

Heckington Windmill

40th Annual Report 2022-23



Heckington Windmill Trust
Charity No: 1139207
Company No: 07210264

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Front cover photos:

*Motorcycle meet, meeting Father Christmas, 1950's photo shoot, Harvest Home day,
8 Sail Saunter race start, Halloween cakes, steaming Maud*

Chairman's Report

For Heckington Windmill Trust to the year ending 31st March 2023

It is my very great pleasure to present to our 40th annual report on the principal activities of the Heckington Windmill Trust.

After the tribulations of Covid it has been a year when we have finally begun to feel a sense of normality and been delighted that has included a very positive role and outlook for both the windmill and the Trust. This is very much due to the energy, enthusiasm and commitment of the Trust team. In the following pages you will find the reports of the teams who work so hard on their specialist areas and who together contribute to the undoubted success of the windmill team of which we are all a part.

Firstly, to our finances, our accounts record a surplus of £24,382 for the year - an excellent result. Furthermore, this increases our reserves to £131,155 which places the Trust in a very strong position to plan positively for the future, as well as providing future resilience. This success is due to the powerful attraction of the windmill and all it has to offer and the hard work and commitment of the entire team.



The gardening team hard at work, contributing to the Heckington in Bloom Silver Award in 202



At Harvest Weekend we saw heavy horse demonstrations on site for the first time

Undoubtedly the key achievement for the year was securing a grant of £148,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to provide funding for a three-year Engagement and Development Project after two years of hard work by the Trust.

The purpose of the project is to:

- promote the windmill to a wider audience
- develop the volunteer teams and recruit new volunteers
- develop and expand on our events and activities at the windmill

We are delighted to have been able to recruit Toni Borg to our team as our Engagement and Development Officer. You can find out more about the Project and Toni on Page 6 of this report. The intention is that the three-year programme should develop activities to the point where the post becomes self-funding for the future.

Toni is very much an addition to the team and not a replacement, and we have been working at increasing visitor numbers and reaching a wider group of people throughout the year.

Our Mini Millers trialled by Paul Reid last year and developed by Karen Hill has proved hugely popular. Aimed at Key Stage 2 children, the group meet monthly on a Sunday morning for a mixture of activities and learning based on our themes of food and power. It has been enormously successful in engaging a younger audience and is fully booked for months ahead.



Mini Millers meet on a monthly basis where KS2 children learn about food, farming & baking

We have continued to develop the family aspects of our Harvest Home event in September building on the farming aspects of our story with working shire horses and Lincoln Longwool lambs. The event was very successful and attracted record numbers to the site and to the windmill.

As Trustees we are keenly aware of our duty to ensure that the Trust and all its activities are properly organised. During the year we have undertaken a thorough review of all our

processes and activities supported by a Health & Safety Specialist provided by our insurers NFU Mutual. The review validated our existing systems and identified some areas for improvement which have been actioned.

I know many of our supporters will be keen to know about the status of the repairs to the windmill. These are the responsibility of the owners, Lincolnshire County Council who are committed to undertaking the work and are progressing with specifying and tendering it. Detailed input on the mill machinery has been obtained during the year from leading mill specialist Luke Bonwick and it is hoped that will lead to a tender being issued in the relatively near future.

Whilst we have welcomed Toni we have also said some farewells. Paul Reid stood down as a Trustee and volunteer Visitor Centre Manager during the year and brought a huge amount of energy and vision during his time with us. Michael Surfleet retires as Trustee and Treasurer as of the 2023 AGM. Michael joined us in 2009



Michael Surfleet (far left) pictured at the first HLF meeting in 2011, who retires as a Trustee this year

as we built a team to deliver the Regeneration Project and he ably managed the huge sums that were involved - £1.6m over three years - as well helping scale up our financial systems. A proud part of our culture is that when people retire from their roles at the windmill, they have the opportunity to stay as part of the Trust family through the VIP Club which meets monthly in the Tearooms. We appreciate the work of Liz Desmond and Sue Cook who organise it, and the Bakehouse and tearoom teams who make them so welcome.

A very special moment this year was when Sonia Pacey retired as a volunteer at the remarkable age of 99 having been an active supporter since the early days of the Trust 40 years ago. It is an opportune moment to reflect on the fact that this is the 40th anniversary of the Trust. When we



Long standing volunteer Sonia Pacey retired from jam making aged 99!

began as a small group of local enthusiasts with a key to the windmill and £25 in the kitty I do not think any of us would have imagined how much would be achieved.



The Harvest Home Day in September was very popular

And our achievement is truly remarkable. We have been instrumental in restoring the windmill to grind again and ensured each round of maintenance has eventually been completed. We have secured the future of the wider site and restored it to provide the remarkable place we see today, with what is still the largest grant for a volunteer windmill project. What is more we have delivered it to award winning standards. Together we have given an amazing part of our nation's heritage the care it deserves and shared it with hundreds of thousands of people.

On behalf of all who love our heritage and the messages it has to tell us today, I offer my heartfelt thanks to every one who has made all that possible

Charles Pinchbeck

Chairman

NATIONAL LOTTERY HERITAGE FUND ENGAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

In May 2022 we received confirmation from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) that we had been successful with our application for a grant of £148,000 for a three year Engagement and Development Project.

This is excellent news and means that we have been able to recruit Toni Borg to our team who started work in March 2023.

Toni has past experience with volunteer organisations large and small, and has already made a real difference at the mill. Her remit is to work with the volunteer teams and Trustees to promote the windmill to a wider audience; develop the volunteer teams and recruit new volunteers, and to develop and expand on our events and activities at the windmill.

Toni lives in Lincoln with her husband, who has already been helping out as a volunteer, along with her sister who has been providing baking demonstrations in the bakehouse on event days. We would like to welcome Toni to the team - please say hello to her when you are around the site, she always has a smile and hello for everyone!

A HELLO FROM TONI :

The last few months have been a great experience and it has been amazing to meet everyone.

Once I found my feet I started developing relationships and making connections with partners and other sites, creating opportunities



for the mill to develop its audience even further. There has been so much interest from the public, businesses, and schools - everyone wants to join with us

and be part of Heckington Windmill.

Seeing the tractor run, really brought it home to me how amazing the windmill is and how the community means so much to people.

One of my first outings was to take Heckington Windmill to the Countryside Lincs event and am looking forward to taking part at Lincolnshire Show, Heckington Show and the Lincolnshire Education Show which are all coming up this year.

I am working closely with NKDC, their heritage sites and the Heart of Lincs to build solid relationships and get wider exposure for the mill.

At the moment my areas of focus are currently building the volunteers base, and am connecting with Lincoln University and Boston College to bring work experience students to the mill.

Toni Borg

Engagement & Development Officer



Report on Activities at the Windmill

ENGINEERING & MILLING REPORT

Another year passes without milling using our wonderful 8 sailed machinery, but hopefully we will have the opportunity to turn the sails again before too long. However, the Hurst frame allows us to maintain our milling skills and we now coincide milling wholemeal with our Steaming Saturdays to give our visitors the opportunity to see milling on full size stones.



Work being carried out on the Hurst Frame on which we regularly mill our wholemeal flour

These dates are proving to be a success with the visitors, and seam engine Maud remains a firm favourite.

We had to undertake our first major repair on Maud over the winter which required work on the pressure vessel. This repair had to be assessed by an independent boiler inspector as part of Maud's annual boiler test, which she passed without problem. She is now running much better and is noticeably more powerful.

Over the year we have been restoring two Blackstone portable mills, with extensive repairs and included making the pattern for a

replacement cover which was cast in a local foundry. With the Blackstone & Co mill successfully producing flour, we have been experimenting with milling oatmeal.

The Hurst Frame which sits in the windmill has had a new pedestal support bearing which has much improved its performance.

At the entrance to the site, you will have seen the concrete model windmill is now complete. This has been an ongoing project spread over several years, but we think the effort has been worthwhile. Our site maintenance work has been varied and certainly kept us busy, for example, building a stud wall, repairing the front fence, clearing round the rear of the Nissen Hut, electrical repairs, gutter cleaning and being on hand to shift heavy weights. It has been a good year, with new members joining, and a few leaving but we remain around 12 strong in the engineering team

Jim Bailey



The fully restored concrete windmill, with sails and detail made by Geoff Stead & the engineering team

EVENTS AT THE MILL

This past year has been particularly busy with a lot of events at the windmill.

These included a regular stream of specialist car and motorcycle meets; coach parties, steaming and milling days; the 8 Sail Saunter - an 8km race starting and finishing at the windmill; a Pocklington family reunion, Father Christmas at the mill and a first for the windmill, a 1950's photo shoot.

The busiest weekend of the year was our very popular Harvest Home day in late September, with our milling team working hard milling wholemeal flour on the Hurst frame and Maud was in full steam alongside. We also had a number of Lincoln Longwool sheep (which you could take for a walk!), and displays and demonstrations by shire horses taking us back to days gone by.

Special thanks must go to our hard working volunteer teams who organise everything to make these events run so smoothly.



Members of the Pocklington family gather in front of the windmill for a family photo

MILLER'S HOUSE TEA ROOM

We've had quite a successful year in the tea rooms with August being the busiest month to date. We've done a few private functions including Sonia's 100th birthday which was enjoyed by all!



Event catering at the Miller's House Tea Room is becoming very popular

We are continuing to grow our customer base with regular visits from local people, cycling groups and people travelling to and from Norfolk who have made us their usual stop. We have expanded both the menu & cake range to include more gluten free & vegan options due to the increase in demand for these items.

The tea rooms wouldn't run like it does without the brilliant volunteers who are always willing to help out - so a big thank you to them for their support. Here's to another successful year!!

*Liz Ward,
Tea Room Manager*

BAKEHOUSE REPORT

The Bakehouse has been very busy supplying the tea rooms with cakes over the last year. Whenever possible we work hard to supply seasonal cakes, including Christmas and Easter, which are loved by our visitors.

We have a couple of new volunteers Laura & Sue who have joined the team, ensuring that there are always delicious cakes on offer.

The Bakehouse team



The Baking Team's superb home made cakes are much appreciated by visitors

COLLECTIONS REPORT

It's been a busy year for the Collections Team. It's not often we are in the public eye so you may wonder what we do squirrelled away in the Miller's House!

Amongst other things, we look after the Miller's House and Granary by carrying out general housekeeping of the interpretation and exhibits, conservation, environmental monitoring and policy writing.

The Collections Team were fortunate to be awarded grant funding from Museum Developments East Midlands and The Bicker



Working with schools the collections team write scripts, carry out role play and use the handling collection to help identify historic items

Trust. We purchased archival packaging materials and items for our Education Handling Boxes which we have used for groups of visiting children and outreach projects. Our fantastic gardening team are keeping the lawns and beds looking beautiful. They are returning the garden back to its traditional origins inline with historic pictures we have in the archive. They also hosted Heckington in Bloom 2022 at the Mill; Heckington won the Silver Award in the small town category.

*Michelle Andrews,
Collections Manager*



Planning and preparing a variety of exhibitions for display in the Granary Visitor Centre

Income & Expenditure - Year ended 31/03/2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,056	4,770
Grants	7,725	11,667
	<u>9,781</u>	<u>16,437</u>
Other fundraising activities		
Shop income	23,788	22,975
Mill House tearooms income	72,969	64,728
Other income	7,381	2,405
	<u>104,138</u>	<u>90,108</u>
Investment income		
Rents received	9,798	9,060
Charitable activities		
Mill entrance	12,749	9,358
Subscriptions	624	680
Group visits	1,554	1,656
Job retention scheme	-	118
	<u>14,927</u>	<u>11,812</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>138,644</u>	<u>127,417</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Publicity	1,850	472
Other fundraising activities		
Opening stock shop	6,459	6,450
Opening stock tearooms	837	365
Purchases shop	11,881	11,851
Purchases tearooms	19,546	18,225
Wages	27,803	24,138
Closing stock shop	(8,078)	(6,459)
Closing stock tearooms	(1,558)	(837)
	<u>56,890</u>	<u>53,733</u>
Investment management costs Charitable activities		
Other operating leases	-	62
Events expenditure	684	475
Mill rent	750	750
Rates and water	1,432	1,131
Light and heat	6,999	6,146
Telephone	776	677
Postage and stationery	2,367	1,985
Materials and maintenance	17,650	9,846
Courses and training	-	600
SPAB / Museum association / Subscriptions	680	1,218
Travel expenses	483	197
Minor equipment	4,553	984
Insurance	7,799	7,065
Heritage lottery funding	778	-
Miscellaneous expenses	2,617	2,346
Bank charges	1,624	1,465
Accountancy fees	2,992	3,403
Professional fees	3,338	2,142
	<u>55,522</u>	<u>40,492</u>
Total resources expended	<u>114,262</u>	<u>94,697</u>
Net income	<u>24,382</u>	<u>32,720</u>

Balance Sheet - As at 31/03/23

	2023				2022
	Operational reserves and Unrestricted fund £	Renewals fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	9,636	-	-	9,636	7,296
Debtors	10,115	-	-	10,115	4,554
Cash at bank and in hand	72,124	45,521	1,239	118,884	99,886
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	91,875	45,521	1,239	138,635	111,736
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	(8,480)	-	-	(8,480)	(5,963)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	83,395	45,521	1,239	130,155	105,773
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	84,395	45,521	1,239	131,155	106,773
NET ASSETS	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	84,395	45,521	1,239	131,155	106,773
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				129,916	100,582
Restricted funds:					
Peter Lett donation fund				1,674	1,817
Nation Lottery Fund				(1,435)	-
Tuxford Fund				1,000	1,000
MDEM Collections				-	1,500
Bicker Trust Fund				-	1,174
MDEM small business grant (Educational Box)				-	700
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				1,239	6,191
				<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS				131,155	106,773
				<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Heckington Windmill Trust

Heckington Windmill Trust
Registered Office
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Heckington
Sleaford
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PRESIDENT

Martin Hanson

PATRON

Mr Toby Dennis, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

Charles Pinchbeck

Michael Surfleet

Jo Lewin

Mike Hardy

Michelle Andrews

Registered with the Charity Commission

Charity Number: 1139207

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Number: 07210264

