



THE DAW MILLION

MAY 1991



MANAGER'S MESSAGE

My first Manager's Message for the 1991/92 financial year comes at the end of a highly successful month where production has been consistently high resulting in Daw Mill coal being some of the most cheaply produced in Great Britain. During the year ahead we have several major

objectives. Our budget in production terms is 1.95 million tonnes. The anticipated development yardage is 7,319m, this being significantly higher than we achieved last year and is still the key to our long term future.

Our cash flow budget for the current financial year is £6.3m worse than 1990/91 which illustrates the effect on our business of the highly competitive market place and the need for Daw Mill to constantly strive to improve its efficiency. There will be much activity on salvage work during 1991/92 and the operation at 76's remains vital to our business plan. 66's and 71's will both be salvaged during the current year.

Of equal importance is our ability to reduce the rate of accidents which continue to increase. Slipping, stumbling and falling is the major accident category and I believe this can be reduced only if we turn our attention to keeping workplaces tidy rather than tidying workplaces which have become untidy. In addition we have now made the carrying of Eye Protection compulsory,

however it must be emphasised that *protection can only be given when it is worn*. I am pleased that those men who have opted for the ski type goggles seem delighted with their performance.

As we progress through the new financial year let's see if we can achieve our objectives together and make 1991/92 even better than 1990/91. I have no doubt we can.

A. GALLOWAY
Colliery Manager

COAL PREP. PLANT RECORD BROKEN

During the week ending 6th April 1991, The Coal Preparation Plant broke its record for the amount of coal washed through the plant. Throughput has increased generally since a reorganisation of working hours and the introduction of the New Washing Agreement.

The amount of coal washed during the 6th April week was 72,766 Tonnes, an outstanding achievement.

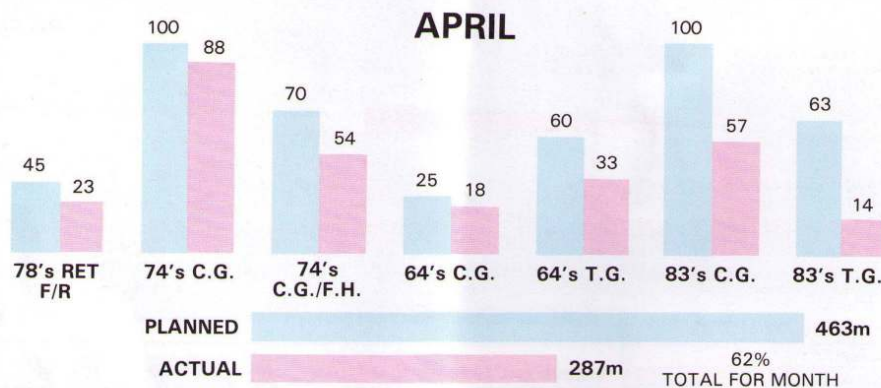
Our appreciation goes to the lads who set this record, keep up the good work.

FACE FACTS

APRIL FACE OUTPUT

W/E	66's	71's	73's	78's	Other Sources	Total Tonnes
6.4.91	25805	12888	NIL	16123	1234	56050
13.4.91	28438	13195	2866	17509	1134	63142
20.4.91	34491	13218	NIL	21109	1113	69931
27.4.91	24292	11841	2306	17776	1127	57342
	113026	51142	5172	72517	4608	246465

DEVELOPMENT DATA



UNDERMANAGER'S REPORTS

Mr RICHARDSON'S AREA

SAFETY

Eye Protection - The carrying of goggles has now become compulsory, but the disappointing factor is that too many people are still too complacent and are not using them: **REMEMBER IT ONLY TAKES A SPLIT SECOND TO LOSE YOUR EYESIGHT. YOU'VE GOT THEM SO USE THEM!**

Tidiness - Still too many accidents in stumbling/slipping/falling. Make your workplace safe - stack tidy - get rid of scrap.

**SAFETY AT WORK =
MAXIMUM ENJOYMENT AT HOME**

78's F/RD RETURN

Now 69 metres in with roofbolting commenced at 62 metre mark. Standard of work at the back of the head is good. The outbye section standards are still getting better, but the recent introduction of lights has shown where more work can be done.

The next 2 weeks should see the introduction of the 2nd belt unit and eliminate tracking and filling with Eimco thus increasing advance. The chain for round the curve is now under manufacture and should be available in the next 4 weeks.

78's FACE

Face Standards are good, tail gate Rip standards are getting right - good job now let's keep it that way.

We are still the pits main unit but our performance is still not where it should be. Recent problems being electrical fault with tail gate machine, water in the tail gate and some weak ground.

The tail gate water problem now requires maximum effort from all concerned to ensure good access to face, tackled correctly we can overcome this.

A project coming up in the next 4 weeks is the site preparation for a coal gate No.3 belt drive. This will involve accurate setting of arches, some heavy duty arches and roofbolting. For success we shall all have to be committed to the plan, a job I am sure we can do.

Mr MacLAUCHLAN'S AREA

71's

The last four weeks of production have shown a marked increase in output to over 13,000 tonnes per week. This is produced just working two shifts, (is this because Spit's shaved his beard off?).

To all concerned, this is a good achievement and with more consistency it should be possible to lift this to 15,000 tonnes.

The coal gate machine has now been set up to cut from tail to coal gate on automatic to assist the driver to grade the face.

83's COAL GATE

This has advanced to 500m with 80m to go until the face line junction. The last 100m has been on a grade of 1:4 and standards of work are good although the advance still leaves a lot of room for improvement.

83's TAIL GATE

30m of backripping has been done through 82's face finish line junction. This area has been pumped to effect a good seal to the face.

An endless rope haulage system is being installed to remove the scrap that will be uncovered as we dirt forward.

83's face is due to be driven off the coal gate setting square work and roof bolting with the face installation commencing in the 2nd week of September.

Production is due to start February 1991, it should be possible to get this face into production earlier.

SAFETY

There are still too many eye accidents. Everyone now has goggles we must **all WEAR THEM.**

Stumbling and falling accidents are still the highest category. It is everybody's duty to tidy up.

**DO NOT LEAVE SCRAP, STEEL,
BELT OR WOOD LYING AROUND.**

PICK IT UP -SEND IT OUT!

Mr RUDDOCK'S AREA

73's

Continuing with repair programme. Toe plates and R.A.T. combs have been changed where necessary leaving stage loader chain and A.F.C. pans as major items to change. The face is currently being worked on a 2 week cycle - (1 week repairs and 1 week production).

74's

C/G INBYE This development has progressed well after initial weighting at the face junction and roofbolting has become more effective and conditions are now very good.

C/G OUTBYE When there is 150m left between the two drivages the outbye drivage will be stopped. The RH22 will be pulled back to repair the roadway outbye, (there is currently 260m of heading left). Work will then be focused on the installation of the chock transportation system, this being the key to getting 74's into production on time.

SAFETY NOTE

Everyone has now been issued with goggles. It goes without saying that to be effective they have to be worn - they are not just expensive helmet decoration. Before you carry out any particular task, consider the possible danger to your eyes. If there are any doubts use the goggles, you owe it to yourself.

Mr FLINT'S AREA

66's

Consistently good results again, with 34,491 tonnes being produced week ending 20.4.91. Praise is due to everybody concerned with 66's for maintaining this level of production.

Worthy of a mention this month are the T/G "bob holers", who are struggling with the length and size of the access holes, (coupled with the face retreat rate per week). Keep up the good work lads.

Undermanager's Monthly Moan - With the face retreating some 25-30m per week, the salvage material produced is considerable. Any item not cleared from the district must be stacked **TIDILY**. Stumbling and falling accidents are happening far too often in what should be a *clean* district.

64's

T/G Advance rate in this heading reached a peak of 15.5m and then died. This was mainly due to problems with SRD panzer, so the decision was made to modify the same to increase reliability. Hopefully, this will reduce delay times and we can catch up on lost time.

C/G RH22 installed but progress slow due to limited room allied with excavation size. Rate of advance should increase over the next two weeks as supply routes and dirt clearance are improved.

20's

Irwin and Co. should complete ripping up to 76's junction this month, allowing a dint machine to start up on 20's No.2. This roadway is important to the pit for ventilation of the South Side so high standards of repair work must be maintained.

76's

Completed the 3rd bolting run. Cavity at C/G rip complicating matters.

P.S. Watch out 64's C/G-SID 2, Pidder and Sid cometh!

Mr LITTLE'S AREA

First of all a belated "welcome" to Daw Mill for Thyssen GB, who won the contract for 200's Developments and 78's Intake Following Road. This is a return to Daw Mill for Nigel Williams, site agent, who used to be one of our officials.

78's FOLLOWING ROAD

Currently heading through the highly stressed pillar between 20's old goaf and 78's face start line. This length of roadway is being fully roofbolted in order to reduce future roadway repairs, and this is affecting performance. Best so far is six arches, fully bolted, in three shifts.

200's INTAKE

A TITAN heading machine started heading at the end of March and we are going into virgin territory in front of 20's old faceline. Best weeks progress so far is 46 arches at 0.9m centres in a week in rock, (unless you know better!) Progress here will temporarily slow down whilst we roofbolt some 50m of roadway in front of 20's face.

200's RETURN

A short length of road has been driven by boring and firing, we are now building up another TITAN machine. Once this is established with a belt behind it, I expect this head to achieve 40m plus per week.

It is important for the long term future of everyone at Daw Mill that these developments perform and allow us to get into the new production areas. With two working heads currently doing 45% of all development yardage at the pit, by the time you read this we will be well on our way.

ACCIDENT STATISTICS COMPARING 89/90 with 90/91

	89/90	90/91	+ Better - Worse
Major Injuries	9	13	- 4
Over 3 Day Accidents	128	138	- 10
Work Days Lost	1933	2792	- 859
Accident Rate	33	37	- 4
Work Days Lost Rate	515	756	- 241
Major Injury Rate	1.9	2.98	- 1.08

ACCIDENT CATEGORIES and NUMBERS FOR 1990/91

UNDERGROUND

Falls of Ground	7+2m Face	6	= 15
		elsewhere	
Falling Object	15+2m		= 17
Haulage & Transport	8		= 8
Use of Tools & Appliances	3+1m		= 4
Handling Supplies	9		= 9
Stumbling Slipping & Falling	61+4m		= 65
Other Causes	10+2m		= 12
TOTALS	11 MAJOR	130 OVER 3 DAYS	

SURFACE

Handling Supplies	1		= 1
Stumbling Slipping & Falling	3+2m		= 5
TOTALS	2 MAJOR	6 OVER 3 DAYS	

All Accident Totals 13 Major - 125 Over 3 Days

ACCIDENT STATISTICS

The trend on accidents are causing concern to the Safety Department. We are worse this year in every aspect of accident statistics than last years figures.

The only real blackspot for the colliery is slipping, stumbling and falling accidents

- 50% of all underground accidents
- 90% of all surface accidents

This is one category where drastic improvement can be made with very little effort.

1. Tidy your workplace.
2. Leave clear walkways.
3. When walking in and out take extra care. Warn the person behind if there is a hazard.
4. Ensure Working Platforms are Safe and Secure and Free from Obstructions.
5. Keep catwalks clear on Faces.

Remember, do not improvise in the building of working platforms and scaffolds.

PAINTBALL COMPETITIONS

Black Widows 45pts Allsorts 0. That was the final score after a full days "Paintball Skirmish" at Bassets Pole recently.

The Widows, all of which were Daw Mill men and had the more experienced side, soon weaved a web of terror over the Allsorts to sting them into defeat.

After the match Bob "Shotgun" Evans, jubilant captain of the Widows said, "I am proud of the way my team fought, especially Chris Ellison who played very well indeed, narrowly missing out on an individual award." These are awarded by the site marshals who chose Graham "PitCat" Rose overall Top Gun, Danny Franks, Widows Top Gun and Ken "Rhino" Watkins as the Allsorts best player. All three are members of the Sneaky Snorkels, who have recruited three new members, Steve "Filo Beddo" Jameson, Steve "Wink" Wilcox, and Andy Vaughn to the team who will be shortly gunning for money in the nationwide Top Gun Tournament with a £5,000 payout prize.

Our pictures show the winning team with Bob "Billboard" Jones, Allsorts Captain and fellow Snorkel and Allsorts player Ken "Rhino" Watkins with a guest appearance by Ed the Duck who enjoyed the day out.

Future game details will be posted on the notice board.



CRAFTSMAN RETIRES



Mick Warmington retired from Daw Mill at Christmas after almost 25 years in the Mining Industry.

A special presentation was made at the Annual Craftsmens Association Christmas Party which was held at Stockingford Labour Club. Pictured is Deputy Mechanical Engineer, John Francis presenting Mick with a bottle of his favourite tippel. With John's reluctance to show the label on the front of the bottle, we can only hope that Mick likes home made wine.



DAW MILL BAND

Since the last issue of the Daw Million, the Daw Mill Band has become South Midlands and East Anglia Champions as a result of gaining 1st prize in the annual area contest held in Corby.

This means that for the first time Daw Mill Band will be competing against other winning fourth section bands from all over Britain in the national finals in London in October. This is the biggest contest in the brass band calendar. The band has voted RAY HOBBS as band person of the year for 1991-2. Ray has been a member of Arley and Daw Mill Bands for a total of 38 years.

Ray received his trophy from another retired miner, Mr Bob Oldroyd who is also a vice-president of the band at a concert held recently in Bulkington.

(Pictured is Ray receiving his award)

DRAKE SHIELD

Daw Mill met Shirebrook in the final of the Drake Shield, the Annual Rugby Competition, at Nuneaton Rugby Club on Wednesday, 24th April, 1991.

In the two previous rounds our lads had disposed of both Ollerton and Silverhill in convincing displays. However, last years winners Shirebrook proved that they were in no mood to let go of the shield.

The game was a hard fought forward battle and at the end of 80 minutes the scores were all level at 4-4. In extra time we were beaten when Shirebrook scored a 70 metre breakaway try, and despite further pressure, held on to the lead and won the competition for the second time.

Pictured below is our team.

