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Hamilton Davies Trust

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Chairman's Report

Welcome to our 2023/24 annual report which gives an overview of the interesting projects and community engagement the Hamilton Davies Trust team have been involved in during the past twelve months.

As the Trust begins planning celebrations for its 20th year in operation, it is with pride that I introduce this year's report knowing how much our small team continue to achieve. Their willingness to build on existing relationships, forge new ones, and take innovative approaches to helping others, means community groups continue to come to us for assistance.

The districts of Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook that we support have an abundance of community groups, clubs and schools that call on us as a local grant-giving charity. This year we have invested over £153K in funds in response to grant applications. Just as importantly to the community is the help the team are able to give with getting projects off the ground and providing groups with their administration and marketing support.



Our workstreams include: Community, Regeneration, Education and Recreation, bringing the team into contact with a broad spectrum of people and organisations. The teams relationship with local partners and volunteers continues to enable a productive approach to getting things done and I am proud of the team's 'can do' attitude and the value their support brings.



As we said a fond farewell to one of our team, a new member joined us in July 2023 to pick up and expand our Heritage and Art delivery within the community. Taking a different approach, we now also work with various arts and creative organisations enabling us to offer hands-on creative activities for all ages and abilities, that also pay homage to local history.

Our community rooms at Hamilton Davies House continue to grow in usage, with all three rooms often occupied by people attending adult learning and training workshops, meetings,



group activities, or health and wellbeing awareness sessions, to name but a few.



Good communication is key to the work we do and this year we have actively promoted HDT's ability to assist local community groups in further promoting their activities and events. Whether their need is for social media development, poster and ticket designs, videos or an advert on the Digital Information Board, we are there to help.



Our regular iTea & Biscuits sessions also remain popular with adult learners who are able to develop their personal technology skill, and at the same time utilise what they learn to improve their group's marketing presence.

Our engagement and relationships with local schools and youth organisations continues to support the young in the area from pre-school age through to adulthood via our Recreation and Education workstreams in particular.



Working alongside partners, organisations and local businesses threads through a lot of the work that we do, especially on the

Heritage front. Whether working with the Friends of Irlam Station to showcase the industrial and railway heritage of the district; holding history talks and events in conjunction with the I&C History Society; or continuing to develop the Chat Moss Heritage Partnership; we achieve much more by working together and pooling resources.

Maintenance of the assets we have introduced to the area such as heritage and art pieces is a priority for us, especially given some of these have been in situ for nearly 10 years now. Our plan to monitor and manage these to secure their longevity is an ongoing focus for us.

This financial year HDT hosted two celebratory events. A 'Volunteers Celebration' evening in October 2023, attended by over 100 volunteers, provided the team with the opportunity to congratulate the many volunteers who kindly contribute to the area and for them to meet like-minded people and embrace the breadth of volunteering that takes place locally. It was also a chance to personally thank the oldest volunteer on the night, who was 90, proving that there is no age barrier to volunteering! In March 2024 we celebrated the close working relationship we enjoy with the Friends of Irlam Station, station staff, and local business North Cheshire Development at a 'Thank You' event. Together we are able to maintain and develop the Heritage Hub that has become a meeting place for the local community and a popular destination for visitors from further afield.



The following pages of this report convey the varied and interesting projects the team are involved in and shows that, whilst a small team, HDT continues to add value to the community. We look forward to continuing to do this and welcome the opportunities and challenges that the next twelve months may bring.

Neil McArthur

Mil Mette

Facts & Figures











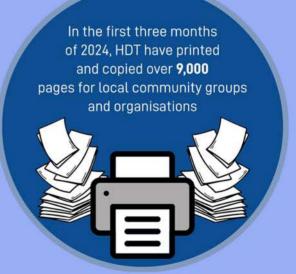
A summary of our progress to date...

June 2004 - March 2024















Community continues to be at the heart of the groups and projects we support

The community area of focus covers the widest range of groups and projects that we support.

During the year we promoted and extended the range of community support offered by the HDT team members.



Between January and April this year, we freely printed over 9,000 pages in house for local community

groups, in addition to poster design, admin support and Digital Information Board postings. We also continued to offer our spaces within Hamilton Davies House freely to community groups and organisations that wished to use our meeting rooms.



HDT were pleased to grant fund both the Irlam and Cadishead Festival and Rixton-with-Glazebrook Carnival for another year. Each offered fun family activities that were well attended. Both events also afforded the opportunity for other community groups to take part and showcase their activities and do some fundraising.

A range of smaller grants during the year helped groups to continue to deliver their activities for the benefit of our area, including Cadishead TARA, Carers Together, Play Streets, Healthy Hearts, The Meadows, and St. Joseph and St. Teresa's Community Group.

HDT continues to value the amount of time and energy put into volunteering within our community, whether through direct action such as litter picking, or supporting a group with their community activity. The Royal British Legion Poppy Committee are just one group who work together to enhance our district and at the same time raise funds for such a good cause.



In 2023 we fronted a campaign alongside Salford City Council, the Rotary Club of Irlam and local businesses to have 50 column wrap lights throughout the district, to bring some additional festive cheer to the district. We congratulate all contributors in making this happen for the benefit of the community.





Recreational activities are so much more than sport

There are a wide variety of recreational clubs and activities available in and around Irlam, Cadishead and Rixton-with-Glazebrook.

Our support this year for clubs and organised groups has not only been through funding grants, but has included administrative support for things like printing and designing posters and tickets for their fundraising events. We have seen a large uptake for this type of support, and also for the assistance we give to community groups by designing and uploading adverts onto the community Digital Information Board, which HDT manage.



Irlam Gems and Irlam Royalettes are both successful Morris Dancing groups, catering to all ages and are out competing in their new dance outfits this year.



Irlam Mixed Voice Choir continues to evolve, and we were pleased to support this local community group in enabling them to put on events throughout the district.



The football clubs in our area continue to offer fantastic opportunities for boys and girls, through the dedication of the many volunteers involved, and Irlam JFC received support from HDT for their training sessions through the very wet winter.

It is always nice to see new activities and this year we were pleased to support Anthony Davey to compete in the European air rifle championships, where he secured a number of medals.



In addition to these grants, we were also pleased to support Odyssey Elite Cheerleaders, Irlam footballers at Trafford Thunders FC, and new equipment for the MG Darts League.

2004

On the 24th June 2004, Hamilton Davies Trust was established! The first grant HDT awarded was to Francis House in November 2004 and was for £500.

Hamilton Davies Trust

Celebrating 20 years supporting the community

2005

HDT supported the for 2020 because of the

2006

Youth provisions were improving in the district. HDT funded detached youth workers to work with children in the area as well as the Positive Moves I.C.Y project.

2007

home by volunteers.

2008

1st Hollins Green Scouts opened their new hut after their old one burnt down in 2005. This was HDT's first major regeneration project.

2009



The HDT team moved into the ground level of Hamilton Davies House. as we know it today, after it underwent it's

2010



full building refurb.

2011

The start of a brilliant partnership with the Manchester United Foundation. They have supported all of the schools in the district and still do to this day.



2012

I&C Leisure Centre re-opened after its major refurb, welcoming the new Hamilton Davies Trust Sports Hall. This same year saw the first sessions of iTea&Biscuits.

Restoration work began on the Station! Our biggest project to

HDT celebrated 10 years and hosted the irst Community Awards This year also saw the Bobs Ferry disaster **Anniversary** Event.

2015

Irlam Station House opened its doors after a major refurb, transforming it from disrepair to a vibrant community hub rich with heritage!

2016

I C Art programme was born with the first piece being the Ghost Wall in the Coal Yard at the Station. The district now has nine large scale art pieces, fifteen 3D sculptures and various heritage boards.



Foundation

2018

new Clubhouse on Lords Cadishead Rec.

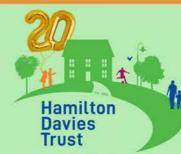


Ten-million-pound milestone met! After a successful crowd funding campaign, the Man on the Bench returned to Irlam Station having been re-cast in bronze.



2020

Our beloved Signal Box Station Park Phase 2



2021

R-w-G Community Hall re-opened after a major refurb that HDT contributed funds towards, as well as expertise with getting the project completed. The Hall is now a modern and vibrant community hub for all to use!

2022

Queen's Platinum Jubilee swing! HDT worked with we premiered at our

THE VIDEO!



2023

Station Heritage Tours, delivered by FIRST and HDT grew in popularity as did Signal Box Open Days. HDT held a 'Flat Cap' walk from Irlam Station to Glazebrook Station to celebrate 150 years since the station houses were opened. More 3D art was added to Station Park.

2017

Michael Portillo visits Irlam Station!



10



Facilitation and partnership working continues to drive our Regeneration programme

The ongoing project to support the Chat Moss Heritage Partnership core group to drive the delivery of the feasibility study is a key area of focus for the team. Chat Moss forms a large area of our district, and the Partnership are working to showcase the leisure, heritage and ecological opportunities.



A new pump track is coming to Cadishead Park, in partnership with Access Sports, Salford City Council and other organisations. Designed for all things on wheels these type of tracks cater for users of mountain bikes, scooters, BMX, skateboards and in-line skates, making it a great additional facility that will support and challenge a wide variety of ages and skills. HDT are pleased to be supporting the funding of this additional attraction, which will help to regenerate the park.

The Friends of Lordy Park worked tirelessly over recent years to get a new playground installed. HDT were proud therefore to be able to help towards the project by funding a new slide, which has been a big hit with local families, along with the other equipment.



The heritage hub offering at Irlam Station and the outdoor exhibits, including the Signal Box, Signal Yard and 3D art pieces on Station Park have all been enhanced throughout the year. The ongoing landscaping and gardening also continues, via our maintenance programme and the skills and commitment of the Friends of Irlam Station volunteers. Together these measures ensures Irlam Station remains a vibrant and interesting destination to visit.



For a full list of all the grants and projects supported in the year, please see the grants page.



Supporting schools and pre-schools in our district with a wide variety of projects and activities is a key part of our delivery

Enhancing the outdoor areas at our local primary schools has been a popular request this year. Irlam Endowed Primary, Irlam Primary and St Mary's CE Primary have all developed their playground areas to give better and safer external space for all their pupils.



Access to quiet space and reading materials is a fundamental part of school life and Moss Valley Primary now have a new welcoming library area within their

school thanks to funding support from HDT.

Pupils at Springwood Primary are creating a new interactive library space to bring the joy of words and pictures to their pupils. They also enjoyed travelling off-site on their school outing to Bendrigg Residential Centre.



HDT have continued to partner with the Manchester United Foundation and the Irlam and Cadishead Academy, starting a new 3-year programme supporting the Academy and the local primary schools.



Education starts before primary school, and we are pleased to continue to support Fairhills and Rixton-with Glazebrook pre-schools to deliver a range of activities for their pupils.

Students from the Irlam and Cadishead Academy enjoyed a whole-school theatre trip to the Lowry, organised by I4YPC, and a group of pupils enjoyed a history of crime tour of London as part of their curriculum.



Learning something new never stops! It is good therefore that the HDT team can use their skills and links with local businesses and community volunteers to support young adults and older members of the community on their learning journey, and at the same time support their sense of wellbeing. Our iTea & Biscuits courses are a prime example of keeping that thirst for learning alive and giving people the chance to help others.

Arts & Heritage

Promoting local history for all ages through creative arts and heritage tours and talks

In the past 12 months the delivery of our art programme has taken a shift from producing larger scale art pieces to putting on several free public creative workshops in conjunction with various local artists. Held at a



number of local venues, including in the Signal Box, workshops have encompassed local heritage topics expanding people's awareness of the rich local history via mixed media.

Heritage Hub tours at Irlam Station have also grown in popularity, with tours being taken up by a range of ages from nursery schools to adults.





Thanks to the passion, commitment and experience of the Friends of Irlam Station volunteers and the HDT team, we have been able to accommodate the ever increasing requests for tours.



Signal Box Open Days are also now held monthly, during the summer. Visitors to the station can pop along and discover more about how railway rolling stock was safely moved through the station in bygone days.



With heritage displays, PowerPoints, heritage boards, a heritage trail map, station literature, and YouTube videos, all showcasing the rich history of the area, visitors to the station and those interested in researching industrial heritage can freely access a wealth of information independently across the district or from the comfort of their own home.



The I&C History Society also hold a programme of heritage talks from Hamilton Davies House and other venues around the district to promote local industrial and social history.



Wider Heritage and Tourism

Working with partners in the wider area to promote leisure and tourism

In an effort to expand the Heritage Hub reach to a wider audience, in February 2024 we match funded with Thurnall Taverns to

commission a drone video of The Station-Irlam. The video gives an expansive run through of the Heritage Hub, artefacts and exhibits, giving a taster of what can be seen when visiting the station – scan to view.



Our efforts to broaden awareness of the local heritage has this year also included working with newly formed Friends of Glazebrook Station (FRoGS) to tie in railway history along the Liverpool to Manchester line.



To mark the 150 year anniversary of the opening of the Cheshire Lines, HDT organised a 'Flat Cap' guided circular heritage walk from Irlam to Glazebrook station with walkers able to take in the celebrations and heritage displays on Glazebrook station platform.



This year HDT have been instrumental in connecting communities, Friends groups and the related authorities from along the Liverpool to Manchester rail lines to form a Community Rail Partnership, in liaison with Transport for Greater Manchester. The partnership will include groups from both the Cheshire Lines and the 1830 Chat Moss line.

In 2023, HDT and others from Community Rail Partnership attended the first group project, an exhibit at Edge Hill Station put on by 1.5 Degrees called 'Sweat the Small Stuff - a



creative response to a warming world.' The project was put on by Liverpool John Moores University Graphic Design and Illustration students and staff.



As one of the partners of the Chat Moss Heritage Partnership, we have continued to support the recommendations within the Chat Moss Feasibility Study, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Greater Manchester

Combined Authorities (GMCA).

Other partners include: Natural England, GMCA, Leigh Building Preservation Trust, The Wildlife Trust of Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside and Peel Holdings.

The aim of the partnership is to raise awareness of and access to the heritage in and around Chat Moss, including Irlam Station Heritage Hub. Partners are working together to take the project to the next stage.

Grants & Projects

£500	Anthony Davey Team UK benchrest air rifle	£500	I&C Healthy Hearts Group Support for exercise classes to promote heart health
£1,341	Arts and Heritage Delivery of arts and heritage programme	£3,000	I4YPC I&C Academy whole-school theatre trip to The Lowry
£500	Cadishead TARA Snack and Chat group support	£900	Irlam & Cadishead Academy History of Crime tour of London for year 9 & 10 students
£8,534	Chat Moss Heritage Partnership Partnership project to open up Chat Moss for heritage & leisure	£2,800	Irlam Endowed Primary School Sports dinner to celebrate achievements by all pupils
£9,916	Christmas Lights Brightening up the district for the festive season	£3,000	Irlam Gems Dance uniforms and accessories
£7,776	Community Landscaping Landscaping and gardening around Irlam Station	£350	Irlam JFC Winter training and equipment
£300	Easter Playstreets Easter Playstreets programme in Cadishead	£500	Irlam Mixed Voice Choir Mixed voice choir running costs
£3,000	Fairhills Pre-School Support for early years setting	£1,200	Irlam Primary School Support for school wellbeing project
£1,000	Friends of Irlam Station (FIRST) Support for FIRST activities at Irlam Station	£950	Irlam Primary School Residential trip to Lledr Hall
£2,000	Friends of Lordy Park New slide at community park	£3,000	Irlam Primary School Playground areas to support emotional and social wellbeing
£2,854	HDT Project Maintenance Ongoing maintenance for established HDT projects	£900	Irlam Royalettes Dance dresses and accessories
£1,500	Higher Irlam Social Club Pensioners Christmas lunch in Higher Irlam	£37,619	Irlam Station Heritage Hub Heritage displays
£2,000	I&C Community Festival 2023 Community Festival in Irlam	£250	M G Darts League Support for mixed darts league in I&C







£600



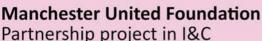
£11,000

£10,416

£2,166

£5,000

Manchester Tech Trust Bringing technology to Greater Manchester



schools

Partnership project in I&C

Moss Valley Primary School £6,500 New school library facility

Odyssey Elite Cheerleading £660 Competition outfits and poms for cheerleading group

Prince's Park Garden Centre £500 Christmas event at the Garden Centre

Rixton-with-Glazebrook Carnival £1,510 Support for the 2023 RwG Carnival in Hollins Green

Rotary Club of Irlam £6,635 Match funding for community projects

Rotary Club of Irlam Irlam and Cadishead school £600 leavers project

Royal British Legion £130 Lamppost poppy appeal in Irlam & Cadishead

> **RwG Pre-School** Activities for early years children

Salford City Council £1,667 Pump track design contribution for Cadishead Park

Salford IYSS £2,400 RESPECT programme in local primary schools delivered by the youth service

> Springwood Primary School Interactive Library facility

Springwood Primary School £500 Residential trip for pupils

Springwood Primary School £770 School trip to Bendrigg Residential Centre

St John the Baptist Church £1,000 Supply of publicly accessible defibrillator

> St Joseph & St Teresa's Comm Group Support for refugee family fun day in September

St Mary's CE Primary School £3,000 Playground improvements

The Meadows £1,500 Group activities for residents

Tiger Moth £250 Community Christmas Carol concert

Together at M44 £335 Carers group based in Irlam

Trafford Thunders FC £250 Football club support for Irlam players

Total: £153,579



LOOKING AHEAD

During our two decades of supporting the community, we've sadly lost some good friends and colleagues. Having seen another generation grow up in the district, however, we've also witnessed the strong sense of community that has been passed down and nurtured through generational pride in the area.

The HDT team are proud to be called upon by the district's many groups, who provide activities and facilities for the old and the young in the community. We will continue to help, in whatever way we can, to enable them to achieve their aspirations for their users and the community as a whole. We look forward to another year of working together.

Many of the HDT team have been volunteers themselves for several years and therefore truly understand the value of giving something back to the community, and fully appreciate the difference **Volunteering** makes in helping a community thrive and look cared for. We've seen first-hand the willingness of others to want to help out through volunteering and will continue to encourage this 'can do' attitude by engaging volunteers and providing them with the tools and materials needed for them to carry out their chosen voluntary roles.

As a **Grant Giving** charity, we're proud to have been able to support many community groups financially over the past 20 years in order for their activities and projects to take place or continue. We've seen many local groups flourish and grow in membership because of this. We will continue our support as much as we can, whilst at the same time encouraging groups to also seek match funding elsewhere, to help maximise the funds available to them.



Our Youth Engagement work, in conjunction with local Primary Schools, Irlam & Cadishead Academy, businesses and local sports and recreation professionals, continues to reap benefits for young people. We will look to carry on working with partners and review ways of helping, so that the support we offer is relevant to the current needs of young people.

Since forming in 2004 we have undertaken several HDT led projects in the district to build on and enhance some of the community initiated projects, particularly with regards to preserving and showcasing the area's rich heritage. We are keen to ensure that the investments made, such as the Heritage Hub at Irlam Station, are looked after and properly maintained to secure their longevity. We'll continue to monitor these assets, via our Maintenance Plan, to ensure that the level of activity, such as tours, talks and visits can be enjoyed by an increasing number of people.

Having branched out into working with various artists and creative organisations this year, we've seen how popular creative activities and workshops are, and the interest they hold for people of all ages. We'll be building on this type of I C Art offering in the coming year to provide further opportunities for artistic expression, and a chance to showcase the area's heritage through various artforms.

We'll be continuing our work with the **Chat Moss Heritage Partnership** to help advocate
the importance of the area's rich industrial
heritage and how that sits within wider
heritage and tourism. By continuing to work
closely with the Friends of Irlam Station and
the local History Society we will build on the
Heritage Hub offering and visitor experience.

As HDT approaches 20 years, it is a good time for the team to reflect on achievements to date and look to what the future may bring, including new challenges and opportunities.



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