Hong Kong on route for Cornwall

New Zealand is one of the many countries to which migrant Cornish mineworkers took their skills in the nineteenth century, with Reefton, Waihi, and Kawau being names of note in the Cornish mining itinerary of the times.

Both Waihi and Kawau are within New Zealand's North Island territories and had important gold and copper mining associations for many mining migrants. Also within North Island is the city of Rotorua, around 50 miles inland from the north coast and part of the Bay of Plenty province which has its own gold mining legacy, including that of the Waiorongomai Valley. Here within the Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park the historic Piako County Tramway, the oldest known railway in New Zealand (1882-1883), can be explored through a series of trails which take in mining features along the way. A number of longer overnight walks are also available along the Mangakino Pack Track and Waipapa Track.

Rotorua itself is probably best known for the Radiata pine forest and the associated lakes, which are within an especially active

volcanic region. A major eruption at Lake Tarawera in 1896 destroyed a number of Maori villages with ash 'fallout' resulting in considerable loss of life.

Visitors to Rotorua can visit areas of thermal springs and see boiling mud pools, geysers and steam vents where there is a distinctive sulphur smell. The Rotorua Museum dedicates a large section to this aspect of local heritage.

The lakes around the area also provide plenty of recreation opportunities, from swimming and picnics to kayaking, water skiing and fishing. Rotorua is also known as the 'mountain biking capital of New



Zealand' with a huge system of tracks of varying grades through the local 'Redwoods Forest'.

For the last ten years, cultural links between Cornwall and New Zealand have been fostered through the efforts of the Mounts Bay Academy in Penzance and the Rotorua Girls High School, which have been undertaking month long student exchanges. These have usually taken place in their respective winters, but next year the schools have decided to have the exchanges in the early autumn to take advantage of the warmer weather and longer days.

Usually one lucky teacher travels with up to six students who are matched with students from the other school and stay with the families in their homes. This has resulted in life long friendships being forged, not only between the students, but between whole families. Culturally there are many similarities between Cornwall and New Zealand but there are many differences also. Language, school curriculum, driving rules, food and clothing are all similar; housing, winding narrow lanes and busier streets are the most obvious differences.

This year, four students, three from year nine and one from year ten, have travelled half way around the world to share some of their own culture with students from Penzance and in the process learn about the country that many of us have ties with through older generations.

After being welcomed to the school, the students are paired with local pupils of the same age and join their classes. The recent visitors have also experienced day trips out of school to visit places of interest including Lands End, St Michaels Mount, the Minack Theatre, St Ives and Mousehole. One trip planned for the group is that to Geevor Mine in West Penwith and the students are sure to gain a good introduction to Cornish mining and its many international links, including with New Zealand.

As some of the students on the trip this year are part Maori, they have

agreed to teach those students in Cornwall who are interested some Te Reo (Maori language), and something of their unique culture at a lunchtime language club at school. In turn the Penzance students are teaching the New Zealand girls about Cornish culture, and the pasty will hopefully form a part of this somewhere along the way!

The Rotorua Girls High School staff and pupils are now looking forward to welcoming another contingent of students from Cornwall to New Zealand in March of next year. ■

Janet Cornes

Teacher, Rotorua Girls High School,
Rotorua

For more on Rotorua Girls High School and Mounts Bay Academy, please see: <http://www.rghs.school.nz/> and <http://mounts-bay.cornwall.sch.uk/>

For further details on the gold mining trails within the Waiorongomai Valley, please see: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/documents/getting-involved/students-and-teachers/field-trips-by-region/bop/waiorongomai-education-resource.pdf>



Top: Within the Waiorongomai Valley and, above, the Piako Tramway and Butlers Incline, the oldest known railway in New Zealand (1882-1883)

Copyright: © Janet Cornes; Barry Gamble © Cornwall Council (Geevor Tin Mine); © Department of Conservation (New Zealand)



GEEVOR TIN MINE WINS AGAIN!

Main image: The extent of Geevor and, below, Geevor staff celebrating after the recent awards.



Geevor Tin Mine in West Penwith has garnered many tourism awards in recent years through its many achievements as a mining heritage attraction, and it has recently been announced that Geevor has triumphed again.

Geevor has just come out ahead of tourism businesses across Cornwall and been crowned the 'Winner of Winners 2013/14' at the Cornwall Tourism Awards, announced on 7th November at the Headland Hotel, Newquay. Malcolm Bell, Head of Visit Cornwall, introduced the awards and said:

The staff at Geevor "...symbolise the essence of being a tourism operation, that is by fighting for customers, struggling to raise investment funding, striving each year to improve, innovate and be better than the year before. The business has won accolades and awards. They symbolise the spirit

and heritage of Cornwall. They have always had lodes (!) of appeal - they have loads of visitors especially from overseas. The manager, staff and volunteers have a heart of gold, but in the past they had lodes of tin. This year's award is to Geevor Tin Mine."

2013 has in fact been the most successful year ever for Geevor in awards terms, gaining two others in the following categories:

- 'Gold' in 'Art, Museum & Maritime Attraction' and;
- 'Silver' in 'Historic & Heritage Property & Country House'



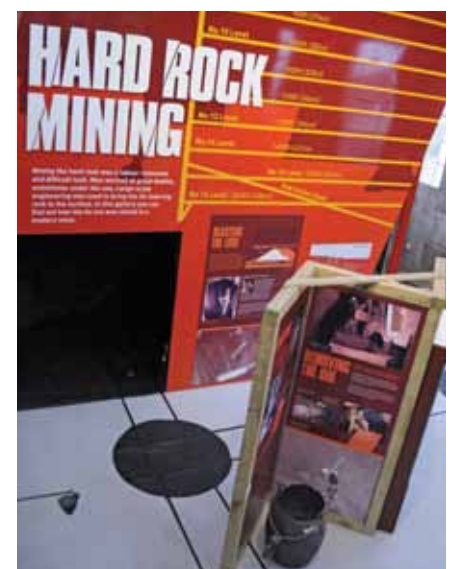


Above: The Victory Shaft winder driver's cabin at Geevor and, left and below, scenes of the Hard Rock museum

property at Cotehele won 'Gold' in the Historic & Heritage Property & Country House Award; Heartlands at Pool has won the 'Silver' for its Red River Café, under the Café & Tearoom Of The Year category, and also 'Bronze' under both the Art, Museum & Maritime Attraction, and the Sustainable Tourism categories; many congratulations to these attractions also.

And the accolades continue as Geevor has just been selected as one of the Winners in the 'Small Visitor Attraction' category in this year's South West Tourism Excellence Awards, in addition to being selected as one of the region's representatives in the national Visit England awards – the success continues! ■

To learn more about visiting and what Geevor Tin Mine has to offer, please log on to: <http://www.geevor.com>



The Cornwall Tourism Awards is now in its 12th successful year and was hosted by Visit Cornwall and the Cornwall Development Company Tourism Service, and sponsored by St Austell Brewery. The Awards cover some 19 categories, which together highlight the leading tourism businesses that represent the very best of Cornwall.

Geevor was particularly praised by the award's judges for its evocative and interactive Cornish mining exhibitions, created as part of the Hard Rock mining museum development in 2008, its guided tours, and was also applauded for its great value for money.

Mike Simpson, Mine Manager, receiving the awards, said:

"It was a fantastic night for Geevor and recognition of the hard work and enthusiasm of all the staff."

Rhonda Judd, Reception Manager at Geevor, said:

"I am absolutely delighted, and feel the awards are fully justified!"

Janet Quinton, Senior Guide, added:

"I am thrilled, and feel it is recognition, at last!"

The recent acclaim follows on the heels of a Sandford Award by the Heritage Education Trust last year, as reported in the winter 2012 edition of Cornish Mining, and a Cornwall Tourism Silver Award for the 'Small Visitor Attraction' of that year. The mine was also 'Highly Commended' in the South West England Tourism Excellence Awards for 2012-2013.

Part of Geevor's role is also to serve as a Key Centre for the World Heritage Site, to introduce visitors to all that Cornish mining has to offer and the concept of World Heritage Sites being very special places. The World Heritage Site Partnership heartily congratulates Mike Simpson and all the staff at Geevor for their consistent hard work over the years, the results of which are now being appreciated not only by Geevor's many satisfied visitors, but also by those who know tourism.

The attraction is also a member of the Cornish Mining Attractions Marketing Association (CMAMA), and fellow members have also excelled in the recent awards. The National Trust

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