



WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE
• ROTHERHAM •

“It would seem nothing, including a global pandemic, can dampen the energy and enthusiasm of the Wentworth Woodhouse team.”

Sarah McLeod CEO

ANNUAL REVIEW 2020 - 2021





AS I READ THIS REVIEW I WAS REMINDED OF ALL THAT WAS ACHIEVED OVER THE LAST YEAR IN SUCH DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

INITIALLY WE IMAGINED THE WORST BUT ACTUALLY, WE WERE ABLE TO FIND SILVER LININGS DURING THIS VERY STRANGE TIME.

We may have been closed but we didn't waste a minute. We used the downtime to source grants, plough on with vital repairs and organise a COVID-safe environment for visitors and staff, as well as designing new attractions. During the first lockdown in March 2020 the facade was completely shrouded in scaffold to enable roof repairs. Almost two acres of roof repairs have been completed, safeguarding the rooms beneath, and other crucial tasks have been carried out. We now have roofs which don't leak, a heating system that works, no asbestos in our cellars, repaired ceilings in our Marble Saloon and Pillared Hall and a repaired roof on the North Quadrant on the East Front.

Everyone rushed to help - from volunteers deciding to create a stream of morale-boosting videos about life at the house, to the funders who acted swiftly to support the devastated heritage sector. My thanks and that of my fellow trustees goes to them all.

Through careful control, the ship was held steady. Despite being closed for many months in the pandemic, not a single redundancy has been made, four new management roles have been created and a COVID-19 managed business model has been set out for 2021.

Everyone worked so hard to prepare for recent reopening following our Covid-Safe Visitor Code to the letter. We are excited and determined to make it a success. As a member of staff said in a video our new digital team have just produced: We are Wentworth Woodhouse and we're ready for anything!"

Dame Julie Kenny
Chair
Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust



Our in-house digital team takes shape - Page 22



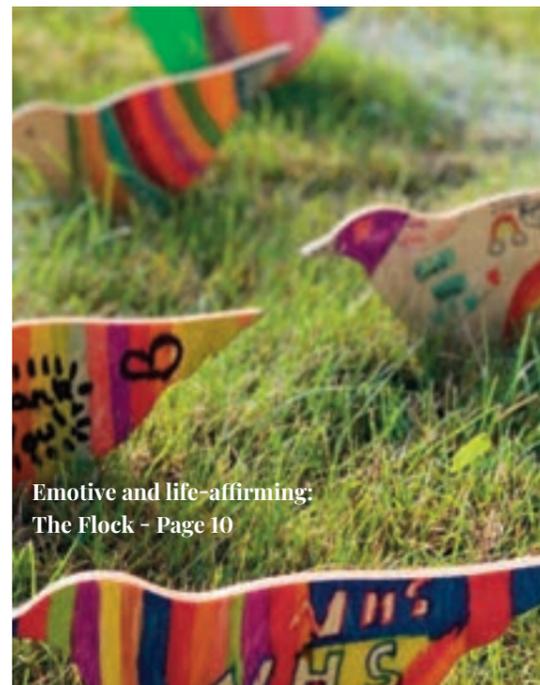
200 year old garden paths restoration - Page 19



SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020-2021



Our gardening team make a great start clearing the Camellia House - Page 17



Emotive and life-affirming: The Flock - Page 10



Welcoming Asian heritage to the house - Page 20



Another winner for Wentworth Woodhouse's community - Page 11

THE CHARITY

TRUSTEES OF THE CHARITY

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year were as follows:



Top row: Dame J A Kenny DBE DL (Chair), The Duke of Devonshire KCVO CBE DL, Sir P V Naylor-Leyland BT, T J Cooke OBE, M Drury CBE
Bottom row: J M Waterson CBE, K R Knight, R J Cowper, S A Carr CBE, J Berry, J C Caldwell

CHARITY OBJECTIVES

The objects of the charity are specifically restricted to the following:

“To acquire and preserve for the benefit of the nation the whole or any part or parts of the buildings, grounds and surrounding land known as Wentworth Woodhouse in the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham and which are of special historical, architectural and constructional heritage and interest (“the building”) together with such fixtures, fittings, furniture, pictures and other chattels (“the contents”) are as contained within or form part of the building and which are in their own right or by association with the building objects of particular historical, architectural or artistic interest”.

OUR CORE VALUES

1. REGENERATION

– always attaining to the very highest conservation standards to protect and restore the site, its buildings, structures and landscape, through balanced and appropriate re-use, finding creative solutions leading to an economically sustainable future

2. ENGAGEMENT

– to engage with, listen to and work with local communities and wider audiences. Engaging hearts and minds to celebrate the site as an asset to the region and the nation. Offering a positive long term contribution to the economic and social life of local communities and acting as a driver for Rotherham and the wider tourist offer

3. OPPORTUNITIES

– Using Wentworth Woodhouse as a remarkable heritage asset to provide multiple year round opportunities for the advancement of skills, education and life-long learning by way of training, work experience, volunteering and employment, whilst enhancing knowledge through scholarship and academic research

4. REACH NEW AUDIENCES

– providing a world class, inspirational and enjoyable experience for all, with equality and diversity as key drivers of our audience development plan

5. ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

– to operate a creative and solutions focussed business with commercial flare whilst always seeking to deliver our charitable objectives

6. PROFESSIONALISM

– to operate with openness and transparency, promoting best practice, behaving professionally and acting respectfully towards others at all times

7. CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

– be committed to sustainable policies and practices. Environmental concerns are essential to our decision making. We understand the value of acting in an environmentally responsible way to minimise the impact on the environment from our operations

8. DIVERSITY

– to develop an exemplary mixed-use site which will be a world-class model of accessibility and inclusion as demonstrated by interventions it makes in the landscape and buildings, the diversity of its activities and services and by the way its communications strategy is implemented

9. INNOVATION

– to use technological and digital innovation to create imaginative visitor experiences of unfailingly high quality, effectively targeted marketing and an empowered and connected work force

10. WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

– to develop appropriate partnerships with others including the Fitzwilliam Wentworth Amenity Trust and other stakeholders who share our values and subscribe to our long term vision to ensure that Wentworth Woodhouse, comprising the house, gardens, park and monuments, is preserved as an entity, for the benefit of the local community and the Nation

EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

2020 was set to be a turning point in the regeneration of Wentworth Woodhouse.

Visitor numbers were rising and an annual programme of events well-established. The colossal programme of crucial repairs to two acres of the mansion's roof was soon to come to an end, protecting some of the most vulnerable areas of the building. But just three years into our mission to prevent the site from financial and physical collapse, an unexpected and very serious challenge tested us to our limit. As the financial year 19-20 came to a close we had become aware of a virus called COVID-19 that had started to spread across the globe. By April 2020, the start of this reporting period, the immediate effects of that pandemic had started to hit in the UK, and Wentworth Woodhouse was closed to the staff and public for the first time since the Trust took ownership of the site. Little did we know of the extraordinary events that were about to unfold and to change the way we live, possibly forever.

The Chair and CEO of WWPT had met with staff in March 2020 when it first became apparent that the site would temporarily close. Tours and events were cancelled. The mansion's doors were bolted. Construction work came to an abrupt halt. By 20th of that month, all staff and volunteers took to the safety of their homes as we awaited Government announcements. Almost all of the Trust's staff went immediately into furlough, income dropped like a stone and the business plan became redundant.

For the Trust there were three key priorities; keeping the staff safe and informed, retaining jobs and maintaining the capital works programme.

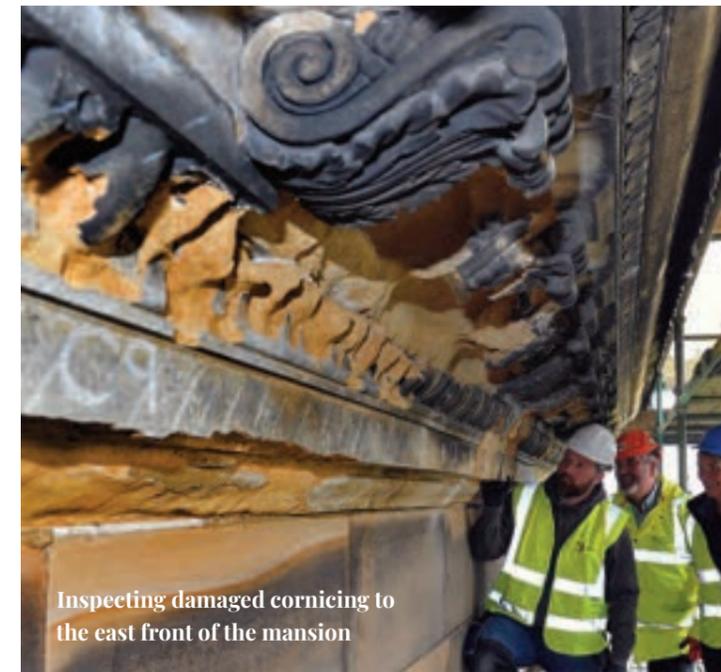


Sarah McLeod CEO

CAPITAL WORKS

As the first lockdown hit in March 2020, the Phase 2 capital works had to close. This was a devastating blow to the project, the financial implications of which could easily have tipped the Trust over the edge. Scaffold hire costs alone at £30,000 per month meant that any delay to the programme would result in an extensive hike in the costs of the project.

Our main contractors the Woodhead Group set about finding solutions; Stonemasons took their work home with them, setting up their own temporary work stations in their gardens so that they could continue with their skilled carving. Site Manager Andy Stamford worked closely with the health and safety advisors to create safe systems of working across the scaffolded site, and on 5th May the workforce of roofers and stone masons returned.

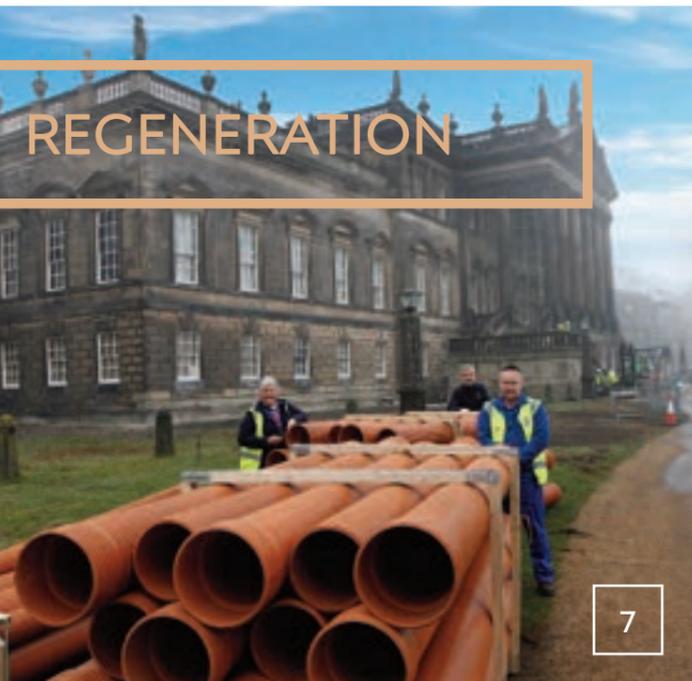


Inspecting damaged cornicing to the east front of the mansion

In October 2020, we were informed that a bid we had submitted as part of a consortium with the Historic Houses Association had been successful and that a Historic England grant of £331,200 had been awarded from the Heritage Stimulus Fund, part of the Government's £1.57bn Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage. The Trust was able to install a temporary heating system and forge ahead with enabling works which will allow us to introduce a ground-source heat pump system in the future. The new heating system, fired by gas, meant that at last the mansion could be warm again after many cold and damp months. Installing it was no easy task, but was actually made easier by the fact the site was closed and the contractors were not having to work around visitors. This principle applied to the other repairs made as part of this project including urgent repairs to underground drainage, a new water mains connection and the removal of asbestos from the mansion's cellar.

Incredibly, there was little impact to the overall programme and when the project came to an end recently it still managed to come in just under budget. Much of the damage done in the past was due to water ingress as a result of poor maintenance, mainly caused by a lack of safe access to the roofs.

Today the roof works to the main block of the East Front are all complete, and new interventions have been made to make the on-going maintenance of the roofs, hoppers and gutters much more accessible in future including wider lead reservoirs to collect and hold the increased rainfall.



In November, a further £811,000 was awarded by Historic England as part of the Government's Culture Recovery Funding set aside to restart heritage construction and maintenance projects hit by the pandemic and save jobs in the sector. It paid for further vital roof repairs at each end of the East Front - on the North Pavilion, North and South Quadrants, the Meter House and a further section of the Long Gallery. This will now protect rooms below, whilst contributing to the building's sustainability and support jobs in construction and traditional crafts. The work to the North Pavilion, involved restoring the roof, stonework repairs, meticulous conservation to the two clock faces, cornices, weather vane and repairs to the guttering.



The team celebrated a key milestone on 17th February as the 400kg weather vane was carefully removed by crane for conservation. The North Pavilion repairs are now completed.

The 20-year Masterplan to rescue Wentworth Woodhouse is broken down into manageable phases, based on urgency of repair need, ability of the new use to generate income to be self-sustaining, and the ability to attract funding.



Barnsley-based clock restoration specialist Andrew Bates, of Bygone Times, who freely gave us his expertise has painstakingly restoring the clock mechanisms and hands to their former glory. Scaffolding, a now familiar site at Wentworth Woodhouse, encased the Pavilion and is, in itself, another feat of engineering. It was designed to work around the existing buildings without impacting on historic fabric. Approximately 150 tonnes of scaffolding towered 22m into the sky to facilitate the repairs, laid end to end it would stretch 12km. In addition to working with the physical restrictions of adjacent structures, no holes could be made in the walls of the listed building to fix the scaffolding in place. Instead, friction ties were used, whereby the scaffold rested against the building on friction pads. The project shows the continued investment in protecting Wentworth Woodhouse for generations to come.

MORE STATS FOR 2021!



RIDDOR incidents (H&S)

95%
Slates re-used

65%
Timber re-used



13
New construction skills apprenticeships



28
Students engaged

19
Urns removed from roof for conservation

4,500
Roof tours delivered

THE FLOCK

Community is at the heart of the Trust's regeneration plans and it is really important that local people have the opportunity to contribute to its future. One of the greatest achievements of the year involved thousands of local people in the creation of The Flock, a land art installation to mark the effects of COVID-19 - positive and negative - on the community. The installation saw 10,000 small wooden birds, hand-painted by the public with symbols of freedom through unity, displayed on the mansion's front lawn.

The Flock's creators, Julie Edwards and Ron Thompson of Planet Art, hoped that their creation would inspire people to engage with the arts, culture and heritage on their doorstep during the pandemic. Their moving and thought-provoking display, a golden land art tree which acted as a roost to the birds attracted people from across the region, thousands of whom decorated a bird with words, collages and images expressing the effect the Covid 19 pandemic had on them and their memories or thoughts on Wentworth Woodhouse.

It was free to take part, but people who could afford to, made much needed donations to help the Trust through the pandemic. The birds were distributed by staff and volunteers at sites in the local community and in the gardens of Wentworth Woodhouse, where we staged regular craft workshops over the summer. (Government guidelines on social distancing rules and safety were carefully followed throughout).

The project was so successful that a similar scheme is currently being rolled out this year where supporters are being asked to get crafty and pen their best ideas on a hand-made camellia flower or carriage horse. Garden workshops, making paper blooms and horses are some of the imaginative ways for the public to express their hopes for the site. Ideas from the public will shape a programme of heritage and wellbeing activities for local people and create opportunities to develop skills and enjoy new experiences. These will run alongside future regeneration projects at the Camellia House, Stables and Riding School. Thanks to a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF), Activity Planning Consultant Dr Suzanne Carter has been commissioned to carry out engagement and consultation work and develop ideas for a four-year programme of activities.

ENGAGEMENT

A plan for events, community projects and engagement will be submitted as part of an application to the NHLF's second-round of grants in November 2021.

The project was so successful that a similar scheme is currently being rolled out this year where supporters are being asked to get crafty and pen their best ideas on a hand-made camellia flower or carriage horse.

Supporters were also urged to get creative during Lockdown by creating their own masterpieces as the Trust launched a Lockdown Art Contest the winner of which saw their design loud and proud on the front of Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust's first ever fundraising T-shirt.

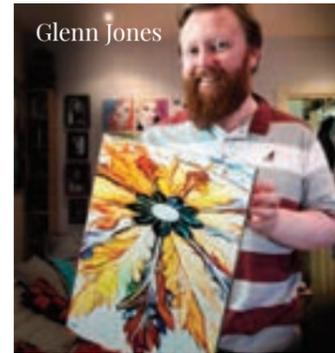
Entries came from near and as far away as Australia - paintings, sketches, models and even a pavement chalk picture depicting the life and times of the Big House were created by supporters aged from two to 75. The top entry - which is now emblazoned proudly across the front of the Preservation Trust's first-ever fundraising T-shirt - had been gathering dust in an attic for 13 years! Rawmarsh mum Zoe Rowbottom created the stylish graphic as a 20-year-old design student at Sheffield's Norton College. Now a business analyst at Irwin Mitchell in Sheffield she remembered her design when she heard about the contest it and proved to be a winner!

Tankersley textile design student Ellie Fisher's entry was equally impressive - the Trust plan to use it on a new product range for the gift shop. It is a first commission for Ellie, who has just completed her studies at Leeds University. Her intricate repeat-print features scenes from the house and grounds. Bury artist Glenn Jones, 48, won first prize in the over 18s group with his digitally created image of the Marble Saloon floor. Ellen Stockdale, aged 16, from The Brecks, Rotherham, took first prize in the 13-18 group with a detailed watercolour of the house's Palladian East Front and seven-year-old Lucy Redfern, of Wiltshire, was another winner. Lucy, whose grandparents live in Brampton Bierlow, created a huge model of the house from cardboard. Reggie Small, aged four, from Mexborough, spent four days perfecting his winning painting of the house.

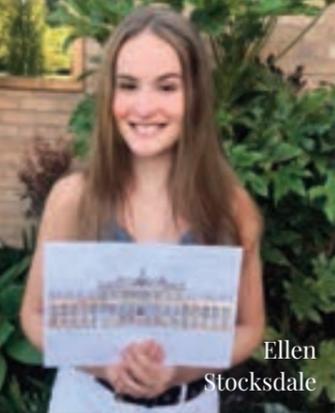
Zoe Rowbottom



Glenn Jones



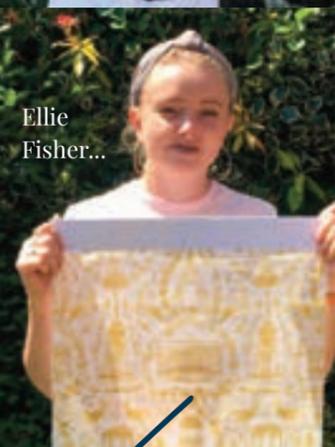
Ellen Stockdale



Ellie Fisher...



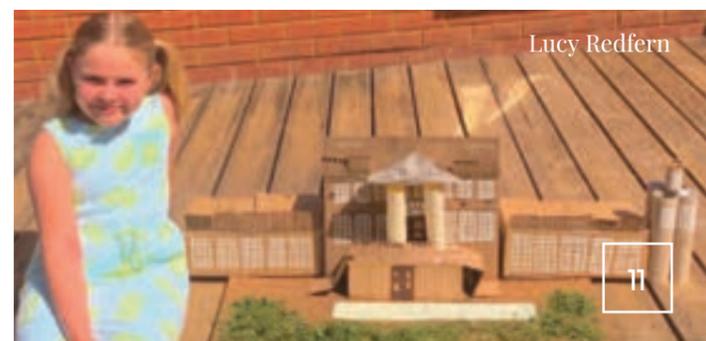
Reggie Small



...who's design now features on our membership cards



Lucy Redfern





The swift arrival of £240,900 from an emergency funding pot in July 2020, granted by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, gave the Trust three months of vital breathing space.

It kept the wolf from the door, paying running costs from June to September 2020. It also allowed a very limited number of staff to return to work, monitoring the capital works as they restarted and creating an emergency fundraising plan. This included the development of an on-line shop in addition to a stand in the garden from which volunteers could attract donations for a selection of items.

These included wonderful prints and canvases of Wentworth Woodhouse by Sheffield based artist Joe Scarborough, the original of which was commissioned by Chair Dame Julie Kenny with the prints kindly donated by her.

Over the course of the year staff and volunteers managed to raise a whopping £62,417 From fundraising activities

Also available were original boxed Westmorland slates removed from the East Front roof during the repair programme, t-shirts emblazmed with Zoe Rawbottom's design, new guidebooks, and photographs taken by our very own resident photographer David Sowter. Over the course of the year staff and volunteers managed to raise a whopping £62,417 from fundraising activities, helping to ensure that the Trust could continue its work providing opportunities for the people of South Yorkshire. The Flock is once again playing an important role in fundraising for the Preservation Trust's work. Just 500 birds have been hand-selected and given a new lease of life as utterly unique, hand-crafted artworks. The now transformed framed, wall-mountable images or individual, freestanding displays are now being sold to raise further funds.



FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING



REACH NEW AUDIENCES



THE GARDENS

The team swiftly realised a COVID-safe means of generating income was literally sitting on the doorstep. The mansion's 55-acre garden was to become our salvation over the course of 2020.

By the summer, the woodland copses, wildflower meadows and rambling lawns - once beautified by famed Georgian landscape gardener Sir Humphry Repton - had been thrown open to paying visitors for the first time. This attracted a whole new family audience to the site and over the course of the year 35,832 people visited. That is more than all of our house tour visitors in the previous three years put together.

The mansion was open for just a few weeks over the summer holidays, but the gardens opened for much of the year and continued to open to the public post pandemic. The gardens brought income, but also gave people a beautiful, relaxing place to exercise and unwind during such a difficult time. We were able to provide outdoor catering vans stocked up with food and drink, toilets and hand-washing stations and lawn games. The WWPT team followed a thorough COVID-19 safety protocol, disinfecting equipment and facilities throughout the day and visitors were asked to pay attention to safety signage and one-way systems during their stay.



PROFESSIONALISM

Though we were closed for many months of the year and could only deliver a very restricted indoor offer when guidelines were relaxed over the summer, we became determined to take our new diversified business plan and build on it, bringing in some new roles and expertise to support this.

Two new posts were created, utilising the Culture recovery Funding 21. Chief Operating Officer Paula Kaye, is an accomplished hospitality and retail director who made her mark with world-class food brands Betty's Tea Rooms and Taylor's of Harrogate at both strategic and operational levels.

Head of Hospitality Darren Procter joined Wentworth from Sheffield Hallam University, where as Executive Chef he developed the campus food offer and oversaw all catering operations.

Darren previously ran his own restaurant in Cornwall and brings a passion for sustainability and supporting local producers to the menus at Wentworth.

Lydia Tickner, also joined the team as the new Events Manager and brings experience gained at London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and English Heritage sites Dover Castle and Osborne House to the WWPT events programme.

In addition to the new permanent staff positions, a number of new consultants positions were commissioned during the year. Dr Suzanne Carter joined as the Activity Planner, Sheila McGregor as Evaluator, Access4All to provide accessibility advice, Sally Prothero and Johnnie Phibbs as Garden and Landscape Masterplanners and Winstor Marsh as Branding Consultants. All of these commissions are being funded through the development phase of the Camellia House project.



From top: Paula Kaye, Darren Procter and Lydia Tickner.

We became determined to take our new diversified business plan and build on it.

As the pandemic continued to affect the way we all live, a further funding round was announced by the Government, the Culture Recovery Fund 20.

A grant, distributed by the National Lottery Heritage Fund of £468,282 was awarded in October 2020 to help the Trust survive and thrive in the run up to winter from November 2020 to March 2021. This, along with a Government Bounce Back Loan, allowed us to rethink our strategy and focus on diversifying the business to really encompass the outdoor offer and to launch a new digital department.

Two new food trailers were purchased, the first to provide drinks and snacks for visitors to the garden and the second to provide a take-out service on the East Front. A further round of funding the Culture Recovery Fund 21, provided a further grant through the National Lottery Heritage Fund of £413,000, allowing us to build on this, purchasing a mobile classroom for the gardens from which craft activities could take place and two garden shepherd's huts, now available for day hire. We realised that people needed to feel safe and protected and staff and volunteers soon adapted by using new PPE, creating new methods of working and safe visitor routes. Although the house remained closed for much of the year, we were able to continue to safely welcome visitors and generate income from new activities based outdoors.



ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

VOLUNTEERS

The business closed temporarily in March 2020 due to Covid 19, so no volunteering took place until July 2020, another lockdown followed in November 2020 until March 2021.

On 4th July 2020 the gardens were opened to the public on a free-flow bookable basis and a team of volunteers was needed to support this. The volunteer coordinator was on furlough from March – June 2020, and came back to work to facilitate the opening of the gardens with the Open Gardens Support Team (OGST)

In October the house was opened on a pre-bookable free-flow basis. This required volunteer room stewards – so new training was provided, and the Open Garden Support Team contributed over 500 hours to the brief opening of the house before lockdown in November 2020.

Before being furloughed, the volunteer coordinator contacted all the volunteers and sought permission to contact them via a private email address in a 'friend' capacity rather than in a 'work' capacity. Around 130 responded and were sent a weekly light-hearted 'Monday Morning Missive' to keep spirits up and communication channels open. The missives ran to 31 editions, 37.5k words, innumerable photos and 107 sides of A4.

FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS

Helped to sell our bespoke items such as roof slates and canvas prints, as well as giving time to the 'Flock'.

RETAIL VOLUNTEERS

The shop, entirely manned by volunteers continued to do well in the few weeks it was open.

GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

This is one of the few areas where volunteers were able to return reasonably early on in the pandemic. New paths were laid providing improved access.

MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS

Made bespoke items for the gardens such as bin housings, as well as maintenance within the house.

OPEN GARDENS SUPPORT TEAM

Contributed to the smooth running of the open gardens.

OPEN HOUSE SUPPORT TEAM

Opening the house during October and early November.

DIGITAL TEAM

At the end of 2020 a Digital Team of volunteers was established and trained up to use specialist equipment, lighting, filming and editing etc, so that WWPT could produce its own films. A huge success – this team has contributed untold hundreds of hours at home as well as at the house to produce some fascinating films to engage with visitors both here and abroad.

Many other hours were given across tours, events, housekeeping, research, car parking, and buggy driving.

The volunteer team came together exceptionally well to support the business throughout an extremely very difficult time for everyone in 2020 and 2021, and we are extremely grateful for their loyalty. We aim to recruit further members from all backgrounds, faiths, ages, abilities and ethnicities to help us continue with our extraordinary journey to the future of a self-sustaining Wentworth Woodhouse.

Between July 2020 and March 2021, volunteers contributed

11,094

hours to the business

Training & mentoring
354
hours training over the year

Fundraising
766
hours contributed by volunteers

Maintenance
1461.5
hours given by maintenance volunteers

The Shop
165
hours contributed

Open House Support Team
733
hours opening the house October and November

Open Gardens Support Team
2500
hours running the gardens

Gardening
2440
hours, including 457 hours in March to install the new paths



CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Redeveloping the Grade II* listed Camellia House as a daytime cafe and evening events venue is Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust's first major project to bring a derelict building back into full use.

It became home to camellias when the 2nd Marquess became one of the earliest English collectors of the rare blooms being brought from China and Japan in Georgian times.

The Trust began the development phase of the project this year thanks to grant funding awarded from a number of grant givers including the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, the Pilgrim Trust, the Fitzwilliam Wentworth Amenity Trust, Ian Addison Charitable Trust, Historic England and the Garfield Weston Foundation. The project includes plans to take the building back to its original use – in 1738 it was an orangery with a tea room created for Lady Rockingham, wife of the 1st Marquess, to entertain her guests.

Though now a shell, the building still houses some of the oldest and rarest camellias in the Western World. They will have pride of place in the new cafe and will be carefully protected during building work, which it is hoped will begin next year subject to funding being secured.

The project is moving at pace with lead architects Donald Insall Associates appointed in January '21 having developed the designs and submitted plans for the statutory permissions required.



The Riding School is earmarked as a multi-media and events space, the Southern Range of the Stables for events and cafe spaces and the Ostler's House as overnight guest accommodation.

Donald Insall Associates, known for conservation work at some of Britain's most significant stately homes, have also been working up the plans for three other 18th and 19th century buildings on site.

The award-winning practice recently worked on the two phases of restoration work and emergency repairs at the mansion alongside quantity surveyors Rex Procter and Partners, of Leeds, and Project Organiser David Trevis-Smith, of Warwickshire-based DTS Solutions. Both firms have also successfully tendered for the Camellia House project.

As revealed in the Trust's 20-year Masterplan, the Riding School is earmarked as a multi-use events space, the South Range of the Stables for retail, events and cafe spaces and the Ostler's House as overnight guest accommodation.

The Camellia House will have its own kitchen and will operate as a daytime cafe and a dining and events venue in the evenings.

In addition to the development phase of works at the Camellia House and Stables, footpaths created 200 years ago were restored in the gardens over the course of the year. Visitors can now follow the paths to the garden's beauty spots, just as guests of the Marquess of Rockingham would once have done. The formal walking routes were likely created around the time of the garden's remodelling works by Humphrey Repton, in the early 1790s.

But years of neglect had left many barely visible and snow during the winter of 2020 had worsened their condition. They needed to be made safer for local people to come and enjoy fresh air and exercise during the pandemic.

The Trust's gardeners and their volunteer teams, the Welly Wangers and the Bramble Bashers, put in weeks of toil and got the paths back on track.

They lead from The Stables to the West Drive, down past the Ha-Ha to the Mulberry Garden and across to the ornamental stone Punch Bowl.



Humphrey Repton

A further stretch, known as the old carriage drive, had completely grassed-over but is now back to its original condition too.

The routes were researched from historic photos coupled with Head Gardener Scott Jamieson's knowledge, then careful reinstatement began.

The local head office of TC Harrison JCB, one of the largest JCB specialists in the UK, kindly loaned an eco-friendly E-Tech 1.5 tonne digger which delicately peeled back years of leaf mulch and mud. Path edges were manually cut by the garden volunteers, then 58 tonnes of Scottish red granite gravel were laid and levelled. Original paths would have featured 'red-shale' burnt colliery spoil, a mining by-product available in abundance from an estate built on coal. But the material is no longer recommended as it is high in sulphate.



The Mulberry Garden



200 year old garden paths restored



Welly Wangers & Bramble Bashers



TC Harrison's JCB gets to work

The development of our 4 year Activity Plan got underway this year and is themed around Diversity and Inclusivity. Dr Suzanne Carter, who is leading the project, has been working hard to engage the diverse mix of community groups living in the Rotherham area.

The chapel became the backdrop for exhibitions in 2020 when the Preservation Trust linked with Rotherham Open Arts Renaissance (ROAR).

ROAR is an Arts Council funded National Portfolio Organisation which helps emerging local talent to find an audience and the chapel exhibitions are funded by WE Great Place project.

The chapel at Wentworth Woodhouse welcomed a thought-provoking exhibition by a Pakistani women's art collective – which ended abruptly during the pandemic last year but has returned to the site more recently.

Called The Suitcase, it marks the monumental life change of the first generation of Pakistani women who came to Rotherham in the 1960s, telling their stories through the memories they carried with them in hearts and luggage.

The exhibition ran briefly before the UK went into its second national lockdown on November 4, forcing the mansion to close. It captures the sight, smell, and feel of the Pakistani home through stories, poetry, visual images and video.

Everyday objects the women brought with them were on display; prayer mats, clay pots, bracelets and henna and photos of the family left behind, plus the letters that arrived from home as they navigated a new life.

DIVERSITY



Left to right: Zanib Rasool, Shaheen Shah and Mariam Shah

Thrilled to show their art work, Zanib Rasool MBE, a Rotherham writer and poet, who makes up the Zanib Collective works with Shaheen Shah, a visual artist, and oral historian Mariam Shah. Poems by famous Pakistani poets Faiz Ahmed Faiz and Moghammed Iqbal also feature.

The Suitcase has provided an opportunity to have conversations with Rotherham's ethnically diverse communities about Wentworth Woodhouse. The Trust is committed to making the site a heritage attraction for which all Rotherham's communities feel a sense of pride and connection.

With support from Rotherham Ethnic Alliance, we organised group visits and transport for some of Rotherham's BAME communities to see The Suitcase, visit the gardens and state rooms and share their thoughts about how we can encourage a wider range of people to visit in the future.



WE EMBRACED THE WORLD OF DIGITAL!

Using the first emergency grant we received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, a digital audit of the site was carried out in 2020, to help us understand what might be possible and what more might be more challenging when looking to embrace digital technology, not a straightforward exercise when dealing with an historic building.

The findings of the report encouraged us to take a leap and to apply for funding from the Culture Recovery Fund, to support the purchase of mobile film studio equipment. The funding also provided training for 2 groups of volunteers to train as film production teams learning how to deliver sound, lighting, camera and scriptwriting.

The funding from the Culture Recovery 21 grant further added to our digital expansion and allowed us to commission a new website which will go live later this year, digital games, virtual tours and a digital asset management system.

It also provided funding to launch our first Wentworth Woodhouse Scriptwriting Award, a global competition to promote new talent and film making. The winner will see their script turned into a short film in locations at the mansion, its grounds and historic buildings. The short film will be produced by South Yorkshire film-maker and director James Lockey and will debut as part of a major event at the mansion in March 2022.



INVESTMENTS IN INNOVATION



Above: Screenwriting judges: James Lockey, Sarah McLeod and Paul Hutchinson



The teams have now made an astonishing number of behind the scenes films, over 50 to date, which can now be seen on the internal screens in reception and in the café, as well as on our new YouTube channel which will be formally launched later this year. It is hoped that the channel will bring in much needed advertising revenue. The production teams will be filming events later this year including lectures which will allow us to grow our pay as you go on-line offer.



Our YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCYGglhXMTjI7Rg20CiNLHGA

PARTNERSHIPS

& GRANT SUPPORT 2020-21

IT Equipment	Cutlers Charitable Trust	£1,000.00
COVID-19	RMBC	£10,000.00
COVID-19	Local Restrictions Lockdown Grant (RMBC)	£11,299.29
COVID-19	Job Retention Scheme (Furlough) HMRC	£251,962.16
COVID-19 Emergency Fund	National Lottery Heritage Fund	£240,900.00
Culture Recovery 2020	National Lottery Heritage Fund	£468,300.00
Culture Recovery 2021	National Lottery Heritage Fund	£413,000.00
Respond & Reimagine	Art Fund	£40,000.00
	National Trust (2)	£415,000.00
	Historic England - additional works	£811,000.00
	HHA Consortium Bid	£331,200.00
	Swire Foundation (HEPh2e)	£22,003.00
	Arts Council England	£98,250.00
COVID-19	Restart Grant (RMBC)	£8,000.00
TOTAL		£3,121,914.45

We simply would not have survived the year without the support of our partners. Our thanks goes to all who supported us, including funders, donors, contractors, visitors, neighbours, friends, staff and volunteers.

Our special thanks must go to the National Trust for on-going support of our operations, Historic England for Heritage Stimulus grant funding and expert advice, and the National Lottery Heritage Fund for their support by way of the Culture Recovery Funding without which we simply would not have survived.

We would also like to recognise the fantastic work carried out by Woodhead Group, particularly Andy Stamford, Tom Marshall from Captive North for the digital training, and Craig Dixon and apprentices from Excel Bespoke Plaster Ltd for exquisite plaster repairs in the Earl's bedroom.

Everybody who works at Wentworth Woodhouse, whether paid staff or volunteers, felt the impact of the pandemic this year and each and every one of them has played a vital role in the survival of the Trust.

Some were required to stay at home in isolation for a year, not seeing friends and loved ones, not able to come to the site and share in conversations and laughter. Others were required to work more hours than they thought possible, carrying the burden of keeping the wolf from the door, whilst working alone in a solitary office. Some were tasked with finding new ways of working to keep key business activities going, others with the new found challenge of PPE, additional health and safety requirements and remodelling the way people visit the site to allow for social distancing.



Nobody complained. They did what they always do, put their heads down and pushed on with whatever was needed to make it work for us all. By the end of this extraordinarily difficult year, everybody still had a job, the capital works project had been completed on time and budget, we had welcomed over 30,000 people in to the gardens, carried out extensive additional repair work on site, trained two volunteer film production crews, made over 50 short films and raised over £3m in funding. It would seem nothing, including a global pandemic, can dampen the energy and enthusiasm of the Wentworth Woodhouse team. What an honour it is to be your CEO.

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart and, as Emma says in one of our fabulous new films, “Bring it on in 21!”

Sarah McLeod CEO

Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust - Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Endowment Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations & legacies	73,982	3,179,538	-	3,253,520	3,610,899
Charitable activities	173,785	-	-	173,785	262,044
Other trading activities	242,821	-	-	242,821	596,803
Investments	3,315	-	-	3,315	9,620
Other income	251,963	-	-	251,963	-
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	745,866	3,179,538	-	3,925,404	4,479,366
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	154,890	31,631	-	186,521	438,720
Charitable activities	458,376	4,336,704	-	4,795,080	3,978,617
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	613,266	4,368,335	-	4,981,601	4,417,337
Net (expenditure) / income before transfers	132,600	(1,188,797)	-	(1,056,197)	62,029
Transfer between funds	(21,158)	21,158	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	111,442	(1,167,639)	-	(1,056,197)	62,029
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	262,207	2,482,635	7,765,690	10,510,532	10,448,503
Net movement in funds	111,442	(1,167,639)	-	(1,056,197)	62,029
Total funds carried forward	373,649	1,314,996	7,765,690*	9,454,335	10,510,532

*The endowment fund is a capital fund entirely represented by the charity's heritage assets.

Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust - Consolidated and Charity Balance Sheets As at 31 March 2021

	GROUP		CHARITY	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Assets	208,676	85,789	186,559	74,999
Heritage Assets	7,765,690	7,765,690	7,765,690	7,765,690
	7,974,366	7,851,479	7,952,249	7,840,689
Current Assets				
Stocks	38,288	41,824	2,083	3,356
Debtors	310,408	239,491	366,416	273,492
Cash at bank and in hand	2,017,144	3,215,568	1,874,834	3,143,751
	2,365,840	3,496,883	2,243,333	3,420,599
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(842,538)	(837,830)	(766,050)	(769,421)
Net current assets	1,523,302	2,659,053	1,477,283	2,651,178
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	- (43,333)	-	-	-
Total net assets	9,454,335	10,510,532	9,429,532	10,491,867
Charity Funds				
Endowment funds	7,765,690	7,765,690	7,765,690	7,765,690
Restricted funds	1,314,996	2,482,635	959,880	2,482,635
Unrestricted funds	373,649	262,207	703,962	243,542
TOTAL FUNDS	9,454,335	10,510,532	9,429,532	10,491,867

The above summarised financial statements are not the company's statutory accounts. These summarised financial statements have been derived from the statutory accounts which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

The audit report on the statutory accounts was unqualified.



WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE

♦ R O T H E R H A M ♦

WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST

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Charity Number 01155374 © Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust 2019

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Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust wish to thank the following organisations for helping us this year



The National Lottery Heritage Fund



Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport



National Trust

THE MONUMENT TRUST



Garfield Weston FOUNDATION



Historic England

AHF Transforming Heritage
www.ahfund.org.uk



The Pilgrim Trust



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