

# AUSTRALIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION INC.

## NEWSLETTER No. 1 - May 1995

### Issue 1

#### Editorial

This is our first attempt to put together information for the benefit of our members. The hope is that this will help stimulate greater interest in the organisation and its objectives. As a young organisation the format of this newsletter will no doubt appear basic and amateurish to those who pick it up but hopefully as our numbers swell, funds increase and new talent appears then the presentation will improve. In regard to content, as a newsletter it is correspondence from members and other mining organisations that that will help fill the pages, so, if you have an item to contribute, perhaps a query or something on mining that you desperately want to impart to other members, then we will be delighted to publish same.

In the meanwhile our first function is almost upon us and we hope to meet with a number of you at the AHA Conference to be held at James Cook University, Townsville, at the beginning of July. That will also be the occasion of our first Annual General Meeting which will give the membership an opportunity to express their views on the future direction of the Association. Incidentally, for those of you who cannot attend, any written submissions will be welcome.

In the meanwhile we hope that the information contained in this newsletter will be of some interest to members.

#### Logo

Announcing our first competition - the prize, a worthy mention in the columns of the newsletter! Are you of artistic bent? Have you any suggestions for a logo for the Association? If so please send us your design for consideration. Hopefully we'll be able to include this in the heading of our next correspondence. So get those minds and artistic talents working.

#### Conferences/Mining Tours/Publications

International Conference - "Mining and Mineral Policy Issues in Asia-Pacific - Prospects for the 21st Century" will be held in Canberra from 1st to 3rd November, 1995. Papers are welcomed and abstracts not exceeding 300 words should be submitted by the end of July. For further information contact : Ms Glenda Johnson, Mining Conference Administrator, Division of Pacific and Asian History, Research School of Pacific and

Asian History, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200. tel. (06)2492316, Fax (06) 2495525.

Western Australian Archive - Member Keith Quartermaine informs us that a new archive will soon be established at Kalgoorlie. This, of course, has been the centre of the State's mining activity over the past 100 years or so any archive in this area should provide researchers with a mountain of information. Incorporated in the Archive will be the records of the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society which among other items contains a photo collection of over 45,000 copies and original negatives. Keith can be contacted at 4 Graeme Street, Kalgoorlie 6430. tel. (090) 211080.

Australian Prospectors & Miners Hall of Fame - The research committee of the organisation wishes to gather information on the history of mining and prospecting in Australia. They would like to receive details of your research topics in mining and any books or publications you may have written on the subject. To help them build up their research database contact : Norma Latchford, Research Sub-Committee, Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame, PBKB 2001, Kalgoorlie, WA 6430.

Burra Burra Mines 150th Birthday - sorry for the late notice but there is a competition being run for research on topics focussed on the Burra area (not necessarily mining) with a closing date of 30th June, 1995. All entries will be judged and prize-money of \$1,000 will be offered to the best entry. Entries should be of a minimum 3,000 and a maximum 10,000 words. One catch (or I would have entered!), and that is, all entrants must be residents of South Australia. Another catch, registration of interest was supposed to be in by 28th February (possibly the officials might be prepared to waive this stipulation?). For further information contact : The Librarian, Burra Community Library, 7 Bridge Terrace, Burra 5417, S.A. tel. (088) 922038.

The National Trust of Queensland - offer a special tour that will appeal to members. It takes in North Queensland and the tour is entitled "Miners and Their Towns". The tour lasts from 19 August to 3 September, 1995, and the price is \$2,495 (with a single supplement of \$320) which includes all accommodation, transport, meals and admissions to sites, etc. Payment has to be made by 1st July. For further details contact : Marty Hardeman, Gaia Discovery Expeditions Pty. Ltd., University of Queensland, PO Box 3150, Rockhampton Shopping Fair, Rockhampton, Qld 4701. Tel, (079)362138, Fax (079)309827.

International Mining History - Last year a number of our members attended the Third International Mining History Conference, at the Colorado School of Mines where a marvellous time was had by all. This was the third very successful International Conference, the first being held at Melbourne University in 1984 and the second at the Mining Museum at Bochum, Germany in 1989. The latest good news is that it appears from correspondence received from Adolf Ibanez at Santiago, that the fourth conference will be held in Chile in 1998. You will be kept posted on developments but in the meantime save up your dollars, prepare papers, practice your Spanish, take out your sombrero and get ready for another wonderful experience.

World-Wide Data Base - Following discussion at the Colorado conference, Roger Burt of Exeter University, U.K., has set up a World Wide Web containing names and addresses of delegates to that conference and other mining historians. These can be accessed by using an Internet browser. To find, use : URL=<http://www.ex.ac.uk/> That will take you to the University of Exeter server. Then use "Faculty Information" to find "Economic and Social History" and look for files "Mining History Network". Roger intends to build up information on mining history, beginning with a detailed bibliography on material published during recent years, and also hopes to get a bulletin board going which can be used to facilitate communication between researchers. Anyone wishing to be placed on the address list (E Mail addresses as well as postal can be given) or who wish to contribute material to the Web can contact Roger at the Faculty of Social Studies, University of Exeter, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter, UK EX4 4RJ, U.K. or on E. Mail - R.Burt@EX.ac.uk

Further to Roger's request for information I will pass on all addresses of our members. However, **if you object** to your name being submitted then please contact me before July and I will see that your details are removed from our membership list.

Mining History Booklists - For lists of recent and out of print mining publications contact : The Book Lode, Sylvia Pettem, 721 Francis Street, Longmont, Colorado 80501-4210, USA. Tel & Fax - (303) 6822828.

Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders of Western Australia - The attached article by Scott Wilson which might be of interest to some of our members, has been submitted by APLA Journal editor Bob Sheppard. Bob would be interested in receiving any information on the organisation which members might have come across during their research.

Publication - A recent publication in German might be of interest to anyone researching South Australian Mining History. It has been written by Renate Vollmer and is related to the movement of and activities of miners who were forced out of Germany and who settled in South Australia in the 19th century. The price is 89DM. Publication details are as follows :

Renate Vollmer, *Auswanderungspolitik und soziale Frage im 19. Jahrhundert*, published by, Peter Lang GmbH, Euroopaischer Verlag der Wissenschaften, Abteilung WB, Postfach 94 02 25, D-604460 Frankfurt/M, Germany.

Publicity - Any chance you have to publicise the Association please do so. Publicising through sending flyers via journals has been found to be too expensive for our financial resources. We are currently being publicised in a small advert contained in *Campus Review* and other likely (free) sources are being investigated. But much of our recruitment to date has been through word of mouth and as stated we would encourage you to continue in this vein. By the response to date, and considering the limited publicity, we are obviously filling a long unfilled niche and it would be nice if all those out there interested in mining history, preservation, etc. could get to know of our existence. That

interest, incidentally, is reflected in the number of mining history papers received for the Townsville Conference - at the last count, fourteen.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The first AGM of the Australian Mining History Association Inc. will be held at Campus House, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland on Monday 3rd July. The meeting commences at 6.30 pm. Diane Menghetti has done the right thing by organising a free barbecue immediately after the meeting.

As per the Constitution , item 11.3, any motions must be forwarded to reach the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the meeting.

Members are welcome to write in to the Secretary to express their interest in standing for any position on the Executive Committee. Note : **only paid up members** may nominate or be nominated.

Current Executive Committee members are :

Secretary/Treasurer : Mr. Mel Davies.

Committee members :

**Qld** Professor Ket Kennedy, Dr. Ruth Kerr, Dr. Diane Menghetti.

**NT** Assoc. Prof. David Carment, Mr. Peter Forrest.

**SA** Mr. Bernard O'Neil.

**Vic** Dr. Charles Fahey

**NSW** Dr. Don Dinsdag

**WA** Dr. Patrick Bertola, Dr. Charles Fox, Mr. Richard Hartley, Dr. Lenore Layman.

Looking forward to meeting you at the July Conference, or hearing from you,

Mel Davies, Secretary, AMHA,

Department of Economics, UWA, Nedlands 6009, WA.

tel. (09) 295-3265. Fax - (09) 380-1016. - Email: mdavies@ecel.uwa.edu.au

## issue2

# AUSTRALIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION INC.

## NEWSLETTER No. 2 - SEPTEMBER 1995

Issue 2

### **Editorial**

In the last newsletter we announced the Annual General Meeting and seminar session of the AMHA which was to be held in conjunction with the Australian History Association Conference at James Cook University. Thanks to the arrangements made by the department of Politics and History, and in particular through the efforts of Kett Kennedy and Diane Menghetti, the event proved highly successful. During the conference, 14 excellent papers were presented by mining history participants which were enthusiastically received by the audience. The friendly atmosphere among participants and the convivial social functions persuaded all present that we would need to organise another similar event in 1996. Towards that goal, the newly formed committee will be spending a great deal of its planning efforts in the next few months. That does not, of course, preclude other members of the Association from having a say, and we would welcome any suggestions regarding venues, timing, format, as well as ideas on the financing of such an event.

What the occasion also indicated was that the future of the Association, given the present enthusiasm and momentum, can be assured. However, we still need to broadcast our existence to as wide an audience as possible, so as to raise our profile. With that in mind, we would ask that all current members spread the good word among audiences or individual contacts whom they know have an interest in mining history, mining preservation, or other related areas within the AMHA's sphere of interest.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The general consensus among those present was that we should not be too ambitious with our programme but should continue to build up our profile and activities quietly for another year. As mentioned in the editorial, it was agreed that we should work towards another conference in 1996, possibly in alliance with another organisation, or preferably on our own. With those options in view, one of our members has agreed to try to raise interest among the mining fraternity for the supply of the necessary funds.

It was also agreed that fees should be set at the current rate, viz., \$5 unwaged, \$20 waged, and \$50 for Institutions, with the same charges being applicable for overseas members.

However, overseas members might like to add on the cost to the Association of \$5 Aust. to cover bank charges for the clearance of personal cheques (drafts made out in Australian dollars will cost much more to the individual concerned).

The interesting variety of topics discussed at the seminar sessions can be judged from the following titles (in presentation order):

Mel Davies (Univ. of WA), "The Cornish Myth - miners and the 'individualistic thesis' : collective action at the Burra Burra mines 1848-49";

Diane Menghetti (James Cook Univ), "Skilling and Controlling in coal mines";

Doug Hunt (James Cook Univ), "The 1995 Mount Isa Lock-out";

Patricia Sumerling (Flinders Univ), "Walter Watson Hughes and the Moonta and Wallaroo Mines, South Australia";

Kett Kennedy (James Cook University), "Herbert Hoover and Russian Mining : A Reappraisal";

Patrick Bertola (Curtin Univ), "Concentration and centralisation of capital in Kalgoorlie's gold mining industry after World War Two";

Charles Fox (Univ of WA), "Explaining Mt. Lyell's welfare policy";

Lenore Layman (Murdoch), "Dust and Disease : A case study of asbestos-related diseases in Western Australia";

Ruth Kerr (Ind, Qld), "Chillagoe 1897-1901 : the mix of speculative predictions and moral responsibilities";

David Branagan (Southern University) "Joseph Campbell MA : Mining Cleric";

David Carment (Northern Terr Univ), "Writing the mining history of Australia's Northern Territory : past themes, current research and future prospects";

Peter Bell (Ind. SA), "The strange tale of the Worthing Mine";

Jan Wegner (James Cook Univ), "Language and Mining Terminology : the view from North Queensland";

Alan Smith (James Cook Univ), "Tunnel Construction, Cairns-Kurunda railway 1886-1892."

The following members agreed (under no duress!) to take office :

President, Patrick Bertola (WA);

Secretary, Mel Davies (WA);

Treasurer, Lenore Layman (WA).

Committee Members - Ruth Kerr (Qld), Diane Menghetti (Qld), Diane Wegner (Qld), Ross Mainwaring (NSW), David Carment (NT), Peter Forrest (NT),

Peter Bell (SA), Bernie O'Neil (SA), Charlie Fox (WA).

As you will note, we have no representatives from Victoria or Tasmania, and only one from New South Wales. As we would like to have at least two representatives from each State, nominations from any volunteers in those areas prepared to fill the vacant positions would be welcome.

### **Logo**

The competition is still wide open. Where's all the artistic talent gone and who can come up with a suitable insignia for our letterhead? If you're out there, please contact me at the address provided in this newsletter. Should I record that many years ago I became the first European to see the Aboriginal flag which brought Harold Thomas of Adelaide, fame if not fortune. Help me to add to that event by being able to tell my grandchildren that I was also the first person to see the logo of the *Australian Mining History Association*! So come on all you latent Picasso's, get to work and come up with the appropriate goods. But no designs incorporating pick wielding kangaroos, please !

### **Information Wanted**

Ian Phimister whom some of our members will remember from international conferences and publications on South African gold mining, asks for any information on the activities on Edmund Davis. It is known that Davis was involved in proceedings at Mt. Lyell and also in Western Australia. Ian would appreciate any information and can be contacted at : Department of History, University of Capetown, Beattie Building, 5 University Avenue, Rondebosch 7700, S. Africa. Fax No. (021)6504038. E.mail: IRP@Beattie.uct.ac.za

Lyndon Megarrity, who is researchin his M.A. thesis on British Investment in North Queensland Gold Mining, circa 1886 - 1905, would be grateful for any information on the subject. He is particularly interested in the promotion and flotation of mines in London and other regional cities in the U.K. Cpntact at : 15 Cypress Drive, Armadale, Qld 4814.

### **Future Conferences**

**Australia** : 1 - 3 November, 1995

At the Australian National University, Canberra, Wednesday 1st to Friday 3rd November, 1995, "Mining and Mineral Resource Policy Issues in Asia-Pacific : Prospects for the 21st Century". Themes : 'The Changing Global Climate for the Mineral Industry of the Asia-Pacific'; 'Government and Mineral Resources'; 'Community and Mineral Resources'; 'Mineral Resource Development and Environment'; 'Labour in the Mineral Industry'. There will also be two workshops, entitled, 'Country Studies of Labour Relations' and 'Company-Community Relations around Mineral Resource Development Project Sites'. Senator Gareth Evans, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade will open the affair. For application forms and details of concessionary air-fares, contact, Expert Conferences, PO Box 150, Lyneham, ACT 2602. Tel. 06-2576970, or Fax 06-2574038.

### **Canada** - Rossland Conference, 7-9 June 1996

Just received a friendly note for your 1996 diary from one of our Canadian colleagues, Jeremy Mouat which I present *verbatim*., As well as conference detailsr Jeremy also includes some information on a book that he has recently finished which might be of interest to some of our members.

"Dear Australian colleagues,

I am a member of the programme committee for the 1996 meeting of the Mining History Association, which will be held in westernCanada--in Rossland B.C.--from 7 to 9 June 1996. I am writing to encourage you all to consider attending, either as contributors or simply out of interest. As those of you who attended the 1994 meeting in Golden Colorado will know, the Mining History Association is a largely US-based group, formed after the 1989 International Mining History Congress in Bochum. The MHA's first conference took place in 1991 and last year began publishing an annual collection of papers. Up until this point, the summer conferences have taken place in mining communities in the American West. The Rossland meeting is the first Canadian conference, and should be quite entertaining.

Rossland is in the Kootenays, just west of the Rocky Mountains. It's an area rich in mining history, and a beautiful place in which to spend some time. (The Steve Martin film, ``Roxanne"--a modern version of Cyrano de Bergerac--was filmed in Nelson, in the Kootenays.) Although the conference is not a clever plot on my part to boost book sales, I confess that I have just written a monograph on the area's mining history: "Roaring Days: Rossland's mines and the history of British Columbia," published this year by UBC Press in Vancouver. And yes, the title's Lawnesque reference is deliberate & acknowledged!

In any event, I do hope that you'll consider attending. Feel free to contact me, should you have any questions about the conference. I can be reached by telephone at 403 675-6213, but it is likely more economical to contact me either by email at : [jeremym@cs.athabascau.ca](mailto:jeremym@cs.athabascau.ca) or by FAX at 403 675-6186. Formal proposals for either papers or whole sessions should go to Jay Fell; his address is : Dept. of History, University of Colorado at Denver, Campus Box 182, P.O. Box 173364, Denver, Co. 80217-3364, U.S.A.



**Chile** : 18 - 24 October, 1998

Good news just received announcing the 4th International Mining History Conference will be organised by 'Centor de Estudios Abste Molina,' Santiago between 18th & 24th October, 1998. The event will take place in the city of **Copiapo** and will be run with the cooperation of 'Universidad de Atacama'. The University was formally the Copiapo Mining School which was founded in 1857.

Copiapo is located in the mid-north of Chile and has a mining heritage which dates back to hispanic times. The programme will be divided into three major areas : 1) Company history; b) Mining Rights history; c) History of Private and Government Institutions related to Mining.

We shall keep you posted on developments but if you personally wish to seek further details please contact Patricia Anguita and Adolfo Ibañez, Centro de Estudios Abate Molina, Casilla 78 Correo 55, Santiago, Chile. Tel. 2360583, Fax 2361463.

**Russia** : 16 - 18 August, 1996

There is a call for papers for presentation at the international scientific conference, under the title "Russia and West Europe : Interaction of Industrial Cultures, 1700 - 1950". This will be held at Nizhny Tagil in the Urals, between 16th - 18th August, 1996. Those who wish may also attend the pre-conference tour between 8th and 15th August. For further information, contact Dr. Eugene V. Logunov, Executive Director, Institute of History of Material Culture, P.O. Box 65, Ekaterinburg, B-109, Russia 620109. Tel. (3432) 297874; Fax (3432) 297731.

### **Regional Events & Work in Progress**

The following welcome information is supplied by one of our Northern Territory representatives, David Carment. Thanks, David, and I hope that others will follow your good example by furnishing me with regional news on a regular basis.

David points out that there are several mining history research projects recently completed or in progress in the Northern Territory that may be of interest to AMHA members :

#### **History Discipline, Northern Territory University**

In late 1994 Associate Professor David Carment and Sue Harlow finished an overview history of mining in the Northern Territory as a consultancy for Donovan and Associates. It forms part of the 'History of Mining in Australia' project of the Australian Council of National Trusts. David is also editing the third volume of the 'Northern Territory Dictionary of Biography', which includes a number of articles on persons associated with mining. David Hugo is in the final stages of writing a PhD thesis on 'Mica Mining at

Harts Range, 1940-1960: A Study of Ethnicity and the Impact of Isolation'. Leith Barter is completing his honours thesis on 'The Northern Territory's First Uranium Boom'.

#### Heritage Unit, Department of Lands, Planning & Environment

The Unit is currently undertaking a joint project with the Department of Mines and Energy to identify historic mining areas and to evaluate their cultural significance. In cooperation with the History Department, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the Unit is developing a Chinese Sites Database that will include many mining sites.

#### National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory)

Dr Scott Mitchell, a Darwin historical archaeologist, very recently completed a major report for the Trust on Chinese mining sites in the Pine Creek region. The Trust will be asking companies with current mining operations in the Northern Territory to fund consultancies that will prepare detailed historic surveys of mines prior to their abandonment and rehabilitation.

#### **Cornish Mining**

Roger Burt has kindly volunteered Philip Payton as a contact for anyone who has any queries regarding Cornish mining, Cornish miners and anything related. Philip is Director of the Institute of Cornish Studies and has a mining history heritage which includes a few years spent in Adelaide which resulted in his excellent doctorate work on the Cornish in South Australia, and a number of publications. You can therefore expect a great deal of empathy when directing your queries, as I can vouch, having spent a few enjoyable days with Philip and colleagues at the Institute only last year. One of the projects being undertaken while I was there was the computerisation of information on migrants to Australia and elsewhere. Contact, Dr Philip Payton, Director, Institute of Cornish Studies, Trevithick Centre, Trevenson Road, Pool, Redruth Cornwall TR15 3PL, UK. E-mail : P.J.Payton@exeter.acuk

#### **Mining History Bibliographies**

Just to remind you that the 'Australian Prospectors Miners Hall of Fame' is trying to compile a bibliography of works on Australian mining and prospecting. If you have lists which you would like to share, or if you have published or written papers or theses on mining related subjects, then please inform Norma Latchford PBKB 2001, Kalgoorlie, WA 6430.

While on that subject, Exeter University lists bibliographies for Britain & regions, and the USA on its Internet WWW site. To find use <http://www.ex.ac.uk/> This takes you to the University of Exeter server. Then use Faculty Information to find 'Economic & Social History' for files on the 'Mining History Network'.

Hopefully we will be able to get an Australian list onto that connection in the near future.

### **Book Sales**

Just received, Catalog No. 56, September 1995 from the Book Lode, containing lists of recently published and old texts on general geology and mining history. Catalogues available from : Silvia Pettem, 721 Francis St, Longmont, Colorado 80501-4210, USA - tel & fax (303) 682-2828.

### **About to be Published**

Enclosed with this newsletter is an order form for a new book produced by our South Australian member/delegate Bernie O'Neil for the Department of Mines & Energy, S.A., titled *Above & Below* . This is due out on 1st December 1995 (not 1st of January as stated on the form). The price of \$29.95 is a special for pre-publication orders and with hard cover and 500 pages, with illustrations, this sounds a bargain when compared to most other publications today.

As pointed out in the flyer, this is the companion volume to Bernie's earlier work *In Search of Mineral Wealth*, which was published in 1982.

### **Future News**

The information contained in this newsletter depends on the input from members. Don't be shy in forwarding any queries or information publicising events, research issues, publications, prospecting issues, site preservation etc. related to mining history. Mining cartoons especially welcomed (please give details if taken from a secondary source).

All correspondence to : Mel Davies, Dept of Economics, University of WA, Nedlands 6009,

W. Australia. tel. (09) 3802939; Fax : (09) 3801016; E. Mail : mdavies@ecl.uwa.edu.au

Thanks to Vicky Karagiannis for the layout

# AUSTRALIAN MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION INC.

## NEWSLETTER No. 3 - 1995

Issue 3

### **Editorial**

We come to the end of our first year as a constituted body, and what do we have to show for it? It can't be said that we've set the world on fire, but it can be claimed that we have made some progress and have gone through the first hesitant steps towards developing the Australian Mining History Association into a respectable national body. We have an elected committee with representatives from all states bar Tasmania (has anyone any contacts there?); we conducted our first AGM and enjoyed a very successful mining history session at James Cook University; and we have established contacts with mining history groups in various parts of the world. Though our membership is still relatively small, with 63 members, the spread is wide and includes representatives from New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States. In addition we are in frequent contact with colleagues in Canada, Chile and the UK. We are also listed on Exeter University's World Wide Web mining page. On a performance range of 1 to 10, I guess we would be lie at just above 5. The goal for 1996 will therefore be to push that performance a couple of notches up the scale. The future of the Association, of course, lies in the enthusiasm of the members, and I appeal to you for any ideas and suggestions for our future development.

Thanks, incidentally, to all those who have corresponded with me throughout the year. A note on your interests and what you are doing is always welcome in this quarter, and I appreciate in particular anything that can be used to enliven the pages of the newsletter.

As the year comes to an end, may I take this opportunity on behalf of the committee to extend to you the compliments of the season, and, in the spirit of giving and taking (!) may I make a special plea for you to return the enclosed membership form and requisite fee for 1996.

### **Contact Directory**

The committee recently agreed to place the names and addresses of State/Territory committee members as contacts on the Exeter www page. This will be useful for international or interstate visitors who are interested in research or mine visits and will hopefully help them to circumvent some of the problems that people invariably meet when they arrive 'cold' in a new environment. One of our US members, Stanley Dempsey of Colorado, tells us that a similar idea has been adopted by the U.S. Mining History

Association Thus our lead will not be a one way process and hopefully the links will prove of benefit to many of our members.

### **Chile International Conference 1998**

Adolfo Ibañez has asked me to modify a statement made in the last newsletter regarding the format for the conference. This is in relation to the areas of discussion which were listed under three headings : i) Company History; ii) Mining Rights History; iii) History of Private and Government Institutions related to Mining. Adolfo wishes to stress that while these will be major areas pursued on the agenda, there will be room on the programme for people to contribute to, and follow, other mining related topics.

### **Copper Statistics Update**

Peter Bell, one of our intrepid South Australian committee members has the following interesting comment to make on copper production in Australia:

“Two years ago while working on a statement of historical significance as part of a conservation study of the Chillagoe smelter ruins in Queensland, I drew up a comparative list of the major historic copper producers in Australia (Chillagoe came 9th). To my surprise the sixth-largest producer of copper metal to that time was Olympic Dam, which had been in production for only five years and produced 202,000 tonnes of refined copper.

I have since been watching production at Olympic Dam to see how it rates. In 1993 it was still behind three old producers which were bunched fairly closely at a bit over a third of a million tonnes each: Moonta/Wallaroo, Cobar and Mount Morgan. Olympic Dam passed the combined production of 334,000 tonnes at Moonta and Wallaroo in January 1995, the 350,000 tonnes of Cobar in March, and the 360,000 tonnes of Mount Morgan in June. It is now the third-largest copper producer in Australia at 390,229 tonnes to the end of September 1995 (Figures from Olympic Dam Marketing Pty. Ltd.).

Looking ahead, Olympic Dam is still a long way behind Mount Lyell and Mount Isa at 1.3M and 3.4M tonnes respectively (1993 figures). At the present production rate of 84,000 tonnes per annum, Olympic Dam will pass Mount Lyell in a little under eleven years. But even if Mount Isa stopped production today, Olympic Dam would take nearly forty years to catch up.”

PS - I don't think many of us will be around to find out whether Peter's prediction will eventuate or not.

### **Lyndon Megarrity**

Please note that in the last newsletter when asking for information sought by Lyndon for his MA on 'British Investment in North Queensland Gold Mining, circa 1886-1905', I inadvertently (that's a nice way of saying I blundered) put his contact address as

Armadale. His correct address is 15 Cypress Drive, *Annandale*, Qld. 4814. He is also on E.mail: Rob\_Megarrity@MSN.COM

### **Bereavement**

It is with sadness that we record the sudden death of Keith Quartermaine at Kalgoorlie on 10th December. You might recall that Keith featured in our first newsletter as keeper of the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society photographic collection. Keith's publications on the WA goldfields are greatly respected and have been widely cited. His keen interest in the area of mining history made him a celebrity in Kalgoorlie, and his willingness to share his wide knowledge gained the thanks and respect of many a researcher. His very detailed survey of the development of mining technology on the goldfields region of Western Australia is a landmark for those interested in the technical aspects of mining and serves as a permanent record of processes of production over a long poeriod. He will be sadly missed by the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, and by all who knew him. We extend our deepest sympathy to Keith's family.

### **Mining Publications**

Hesperian Press lists about fifty mining history publications in its August 1995 catalogue. If interested write to Hesperian Press, PO Box 317, Victoria Park, Western Australia 317. tel. (09) 362 5955; Fax (09) 361 2333.

### **State/Territory Contacts**

Thanks are extended to Jim Whitehead who is Co-ordinator of Mineral Heritage at the Australian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy, and Ray Supple who is Secretary of the Victorian Historic Mining Sites Assessment Committee, for volunteering to represent Victoria on the committee. As you might like to contact your local representatives to discuss matters mining, I herewith provide their addresses:

President - Dr. Patrick Bertola, School of Social Sciences, Curtin University, GPO Box U 1987, Perth, WA 6001. tel. (09)3517195, Fax 09-3513166

Treasurer - Dr. Lenore Layman, School of Social Sciences, Murdoch University, Murdoch, WA 6150, tel. 09- 3602394.

### **Committee**

Dr. Peter Bell, 17 Sherwood terrace, Beaumont, SA 5066, 08-3382460

Assoc. Prof. David Carment, PO Box 41813, Causarina, NT 0811, tel. 089- 466744

E. Mail: dcarment@banks.ntu.edu.au

Mr. Peter Forrest, GPO Box 88, Darwin, NT 0801, tel. 089-410435, Fax 089- 412972

Dr. Charles Fox, Department of History, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, WA 6009, tel. 09-3802175

Dr. Ruth Kerr, 105 Highland terrace, St. Lucia, Qld 4812, tel. 07-8709588

Mr. Ross Mainwaring, 5 Sheather Avenue, St. Ives, NSW 2075, tel. 02- 4492738

Dr. Diane Menghetti, Department of History & Politics, James Cook University, Townsville, Qld 4811, tel. 077-814244. E.Mail: Diane.Menghetti@jcu.edu.au

Mr. Bernie O'Neil, 36 Yallack Street, Windsor Gardens, SA 5087, tel. 08- 2610077

Mr. Ray Supple, 55 Victoria Road, Malvern, Vic 3144, tel. 039-5718348,

E. Mail: r.supple@dce.vic.gov.au

Dr. Jan Wegner, James Cook University (Cairns Campus), PO Box 6811, tel. 070-509413

Mr. James Whitehead, Australian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy, 31 Pelham Street, Carlton, Vic 3052, tel. 03-6623166

### **On the Internet**

Folks with access to the Internet might be interested to note a new arrival in the form of the South African Chamber of Mines. Visitors to their home page can now view : policy documents; recent press releases; important speeches and presentations; information on mine visits; gold production figures; daily mining news; daily economic indicators; the Chamber's E.mail directory; information on Chamber members & associates; etc. To access, try, <http://www.bullion.cug.za>

### **Mining Bibliography**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Association would like to be able to build up a bibliography of mining history, which will eventually be made available for all on the www. Unfortunately the 'Mining Hall of Fame' hasn't the finances at present to proceed with it's projected scheme. However, the AMHA is prepared to work on that project and if anyone has a list of mining history publications which they would like to forward **to me**, then we would be happy to build the references into the bibliography. Details on theses, dissertations, journal articles, as well as published books are required. Information on a disc or in typed form is welcome.

### **1996 AMHA Conference**

The major feeling among the committee is that in 1996 we again arrange our conference and Annual General Meeting as an adjunct to the Australian Historical Association conference. This will be held in Melbourne between 14th - 17th July.

## **New Year Fees**

To end on a mercenary note, it's that time of year when you are asked to dig into your pockets to give to a worthy cause. The AMHA appreciates you as a member and so would like you to renew your membership. A form is attached, and as you will see, the Association fees remain probably the lowest fees in Australia.

Happy delving, and best wishes to you all for 1996, from me and the committee.