

Steve Straw



I began my career with the then National Coal Board in the South Yorkshire Area as a mechanical apprentice in 1977. Working at several collieries in the area and progressing from fitter to mechanical shift charge engineer.

Having gained my HND qualification in Mining and Mechanical Engineering I was appointed Deputy Mechanical Engineer at Welbeck Colliery in the Nottinghamshire coalfield. On the announcements of its closure in 2009 I worked the last six months of production and the eventual closure as Mechanical Engineer.

Then in 2010 I took up the position of Deputy Mechanical Engineering at Thoresby Colliery in the Nottinghamshire coalfield looking after the production and salvage coal faces with responsibilities for coal face Mechanisation projects.

After 38 years in the mining and the complete closure of the industry I finally hung up my boots in July of 2015. I now spend my time actively involved with the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers and the local Labour Party of which I am chairman.

I am currently the Honorary Secretary of the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers and Fellow of the Institute of Materials Minerals and Mining.