



Unearthing Duchy's hidden treasure

Western United Mines Limited is set to widen its exploration and investigation programme by widespread surface drilling beyond the South Crofty site.

As part of a strategy to speed up the process of getting the mine back into full production and pinpointing exactly where the best mineral deposits are, geologists and engineers will be drilling down at specific areas across the county to collect core samples.

Final shakedown trials are being carried out at WUM's base in Pool on two refurbished surface core drill rigs before they are moved to begin drilling in earnest at other sites.

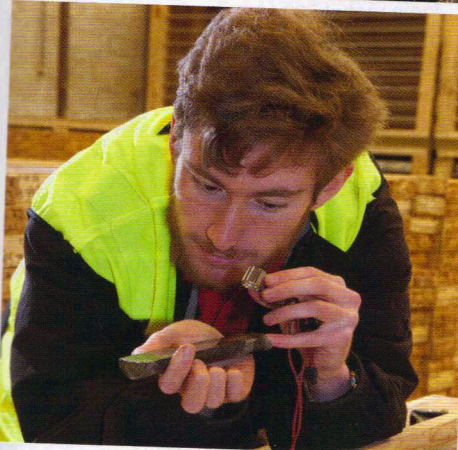
The first place to host a surface drill will be Duchy College's Rosewarne site in Camborne. As an experimental farm providing an excellent horticultural resource with national plant collections on site, protecting the college's land is of paramount importance.

College estates manager, Nick Pascoe, said Duchy College was extremely happy to allow WUM to drill through their land and had every confidence WUM managers would stick to

their promise of ensuring the land would be returned to its original state when drilling finished.

He said: "Thinking of this county's history, would Duchy College even be here without its mining heritage since the organisation spawns from Camborne Tech which used to train apprentices for the mines and Holman Bros? If there is any chance at all of finding minerals beneath our land then we should grab it with both hands. In the current economic crisis anything Cornwall can do to be more self-supporting must be encouraged. This is a first-class opportunity for us all to prosper."

WUM owns 150 square kilometres of mineral rights around Cornwall from as far south as The Lizard to land north of Bodmin. These areas include some of the most intensely mineralised areas in the world. As a polymetallic venture, WUM will be set up to extract all valuable minerals mined. As the next step to finding more of Cornwall's buried treasure, the surface drilling programme will initially target an area within a 12 mile radius of the South Crofty site.



MSc Mining Geology student Matthew Cross

Above: Chris Tenbeth and geologist Hannah Bowyer, check the recently extracted core samples for mineral content while new drill team, from left, Martin Manuewell, Jamie Wallis and Adrian Lawrence reload the rig

Expert aids search for gold

Managers at South Crofty have brought in an expert to explore where the largest deposits of gold can be found. MSc Mining Geology student Matthew Cross has been carrying out intense studies at sites in the county owned by Western United Mines Limited.

News in brief...

Asylum venue for theatre



Cornwall's touring, Kneehigh Theatre Company is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year in The Asylum – a massive, specially commissioned dome tent within which the company can present shows, hold parties and exhibit work.

The Asylum will revolutionise the way Kneehigh operates, making it a touring company with a permanent home. While continuing to tour to, and work with, national and international partner venues, Kneehigh will now be able to reach new audiences with its own portable venue.

Safety first on lifeboat day



Newquay's RNLI crew will be showing off their lifesaving skills at the station's annual lifeboat day on Sunday, August 8. The annual fun-filled family day is packed to the gills with displays and entertainment from 11.00am to 6:00pm.

The lifeboat station will be open to the public and the two inshore lifeboats will be available for members of the public to see at close quarters. RNLI members will be on hand to answer questions.