



Heckington Windmill

37th Annual Report
2019-20

Heckington Windmill Trust
Charity No: 1139207
Company No: 07210264

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR HECKINGTON WINDMILL TRUST FOR THE

It is my very great pleasure to present to you our 37th annual report on the principal activities of the Heckington Windmill Trust. It has been another busy and successful year for the army of volunteers that make up the Trust, as we have continued to develop and refine our award-winning site.

The core of our activity is enabling the widest cross section of the public to engage with and enjoy our unique windmill. During the year, we welcomed over 3,200 visitors to the mill and an amazing 38,230 to the site. Site visitors are comparable to previous years, although mill visits were reduced as we await its return to working order by Lincolnshire County Council. In our second full year of operating the visitor centre, we took the opportunity to upgrade our operating structure, creating a unified team looking after the whole visitor centre and experience including visitor access to the mill. This has been enjoyed by visitors and volunteers alike.

Fascinating local heritage
Windmill team was very
welcoming Highly
recommended

We were also able to upgrade our shop design and offer thanks to a grant from the Association of Independent Museums. We now have a wonderful retail display, hand made by a local craftsman in solid English oak. Combined with advice in developing our retail offer funded by



The new shop fittings made by local craftsman to complement the visitor centre exhibition units

a generous grant from Museum Development East Midlands they have helped materially increase our retail sales and the funds they generate for the Trust.

We have also held a wide range of events and activities on the site to showcase particular aspects of our heritage, as well as generating additional revenue. We repeated the highly successful series of winter talks covering topics as diverse as the International Bomber Command Centre and We've got no money but Auntie's got piles- a talk on comedy theatre. Following the completion of the restoration of Maud, our rare Tuxford steam engine, the Engineering Group organised monthly steaming



Maud in steam at one of the regular "Steaming Sundays" events



The Harvest Home weekend proved very popular with visitors, young and old

days, which provided welcome movement and interest whilst the mill is not operational.

In the Autumn we re-invented our Threshing weekend as Harvest Home, celebrating the wider agricultural story that is so important to our County and such a key part of the mill's heritage. As well as the usual threshing and other machines we welcomed two of our rare county breeds – the Lincoln Longwool sheep and Lincoln Buff poultry. This event proved most successful, attracting over 300 visitors despite the challenging weather, and an increased proportion of young families and children.

I make no apology for re-iterating this has all been achieved by a remarkable team of volunteers that continues to renew itself. We bade farewell to Penny Johnson after her hard-working stint as shop manager and are delighted to welcome Paul Reid who has taken on this role as part of the wider Visitor Centre brief. Our one paid staff member, Marie Mooney moved to Spain in March to care for her mother. Her

energy and commitment over her three years as Tearoom Manager went above and beyond the call of duty. We are gearing up for a replacement as and when the current situation settles down. The year also saw the final meeting of the "Visitor Services" Committee. This evolved from the original general committee set up when the Trust was founded in 1982 and remained in being to focus on our regular opening activities as the Project board delivered the regeneration scheme over the last 10 years. As our operations and organisation have developed the time was right for this to be disbanded.

As well as thanking those who are leaving, we very much wanted to acknowledge the commitment of all the team who continue to do so much for the mill. To that end, we introduced the volunteer award card. Issued to all team members who give 50 or more hours in a year, it entitles them to 10% discount on shop and tearoom purchases - a small but heartfelt gesture of appreciation.



The Trust received an award from the RICS in two categories in the national awards for work on the Regeneration Project

The Trust itself has continued to receive recognition. During the year we were Regional Finalists in the 2019 Civic Trust Awards and were also very successful in the RICS awards. We were

East Midlands Conservation Project of the Year and went on to be Best Overall Project for the East Midlands – a tremendous feat against stiff competition.

Nearer to home, we were proud to receive the award for the best exhibit at the 2019 Heckington Show from North Kesteven's Heckington Rural Ward

Slightly unusual but most welcome recognition came in the form of our selection as 2nd in Britain's 7 best quirky tea rooms by Countryfile Magazine



Voted One of the 7 Best Quirky Tea Rooms in the country!

Whilst the widespread recognition of the importance and success of the mill is much appreciated, we are also conscious of our need to contribute to the wider milling community. All traditional mills such as ourselves were threatened by proposed regulations concerning additives to flour – simply uneconomic for wind and water mills. We were pleased to welcome our local MP Dr Caroline Johnson in February to give her a briefing on the issue and its potential impact. Her questions in parliament have set in train exemptions which should ensure we and

all other traditional British mills are still able to function.

The long-term future of all working mills relies on there being accepted and practicable standards of operation. In March we were delighted to be able to host the first National Mills Safety Conference. Organised by our good friend Jonathon Cook of Soham Prior mill it featured speakers from Holland and Germany and drew mill owners and operators from across the UK.

Later in March we saw the beginning of the Covid pandemic in the UK. Hard work by the whole Heckington team has enabled us to respond in a safe and sustainable way and will be a key feature of next year's report.

This has been another successful year for the Trust as we have continued to care for this unique piece of the heritage of our village, our county and our nation. I would like to record my thanks to all those who have contributed in so many ways.

*Charles Pinchbeck
Chairman*



The windmill was lit up in blue in recognition of the hard work by NHS and Key Workers

Report on Activities at the Windmill

MILL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Engineering and Milling group work to install the Hurst Frame has paid dividends in allowed the Trust to continue milling whilst we await the tail-winding repairs. Meetings with LCC have some assurance that the work will be carried out but issues with the Traditional Millwrights (LCC preferred contractor) working out of the county on another windmill, and LCC getting the work orders issued have delayed the start date.



The Hurst Frame, powered by the Ruston engine, is regularly producing high quality wholemeal flour

We have milled around a tonne of wholemeal this year on the Hurst Frame for sale in the shop and continued to improve its performance with replacement of the shoe and grain trap arrangement. Work is well in hand with Geoff Stead to build a replacement for the Tun. With the mill machinery remaining out of action we have had to continue importing flour from Sibsey Trader Windmill which we dressed in our bolter. With their mill also becoming unserviceable, they had been using spare milling capacity at Alford Mill but with the tenant leaving, they have had to source stone ground

white flour from an East Anglian mill which they are now supplying to us. This means regular trips across to Sibsey to collect the flour, but it is good to meet up with Ian and Robert and compare the progress of our respective repair packages.

When the repairs are undertaken, the outstanding tower and cap painting, plus the structural repairs to the lower bin floor joists, should be included in the work package.

Pat and Mary have kept up with the bagging of the flour and porridge, and the shop shelves have been kept stocked. Pat has had to retire as our flour manager having developed a reaction to working with flour. We wish her well in her retirement.

ENGINEERING GROUP REPORT

With the mill remaining out of action, the Engineering Group's priority has been to ensure the continued serviceability of the Hurst Frame. Improvements have been continued to be made, and we are confident it will now give good service



Maud driving the grain cleaner which has been restored



Maud made a guest appearance with other Tuxford engines, at Maud Foster Windmill's 200th anniversary

for the foreseeable future. This has necessitated reducing work on the repairs to the farm mill, but progress is being made, including the strip down of the Ruston APR oil engine which will drive it. We are grateful to Jim Oxby for allowing Geoff to regularly use his machine shop for the manufacture and repair of components. Without this facility the cost of repairs would much more expensive.

We have regularly steamed Maud and our Steaming Sundays have proved popular. Maud made a guest appearance at Maud Foster's 200th anniversary where 4 of the 5 remaining Tuxford portable steam engines were on display. It was a very wet day, but a memorable day out for the Engineers! To give greater interest, with permission from the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, we have added a drive pulley to Maud's crankshaft and adapted the grain cleaner to be belt driven. Maud manages the additional load well and the pair look good as the centre piece of our Steaming days.

Our strong group of millers/engineers remains at around eight regular members which is just

about sufficient to keep up with the increasing list of on-site maintenance and engineering tasks.

OUTREACH

The Trust was represented at the National Ploughing Championships for the first time. Like most events last year, it was badly affected by the weather, but the ploughing went ahead and our stall was well attended. We had to leave early on the Sunday when rainwater started flowing through the tent! We also attended the Autumn Fair and Christmas Food Fair at Easton Walled Gardens which proved financially worthwhile and generating a lot of interest from the visitors. Our stall in the Heritage Tent at the Heckington Show was as ever popular.

*Jim Bailey,
Mill Manager*



The Windmill stand at Heckington Show won the award for the best Exhibit in the Heritage Marquee

VISITOR SERVICES

Following the departure of Penny Johnson, our shop manager, during the summer we reflected on the shop manager role and our objective of providing a great visitor experience and decided that we wanted to bring a more cohesive

approach to the shop, granary and mill tower. Paul Reid took over the co-ordination of these separate parts in the new role of Visitor Centre Team Leader. We are already beginning to see a coming together of volunteers across the site. We now have a number of volunteers who work in a number of different roles – shop, guide and helping in the tea room.

In the autumn of 2019 we worked with a retail



The "mini mills" range of gifts has been developed as part of the overall retail review



A new range of locally made sauces and oils, has proved a popular new range in the shop

consultant who advised a team of people on product development and on how to make the most of the facilities that we had. Following this work we have gradually seen a widening in the range of stock sold in the shop. New stationary, children's pocket money toys and a wider selection of greetings cards have all been added to the existing range of stock.

Of course the mill's core business is the role it plays in local food production and we have focussed on this in thinking about new ranges in the shop. We are now delighted to stock a range of chilli marmalades, sauces and vinegars produced locally by Bickerton's who are based in Billingborough.

We have also introduced a few lines to help on the cooking front – our new "mini mills" range

of tea towels, oven gloves and mugs make a great themed set and an ideal gift.

In January the Trust's Board were keen to provide a way to recognise the time and service that our volunteers give to the windmill and the wonderful way in which they welcome visitors and provide a fabulous visitor experience. The introduction of our new Volunteer Discount Card for all of our volunteers who gave 50 hours of their time across last year was given. The card gives them 10% discount on all Tea Room and shop purchases..... just a little something to say "thank you".



The volunteer discount card, recognising the hard work and time by volunteers

Since Liz Desmond introduced a mouse hunt in the mill, children have been excited to look

around on every floor as they try and find them all. They are always delighted to receive their mouser certificate and badge, but for a while now the mice that Liz had placed around the mill were beginning to look more than a little tired. After much hunting around ourselves for replacements the answer was found on our very doorstep and we now have a new set of mice (complete with scarves) all hand made by a local hand-spinner who makes the smaller wool mice that we sell in the shop.

Other exciting news on the shop front came in the awarding of a grant which allowed us to commission bespoke shelving units in the piggeries to show off our new puoduct range. Since the Trust's last annual report it has been quite a year.... one in which we have built, developed and made ourselves ready for opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Paul Reid

Visitor Centre Team Leader

COLLECTIONS REPORT

After successfully achieving Museum Accreditation with Arts Council England last year, the team continued to keep up the good work by throwing themselves into learning new skills as well as maintaining their excellent record of researching and documenting the mill collection. The team has created fun Quizzes, displayed items from the windmill's Handling collection and have put on a variety of small exhibitions for our visitors to enjoy.

We have also worked hard to keep the Edwardian Parlour and the 1930s rooms looking great for our visitors to the tearoom.



Some of the Collections Team Getting "In the Mood" for Armed Forces Day!

Caring for the windmill collection is ongoing and we continue to monitor the environment where it is stored and displayed, carry out conservation house-keeping, package the collection in archival protective material and boxes, and have even undertaken some ceramic restoration training with practical work too.

The volunteers are dedicated to keeping the collection in the best condition possible for its long term survival

Thank you Collections team for your dedication and hard work.

*Michelle Andrews,
Collections Manager*



Members of the Collections Team have worked hard restoring and cataloging items

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31/03/2020

BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2020

					2020	2019
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Operational reserves and renewals fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	8	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stocks	9	9,886	-	-	9,886	9,659
Debtors	10	4,236	-	-	4,236	2,390
Cash at bank and in hand		24,117	8,455	9,164	41,736	32,322
		<u>38,239</u>	<u>8,455</u>	<u>9,164</u>	<u>55,858</u>	<u>44,371</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(5,252)	-	-	(5,252)	(4,120)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>32,987</u>	<u>8,455</u>	<u>9,164</u>	<u>50,606</u>	<u>40,251</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>33,987</u>	<u>8,455</u>	<u>9,164</u>	<u>51,606</u>	<u>41,251</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>33,987</u></u>	<u><u>8,455</u></u>	<u><u>9,164</u></u>	<u><u>51,606</u></u>	<u><u>41,251</u></u>
FUNDS	13					
Unrestricted funds					42,442	38,926
Restricted funds:						
Peter Lett donation fund					2,011	2,325
Publicity fund					5,000	-
Shop fund					2,153	-
					<u>9,164</u>	<u>2,325</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u><u>51,606</u></u>	<u><u>41,251</u></u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	2020	2019
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,623	8,641
Grants	10,500	3,000
Heritage Lottery funding	-	59,915
	<hr/> 13,123	<hr/> 71,556
Other fundraising activities		
Shop income	19,932	18,843
Mill House tearooms income	48,905	51,908
	<hr/> 68,837	<hr/> 70,751
Investment Income		
Rents received	6,750	6,000
Charitable activities		
Mill entrance	14,582	16,740
Events income	2,038	1,561
Subscriptions	886	2,454
	<hr/> 17,506	<hr/> 20,755
Total incoming resources	<hr/> 106,216	<hr/> 169,062
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Publicity	3,861	3,296
Other fundraising activities		
Opening stock shop	8,980	7,848
Opening stock tearooms	678	1,125
Purchases shop	11,523	14,913
Purchases tearooms	17,145	19,340
Wages	21,076	21,099
Closing stock shop	(9,208)	(8,980)
Closing stock tearooms	(678)	(678)
	<hr/> 49,516	<hr/> 54,667
Charitable activities		
Events expenditure	890	1,049
Tower rent	750	750
Rates and water	1,239	2,351
Light and heat	6,543	6,344
Telephone	1,604	1,505
Postage and stationery	998	868
Materials and maintenance	12,541	6,425
Courses and training	15	711
SPAB/Museum association	609	374
Mercer expenses	-	2,278
Travel expenses	61	141
Minor equipment	3,034	846
Work clothes	-	585
Delivery project costs	-	60,829
Computer costs	80	-
Insurance	6,162	5,590
Miscellaneous expenses	1,682	1,502
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	2,205	1,520
Professional fees	4,071	1,012
	<hr/> 6,276	<hr/> 2,532
Total resources expended	<hr/> 95,861	<hr/> 152,643
Net Income	<hr/> 10,355	<hr/> 16,419

Heckington Windmill Trust 2019-20

Heckington Windmill Trust
Registered Office
18 Northgate
Sleaford
Lincolnshire
NG34 7BJ

Registered with the Charity Commission
Charity Number: 1139207

A Company Limited by Guarantee
Company Number: 07210264

TRUSTEES

Charles Pinchbeck
Jo Lewin
Jim Bailey
Michael Surfleet
Michael Hardy
Michelle Andrews

FINANCE AND IT

Charles Pinchbeck
Jo Lewin
Michael Surfleet

Mike Hardy
Elaine Hardy

VISITOR SERVICES

Jim Bailey
Sue Cook

Liz Desmond
David Nickols

COLLECTIONS

Michelle Andrews
Lynda Sergeant
Annette Southcott
Sally Warren

Glenys Williams
Sylvia Doughty
Stephen Huckle

ENGINEERING

Martin Willis
Geoff Stead
Paul Gash
Mike Bryer

Dennis Johnson
Jim Bailey
Ross Houlthby
Roger Mitchell

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

Martin Hanson	President
Charles Pinchbeck	Chairman
Sylvia Doughty	Secretary & Newsletter Editor
Michael Surfleet	Treasurer
Jim Bailey	Mill Manager
Anne Strong	Membership Secretary
Sue Cook	Groups Manager
Michelle Andrews	Collections Manager
Liz Desmond	Volunteer Co-ordinator
Sharon Tymens	Bakehouse Co-ordinator



*Our thanks go to Pat Bailey
who retired from her flour
manager role this year*



*Standing down this year is
Penny Johnson as Shop
Manager.*



A recent announcement in 2019 was the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors East Midlands Project of the Year Award & also the Building Conservation Award 2019



The Trust was a Regional Finalist for the Civic Trust AABC Conservation Awards



Heckington Windmill Trust
Hale Road, Heckington, NG34 9JW

www.heckingtonwindmill.org.uk



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