

Heckington Windmill Newsletter

Welcome from the Chairman

Welcome to our 85th newsletter. Let me start with a huge thank you to Sylvia Doughty who retired as newsletter editor after Issue 84. We are hugely grateful for all the hard work she has put in to produce some wonderful issues and keep us all in touch over the years. We are equally grateful to our Administrator Jo Lewin who has taken on production going forward.

In Issue 84 we updated everybody on what we had done to keep the mill and all the people connected with it safe as the country went into an unprecedented period of lockdown. Now we're delighted to be able to tell you all about our recovery.

We have found ways to safely re-open the whole site - mill, tearoom, and visitor centre. Our visitors are loving it, and it's great for the Heckington Windmill team to be together and back in action. It is particularly pleasing that the Government's rigid ban on over 70's volunteering has been reviewed.

One casualty of the pandemic is our usual AGM gathering. With the restrictions in place this is not



practicable so to comply with the requirements of the Charity Commission and Companies Acts we will be having a limited gathering. The physical attendees will be the Board members only but please do participate by completing and returning the enclosed proxy form. We need to achieve a minimum number of these to be quorate, and it would be good to know we have your support.

We have also had some fantastic financial support, with a grant from the government Business Support Scheme via North Kesteven District Council and a whopping £25,000 from our good friends at the Heritage Lottery Fund. Particular thanks to Jo Lewin and Mike & Elaine Hardy for all the work that went into preparing the applications. This has covered our shortfall during lockdown, funded the costs of re-opening measures such as extra outdoor seating and screens in the shop and tearoom, and helped us to plan positively for re-opening and recovery.

Once again the windmill team have risen to some enormous challenges with our usual energy and success. I hope you enjoy reading about it in this latest newsletter.

Charles Pinchbeck, Chairman



Covid-19 safety measures in place

Once we were advised by the Government we could re-open, we have been working hard behind the scenes to put in place safety measures for visitors.

This includes screens in the tea room, and hand sanitisers at the entrances to all buildings and signage around the site reminding visitors about social distancing.

We are confident that we have a good balance of safety for visitors whilst still allowing them to enjoy their visit. There is nothing nicer than sitting in the tea room gardens looking up at the windmill on a sunny afternoon!



Grant from Heritage Lottery Fund

We are extremely grateful to have been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £25,000.

The Covid-19 Emergency Grant has helped us put in place all the necessary safety measures to allow us to safely re-open to visitors. It also includes a contribution towards running costs during our closed period when we had very limited income.

This grant, plus the one from NKDC, will enable us to make plans for the coming months and years, which is particularly important in these unpredictable times.



Membership

Don't forget to renew your membership when it becomes due.

Your membership is a very important part of the Trust and we are extremely grateful for all your support over the years.

You can now renew by Direct Debit via our website to make it even easier!



Contact Anne Strong
membership@heckingtonwindmill.org.uk

New Look for the Mill Shop

Thanks to an AIM Hallmarks Grant of £5000 from the Association of Independent Museums, we have been able to purchase new shop fittings which replicate the oak display units in the granary visitor centre.

Built by local craftsman Ashley Fox, the units have been designed to our own specification to provide a fantastic display area for the new product lines, preserves and our flour. Perfect for local shopping!



Jim “the Miller” Bailey steps down

After 12 years involved with the windmill, and as a Trustee, the Trust Board said thank you to Jim Bailey at his last meeting in August. Chairman Charles Pinchbeck presented Jim with a framed photograph of



the windmill showing Jim giving a tour to HRH The Princess Royal during her visit in 2017.

However, Jim will not be leaving the windmill entirely as he intends to continue as a member of the engineering group who meet at the mill on a regular basis.

We wish Jim and Pat a very happy “retirement” from the mill and special thanks for all their hard work over the years.

Reopening the Tower

Covid-19 means that we have had to rethink how we safely allow visitors into the windmill and we’ve been delighted to re-open the mill tower using an on-line booking system.

This ensures we can manage numbers and avoids crowding. Each party can book a slot at a date and time convenient for them and they are allocated an hour slot, making it a “private view” for them.

We have been proving guides wherever possible which have been wonderfully received.

If you have not been recently why not try it yourself. Just follow the link on our website. Members also need to book in advance, but still qualify for free entry.

*Brilliant experience
with a guided tour—
fun and informative*

*very friendly
staffthe cakes
were brilliant*

*A lovely place to visit,
would recommend it*

Miller’s House Tea Rooms

In early July we decided to reopen the Tea Room on a trial basis once Government restrictions allowed.

With a reduced menu and safety measures in place we were thrilled to see so many visitors and regulars returning to the windmill.

The Bakehouse teams have been working extremely hard to ensure a good supply of delicious cakes and the teams in the Tea Room have been doing a fantastic job of delivering a quality service for all our visitors.

Don’t forget that you can still book a traditional afternoon tea in the Miller’s House Parlour for that special occasion.



Special Arrangements for the AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Heckington Windmill Trust

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions and Government guidance on social distancing the Trust Board have approved a closed meeting with voting by proxy for all the membership over the age of 18.

Full information has been sent to all members, please contact the Membership Secretary for any queries

AGENDA

For the Closed Annual General Meeting of Heckington Windmill Trust

Wednesday 30th September 2020

1. Opening Remarks
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the last Meeting held on 14th June 2019
4. Matters Arising
5. To receive the Chairman's Annual Report 2019-20
6. To receive the Treasurer's Annual Report 2019-20
7. Appointment of Independent Examiners of Accounts:
Currently: Duncan & Toplis. Proposed: Duncan & Toplis
8. Election of Officers of Heckington Windmill Trust

POST	CURRENT HOLDER	POST	CURRENT HOLDER
President	Martin Hanson	Mill Manager	Jim Bailey
Chairman	Charles Pinchbeck	Shop Manager	Paul Reid
Secretary	Sylvia Doughty	Events Manager	Vacancy
Treasurer	Michael Surfleet	Collections	Michelle Andrews
Membership	Anne Strong	Groups & Visits	Sue Cook
Newsletter	Sylvia Doughty	Bakehouse Contact	Sharon Tymens
		Volunteer Co-ord	Liz Desmond

9. To Elect the Trust Board
10. To Elect 4 Operational Groups:
Visitor Services, Finance & IT, Collections and Engineering
11. To Elect the Trustees of Heckington Windmill Trust
12. To Elect the Directors of Heckington Windmill Trust
13. Any Other Business by leave of the Chairman

Contacts

Chairman, Charles Pinchbeck

chairman@heckingtonwindmill.org.uk

Membership, Anne Strong

membership@heckingtonwindmill.org.uk

Heckington Windmill Trust Hale Road, Heckington, NG34 9JW

Registered Charity No: 1139207

Company No: 07210264

