



38th Annual Report 2020-21

Heckington Windmill Trust
Charity No: 1139207
Company No: 07210264

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Heckington Windmill Trust 2020-21

Heckington Windmill Trust Registered Office

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Lincolnshire
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Registered with the Charity Commission
Charity Number: 1139207

A Company Limited by Guarantee
Company Number: 07210264

PRESIDENT

Martin Hanson

PATRON

Mr Toby Dennis, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire

TRUSTEES & DIRECTORS

Charles Pinchbeck
Jo Lewin
Paul Reid

Mike Hardy
Michelle Andrews
Michael Surfleet

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR HECKINGTON WINDMILL TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2021

It is my very great pleasure to present to you our 38th annual report on the principal activities of the Heckington Windmill Trust. It is fair to say it has been a year like no other as we like the rest of the country have faced up to the unprecedented challenges of the global Covid pandemic.

I concluded last year's annual report with the words, "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."

I am pleased to confirm that we did achieve all those goals, serving our community whilst securing the long-term future. Whilst site visits ceased during both lockdowns, there was an unprecedented demand for flour and hard work by our milling and shop teams meant we were able to maintain supplies throughout both lockdowns.



We showed our support for the NHS with blue floodlighting of the windmill

The pandemic created enormous challenges for ourselves, as nearly all our sources of income

such as mill admissions and the operation of the tea room ceased completely, whilst many of our costs such as insurance and utilities remained. Years of hard work and prudent financial management meant the Trust has built up levels of reserves which for many charities would be seen as strong but the scale and duration of the lockdowns would have created significant financial challenges without financial support from a number of key sources and an enormous amount of work by the Board in securing and managing these grants. These totalled almost £40,000 - received from the Heritage Lottery Fund and government grants administered by North Kesteven District Council.



The Heritage Lottery Fund supported us with a significant grant towards our costs during lockdown and reopening

The effect of these has been enormously positive. Not only did they meet the immediate shortfalls in income, but they enabled us to meet the additional costs of opening in a Covid world such as PPE, helped us promote ourselves in new ways, and to build up financial reserves to provide the Trust with a very sound footing to plan positively for the future.

The challenges of the year have led to some positive innovations. We launched our on-line shop in November which proved popular with people looking for special Christmas gifts. The advance booking system initially introduced to

ensure social-distancing has worked well and is here to stay, enabling us to offer guided tours to visitors whilst conserving our volunteers' precious time. We also completed a thorough business planning exercise which set our priorities for promoting and developing the Trust's site and activities over the next 3-5 years.

Despite the unprecedented challenges of the year, we still managed a surprising number of activities. We were open for a total of 47 days in the tea room and 108 days in the shop, and always opened as much of the site as was allowed under guidance and restrictions whether it be shop, café or mill. In July we held a small event on what would have been the Sunday of Heckington Show which provided a popular focal point, and in October we welcomed the Antiques Roadtrip team to the Windmill. A very cold day's filming nonetheless produced some great footage and excellent publicity for the Windmill.

As ever, there have been some sadnesses and



Filming of the BBC programme Antiques Road Trip in October 2020

we were sorry that our dear friend Lynda Sergeant lost her brave and long-fought battle against cancer during the year. She is much missed. We are pleased that her daughter Rachel

– for so long a stalwart member of the Tea Toom team has stayed in touch.



Remembering Lynda who was a key member of the archive team and greatly missed

We have welcomed new team members too and were delighted to be able to recruit Liz Ward as our new Tea Room Manager, bringing a wealth of experience and energy to the role.

Heckington Windmill is undoubtedly a team project and I would like to record my thanks and those of the Trust to all those who have contributed in so many ways during the last year.

We have faced enormous challenges but definitely risen to them, and as a result the Windmill and the Trust have merged stronger and able to plan positively for the future of this unique part of our nation's heritage.

Charles Pinchbeck
Chairman

Report on Activities at the Windmill

ENGINEERING & MILLING REPORT

Following the forced closure of the site, the engineers were very keen to return to their regular meetings on Tuesdays as soon as restrictions allowed. In December 2020 local farmer David Nickols gave us a Ruston 10 IP and two small vertical farm mills to look after, having been stored in a barn for years. We are slowly restoring Ruston and one of the mills, which is now about 70 percent completed. Restoration work on the concrete model windmill has started and the team are working on this as and when they are able to.

Martin Willis

Engineering Team Leader

VISITOR SERVICES & SHOP REPORT

2020/21 turned out to be an extremely varied year - beginning with queues of people all wanting flour to bake (often for the first time), to times when we barely had one customer all day. The Mill shop was the one part of the Mill's operation that stayed open for most of the reporting period, and we were very busy at the beginning of the pandemic and in the lead up to Christmas as people "shopped local". We were very grateful to just a few volunteers who helped to keep the shop open during the restrictions of the pandemic and even though some days were extremely quiet it was good to show our customers that we were there for them and that supplies of porridge and flour were always available. That said a major part of our operation - welcoming visitors to the Mill, ceased for much of the year - only resuming in June and with a booking system that allowed for only one "family group" to be in the Mill every 30 minutes.

Nevertheless it was good to see the Mill site relatively busy again. During the pandemic the Government issued restrictions on the voluntary sector and in particular on those in the most



Heritage Lincolnshire ordered over 40 Christmas hampers from the mill shop

vulnerable groups. We know that many of our volunteers were very keen to help us, but were not able to because of the restrictions. Thankfully vaccines now mean that all volunteers are able to play an active part at the Mill.

Our reporting period ended with Mill itself still closed to visitors, the shop very quiet and speculation as to when museums would re-open. I would just like to end with a big thank all of our volunteers who continue to ensure that our visitors have a wonderful time when they visit our unique windmill.

TEA ROOM REPORT

Our reporting period in 2020 ended with the Trust saying "goodbye" to our Tea Room Manager, Marie Mooney and of course we were at the beginning of what we now know to be the Covid pandemic. Our plan had been for Ciaran Wells to stand in until a new manager took over, but the 20th March 2020 saw the Tea Room close as part of the Government restrictions and instead of preparing to gear up for Easter, Ciaran and the Tea Room Team found themselves mothballing the kitchen. It wasn't until June that we were able to plan for reopening over the summer - but things needed to be quite different. A limited menu, eating outside and disposable cups, cutlery



We were very pleased to be able to appoint Liz Ward as our new Tea Room Manager in March 2021

and plates - very different to what we would want to offer our customers. Nevertheless, Ciaran and our volunteer Tea Room Team stepped up to the plate (excuse the pun) and we served customers all summer and into the autumn. Visitors were very appreciative of the effort that was put into our re-opening and to measures, such as screens, that kept visitors and volunteers safe.

However, the Trust was very pleased that during the second lockdown over the winter we were able to appoint a new Tea Room Manager - Liz Ward. Liz took up her post in March '21 and one of her first tasks was to provide take-away Mother's Day Afternoon Teas, which were very popular with local residents.

To end, it is only right to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who make the smooth running of the Tea Room possible. With Liz now in post and our wonderful team 2021/22 looks to be a very promising next year.

Paul Reid

Visitor Services Team Leader

COLLECTIONS REPORT

After the challenges and tribulations of the pandemic over many months, the Collections Team are very happy to be back to work. What is it that we do, you may ask yourselves? Well, in line with national standards of the museum

sector, we are documenting, scanning, cataloguing and preserving the thousands of documents, images and objects that we have collected for the Heckington Windmill archive; many of which people have kindly donated.

We also manage the displays in the Granary, the Edwardian Parlour and the 1930s Study. We carry out conservation and restoration of items in our collection too. Aside from this, we enjoy researching the family and social history of the Mill. After the sad loss of our much loved team member in January, Lynda Sergeant, who was an excellent and meticulous researcher, we are keen to keep her legacy going. Future plans involve sharing the wealth of information we have gathered, on our website, and in our 1930s Study, for all to see.

Some of the team enjoy writing historic scripts for our in-character "Stories in the Parlour" days which we hope to offer as part of the Mill's school offer, as it develops. We are also writing short stories about historic fictional characters, for people to peruse while they are enjoying their tea and cake in the tearoom

Michelle Andrews,

Collections Manager



Boxed afternoon tea for Mother's Day proved popular as a take-away during lockdown

Income & Expenditure - Year ended 31/03/21

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	£	2021	2020
Donations and legacies			
Donations		2,288	2,624
Grants		41,202	10,500
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Other fundraising activities			
Shop income		11,498	19,932
Mill House tearooms income		10,451	48,905
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Investment income			
Rents received		8,750	6,750
Charitable activities			
Mill entrance		2,162	14,582
Events income		-	2,038
Subscriptions		992	886
Job retention scheme		3,764	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Incoming Resources		81,107	106,217
EXPENDITURE			
Raising donations and legacies			
Publicity		729	3,861
Other fundraising activities			
Opening stock shop		9,208	8,980
Opening stock tearooms		678	678
Purchases shop		4,942	11,523
Purchases tearooms		2,947	17,145
Wages		9,548	21,076
Closing stock shop		(6,450)	(9,208)
Closing stock tearooms		(365)	(678)
Charitable activities			
Events expenditure		20	890
Tower rent		750	750
Rates and water		(4,546)	1,239
Light and heat		4,392	6,543
Telephone		661	847
Postage and stationery		495	998
Materials and maintenance		7,104	12,541
Courses and training		-	15
SPAB/Museum association		689	609
Travel expenses		62	61
Minor equipment		258	3,034
Tearoom catering review		1,488	-
Computer costs		60	80
Insurance		7,106	6,162
Heritage lottery funding		14,001	-
Miscellaneous expenses		824	1,682
Finance			
Bank charges		353	758
Governance costs			
Accountancy fees		3,053	3,716
Professional fees		653	2,560
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended		58,660	95,862
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME		22,447	10,355
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Balance Sheet - As at 31/03/21

				2021	2020
	Unrestricted fund £	Operational reserves and renewals fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	6,815	-	-	6,815	9,886
Debtors	6,174	-	-	6,174	4,236
Cash at bank and in hand	39,204	19,678	3,611	62,493	41,736
	<u>52,193</u>	<u>19,678</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>75,482</u>	<u>55,858</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	(2,429)	-	-	(2,429)	(5,252)
	<u>49,764</u>	<u>19,678</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>73,053</u>	<u>50,606</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
	<u>49,764</u>	<u>19,678</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>73,053</u>	<u>50,606</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
	<u>50,764</u>	<u>19,678</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>74,053</u>	<u>51,606</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>50,764</u>	<u>19,678</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>74,053</u>	<u>51,606</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				70,442	42,442
Restricted funds:					
Peter Lett donation fund				2,011	2,011
Publicity fund				-	5,000
Shop fund				-	2,153
First Aid				600	-
Tuxford Fund				1,000	-
				<u>3,611</u>	<u>9,164</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>74,053</u>	<u>51,606</u>

HECKINGTON WINDMILL TRUST

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