



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date				
From	01	April	2024	To	31	March	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Friends of Helmshore Textile Museums

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1003805

Charity's principal address

Helmshore Mills Textile Museums	
Holcombe Road	Helmshore
Rosendale	Lancashire
Postcode	BL4 4NF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Laura Gill	Chair	Full Year	AGM of Society
2	Peter Janczyk	Treasurer	ditto	ditto
3	Stephen Harris	Secretary	ditto	ditto
4	Samantha Clarke	Vice Chair	ditto	ditto
5	Rachel Woods	trustee	ditto	ditto
6	Patricia Barrett	trustee	ditto	ditto
7	Susan Mathieson	trustee	ditto	ditto
8	Brian Essex	trustee	ditto	ditto
9	Linda Jordan	trustee	ditto	ditto
10	Sarah Hilditch	trustee	ditto	ditto
11	Michael Allen	trustee	ditto	ditto
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Curatorial	Louise Jacobsson	Manager – Helmshore Mills Textile Museums
Co-operation	Chairman	Higher Mill Museum Trust

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	Association
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	Nominated by members and elected by Annual General Meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

New trustees or members of the management committee are introduced to the committee and given verbal information and advice. On completion of introduction/induction period they are nominated to the management committee at next appropriate Annual or Special General Meeting and elected to the management committee by simple vote.

All activities are managed by the charity's management committee in accordance with the accepted constitution. The membership of the association is notified of all functions and activities by email

The association works closely with the staff of The Helmshore Mills Textile Museums. With Lancashire County Council Museum Service for volunteering and training. They also work closely with and support the Higher Mill Museum Trust. The association is an active supporter of The British Association of Friends of Museums and The Lancashire Local History Federation.

The association members conform to all Lancashire County Council codes of practice and health and safety procedures. In event of an accident or safety problem the LCC site procedures are followed.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the Association is the education of the public by the promotion, support, assistance and improvement of the Helmshore Mills Textile Museums. The Association shall have the power to:-

- a) encourage, promote and assist in the formation and development of a group of the Association,
- b) generally further the purpose of the Helmshore Mills Textile Museums and encourage the development of the facilities afforded,

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

- c) appoint representatives and delegates to any other bodies with whom the Association may be concerned,
- d) engage in support and co-ordinate voluntary assistance, publishing, education, advertising, fund raising for specific acquisitions and other work for the furtherance of above project,
- e) take any other lawful action to promote the said object.

2024 has been a vibrant and productive year for the Friends of the Museum. They hosted a wide range of successful events, expanded their community involvement, enhanced the gardens, and supported exciting new projects. They are pleased that a total of 2,244 visitors attended their events this year. This demonstrated the success of their community involvement policy, and the strong and growing support for the Museum and its activities.

These included

- Two Friend's Quiz Nights – Attended by more than 70 people on each occasion, and raised funds in support of the Higher Mill Trust's bid to restore their 1847 waterwheel
- Annual Mid-Summer Fair – Well over 500 visitors enjoyed 50+ stalls offering crafts and gifts, along with live entertainment, food & drink, and historic machinery demonstrations.
- A public talk by guest speakers on the preparations for the BiCentennial of the Weavers Uprising of 1826 in which these mills and machinery were attacked and smashed. Two days of public talks by a local author on the history and truth behind the famous "Pendle Witches" were filled to museum capacity. A public performance by the 'Cotton Town Chronicles' folk group and a new book launch, talk and signing by the author. Stacey Halls
- Annual Christmas Fair – A highlight of the year with well over 1,000 visitors, more than 50+ stalls, plus festive entertainment. Christmas Get Together – 35 Friends members gathered to enjoy refreshments, to socialise, and share ideas for future events.

The association is dedicated to the restoration and upkeep of the mill garden. New planters were installed by "Veterans in the Community." The local 'Men's Shed Group' made bird and bat boxes. Planning has begun for a wildlife garden opposite the current mill garden and the purchase of essential gardening tools for staff and volunteers. Ongoing support from the local Civic Pride Group has been invaluable—supplying plants, volunteering time and providing tuition to their members. They once again participated in the "Britain in Bloom - In Your Neighbourhood Award". They are aiming for Level 4 or 5 this year!

They also sponsor and operate regular Knit & Natter Groups, a Book Club and provide a social space for craftworkers from within the village community.

The association is proudly committed to making a donation of £10,000 to support a grant application by the Museum Conservation & Collections Team to Arts Council England. The project, entitled "Cottoning On", focuses on Reviewing approximately 4,000 items currently in storage and increasing understanding of the collection. They will work on unlocking the rich stories behind these objects to enhance future exhibitions and exploring suggestions as to how they can improve their support for the Museum in the coming year.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

SEE MAIN BODY OF THE REPORT

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The association operates an informal policy relating to financial reserves. This is managed by the Treasurer with Chairman and senior members of the management committee. They enjoy success in raising adequate funds for their needs and distribute by the unanimous decision of an open meeting of the committee.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

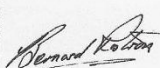
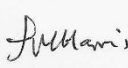
- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Bernard Rostron	Stephen Harris
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Accounts Examiner	Secretary
Date	7 th January 2026	

FRIENDS OF HELMSHORE TEXTILE MUSEUMS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

<u>2024</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2025</u>
662.00	Subscriptions	1,029.00
180.00	Donations & Legacies	29,530.09
164.43	Bank Interest	226.93
4,830.00	Fund Raising - Events	6,460.10
502.95	Annual Luncheon	420.00
300.00	Visitor Guides	187.00
	Misc. - sale of crockery / chairs etc.	37,853.12
6,659.38		
	PAYMENTS	
529.07	Administration Costs	1,031.15
	Subscriptions, Public Liability Insurance, etc.	360.00
1,710.80	Cost of Fund Raising -- Events	2,620.50
523.00	Other Costs - incl. Annual Luncheon	479.00
158.40	Website	
4,113.36	Museum Donations	383.68
925.36	Museum textile garden	332.79
300.00	Cost of publishing Visitor Guides	
8,259.99		6,207.12
-1,600.61	EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	32,646.00


STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31st. MARCH 2025

<u>2024</u>	<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>2025</u>
14,936.97	DEPOSIT ACCOUNT TSB	15,163.90
7,825.57	CURRENT ACCOUNTS TSB & CO-OPERATIVE BANKS	40,164.34
417.78	CASH	498.08
23,180.32		55,826.32
	REPRESENTED BY	
24,760.93	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS - Brought Forward from last year	23,160.32
-1,600.61	ADD EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	32,646.00
23,180.32		55,826.32

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31st MARCH 2025

- 1 **Accounting Policies**
Accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, i.e. income is accounted for when cash is received and payments when made. This is in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). There has been no change in the basis of accounting since last year. No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.
- 2 **Accumulated Surplus**
This is to be used to further the aims and objectives of the Friends in making acquisitions and to finance special activities etc.


Bernard Rostron - Examiner

 Peter Janczyk Treasurer

FRIENDS OF HELMSHORE TEXTILE MUSEUMS
Charity Registration Number 1003805
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS TO
MARCH 31st 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity (Friends of Helmsshore Textile Museums) for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are attached.

Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

Members of the management committee of the Charity are regarded as that Charity's Trustees. As such you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

It is my responsibility to report on my examination of the organisation's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions provided by the Charity Commission under section 145(50)(b) of the Act.

The Examiner may not be an officer of the society at the time of, nor prior to, the accounts examination.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

The examination included a review of the financial records kept by the charity and a comparison with the accounts presented with those records. The annual financial turnover being lower than an amount specified by the Charity Commissioners, a full Audit is not required. The charity's gross income exceeded £25,000 but was below the £500,000 threshold.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no unusual items or disclosures have come to my attention in the accounts, which required explanations of any such matters, from the Treasurer or trustees.

The procedures undertaken did not provide evidence that a full audit would be required, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the financial state of the organisation.

NO material matters have come to my attention, in connection with the examination, which gives me cause believe that :-

- (1) the trustees failed to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Act.
- (2) that the accounts did not accord with the accounting records provided.
- (3) nor did the accounts fail to comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content set out in the Charities Regulations 2008.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination, to which attention should be drawn in this report, in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I declare that I have inspected and initialled both Current account and Deposit Account Bank Statements and confirm that the monies totalled therein correspond to the amounts shown in these accounts.

Disclosures

Under normal circumstances the gross income of this charity is well below the £25,000 threshold but on this occasion, they received a legacy of £29,400 from the late Miss Hilary Taylor which caused the gross income to exceed the norm. This was a one-off donation and it is anticipated that the normal level of gross income will return in future years.

Signed



Bernard Rostron 10. Scarfield Drive, Rochdale, OL11 5SA

Dated

4th January 2026