

NAMHO - Secretary's Newsheet, Spring 2004

We have no Newsletter Editor at the moment, so this Newsheet is to keep members up-to-date with news. It is no substitute for a proper Newsletter – potential Editors please volunteer!

Insurance

Everyone with BCRA insurance received news in the autumn that the underwriters had stopped providing cover. The good news is that insurance will be available again, with a different company. For the latest, and detailed, information see the NAMHO website. Steve Holding has provided a Q&A page and the latest news.

NAMHO Conference

This will be at Coniston, 23-25 July. Information and booking forms on the NAMHO website and CATMHS website – www.catmhs.co.uk

Help wanted - 25th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet, new NAMHO leaflet, new edition of NAMHO Handbook

Rob Vernon is producing a booklet to commemorate 25 years of NAMHO, please send him appropriate memories for inclusion. Ian Thomas is working on a new NAMHO leaflet, please send him suitable images/pictures. Photographs are also needed for the next edition of the NAMHO Handbook – please send these to Rob Vernon.

Geoff Cox

Geoff Cox died on 2 November 2003 after a long illness. He was born, and went to school at Westcliff-on-Sea, served in the RAF and then studied at the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College, London. After graduating in 1953, he worked with Cassiar Asbestos in British Columbia, Cerro de Pasco in Peru and Aerofall Mills in Canada. He then set up as an independent consultant in autogenous

technology. He was highly esteemed by his colleagues for his professional skills and entrepreneurialism.

However, it is for his work as an educator that Geoff is remembered most warmly. When the Careers and Manpower Unit was established, he was asked to be Director of Mineral Manpower and Careers Unit (MIMCU). Geoff was the leading light in introducing many students to mining and encouraging teachers with his exciting courses; but he also laid a good foundation for others, both initiating and developing ideas. He was an inspiration to many and the professional mining world is the richer because of his own work; and, indirectly, because of those he taught and motivated.

Those who knew Geoff only in recent years, praise most highly his work at Ecton. He set up of the Field Studies Centre and the way he inspired others has been acclaimed by many and is remembered with regard and affection. He has endless patience in taking parties underground and explaining the practicalities of mining.

At the recent NAMHO meeting, various aspects of Geoff's work were mentioned - all with admiration and high regard. Indeed the conversation itself mirrored the words of one who had worked with him "Everyone had a good word for him".

Geoff Cox will be much missed; but will be long remembered for his enthusiasm, for his generosity and for all he achieved.

All letters for NAMHO should be sent to the Registered Office, c/o Peak District Mining Museum, The Pavilion, South Parade, Matlock Bath, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3NR. More detailed information and news can be found on the NAMHO website - www.namho.org.