

Coal Mining

INTRODUCTION

The town of Durham still celebrates an annual miners' gala festival, established in 1883. One of the last coalfields to close was Tower Colliery, in South Wales. Between these two regions, stands the history of coal generation and its importance to Britain's commercial and home life extending back to the industrial age.



In 1985, the last major industrial action by miners failed to stem the decline of their industry, with 50 mines soon earmarked for closure. Even Tower maintained an employee buy-out only for its final quarter-century. According to TUC officer, Dave Fieckert (*The Guardian*, 11.02.2004), the cost of closing the UK's mines has been almost half of the tax revenues collected from North Sea oil.

The increasing need for British self-sufficiency in energy supply may see coal returning as a prominent industry. This bibliography, comprised of monographs, periodicals and university theses, should serve as a starting point to understand the industry's history and current climate.

Topics include: Coal industry management and finance, trade union activity, women & children in mining communities, health & safety, the Bevin Boys of World War Two, and colliery closures. Medical publications and maps are not included.

We are always interested in learning more about externally produced web resources that may be useful to social science researchers. If there are resources that you think are missing, or if you have any comments about this guide, you can contact a member of the Social Science team at the following email address: social-sciences@bl.uk.

This bibliography has been compiled by Andy Simons, Curator Modern British Collections, with assistance from Joanne Sweeney, Content Specialist, Social Sciences at the British Library.

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4. UNIVERSITY THESES

Access to most UK theses is now via EThOS (Electronic Theses Online Service) [<http://ethos.bl.uk/>], whether or not there is a record for the thesis on the British Library Integrated Catalogue. You can search EThOS without registering online, but you will need to register and login to the system if you wish to order or view a UK thesis.

If a thesis you wish to consult has already been digitised, you will be able to download it immediately on your own PC or laptop (you do not have to be in one of the British Library's reading rooms). It is also possible to view digitised theses on reading room PCs.

If a thesis has not yet been digitised and was awarded by a university participating in EThOS, it will be digitised from the original paper copy in response to your request and you will be notified by e-mail when the thesis is available for download (normally within 14 working days of the request). In most cases, the digitisation will be undertaken at no cost to you. However, theses awarded by a small number of UK universities will only be digitised on payment of a fee by the person requesting the thesis via EThOS for the first time.

It is also possible to order printed or CD/DVD versions of theses via EThOS, but a charge will apply. If a thesis was awarded by a university not participating in EThOS, you will have to contact the awarding university. If you have a reference for a thesis which you cannot find on EThOS, you can submit a "speculative request" via the website [<http://ethos.bl.uk/SpeculativeRequest.do>].

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[National Coal Board]. University of Sheffield, 1990.

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University of Sheffield, 1999.

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Grada, A.S. Business performance measurement applied to the UK medium-sized coal mining sector since privatisation.

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Kirby, P.T. Aspects of the employment of children in the British coal-mining industry, 1800-1872.

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Kneif, M.A. Directed to the mines: the Bevin Boys, 1943 to 1948.

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DS shelfmark: DX233604 DSC

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Mills, C.J. Statutory safety and health provision in the British mining industry, with particular reference to non-ferrous metals 1800-1914.

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Moses, K. **A study of strategic decision making and investment in the British Coal industry.**

University of Nottingham, 1990.

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Nightingale, J.E. **'Voices in Frickley': the struggles of the miners at a Yorkshire colliery 1984-1993.**

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Sands, M. **Colliery closure and labour displacement in the Derbyshire Nottinghamshire coalfield.**

University of Nottingham, 1985.

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Wass, V. **Colliery closure and the re-employment experience of redundant miners.**

University of Wales, 1992.

ETHOS shelfmark: DX205334 30.01.2009

5. SERIALS

5.1 Journals

While every attempt has been made to ensure the details of holdings for each journal are accurate, if you are seeking a particular year or volume number, please check the Library's catalogue to confirm holdings or contact the reference team in the Reading Room.

The Ashington Collieries magazine.

Ashington Colliery Company Ltd.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZA.9.a.4732; vol. 17, no. 4 (Apr. 1937) only

Bands and Banners. Durham Area National Union of Mineworkers in association with Trade Union Printing Services, 1999-2001.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZK.9.b.14416

British Association of Colliery Management. **National news letter.**

London Reference Collections shelfmark: P.511/811; no. 92-183, Sept. 1970-June 1993

British Mining: memoirs of the Northern Mine Research Society.

Skipton, 1975 - Current.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: X.0311/1004

DS shelfmark: 2330.540000 DSC

Coal international: the journal of underground mining. F&M Journals.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P) NK 50 -E(22); 1982-1989, vol. 1- vol. 8, no. 2 and (TP) NK 50 -E(22); 1982-1989, vol. 1-vol. 8, no. 2

DS shelfmark: 3290.095000 DSC; all issues held

Coalfield woman: Women Against Pit Closures newsletter.

Women Against Pit Closures. WAPC, 1985-.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZC.9.b.987; July 1985-Jan. 1986, Jan. 1987, Jan. 1988

The Colliery Workers' Magazine.

South Wales Miners' Federation, 1923-1927.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: PP.2094.fb

Compensation for miners newsletter.

Department of Trade & Industry.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: BS.41/2406; 2000, issue 1-current

DS shelfmark: 3363.9889 DSC; 2000, no. 1 – 2005, no. 10

Davies, J. and Wallis, G. (eds.). **North Country Coal and Shipping Annual.**

London Reference Collections shelfmark: PP.2491.yd; 1912-

Economic report. Glyn, A. *The economic costs of the pit closure programme*

Employment Policy Institute, 1993; vol. 7, no. 5

DS shelfmark: 3654.390000 DSC; vol. 7, no. 5

Guide to the coalfields. FMJ International.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: P.P.2491.yef.; 1948- and (XP) AA 716 -E(12); 1972-95 (not 1973, 1985, 1990)

DS shelfmark: 4226.000000 DSC; 1949-1995

International guide to the coalfields.

Trade Link Publications.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (XP) AA 716 -E(12) and (B) DIR 338.7622334 Business; 1996-current

DS shelfmark: 4540.651000 DSC; 1996-1997 and 2000-2001

Iron and Coal Trades Review.

Industrial Newspapers (Fuel & Metallurgical), 1866-1960.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (OP) NK 50 -E(4); vol. 80, 1910-vol. 144 and (P) NK 50 -E(4); vol. 145-181, 1960

DS shelfmark: 4577.000000 DSC

Labour market consequences of technical and structural change discussion paper series.

Glyn, A. *Colliery closures and the decline of the UK coal industry.*

London School of Economics and Political Science, Centre for Economic Performance, 1996; no. 7.

DS shelfmark: 5142.262470 7 DSC

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The Miners' Federation of Great Britain, 1926-1930.

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The miner: voice of the National Union of Mineworkers. 1969-1997.

Newspaper Library shelfmark: 1969 3424 [1969] NPL to 1997 813 [1997] NPL

Miners' Federation of Great Britain. **Annual volume of proceedings for the year.**

The Federation.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZA.9.a.3936; 1913-1914, 1926, 1929-30 and YA.1996.b.5212; 1938

Miners' Lamps Committee.

Memorandum. HMSO /MLC, 1920-1924.

DS shelfmark: 5644.100000 DSC

The miners next step: the newsletter of Midlands Miners.

Notts Campaign Against Pit Closures.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZC.9.b.6005; 1994, issue 2-

Mines: health and safety.

HMSO.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P) HG 85 (M) -E(30); 1980-1987; 1979-1985/86

DS shelfmark: 5794.850000 DSC 1979- 1987; all issues held

Mining and minerals engineering.

Ashire, 1964-1972.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P) NH 00 -E(16); 1964-1972, vol. 1-vol. 8, no. 3

DS shelfmark: 5799.250000 DSC

Newspaper Library shelfmark: [Shelfmarks held at Newspaper Reading Room issue desk] Sept. 1964-March 1972, vol. 1, no. 1- vol. 8, no. 3

Mining and safety.

1956-1989.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P)NH73-X(1); vol. 2, 1956- 34, 1989 [all issues held]

DS shelfmark: 5799.280000 DSC; vol. 6, 1960- 32, 1986 [all issues held]

National Coal Board. **Mining Environment Bulletin.**

NCB, 1977-

London Reference Collections shelfmark: BS.82/163; no.1- ; Nov. 1977- and (P) NK 50 - E(14) 1977-1984; no.1-6

National Miners' Support Network. **Coal, not dole: bulletin of the National Miners' Support Network**

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZK.9.d.715; 1992?-

National Union of Mineworkers. **Colliery Officials and Staffs Area (COSA) news bulletin.**

London Reference Collections shelfmark: P.P.8003.lc.; no. 11-57, July 1952-July 1963

National Union of Mineworkers. **Information bulletin**.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: P.P.8003.ks.; 1946-

Northern Mine Research Society

Approximately 80 titles published in this series and highlights include:

Fairbairn, R.A. **The mines of Upper Teesdale**. 2005.

DS shelfmark: 2330.540000 no. 77 DSC

Fanning, G. **Oldham Coal**. 2001.

DS shelfmark: 2330.540000 no 68 DSC

Gill, M.C. **Keighley coal: a history of coal in the Keighley district**. 2004.

DS shelfmark: 2330.540000 v.74 DSC

Gill, M.C. and Burt, R. **The mines of Yorkshire**. 2003.

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Goodchild, J. **Adventures in coal : the beginnings of the coal mining firm of Henry Briggs Son and Co. in Yorkshire, c1826-1890**. 2000.

DS shelfmark: 2330.540000 no 66 DSC

Nadin, J. **Coal mines around Accrington and Blackburn**. 1999.

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O'Connell's Coal and Iron News. 1924-1949. [Continued by **Coal and Colliery News**, 1937-1949 etc.]

Newspaper Library shelfmark: 1924 LON 638 [1924] NPL to 1936 LON 334 [1936]

NPL; no. 1619-2286 (6 March 1924-31 Dec.1936)

Rank and file miner: paper of the National Rank and File Miners Movement. The Movement.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZC.9.d.27; no.1 (June 1985)-

The red miner: bulletin for miners and their families. Workers Power.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: ZD.9.b.922; no. 1 (1985) - no. 7 (1986)

Safety in Mines Research Board. **What every mining man should know**. HMSO, 1929-1939.

London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P)NH73-E(7) and B.S.27/18.

DS shelfmark: 9309.700000 DSC

South Wales miner. 1933-1935.

Newspaper Library shelfmark: 1934 EW 509 [1934] NPL to 1935 EW 608 [1935] NPL;

no. 1-42 (22 June 1933-10 July 1935)

Steel and coal [the official organ of the National Association of Colliery Managers]. Fuel & Metallurgical Journals.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P) NK 50 -E(4); vol. 184, no. 4877 (1962), vol. 187, no. 4980 (1963)
DS shelfmark: 8462.200000 DSC

Cont'd as Steel times. 1964-2001.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: (P) NK 50 -E(4)
DS shelfmark: 8464.104000 DSC
Newspaper Library shelfmark: 1964 1250-1252 [1964] NPL to 2001 367 [2001] NPL

Whitehaven Miners' Monthly Gazette.
1920-1923 [The Monthly Miners' Gazette and Public Advertiser, 1918-1920].
Newspaper Library shelfmark: 1918 EW 373 [1918] NPL to 1923 EW 929 [1923] NPL

5.2 Conferences & reports

Miners' Federation of Great Britain

Board of investigation into wages and machinery of the coalmining industry, June, 1942. Co-operative Printing Society, 1942.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2004.a.521

The claim for legal minimum wages for mineworkers.
Co-operative Printing Society, 1931.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2005.a.4260

Proposals submitted by the Districts upon the wages question.
Co-operative Printing Society, 1925.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2005.a.4280

Special conference held at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London, on Wednesday, March 26th, 1924.
Co-operative Printing Society, 1924.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2004.a.671

Special conferences held in the Kingsway Hall, London on Thursday 20th November, Friday 28th November and Thursday 4th December 1930, in the chair Rt. Hon. Thos. Richards, President.
Co-operative Printing Society, 1930.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2005.a.4273

Mineworkers' Federation of Great Britain

Report of special conference held in the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1 on Thursday, June 11th, 1942, at 10 a.m.
Mineworkers' Federation of Great Britain, 1942.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2005.a.1684

Special conference held in the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London W.C.1 on Friday October 27th 1939 at 10 a.m., Mr W. Lawther (President) in the chair.

Mineworkers' Federation of Great Britain, 1939.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2005.a.4279

6. RESEARCH CENTRES, ARCHIVES & WEBSITES

Beamish Museum

<http://www.beamishcollections.com/default.asp>

Includes a comprehensive working lives collection from heavy industries such as mining, quarrying and engineering to trades and other occupations.

Coal Research Forum

www.coalresearchforum.org

Formed in 1988, provides a forum where information is exchanged between technology providers and key stakeholders. Members are drawn from corporate, industrial and academic fields.

Imperial War Museum

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/>

Contains a repository of Bevin Boy records.

Mining History Network (University of Exeter)

www.projects.exeter.ac.uk/mhn

Contains mining history bibliographies for different countries and across different types of mining, as well as links to online mining history databases and national mining history organisations.

National Coal Mining Museum for England

<http://www.ncm.org.uk/>

Located at Caphouse Colliery, on the western edge of the Yorkshire coalfield, it opened in 1988 as the Yorkshire Mining Museum and was granted national status in 1995.

Papers of John Harry Jones on the coal industry

Available at Leeds University Library (Special Collections MS 407)

<http://lib.leeds.ac.uk/record=b2195366>

Most of these papers were discovered in the School of Economic Studies in 1976 and were presented to the Library; a smaller quantity was subsequently discovered and presented in 1980. The papers mainly refer to chapters from the book, **The coal mining industry**, jointly written by Professor Jones, Gwendoline Cartwright and Paul Herbert Guénault, and published in 1939.

7. MICROFILM

Some Library material is available in both print format and microfilm.

However, in cases where the printed material has been published some time ago, Library readers are encouraged to use the microfilm version so as to preserve the print

collections.

Cole, G.D.H. **Labour in the Coal-mining Industry 1914-1921**. Oxford / World Microfilms, 1923.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: Ac.2297.gb.(A.12.)
DS shelfmark: Reel 17 MFR/2552 *1*

Cook, A.J. **The miners' struggle and the big five banks: how victory can be secured**. Labour Research Department, 1926.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: YD.2006.a.6000
DS shelfmark: MFR/2342 *1* reel 5 no 86 DSC

Hodges, F. **The miners' claim for an increase of wages**. World Microfilms, 1973.
DS shelfmark: MFR/2456 *1* no 38 DSC

Hodges, F. **The mines for the nation: workers control in the coal mining industry**. World Microfilms, 1973.
DS shelfmark: MFR/2456 *1* no 37 DSC

Hodges, F. **Workers' control in the coal mining industry**. World Microfilms, 1973.
DS shelfmark: MFR/2456 *1* no 612 DSC

8. PAMPHLETS

Independent Labour Party. **Miscellaneous reports and pamphlets, 1904-** [includes **The mines for the miners**, 1946].
London Reference Collections shelfmark: WP.5046

The strongly socialist Independent Labour Party (ILP) was established in Manchester in 1893. It pre-dated the Russian Communist revolution but at its peak between the World Wars, was politically positioned between the Labour Party and the Communist Party of Great Britain. Prominent members of the ILP included authors Ethel Mannin and George Orwell, MPs Ramsay Macdonald and Fenner Brockway, and women's rights activist Emmeline Pankhurst. The ILP was avowedly pacifist and so its alliances with other parties proved uneasy.

Moffat, A. **Wages increase for miners**. Communist Party of Great Britain, 1953.
London Reference Collections shelfmark: SS.PAM.329.D/26.(139a.)