



# NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 41

AUGUST 2008

Iontaobhas Oidhreacht Mianadóireachta na hEireann

Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland

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## MHTI PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2008

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

**Heritage Week 24 – 31 Aug 2008** see  
[www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) for programme and events

**Europamines conference and AGM is in La Union  
(Cartegena), Spain 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September**

**Lisheen Mine visit Fri 10 Oct 2008 at 10.00am -  
see inside for details on page 2**

**8th International Mining History Congress – 12-15  
June 2009, based on the Penventon Park Hotel,  
Redruth, Cornwall, and organised under the  
auspices of the University of Exeter in Cornwall and  
Geevor Mining Museum – details**  
<http://www.huss.ex.ac.uk/history/imhc/index.php>

**NAMHO 2009 Conference, Matlock – 19-22 June  
2009 – Call for papers – see page 2**

## EDITORIAL

Please send any items for inclusion in the next newsletter to:  
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Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland Ltd.  
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Registered in Ireland as Company 340387

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## LISHEEN MINE VISIT

Mick Carragher has kindly organized a trip for some MHTI members to visit the underground section of Lisheen Mine in Co Tipperary. The Lisheen Mine have generously offered a morning visit on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October, at 10.00 am.

Places for members are **very limited** so anyone interested must let Matthew Parkes know before the end of August to have their name in the pot for a draw.

[mparkes@museum.ie](mailto:mparkes@museum.ie)

+353 (0)87 122 1967

## Possible visit to Galmoy Mine

It is possible that we may be afforded a visit to Galmoy Mine, sometime in the autumn, perhaps in late October. Again, places would be very limited so anyone especially interested needs to let us know before the end of August to have their name in the pot for a draw. See contact points above.

For absolute clarity, the Directors have decided that there will be two pots in any draw for places on the Lisheen trip and if Galmoy does take place. One will include the Directors and a group of members who are significantly active in MHTI activities, in recognition that the Trust could and would not operate without their active input. A second pot for place numbers will include all other members who have expressed an interest.

We believe that this is the fairest way both to reward and encourage active commitment to the Trust, and to still provide opportunities for members who may be unable to give such commitment for whatever reason, but who wish to avail of a rare opportunity to see a working mine in action.

## Omitted photos

The pictures below were meant to appear in the last newsletter with respective reports. The photo below shows the group at Dunmore Cave on the joint IGA/MHTI visit in April.



*Some of the membership at the MHTI AGM in Nenagh, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Photo: Martin Critchley.*

## FUTURE TRIPS IN THE PIPELINE

The following trips are in discussion for the rest of this year and for 2009. Whilst no dates are fixed yet, please contact Martin Critchley or another Director if you are interested in any of them so that they can be better planned to suit members.

- 1) Parys Mountain and Great Orme, North Wales in October 2008 – Contact Martin Critchley urgently
- 2) a visit to Co. Antrim, looking at the Porcellanite and flint mines/quarries/sites at Belfast, Ballygalley, Tievebulliagh and Rathlin. Probably for Aug/Sept 2009. Contact Alastair Lings
- 3) A joint trip to the Isle of Man in conjunction with the Irish Geological Association – Spring time 2009. Contact John Morris.
- 4) Pyrite Belt of Iberia, Rio Tinto etc in summer 2008. Contact Martin Critchley.

## IHAI website

Just a reminder that the IHAI have revamped their website and moved to the new address above. Have a look! [www.ihai.ie](http://www.ihai.ie)

**TYRONE FIELDTRIP,  
17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2008  
SLIGO FIELDTRIP  
19<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008**

Fifteen people met at the site offices of Omagh Minerals Ltd (Galantas Gold) at Cavanacaw, south-west of Omagh. Nick Hardie (Manager) welcomed us to the site, and outlined the discovery and development of the mine. After a safety induction we visited the open pit, looked at the tailings ponds and toured the mill and laboratory. Bulk-bags of concentrates awaited transport to Belfast and shipping to a smelter in Canada.



*-The opencast at Cavanacaw, Co. Tyrone (ore-bearing structure in the centre of the pic)*

Our next visit was to Coalisland, 50 km to the ENE. Sadly the only significant mining remains to be seen are those of the Coalisland Colliery at Annagher, which produced 36000 tons between 1924 – 26. The surface buildings were modelled on those of the Haig Pit in West Cumberland, and remain in a poor state.

We then turned our attention to the remains of Ducarts canal, visiting a fine aqueduct over the River Torrent, and two dry hurries / wherries (gravitational inclines), the only examples of such structures in Ireland.

The days tours ended with a visit to the site of Drumglass Colliery, now marked by two vent pipes in the grounds of a house by the A45. This was where Ireland's second Boulton & Watt steam engine was erected for John Staples and James Caulfield in 1785 – 86. After the days activities many people enjoyed a meal and a drink in The Rue, Omagh.

On Sunday morning we were shown around Lissan House by Annesley Malley of the Friends of Lissan Trust. This was the home of the Staples family for almost 400 years, since Thomas Staples arrived from Bristol in 1610, and started iron mining and smelting. The most impressive feature of the house is the hall, with its magnificent oak staircase.

After touring the house we visited the White Bridge (probably built by Ducart), the estate yard and the walled garden. Part of the yard consists of a line of buildings which are unlikely to have served an agricultural purpose. Slag was found on the track by the buildings and it was assumed that they were linked to iron working: possibly when Sir Nathaniel Staples restarted iron mining locally, and installed a weighbridge in the yard at Lissan (1875).

The Friends of Lissan Trust are developing a plan to open the house to the public, and many members felt that it would be an interesting project for MHTI to be involved with.

After lunch we visited Curraghinalt Mine, near Gortin. This was developed by Ennex International in 1987 – 89, but now licensed to Tournigan Gold. Vaughan Williams of Aurum Exploration (consultancy) described the history of the property, and outlined how they were hoping to increase the mineral reserves to a point where it would be profitable to mine. We then had a guided geological tour of the adit, and were shown where the coarsely crystalline iron pyrite was best developed. Unfortunately the pyrite aggregates are crumbly, so it is hard to find durable specimens.

The last stop of the day was at nearby Glenlark, where we visited an old lead trial, with its ochreous stalactites and gourd pools, and its colourful (prospectors) paintwork.



*-Mick Carragher and former colleague, with fungus in the 1400' level at Benbulbin (same as in NL 20, p 7)*



On Monday members assembled at the head of Gleniff, County Sligo. We were generously chauffeured up the mine track, direct to the portal of the 1400 foot level. Some people went underground, ascending the escape man-way to gain access to the bottom of Barton's Hole, an impressive stope that is open to daylight.

Other members inspected the extensive surface remains, and a small group tried to access the upper level at the head of Gleniff. It was a privilege to be shown around the site by Mick Carragher, who had worked in the mine as Foreman from 1973 – 79.

On the Tuesday a smaller group met at the limestone quarry at Ballysadare. Access to Abbeytown Mine is through the working quarry, and we are grateful to Mr Frank Harrington and Harrington Concrete (Sligo) Ltd for permission to enter the mine. The mine is a maze of pillar and stall workings, but luckily we again benefited from having an experienced guide with us to point out features of mining and geological interest. Thanks to John Kelly for his time and effort here.



*Four members in the main decline at Abbeytown Mine (note the historic water levels at neck level)*

And so ended a fantastic four-day field trip, which was further enhanced by wonderful weather and spectacular scenery. A big thank you to our guides, their employers, and to all the owners who allowed access to their properties.

Alastair Lings

## **MHTI JOURNAL 2008 – A REMINDER**

A reminder - the journal is only as good as contributions received from members for possible publication. We are still seeking contributions for this year's volume.

Contact Matthew Parkes, Natural History Museum, Merrion Street, Dublin 2. Email [mparkes@museum.ie](mailto:mparkes@museum.ie)

## **THE MINERAL STATISTICS FOR IRELAND, 1806 – 1920**

An end may be coming into sight for what has been the longest, ongoing publication effort ever undertaken by MHTI. This effort goes back almost to the foundation of MHTI in 1996, under its previous incarnation as MHSI. The effort was stimulated originally by the work of Roger Burt and Mike Gill, but over the years it has evolved into a complete recompilation from original source material and extending up to and including the final, full year in which Irish production statistics would have been included in UK Parliamentary Papers prior to Irish Independence in 1921. At the time of writing, re-compilation has been completed, with some gaps due to incomplete source material holdings in Ireland, up to and including 1918. Des Cowman and I plan to complete the compilation by the end of September, provided that we can locate and access complete holdings in the UK, most likely through the National Library of Wales – unless somebody out there can advise us of the location of other complete and readily accessible holdings up to and including 1921?

The compilation has been undertaken as both a Word document, to facilitate publication, as well as in Excel spreadsheet format, to facilitate its eventual transformation into a digital database at some stage in the future. Even to create the initial listings has been a major undertaking, given the all too frequent misspelling of mine names, or duplicated listings under different names, and their mislocation, not just within Ireland, but even also into Wales and England. The intended publication format and content has evolved significantly also, with plans now, for example, to include county-by-county location maps and colour images and plates, including reproductions of mine plans from the Mine Records Archive of the Geological Survey of Ireland; share certificate and prospectus imagery; and, not least, photographs of what now remains to be seen at the various sites.

The inclusion of such material will, depending upon layout, necessitate full colour production throughout, which could be very costly for what will inevitably be a very special interest publication, if produced using traditional printing technologies and conforming to minimum print run requirements. Consideration might, alternatively, be given to newly emerging publishing technologies, such as “print-on-demand” for print runs as few as 10 books; or even publication as a fully digital “e-book”. The latter option would, however, require that all intending readers own, or have access to e-book reader tablets.

But, for the moment, the more immediate issue is the acquisition of suitable photographs of as many of the mine sites as possible. Over the course of various field excursions over the years, many MHTI members will have acquired their own personal photographic records,

in addition to whatever they may have acquired from their own personal interests. While we have quite a significant coverage, there are, nonetheless large gaps in our photographic records, and even where there aren't such gaps, members may have far superior quality images. So now to the appeal to all MHTI members: to please dig through your own personal collections of digital and analogue photographs and slides to help us infill gaps in our own library of site photographs. All contributions will, of course, be duly acknowledged in all publications. If you are willing and able to make imagery available, please contact me at:

john.morris\*gsi.ie

The following list is  
the complete mine site  
index copied directly  
from the current  
Mineral Statistics  
compilation:

Allihies  
Annaglo(u)gh  
Ardclinis  
Ardshins  
Ardtully  
Arklow  
Associated Irish Mine  
Audley  
Aughalun  
Avondale

Ballard  
Ballinoe  
Ballinvalley  
Ballybale  
Ballycastle  
Ballycloughan  
Ballycorus  
Ballycraig  
Ballycummach  
Ballycummisk  
Ballydanab  
Ballydehob  
Ballygahan  
Ballygoneen  
Ballyhaley  
Ballyhartfield  
Ballyhicky  
Ballylaggan  
Ballylaggin  
Ballylig  
Ballymaquiff  
Ballymartin  
Ballymoylan  
Ballymurtagh  
Ballynafunshoque  
Ballynagigla  
Ballynure  
Ballynvre  
Ballypalady  
Ballyshannon  
Ballyvergin  
Bandon  
Bantry  
Bantry Bay  
Barard  
Baronets  
Barravore  
Barristown  
Barrow

Bawnishall  
Beauparc  
Belfast  
Bearhaven  
Bearhaven South  
Bon Ivey  
Bond  
Bond and Newry  
Borlin  
Boulusalach  
Broughshane  
Brandon Barytes  
Breenavn East  
Browhead  
Burnt Irish  
  
Cahenglassaur  
Caime  
Cappagh  
Cappagh Great  
Carahan  
Carbery West  
Cargan  
Carnlough  
Carragarraff  
Carrahin  
Carrick na horna  
Carrihans  
Carrohan  
Carysfoot  
Castlebla(y)ney  
Castletown  
Castleward  
Cleenragh  
Clegnagh  
Clements  
Clogheor  
Cloncurry  
Clonetrace  
Clonken  
Cloonto Ardtully  
Cloost  
Clough  
Clougheor  
Cloughleagh  
Cluin  
Coad  
College Mines  
Common Moor  
Coney Island  
Conham  
Conlig  
Connorree  
Connorree Avoca  
Conway  
Coolarten and Bond  
Coosheen  
Coreen  
Cragganduff

[where \* = @: perhaps a vain effort to stop spammers  
lifting my email address out of the digital version of  
this document]

## John Morris

Craigahullia  
Craigahulliar  
Crommelin  
Cronebane  
Crookhaven  
Crow Island  
Cullentiophpark  
Cullinane  
Cullion

Deehomed  
Dereenala Mine  
Dereenatra  
Derree(n)nalomane  
Derriecarhoonic  
Derrycarr  
Derrycarhoon  
Derryginagh  
Derrynea  
Derrynoid  
Dhurode  
Dog Bay

Drumgill  
Drumnavaddy  
Dublin Slag  
Dunbeacon  
Dundalk  
Duneany  
Duneen  
Duneen Bay  
Dungonnel  
Dunluce  
Dunmanus Bay  
Dursley Island  
Durrus

Elgenany  
Elginny  
Enshnably  
Errisbeg  
Essathackan  
Essathohan  
Evishacrow No. 1  
Evishacrow No. 2  
Evishacrow No. 3  
Evishacrow No. 4  
Evishnably

Fair Hill  
Fairtown  
Fingal  
Foxrock  
Frostem  
  
Galway  
Garryard West  
Gartydona  
Glandore

Glamore  
Glanmore  
Glaun  
Glebe  
Glen Cove  
Glenanlin  
Glenariff  
Glenarm  
Glendalough  
Glengariff  
Glengola  
Glengola and Cregg  
Gleniff  
Glenmalure  
Glenravel  
Glenrivil  
Glentask  
Glentogher  
Glore  
Gortacloona  
Gorteenadiba  
Gorteenadiha  
Gortnageeragh  
Gurtavallig  
Gurtndadyne

Hibernian  
Hodgeson  
Hollyford  
Hope  
Hope (Dundalk)  
Horse Island  
  
Irish Consols  
Irish Hill  
Irish Hill and Straid  
Island Magee  
Islandmoor

Keeldrum  
Kenmare  
Kilbarry  
Kilbrain  
Kilcrohane  
Kilcoe  
Kilduane  
Kilduane  
Killeen  
Killen, North  
Kilrean  
Kilwaughter  
Knockboy  
Kilbricken

Killoveenoge  
Kilmacoo  
Kilmocapogue  
Kilmorie  
Kilrain

Kinahans	Marian	Renville	Tassan (Dundalk)
Knockanroe	Maulagow	Ringabella	Templepatrick
Knockatillam	Milltown	Roaring Water	Ternakill
Knockinoe	Mining Company of Ireland	Ross Island	Tigrony
Knockmahon	Mizen Head	Rossbrin	Tipperary
Knockmalur	Mount Cashel	Roury Glen	Tonagh
	Mount Gabriel		Toormore
Lackamore	Mountain [Allihies]	Scart	Tranferla (East, West)
Lanbrynmair	Mountain [Clonakilty]	Shallee	Trostan
Landore	Muckcross Head	Shallee, East	Truska
Langanure		Shallee, West	Tuftarney
Lansdown	Nanmor	Shannagary	Tuftarney Bauxite
Larne	Newtown Crommelin	Shanes and Agnews Hill	Tuftarney No. 3 – Spitals
Leamcon	Newtownards	Shanes Hill	Drift
Leinster	Northern of Ireland	Shionagree	Tunnel
Lemenagh		Shrelkald	Tynagh
Letter	Oola	Shroulaghy	
Libert, West	Orblereigh	Silver Mines	Urblareigh
Limerick	Oughterard	Skull	
Limineagh		Skull Bay	Valencia
Lissaremig	Parkmore	Slieve Gallion	
Long Island	Portrush	South Cork	West Cork
Loughshinney		Spanish Cove	Whitespots
Luganure: Ballyfunshogue	Raloo	Strangford	Wicklow (Ballinvally)
Lyle Hill	Rathkenny		Wicklow (Copper)
	Rathkenny Dayeye	Tankardstown	Wicklow (Iron pyrites)
Magheramena	Rathkenny No. 1	Tassan	Wicklow (Lead and silver)
Maiden Mount	Red Bay	Tassan Castleblaney	
Mains	Red Rock	Tassan (Castleblaney)	

## CONSERVATION WORKS 2008

John H. Morris

It is all too easy to forget that the ability to participate in, and avail of opportunities arising from EU funding programmes to further MHTI conservation and other efforts in Ireland, was one of the key drivers behind the transformation in 1999 from a “voluntary” society [Mining Heritage Society of Ireland] to a company limited by guarantee with registered charitable status. The latter is the minimum “legal identity” required for participation in various EU programmes, and since that transformation, MHTI has gone a long way down the road of achieving the near impossible for such a small, specialist interest group.

Much was learnt from the rather protracted, and sometimes tortuous efforts to achieve conservation of the Man Engine House in Allihies, Co. Cork, in 2002-2003 [see MHTI Journals 2 and 3]. That experience did, however, create the platform of confidence to be far more ambitious - to participate directly in an INTERREG 3B NW Europe funded project – the development of the Copper Coast Geopark in Co. Waterford [see MHTI thematic Journal 5, 2005]. The key MHTI objective there was the conservation of the two Engine Houses at Tankardstown, but the opportunity to add yet another building to the conservation “tally” arose somewhat unexpectedly in early 2006: no, not another Engine House, but the deconsecrated, ex- Church of Ireland, Knockmahon Church [see also previous MHTI Newsletters]. In its time, this Church serviced the spiritual needs of the once thriving Anglican community, many of whom

were directly or indirectly employed in the Bunmahon copper mines. Dwindling congregations led eventually to its de-consecration in the 1960s, and its acquisition by a private individual from whom it was purchased in early 2008, after resolution of very protracted legal issues. The first phase of conservation works were completed by the end of the project on June 30, 2008.

Same year, 2006, but an entirely different location and EU funded project – this time the INTERREG 3B Atlantic Area funded “**GREEN MINES**” project.

MHTI was, along with others, invited by the Lead Partner [Diputación de Huelva, Spain] to participate in the project, and succeeded in persuading, on the one hand, North Tipperary County Council to avail of the co-funding opportunity arising out of a c. €10M grant provided to the Council by the then Dept of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources to undertake an Environmental Remediation Programme at Silvermines; and, on the other, to persuade the Geological Survey of Ireland to act as Lead Partner.

Conservation works were again the key MHTI objective, but on a target total of 6 buildings spread between Silvermines and Shallee – a total number of buildings more than all previous efforts combined. The 18 month [Jan. 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008] project was accepted, and though initiated in May 2007, substantive works were not implemented until December that year due to various logistical and co-funding “challenges”. By that time one building [the King House, Shallee] had been excluded as it was tied up in receivership issues, but that still left 5 buildings to be conserved in a 7 month period – which had to include all the time consuming tendering processes

required to comply with EU funding guidelines. It was very nearly “Mission Impossible” – but the impossible was achieved, and with it the conservation of another 3 Engine Houses, a steam powered Crusher House and a Calamine (Zinc Oxide) ore roasting complex.

A detailed profile and description of all conservation works undertaken on the Church in Bunmahon and the various buildings at Silvermines will feature in the next MHTI Journal [8, 2008]. In the meantime, the following sequence of pictures present a “then and now” format pictorial summary.

### **Knockmahon Church**

The conservation works focussed entirely upon replacing the severely damaged roofs of the Nave and the Vestry, and had to be undertaken in conformity with guidelines specified by the Waterford County Conservation Officer. Both roofs had to be totally stripped, underlying lining boards, rafters and beams splice repaired or replaced as required; roof insulation installed; wall tops repaired/rebuilt and all coping stones re-laid; both roofs re-slatted with salvaged slates; rebated lead lined channels installed along both gable ends of the nave roof; and cast iron gutters and downpipes installed.

Nave roof (before)



Nave roof (after)



Vestry roof (before)



Vestry roof (after)



Shallee Engine House (before)





Shallee Engine House (after)



Shallee Crusher House (before)



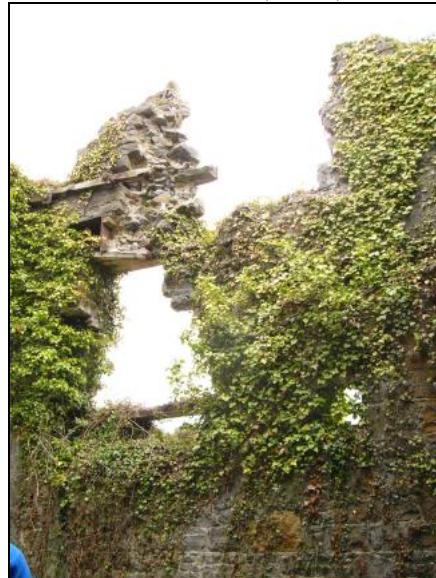
Shallee Crusher House (after)



Shallee Engine House (before)



Shallee Crusher House (before)



Shallee Engine House (after)





Shallee Crusher House (after)



Shallee Crusher House (before)



Shallee Crusher House (after)



**Ballygown Engine House**

Bob Wall perspective (before)



Bob Wall perspective (after)



Rear gable wall, with partially inbuilt chimney (before)





Rear gable wall, with partially inbuilt chimney (after)



### Calamine Works

**WANTED** : somebody to take on research into the design and function of this building, and the associated Engine House, for a future paper in the MHTI Journal. Any volunteers?







**Calamine Works Engine House**



So, by the end of both INTERREG projects on June 30, 2008, the MHTI conservation “tally” had increased very significantly – to a total of 6 Engine Houses of various types, 1 Crusher House, 1 Calamine Works, and, in part, 1 Church. Satisfying as this may be, there remain many more mine heritage buildings out there, slowly decaying and crumbling as the years go by. These include, for example, the MCI office and Pumping Engine House at Mardyke, the solitary Engine House at the Killaloe Slate Quarry, both water powered crusher houses in Glenmalure, the Engine Houses and Windmill at Newtownards, the office building complex at Tassan [MHTI Journal 2, 2002] – the list is endless. Who amongst our members is willing to “adopt” one or more of these, or other, buildings and push, hound and harass the funding powers that be to achieve the seemingly impossible? The achievements to date show that, with will and determination, much can indeed be achieved by a very small group of people.



## MINES OF MEXICO REPORT OF VISIT IN JULY 2008 & POSSIBLE MHTI VISIT IN 2010

From 1<sup>st</sup> July and 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008 a party of over 25 persons from Cornwall, including MHTI members Martin Critchley and Sharron Schwartz, visited Mexico to celebrate the 'Great Trek of the Transport Party' of 1825-1826. The original Great Trek, which marked the introduction of the industrial revolution to the shores of Mexico, brought Cornish miners and 1,500 tons of equipment from the UK to work the silver mines high in the Sierra Madre Mountain at Real del Monte (established by John Taylor and Co), some 90km NE of Mexico City. Difficulties in landing the equipment at the Port of Vera Cruz, poor roads and disease hampered the journey to the mines and took its toll on the Cornish immigrants and their Mexican colleagues, a feat of endurance remembered in the history books of Mexican schoolchildren.

The Real del Monte Company continued under British, Mexican then American control until the mid C20th. Since then the mines have been once again under Mexican control and the last mine (San Juan, Pachuca) only closed recently due to lack of qualified miners. Cornish miners continued to travel to Mexico to work in the Real del Monte mines until well into the middle of the C20th. It is estimated that at the zenith of their involvement the Cornish formed a discrete community in the twin silver mining towns of Real del Monte and Pachuca numbering over 350 families. Today there are a significant number of persons of Cornish descent in Mexico and part of the present trip involved participants from Cornwall tracing their family ancestors in Mexico and in some cases meeting their 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> generation Cornish-Mexican cousins for the first time. The trip also officially cemented 'twinning' agreements between Camborne with Pachuca and Redruth with Real del Monte.

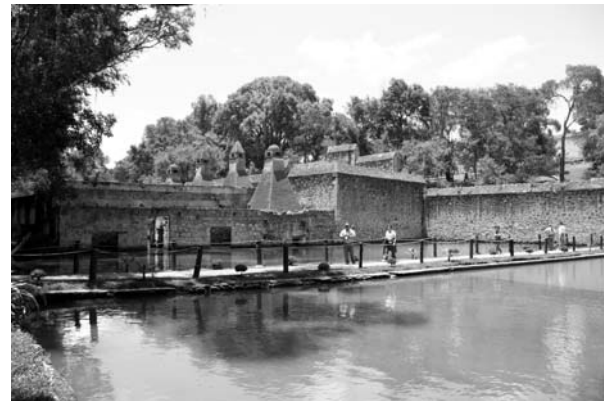
There is a vast amount of historic mining remains to be seen in Mexico. At Real del Monte-Pachuca there are a number of Cornish-design engine houses, an extensive archive of the Real del Monte y Pachuca Mining Company, a passion for football (introduced by Cornish miners, with Pachuca being the spiritual home of Mexican football), a Cornish cemetery and the ubiquitous Cornish paste (paste), be it with a Mexican flavour in the form of chilli peppers! The area boasts uniquely 'British' vernacular architecture with its pitched roofs and impressive civic architecture, including banks, hotels, a Gothic-design Methodist Chapel, a clock tower with a clarion that chimes like Big Ben, and the 'Casa Rule', the former home of Camborne-born multi-millionaire Francisco Rule 'El Rey de la Plata', one of the prime benefactors of Pachuca. Three well-preserved haciendas – San Miguel Regla, San Antonio Regla and Santa Maria – contain important remains of the colonial patio process (silver ore refining) - and at Santa Maria Regla some

remarkable geology in the form of basalt columns can be viewed.

But Real del Monte-Pachuca is not the only important mining area in Mexico. North of Real del Monte are the silver mining districts of Guanajuato, Zacatecas (both UNESCO inscribed World Heritage Sites), Fresnillo and the ghost town of Real de Catorce (reached by a 2km long road tunnel).



*San Pedro Engine House at Pachuca*



*San Miguel Regla Hacienda Processing site*



*Pasty shop at Real del Monte*



*Proana Tourist Mine*

At Guanajuato is the fabled hexagonal Valenciana Shaft described by Humboldt, and the Guanajuato School of Mines training mine of El Nopal, both open to the public. At Zacatecas visitors can enter the recently refurbished tourist mine of El Eden (over US \$4m spent on the refurbishment) which boasts a trip in by train, underground shops and exit via an elevator. To top this, the mine also has an underground night club! At Fresnillo is the world's biggest operating silver mine (Mina Proaño), a mining museum (accommodated in the impressive building of the former School of Mines) and a tourist mine that runs into the hillside at Proaño exiting to give visitors an awesome sight of the 'Glory Hole' opencast. But the star attraction at Fresnillo is undoubtedly the unique twin Cornish-design engine houses that contain their in-situ unusual design Harvey's of Hayle-built engines with back bobs that were installed in the 1850s to work the patio floors.

Because of the vast breadth of mining heritage in Mexico, it has been suggested that the MHTI run a field trip to the mines. September 2010 is a possibility as the temperatures are comfortable at this time of year, airfares cheaper, and it gives some time to organise and trip. In addition, 2010 will be the 200th anniversary of the independence of Mexico from Spain. A two week trip is suggested, covering the Real del Monte-Pachuca, Gaunajuato, Zacatecas, Fresnillo and Real de Catorce mining districts. The trip will be aimed at mining heritage enthusiasts and it is hoped will include surface and underground (tourist and non-tourist mines) and some recording of the mining heritage.

It would be hoped to limit the trip to 12-15 persons, travel to be undertaken by 4X4 wheel drive. Costs depend on travel options etc., but airfares might be about 900 euro return. Accommodation in Mexico is reasonable and comfortable (about 30-40 euro for a double room per night), car rental affordable and food and petrol are very cheap. If any MHTI members would like to participate in a visit please could they contact Martin Critchley on [mcritchley@era.ie](mailto:mcritchley@era.ie) by December 2008. If enough people are interested then we will circulate a draft itinerary, answer any questions and set up a scheme were participants can pay by instalments for their airfares.

## Conference Report: NAMHO 2008, 11-16 July

The conference was based at the former Lady Victoria Colliery, Newtongrange to the SE of Edinburgh. This is now the home of the Scottish Mining Museum. About 80 people attended the event, coming from as far away as Cornwall.

There was a wide range of presentations with something to interest everyone: from early mining in Scotland to present day silica sand mining (Lochaline Mine) and barite mining (Foss Mine); from the formation of shale oil, and the discovery of Strontium to the minerals of Wanlockhead and Leadhills; and from archive research, field archaeology, and underground photography to the preservation of mine sites.



*Scottish Mining Museum - Lady Victoria Colliery, Newtongrange. NAMHO delegates on top of the headframe, between the sheave wheels. L to R: Sheila Barker (MHTI), Roger Gosling (MHTI), Mr. X, John Alder, Museum guide (with raised hand), Mike Moore (MHTI), Don Borthwick (MHTI). Photo: Kelvin Lake - I.A.Recordings*



*Scottish Mining Museum - Lady Victoria Colliery, Newtongrange. View across the road to the pithead buildings along the line of the raised concrete covered walkway for the miners from the pithead to the baths (behind the camera, baths now demolished). Photo: Kelvin Lake - I.A.Recordings*



The presentations were complemented with a look at the archives of the Mining Museum, and visits to local limestone, fireclay and oil shale mines/sites, as well as to lead and silver mines further away.

As a NAMHO - virgin, I described the event as having excellent presentations and fieldtrips, at a great venue with good food and good company. But don't just take my word for it: Kelvin Lake (MHTI) wrote "It was a very enjoyable conference - must get back up to Scotland again soon...Birkhill trip was very good...and Tyndrum was excellent." Thank you, and full marks to everyone who was involved in organising and running the event.

Alastair Lings

## **HISTORICAL MAP RECALLS IRISH ROLE IN AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS**

**Presentation reflects richness of mining and  
geoscience links between Australia and Ireland  
Dublin, 15th July 2008**

Minister of State Seán Power TD, today presented a historical map of the State of Victoria in Southern Australia to the Australian Ambassador, Anne Plunkett. Making the presentation, Minister Power acknowledged the rich and diverse history of the region, and said that the presentation was in recognition of the historic links between Ireland, the State of Victoria and Australia.

The large map, which is close to 150 years old, presents in detail the geographical context of the gold discoveries in Victoria in the middle of the nineteenth century. These gold discoveries led to a gold rush and are an essential part of the history of the region of Australia, transforming its economy and leading to a major increase in immigration. The map was prepared by the State Geological Survey and formed part of Australia's display at the International Exhibition of



*The map on re-discovery*

Arts and Manufactures in Dublin during 1865. It was subsequently stored at the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) where it was re-discovered last year.

Speaking at the presentation, Minister Power said, "There is a long tradition of strong and sustained connections between Ireland and Australia in the area of geoscience and indeed one of the authors of this map Sir Frederick McCoy, who had worked at GSI, went on to become a doyen of Australian science, later being knighted for his contribution in the area of geoscience.

More recently, the INFOMAR mapping project, which provides information on the sea floor around Ireland, benefited greatly from the expertise of two Australian technology companies. These links which began many years ago are continuing today and I am confident that they are set to be maintained in the years ahead."

Ambassador Plunkett said: "This map is of great historical interest to the people of Australia, and is part of the fascinating history linking our two countries. It is especially fitting that the return of this item takes place during the International Year of Planet Earth".

Concluding, Minister Power stated, "In order to make advances in geoscience, it is important that we acknowledge the geological history of regions. I am confident that this map will further the interest in the diverse history of the State of Victoria, and that it will contribute greatly to the study of the area. "

## **NAMHO 2009 Conference, Matlock – 19-22 June 2009 – Call for papers**

The 2009 National Association of Mining History Organisations Conference will be held at Matlock on the weekend of 19-22 June. Celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of our founder organisations – the Peak District Mines Historical Society – and our own 30th anniversary. There will be the usual wide range of surface and underground field visits (at all grades of difficulty) extending from Friday to Monday, and a lecture programme on the Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. Contributions to the lecture programme are now invited: the main theme will be mining landscapes, especially underground, and contributions concerning overseas mining, in particular those relating to British ventures or technical linkages will also be welcome. Papers will be published in *Mining History* and written drafts should be available at the conference. Lecture programme: contact Lynn Willies as soon as possible at [lynnwillies@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnwillies@hotmail.com)

Preliminary Conference Programme booking details will be available from November 2008 contact Robin Hall at: [www.peakmines.co.uk](http://www.peakmines.co.uk)



MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND

Statement of Financial Activities

Period ended 31st December 2007

MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND LIMITED

Balance Sheet  
As at 31st December 2007

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2007 €	Restricted Funds 2007 €	Total 2007 €	Total 2006 €
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Subscriptions/Grants		4,980	25,150	30,130	87,922
Donations		610	21,000	21,610	7,750
Surveys		0	0	0	5,000
Sale of Publications		1,078	0	1,078	682
Deposit Interest Received	2	6,668	46,150	52,818	101,353
		43	0	43	12
Total Incoming Resources		6,711	46,150	52,861	101,365
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Cost of Sales of Publications		685	0	685	302
Administration Expenses	3	4,025	0	4,025	6,787
Projects		0	26,635	26,635	65,742
Total Resources Expended		4,710	26,635	31,345	72,831
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR PERIOD</b>		2,001	19,515	21,516	28,535
Accumulated Surplus Carried Forward		21,805	52,212	74,017	45,482
<b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b>					
Write off Allihies Restricted fund		23,806	71,727	95,533	74,017
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>		23,806	71,727	95,533	74,017
<b>APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON</b>					
The income and expenditure in the period arose solely from the continuing activities of the Company.					
The Company had no recognised gains and losses other than as disclosed above.					
<b>APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON</b>					
Ewan Duffy					
Nigel Monaghan					
The notes on pages 4 - 5 form part of these financial statements.					

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Sundry Debtors and Prepayments  
Stocks of Publications  
Bank and cash

5

47,655  
7,411  
53,176

70,778  
6,361  
9,476

**CREDITORS**

(Amounts falling due within 1 year)

7

(12,709)

(12,598)

**NET CURRENT ASSETS**

95,533

74,017

**TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES**

95,533

74,017

**ACCUMULATED FUNDS**

Unrestricted Funds  
Accumulated Fund at beginning of period  
Net Incoming Resources in period  
Transfer to Restricted Income Fund

21,805  
2,001  
0

15,217  
8,955  
2,367

**Restricted Income Funds**

Accumulated Fund at beginning of period  
Net Incoming Resources in period  
Transfer from Unrestricted Funds  
Accumulated fund at end of period

52,212  
19,515  
0

30,265  
19,580  
2,367

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON 20th APRIL 2008**

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD**

Ewan Duffy

Nigel Monaghan

MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND LIMITED

Cash flow Statement for the year ended 31st December 2007

Notes	2007 €	2006 €
Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities	2,001	8,955
Surplus/(deficit) on restricted funds	19,515	19,580
Net Interest	(43)	(12)
Total Operating Surplus Deficit	21,472	28,523
(Increase)/decrease in stock	(1,051)	(2,208)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	23,123	(36,926)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	111	(15,564)
Net Cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	43,655	(26,175)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Net Cash inflows/(outflows) from operating activities

Returns on investments and servicing of finance

Net Cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) TO MOVEMENT IN NET DEBT

Change in Net Debt

Opening Net Funds

Closing Net Funds

MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND LIMITED

Detailed Statement of Financial Activity  
Period Ended 31st December 2007

	2007 €	2007 €	2006 €	2006 €
<b>General Income Fund</b>				
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Subscriptions	4,980			3,902
Donations	21,610			2,630
Donations in kind	-			5,120
Surveys	-			5,000
Less cost of sales	-			(802)
Sale of publications	1,078			682
Less cost of sales	(685)			(302)
Interreg Project IIIB	25,150			84,019
Deposit Interest Received - Gross	43			12
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>52,176</b>			<b>100,261</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>Operational Expenses</b>				
Journal - members copy	627			1,430
Insurance	1,408			1,541
Audit/Company Fees	1,675			1,609
Miscellaneous Expenses	273			588
Stationery, Postage & Printing	412			415
Promotions/Publicity	162			811
Stock written down	-			369
Bank Charges	14			24
Interreg Project IIIB	26,635			64,939
	30,660			71,726
<b>NET RESOURCES INCOMING/(EXPENDED)</b>	<b>21,516</b>			<b>28,535</b>

**MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND LIMITED**  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Period Ended 31st December 2007

**1 GOING CONCERN**

The company is substantially dependant on discretionary income to cover its operation expenses. Such income normally takes the form of subscriptions and donations. The directors believe that the amount of such income will continue at an adequate level for the foreseeable future so that the company can continue in operational existence and in particular that it will not be necessary to curtail significantly its overall scale of operations. In these circumstances, the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

<b>2 DEPOSIT INTEREST</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Deposit Interest - Gross	€ 43	€ 12
	<u>43</u>	<u>12</u>

**3 NET INCOMING RESOURCES**

The Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging:

Auditors Remuneration	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	€ 1,512	€ 1,512
	<u>1,512</u>	<u>1,512</u>

**4 TAXATION**

The company is a registered charity under Sect. 206 TCA 1997 and accordingly has not provided for corporation tax on its results.

**5 DEBTORS**  
(Amounts falling due within one year)

Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Interreg IIB Receivable	€ 6,344	€ 6,129
	41,111	64,649
	<u>47,655</u>	<u>70,778</u>

**6 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

Cash at bank and in hand	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	€ 53,176	€ 9,476
	<u>53,176</u>	<u>9,476</u>

**7 CREDITORS**  
(Amounts falling due within one year)

Subscriptions in advance	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Directors Loans	€ 33	-
General Creditors	25	-
Accruals	6,003	12,598
	6,649	
	<u>12,709</u>	<u>12,598</u>

**8 GROSS CASH FLOWS**

**Returns on investments and servicing of finance**

Interest Received	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Interest Paid	€ 43	€ 12
	<u>43</u>	<u>12</u>

**9 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

Cash in hand, or bank

	<b>At 31st December 2007</b>	<b>Cash flows 2007</b>	<b>At 31st December 2006</b>
	€ 53,176	€ 43,700	€ 9,476

**MINING HERITAGE TRUST OF IRELAND LIMITED**  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Period Ended 31st December 2007

**10 DONATED SERVICES**

Claims for grant funding under Interreg IIB includes donated costs of volunteers. The value of these donated services is based on the open market value for these services. Under the terms of the grant funding the company can recover 50% of these costs.

Donated Services - Staff contribution in Kind	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	€ 22,034	€ 48,555
	<u>22,034</u>	<u>48,555</u>

**11 RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS**

**a. Alliiies Reserve**

Accumulated fund at beginning of period	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Donations	-	(2,867)
	-	500
Accumulated fund before expenditure	-	(2,367)
Expenditure less credits	-	-
Accumulated fund before transfers	-	(2,367)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	-	2,367
Accumulated Fund at end of period	-	-
This project is finished	-	-

**b. INTERREG IIB**

Accumulated fund at beginning of period	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Donations	€ 52,212	€ 33,132
Received/receivable from EU	21,000	
	25,150	84,019
Accumulated fund before expenditure	98,362	117,151
Expenditure	(26,635)	(64,939)
Accumulated Fund at end of period	71,727	52,212

**12 MEMBERSHIP**

The Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland Limited is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. Every member is liable for the debts and liabilities of the company in the event of a winding up, for such amount as may be required but not exceeding €1 each. The total number of members, from all categories of membership, at 31st December 2007 was 101 (2006 - 96).

**13 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The company's related parties, as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 8, the nature of the relationship and the extent of transactions with that company are summarised below:

Copper Coast Geoparks Limited shares common directors.

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Services provided by Copper Coast Geoparks Limited	€ 18,747	€ 20,232

**14 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 20th April 2008