

## Museum Opening

10am – 5pm every day except 24 - 26 Dec and 1 Jan.

## Library Opening Hours

Wed: 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Thurs & Fri: 10.00am – 12.30pm & 1.00pm – 4.00pm

First full weekend in every month 10.00am – 12.30pm & 1.00pm – 4.00pm

## Librarians' and Curators' Enquiry Service

Enquiries on coal mining in England are welcome by:

Telephone: 01924 848806

Email: [info@ncm.org.uk](mailto:info@ncm.org.uk)

Via NCMME website: [www.ncm.org.uk/collections](http://www.ncm.org.uk/collections)

Or by visiting the Library in person

Post: National Coal Mining Museum for England, Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF4 4RH

## Library Facilities

The Museum has facilities for researchers to spend a substantial amount of time using the Library resources in comfortable surroundings with the online library catalogue available on site and on the Museum website ([www.ncm.org.uk](http://www.ncm.org.uk)) – so you can look at what is available before you visit!

Scanning and photocopying services are available (charges apply) and use of own digital camera for non-commercial purposes permitted.

## Charges for Library enquiries:

It is free to visit the Library and do your own research.

If you are unable to visit the Library, then the Librarians may be able to help with your research. The first thirty minutes of research time are free. If more time is needed, there is a charge of £25 per hour (or part thereof), up to a maximum of two hours. Commercial enquirers do not receive the thirty minutes free research time and are charged from the beginning.



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[www.ncm.org.uk](http://www.ncm.org.uk)



# Using the Museum's Collections

## A mine of information



NATIONAL COAL MINING MUSEUM  
for England

[www.ncm.org.uk](http://www.ncm.org.uk)

# Library

The Museum's Library has information on the history of coal mining in England, as well as technical, social, economic, political and geographical aspects of the industry and its communities.

The Library's catalogue includes new mining journals and books, and journals from the nineteenth century onwards, plus rare books dating from the 1550s.

Topics include mining disasters, conditions in mines and mining communities, coal-production statistics, unions, welfare, training, mining technology, regeneration, mining today and individual mines.

Important volumes include the *Mining Journal*, government reports and the *Colliery Guardian*.

## Uncover the story of coal mining in England

**Access the hidden collections at the Museum for research or personal interest through the Library and Collections catalogue via the Museum website [www.ncm.org.uk/collections](http://www.ncm.org.uk/collections)**

The Museum continues to acquire items, both by gift and purchase, for its library and artefact collections, which help to tell the story of coal mining in England.



### Must See ...

*De Re Metallica by Agricola in 1556.*

This book is the oldest man-made object at the museum and it was the very first authoritative text on mining. It can be viewed (alongside a translation) in the Library showing beautiful illustrations.

### Must Visit ...

Come and have a look at the Library and browse a selection of books in the study, including children's books and colouring and word-search sheets.

Meet the qualified Librarians and ask them about what you are looking for.

### Must Use ...

*Coal*, the National Coal Board's magazine, is the first resource to be digitised by the Museum. Magazines covering a period from 1947 to 1959 have been scanned and made available at [www.ncmonline.org.uk](http://www.ncmonline.org.uk). It is a real snapshot of the mining community of the time.

*Gazetteer of UK Collieries by M.C. Gill*, NMRS Records, 2009: available in-house, this database provides access to information about individual collieries 1855-2006 and also map references for many of the collieries. Colliery disasters from 1705 to 1919 are included in the database.

# Objects, Photographs, Ephemera Collections

The Museum's object collections cover the full breadth of England's coal-mining industry and are cared for by curators who specialise in particular aspects of the subject.

The technical and engineering collections range from early hand tools through to large modern machinery and road and rail vehicles. There is also mine lighting and ventilation equipment and a collection of engineering drawings and plans that cover equipment installations, such as mine and seam plans (mainly for the Yorkshire area), mine winders and colliery buildings.

The art and photographic collections include work by well-known artists, such as Henry Moore and George Bissill and photographers such as Bill Brandt and Don McCullin. The extensive archive of commercial photography commissioned by the industry details the work of the National Coal Board and mining companies such as British Jeffrey Diamond.

The social and oral-history collections detail the working and home lives of miners and their families. An extensive oral-history archive has been assembled, which is available to listen to in the Museum Library. The collection also contains union, medical, rescue, social and domestic objects; from union badges and ephemera right through to union banners.

### Must See ...

The collections catalogue is available on the Museum website: [www.ncm.org.uk](http://www.ncm.org.uk). You will be able to search the collections to see what the Museum holds.

### Must Visit ...

Contact the Museum to make an appointment with a curator during normal opening hours Monday-Friday. This is a FREE service. Although, many items are on show to the public, there are many more in the Museum stores and making an appointment ensures the curator can provide access to the relevant objects, photographs or ephemera.

### Must Use ...

The Enquiry Service provided by the Library and Collections team. Please see overleaf for details of how you can contact them.

