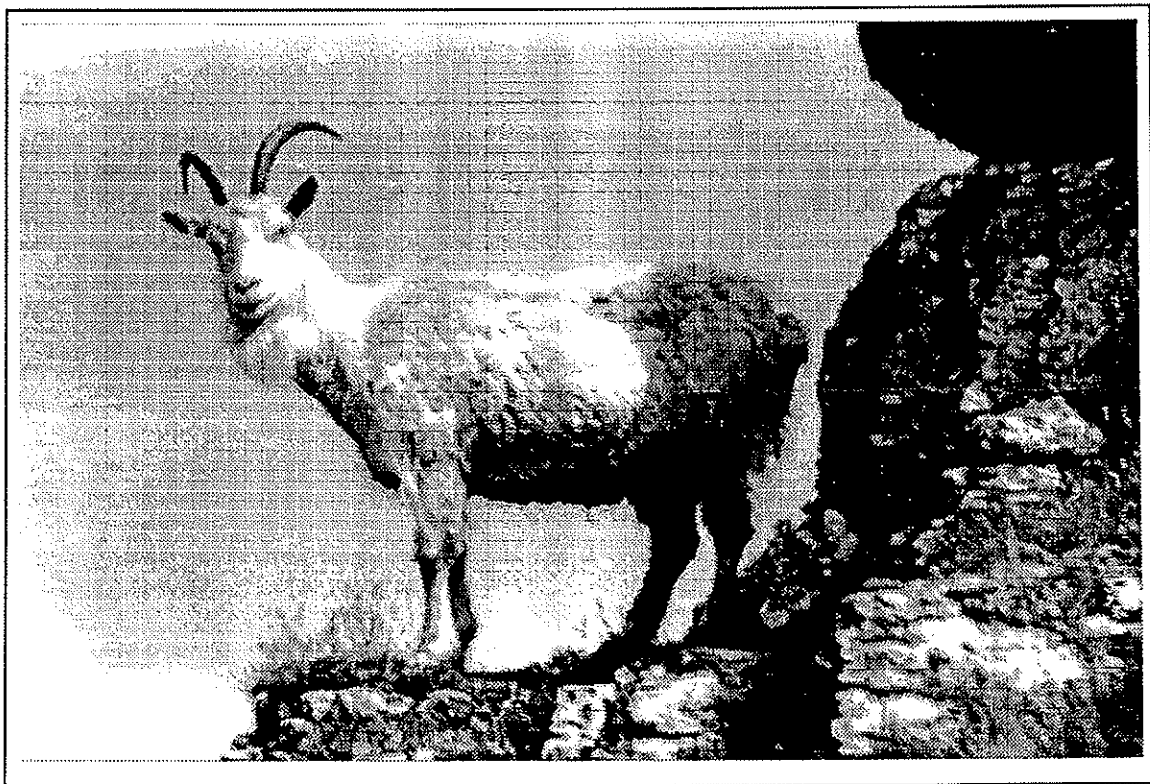


JOURNAL OF THE GREAT ORME EXPLORATION SOCIETY



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1995(1)

News Roundup

NAMHO 1995

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Summer Programme

GOES Safety Underground

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Last year saw the publication in this Journal of what is without doubt the Society's most significant contribution to the local literature to date. Tom Stone's account of his cave archaeology around the Great Orme and Llandudno was long overdue and I am delighted this achievement has been followed by renewed interest by the British Museum and others who have recently returned to the area and have re-examined Tom's artefacts. As I say, I am delighted and Tom is over the moon as with every passing week various items are re-dated and so far all have been found to be significantly older than originally thought. Gone is the radio-carbon date (contaminated?) of 10,000 BP from the Kendrick horse mandible, in its place are dates of up to 40,000 BP for various items in the collection.

At the AGM Tom's wishes for the stewardship of his archaeological collection were

made public. As you know it is at present on display at the Great Orme Mine Centre which Tom is quite happy about. However, being a commercial organisation the possibility at some time in the future of a change in ownership or management has to be considered and contingency plans made to ensure the collection remains intact and in Llandudno. No change to the current exhibition site has been planned or proposed but Tom would like to Society to assume the role and responsibility of stewards or trustees to the collection to keep a weather eye upon over the coming decades and be prepared to act positively to ensure it remains intact and in Llandudno. This is a great responsibility which the Society has accepted.

The last year has been very busy for me. Having submitted my doctoral thesis the university finally got round to examining me Viva in July. Since I had submitted it nearly 12 months beforehand this induced two reactions, what took them so long and strewth, what did I write so long ago! The Viva was straight forward but generated a good of work in correcting the statistics and manuscript which has been done was re-submitted for approval. Although I hope out of the way my time is still not quite my own as I have papers related to thesis to write. Nevertheless, I have some time now to spare on the Society journal which has been sadly neglected in the last year.

As will no doubt have heard, I shall be returning to the North West as I take up a post at the Countess of Chester Hospital in August. Furthermore, I shall also be getting married in July so this summer will very busy indeed. After some settling I hope to be seeing a little more of you on Llandudno.

NAMHO CONFERENCE 1995

The NAMHO conference this year is once again in Shropshire to be hosted predominantly by the Shropshire Caving Club. It will be held at the **Lilleshall National Sports Centre**, Newport, Shropshire, July 14-17: put the date in your diary, its one not to be missed.

Having been to NAHMO in the Isle of Mann and the Forest of Dean I can recommend it as a good weekend and the last meeting hosted by SCC was good value, even if the 'knobs' didn't camp on the field with everyone else. GOES will be contributing to a seminar on ancient mining so your support would be most appreciated.

The programme looks like being full once again with something for everyone. It will include:

- Talks
- Seminars
- Trade stands
- Club displays
- Surface triips
- Underground trips
- Saturday night social

For further details send an A4 SAE to Adrian Pearce, 72 Hopkins Heath, Shawbirch, Telford, Shropshire, TF5 0LZ.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This years AGM was held at the Community Centre, Craig y don, or so some of how knew it in a former guise, Morley Road Primary School. The private business was conducted without delay or dissent and the following were elected as Society officers for the year 1995-6:

Chairman	Nigel Bannerman
Vice-Chairman	David Chapman
Secretary	David Edwards
Treasurer	Steve Lea
PRO	no candidate; duties to be performed by the Chairman
Events Sec	Erik Sellors
Equipment Sec	
Journal Editor	Don Smith

The following award were made:

Tudno Trophy	Tom Stone
Ty Gwyn Award	no candidate
Silver Rock Bolt	no candidate

In the closing phases of the meeting a proposal was made to make Tom Stone a life member in recognition fo the contribution he has made over the years. The proposal was modified and Tom Stone was elected Honorary Life Member and President of the Society.

WILLIAM VIVIAN BIOGRAPHY

William Vivian's biography (DS) has recently been published in the memoirs of British Mining. I am glad to report that it has provoked an early response from a reader in Glasgow who reports that William Vivian was consulting in the Leadhills area in the summer of 1860, about the time he moved to Parys Mountain. No further details have been given but there are two references to follow up, one in British Mining 48 and the other a manuscript reference in the National Record Office (Scotland). This may well explain, at least in part, the reference in Bibliotheca Cornubiensis which indicated he had consulted in Scotland. Its early days yet, more information may yet come in from other readers.

GOES MILITARY VEHICLE WING



'PERCY'

The military vehicle collection held by Society members has grown in the last year. It now includes a Ferret, perhaps shortly to be replaced by, or in addition to, a Saracen, owned by Ian Norman, two Munga jeeps owned by Marcus Elliott and Frank Ennis (with assorted artillery) and a 101 Forward Control Land Rover owned and run, but only to John Sainsbury's, by Don Smith. Stand by NAMHO 1995!

CALL FOR ARTICLES

This edition of the Journal is rather light. I have some material to contribute but nowhere near enough to fill a complete edition as has happened in the past. If there are any budding authors out there please send me your articles, without them I cannot produce the next edition of the Journal.

Your contributions are eagerly awaited, be they on floppy disc, neatly typed on A4 or scribbled on a muddled page from your note pad. Please, send them in.