

## Spotlight on miners statue



**Fund chairman Ken Styler and member Brenda Styler at the history open day**

Plans for a lasting memorial to miners in Great Barr have had to be scaled down - with just a few weeks left to build a more modest alternative.

Disappointed members of the committee who set up the Hamstead Miners Memorial fund have had to come up with a much cheaper tribute after raising far less than they had hoped.

Originally they planned to erect a bronze statue called the Hamstead Miner to honour workers killed in a pit fire almost 100 years ago. However, this would have cost £50,000.

With just weeks to go before the centenary to mark the mining disaster in March, chairman of the committee Ken Styler said instead they had now gone for a cheaper sculpture of a truck as they had funds of only £4,000. However they urgently need help from a builder who could sponsor the project and only have weeks to get it ready.

Businesses wanted to help call 0121 358 4195.



**Artist's impression of the statue**

**Express and Star, Monday  
January 21<sup>st</sup> 2008**