

Chairman's Report for 2025

- 2025 was a year of celebration for EMET, being the 20th anniversary of the formation of EMET in 2005. 2025 has also been a year of improvements. There has been a healthy number of visitors for underground trips with EMET and EHfSA during 2025 and, as a result, income from visitor fees and donations was buoyant. EMET is very grateful for generous cash donations from the Cornwall Mining Conference and Min South.
- EMET is also extremely grateful for a very generous grant from the Duke of Devonshire's Estate towards improving access into Deep Ecton for less able visitors. EMET match funded the grant to facilitate the works at Deep Ecton.
- Very successful Heritage Open Days were held at Ecton in conjunction with PDMS with underground visits in Salts Level and Deep Ecton on 20th and 21st September 2025. Visitors from far and wide came to visit the mine and there is very keen interest for similar open days to be held in 2026.
- EMET has benefited financially from a company wishing to test borehole probes in the mine. These tests have been carried out a number of times in 2025 in the Ecton Main Shaft. The tests have included sound transmission and receiver systems as well as depth measurers. LIDAR camera and sound have also been tested in Salts Level. Payment for this service has provided EMET with very useful additional income.
- The installation of a new broadband service together with a new telephone service in 2025 has significantly improved IT connectivity. In addition, the "Conference Room Owl" in the Ecton Centre has been fully commissioned and hybrid meeting facilities are now available so that persons can contribute remotely to meetings at the Ecton Centre.
- There were no changes to the board of EMET Trustees in 2025 but EMET is looking for some younger potential trustees for the future.

Maintenance

Ecton Mine and the Ecton Centre constantly require a continuous programme of works.

Tree trimming and undergrowth clearance around the mine entrances, Ecton Centre and Dressing Floor area have again been carried out regularly. Trees with Ash dieback have also been identified for felling.

New fencing has been installed around shaft tops where existing fencing has been deemed to be unsafe. The cost of this fencing has been funded by EMET.

Deep Ecton Access

The award of a generous grant from the Duke of Devonshire's Estate, match funded by EMET has enabled a stone step access to be built at the entrance to Deep Ecton. This work was carried out by DGeo in the Summer of 2025 before the influx of visitors at the Heritage Open Days in September. These new steps make access to the mine entrance much easier, especially for the less able. EMET would like to again thank DGeo for the quality of the stonework carried out complimenting the setting of the mine entrance.

EMET Website

A new 50 minute video has been put together summarising the explorations by UNEXMIN and UNEXUP in recent years of the Ecton flooded mine workings. This work, put together by Richard Papp of Unexmin Robotics, has been put on YouTube and can be accessed *via* a link on the EMET website.

Financial Summary

Income from charitable activities in 2025 was £15,550 (2024: £103,733). This is broken down as follows :

- Income from normal Trust activities (EHFSA, other visitor income, donations and facility hire) was £6,902 (2024: £6,642). In addition, we received grants totalling £6,000 (£5,000 from the Duke of Devonshire's Charitable Trust, and £1,000 from UKMC) which we used to part fund the improvements to the Deep Ecton mine entrance.
- Bank interest was £2,648 (2024:£2,889), a small decrease which reflects reducing interest rates in the year.

The associated administrative and operating expenses were £11,702 (2024: £98,948), £7,151 for the Deep Ecton Portal improvement works, with the balance on normal Trust activities. In addition, there was a depreciation charge of £1,700.

Overall, the Trust made a pleasing surplus in the year of £2,148 (2024: £3,085).

Andrew C Mann, Chairman

13th April 2026