



# World Heritage UK

## News update



### Christmas message on behalf of the Board of Trustees of World Heritage UK

This Christmas there really is only one theme in looking back over what has been a truly exceptional year. Rarely have we experienced an issue such as the Covid-19 Pandemic which has impacted upon every single one of us, both professionally and personally. We have had to adapt, and quickly, and it seems unreal that at this time last year very few of us had ever heard of Zoom!

we are by no means out of the woods yet, our sites and their exceptional values will endure, the public appreciation of them remains undiminished as does the desire to visit. The creative and resilient professionalism of our sector has shone through across the year and the comradery of our extended 'world heritage family' has buoyed us up and kept us going.

Even for those of us working at home, work and home life has often merged, rarely punctuated by holidays away. So, I hope you get the chance to relax and re-charge over the Christmas break. Although it is physically challenging to put your feet up and pat yourself on the back simultaneously, please do give it a go. Stay safe and warm, toast the end of this troublesome year and look forward to the next. Happy Christmas!

Tony Crouch, Chair of Trustees, World Heritage UK

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## World Heritage UK website update

We are pleased to announce that **TODAY**, Friday 18 December, we are launching the first phase of the new [World Heritage UK website](#). Please do let us have your feedback on the new site, we'd love to hear what you think. We will let you know when the members area and events page are complete which will be in January 2021.

Thank you to our "guinea pigs" who helped during the consultation process for their invaluable comments. There will be more to do early next year to test out the members area which is currently in development. We would like to thank all

the site has been developed very quickly to meet the Heritage Emergency Fund deadline.

We are grateful to the National Lottery Players and the National Lottery Heritage Fund for their support in this project.



## **UK World Heritage Site Coordinators online fora**

The UK's World Heritage Site Coordinators continue to meet online every couple of months throughout the period of coronavirus restrictions. This event has provided an important contribution to keeping us all in touch with each other and sharing experiences as we all learn how to deal with the implications of the pandemic. These fora have been supported by regular attendance by representatives from the national heritage agencies, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and the UK National Commission for UNESCO who all help keep us up to date with the latest high level information from their perspectives. There will be another meeting of the Coordinators Forum on 6th January to get the new year going.



## World Heritage Learning and Engagement Network

Led by Ashleigh Taylor from the World Heritage Youth Ambassadors initiative, World Heritage UK supported the first meeting of the World Heritage Learning and Engagement Network with 29 professionals in this field gathering online on the 15th December. On the theme of managing activity during the Coronavirus pandemic, a very useful presentation was received from Georgina Greaves on the work she and her team are involved in at the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. If you would like details of the meeting's outputs or to join in the next one, please email: [ashleigh.taylor@thehwb.org](mailto:ashleigh.taylor@thehwb.org) directly

This initiative is also supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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## Annual General Meeting 2020

A very well attended online AGM took place on the 7th December 2020 and the governance business of the organisation was dealt with efficiently by its Trustees and Members. Board Members were re-elected and all proposals and presentations received and approved.

the coming year as a result of the NLHF-funded Resilient Heritage project.

See you in 2021!

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