

Embargoed: Tuesday 21 August 2018

Press call on site: 10:00am Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2018

**Attendees must be aware that Personal Protective Equipment must be worn for the Press Call due to the onsite construction at Warwick Bridge.**

**Hard hats and high visibility jackets can be supplied but we are unable to supply protective footwear.**

# Press Release

## Warwick Bridge Corn Mill gets a new lease of life

- **Warwick Bridge Corn Mill will be occupied by a miller for the first time since 1991**
- **North of England Civic Trust are restoring the historic mill and bringing it back into use**
- **Two new members of staff have been appointed to manage the mill and work with local volunteers and schools**

At long last, Warwick Bridge Corn Mill will be occupied by a miller for the first time since 1991.

**Warwick Bridge Corn Mill** is the latest restoration project to be delivered by the **North of England Civic Trust**. The Trust acquired the Mill in July 2015, and plans are underway to secure a future for this historic, listed building by restoring it and bringing it back into use over the next few years.

To help plan and manage the project two new members of staff have been appointed to work at the Mill with grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Architectural Heritage Fund and the Headley Trust.

Karen Mason is the new Mill Project Coordinator with responsibility for the development, operation and management of the project. Once the mill is restored her role will include milling, and operating and maintaining the historic mill machinery. This will be the first time that the Mill will have permanent staff since the 1990s.

**Karen Mason, Mill Project Coordinator, North of England Civic Trust, Warwick Bridge Corn Mill said:**

“What I love about the Mill, its old engineering, it isn’t a ruin, it has moving parts and things that work that I can handle and play with. It’s all wood and iron components that I can fix or replace if needs be its engineering you can look at and understand, and fix with a hammer! When it runs it’s like a big animal, it has moods and talks while it’s running to let you know if something is wrong, it is real living history. That’s what I love about water mills.”

Beth Harrison is the new Community Engagement and Volunteer Coordinator. Her role will be to deliver a wide range of exciting engagement activities with local volunteers, schools and colleges; developing the mill as a learning resource and ensuring the Mill becomes a source of enjoyment for the local community and visitors.

**Matthew Mckeague, Chief Executive, Architectural Heritage Fund:**

“This is a project we have supported over many years and one we’re delighted to see reach this important milestone. Credit to North of England Civic Trust for their determined work in getting the project this far. The appointment of these new on-site staff will help see it through to a successful conclusion.”

**Graham Bell, Director, North of England Civic Trust, said:**

“This as a significant moment in the life of this local landmark. It is coming up to 30 years since this Mill last had a miller. The Trust’s vision for the Mill, coming alive again to the sights, smells and sounds of what it was built for, begins in the hands of these two enthusiastic women”

Beth and Karen will make great additions to the North of England Civic Trust team and we are looking for enthusiastic and willing volunteers to help take this unique project forward. The Trust will be holding a volunteer day on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September from 10am – 3pm. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact us on [warwickbridgecornmill@gmail.com](mailto:warwickbridgecornmill@gmail.com)

**ENDS**

**For further press information please contact: Julie Gowland**  
Tel: 0191 232 9279 or email [julie.gowland@nect.org.uk](mailto:julie.gowland@nect.org.uk)

**To share your memories about this historic site please contact: Beth Harrison**  
Tel: 07498260060 or email [beth.harrison@nect.org.uk](mailto:beth.harrison@nect.org.uk)



### **About North of England Civic Trust**

North of England Civic Trust is a charitable organisation working across the North East, North Yorkshire and Cumbria. In recent years they have delivered nearly £10 million of projects, generating jobs in areas of deprivation and contributing to the local economy.

As a civic trust they champion public involvement in the processes that shape the environment, often working with local groups. As a building preservation trust, they tackle dereliction on the high street and in the countryside, from modest local landmarks to the rescue of nationally important heritage on the brink of being lost. As a consultancy, they provide independent expert advice to all those who need it, brokering solutions to sensitive development issues and securing the resources needed to convert liabilities into assets. As a charitable company, NECT is overseen by its board of trustees, all of whom work voluntarily, in their own time, for the Trust.

[www.nect.org.uk](http://www.nect.org.uk)

North of England Civic Trust is grateful to the following organisations for their generous grants towards this project:



### **About the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)**

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #HLFsupported.

### **Heritage Lottery Fund:**

Nick Herepath: [Nickh@hlf.org.uk](mailto:Nickh@hlf.org.uk)

### **About the Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF)**

The AHF is a registered charity, working since 1976 to promote the conservation and sustainable re-use of historic buildings for the benefit of communities across the UK, particularly in economically disadvantaged areas.

#### **The Architectural Heritage Fund:**

Gavin Richards - [Gavin.richards@ahfund.org.uk](mailto:Gavin.richards@ahfund.org.uk)

## **THE HEADLEY TRUST**

### **About The Headley Trust:**

The Headley Trust is part of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust organisation. These 17 different independent grant making trusts exist to provide financial aid for charities and activities with clearly defined charitable purposes. The Headley Trust focuses on art, heritage, restoration, welfare and education.

#### **The Headley Trust:**

Karin Hooper: '[karin.hooper@scft.org.uk](mailto:karin.hooper@scft.org.uk)'

Alongside:

**The Garfield Weston Foundation**

**The Pilgrim Trust**

**Wolfson Foundation**

**Historic England**

**Cumbria County Council**

**Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust**