

## Warwick Bridge Corn Mill

*Project Update February 2017*



### **Completion of Emergency Works**

Now that the scaffolding has been removed we are pleased to be able to reveal the most urgent repairs that have been carried out thanks to a grant from Historic England and support from the Architectural Heritage Fund and Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust. This has allowed us to re-instate the oak louvre on the top of the drying kiln – and replace the plastic sheeting on the drying kiln roof with more traditional Westmorland slate.



As well as the visible exterior work, some of the supporting roof timbers have been strengthened and some stone replacement and re-pointing with lime mortar has also been carried out.

The granary roof has also received some attention with slate and timberwork repairs and is now in a much better position to resist the effects of wind and rain.

Thanks to all our funders and supporters for their help in getting us to this stage.



### **Funding Update**

Since our last newsletter we have been offered funding towards the project from three additional sources – the Cumbria RDPE Leader programme, the Pilgrim Trust and the Wolfson Foundation – together these grant offers are worth almost £100,000. We still have a way to go to reach our total project goal of just over £2M, but we are moving in the right direction.

We have recently set up a project page on Neighbourly.com and you can see volunteering opportunities and make donations here:

<https://www.neighbourly.com/project/58a5af28c7ac8d11945ba3e3/information>

or donations can also be made through our BT My Donate donation page:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/northofenglandcivictrust>

We would love to hear from anybody willing to take part in a fundraising activity/event for us – a sponsored bike ride or bake off for example!

### **Volunteering Opportunities**

As we head towards spring we would like to set up two volunteering days, where we will focus on the external grounds and clearing up the site, with some general gardening duties. We have pencilled in March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup> so if you are able to come along for an hour or two, or longer, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Basic equipment will be provided, but if you have your own that you are happy to bring along and use, that would be great.

You can email Joan or Rose via [admin@nect.org.uk](mailto:admin@nect.org.uk) or give us a ring in the office on 0191 232 9279.

Another exciting project in Warwick Bridge is well-underway at Our Lady and St Wilfrid's Church – just over the road from the mill. Ged Acton has kindly sent us this update:

## Restoration of another Hidden Gem – the Church of Our Lady and St Wilfrid in Warwick Bridge

The first stage of an ambitious restoration programme has been completed at the Church of Our Lady and St Wilfrid in Warwick Bridge. With funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, essential repairs to the fabric of the building have been undertaken to preserve this unique surviving example of a small English parish church designed by 'God's Architect' Augustus Pugin.

Essential repairs to the fabric of the building began in July 2016. The bellcote, roof and stonework have been superbly restored. Damp and decaying plasterwork has been replaced and the future of the building has been secured. Parishioners now aim to restore the decorative interior to its full glory whilst developing new activities with schools, visitors and the local community.

The Church also houses a unique example of a long compass organ. Recently refurbished by Harrison and Harrison with a separate grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this magnificent instrument is a source of great pride and pleasure in the church. For more information see:

<http://www.harrisonorgans.com/gallery/5083-2/our-lady-st-wilfrids-warwick-bridge/>

Following essential repair work, parishioners are now fundraising and redoubling their efforts on the next phase - restoring the magnificent interior to its full glory.

Further information can be obtained from Ged Acton, Heritage Project Assistant - [gedacton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gedacton@yahoo.co.uk) tel. 07936 135 834.

