



HATFIELD HOTLINE

NEWS AND VIEWS

December 1985



MESSAGE FROM THE COLLIERY MANAGER

The pit now has three faces working 8 machine shifts. We need the coal now at 15,000 tons plus per week to the end of the financial year to pull back the losses which have already been incurred.

The pit is on holiday for a fortnight over Xmas. This will cost the pit £650,000 with no revenue coming in. This will take our cumulative losses over £3 million for the year. We have a lot to pull back to try and get the pit in a break even situation by March. This can be achieved if we produce 17,000 tonnes per week. If all three faces do standard performance it will give in excess of 17,000 tonnes.

WE CAN DO IT - HOW? - BY ENSURING MAXIMUM MACHINE RUNNING TIME.

From previous years accident statistics there is an increase in accidents during the run up to Xmas. Let's reverse this trend and make everybody's Xmas a happy one and the start to the New Year a SAFE ONE.

Welcome to the men from Yorkshire Main, I am sure you will quickly fit in at Hatfield and help to secure your future.

NOVEMBER RESULTS

	TONNES	FACE OMS	O/ALL OMS
W/E 2.11	11,250	18.96	2.73
W/E 9.11	10,485	10.94	2.43
W/E 16.11	11,354	11.73	2.54
W/E 23.11	11,500	10.49	2.52
TOTAL	44,589		
COST/TONNE FOR THE MONTH		£47.54	
COST/GIGAJoule FOR THE MONTH		£ 1.83	
PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE MONTH		£264,000 LOSS	

ATTENDANCE

THINK OF YOUR MATES

During November the Colliery has operated with an average of 81.2% deployment. The breakdown of the 18.8% non-deployment was:

- 1) Holidays/Rest Days 3.5%
- 2) Other causes 1.1%
- 3) Sickness/Accidents 11.9%
- 4) Disputes 2.3%

Mondays and Fridays are the worst attended days with an average deployment of 78%

To make the pit more efficient and profitable we must improve on our deployment percentage if we are to wipe jobs off in line with the Colliery Action Programme.

Overtime shifts are being wasted in midweek from our budget due to the high absenteeism levels. We must use the overtime shifts available to us more efficiently.

FIRST AID - USEFUL AT WORK AND AT HOME

It's very pleasing to note that there has been a very good response to form a Pit First Aid Team. This is currently being organised by Sister Hart. Anyone else who is interested please see the Sister. Training will be given so even if you've never done any first aid before, come along, join in and enjoy it.

DON'T - Duplicate materials by taking 2 bags of bolts in when only 1 bag is required.

DON'T - Leave sleepers lying about use them correctly.

DO - Mark materials correctly for where they are intended to be used.

WHAT'S NEW AT HATFIELD? Items for this monthly newsletter will be welcomed — and you could win £250,000.* Let us have your letters, reports of social and sporting activities, questions about the pit etc. Let us know what you want to know. Drop a line to "Hatfield Hotline" and hand it in at the Manager's office. (* A £2 Premium Bond voucher will be awarded for the best reader's contribution each month).

COAL PREPARATION PLANT

The Coal Preparation Plant was built in 1980/81 at a cost of £14 million and produces a variety of quality fuels.

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>% PRODUCED</u>	<u>MARKETS</u>
Cobbles	5"-2"	9.5	Domestic
Singles	1½"-½"	17.5	Industrial Boiler Fuel
Smalls	½"-0"	35.0	Immingham Export and Industrial E.G.Coalite
P.S.F.	2"-0"	38.0	Thorpe Marsh Power Station

On the Plant there are two magnets for removing any metal objects prior to the washing process.

The recovery from these indicate that a large number of unused or re-usable items are coming out of the pit along with the coal. For example ring bolts, picks, pipe fittings etc. Please make sure that these items stay in the pit where they belong.

One of the biggest problems on the plant is dealing with belt fibres. These are coming from underground belts along with the coal and are blocking up all the de-watering sieves, resulting in excess moisture in the product. This causes a loss in revenue. These sieves have to be cleaned out by hand which is causing unnecessary work.

If conveyors are prevented from rubbing against belt standards this will stop the problem.

Another problem on the Plant is the number of paper bags that are coming out of the pit. These bags are blocking the wash-boxes so causing other delays. Help the men on the Plant to do their job by making sure these bags do not come out with the coal.

For the month of November the plant had a throughput of 75,836 tonnes.

DO YOU KNOW

A steel sleeper (35 lbs) costs	£4.46
A steel sleeper (50 lbs) costs	£6.17
A tubular strut	X
50mm x 1 metre costs	£2.89
A stilt 18" x 4½" x 4½" costs	£9.15
A Dobson Prop 34/50 costs	£67.91
A Dobson Prop 40/60 costs	£81.69
A Dobson Prop 53/80 costs	£103.87

For each old prop sent out of the pit we claim 50% of the cost as a credit

Make sure all damaged props are sent out of the pit. They are worth money and it all helps the pit.

RIPPERS AND DEPUTIES

Straight gates means:

Straight conveyors, track and ropes.

Better ventilation and less dirt to shift.

Each of the above points helps you and improves the efficiency of the pit.

FOOTBALL KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

Ten teams entered the knockout. That means 150 men were involved in the competition.

Semi- Finals

Eggy's All Stars XI beat the Underground Craft XI 5-2 after a hotly contested match.

HO3's XI beat BACM XI 3-2 on penalties after finishing 1-1 at full time. It was exciting right to the end.

Finals

Eggy's All Stars XI beat HO3's XI 3-1. The two teams played good hard football.

Congratulations to Eggy's All Stars XI, they deserve to be the champions.

I am sure that everyone who played or supported their team had an enjoyable time.

A Knockout Pool Competition is to be run during the Winter. Teams of five plus two reserves.

It will be a good bit of fun and your team may win the cup. GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE

HATFIELD WINDER KEEPS THE WHEELS TURNING
AT WORK AND AT PLAY

SANDTOFT MINIATURE RAILWAY FOUNDED 1983

Sandtoft miniature railway is situated approximately six miles south of Thorne at Sandtoft Transport Centre, which is on the road to Belton just past the Reindeer pub at Sandtoft.

The railway is open to the public on all the transport centres open days which include bank holidays, Easter and Whitsun and the main gathering which is at the end of July. The centre has a large collection of trolley buses and motor buses that give rides to the public. Also at the centre is a cinema giving slide shows, a snack bar and shop.

The railway is a 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " gauge track and when completed there will be a circuit of 1000 feet. At the moment approximately two thirds of the track is laid, including three level crossings, giving access to a car park in the centre.

At the moment there are two diesel locomotives running and a 0-4-0 'Tich steam locomotive nearing completion. There are four other steam locomotives being built by members of the railway.

This winter we will install level crossing barriers, a water tower and two new passenger carrying vehicles.

Future projects after the track is completed are steaming bays, turn table, tunnel, a bridge over a pond and pedestrian foot bridges.

Any person who is interested in joining us to help with the construction and running of the railway please contact:-

Mr. I. P. Tattersall - (0405) 815174

LIFTING TACKLE

All pull lifts must be checked every three months and colour coded.

They must be sent out of the pit to be checked.

The system is NOT WORKING - WHY?

It is a matter of safety and concerns everyone.

Only the Beltmen are complying with the instructions. This is a serious situation and must be rectified. Everyone can help to make this a safer pit. Let's have this lifting tackle checked regularly so every man using the tackle can work safely.

WHAT'S NEW ON HO5R'S UNIT

On HO5R's is installed a machine steering system (System 70,000). This can be set to control the amount of top coal left and floor dirt cut automatically and assists in improving face conditions and the quality of the coal produced.

In addition it transmits a wide range of information to a surface computer which can be used to analyse the performance of the machine and the "health" of the machine.

Machine operators, electricians and fitters have been purpose trained on this machine on a mock-up system. This should enable the machine to be used to its full capabilities.

The face chain control gear is also fitted with some health monitoring which is also transmitted to a surface computer. A useful feature of this equipment is that it can be used to give an impending overload alarm. This alarm can be broadcast onto the face communication system and assist in preventing a stalled face chain.

The longer the machines run the greater the output which means more money for everyone. Get the paddies away on time, don't leave your place of work early.

Lets make Hatfield a member of the big league.

NORTH WEST DEVELOPMENT

After four years of hard work a ventilation circuit has now been established.

It's congratulations to all concerned.

To the drivage men for doing the job.

To the officials for maintaining high standards.

To the materials men for getting the tackle to the job.

To the craftsmen for keeping the machines running

To the Outbye men for keeping the belts running

To the surveyors for achieving the high degree of accuracy required to keep the drivage on centre and on grade.

Well done everybody - Keep it up

This is the level of performance which will give Hatfield Colliery a stake in the future.

A SAFE PROFITABLE PIT SECURES A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR
EVERYONE MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL WHO WORK AT HATFIELD AND THEIR FAMILIES

ROUTINE CONDITION MONITORING
APPLIED TO A.F.C.'s

In the case of Hatfield, i.e. all faces are between 200 metres and 230 metres in length and have a 19mm chain.

It is policy to run with 5T-8T total pre-tension in both chains.

Daily pre-tensometer readings gives the following information.

- 1) Even pre-tensions in both gob side and face side chains, i.e. 3T in Gob Side and 3T in Face Side
Total 6T pre-tension
Then no action is required.
- 2) Even readings, but below 5T Total:
The chain requires tensioning.
- 3) Uneven readings tells that the face is not straight.
i.e. 5T Face side 2T Gob side
Either Gate ends are behind or Middle of Bank in front.

By applying a 5 minute check daily and organising any remedial action, "Mechanical or Mining Work" immediately, could eliminate any of the following:-

- 1) Slack chain, cooked links, chain off sprockets, damage to strippers and deck plates.
- 2) Too high pre-tensions, leading to broken chain or 'D' Links, sprocket teeth wear, pan wear, and more power is required to drive the chain.
- 3) Uneven pre-tensions, "Bent" faces causes chain stretch on the tight side and ultimately, leading to turning lengths of chain round, fly cutting to straighten face up.

All of which is wasted time! and lose machine running time.

All our machines can cut at 22'/min. which is equal to:- 4 tons/min.

i.e. 1 hours delay = 240 tons/coal = £10,000.

LET'S BRIGHTEN UP THE CANTEEN

A competition will be run to select the three best photographs which will be hung in the canteen.
A £10 prize can be won for the photographs selected
Come on all you budding David Baileys now is your opportunity to achieve fame.
Hand in your entry together with your name and check number to Margaret Bedfordin General Services.

SAFETY

The dictionary definition of safety is 'FREEDOM FROM DANGER'.

During the period May to November 1985 there were 69 compensible accidents including one fatality to an outside contractor.

Slipping and stumbling is by far the worst category and 24 of these accidents have happened since May.

Here are ways to reduce this type of accident:

Stock all supplies tidily.

Keep travelling roads free from obstruction.

Replace badly worn footwear.

Inform your Official of any potential hazard you may see or any malpractices being carried out i.e. jumping on and off moving paddies.

FIVE THOUGHTS ON SAFETY

1. Guards are fitted to protect you "USE THEM DON'T ABUSE THEM".
2. A careful worker is the best known "SAFETY DEVICE".
3. Incorrect methods cause accidents.
4. If you are not sure ask the person in charge.
5. You may be alright but think of your workmates.

LETS HAVE A SAFE 1986

Jim - How far is 300 metres?

Dave- From the library to the Welfare

John- Ne it's not.
It's from the Offices to No.2 Shaft.

Harry- You're both wrong, it's from the Pay Office to the Betting Shop.

They're all correct and it's also the length of 117's

JDM - Whats a cubic foot?
HARRY - I don't know put a claim in for it.

Area Topics - December



"WE'RE GETTING IT RIGHT"

The Doncaster and South Yorkshire Areas merged at the beginning of October this year to form the South Yorkshire Area.

And already the "new" Area is breaking productivity records weekly at most pits.

The plans for the Area are now beginning to pay off and we are now turning out coal at the rate of around 300,000 tonnes a week at an O.M.S. in excess of 3 tonnes at a production cost less than £1.40 per gigajoule.

The Area produces high quality coal and every tonne mined is being sold.

Prospects for the rest of this year are looking good too, the improved results will enable the Area to move from loss into profit before capital charges.

Looking further ahead to 1986/87, we are on target in our aim to break even after all charges are taken into account. It can be done and everyone will benefit.

TOP DOGS

Thanks to high performances at our pits the Area is now up with the leaders of the NCB's production and productivity league.

Here's a few of our record-breaking achievements:-

<u>SOUTH YORKSHIRE RECORD WEEKS OUTPUT</u>		<u>RECORD WEEKS OVERALL O.M.S.</u>	
5.10.85	267,285		2.97
30.11.85	317,343		3.64
And at the pits:-			
	<u>Tonnes</u>	<u>Overall O.M.S.</u>	<u>Best Since</u>
Barnburgh	17,588	4.85 tonnes	8. 1.83
Bentley	19,510	5.35 tonnes	5.10.85
Frickley	23,003	5.12 tonnes	16.11.85
Goldthorpe	17,050	6.50 tonnes	7. 9.85
Kiveton Park	13,608	4.94 tonnes	21. 3.81
Manton	33,633	7.13 tonnes	20. 7.85
Manvers	13,997	3.69 tonnes	5. 9.85
Markham Main	28,500	4.37 tonnes	
Rossington	24,545	4.56 tonnes	9.11.85
Silverwood	35,500	5.59 tonnes	15.10.83

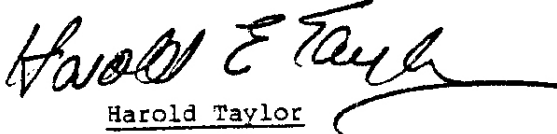
And more pits each week are jostling to be in the frame.

All in all, it's a tremendous performance that bodes well for the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to say CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU for helping this Area to get it right.

Keep up the good work and we can face the future with every confidence.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.


Harold Taylor
Director
South Yorkshire Area

AREA RESULTS - PIT BY PIT NOVEMBER 1985

Colliery	Daily Output Per Face (DOF) (Tonnes)	Overall Prod- uctivity (Tonnes)	Cost Per Gigajoule £
Manton	2424	5.45	0.96
Silverwood	1776	4.35	1.03
Rossington	1587	4.07	0.98
Goldthorpe	1544	5.82	0.93
Barnburgh	1477	4.15	1.20
Markham	1401	3.31	1.17
Bentley	1193	4.98	0.89
<u>AREA</u>	1127	3.26	1.38
Hatfield	1070	2.55	1.79
Askern	977	3.08	1.48
Wath	975	3.75	1.26
Manvers	947	2.52	1.90
Dinnington	943	1.70	2.16
Maltby	933	2.75	1.71
Thurcroft	923	3.02	1.42
Treeton	883	2.94	1.38
Kiveton Park	873	4.05	1.33
Frickley	834	4.04	1.39
Shireoaks	803	3.21	1.72
Kilnhurst	637	2.25	2.19
Brodsworth	633	2.63	1.48
Cadeby	456	1.52	2.78

WHERE WE SELL OUR COAL

Taking about three-quarters of our production, power stations continue to be the main users of our coal.

But the high quality of our fuel means we can still uphold the tradition of producing a range of coals for more specialised markets.

South Yorkshire coking smalls have regained their position as the principal constituents of British Steel's blends for coke production at Scunthorpe and Orgreave.

We are also supplying fuel for blast furnace injection at Scunthorpe - a process which they are pioneering.

Our house coal qualities are amongst the best in the country and as well as supplying local customers, they are also in demand further afield.

Train loads are despatched on British Rail's Speedlink network to Scotland and the North West and our coal is shipped from Goole to the Channel Islands and from Garston to Northern Ireland, Eire and the Isle of Man.

We also supply washed smalls for export through Immingham Bulk Terminal and specialised cargoes are exported to Denmark from Goole.

It is for industry, however, where we see the greatest potential for growth and we have gained a number of new customers in the last few months.

WOTZ DOF?

In the Area results table you will see that the collieries are listed in the order of their daily output per face (DOF).

DOF is calculated by taking the saleable output produced from mechanised faces and dividing by the number of days worked. In that way we can see how efficiently the colliery is using the money invested in equipment and the men at the pit.

MANVERS COMPLEX

The Kilnhurst, Manvers and Wath collieries, at present forming the Manvers combine will come under one management team from 1st January, 1986, South Yorkshire Area Director, Harold Taylor, told the mining unions at a Reconvened Colliery Review Meeting, on Wednesday, 11th December.

Mr. Taylor said the purpose of the proposed changes was to streamline the present management organisation to reduce costs and therefore improve the prospects of the complex. The main effect will be an improvement in the administrative services.

Coal will still be wound, as at present, at Manvers. The three mines are already linked underground and men will continue to ride, bathe and change at their existing shafts.

Barnburgh Colliery, which sends its coal overland to be prepared at Manvers will be unaffected.