

New Dynamite and Blasting Powder Book in the Works

Eric R. Twitty

The book I am currently composing describes the history of American dynamite and blasting powder companies. It will illustrate all of their existing kegs and boxes, assign the boxes and kegs a "rarity" rating, discuss the development of dynamite and powder, and relate both to mining history and mining processes. This is where I beg help on my hands and knees from the collecting community.

The help I need is identifying as many styles of boxes and kegs as possible and their repetition. I also need copies of bill-heads, stocks, and other paper items for illustration. The most useful way to represent your box or keg is with a photo or photocopy, no matter the quality. This is especially pertinent for rare items! This will eliminate ambiguity for accurate representation in the book. If the item appears in a photo with other unrelated thing these can and will be deleted. Credit will be given in print for a photo or illustration. The owner will be credited with ownership if desired. I can reimburse costs for copies of photos and mailing if the bundle of copies is large. Borrowed photos will be returned. Depending on the extent of cooperation and assistance A REASONABLE DISCOUNT OF THE BOOK IS AVAILABLE.

I will send on request to collectors who wish to help with the survey:

1. List of documented boxes.
2. Fill-in questionnaire (Dynamite boxes).
3. Fill-in questionnaire (Blasting powder kegs).

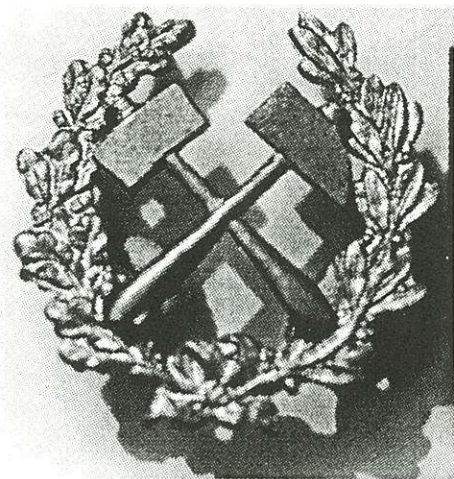
Send info to:

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Miners' Badges

Manfred Stutzer

Throughout Europe, badges or pins were issued to miners for local or regional mine festivals and celebrations. Typically these badges and pins had the crossed hammer symbol and/or some variety of mine lamp depicted on them.



The brass badge (above) with crossed hammers surrounded by a laurel wreath was issued in Poland. The nickel-plated brass badge (below) with crossed hammers, crest and frog lamp was issued in a famous old iron mining region of Germany, circa 1920. The badge with crossed hammers and a safety lamp (next page) was issued in the Soviet Union.

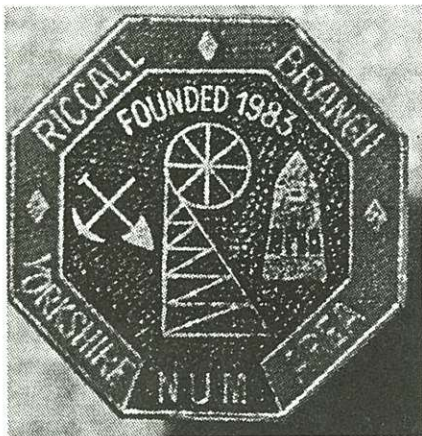


A specific type of badge has been sold to support striking miners and their families. In 1984 and 1985, a twelve month strike by coal miners in Great Britain resulted from the Government's attempt to close a large number of coal mines.

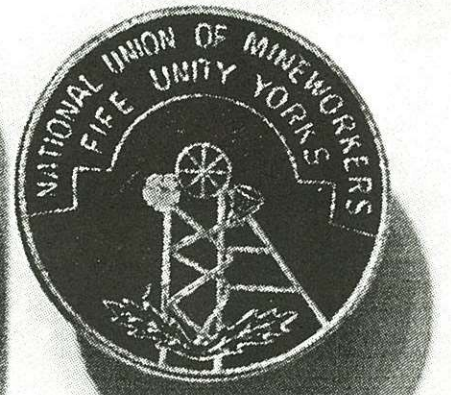
The N.U.M. (National Union of Mineworkers) fought for the survival of its members against the N.C.B. (National Coal Board). Pictured here are five examples of these brass and enamel fund raising badges from various regions of Great Britain. Recent stories from Great Britain indicate that there may be another attempt by the British Government to close many aging coal mines that are labeled as non-competitive or unprofitable. This action is sure to invoke a response from the N.U.M. and its members.



RIGHT: Badge from Bersham Colliery Branch in Wales
LEFT: Badge from North Eastern Division near Doncaster, Yorkshire.



Badge from the Yorkshire England region.



RIGHT: Fife Unity badge.
LEFT: N.U.M. Women's Action Group Badge.



Russian badge.

Note: All badges shown are from Manfred Stutzer's collection.