East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference

The East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference is held every six months and is open to anyone with an interest in the subject. There is no formal organisation, the participating societies taking it in turn to organise the event.

The Peak District Mines Historical Society

The host society was founded in 1959 to preserve and promote interest in the important mining history of the Derbyshire Peak District and surrounding areas. Volunteers from the Society have managed the Magpie Mine site since 1962. In 1978, following the successful recovery of the Wills Founder water pressure engine from 360ft underground, the Society opened The Peak District Mining Museum in Matlock Bath and then Temple Mine across the road from the Museum was opened to the public. The Museum runs a series of local heritage walks and talks which are open to anyone. For their current programme please visit: www.facebook.com/peakmines

Saturday 2nd May 2020
At the Peak District Lead Mining Museum,
Matlock Bath, Derbyshire DE4 3NR
Background

A dual economy of agriculture and mining dominated the area mainly west of the river Derwent between Wirksworth and Castleton for many centuries, mainly for lead, but also copper at Ecton and later, zinc and the gangue minerals such as fluorite and baryte. At its peak it employed 20,000 people who lived in some 50 nearby enlarged villages and hamlets. The associated technology that developed was at the forefront of British and even World mining. The landscape has many features remaining, with some accessible underground workings having a particularly rich archaeology.

Magpie Mine

 Probably the best example of a nineteenth century lead mine anywhere in the UK. The mine has a fascinating history spanning more than 200 years of bonanzas and failures, of bitter disputes and fights resulting in the “murder” of three miners, and a Widows’ Curse that is said to remain to this day.

Conference programme

9.00am - 10.00am  Registration and looking around the museum.
10.00am - 12.20pm  Four speakers:

- Adam Russell: ‘Setting the Record Straight – Three Derbyshire Case Studies for the Use of Underground Exploration in Advancing Knowledge about Mines’.
- Richard Shaw and John Barnatt: ‘Diving to Depth at Deep Ecton Mine – 2019 Discoveries made using Submersibles to Explore the 300m of Flooded Workings at One of the Richest Copper Mines in Britain in the 18th Century’.

12.20pm -12.40pm  Society reports and invitation to the next event
12.40pm - 1.50pm  Lunch
1.50pm - 2.30pm  Travel to Magpie Mine*

*If you will require a lift to Magpie Mine please indicate this on your booking form.

Booking form

Post to the Peak District Mining Museum, The Grand Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR by the 11th April 2020.

Please include a cheque for £15 per person payable to “Peak District Mines Historical Society”.

Names:

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Email*:

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Do you consent for your email address to be retained and shared with other EMIAC organising societies solely for the purposes of informing you of future EMIAC events? Yes/No

Telephone:

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Society (if applicable):

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*If you do not use email please provide a stamped addressed envelope for acknowledgement of your booking.