

PROFILE

Tony Morris

With the election of Tony Morris as president of the EMGS in this millennium year, the Society comes very much down to earth! Tony was born in Nottingham during the hostilities of the Second World War. He was brought up and educated locally at Haydn Road Infant and Junior Schools and at Claremont Secondary Boys School. He continued his education at both Peoples College and Nottingham Regional College of Technology (now Nottingham Trent University) where he obtained his ONC and HNC in Building. He was initially employed by Thomas Fish & Sons (Building Contractors) as a Building/Assistant Quantity Surveyor and subsequently he joined the National Coal Board in their Architects and Surveying Department.

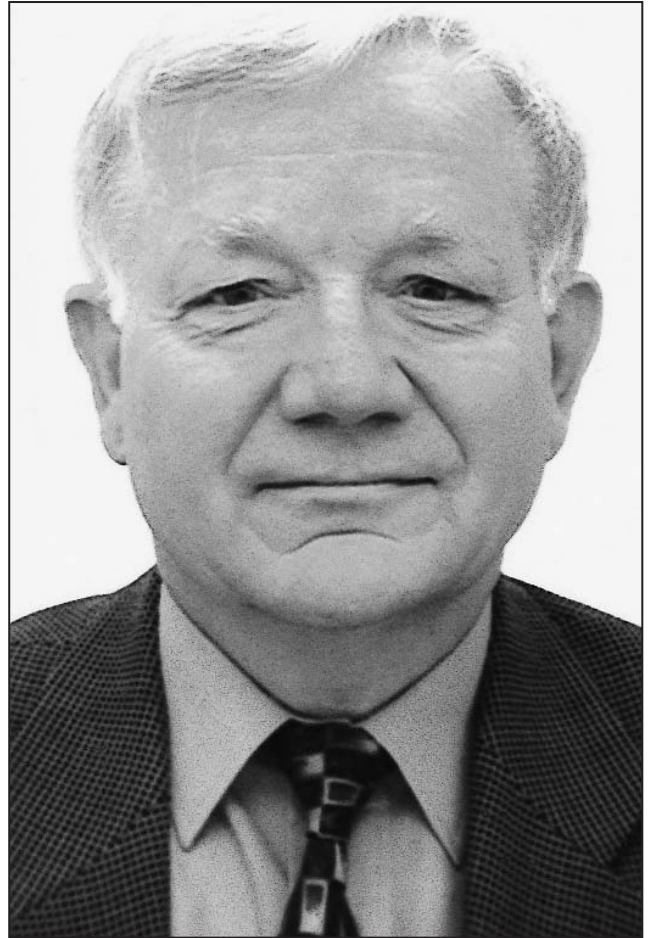
Employment at the Coal Board did not hold sway for long and service to and behalf of others soon beckoned. His interest and involvement in politics and trade union affairs led to him joining the National Union of Public Employees in 1964 as a full-time trade union officer.

Important changes to Tony's life came in 1966 when he married Jean and his work with N.U.P.E. resulted in a move to Lincoln where they lived for seven years. Promotion in 1973 to Assistant Divisional Officer saw a return to Nottingham. With the creation of a larger public sector trade union, UNISON in 1992/3, Tony was appointed as its East Midlands Regional Head of Health. After more than 30 years as a trade union official Tony took the opportunity for early retirement in 1995, enabling him to expand his interest and involvement with a variety of organisations.

Tony has always taken an active interest in local education affairs. For over twenty years he was the Vice-Chairman of the Basford Hall College of Further Education and he now serves on the Governing Body of New College Nottingham (an amalgamation of several local colleges of further education).

For five years prior to his retirement, Tony was a Director of the North Nottinghamshire Training and Enterprise Council, and he is currently a Non-Executive Director of the Central Nottinghamshire Healthcare N.H.S. Trust, and he serves as an Employment Tribunal panel member.

We would like to think that Tony's first encounter with geology was when, early one Sunday morning, he broke his toe when creating a rockery made of Bulwell Stone! However, in reality, his geological interests stem from his secondary school years with a love of physical geography and summer holidays spent with his aunt and uncle at Great Longstone, Derbyshire, collecting minerals and fossils from the Carboniferous Limestone.



His fascination with geology led him to attend, with his wife Jean, his first geology adult education classes in the 1970s, expertly tutored by Colin Bagshaw. His interest in geology mushroomed with further University and W.E.A. classes, numerous geological excursions and study tours in Britain, North America and Italy and membership of the E.M.G.S. in the late 1970s. Since his retirement he has also found time to serve as a Council member from 1996 to 1998, and he is currently a member of the Editorial Board of the *Mercian Geologist*.

Both he and Jean extended their interests in geology by undertaking a round-the-world trip in 1998 taking in some well known geological sites in Queensland, New Zealand and Hawaii.

His appreciation of geology does not curtail his interest in a variety of other subject areas through adult education classes and interest and involvement in the William Morris Society, the Cromwell Association, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the National Trust and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. In addition, Tony actively participates in local politics, and has a continuing commitment to the Labour Party.

With the election of Tony Morris as a non-professional geologist, the Society continues to promote the interests of both the professional and amateur geologist.

Andrew and Judy Rigby