# NORTH WEST INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE NETWORK MEETING

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 11:00-13:00 Zoom

#### **SESSION 1**

A brief introduction and update from Shane and Mike

# Introduction by Shane Gould, Head of Industrial Heritage Strategy, Historic England

Shane is the Head of Industrial Heritage Strategy within Historic England, which funds the Industrial Heritage Support Officer post.

There are now 10 Networks that are up and running across the country in the following regions: London, North East, North West, Cornwall & Devon, South West, South East, West Midlands, Yorkshire, East of England and East Midlands.

Any suggestions for speakers at future Network meetings should be sent to Mike and Shane (Action = ALL).

## Dr Mike Nevell, Industrial Heritage Support Officer for England

The Industrial Heritage Support Officer was established in 2012 to provide support and advice to the 600 Industrial Heritage preserved/protected sites that are open to the public and it is with great pleasure to announce that Historic England have agreed to fund the post for a further three years, until 2025

Mike gave an update on the project and how he plans to take it further over the next 12 months.

- The plan is to hold meetings with each individual Network over the coming year and in the Autumn hold a virtual meeting with all Networks
- He and Shane have been updating the database of 606preserved industrial sites, with the top 250 done. The next stage will be the transport, watermills and windmills. This is linked to Historic England's Industrial Heritage strategy that has been put together by Shane
- Between October 2020 and October 2021, there have been 9 online meetings, involving 101 individuals representing 72 industrial heritage sites. This is a fantastic achievement and shows the accessibility of using digital resources and the increase in the use of these ways of working

The theme for today's meeting is post-Covid recovery

There are various social media channels for industrial heritage support:

- Website <a href="https://industrialheritagesupport.com/">https://industrialheritagenetworks.com/</a> (for stories) and <a href="https://industrialheritagenetworks.com/">https://industrialheritagenetworks.com/</a> (for news)
- Facebook https://www.facebook.com/IHSOengland/ (for news)
- Twitter @IHSOEngland (for immediate support)
- as well as Instagram

on their sites post-Covid Helen is the main contact for central and East London as well as the main contact for Helen industrial heritage O'Hara Helen's team produce a fortnightly e-update that anyone can sign up to Helen shared a Word Document presentation, which will be passed to Mike to be shared to all attendees after the meeting, a few highlights from this were some key dates for training Finders Keepers – an online training session on how to recruit and retain new trustees – 5th May @ 10:00-12:30, if you wish to sign up, head to the Museum of London website or click on this link to the online form https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/supporting-london-museums/training-andskills/skills-plus/training-course-booking-form • AIM Hallmarks at Home Volunteering on the 11th May, click on the link for more details https://aim-museums.co.uk/events/hallmarks-home-volunteering-2/ • The AMA are running a Digital Heritage Lab on the 28th April @ 10:00-12:00, click on the link for more information https://www.a-m-a.co.uk/webinars/ Historic England are running a series of courses on Accessibility and Disability Inclusion • The Fundamentals of Disability – 10th-12th May 10:00-12:30 Supporting disabled Employees – 17th-19th May 10:00-12:30 • Accessibility in the Built Environment – 24th-26th May 10:00-12:30 • Helen also explained that if you had funding or were looking for funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, make sure to check the website as some of the criteria may have changed • The Museums and Heritage Show takes place at Olympia on the 11th and 12th May, click on the link for more information https://show.museumsandheritage.com/ Liz told the meeting that all staff had been furloughed for the last two years and the **Liz Power** site closed, the main aim is to build back volunteer numbers She also explained that due to reduced income, they have had to reduce their volunteer numbers and their opening hours, but they have reopened are looking to turn the situation around as soon as possible The Trustees and Sub-Committee meetings have now moved to all online Said that they had continued with online talks, which had been a sell-out and the Elizabeth general consensus was a preference for them to remain on Zoom. But, they will Pearcey explore hybrid meetings as there was a social aspect to the meetings that some members enjoyed Echoed others in saying that the online facility for meetings and talks had meant that **Mary Mills** audiences were no longer limited and had attendees and speakers from the US and The Wandle industrial Museum is totally voluntary run, although they used to charge **Mick Taylor** a very minimal entrance fee, they decided to drop it and since then the donations received and increased quite a bit. They have had a lot of groups require talks, these have been uploaded to YouTube, they too have had an international audience, accessible thanks to virtual meeting • On the 27th April, the first face to face trustees meeting will take place • They are suffering with numbers on Outreach Schools activity, but they have walks booked into 2023 Mentioned the Swanscombe Peninsula development of a theme park, which could **Peter Luck** put any archaeological features in danger GLIAS – thanks to Zoom, meetings have been possible and have been very **Robert Carr** successful and are now looking at hybrid meetings on Zoom and at Cowcross Street • Walks and visits have suffered as members are not doing the fieldwalks but the newsletter is flourishing

The attendees each introduced themselves and the organisations they represent. They gave an update

### Said that zoom has been a great asset especially as Petra and the other 2 members Petra Cox of staff have always worked remotely • They received some funding from the CRF which enabled them to create a virtual guided tour of crossness, which also includes an international audience. They are in the process of monetarising the system, which hopefully will bring in additional funds One downside of virtual meeting spaces is recruitment, as they don't feel it is the same as a face to face interview They have had a surge in group visit bookings, which is great, but they have recently found a crack in the ironwork in the engine house, which means they can't steam until is fixed. Sadly, steam days is the main income generator Doing well selling tea towels online (currently sold out) Finished the meeting by saying that hopefully, the next round of these meetings next Shane year can include on-site meetings, so please send in some suggestions to Mike and Gould Shane, also, if members have any suggestions for expanding Mike's post, please feel free to pass forward as well Shane also informed the meeting that Mike had been made the Group Lead for Industrial Heritage in the All Parliamentary Group Finally, if you would like more information on the European Route for Industrial Heritage, please drop Mike a line

#### Actions

- Mike agreed to circulate his presentation as a PDF (Action = Mike Nevell)
- Helen agreed to circulate her presentation to all attendees in due course (Action = Helen O'Hara)

ATTENDEES:	
Peter Luck	Greenwich Industrial History Society
Mick Taylor	Wandle Industrial Museum
Mary Mills	Greenwich Industrial History Society
Petra Cox	Learning & Outreach, Crossness Pumping Station & Museum
Oliver & Elizabeth Pearcey	London Museum of Water & Steam
Robert Carr	AIA and GLIAS
Liz Power	Director, London Museum of Water & Steam
Helen O'Hara	Museums Development Officer, Central & East London