

# DEVAMOG VISIT TO THE LANCASHIRE MINING MUSEUM

**THURSDAY 20 JULY 2023**

On Thursday 20 July 2023, Jay and Yvonne Hale have organised a guided tour of the Lancashire Mining Museum, formally Astley Green Colliery. Towering over the site is an eye-catching reminder of Lancashire's once great coal mining past. This is the headgear, the last surviving one in the whole of the Lancashire coalfield. This, with the winding house and winding engine, is the backdrop for a host of activity at the museum. The winding engine, which still works, is believed to be the largest and most powerful winding engine still in existence in Europe.



We plan to arrive at 1pm and park in a designated 'Morgan only' parking area (see site plan below). At 1.15pm we will watch a welcome film, aptly named the 'Mine of Information'. At 1.30pm a volunteer guide will take us around the site and explain the origins of the pit and what life was like working here during the 62 years the colliery was in operation (it closed in 1970).

At 2pm we will get the opportunity to watch the winding engine running, which is a thing of industrial beauty (see below for further details). Built in 1910 in Blackburn, it weighs 450 tons and develops 3300 bhp (by comparison, a Morgan Plus 4 2.0 litre engine develops 145

bhp). You will then have some free time to explore the site on your own (there is plenty to see, including Fred Dibnah's winding gear that he built in his back garden) before retiring to the refreshment tent for tea/coffee and cakes at a cost of £2 per head. The site closes at 5pm.

The museum is run by volunteers and entirely reliant upon donations. Although admission to the museum is free, we are asking each participant to donate £5 which will go towards the upkeep of the site and pay for the running of the winding engine, which only normally runs on the last Sunday of the month and during special events.

Click on the link below for further details:

<https://lancashireminingmuseum.org>

If you are planning on participating in this visit, please let Jay Hale know on 07879 445535 or [jay@company-strategy.co.uk](mailto:jay@company-strategy.co.uk)

You can either pay Jay on the day or transfer the payment into his bank account (please see Jay's bank details in John Smith's accompanying email). Please note, payment for refreshments and cakes will be direct to the museum on the day.

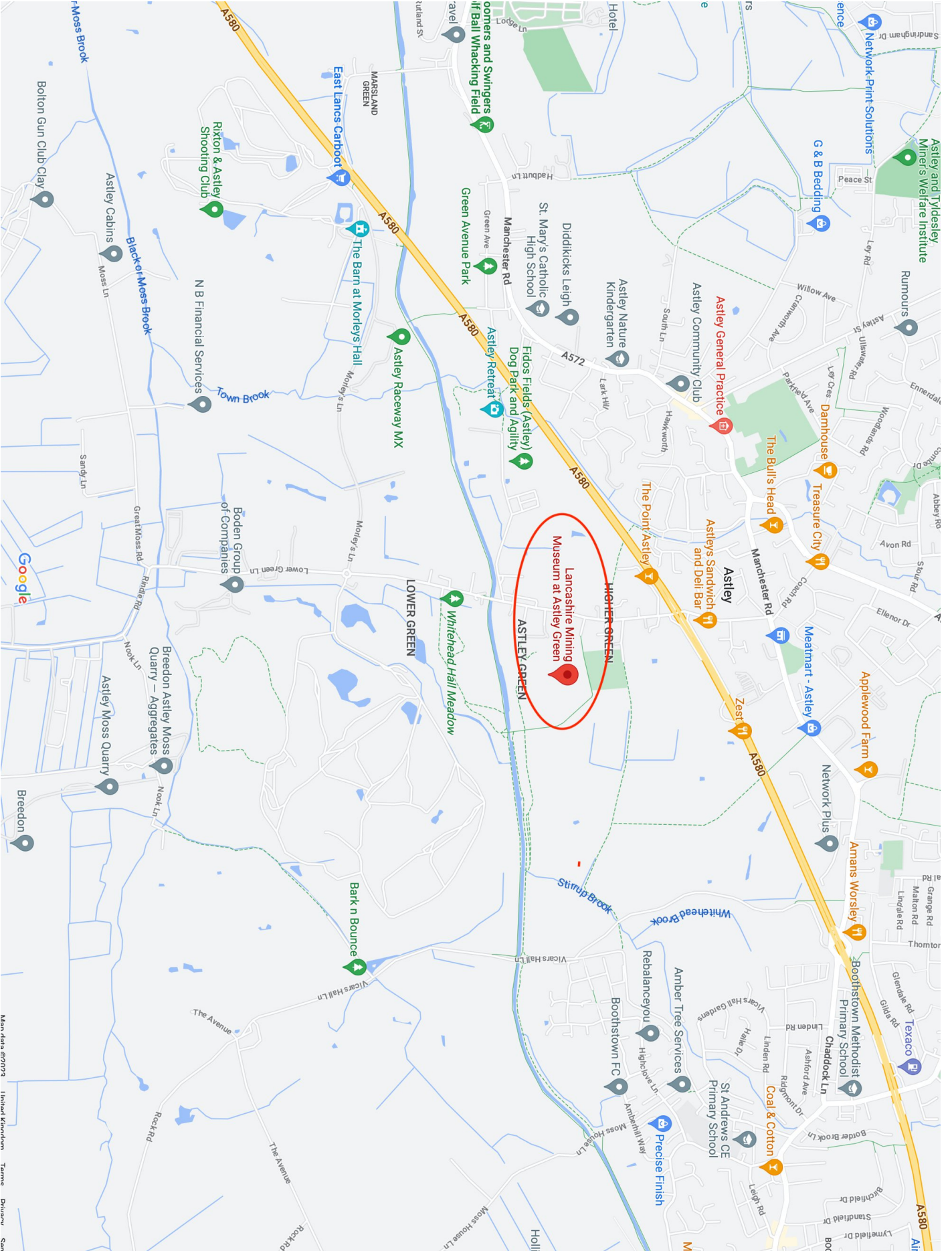
The address of the museum is:

Lancashire Mining Museum  
Higher Green Lane  
Astley  
Manchester  
M29 7JB

See location map below.

The Lancashire Mining Museum provides an important reminder of a major industry that powered the UK for generations and something worth preserving. We do hope you can join us.



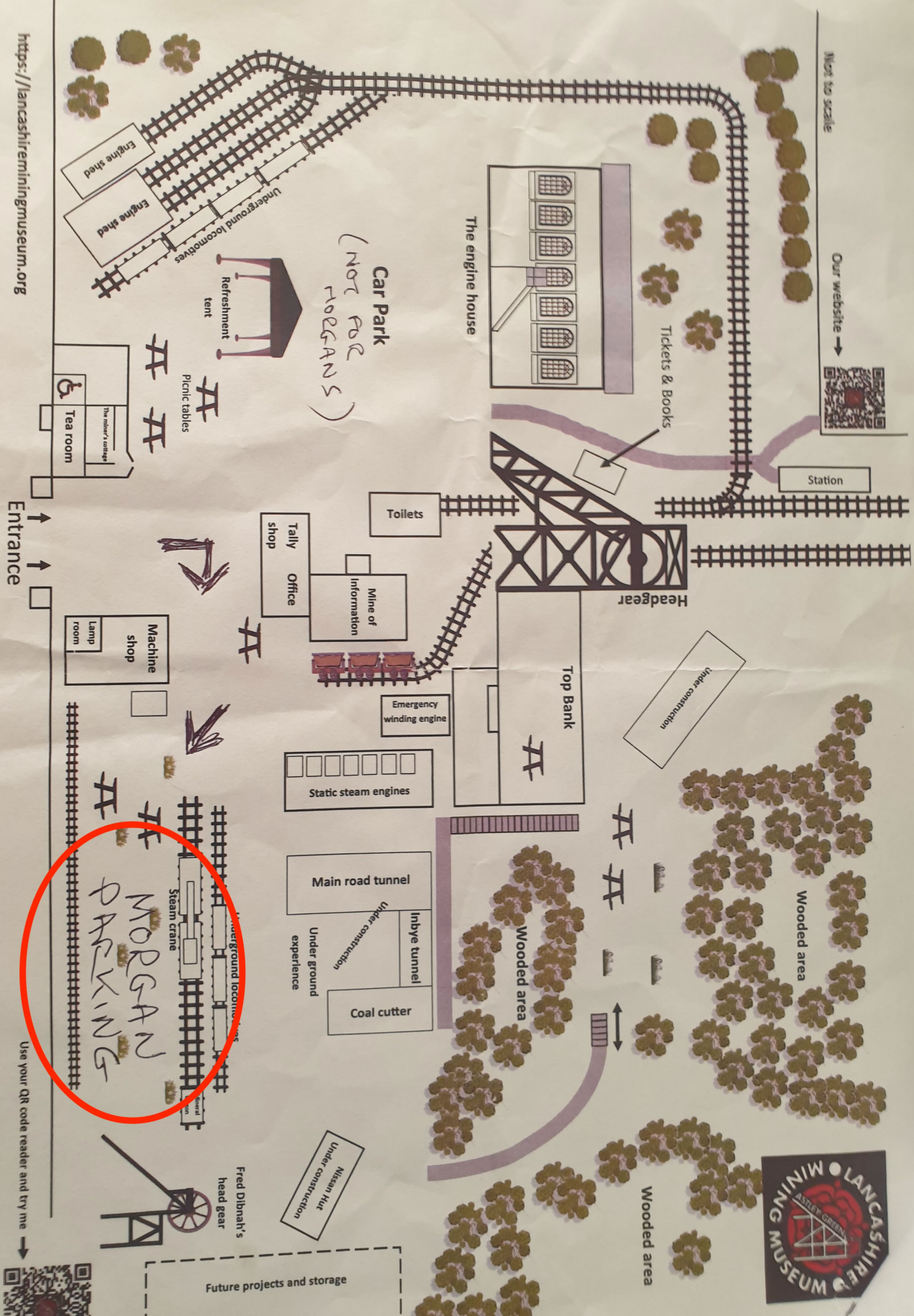




<https://lancashireminingmuseum.org>

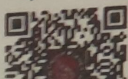
Not to scale

Our website →



Entrance →

Use your QR code reader and try me →



## Did you know these facts about our winding engine!

The engine was installed in 1912 the same year the Titanic sank and took two years to complete.

The engine was built by Yates & Thom in Blackburn.

The total cost for the winding house in 1910 was £4133, £482,767.80 in today's money!

The winding engine was completed at a total cost of £9677, £1,130,351.80 in today's money!

The winding engine is the largest surviving colliery winding engine of its type in Europe.

The winding engine develops 3300 horsepower at 58 rpm (revolutions per minute) A new 16-cylinder, 78 litre Caterpillar engine generates the same power and weighs just 1:25th

The mine shaft was 2670 feet, 814m deep. Two and a half times higher than the Eiffel tower, that's half a mile deep.

The under ground tunnels stretched over 3 miles out from the pit.

The engine has four cylinders in twin tandem (side by side).

The pit closed in 1970. In 1983 renovation of the engine, which had been exposed to the elements, began. It took a further 37 years to restore to running order.

The engine was steam driven, but now relies on compressed air to make it turn.



Click to see the engine running

The cable alone weighed 18 tons which is the same as 15 Mini cars

The cable drum diameter is 27 feet, 8.2 (large drum) 17 feet, 5.18 m (small drum)

The technical and correct name for the cable is, fully locked coil steel winding rope

The cage was dropped at nearly 60 mph (miles per hour). Think! This is 1.4 times faster than the worlds fastest lift and three times as fast as a normal lift!

The piston diameter is 60 inches, 2.5 m low pressure is 35 inches, 0.9 m high pressure.

The supports that holds the drum in place weigh 20,5 tons each!

The engine weighs 105 tons, 25 times heavier than a modern Caterpillar the same power!

The brake shoes are 16 inches, 0.4 m wide and 17 feet, 5.1 m long. 60 times bigger than those on your car.

