

# CHAT WHIT NEWS

Hello All,

First of all, can I take this opportunity of thanking you all for all the hard work and support you have given to Chatterley Whitfield Friends - CIO during 2023.

It has been a very eventful year. There have been highs and lows.

We were very successful in securing a grant from Historic England which allowed us access to building 30, which contained a large number of artefacts for the Underground Experience. The building being officially opened in August.

Despite having issues with Stoke on Trent City Council our annual Heritage Open Days were again very popular with us attracting over 400 visitors over the two weekends.

We have had more school visits this year, with one school coming from Runcorn.

There is a lot happening in the background and we are progressing with applying for Accredited Museum Status and working with Historic England supporting Heritage Watch.

Unfortunately we have had thefts from the site again, more damage caused and this year they appeared to be targeting the Hesketh Power House. Historic England have engaged the services of consultants to review the security on site and we have had a few meetings with them.

As we head towards 2024 remember what Chatterley Whitfield Friends was established for:

## **PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE**

Merry Christmas Everyone.

Nigel Bowers BEM  
Chair

The heating is broke in the Heritage Centre so the Trustees have reluctantly decided to close early for Christmas from Saturday 2nd December 2023, reopening on Thursday 1st February 2024



## **Annual General Meeting 2023**

The annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 4th November 2023. The meeting was very positive and we discussed the previous year and most importantly the year ahead. Some of the constitution was changed and all the trustees now are in post for three years. The minutes will be circulated to all in due course. We have very healthy accounts, but the majority of it is ring fenced for projects where grants have been secured.

Your Trustees are:

Chair: Nigel Thomas Bowers BEM  
Secretary: Robert Gilford  
Treasurer: Isabel Newsome  
Membership: Daniel Bowers

Elected Trustees  
Sharon Bowers - Ann James - Henry McDonald  
Alistair Lias - Graham Unwin

Co-opted Trustees:  
Adrian Cartlidge - Martin Challinor

Honorary President: James Worgan

## ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

On Saturday 16th December 2023 at 10am in the Heritage Centre there is a General Meeting to look at some proposed Constitutional changes, email has been circulated.

The few constitution changes, will bring us more in line with the present Charity Commission guidelines. We have amended the process for removal of a member, defined the role of president, extended the notification for meetings etc and extended the tenure of the trustees. Your help as members has been appreciated.

Charities Commission - The Annual Report, including the auditing of the accounts have been done.

## WHAT IS CHATTERLEY WHITFIELD FRIENDS CHARITY ?

The object of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is to advance the education of the public in the history of mining at the former Chatterley Whitfield colliery by the demonstration of mining methods and the exhibition of machinery and ancillary matters connected with mining transportation social conditions and industrial archaeology and in such other ways as the trustees consider appropriate.

All the members of Chatterley Whitfield Friends are volunteers who freely give their time, experience and expertise to benefit the charity and the local community. The charity relies upon their dedication, passion and enthusiasm to preserve the Chatterley Whitfield colliery and memories of miners and mining communities.

Charity trustees are the people who share

ultimate responsibility for governing a charity and directing how it is managed and run.

## 2024 and beyond.....



We are looking at reestablishing site tours commencing in MARCH 2024, and then the first Saturday of the month.....

BUT we have got a lot of other things to do:

Building 30

Compound

Map Archive work

Accessing the Hesketh

Remember you can get the latest information on Facebook, X, Instagram and our website

As a **MEMBER** you are supporting Chatterley Whitfield with your monetary contributions that helps the charity survive. BUT what else can you offer:

- Come along and help on Thursdays and Saturdays - Or just come along for a visit, have a brew with us.
- Help out with events as Hosts
- Offer your expertise.