



Newsletter No. 101

September 2024



Sir Kingsley Dunham FRS FGS FRSE  
1910-2001  
First President of Friends of Killhope

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### Articles wanted !

Please send submissions for the next Newsletter to John at [johnrsheppard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:johnrsheppard@tiscali.co.uk) or by post to Field View House, New Hey Road, Rastrick, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 3PZ.

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## **Happy Birthday!**

Fortieth Anniversary of the Museum

Fortieth Anniversary of The Friends of Killhope

Thanks to those who conceived and then set up The Friends

### **In the Beginning**

**Ian Forbes**

Killhope Museum is forty years old this year. It is thus rather sad that the museum has been closed all season, but we look forward to a restored and bright future.

Way back in 1984 when “Killhope Lead Mining Centre” first opened there was of course no visitor centre, there was no accessible mine, no restored washing floor or working waterwheels and no woodland walks. Presumably there were squirrels hiding in the woods but we hadn’t seen them! There was no mains electricity, although there was a generator, and there was no running water but there was a chemical toilet block attached to the mineshop. Access to the site was free but in the mineshop there were explanatory exhibitions including a working model of the site and a large model of the North Pennines showing places of significance. The charge for visiting the mineshop was 40 pence for adults and 20 pence for children.

Three of us were employed on a rota to interpret everything to our visitors. Killhope was in the Countryside section of the Planning Department of Durham County Council and the head of the Countryside team was a true visionary called Eric Ryan. Eric had great plans and huge ambition for Killhope. As part of his vision he could clearly see that a voluntary group of local people supporting the development of Killhope would be of enormous value. A number of local people had come to a similar conclusion so there was a real meeting of minds and a universal willingness to make the Friends of Killhope a success. At this time Pam and I were running a café in Wearhead and one evening Eric came to the café to address an invited group of potential volunteers. With typical energy and vision Eric gave what one of those present called for ever after his “Martin Luther King I have a dream speech”. And so, with enthusiastic support from Durham County Council, the Friends of Killhope was born.



## **News Items**

### **Progress at the Museum**

As readers know, the Museum has been closed all this summer. The tender for the next round of works went out in the summer and these have now begun. These works will be carried out on the underground scenery, the Mineshop and the Washing Floor.

There is scheduled further restoration to the Jigger House machinery, to take place after the repairs to the roof have been carried out. However, work on the alarming deterioration of this roof cannot begin until there is a final ecology report on the bat situation, specifying what mitigation measures should be adopted around their roosts.

### **Killhope's Sopwith Models**

Readers may recall that Kurt Burmeister, an American geologist and enthusiastic cheerleader for Thomas Sopwith, went to Killhope to photograph the museum's set of Sopwith models so that he could make digital versions (Newsletter no.99 p.5). The results of his hours of painstaking labour can be seen on-line. The superb video demonstrates wonderfully what modern technology is now able to achieve. It can be viewed on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=ki3G9TIW1pc>

### **The Story**

A new visitor attraction, "The Story", described as a gateway to the history of County Durham and its people, opened on 14 June. Located in the recently restored and extended Grade II listed Mount Oswald manor house, the centre combines five important collections, offering access to ancient documents and archaeological finds, records of bravery, and stories of life-changing events. This includes six miles of archives charting 900 years of County Durham's history and the entire Durham Light Infantry (DLI) Collection, which has been reunited with the DLI Archive for the first time since 1998. The interactive display on past industries features the Killhope jigger house on its opening screen.

### **Allenheads Exhibition**

Our display on schools was opened at Allenheads Heritage Centre in June on the same day as the Friends' AGM. Some of us took the opportunity to visit the exhibition. We were pleased to note the appreciative comments of visitors. At least one of those present was himself a former lead-miner. The Centre is open all year round during daylight hours. We can also recommend the café next door!

## **Weardale WordFest**

A free “WordFest”, which runs from 12 to 27 October 2024, will include a talk by Friends' member and past chair, Margaret Manchester. She will be speaking at St Thomas Church Hall, Stanhope at 3 pm on 26 October, about her newest book, set in Tow Law and entitled “The Dress in the Window”. On Sunday afternoon 25 October in the same place at 2.30 pm, our good friends Drama in the Dale, together with a new writing group, North Pennine Playwrights, will be presenting the premiere of a community play about the Allenheads Lead Miners' Strike of 1849. Further details of the WordFest can be found on [weardalewordfest.com](http://weardalewordfest.com). or e-mail [weardalewordfest@gmail.com](mailto:weardalewordfest@gmail.com).

## **North Pennines Stargazing Festival**

The programme has been launched for this year’s celebration of the dark skies of the North Pennines National Landscape and UNESCO Global Geopark. The North Pennines is the darkest mainland National Landscape and is one of the best places in the UK to enjoy stargazing.

The eighth North Pennines Stargazing Festival will run from 25 October to 3 November 2024. The programme consists of activities for more experienced stargazers, alongside events aimed at children and families.

Activities include dark sky astronomy and stargazing nights at Grassholme Observatory, stargazing suppers at High Force and the Lord Crewe Hotel, a star camp weekend, and a guided dark skies run.

On Tuesday 29 October, from 4pm to 8pm, a “stargazing train” will run on the Weardale Railway, with a train journey and light refreshments.

On Tuesday 29 October there will be a special paper lantern workshop at Nenthead Mines. After the workshop, using their lantern, participants will follow in the footsteps of miners past and process through the mine.

The complete programme can be accessed at [www.NorthPenninesStarFest.org](http://www.NorthPenninesStarFest.org)

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## Northern Pennines Lithium

Further to the article in our previous Newsletter (March 2024, p.6) we are told that Northern Lithium Ltd has now successfully completed a 30-day lithium brine pump testing programme. The tests, which were conducted at two litres per second, also provided indications of long-term yields significantly in excess of the Company's own production modelling at commercially viable flow rates of 30 litres per second.

The 30-day continuous testing process, utilising two existing boreholes drilled by Northern Lithium, demonstrated the achievement of a number of key milestones:

- it proved the consistent presence of commercially viable concentrations of lithium, at sustained and significantly high flow rates, throughout the testing period,
- it showed a steady increase in abstracted brine temperature as the tests progressed, providing further evidence that the brines are being recharged from depth, and
- it demonstrated the ability to simultaneously abstract and re-inject lithium brines using separate boreholes, providing a pathway to delivering a viable closed loop lithium brine processing system, maintaining the status quo in the deep groundwater system, and meeting all environmental requirements.

Over the next twelve months Northern Lithium will now proceed with key next steps towards commercialisation, including:

- the installation and trialling of an in-field Direct Lithium Extraction (DLE) demonstration plant,
- the delivery of a new 60-day pump test at significantly higher flow rates,
- the drilling of further production capable and feasibility boreholes in 2025, and
- the preparation and submission of major applications for planning and permitting.

Lithium Managing Director, Nick Pople, said that with a clear path to commercialisation now demonstrated, he remains confident in meeting the company's goal to achieve first commercial production from 2027.

## Käferstaige Fluorspar Mine - Würmtal adit

Deutsche Flusspat GmbH has announced that as from 15 July 2024, underground mine rehabilitation works have commenced in the Würmtal adit, part of the Käferstaige Fluorspar Mine. These measures are a first step towards DFG's goal of re-commissioning the mine, just outside the city of Pforzheim, between Karlsruhe and Stuttgart, in Baden-Württemberg, South-west Germany.

Since the discovery of the fluorspar deposit in 1920, almost two million tons of raw fluorspar have been extracted from the Käfersteige mine. This mine was first operated in 1935 but closed in 1996 when China exerted its dominance in the supply of fluorite. The mine is, however, still considered one of the largest fluorspar deposits in Europe. Fortunately, and with great foresight, when the mine was closed 28 years ago, it was secured in such a way that the still abundant raw material reserves of fluorspar extraction could be resumed at any time. At the beginning of 2022, Deutsche Flusspat GmbH acquired the rights to extract fluorspar from Käfersteige.

Prior to the re-start of the operation, in order to gain safe access, it has been necessary to secure the accessible parts of the mine, which have been left unattended for almost thirty years. The Würmtal adit, which until 1990 acted as the main haulage level for all fluorspar extracted from the mine, is intended in future operations to act as a secondary egress. DFG say that no further use of the adit beyond this is intended. Their rehabilitation places particular emphasis on the existing bat habitat in the area and the firm declares itself committed to environmental conservation and to implementing modern sustainable solutions. To this end all works have been carefully designed and co-ordinated with the relevant authorities and are supervised by an officially recognised bat expert to ensure that the habitat is not impacted in the future.



Work is said to have been progressing well and was expected to be complete by the end of August 2024.

## Carrock Mine

As readers may well know, Carrock Mine is situated in Mungrisdale, Cumbria, north-east of Keswick, to the north of Skiddaw. To be more precise, it is in the steep-sided valley of Grainsgill Beck in the shadow of Skiddaw. Galena was mined here. It's main claim to fame, however, is that it was Lakeland's only wolfram and scheelite mine – the principal ores of tungsten.

Warren Allison gave an on-line talk in January 2024 to members of Cumbria Amenity Trust Mining History Society (CATMHS). Jonathan Lynch wrote in the CATMHS Newsletter about a project at the mine. They, and the editors of their magazine, have kindly allowed us to reproduce their articles.

## History of Carrock Mine

### Warren Allison

In Mine Explorer Volume 4, Dave Bridge wrote a paper on 'The German miners and the question of Bismuth'. He wrote that

*in early 1569 James and William Stable, the London carriers employed by the company, were paid 14s.6d. for the carriage of four hemispheres of Bismuth weighing 147 pounds. These were sent in a cask from Keswick to London and Antwerp. At the same time 1s.1d. was paid for transporting another cask of Bismuth to London.*

*On the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1569 Bernhart Fechtenbach raised six kibbles of unspecified ore from Fechtenbach's Nick in 'Brandlgil' and transported to the smelter at Keswick at a cost of 6d per kibble". It is probable that this was from the Emmerson vein.*

As to the use of Bismuth, it was recorded that by the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century an alloy containing Bismuth and Antimony was being used for casting.

Then in 1853 Mr Emmerson unsuccessfully worked the east-west lead vein but discovered the Emerson Tungsten vein, which played an important part in the First World War. It was reputed that the large waterwheel he used at the Carrock mine was re-erected at Caldbeck Bobbin Mill.

In the early 1900's mining for Tungsten started, though development really took off when a German company took over prior to the First World War and sent the Tungsten back to Germany for their armaments industry, but the company was bankrupt by 1913.



*Carrock Mill in 1916*

In 1913, the mine was re-opened by Anthony Wilson, who was a very well-known mining engineer, having been involved in many ventures including Threlkeld and Thornthwaite Mines near Keswick. Due to the war, it appears the Government injected money into re-building the processing mill, installing hydroelectricity, rock drills, etc.

After the war there was a dramatic drop in metal process and the mine closed in late 1919. Interest was shown over the years following and the dumps were worked for quartz in the 1930's, but no mining was carried out until April 1942 when the mine was taken over by Non- Ferrous Minerals Development Ltd due to a shortage of tungsten, driving what is now known as the Canadian level. They left in May 1943 and were replaced by Spanish Pioneers and Italian POW's, but by November 1943 the mine had closed, although major ore reserves had been proved. Some interest was shown during the Korean war but this came to nothing.

In 1971 World Wide Energy UK Ltd, part of the WECO Development Corporation of Denver, Colorado, took over the mine and built a new modern mill and started development work underground, but by August 1972 the mine was on a care and maintenance basis.



*Photograph- Mike Davies-Shiel*

In 1976, Carrock Fell Mining Company took over the mine and ran it to September 1978 when it was taken over by National Carbonising Ltd, allowing mining to continue until October 1981, when it closed due to a fall in the price of Tungsten, with the loss of thirty five jobs.

The mine was taken over by Minworth in April 1982, but they never started mining and in January 1988 the Lake District National Park Authority gave the company a final order to start to operate or clear the site, and tragically the site was cleared.

During the later period of operation, the LDNPA made the company dispose of the slimes from the mill in the old 1<sup>st</sup> World War workings on Coombe Height and a dam was built on the Harding level to hold them back. This would have serious implications some thirty years later.

The slimes behind the dam were coming through the drainage pipes and were building up behind the entrance which had been pulled in, and eventually this would have sealed the mine, creating a potential environmental disaster if it ever blew out.



*Photo - Minerals of the English Lake District*

The various authorities were alerted to this and in March 2011 after two years of negotiations, CATMHS with the help of the LDNPA got permission to re-open it from Dalmain Estate, Natural England (SSSI), English Heritage (scheduled ancient monument) and the Environment Agency.

This was to be a difficult dig as no machinery was allowed to be used. Risk assessments had to be produced as well as a method statement as to how the entrance was going to be re-opened without causing any pollution. A dam was built underground, and the clean water was piped to the beck. Any water leaking past the dam was caught in a settling pool and, when full, was pumped over one

hundred and twenty yards to the 1972 mill, to be spread. Any water leaking past this pond entered the old pond, built when the mine was working, for final settlement.



*Day One of the Dig*



*This shows the re-opened entrance in August 2011 virtually as it was at closure,. We even replaced the rail in the roof exactly as it was at closure, with English Heritage providing £3000 for the materials*



*Work on the mill completed*

Part of the project involved Natural England commissioning a geological survey of Smiths vein, and in May 2013 the British Geological Survey carried out a survey of Smiths vein, as it had apparently not been done before. At the same time the entrance was being re-opened, the Commoners on the Caldbeck Common joined the Higher-Level Stewardship Scheme and the project helped to secure £20,000 to have conservation work carried out to the remains of the mill, which was done between Dec 2013 and April 2014. This took the site off the “At Risk Register”.

A three-year management agreement was signed between CATMHS and English Heritage to inspect the whole site, to clear the collapsed hoppers on the Harding and to allow work to be carried out indefinitely. This has now extended to an agreement with Dalmain Estate to monitor the site and produce a yearly report. Permission was granted by Natural England to clear the blocked drainage pipes in Brandy Gill to stop the tip being washed away in periods of high rainfall.



In August 2022, the British Geological Survey were taken underground as part of the UK Critical Minerals Strategy at Carrock, as well as to Cobalt mine and Coniston copper mines. Emiar, who was one of the geologists doing a mineralogy project on the Tungsten mine in Cornwall, said she would have rather done it on Carrock, as it was far more interesting. She also helped on the NAMHO 2023 conference trips and presented a lecture.

*Underground with the BGS. Photo by Mark Hatton*

Last October CATMHS hosted Geoptic, Central Alliance and Sheffield University in a unique project in Muon technology as they wanted a mine where the equipment could be tested - see the following article by Jonathan Lynch.

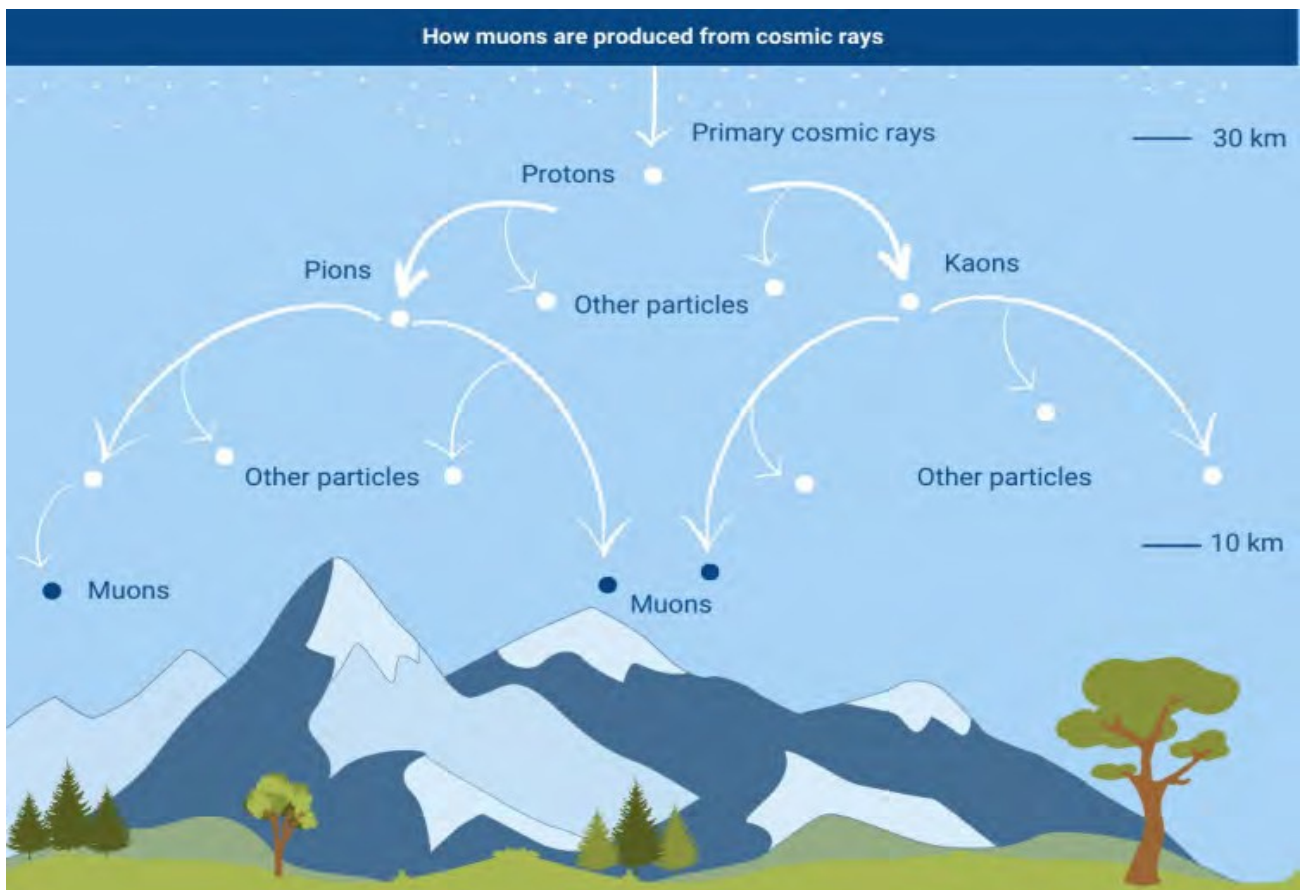
# Muon Tomography experiment at Carrock Mine, October 2023.

Jonathan Lynch

**‘So, what the heck is a Muon?’** Before I enlighten you all, let’s just take a step back so I can fill in the gaps. In my day job I deal with satellite data which can be used for ground engineering purposes. This has led me to occasionally work with a Ground Engineering group called Central Alliance based out of Wakefield, Yorkshire. They, in turn, deal with an outfit of rather brainy rocket scientists from Geoptic, a spinout company from Sheffield, Durham and St Mary’s Universities, officially based out of Hampshire, but generally spread throughout the UK. These rocket scientists, a group of extremely well-educated persons, deal with the aforesaid “Muons”.

I’ve known the guys from Central Alliance professionally for quite a while now and they, in turn, were aware of my involvement with CATMHS and of our underground exploits venturing into historical mine sites. So, they approached me to see if I could possibly assist in helping to set up an underground experiment using the Muon Tomography detector system in one of our Lake District mines.

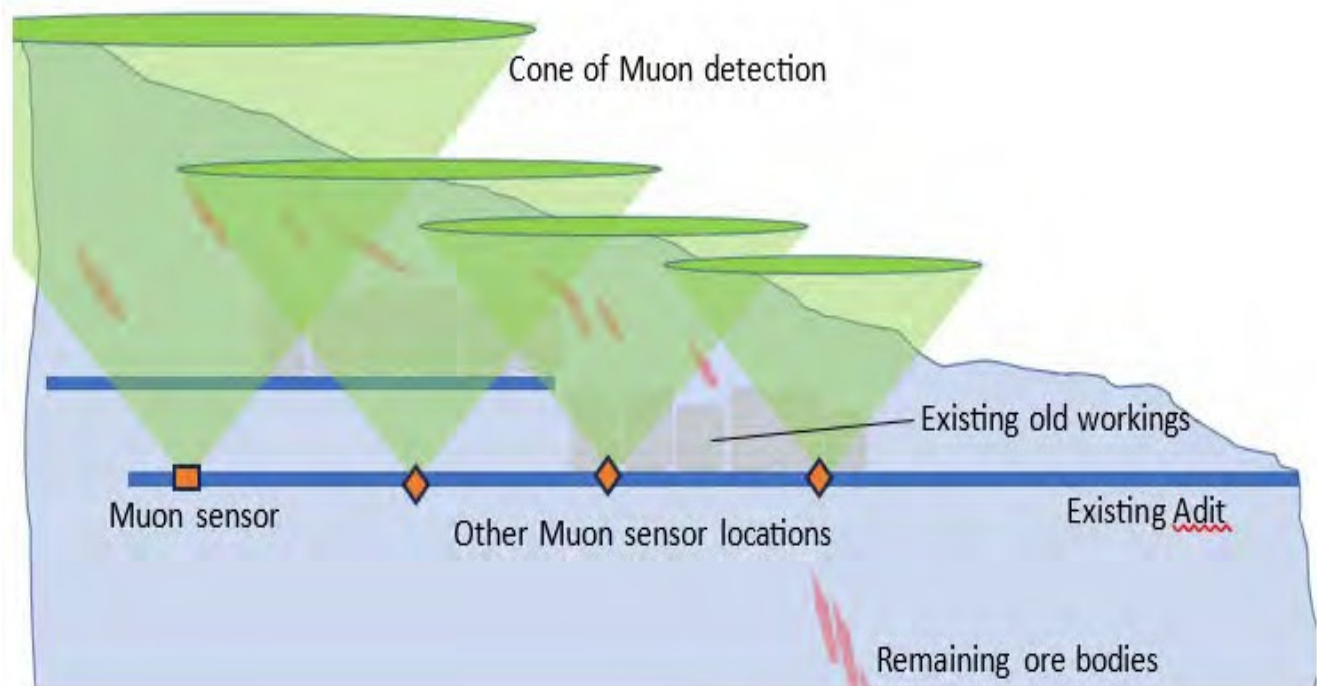
## What are Muons?



**Figure 1.** *How and where Muons originate.*

Simplistically, when you are standing outside drinking your cup of tea, several of these muons are passing through your body down through the soles of your feet, carrying on with their journey into the earth for potentially more than a mile before they cease to exist. Muons are created by cosmic rays colliding with protons in the upper atmosphere, bumping further into other unsuspecting particles on their way through the remaining atmosphere, and low and behold the humble Muon. Muons only exist for 2.2 microseconds before they decay. This is not a long time, but considering they travel at nearly the speed of light they can travel for huge distances. Approximately one muon hits every square centimetre of the Earth every minute at sea level. That translates to a muon passing through something the size of your thumbnail every minute.

## The General Idea



**Figure 2.** *Conceptual model*

A Muon will pass through rock. The speed it travels and time it takes to reach the sensor depends upon the density of the material it passes through. The degree of detection of the density anomalies depends upon

- Depth between the surface and the muon sensor
- The amount of time the sensor spends at each location.
- The degree of density differences between the ore and the country rock.

Note, old workings are detected as voids, partially filled voids or voids filled with water.

## Where do we fit in?

Central Alliance and myself had discussed the possibility and practicality of CATMHS assisting with their potential project and I had initially suggested a

couple of candidate mine sites for the project, based on ease of access from the surface and their relatively secure position, given the requirement for equipment to remain in place overnight. These two suggestions were Carrock and Greenside. Up until this point I had been doing this informally, so it was time that I got a couple of our learned committee members involved to test the waters. A meeting was arranged with Central Alliance, Warren Allison, Mark Hatton and myself, to introduce one another and let the guys explain the basics of the technology and its application. Also, why they felt the need to trial the detection equipment in a UK mine. Up until that point, this particular set up of their technology had not been tested within a UK mine situation and it was felt the need was there both as a testing ground and to be the first actual test below ground within a mine environment in the UK.

Anyway, after a lot of discussion it was felt that Carrock would be the most practical mine from an access point of view, with Warren indicating he could get hold of the gate key meaning that we could drive up the track to the area very close to the mine entrance, so reducing the distance of manhandling the equipment - which in hindsight was a wise choice.

We met in Mosedale early in the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October and headed on up to the mine in convoy. I'd driven down from Scotland and Mark kindly met us, gate key in hand. After a minor bit of rough track negotiation we arrived, parked up and were ready to get on with it.

The first steps were to set up the equipment outside the mine and obtain an open air reading. This appeared to be more like a very slow dentist's X-Ray, with the huge rectangular boxes effectively being the film upon which the Muons were detected. Lee from Geoptic appeared to be suitably satisfied after initially having some concern given the steep sided valley which he thought could interfere with the muon trajectory. However, all appeared to be well with the initial outside results.



*Standing around discussing the price of fish whilst waiting for Mr Muon to show up.*

**And so to work.** The next task after an initial recce within the mine was to haul the large boxes and table into the mine, right up to the far end of Smiths vein (eastern branch), so about a 500m to 600m trip one way. At this point I was certainly glad that we didn't chose to undertake the project at Greenside mine which has more difficult access and a longer adit to negotiate.



*The tabular set up. Each box has a specific place and orientation it needed to be in. This set up was replicated at each underground location.*



*Detectors stacked up ready for deployment at the entrance to the Canadian Cross Cut*

It was about this time that Mark's back problem kicked in, so it was down to the engineering team and myself to grab the end of a single box each and begin the long haul. All in all, it probably took a good hour or two to get everything up to the desired location on Smiths vein and in a suitable place where the table could be erected and the rectangular boxes placed in their desired configuration and orientation, both on and beneath the table. Once this was set up and finally once all the wires were connected it was again back to the waiting game. This time however we were underground, located beneath an estimated 200m of bedrock. Therefore, the Muon travel time and penetration would be less frequent given the overburden. However, because now we had time on our hands this didn't matter. All that mattered was that the equipment was working. We waited until at least one or two Muons had been detected and that the equipment was recording properly, then headed outside for a spot of lunch.



*Setting up*

The general idea was that the team would move the equipment every three or four hours, and at each evening location the set-up would be left overnight, thereby increasing the time exposed to the Muons winding their merry way down through the igneous rock of Carrock Fell for at least 12 to 15 hours, or more in some locations.

Smith's vein was chosen for a few reasons. The access and the relative dryness at this part of the mine being useful, but also because there are nice stopes in the overlying bedrock, plus there are also areas of remaining mineral. These factors may potentially show up on the data once it is processed given the changing densities of surrounding materials.

I had to leave for home after mid-day and left the team to move the equipment one or two further times before they set up on the chosen overnight location. The idea was to progressively move the equipment back towards the mine entrance so making the final move on a last day a relatively simple one.

Both Mark and Warren turned up on the Tuesday and Wednesday to lend a hand and pass on some mining knowledge which I know the team found to be both useful and interesting. I managed to call one of the Central Alliance team members each evening to make sure they had got out safely and had locked up. All in all, I think they enjoyed the location, the experience and the crack.

In addition to the Muon Tomography, one of the team also played about with an expensive Lidar survey tool. Sean from Central Alliance wandered about through the mine (though not all of it) holding out the equipment and gathering data creating a digitised 360-degree view of the mine layout. This data is going to be made available to CATMHS once it is fully processed.

On the final day, the equipment now being closer to the mine entrance was a lot easier to dismantle and carry back. Approximately twelve locations were monitored allowing the overlap of test locations to build a more complete picture of the muon activity whilst capturing the full length of the test area, the mineral vein and the stopes above the adit. After some time for a de-brief and farewell the teams headed off their separate ways.

## **Results**

All in all the team have been delighted with the way things worked out. Despite not yet processing the data as other 'paid' work was more urgent, they are looking forward to seeing the results. The Central Alliance team have promised to provide a summary of findings via a Zoom talk once the data is processed and analysed, and have also offered a hand for any 'building or excavation' meets in the future.

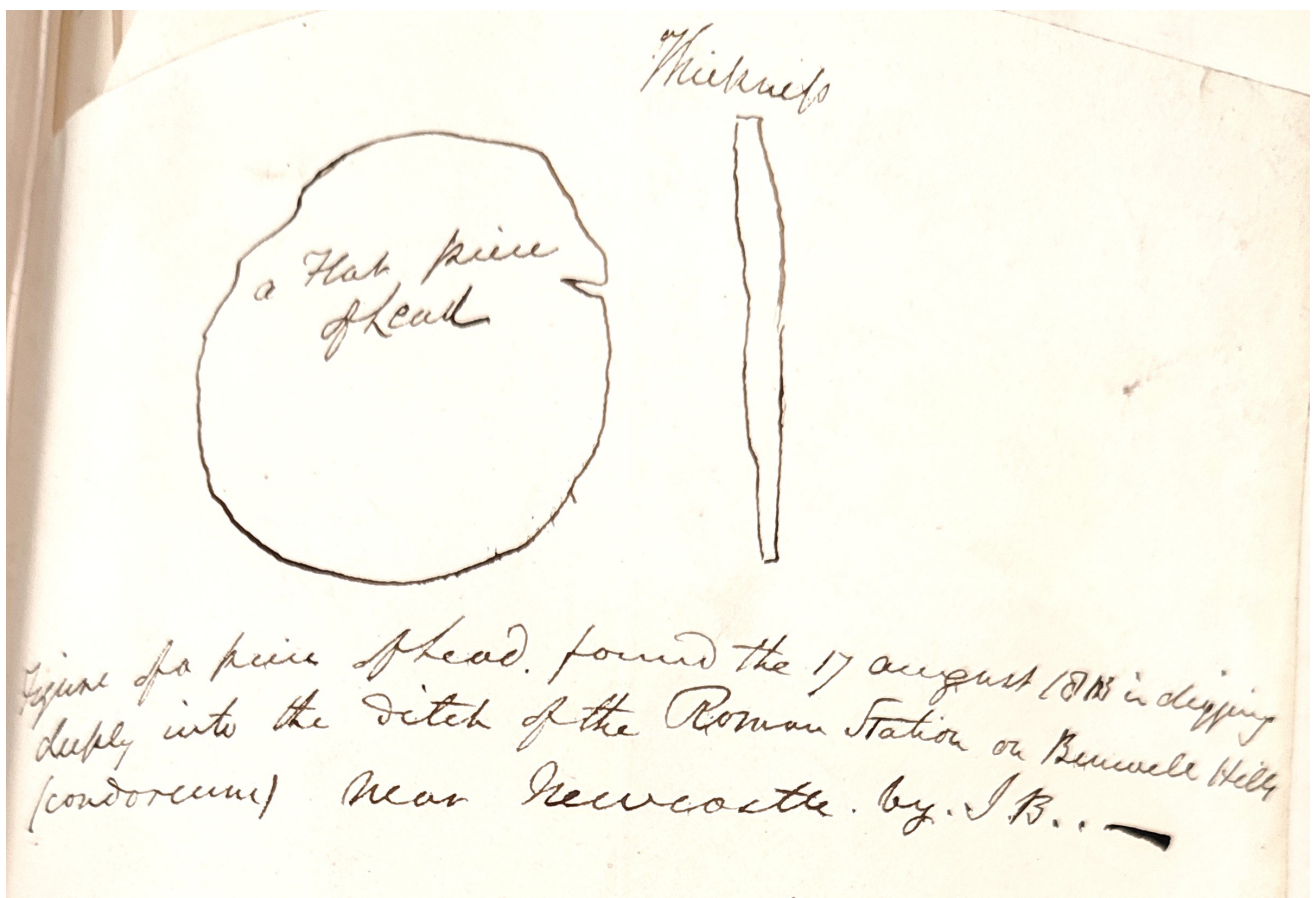
Alongside this particular project, the Central Alliance/Geoptic team have more recently completed a Carbon Capture and Storage study in Norway using a miniaturised version of the Muon detection system which is suitable for use down boreholes. Another study is also currently underway at the Parys Mountain mine site in Anglesey, using the same borehole muon detectors to determine its suitability in deep mineral exploration.

## Roman Lead

### Ian Forbes

John Bell (1783-1864) was a land surveyor and antiquarian, a member of a family of land surveyors in Newcastle. I recently spent an enjoyable afternoon in Newcastle Central Library browsing through a scrapbook Bell had compiled of material about and by Thomas Sopwith, the chief lead mining agent of WB Lead (Local studies reference LO82 Cr0268).

I was intrigued by a letter Bell had sent to Sopwith, telling him that in 1813 he (Bell) had found a disc of lead buried deep in the ditch of the Roman fort of Condercum at Benwell in Newcastle. In his letter Bell drew a sketch of the piece of lead he'd found. Roman lead!



The discovery was made over two hundred years ago, but might Bell's find still be around somewhere? It was a very long shot, but I contacted the Great North Museum (Hancock) to see if they knew anything about the lead disc. Astonishingly the reply came back the next day – yes they did know this disc and it was in their stores!

The photo the museum sent me shows a rather rough circle of lead which is clearly the piece found by John Bell.

Andrew Parkin, keeper of archaeology at the Great North Museum told me: “Lead discs were used by the Romans for a variety of purposes – gaming counters, seals for packages, membership tokens, theatre tickets etc. From the photograph it looks to have a diameter of about 4 cm and could conceivably have been used to seal a jar but there are other possibilities for this object’s function.”

So there we have it – a confirmed piece of Roman lead from our region. The big unanswered question of course is this. Was it imported as part of a consignment of goods, or is it Roman North Pennine lead? Only analysis of the piece might answer that question.



### Amendment to Book Review in previous issue

In his book review of the Quaternary Landscape History of Teesdale (Newsletter no. 100) Roger Bade spoke of a “glacial channel” adjacent to Cauldron Snout. Brian Young has pointed out that this channel is actually the infilled pre-glacial profile of the River Tees and not a glacial meltwater channel. Roger is grateful for Brian's correction.

Brian Young also points out that subsequent investigation has brought into question the identification of the manganese minerals described in the Cave and Karst Science paper which Roger reviewed. A paper entitled *Supergene Manganese Minerals in the North Pennine Orefields* by T.F. Cotterell, B. Young, A. Hopkirk and J.A.C. Lamb (Journal of the Russell Society 2020, pages 101-111) encapsulates these findings. Roger comments that this paper is worthy of a good read in its own right. It can be found in

<https://russellsoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/JRS-23-Website.pdf>

**Friends of Killhope AGM**  
**15<sup>th</sup> June 2024**  
**Held at Ireshopeburn Institute**  
**Chaired by John Sheppard**

**Present**

Sheila Barker, Don Borthwick, Mike Cave, Judith Edgeley, Ian Emerson, Ian Forbes, Pam Forbes, Margaret Graham, Jackie Hamer, Bill Heyes, Jane Sheppard, John Sheppard, Judith Watson

**Apologies**

Maria McCardle, Peter Bowes

**Previous Minutes**

Approved

**Trustee Report**

See attached

Ian Forbes added a thank you to Matthew Hamer for his pro gratis work designing the boards for the exhibition 'What did you do at school today', now on display at The Heritage Centre in Allenheads.

**Treasurer's Report**

See attached

Audited Accounts received and approved

**Committee**

The constitution has recently been scrutinised and approved by the committee.

The committee will continue in its present form

Treasurer – Mike Cave

Secretary – Jackie Hamer

Membership Secretary – Margaret Graham

Newsletter Editor – John Sheppard

Members – Ian Forbes, Pam Forbes, Maria McCardle

Rotating Chair.

**Killhope Update (Sent by Maria McCardle via email)**

Just a short update on Killhope –

The tender for the next round of work has gone out with work beginning on site in July.

These works will be carried out on the underground scenery, the Mineshop and the Washing Floor.

There will be further restoration completed on Jigger House machinery after the repairs to the roof have been carried out.

A more detailed update will be available in the September newsletter.

Added at the meeting -

The archives will eventually be housed at Sevenhills where they should be more accessible, but by appointment only.

Longer term the committee would like the archives to be stored at The Story.

Friends of Killhope have been offered a 'behind the scenes' tour at The Story.

There is a general agreement that members would like to do this.

Ian Forbes and Margaret Graham are to pursue the above two items

### **AOB**

Access to the site during inclement weather was queried. A pipe bridge is on the 'wish list'.

### **Next AGM**

Weekend of Father's Day 2025, hopefully at Killhope.

*Note—the above minutes have been prepared by our Secretary and are presented now for information, to be approved by the AGM 2025.*

*Trustee and Treasurer's Reports are on following pages.*



*Picture by*

*Louise  
Robinson*

## Trustee Report, 2023-24

Another busy year for the Friends of Killhope committee

Unfortunately Bill Heyes resigned from the committee for personal reasons. We would like to thank him for all the hard work that he did for the Friends, in particular helping with our new website. He was instrumental in its development and we are very grateful that he gave us his time and expertise. Thank you Bill.

The newsletters have been great this year, thanks to the hard work and commitment of John Sheppard, our newsletter editor. We have had some interesting and informative articles. We are grateful to all the contributors to the newsletter this year and we encourage new offers of articles. Fresh ideas are always welcome.

Our treasurer, Mike Cave, has worked tirelessly to secure back-dated Gift Aid. The committee would like to thank him for this work. He is doing a splendid job and we are grateful for his willingness to persist in these matters.

Our exhibition, which was planned for last year, is now being displayed at Allenheads Trust Heritage Centre. It is formally open today so please go along and have a look. Ian Forbes has done a great job, it is exciting to see it in place. It is entitled 'What did you do at school today?' and tells the story of the children of the lead miners and their many accomplishments. It is well worth a visit.

Our archives are ready to move to Sevenhills at Spennymoor but arranging their transportation is proving to be a little challenging. Hopefully it will happen this year ready for Killhope to reopen next season.

We are presently collaborating with Rick Smith on a publication about fluorspar mining. We hope to display the photographs at St John's Chapel on 12<sup>th</sup> October, followed by Allenheads at a later date. The exhibition is aimed at visitors and locals alike. The intention is to stimulate interest, learn more about individuals on the photographs and maybe discover more pictures for the publication. Pencil it into your diaries.

Finally, as you will know, Killhope Museum is closed this season to allow major refurbishment to take place in many areas of the site. These are exciting times for Killhope and we hope the work is swift and without problems to allow for a grand opening in 2025.

We look forward to another busy year.

**\*\* The above report was received and approved at the Friends' AGM \*\***

## **Treasurer's Report, Financial Year 2023 to 2024**

This report and the three accompanying tables, prepared by our Honorary Treasurer, Mike Cave, were approved by general acclaim at the 2024 AGM.

### **Friends of Killhope**

#### **Treasurer's Report Financial Year 2023 to 24**

##### **Income**

Fifteen thousand pounds is held on 40 day notice with United Trust Bank and is now earning 4.1% interest.

We were able to claim Gift Aid on the last four years subscriptions, the maximum back dating allowed. Gift Aid will now be claimed just after the end of each financial year.

##### **Expenditure**

The only major expenditure was £615 for display boards which are now in use at Allenheads. The cost of the Boards has been allocated to Assets.

Durham have just invoiced £155.52 for postage and printing of the Newsletter.

##### **Assets**

The Assets have been revalued to remove the value of those items which are no longer useable such as the stairlift and the laptop. The mineral collection has been valued at cost, estimated where this is not available. Other items such as the cabinets and silverware were also valued at cost. Overall there was a reduction of over six thousand in the Assets largely because of the deletion of the stairlift which is no longer available for use.

##### **Audit**

The accounts have been audited by a certified accountant on a pro bono basis.

**Friends of Killhope**  
**Year ended 31st March 2024**  
**Profit and Loss Accounts**

<u>Income</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Bank Interest	229	32
Grants and Donations	36	66
Other Income		
Sale of Books	124	41
Subs Received	1,087	1,203
Gift Aid	1,113	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,589</b>	<b>1,341</b>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Insurance	96	96
Website	60	820
Bank Charges	65	69
Postage and Delivery	5	195
Printing and Reproduction	615	152
Professional Fees	0	234
Projects and Events	0	14
Subscriptions	20	20
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>1,601</b>
<b>Surplus / Deficit of Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>1,727</b>	<b>(259)</b>

I have examined these accounts and believe them to be a true and fair records, based on the information provided.

Jian Brewer

ACCA : 2473154

<b>Friends Of Killhope Accounts</b>			
<b>Year Ending</b>	<b>Mar-23</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Current Account</b>			
Opening	£ 4,497.01	£ 17,053.35	
Closing	£ 17,053.35	£ 3,780.39	
Increase	£ 12,556.34		
Income	£ 1,341.34	£ 2,589.00	£ 1,247.66
Transfer	-£ 12,847.67	£ 15,000.00	
Expenditure	£ 1,600.68	£ 861.96	-£ 738.72
Change	-£ 259.34	<b>£ 1,727.04</b>	£ 1,986.38
<b>Deposit</b>			
Opening	£ 12,815.68	£ -	
Interest	£ 31.99		
TRF +/- Current	-£ 12,847.67	£ 15,000.00	
Closing	£ -	£ 15,000.00	
<b>CASH at BANK</b>	£ 17,053.35	£ 18,780.39	
<b>Change</b>		<b>£ 1,727.04</b>	
<b>Income</b>			
Interest	£ 31.99	£ 229.23	£ 197.24
Donations	£ 66.00	£ 36.00	-£ 30.00
Gift Aid	£ -	£ 1,112.68	£ 1,112.68
Book sale	£ 40.85	£ 123.60	£ 82.75
Subs	£ 1,202.50	£ 1,087.49	-£ 115.01
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 1,341.34</b>	<b>£ 2,589.00</b>	£ 1,247.66
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Insurance	£ 96.00	£ 96.00	£ -
Website	£ 820.39	£ 60.00	-£ 760.39
Bank Charges	£ 69.20	£ 65.20	-£ 4.00
Postage	£ 194.70	£ 5.32	-£ 189.38
Printing	£ 152.00	£ 615.44	£ 463.44
Fees	£ 234.00	£ -	-£ 234.00
Events	£ -	£ -	£ -
Subs	£ 20.00	£ 20.00	£ -
Zoom	£ 14.39	£ -	-£ 14.39
TFR		£ 15,000.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£ 1,600.68</b>	<b>£ 861.96</b>	
<b>Change</b>	-£ 259.34	<b>£ 1,727.04</b>	£ 1,986.38

**FoK Assets declared March 2023**

<b>Assets(Net Cost)</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023 Comments</b>
Spar Boxes	£ 11,700	
Book Stock	£ 1,400	
Laptop	£ 1,759	write off
Mineral Display	£ 27,000	
Stairlift	£ 12,000	No longer in use, write off.
Miscellaneous	£ 328	details? Write off?
Deposit on Mineral Collection	£ 5,000	
Cabinets	£ 2,600	
Hudgill Silver Cake Basket	£ 6,050	
Silver Snuffer Tray	£ 2,000	Ian looking after
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 69,836</b>	

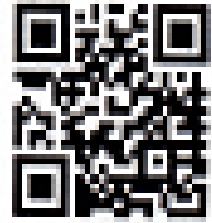
**DRAFT Assets for 2024 accounts**

<b>Assets</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024 Comments</b>	<b>Location</b>
Egglestone Spar box	£ 6,000	purchase price	Killhope Museum
Adamson Spar box	£ 6,000	purchase price	Beamish storage
Pyramid spar	£ 1,000	Gifted nominal valuation	Killhope Museum
Bird and Man	£ 1,000	Gifted nominal valuation	Killhope Museum
Greenbank Minerals	£ 13,270	2021 valuation	Killhope Museum
Balance of Mineral Collection	£ 13,730	Based on historical value	Killhope Museum
Cabinets	£ 12,500	Purchase cost	Killhope Museum
Crushing Rollers	£ 100	Nominal value	Killhope Museum
Carbide Lamp	£ 100	Nominal value	Killhope Museum
Dunham Geological Hammer	£ 100	Nominal value	Killhope Museum
Small water wheel	£ 100	Nominal value	Killhope Museum
Hudgill Silver Cake Basket	£ 6,050	Purchase cost	Killhope Museum
Silver Snuffer Tray	£ 2,000	Purchase cost	FoK custody
Archive	£ 1,000	Nominal valuation	Killhope Museum
Book Stock	£ 943	Selling price less 25% commission	FoK custody
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 63,893</b>		

## Friends on the Internet and Social Media

Website: [www.friendsofkillhope.org](http://www.friendsofkillhope.org)

- \* See our Calendar of Events
- \* View our Newsletters in colour
- \* Search the Friends' archive index online



The membership pass word is: **parklevel**

Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsofKillhope](http://www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsofKillhope)

Tweet us on Twitter: [@FriendsKillhope](https://twitter.com/FriendsKillhope)

See us on Pinterest: [www.pinterest.com/manchester1140/friends-of-killhope/](http://www.pinterest.com/manchester1140/friends-of-killhope/)

And on Instagram: [Instagram.com/friendsofkillhope](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofkillhope)

### Committee Contacts

Members are advised that their main contacts are:

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Margaret Graham—Membership Secretary

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## Application for Membership of Friends of Killhope

Name.....  
Address.....  
Post Code.....

Enclosed cheque or standing order for (delete inapplicable rates)

Family @ £18; Senior (over 60) @ £9; Individual @ £12; Student @ £9

Cheques to be made payable to Friends of Killhope and sent with this form to the Membership Secretary -

Margaret Graham, Wingrove House, Wingrove, Rowlands Gill, NE39 1DT

Payment can also be made quickly and easily via bank transfer to Friends of Killhope bank account 1103 1015 sort code 40-43-06 giving your surname in the reference and sending an e-mail to [dmg@wingrovehouse.plus.com](mailto:dmg@wingrovehouse.plus.com) to confirm the transaction

Membership fees are renewable on 1 January each year

Gift Aid The Gift Aid scheme is very flexible and covers any donation or subscription at any time. It will not cost you any extra and it does not commit you to making any future payments. All it takes, for the Inland Revenue to return to us 28p for every pound you give, is your signature on a form such as that below. The 28p comes from tax you have already paid and can continue to be paid as long as you continue to pay tax.

Gift Aid Declaration – Please reclaim my tax. I want Friends of Killhope to treat all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid Donations. I will inform you if I cease to pay tax.

Signature.....Date.....

Full Name.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

### Standing Order Mandate

To.....bank plc

Address.....

Post Code.....

Please pay HSBC Bank plc, 1 Saddler Street, Durham DH1 3NR

for credit of Friends of Killhope account number 1103 1015

The sum of £..... (amount in words).....

Now and on 1 January thereafter, and debit my account accordingly

Signature..... Account number.....

Date.....



**THE · FRIENDS · OF**  
**K I L L H O P E**

Registered Charity No 1173789