

# Friends of Helmshore textile museums

## newsletter ~~ 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017

This Newsletter is your invitation to our forthcoming

### **Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Helmshore Textile Museums**

to be held at

1-30pm on Wednesday the 21st of June 2017 in the Museum

We hope that you will come along to support us and offer us your comments.

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Dear Friends

Some months ago the 'Friends' suspended its activities because the museum was closed to the public. We believed that we would soon be able to announce good news about the future of the Museum. Sadly, despite spending almost ten months in deliberations, English Heritage came to the decision not to proceed with taking over the Helmshore site.

Perhaps it is now time for the 'Friends' to resume its activities as best it can under these very difficult circumstances. The museum might be closed but that does not mean that we can't still support it. We need to keep the name of Helmshore Textile Museum alive, supporting and publicising it. Although the Museum is closed to the public, it is still there, ready and waiting to re-open when circumstances allow.

An English Heritage spokesman once indicated that their relatively limited experience of industrial sites, and minimal presence in Lancashire, meant that a stable Trust and an active Friends group were vitally important assets. We must therefore carry on – not necessarily in our present form – to re-energise the Friends. To show future prospective operators of the site, that Helmshore does indeed have great public support and local community involvement on which to build.

We need your help. Tell us what you think the Friends should be doing in order to be ready for the future. In what format do you visualise the Friends? What kind of activities and events could we hold? What activities would you like to put in place to keep the name of Helmshore before the public? They need not be bold enterprises but they must show that we are still 'alive and kicking'.

Perhaps the period of mourning our loss and 'licking wounds' is over and it is time to get back to doing what we do best. Please come along and tell us what you think. We need and value your support.

Please get in touch with Chairman Beryl Rostron – phone 01706 632223 or on [berylwr@live.co.uk](mailto:berylwr@live.co.uk)  
Or any member of the Committee

## Friends of Helmsore Textile Museums

# Annual General Meeting

1-30pm on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017

## Agenda

### Welcome

**Minutes** of last Annual General meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Annual Report** from the Chairman Beryl Rostron

**Financial Statement** from Treasurer Peter Janczyk

**Election of Officers** All officers are appointed annually but are eligible for re-election  
The following retire but are prepared to serve for a further year

Chairman	Beryl Rostron
Vice Chairman	Laura Gill
Secretary	Keith Wilson
Treasurer	Peter Janczyk
Membership Secretary	Vacant

**Election of Committee** members are currently elected annually but are eligible for re-election

Patricia Barrett

Jane Flanagan

Carolyn Frearson

Louise Frearson

Maureen Hardman

There are two vacancies -- nominations are welcome

**Ex Officio Members** Louise Jacobsson --- Museum Manager  
Bernard Rostron --- Chairman of Higher Mill Trust

### Appointment of Examiner of Accounts

Bernard Rostron retires but is prepared to serve for a further year

Charity Commission no longer requires an external audit of small charities with a turnover below £25,000 p.a.

### Close

At the close of the meeting there will be time for open discussion and you are invited to enjoy light refreshments

If more than 10 members are interested, a guided tour of the museums can be arranged –  
Book now by phone 01706 632223 or e-mail [berylwr@live.co.uk](mailto:berylwr@live.co.uk)