



FRIENDS OF COULTERSHAW NEWSLETTER No 20 MAY 2018



Trustees

Elaine Sansom resigned as a Trustee in February following a multi car accident; although not injured it is taking time for her to recover from the event. Elaine was a Trustee for five years and played a major part in drafting the various applications for grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and led the Trust's Risk Assessments. Elaine is greatly missed and has our best wishes for a full recovery.

The Trustees would like to appoint one or two new Trustees in anticipation of the retirement of longer serving members. The role of Trustee is not onerous – two meetings a year and a 'can do' willingness to engage in one or more tasks associated with the Heritage Site.

If you, or any one you know, would be interested in knowing more about the role of a Trustee, please get in touch with Robin Wilson, Chairman 01798 865 774 <rlw774@gmail.com>

The Administrative Assistant advertised in December has not been filled. The Trustees share the tasks between themselves. A digital calendar has been developed to assist programming the Stewards Rota and Warehouse bookings.

Russell Miller of Upperton has accepted the Trustees' invitation to be the Independent Examiner of the Trust's accounts.

Cold Start to the Year

For the first time since records have been kept the Spring Working Party to re-commission the Pump on 18 March was cancelled due to snow! The work was undertaken on the Tuesday following. Apologies to members of the SIAS who were prepared to come over from Brighton to assist in spite of the weather.

The Training Morning for Stewards was held on Saturday 24 March; 15 volunteers attended. Tony Sneller gave a power point presentation on the procedures for opening and closing the site.



The Site was open to the public for the first time on Easter Sunday with a take of over £100. Subsequently visitor numbers in April were disappointing and less than last year due to the cold weather. Visitor numbers in May have been more encouraging.

The Beam Pump is running well after an initial period when it was flooded from both upstream and downstream. The out-of-balance caused by the lower half being generally wet in winter and the upper part dry has been worked through.

Tuesday Working Parties

Working parties on Tuesday morning have continued throughout the winter, and have been convivial and well attended. Only one day was cancelled due to weather.

Dave Huggett of Petworth joined the Tuesday Gang in January; as a young apprentice he assisted – 'passed the spanners' - in the annual service of the Leyland diesel in the Engine House.

In addition to much painting of the outside of the buildings and other maintenance tasks, the uneven slabs in front of the pump house have been replaced by a concrete path and the steps up from the ram pump completed.



Completed steps

A non return valve previously in the pipe to Petworth has been cleaned and restored, and is now a display item.



Non Return valve

Warehouse

The Warehouse has a wood burning stove, toilets, tables, 30 chairs, white board, kettles and mugs. A projector and screen is also available.

The Trustees welcome opportunities for the Warehouse to be used by local groups for an educational purpose. There is no hire charge as such but donations to the Coultershaw Trust are appreciated. For booking enquiries contact Robin Wilson <rlw774@gmail.com>

The Warehouse is used by local farmers and anglers, and schools, and by the Petworth Community Craft Group for their monthly workshops.



Craft group at work

Contact

Tricia Stephens <triciastephens1@aol.com>

Turbine

The turbine ran well until the end of December but intermittently thereafter mainly due to flood water both upstream and downstream. The load factor in the four months to the end of April was only 35%.

Derwent Hydroelectric who supplied and installed the installation have recently carried out a professional inspection and service and the turbine is back generating at its capacity 15kW.

A cast iron pinion on one of the sluice gates failed and is being replaced by one in machined in steel. A lifting crane been purchased to assist getting the winding gear back.



New lifting crane

Events

Monday 28 May – Big Draw Event. Visitors are invited to draw and sketch, taking inspiration from our trees, buildings and machines. Tuition and materials provided.

Wednesday 13 June – Schools Day. Year 4 pupils from local schools participate in four workshops and explore the Coultershaw Site. Workshops include art, tree identification, mini water beasts and meeting the Stone Age man!

Wednesday 11 July – Annual Evening Party. Friends, volunteers and all other supporters are invited to enjoy a fine evening with a glass of wine, view the Heritage Site and win a prize in the raffle. **RSVP on the attached reply form.**

Saturday 14 July – Fete in the Park. The Trust will have a stand at the Fete with games for young and old. Look out for the flag!

Donations

The Trust relies on admission receipts and Friends donations for the day to day operation of the site. Many Friends have already donated. If you were mindful of doing likewise, a Form of Gift is attached to this Newsletter.

Privacy Policy

The Trust holds personal information on Friends, volunteers, and other supporters. From 25 May 2018 under the General Data Protection Regulation the holding of personal information requires the **prior consent** of the individual.

The Trust's Privacy Policy May 2018 is attached to this Newsletter; this includes a form of **Consent** which each individual is invited to sign and return to the Chairman. Without this consent the individual will not receive further communications from the Trust - including Newsletters and invitations to the Annual Evening Party!

Website www.coultershaw.co.uk

Facebook

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