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Mines Rescue Station: We had an Extraordinary General Meeting on the 12th May with regards to the Mines Rescue Station. At the meeting we were told that the training galleries & drill hall areas of the Rescue Station had been verbally offered to NWMAT free of charge as it stands. We have been told privately that it is likely to cost in the region of £100,000 to put it back as it was before the criminal damage was caused by Mr Dickens employees.

A letter was sent by our secretary on behalf of NWMAT to the effect that -
NWMAT thanked them for their verbal offer, though it was the consensus of the members in attendance that the purchase price paid by the new owners reflected the need for them to carry out the reinstatement work themselves, thereby delivering upon the previous owners promises made in Mold Crown Court.

As a charity with limited financial resources, NWMAT are not in a position to take on the project of rebuilding the damaged drill hall & galleries.

NWMAT will be supportive of endeavours by the owners to reinstate this part of the building to more or less its original state & willing to help with grant applications to CADW or Heritage Lottery to see this work completed in a timely fashion.

*NWMAT will support planning applications for the Station which **will guarantee the reinstatement of this part of the building**, thereby protecting an integral part of the North Wales area's coal mining heritage.*

We thanked them for allowing NWMAT directors access to view the building.

Should NWMAT apply for a grant, we would need to commit to opening the Rescue Station to the public for 4 days a week over a period of 5 years. Since we are already committed to taking the mobile education vehicle out to schools and into the community for 5 years, as well as opening the gates of Bersham Colliery to the public, there would just not realistically be enough days in a week for the active members of the group to do it all, although it breaks my heart to say it.

Volunteers: We have had badges, hi vis vests, accident book & a first aid kit (which I sincerely hope that we never need) from Eleri at the museum.

Open Day: Our next open day at Bersham is on **30th June**. You may have worked out that this is always the last Sunday of the month. The first open day in April was great. We had people come from Birmingham, Liverpool, Stoke, Oswestry & the coast. Our feet didn't seem to touch the ground. The one last Sunday wasn't as well attended. Mind you the weather was glorious & I suppose I might be torn myself if a trip to the seaside was on offer.

Exhibition Bus: It seemed a lot bigger this weekend. We worked hard on the vehicle all week to make it look half way tidy for visitors & emptied a lot of clutter out. We now have the awning fitted on the side of the vehicle which will give us still more space. We didn't need it all up on Sunday as the weather was so nice it was needed for shade rather than rain. Speaking of which (weather I mean), if anyone has any experience of solar panels, please get in touch. In fact anyone who is 'hands on', you are very welcome to come along to our work parties. The generator which started immediately the first time, has developed what may be a slight electrical fault. It needs a little TLC...

Tubs: Work has been started on restoring the Llwyneinion tubs that we were given. One has gone to Rhos Community Council who are having it done up themselves.

Membership: People who pay their subs on June 1st may be interested to know that it will soon be here. I am pretty sure that I have sent most people a reminder by now.

AVOW Day at Queens Square: We didn't get any replies about manning a table for this event so unfortunately we didn't have a presence this year.

Trips out: Brenda suggested that we might like a visit to the Anderton Boat Lift. It is a nice day out & even the ones who aren't too good at walking uphill should manage it. With there being 2 levels you can get on a boat on the river by walking downhill & get off on the canal at the top. June is a bit full up with events but July would be good for me. Phone Brenda (number at the end) or email/phone me if you are interested & if there are enough people are perhaps we could hire a minibus.

North Wales Miners Association Trust on Facebook: Although not a big facebook fan I love looking at the Old Photo's of Wrexham group & managed to start a group for NWMAT. Please feel free to have a look & join if you like to. I hope that people will start to put their own comments in about the photo's posted on there.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS THAT YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN:

Llay Miners Gala Day: llay-miners-welfare.co.uk/node/507 Gala Day is on **Saturday 15th June** from 11am until 11.50pm.

Chesterton Mining Gala: This will take place on the **15th/16th June**. www.apedale.co.uk/ near to Newcastle under Lyme. This is a must for anyone wanting to go down the pit. They do a smashing 'Pie & Peas' lunch there in the cafe.

Aber Valley Heritage Group: The new National Memorial is to be unveiled in **October 2013** to mark 100th anniversary of the Senghenydd Disaster. A ceramic paving tile will be created for each colliery detailing Colliery name, date & where possible the number of men killed. The Path will form a link to the Universal Memorial Wall.

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