

## **NEWSLETTER**

NUMBER 23

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Iontaobhas Oidhreacht Mianadóireachta na hEireann

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2. AGM Report
News, Views and Queries –
coal mines, Glendalough,
Genealogy, etc.

#### MHTI PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2003

(**Bold print** indicates finalised programmes; further details will be sent to members of events in ordinary print; *italics* indicates non-MHSI activities)

6-8<sup>th</sup> June: NAMHO conference in Avoca with optional visit to various Irish mines 9-12<sup>th</sup> June.

7-14<sup>th</sup> September National Heritage Week. 14-21<sup>st</sup> September: MHTI visit to Harz Mountains, Germany.

#### **EDITORIAL**

The report of the AGM on page two indicates the level of activity of the Trust over the last twelve months. Journals and Newsletters have appeared as has the MINET report, field trips have been organized, the man-engine at Allihies has been saved, plans are advancing towards digitising the Mining Journal and five other mining heritage programmes are at various stages of development. These are Castlecomer and Arigna collieries, the engine houses of Avoca (through VADA), further work at Allihies man engine, and major developments towards preservation and presentation in the Bunmahon area. While this is supported by MHTI, the important aspect is that the initiative for four of the five has come from local communities having become aware of the significance of their own mining heritages.

One other matter which had concerned the directors has also been resolved. MHTI had accumulated a considerable archive of mining-related material donated by members. While it was in safe keeping, there were no procedures available for accessing it. The Geological Survey of Ireland has now agreed to host the archive as an MHTI holding. In due course a catalogue will be compiled and published in the Newsletter. See inside for details.

However, much of the energy of the Trust has gone into re-organising the NAMHO conference deferred by the foot-and-mouth outbreak of 2001. Details have already been circulated to members of the programme, plus optional site visits over the following five days. MHTI welcomes our UK colleagues to their first ever conference outside the "mainland". For us, of course, the "mainland" is Europe and it is to the Harz-land of that we will be heading in September to visit the origins of early modern mining.

This trip was piloted after an European Geopark conference near Osnabruck last February. The Harz mountains are little over an hour south of Hanover airport to which there are budget flights from Stansted making accessible this very scenic area with its wealth of historical mines including one UNESCO World Heritage mining district (Goslar–Rammelsberg), many mine museums, displays of machinery from medieval to modern and accessible workings. More anon.

#### WWW.MHTI.IE

#### **REPORT AGM, NENAGH 2003**

#### Report of the Chairman

Martin Critchley reported on an exciting and busy year for the Trust. This saw major conservation work on the man engine house at Allihies costing €5,000 for phase one. Further funding has been secured from the Heritage Council in 2003 to be matched against existing agreements with Cork Leader programme. He acknowledged financial contributions from Trust members and the considerable efforts of John Morris in progressing this project.

Field excursions were held at Ben Bulben to examine the barite works in May and a visit to the Glandore area showcased interesting work by a local group.

D. Cowman was thanked for continued production of the Newsletter and together with M. Parkes was congratulated for a second Journal, which was available at the meeting. Also available was the new publication of the proceedings of the MINET conference in Nenagh in 1999, the first occasional publication of the Trust.

A project to digitise the *Mining Journal* was outlined with a report on recent developments. This is collaboration between the Geological Survey of Ireland, MHTI, National Library of Wales and Welsh Mines Society with a submission for funding to Interreg scheduled for May.

MHTI liaison with local groups has included support for VADA (Vale of Avoca Development Association) in their conservation of the mining buildings of the Avoca area. Director Seamus Walsh and the local groups in Castlecomer were congratulated on recent success in securing funding for a visitor centre at the heart of the coal mining area.

Members were given an update on the progress in organisation for the NAMHO 2003 meeting in Avoca., with over fifty bookings to date.

#### Accounts for the year end 31st December 2002

E. Duffy presented the accounts for the last financial year. He indicated the need for an increase in annual subscription rates to keep pace with costs. Attempts by the Board to reduce overheads will include e-mail distribution of the Newsletter. The main cost increase relates to insurance cover for MHTI activities in the field. Various options were outlined which the Board is currently investigating.

#### **Appointment of Auditors to the Company**

Fielding Flynn were appointed to continue as auditors for the Trust. Proposed by M. Critchley, seconded by N. Monaghan and carried unanimously.

#### **Election of Directors**

N. Monaghan informed the meeting of the requirement that at least three Directors must resign at each AGM and on this occasion W. Cox, J. Morris and N.

Monaghan had resigned. The following Directors were elected at the meeting, proposed by P. Claughton and seconded by P. Eggleston and voted *en bloc*:

D. Cowman, W. Cox, M. Critchley, É. De Stafort, E. Duffy, B. Jones, P. Lally, N. Monaghan, J. Morris, M. Parkes, S. Walsh.

#### **Other Business**

The issue of insurance cover was discussed in some detail. M. Critchley is to write to the NCA representative Steve Holman to investigate the future of the current MHTI insurance policy after the proposed BCRA/NCA merger. Members were informed that the MHTI had not planned outdoor events for Heritage Week and Dúchas have been informed of the Board's concerns over insurance cover. É. De Stafort proposed a special vote of thanks for all those directly involved in the Allihies project.

S. Walsh gave members an update on the recent development at Castlecomer, which include securing €100,000 in funding through the Leader Programme, successful negotiations with a landowner and in obtaining planning permission for a visitor's center. Four staff are to be employed and the group is working on a listing of artifacts available for exhibition in the center.

#### **Minet Proceedings**

These are available to members at the bargain price of €7.00 plus postage (€1.50 Ireland, €2.20 to Britain)

Full price is €10.00 plus postage

Payment can be made by cheque in euro or in sterling at the conversion rate of the day.

Orders for this or any other MHTI publication should be sent to Matthew Parkes Geological Survey of Ireland Beggars Bush Haddington Road Dublin 4

Or email: matthewparkes@gsi .ie

#### **NEWS, VIEWS AND QUERIES**

#### **Castlecomer Mining Museum**

Plans are well advanced towards converting the Pit Head Baths in Deerpark into a museum with €125,000 being pledged by Kilkenny Leader and the local committee working towards the matching funds from donations. One method is a brick wall within the museum. For €50 families or descendants of colliers can have a brick inscribed with his name. It is hoped that the museum will be open in Spring 2004. Special commemoration will be given to the thirteen who died in accidents at Deerpark over the years.

Plaques to others who died will be erected at each of the other collieries in Kilkenny, Laois and Carlow and these will be linked by a mining trail. Central to this will be the opening of the Wandesford estate to the public and the creation of trails through it. All this has not only created considerable local interest but will get greater national interest in July when RTE Radio 1 will broadcast a documentary on the collieries and in late Summer a TV documentary will be shown, shooting having already taken place by Tyrone productions.

#### **Arigna Mining Experience**

Four hundred years of mining history ended in 1990 when the collieries at Arigna, Co. Roscommon finally closed. However, a new phase began on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2003 with the opening of a coal-mining museum there, including an underground experience guided by exminers.



Driving anywhere around southern and western Lough Allen one is struck by the celebration of mining history in the area through the diversity of "Mining Trails" available for walkers. A new road brings one to the custom built museum high above the village of Arigna with stunning views of the lake. A small exhibit section leads to the underground experience conducted, for example, by ex-miner Maurice Cullen who explained how the demoralization of the late 1990s has given way to a pride in the cultural heritage of the area. While the working conditions in the open part of the mine look horrific, the seam being about one foot thick and the



#### An extract from the Minister's Speech

"So much has, or is happening here: rural regeneration, energy efficiency, environmental sustainability and most of all, pride in the local culture and heritage. Such spirit will contribute to a bigger regional vision within the Breifne Mountain Project, which aims to use and develop geological and landscape resources in the upland, cross-border area of Roscommon, Cavan, Fermanagh, Sligo and Leitrim. Arigna will become a significant point in the Breifne Mountain efforts to develop and market the Breifne region as a visitor, leisure and educational destination.

And you are not alone in realising that former mine sites can be a real asset. Mine heritage is being recognised nationally as of importance both as a part of our communal industrial heritage and as landscape features of interest to many. A successful show mine of an entirely different type operates in Galway at Glengowla. The Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland are achieving conservation of key mine structures such as at the Man Engine House at Allihies in West Cork, when combined with community efforts. In Bunmahon Waterford, old copper mines form the focus of the recently awarded European Geopark status. And in your counterpart coal mining district at Castlecomer in the South east, a thriving community group is endeavouring to match your achievements here. So your venture here is truly part of a growing and vibrant mining heritage network."



overhead rock being frequently unstable, Maurice had no regrets about his mining career. However, for most of us an underground visit to Arigna will confirm the view of coal-mining as the most difficult of all ways to earn a living.

#### Visit the web-site –www.arignaminingexperience.ie

The opening was performed by Dr Jim McDaid, Minister of State at the Dept of Transport---Minister Dermot Ahern was not available due to last moment urgent business.

#### Collieries' Report 1920

Sylvester O Muiri has come across an interesting account of an account of a report by the Irish Coal Industry Committee published in the Irish Independent 28 April 1920. Against a disturbed political background, it recommended that the state take over the Irish collieries. Considering that the committee was set by the Chief Secretary and that Captain Wandesford was a member, its proposals were quite radical. It recommended that underground workers' time be reduced to 7½ hour per day and that pay be increased by 81/2% at Castlecomer, 10% at Arigna and 20% at Slievardagh. Similar increases for over ground workers were also proposed along with an arbitration system having miners' representatives in case of dispute. In the conditions of the time, of course, this was never implemented.

#### Silvermines plaques

In recent months information plaques have been erected at four mining sites in Silvermines. These were funded under the CLÁR programme in association with Silvermines and District Development Association, Leader Plus and Foras na Gaeilge. The plaques, made by local contractors Murray Stone are bilingual and give details of two 19<sup>th</sup> century Engine Houses, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Dressing Area and the Pilot Waelz Zinc Processing Plant erected in 1950. These plaques will obviously prove popular with visitors and mining enthusiasts and help to promote a greater awareness of industrial archaeology.

#### Fr. Rowan of Glendalogh

I am doing some research into the life of a priest who was born in Bunmahon and ended up as a curate in Glendalough, Co. Wicklow in the 1860s/70s at the time of the lead mining boom there. His name was Edward Rowan and he seems to have been very interested in the welfare of the miners and their families. The records of the Mining Company of Ireland for the Glendalough and Luganure mines don't seem to have survived. If you anybody is in a position to throw any light on the lead mining industry in Glendalough and Luganure at that time or could point me in the direction of the information I seek, I would be very grateful. Sean Nugent [nugents@eircom.net]

## "There's iron in them there hills"! - history of Antrim mines, Ballymena Museum 5 March – 31 May 2003

Iron has been an important commodity in mid-Antrim for a long time. From the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century there was a growing interest in commercially exploiting local iron ore and by the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century there was a maze of different mining concerns concentrated around Ballymena's hinterlands; serviced by the narrow gauge railway. Although mining has long since ceased, the abandoned mines and the legacy of the railway are reminders of the important economic impact that the industry had in this area.

Ballymena Museum launched their latest exhibition based around the history of local iron ore and bauxite mines on Tuesday 4 March 2003. The exhibition, entitled *There's iron in them there hills* was launched by Cllr. Herbert Nicholl, Mayor of Ballymena. Cllr Declan O'Loan provided a short talk; his family has close connections with Glenravel and the narrow gauge railway. Kevin O'Hagan, who co-curated the exhibition with the Museum, also made a contribution on the evening.

The exhibition explores the development of the local mining concerns, their demise and brief revivals. The story is also interwoven with the development of the narrow gauge railway and the working and living conditions of the miners.



#### St. Kevin's Lead and Zinc Mine, Glendalough, 1948-1967

Twenty one past miners and 120 guests attended a function in Lynhams of Laragh on 23 April 2003, this being their second reunion. Dr. Martin Critchley spoke at the event and a video was shown of the workings during the 1950s.

#### Journal 3, 2003.

The bulk of this will be devoted to background research into the thirty minute lectures given at the NAMHO conference relating to mining in the Wicklow area. However, there is still plenty of room for other articles researching the enormous amount of material available on Irish mines. Nobody has collated, for instance the reports on the perceived history and potential of Ireland's mineral potential during the First World War from a series of reports in 1917 now in the Geological Survey of Ireland, with a wider context to these been given by G. W. Cole in 1923. There is a huge body of nineteenth century material on Arigna collieries readily available because of various court proceedings. Nobody has ever put this together. Should anybody like to find out more how to research other individual mines or mining eras, let the editor know.

#### **McCafferty of Keeldrum**

I am looking into my family history and I know that my Great grandfather lived on the land next to the Keedrum mine, county Donegal, from the mid 1880's onwards and I wondered if he had possibly worked at the mine. His name was John McCafferty. Does anyone hold any information about workers at the mine or know if any information exists?

Heather Whitehouse [Edder39@aol.com]

#### William Vivian

Re the reference in Newsletter 20 (May 2002), William Vivian's interest in Twigspark, Co. Leitrim. I suspect that this may (only may) be the man who was the captain at the Llandudno copper mines under the Taylors in the 1850s (see my Great Orme Mines, British Mining No 52, pp 25-6). I believe that he subsequently worked at Parys Mountain. I remember reading a brief account of his life in an early Great Orme Exploration Society publication, but don't seem to have a copy of it.

Christopher J Williams [Williamscj65@aol.com]

#### **Geneva Colliery**

A member of the Geneva Irish Association, in Geneva Switzerland, would like to have information on how the Geneva Colliery, Co. Laois, Ireland, came to be named. She has made a connection to the British chemist, Sir Humphry Davy, inventor of the miner's safety lamp. He died in Geneva, Switzerland in 1829 and is buried there. There is also a Geneva House on the local OS map of 1906. References to any information sources will be appreciated.

Mme Ita Marguet [jmar793887@aol.com]

#### MacNeven's Mining Auger

I am looking for information about a work published by the United Irish leader - Dr. William James MacNeven in 1788: "Essay on the Construction and Use of a Mine Auger" (translated from the German of Anton Ferdinand von Geissau ). I'm, especially, interested in any information on Geissau. The "Essay" is not available in the United States. I am writing a biography of MacNeven. I've made about 15 trips to Dublin, but won't be able to get there again till the Autumn. Thanks in advance for any assistance or references

George (Randy) Ingham [rngra@msn.com]

#### Rochane or Rowen mining in west Cork -1

A number of generations of my maternal ancestry named Rowen (believed to be known earlier as Rochane) were mining engineers in West Cork. It is believed that they likely came from Cornwall at the end of the 18th or very early in the 19th century. My great great great Grandfather Julian Rochane married a West Cork woman some time around 1807-8. It is this man we suspect may have been sent by his company from Cornwall. We know, two generations later, his grandson Daniel Rowen worked as a mining engineer in the Skull area, living at Derryleary, between Skull & Goleen. It is believed that this Daniel was seconded or contracted to work in the U.S. on a couple of projects. However, information is relatively sparse and any comment would be appreciated.

Paul Ronayne [paul.ronayne@paragon.ie]

#### Rochane or Rowen mining in west Cork -2

Following e-mail communication, Phelim Lally sends the following:

In the Mining Journal of 1872, Vol. 42, p. 648, John Rowanes is listed as a Director of the Ballycummisk Copper Mining Company Limited. Ballycummisk lies midway between Skull and Ballydehob, The Prospectus of the company for July of that year offers 10,000 shares at £10 each "to be paid in instalments before 1 December 1872". The names of the other Directors are Henry Deffell, George Grant Francis, Alfred Gouger, and Samuel W. Hyde. The company had been formed to purchase Ballycummisk and Coosheen from Samuel Hyde, the proprietor, under two existing leases.

#### **Fullerton**

I am trying to trace our family history but unfortunately the details I have are "born in Ireland"...with NO reference to a county!!!! This makes research very difficult. The family occupation is described as "pitman"......they were born in the 1830's and by the early 1850's had moved to the North-East of England, & had employment as "pitmen". The family name is FULLERTON.

I am writing to ask you if you can advise me of any publications/website that details pit closures...or was there a particular area where people would leave to find employment in the North-East of England?

Would they have been coalminers...and if so does this narrow the field of areas I should be looking?

Thank you for your time, Regards, Hilary Edwards [Hilaryedwards@aol.com]

#### EDITOR'S NOTE ON GENEALOGICAL INQUIRIES

Names of mine promoters/directors frequently survive as is the case with the variously spelled Rowanes above. However, the only mine for which information is known to exist giving the names of individual miners in the 19<sup>th</sup> century is for Cronebane and Tigroney in Avoca. Genealogically it would be most valuable if wages books or similar records ever came to light for any of the other mines. In their absence, church records for christenings and marriages often give occupations but their survival is sporadic. Civil registration of births and deaths does not start until 1864 but normally list occupations. "Miner" is easily recognised but not all mine workers are thus listed: "labourer" in a mining area could be a surface worker or a farm labourer.

Meanwhile this Newsletter continues to welcome genealogical inquiries. Even if they evoke no responses they at least give a permanence to family knowledge and over time will build into a data-base of mining names.

#### **Abbeytown Mines, County Sligo**

Arrchaeologist Joyce Enright has been investigating these mines in connection with oral hearings regard the impact of quarrying on them. The following is an abstract from communication with her:

I have about twelve references to 18th & 19th century

mining for lead and silver, and one reference to 1588 when a lease was given to Bryan Fitzwilliam including...."all manners of mines and minerals etc.". There is also the tradition of "monks tunnels" here. I was in a 200m stretch of mines in Feb 1997. They measured c. 6ft wide by 6ft high, rough cut and jaggedsided. There was also mine shafts/levels measuring 14 ft wide by c.20 ft high, machined cut and relatively smooth sided. The former I considered 18-19th century and the latter 20th (1950-61). The later mines are on two levels and both cut through the earlier mines and are underneath them- you can look through a hole in the floor of the upper and see the 1950-61 mine clearly. There are also apparently levels to the west of these. Two locals involved with the community saw these before they were flooded in early Feb. 1997, and they claim that they were smaller levels that might have been the so called "monks tunnels". Some of the miners of the 1950-61 period say they saw the "monks tunnels" too.

Parts of three new levels have shown up since 1997. One is in the face of the existing quarry and there is a real danger that it will be quarried out. I have not seen it, as also the entrance / stope is covered by stone. I am requesting a seismographic, or other survey which could locate such underground cavities.

Joyce Enright (joyceenright@eircom.net)

#### MHTI Archives

There have been two noteworthy developments in relation to MHTI Archives, which have not featured to any great extent in our recent activities. This has primarily reflected the need to identify a proper archive repository and management facility for all the records and items which have been donated to the MHTI over the last 6 years or so. This has been a long standing problem for us, as proper conservation and, most critically, providing easy access to the archives, underpins the whole rationale of creating a mine heritage archive in the first place.

That problem has now been resolved, through the very kind agreement of the **Geological Survey of Ireland**, a designated repository under the National Archives Act, to permit MHTI store its archives alongside those of the GSI, and for access to them to be managed through the GSI system. This arrangement should help develop awareness and use of both archives, both of which contain information pertinent to the interests of mining historians of all persuasions. The GSI archive, for example, contains an extensive collection of mine records, 19<sup>th</sup> C maps, as well as publications. It is our intention to publish a complete accession list for the MHTI archives in the near future, but, in the meantime, please contact Matthew Parkes, who manages curation and access to both GSI and MHTI archive collections.

The agreement with the GSI has come at a very timely moment, as, very recently, **Ennex International Ltd** donated to MHTI an extensive archive of mainly Irish Base Metals Ltd (IBM) company related material – which we have informally designated the Ennex Collection. This includes various mine plans, annual reports for various companies, air photos [Co. Clare, flown in 1962 for IBM Ltd by Hunting Surveys Ltd] and, most unusually, a collection of 16mm colour and black and white films, and video cassettes. An inventory of all these records has been partially completed

The film collection include extensive footage of Tynagh and Northgate [e.g. "An Irish Touchstone", 1972, about mineral discovery in Ireland], several Irish Base Metals (IBM) films, including one entitled "Fireball World", and 2 Canadian films, by International Nickel Company (INCO), one entitled "Shebandowan – a summer place". The cassette collection includes two Sony KCA30 TV production

videos, including one on the closing ceremony of the Tynagh mine (an RTE TV production), and 2 PAL VHS tapes, one entitled "Man and his gold". We have yet to view any of these films or cassettes but it is our intention, apart for arranging for their proper archiving, to duplicate some of the most noteworthy in digital form. If anybody out there is willing to assist/advise us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

We acknowledge formally our gratitude to both the Geological Survey of Ireland and Ennex International Ltd for their very kind contributions.

#### **Archival Donation**

A further donation of material has been received from Chris Williams. Full details of this significant collection of maps and memoirs in the next newsletter

### PANASQUERIA, PORTUGAL Visit report by John Morris & Martin Critchley.

Panasqueria – a name perhaps familiar to some as the internationally renowned source of spectacularly large, and beautifully formed, museum grade crystals of wolframite, cassiterite, arsenopyrite, apatite and quartz, amongst other exotica. Discovered about 1885, still operational, Europe's largest tungsten mine for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> C and now its only such operating mine in the 21st C. So what's this got to do with mine heritage? In short, the local Government and communities have recognized the value of an heritage asset which defines their sense of place and identity, particularly as the current operations are now only but a pale shadow of what they were in their heyday. So with commendable prescience, and led by the Municipality of Fundão, they have been working for several years to develop a vision of what might be. And to help them further, they invited a selection of MINET European Mine Heritage Network members to visit the site and offer advice and suggestions on a variety of topics ranging from geological and mine heritage assessment and valorization, environmental issues and mitigation, tourism marketing etc. So forward to May 13, or, for Martin, May 14, we headed off to a mountainous region about 250km NE of Lisbon - to a marvelous welcome for the group, which was headed by a French consultant, Hugues de Varine.

The next few days were spent in a round of site visits, thematic workshops and plenary meetings, at the end of which an integrated suite of conservation, presentation and adaptive reuse options were synthesized for the local groups to consider and develop further. Here is neither the time nor place to elaborate on all of that: instead we present a series of photos to give a flavour of what the place is. Although very much off the beaten track for general tourism, it is worth noting that the mine receives an average of 800-1000 specialist visitors, researchers and mineralogists

each year: an established international profile which emphasizes the world class geological heritage value of the mine.



A general view of the Panesqueria mine complex, with the Rio Zezere in the foreground. The principal mill complex (St. Francis d' Assissi), closed in 1995, and site of the current *Project Rio* conservation effort, in the mid-left part of the picture; towards the top right, the spoil heaps of the operating mine complex at Baroque Grande. The village of Panasqueria, from which the deposit takes its name, is located to the right of, and behind the hill crest to the right of Baroque Grande. Disused mine workings connect the latter two sites and it is possible that they could form the nucleus of an underground tour route. An intact aerial ropeway extends up the valley from the St. Francis mill complex to Baroque Grande [see below].



An underground view of an in situ, spectacularly coarse grained ore vein [width about 35cm]. Note the glinting "books" of coarse mica forming fringes along both margins of the vein, most of which is composed of quartz. Two very coarse grained clusters of wolframite crystals (dark grey) in the centre top and bottom parts of the vein. Modern mining based upon a room-and-pillar system, with haulage via ore shoots to an underground primary crusher, and then by an underground c.1.1km long conveyor belt system direct to the active mill site at Baroque Grande.



Left: view of active mine centre at Baroque Grande. Producing mine under mountain in background, with underground conveyor through hill in mid-view to area of headframe at mid-right.



St. Francis D'Assissi derelict mill complex. A view of the intact aerial ropeway and ore buckets used up to 1995 to transport crushed ore 4.5km from Baroque Grande to the mill complex. There are plans to restore this ropeway to operational use.



Derelict mill complex, for which there are plans to create a mine heritage centre; or to consider for adaptive reuse.

Apart from the contributions made to the workshop process, there was one other outcome immediately apparent to us: the value that the MINET network

could provide as a source of knowledge and expertise to assist conservation/re-use projects such as this. Indeed, this experience has provided us with a very strong incentive to advance the re-vitalisation of the network as rapidly as possible – but what is being done in that regard will be covered elsewhere.

For the moment, there is, however, a more immediate, and perhaps more delicate issue to be resolved. MINET sounds fine to English speakers, but it has very unfortunate connotations in other languages! The French connotation we had addressed by careful pronunciation. But we have now discovered that it has a completely different sexual connotation in Portugese. So it would be prudent to change the name – unless we are content that the network might develop a kind of red-light district aura in some quarters! So, if you have any ideas about an alternative name, any suggestions will be welcome – but be advised that any short listed names will be subjected to a rigorous linguistic reality check this time round!





Environmental issues. Top: barren spoil heaps, though largely composed of sterile quartz and crushed schist. There was quite a strong feeling, led by a landscape architect, that these should be retained as they are, as they define the mining landscape. Below: presumed metal enriched ARD (Acid Rock Drainage), which is draining down into the Rio Zezere, which is just out of view to the right. The extent of this problem appears to be relatively limited, and indeed, a fisherman was fishing at this location at the time this photo was taken.