

NENTHEAD MINES CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Newsletter No 3

20 September 2012

MEMBERS MEETING

There will be an informal members meeting at Nenthead on Sunday 21st October 2012. The venue will be The Village Hall starting at 1100. We will arrange for tea and coffee to be available – please bring your own lunch.

The agenda will include an opportunity to discuss progress with the Committee, to express your opinions on how the society should move forward, to consider how to arrange to take care of the site over the winter, and any other business that you would like to discuss.

We will start the meeting with a short historical presentation about the Nentforce Level.

The Village Hall has a small car park, which is reached by driving to the right of the Lead Company's Reading Room/Village Shop and then following the cobbled road to the left up the hill. Alternatively, parking is available in the main car park between Nenthead and Overwater.

SOCIETY NEWS

We now have a bank account and have mailed membership application forms and invoices to everyone who expressed an interest in joining NMCS. We now have 54 paid-up members.

The committee agreed that we need to have a larger membership and we have started a publicity drive to grow the membership. We need to be able to show Cumbria CC that we are an organisation that has appropriate knowledge & capability and is big enough for them to be confident that we are capable of ensuring that the site is properly maintained and restored.

The bigger and stronger we are, the better chance we will have of taking over management of the site and stopping the decay.

We can all help by trying to recruit at least one new member. The membership form is on the website, or you can get copies from Sheila Barker or Pete Jackson – see the address details at the end of the Newsletter.

Our application for membership of NAMHO will be decided at the next NAMHO meeting on 10th November 2012.

Nick Green and Peter Jackson went to a recent Parish Council ward meeting at Nenthead. We will talk about this and other meetings on 21st October.

NEWS ABOUT NENTHEAD MINES

Sheila Barker and Hazel Kendrick have been taking care of the site. They have weeded the area around the Smelt Mill and have been sorting through the NPHT documents in the Education office in the Barracks building. Providing the Administrator agrees, the plan is to relocate this material to free up space for NMCS.

They have also checked through the NPHT Education teaching material and tidied up the Assay House bunkhouse.

The North side of the smelt mill spine wall continues to collapse and there is now a 5 metre length that has lost its outer facing.

There has been minor damage to fencing around the site and scaffolding has been stolen from the wood yard.

Commercial Organisations continue to use the Handsome Mea dam and Smallcleugh Mine. Mill Cottage is for sale.

NENTHEAD COMMUNITY

Nenthead has a community village shop, which is run by the people of the village. Opening hours are 0800 – 1730 on weekdays, 0800-1500 Saturdays and 0900-1400 Sundays.

A village group runs the Public Toilets. They welcome donations towards their costs. Donations are accepted in the village shop and at the Miners Arms.

SOCIETY CONTACTS

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