

The Derwent Valley
The Valley that changed the World

Annual Monitoring Report



April 2011 – March 2012

Rosemary Timms and Jan Reynolds create a Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site well-dressing for the tenth anniversary of inscription on to UNESCO's World Heritage List, during a celebration in July 2011.



Introduction

This is the ninth annual report of the Derwent Valley Mills Partnership, covering the period from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012. It includes work undertaken by numerous different individuals, groups and organisations within the Partnership to achieve the strategic aims of the Management Plan. Its purpose is to:

- Identify the work and achievements for the past year.
- Review the condition and progress of conservation of the site
- Monitor the implementation of the Management Plan Objectives and Actions
- Assess the effectiveness of management of the site and identify any changes required
- Inform partners and the public of progress
- Help prioritise actions for the coming year.

2011/12 saw the consolidation of the new Board structure alongside the establishment of an enlarged team to support the work of the Partnership. The Panels and Working groups were re-structured to provide more effective means of delivery, with Board members chairing the key panels.

The annual review features as an appendix the key monitoring indicators identified, in accordance with guidance issued by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS UK), to assist in the production of a Periodic Report, which UNESCO requires be produced for World Heritage Sites at five yearly intervals.

Summary of Major Achievements

The main achievements include:

- Successful £104,000 stage one Landscape partnership submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Lower Derwent Landscape Project.
- Development and Learning Co-ordinators appointed to the DVMWHS team.
- Continued expansion of the annual ten-day *Discovery Days* Festival with an increase in attendances.
- Two events held at Cromford to celebrate the tenth anniversary of inscription onto the World Heritage List.
- Publication of updated visitor guide.
- Re-structure of Partnership Panels and Working Groups
- New interpretation boards for Belper River Gardens (below).
- Successful events relating to the Collecting Cultures funded *Enlightenment!* project.
- Allocation of total annual PSiCA funding of £72,000 to projects in Cromford and Belper.
- Film made to highlight the beauty of the World Heritage Site projected on the side of Cromford Mill's Building 17.
- New directional signage introduced in the southern part of the World Heritage Site to match signs elsewhere in the DVMWHS.
- Three key books on the Derwent Valley Mills were reprinted.
- Urgent works undertaken to key Darley Abbey Mills buildings at risk via an EH grant.
- Repairs to Haslam's Lane, Darley Abbey.
- Darley Abbey Mills – Interim Planning Statement produced.
- Successful public vote for a blue plaque to commemorate Samuel Slater in Belper.



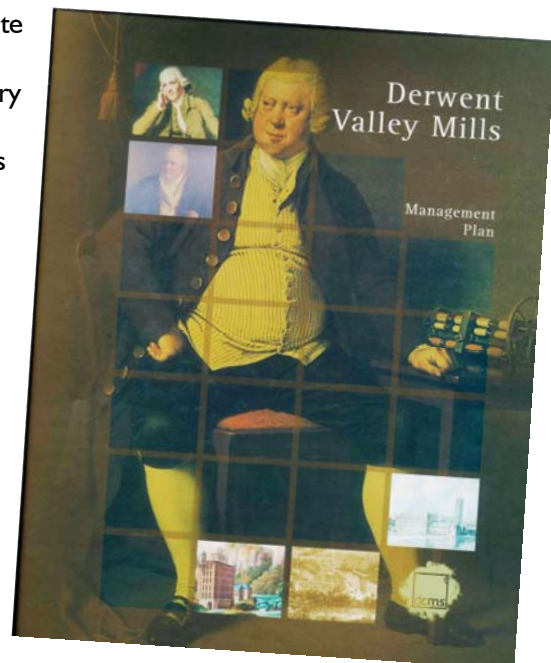
The Management Plan

In December 2001, the Derwent Valley from Matlock Bath to Derby was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation). World Heritage status confirms the Universal Value of the area as the birthplace of the factory system – where water power was first successfully harnessed for textile production – a milestone in the Industrial Revolution.

The DVMP has delegated responsibility under the terms of an international treaty (the UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972) for the conservation, management, enhancement and interpretation of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. The DVMP's responsibilities under the Convention are set out within a management plan.

The Management Plan (right) was adopted for the site in April 2003. A quinquennial review took place in 2006/7 and was adopted by the Partnership in January 2007. The next Management Plan review began in 2011/12 and it is expected that there will be changes to the aims and objectives which will impact on the Annual Report from 2013.

The 2007 revision identified one of the greatest challenges facing the Site as being development pressures for the redevelopment of employment sites for housing. The Economic Development Plan stated that if unchecked this would lead to an unsustainable environment, with the Valley becoming choked with commuter car travellers. The economic downturn has led to a fall in development of this kind and also an increase in commuter usage on the Derwent Valley Line. Nevertheless all commercial and residential development is monitored.



The Management Plan provides a framework for the integrated and proactive management of the cultural landscape, helping to ensure its special qualities are sustained and preserved for future generations. The plan provides a context in which those who live and work occupy or own property, in the site or the adjacent buffer zone can participate in, and contribute to, the conservation of the site. Its overarching mission is: **to conserve the unique and important cultural landscape of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site; to protect its outstanding universal value (ouV); to interpret and promote its assets; and to enhance its character, appearance and economic well-being in a sustainable manner.**

One of the key management responsibilities of a World Heritage Site is monitoring the site to ensure that its Universal Value is maintained. UNESCO's Operational Guidelines (March 1999) requires the submission of periodic reports to assess the state of conservation of the World Heritage Sites as well as focus future activities and funds. In addition paragraph 72 states that 'It is necessary that every year the condition of the property be recorded by the site manager or the agency with management authority'. In order to comply with the guidelines, the production and distribution of an annual monitoring report is identified as an action under objective 26 of the Management Plan. The 2007 revision of the Management Plan established an information-collating regime to meet new Key Performance

Indicators for the DVMWHS, some annually, some less frequently. The 2007 Management Plan identifies seven strategic aims and set out specific objectives and actions to meet these aims. The Aims are:

- Identify key issues affecting the vulnerability of the cultural landscape, opportunities for its enhancement and measures to protect the crucial significance of the site.
- Establish guidelines for the future management of the site, and the buildings and land within it, so that the special character of the cultural landscape is protected and enhanced.
- Increase public awareness of, and interest in, the site; realise its full potential as an education and learning resource; and establish a co-ordinated research framework.
- Develop an integrated and sustainable approach to meeting the transportation needs of the site.
- Identify how present and possible future tourism within the site can be developed in an environmentally and economically sustainable way for the benefit of the local economy.
- Provide a common framework in which owners, occupiers, residents, public and voluntary agencies can pursue both individual and partnership action plans.
- Establish lasting mechanisms for monitoring, co-ordination and consultation.

The first of these aims is mainly covered by Part One of the Management Plan and is formally reviewed within the Key Performance Indicators. The last of these aims is also met through the Key Monitoring Indicators. The following report is based on each of the remaining aims and identifies the works implemented to meet these objectives.

Management Guidelines and Monitoring, Conservation and Maintenance of the Cultural Heritage

Objective 1: Ensure that the statutory Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Guidance provide policies for development that recognises the significance of the site.

One potential threat to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) is the impact of new development. Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that planning applications are determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. It is therefore essential that Local Plans contain adequate policies to protect the DVMWHS and its setting.

Government planning guidance is provided by the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), published in March 2012, which replaced the Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance notes. Further advice on the protection of World Heritage Site is provided in Circular 07/09: Protection of World Heritage Sites, supported by a Guidance Note produced by English Heritage, published in July 2009. It gives advice on the level of protection and management needed for World Heritage Sites, and draws attention to recent legislative measures designed to enhance the protection of these sites.

The DVMWHS falls within the area covered by the East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), otherwise known as the East Midlands Regional Plan (EMRP). The Government intends to revoke regional spatial strategies through the provisions of the Localism Act. At the current time, however, the EMRP remains part of the development plan and is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

In EMRP the DVMWHS is identified as an important international designation and the only such designation in the East Midlands (para 2.4.47) and states it should be afforded appropriate levels of protection. Policy 12 requires that development should respect environmental constraints and, in this context, mentions in particular the DVMWHS and the surrounding countryside. Policy 26 requires that development should ensure the protection, appropriate management and enhancement of the Region's natural and cultural heritage. It requires the application of the principle that the Region's internationally and nationally designated natural and historic assets should receive the highest level of protection.

Relevant Local Planning policies are contained in the Development Plans of Derbyshire Dales District Council, Amber Valley and Erewash Borough Councils, Derby City Council and the Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plans of Derbyshire County and Derby City Councils. These five councils are in the process of updating their Plans to reflect the NPPF and replace the old style Local Plans. Consideration needs to be given to how any new planning policies may best be framed to protect the DVMWHS and its setting and representations have, and will need to be submitted in response to public consultations on the draft Local Plan.

The Derbyshire Dales Adopted Local Plan includes Policy NBE 25 – Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. For details of the policy NBE25 see page 84 of the plan, which can be accessed at <http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/planning-a-building-control/planning-policy/adopted-local-plan-2005/248-local-plan>. There are also policies for conservation areas (NBE21 and NBE22), listed buildings (NBE16, NBE17, NBE18 and NBE19), archaeological sites (NBE24), landscape character (NBE8), and registered historic parks and gardens (NBE23) in Chapter 6 Natural,

Historic and Built Environment. The District Council's approximate timetable for public consultation on its draft Local Plan is February 2013 with an expected adoption date of February 2014.

The adopted Amber Valley Borough Local Plan (2006) includes planning policy EN29 relating to the DVMWHS, its buffer zone and Management Plan. Policy EN7 also relates to landscape character areas and includes reference to the presence and pattern of historic landscape features. Policy EN32 states that planning permission will not be granted for development proposals that would have an adverse impact on the landscape character of a registered Historic Park and Garden. The Local Plan can be found at <http://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/planning/community-planning/local-plan.aspx>

Work is ongoing on a development brief for land within the DVMWHS by the River Derwent at Belper. Amber Valley Borough Council and Derby City Council both intend to consult on their draft Core Strategies early in 2013 with adoption anticipated approximately twelve months later. Work continued on the production of the Amber Valley Core Strategy with consultation events in Belper on 22 July 2011 to consult on the amount of growth required for the Borough and on 23 February 2012 consulting on the idea of a new settlement in Denby.

Until the new Local Development Framework is adopted, the saved policies of the City of Derby Local Plan Review January 2006 can be seen at <http://www.derby.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/LandUsePlanning/Adopted+City+of+Derby+Local+Plan+Review.htm>. These include policy E29 which states that proposals which would have an adverse impact on the special character of the World Heritage Site will not be allowed, it also protects its setting. Policy E22 seeks to secure the retention, restoration, maintenance and continued use of locally important historic parks and gardens, these include Darley Park and Derwent Park. R6 allows for the conversion of existing buildings in the Darley Abbey Mills complex for certain uses to secure the retention, restoration, maintenance and continued use of listed buildings, providing they are compatible with its architectural and historic character, respecting its important contribution to the World Heritage Site.

An Interim Planning Statement for Darley Abbey Mills has been produced by the City Council and is now in place to assist owners of parts of the site.

The saved policies of Erewash Local Plan can be viewed at <http://www.erewashcouncil.com/ldf/local-plan-saved-policies.html>. Policy EV19 – World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone on page 60 gives protection from harmful development. There are also policies for conservation areas, listed buildings, landscape character and registered historic parks and gardens in Chapter 6, Environment.

In the Derby and Derbyshire Minerals Local Plan, saved policy MP4 gives protection to interests of acknowledged environmental importance from irreparable or unacceptable damage resulting from mineral development proposals. The Derby and Derbyshire Waste Local Plan applies the precautionary principle relating to the risk of environmental damage from proposed waste development (Policy W4) and Policies W5, W6 and W7 give protection to identified interests of natural and built environmental importance, landscape and other visual interests. Derby City and Derbyshire County Councils intend to review the Minerals and Waste Plans during 2012-13.

Further information on both the saved policies and progress on preparing the Minerals and Waste Plans can be found at http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/planning/planning_policy/minerals_waste_development_framework/default.asp

Objective 2: Ensure that protection within the policy framework, when developed, remains effective in the long-term

The effectiveness of the policies and their implementation can be assessed by monitoring planning decisions and discussions within the site and buffer zone. Key development issues within the World Heritage Site during 2009/10 included:

New Dunsley Mill, Via Gellia

In June 2011 Derbyshire Dales District Council granted conditional planning permission for development at Dunsley Mills. Proposals include the demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of the site to provide 13 no. industrial units and associated car parking. In September 2011, and further to receipt from the developer of prior notification of demolition under the general permitted development order, the Council concluded that prior approval of the Local Planning Authority was not required for the demolition of existing buildings and the reservoir. The buildings have since been demolished.

John Smedley, Lea Mills

Planning permission was given regarding the conversion and redevelopment of the main mill site but no further work has been taken forward on the project.

The former Milford Mill site

The application for the redevelopment of this site remains undetermined.

Derwent Street, Belper

A Supplementary Planning Document and Development Brief is in the process of being prepared on behalf of the Borough Council by East Midlands Councils to provide guidance and further detail relating to as to the use and development of land located between the A6 and the River Derwent at Belper. A draft document is due to be published later in 2012.

Former Grammar School, Belper

Planning permission was granted in February 2011 for a change of use of the building to business use. The permission also included external works to lower the ground levels at the front of the building to form a new car park and the construction of an external access staircase and terrace.

Mill Lane, Belper

An outline application for the erection of 75 dwellings was submitted to Amber Valley Borough Council in May 2010. The site lies within an undeveloped area of the World Heritage Site buffer zone. The application was refused on the grounds that it would cause harm to the setting of the World Heritage Site. An appeal against the refusal was lodged in January 2011 and a public enquiry was held in April 2011. The appeal was dismissed partly on the grounds of World Heritage Site issues. The Inspector concluded that the scheme would not sustain and enhance the significance of the World Heritage Site.

Leisure Centre, Belper

Planning permission was granted for the demolition of a modern bungalow and the erection of a new leisure centre in July 2011. The site lies within the Field Lane car park and a subsequent application for the temporary change of use of the land to a car park was granted in February 2012.

Rail Telecommunication Masts on the Derwent Valley Rail Line

Discussions were held with Network Rail to explore how new telecommunication masts may be erected along the length of the line to minimize visual impact.

Objective 3: Review records of statutory designations for protection

Statutory Designations act as a further method of conserving the special interest and universal value of the site in the form of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. Locally listed buildings, the Sites and Monuments Record, and the Register of Parks and Gardens, although non-statutory, provide further information about aspects of the WHS. These are kept under continual review as more information comes to light on the significance of individual buildings, areas and archaeology. Changes to the statutory designations for 2011/12 are detailed below.

Listed Buildings

Derby City Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and Amber Valley Borough Council received no new applications for buildings to be listed (added to the statutory list of buildings of special architectural and/or historic interest) within the DVMWHS.

Conservation Areas

The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site includes the whole or part of thirteen pre-existing Conservation Areas, covering four local authorities. A further two are wholly or partly within the Buffer Zone. There have been no changes in the number or extent of designated conservation areas in any part of the World Heritage Site.

No further Conservation Area designations have been made or alterations to the boundaries of the existing conservation areas within that part of the DVMWHS within the Derbyshire Dales. Conservation Area Character Appraisals have been approved by the Council for Bonsall (April 2011) – a small part being in the buffer zone. The boundary of Bonsall Conservation Area has been amended but this does not affect the extent of the area within the buffer zone.

Local Lists

Although there were no changes to statutory designations in the last year, Erewash Borough Council began consulting on a draft Local List - see www.erewash.gov.uk/local-list. The draft list includes three buildings in the Eaton Bank conservation area - Peckwash Mill, Edge Hill and 15-17 Rigga Lane.

Historic Environment Record

A number of additions and modifications have been made to the non-statutory Historic Environment Record, bringing the total of entries wholly or partly within the World Heritage Site to 400.

Objective 4: Establish an accurate picture of the current condition and vulnerability of the cultural heritage

Buildings at Risk

One of the indicators of the condition of the Cultural Heritage is the Buildings at Risk Register. The Management Plan identified a number of Buildings considered to be at risk through neglect, disrepair, abuse or disuse within the site.

Some of these buildings are listed at the higher grades I and II* and are key buildings to the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and therefore project sheets were produced in the Management Plan to identify the priority works. Progress is being made on these projects however due to their scale and funding issues the works are yet to be completed. The table below presents a summary of works undertaken in the past year.

| BUILDING | PROGRESS TO DATE |
|--|--|
| 7 The Hill and Outbuildings Cromford | The accommodation above the trading butcher's shop and its related outbuildings await their respective fitting out works and ultimately their occupation. The buildings remain at low risk due to them not yet having achieved their final use. |
| Cromford Mill, Building No 1 | In the Arkwright Society's master plan Building 1 is designated as a restaurant/bistro on the ground floor with meeting room space above. Delivery of these plans currently awaits funding for the work required to Building 1 and the construction of a new building to house kitchen facilities and a new build lavatory block adjacent to the perimeter wall of the mills which will serve both the new restaurant and the mill site. |
| Cromford Mill, Building No 17 | This building is secure and stable, awaiting Gateway and office development proposals going ahead. Contamination issues will need to be dealt with before conversion work can begin. |
| Cromford Mill, Building No 18 | Proposals for the ultimate use of this building to house exhibition facilities and permanent visiting exhibition space emerged from the consultant's reports funded by HLF in 2003 which were later endorsed by the World Heritage Site Economic Development Plan. The implementation of these proposals awaits funding. |
| Cromford Mill, Aqueduct | The restoration of the aqueduct is planned to take place during the implementation of the masterplanning project. |
| Aqueduct Cottages (Lengthman's Cottage) Lea | It is no longer the Arkwright Society's intention to take responsibility for this site. Its future needs to be fully discussed between the owners, the Planning Authority and the World Heritage Site Partnership. |
| Lea Bridge Cottages, Lea | The cottages had some temporary 'urgent' works undertaken in 2004/5. The two Local Authorities (DDDC and AVBC) are hoping the planned redevelopment of the whole site will bring about the restoration of the cottages which are progressively deteriorating. As part of DDDC's annual monitoring of Buildings at Risk, the owners are to be contacted in respect of a further inspection and asked to provide information on future proposals for the cottages and their interim proposals for repair / consolidation. |
| North Mill, Belper | The Borough Council has received a grant from English Heritage to underwrite an Urgent Works Notice. The preparation of the first stage of the Notice is now complete and English Heritage and Amber Valley Borough Council are continuing to monitor the condition of the building. |

| | |
|--|--|
| East Mill, Belper | An application for Advertisement Consent for replacement signage has been received by Amber Valley Borough Council and the decision is awaited. |
| Gangway Footbridge, Belper | Electronic protection measures installed with funding from the Derbyshire LTP continue to reduce risk of further damage from vehicles. |
| Belper Weirs | The stone weir south of the bridge is suffering from an accelerated collapse and is in urgent need of repair. Ownership issues have been investigated, but no further progress has been achieved this year. |
| Former Congregational Church, Belper | Repairs and reinstatement of lost detail to the roof and stained glass windows, funded by the Belper & Milford Townscape Heritage Initiative have been completed, thereby significantly reducing the building's risk grade. As the building is not yet permanently occupied, it continues to have a small risk associated with it. The property is believed to be offered for sale. |
| Dalley Farm and Outbuildings, Belper | Discussions were taking place with Natural England regarding possible inclusion of the buildings in the Higher Level Stewardship scheme. Despite approaching the owner, no application was forthcoming. The owner appears to have maintained the buildings in reasonable condition, perhaps reducing the risk, although some inappropriate pointing has been carried out with conventional mortar. Despite repairs to some of the buildings, the unused buildings continue to have a risk associated with them and therefore require continued monitoring and investigation of potential uses. |
| Long Mill, West Mill, Proto-fireproof building, North Mill and the Manager's House, Darley Abbey Mills | The Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy work has included a review of the condition of all buildings within its study area to inform a series of conservation plans and the direction of the final preferred strategy. This includes for measures to assist the carrying out of necessary urgent works of repair to these privately owned buildings and to facilitate proposals for alternative uses to sustain the necessary restoration works. Urgent works have been undertaken to – North Mill, the Mill Manager's House and the Proto- fireproof building. |
| Darley Park Stables | The Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy work has included a review of the condition of all buildings within its study area to inform a series of conservation plans and the direction of the final strategy. This includes for measures to bring forward a scheme of necessary repair and adaptive reuse of the Darley Park Stables. A marketing exercise was undertaken for the building and discussions have been held with the preferred developer. The preferred developer is currently drawing up their proposals. |
| The Fishing Lodge, Mill Road, Cromford | Given the building's intermittent use, it continues to have a small risk associated with it and therefore requires monitoring but otherwise is in reasonable condition following previous replacement of stonework associated with a chimney flue. |

The continued deterioration of the North Mill and East Mill at Belper remains the principal listed building issue within the World Heritage Site.

Condition Surveys

No further condition surveys were carried out in parts of the World Heritage Site covered by Amber Valley Borough Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council or Derby City Council. However, it is likely that update reports (on the condition leading to repair schedules) will be undertaken to a number of Derby buildings in the near future.

A condition survey of the Eaton Bank conservation area was completed in April 2011. 51 pre-WWII buildings were surveyed. 36 (70.6%) were in good condition, 15 (29.4%) were in fair condition. None were in poor or very bad condition. All of the buildings surveyed appeared to be occupied; hence no Buildings at Risk were identified at Eaton Bank.

Objective 5: Encourage owners to ensure that maintenance, repair and restoration are carried out sympathetically and to a high standard.

Partnership (Grant) Schemes in Conservation Areas (Derwent Valley PSiCA)

The second year of the current three year programme for the Conservation Area Partnership Scheme has seen a wide range of buildings, in a variety of uses, receiving grant assistance.

In Cromford, a number of projects have been concentrated around Arkwright's mill and main residence. At the Mews, at Rock House, public funding has supported significant private investment into its repair and restoration. An integral part of Arkwright's first home, a considerable amount of historic fabric survives mainly within the roof construction, with its C18th cupola and clock mechanism. Grant assistance has been given to reinstating blocked window openings, with repair and reinstatement to cast iron and timber window frames and of lime stucco to the rear and side elevations.

Rockside Cottage is a small but interesting building, adjacent to Rock House, occupying an elevated location overlooking Cromford Mills. Its location and architecturally exuberant Venetian window suggest it could well have served as Richard Arkwright's off-site office. Grant aided repairs have been made to the external stone staircase and handrail.

The on-going need for essential stonework repairs to various buildings within the Cromford Mill complex has again been supported through the grant scheme. Stone replacement to the highly visible elevations onto Mill Lane has been carried out on Building 18 and the Carriage House by the Arkwright Society's own experienced stonemasons.

A range of mill-workers' cottages in the village have continued to benefit from grants under the Partnership Scheme, including repairs to reinstate traditional roofs, in natural materials, to certain properties on Cromford Hill and Market Place. Applying a policy of authentic reinstatement, distinctive Georgian window panes and doors, informed by historic photographs, have enhanced the Site's appearance in prominent locations on Cromford Hill and in the Market Place (right).



In Belper, roof repairs and reinstatement have been completed to two significant and prominent buildings. The grant scheme has enabled continued support for the owner's progressive restoration of the town's former main late-C17th coaching inn, the George and Dragon, with clay tiles replacing modern concrete tiles on its visible hipped roof. The grade II* listed De Bradelei's Mill has also had urgent roofing works to a substantial area of this large complex of buildings housing a variety of commercial and retail uses vital to the town's economic prosperity.

Traditional window replacement has been undertaken with grant assistance to Strutt's important grade II* listed Unitarian Chapel and attached cottage.

Built by Herbert, one of the later generation of the Strutt family, the former Belper School has received an offer of grant towards essential roof repairs, without which major spaces with decorative plasterwork would be at risk of damage.

In recognition of the lack of economic benefit to the owner, an enhanced grant rate has been offered toward repairs to the rare survival of a pigsty in Long Row. Repairs to its stonework wall, roof and joinery have been undertaken with traditional materials, including reinstatement of the Staffordshire Blue roof tiles.

Smaller-scale features related to the mill-workers cottages, making their own important contribution to the historic and social interest of the Site and conservation area, have received grants towards their reinstatement, including timber garden gates and iron railings.

The conservation area partnership scheme model continues to be an effective and successful vehicle through which to encourage owners to ensure that maintenance, repair and restoration of the building stock is carried out sympathetically and to a high standard. The current scheme has a further year to run (2012-13), though it is hoped that it, or a similar scheme will continue and maintain the momentum achieved so far.

Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy (DARS)

The Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy is in place and the following has been undertaken:

- Partnership Meetings have been regularly held throughout the year – these are chaired by the Leader of Derby City Council.
- There has been a regular regeneration newsletter has been produced and issued.
- Repairs to Haslam's Lane have been undertaken (funded by PPL and the Rugby Club)
- An increase in tenants has been achieved on the Darley Abbey Mills Site.
- A Stakeholder Forum was undertaken to achieve engagement with the wider community and stakeholders
- A Grant Scheme has been set up and applications are being undertaken.

Objective 6: Maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the Derwent Valley Mills Cultural Landscape

Conservation Area Character Appraisals

It is desirable for a Conservation Area appraisal for the Belper and Milford Conservation Area to be produced. However, this will have to be carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidance and resources are not available to produce such appraisals at this time.

An updated draft Conservation Area Appraisal/Management Plan for Darley Abbey has been out to public consultation. However due to additional changes a further period of public consultation is to be undertaken before it is amended and published. This has not yet taken place.

Objective 7: Protect and enhance the character of parks and gardens, particularly those included in the English Heritage Register

Belper River Gardens

Enhancement work for these historic gardens has been completed. Amber Valley Borough Council has appointed architects to design a building to replace the Swiss Tea Rooms. The Partnership and English Heritage have expressed concern over the proposed design which is currently in development. Applications for Conservation Area Consent and Planning Permission have yet to be submitted.

Objective 8: Protect and enhance areas of landscape character within the site

Saved policy EN7 of the Amber Valley Borough Local Plan 2006 ensures that the design of development is appropriate to the landscape character type, and make use of opportunities to conserve, enhance and restore local distinctiveness, character and diversity of the landscape.

Saved Policy NBE 8 of the Derbyshire Dales Adopted Local Plan (2005) ensures that permission for development will only be granted that protects or enhances the character, appearance and local distinctiveness of the landscape. In addition, a Supplementary Planning Document on 'Landscape Character and Design' was adopted by Derbyshire Dales District Council in July 2007.

DerwentWISE - The Lower Derwent Valley Landscape Partnership Project

In September 2012, £87,000 was secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a full application for a major landscape renewal initiative through their Landscape Partnership Programme. If successful this application will lead to a five year, £2.4million project, which will safeguard and restore the iconic landscape of the Lower Derwent Valley for many generations to come.

The project is being led by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust on behalf of a partnership which in addition to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Partnership includes Natural England, the Environment Agency, English Heritage, the Forestry Commission, Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, the National Stone Centre, Fleet Arts, the Arkwright Society and Amber Valley Community Voluntary Services.

Kevin Mann has been appointed as Project Development Officer in February 2012. The project area uses the DVMWHS as its core but as it is both a landscape and heritage initiative, it also includes the valley sides and extends as far as Middleton and Bonsall in the north. Although not fully developed the project is likely to include the following:

- A grant scheme for small landscape, conservation and heritage projects together with advice and help with funding bids for landscape improvements;
- Providing better countryside access and interpretation so that people can experience and enjoy the Valley to its full;
- Training in a variety of traditional skills, based at the new Derbyshire Eco Centre and National Stone Centre both near Wirksworth;
- Restoring, linking and extending wildlife habitats;
- Protecting and restoring landscape features like dry stone walls, hedgerows and ancient trees;

- Involving volunteers to survey and safeguard archaeological features and geological sites;
- Offering opportunities for the public to get involved in arts activities, education activities with schools, a Forest Schools programme and 'twinning' rural and urban.

Objective 9: Conserve and enhance biodiversity within the site

Ecological surveys by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust aimed at assessing the condition of Local Wildlife Sites and priority habitats have continued in the site. A report on Calaminarian grassland was completed in March 2012 and included part of the site. Management works were identified at Black Rocks and taken forward by DCC and PDNPA. Monitoring continued at Belper Park, Sandbed Lane Recreation Ground and Cromford Canal. Butterfly populations in the valley have been monitored at several sites. Management work has been undertaken by DWT, DCC, AVBC, DDDC, Derby City Council and 'Friends of groups' at Wyver Lane, Derwent-side, the Cromford Canal, Matlock Parks LNR, Matlock Bath Field, Dunsley Meadows LNR, Black Rocks, Duffield Millennium Meadow LNR, Belper Parks LNR, Belper Coppice, Alton Manor Wetland, Allestree Park LNR, Nutwood and Darley Abbey and Wapping Complex. Potential impacts of planning proposals on wildlife are assessed during the year as needed. The annual collation of new records for protected, rare, vulnerable or declining species was completed in May 2011 and added to the Derbyshire Biodiversity Alert Map maintained by DWT.

Objective 10: Ensure that effective measures are in place to deal with risks and hazards that may threaten the site

Flood Action Plans

In December 2011 Derby City Council and the Environment Agency jointly produced the consultation draft of *Our City, Our River* a master [plan for improving its flood defences and improving the River as an amenity. The DVMWHS had been previously consulted on the proposed removal of historic weirs, which was dismissed due to its impact on the OUV. The progress of this plan will require monitoring, especially in relation to any new bridges at Darley Abbey.

Disaster Planning

All businesses and heritage attractions within the Site should have up to date Disaster and Business Continuity Plans. As individual organisations they are required to comply with the relevant legislation. The post of Principal Historic Buildings Officer within the Derbyshire County Council Environmental Services Department is currently vacant and the new post-holder will continue to liaise with property owners in respect of risk preparedness.

Road Traffic Impact Protection

In the light of the extensive damage to the cast iron aqueduct at Cromford by a lorry, the need for protection measures to the grade II* listed Georgian footbridge at Belper Mills was highlighted and electronic protection measures installed by Derbyshire County Council with funding from the Derbyshire Local Transport Partnership (LTP) budget. Funding for a similar scheme at Cromford Mill, to protect the reinstated aqueduct, has now been withdrawn until reinstatement has taken place.

Public Awareness, Education and Research

Article 27 of the World Heritage Convention states ‘the State Parties to this Convention shall endeavour by all appropriate means and in particular by educational and information programmes, to strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage.’

The World Heritage Site has an immense educational and cultural value. By allowing people to experience the site through visits, activities, and dissemination of information will enrich their knowledge and understanding of where they live, work and play.

Objective 11: Co-ordinate information from all sources to provide a comprehensive site database

GIS Database

The public inquiry relating to the building of a new housing development on Mill Lane in Belper, close to the World Heritage Site and within the Buffer Zone, highlighted minor discrepancies in the World Heritage Site boundary. It has been agreed that each planning authority re-examine their section of the WHS boundary in detail and plot clarifications.

Website

The www.derwentvalleymills.org website continued to provide a globally-accessible source of in-depth information about the Derwent Valley Mills during 2011/12. There was a monthly average of 2490 visits to the website by 2063 visitors; in all, an average of 8934 pageviews per month. Visits accessed the website from 78 countries. The DVM Facebook has 85 followers and the DVM Twitter account has 1170 followers.

Objective 12: Encourage and promote further research into the historical, archaeological and other values of the site and its constituent elements

Research

The Research and Publications Panel re-examined the key aim of producing a Research Framework which would audit existing and current research into the Site and also to establish research themes which would both guide and assist future research by academic institutions, voluntary groups and individuals. The Partnership is working with David Knight of Trent Peak Archaeology/York Archaeological Trust and submitted an application to English Heritage to fund this work.

John Smedley

Research is considered an integral part of the development of the John Smedley Archive. Active projects include: research into the 18th century mill and Peter Nightingale; John Smedley and the 19th century; JB Marsden-Smedley era. Academic articles are in the process of being written for publication in the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal and Textile History. A further research paper is being compiled for the journal ‘Costume’; on early knitted underwear and abstracts being researched on individual garments eg Smedley’s iconic polo shirt. Other projects include looking at early 20th century industrial relations and an investigation into Trade Marks and Garment Tags. The Family Tree is being compiled and family history being researched. Lastly, a project to look at the mill community’s

experience in the Great War has been launched and will culminate in an updated Roll of Honour and a publication.

Objective 13: Encourage a cohesive strategy for the presentation and interpretation of the site

Key Sites Development Plans

Strutt's North Mill Museum and Visitor Centre

A member of Belper's 'First Family' flew in from Ireland to open a new exhibition explaining how that family shaped the town – and the world we live in. That family's achievement was celebrated with an exhibition called *The Strutts and Innovation* from April 20 to May 2, 2011 in the Strutt Community Centre on Derby Road (the former Herbert Strutt School). Lin Ryan, the grand-daughter of George Herbert Strutt who gave the school, swimming baths and the River Gardens to the town, agreed to visit Belper with her husband Michael to open the exhibition. The 12-day exhibition championed the Strutts' role in developing Belper and Milford and described how local industries evolved during the Strutt period of influence. As well as regular free guided tours of the main exhibition, there were related walks taking in the historic townscape of Belper, an exhibition quiz and a walking trail linking the Strutt Centre with Strutt's North Mill. The exhibition has been organised as part of a Heritage Lottery Fund project initiative 'Enlightenment! Derbyshire setting the pace in the Eighteenth Century' (See Objective 25).

The Silk Mill – Derby's Museum of Industry and History

Ambitious plans for the future of Derby Silk Mill will reinforce Derby's position as a global leader in creativity, innovation and engineering. The concept is to develop the Silk Mill as a 'place to inspire the next generation of makers'. It will bring this important and impressive heritage building to life through inspirational architectural design and by filling it with collections, exhibitions and programmes that fully celebrate and utilise the interior and exterior spaces; connecting people with hands-on experiences, experimentation, research, events, exhibitions and dialogue with expertise. There will be opportunities to learn both traditional and up-to-the-minute skills in 'making' – and young people in particular will develop their learning and understanding of the opportunities and significance that STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art - adding the value of art and design to innovation - and Maths), can bring to realising their own potentials. The customer and audience experiences of the Silk Mill will be enhanced by innovative use of artefacts, alongside cutting-edge technologies representing Derby and Derbyshire's industries and stakeholders.

The concept for the Silk Mill development is highly focussed and relevant to the city and county. It is informed through the experimentation and strategic learning achieved by working with new audiences being brought into the Silk Mill through the 'inspiring making' theme.

This programme is already highly successful - more than 13,000 people have taken part in creative sessions within the Silk Mill since the Industrial Museum was mothballed in April 2011. This live, grass-roots market research is highly innovative, taking inspiration from the best international models while rooting it in the local story. It has seen the Silk Mill host the 3rd UK Makers Fair, support the graduate training scheme with Rolls Royce, develop and grow the co-producing Derby Makers Group, deliver Olympic Torch making events, and host a bi-monthly makers night club (Holy Smokes). This programme continues to develop.

Alongside this programme, the delivery team have been developing their capital works ambitions – with the support of architects Bauman Lyons and £680k capital funding from Derby City Council.

Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills Working Textile Museum

Working machinery demonstrations continue to take place at specified set times to further reduce the carbon footprint of Masson Mills and its visitors.

Improvements to other heritage attractions

Cromford Mill

The Arkwright Society completed the hydro scheme at Cromford Corn Mill – it will be available to education groups from 2012. Fundraising for the Building 17 Project for a WHS visitor centre was successful in receiving a £3m award from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Society was waiting for confirmation from other bodies, with a view to starting the project in 2012/13.

The mill had the most extensive events programme ever. It included the Heritage Festival organised with a team from Rolls Royce which won the company's UK-wide Community Award.

John Smedley

Currently the garment collection is in the process of being accessioned and researched. This work will take some time and until it is completed the company has no plans to present the collection in any exhibition. That said, the longer term goal (subject to funding) may be for an exhibition area to be developed at Lea Mills to showcase the garment archive and to celebrate the longevity of this family owned company. It is anticipated that any John Smedley 'Museum' would complement the existing mills in the WHS and tell the story of fashion and knitted garments.

Interpretation Boards

Belper River Gardens

Two new interpretation boards were installed in the River Gardens, explaining the history of the gardens and the mills. Research began on another board for Belper Cemetery.

Objective 14: Develop Co-ordinated strategies for site publicity

This objective is related to the development of a marketing strategy for the site which is in turn inextricably linked to developing mechanisms to unlock the educational potential of the site. It is therefore hard to separate this objective from Objectives 15 and 21. The actions sited under this objective in the Management Plan include the production of a newsletter and site wide leaflets.

Branding Strategy

New promotional items – fridge magnets and coasters – have been on sale at a number of retail points within the WHS. Part of the Branding Strategy was to promote the new brand and this has begun with the new signage.

Signage

During the last year new visitor signs have been installed throughout the WHS. The new signs are at key points to direct visitors into the WHS from the A52 in Derby and along the A6 up to Matlock Bath. The signs direct visitors to a number of the sites within the WHS including the Silk Mill, Strutt's North Mill, John Smedley, Cromford Mill, and Masson Mill, River Gardens, Cromford Canal and High Peak Junction.

There are also Welcome signs along the valley at Darley Abbey, Duffield, Milford, Belper, Ambergate, Cromford and Matlock Bath. These signs are helping to raise the profile of the DVMWHS which was one of the aims of the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership funding which was secured by Derbyshire County Council to produce the signs.

Newsletter

The eleventh World Heritage Site Newsletter was distributed in September 2011. 21,000 copies were distributed to households within the site and the surrounding area. An additional 5,000 copies were distributed to the key sites, local libraries and Council offices. This newsletter and previous issues can be downloaded through the Derwent Valley Mills website. The 20-page publication again reflected a very busy year with an increasing number of activities and improvements within the World Heritage Site.

Discovery Days

The World Heritage Site Discovery Days Festival continues to be the biggest annual event in the Derwent Valley Mills calendar. The 2011 Discovery Days festival was held over a longer period than usual covering ten days over school autumn half term, from Friday 21st October to Sunday 30th. During the festival over 12,500 visitors enjoyed over 120 different activities. The audience was largely from the East Midlands but did include visitors from as far afield as Germany. Events ranged from: walks around the early industrial workers housing complexes in Belper and Cromford, along the Cromford canal and in some of the ancient woodland along the valley; talks on historic buildings such as Willersley Castle, the early railways in the area, and key figures of the industrial revolution such as the Strutt family; and musical events and performances ranging from supernatural scenes from Shakespeare to traditional folk singing and even a canal opera.

Visitor Guide

The World Heritage Site visitor guide promotional leaflet usually produced in January was held back in 2011 for review by the new WHS Director on his arrival in April. It was published that month, with a second visitor guide (right) following in January 2012.

The www.derwentvalleymills.org website

See under *Objective Eleven* above.

Press Releases

Press releases continued to be distributed, specifically before and after the Discovery Days Festival.



Objective 15: Develop mechanisms to facilitate access to the site and to unlock its full potential as an educational learning resource

The World Heritage Site can provide not only a venue for projects but more importantly an inspiration for creative projects. In addition this is also a way of making the site accessible to a wider audience.

Arts Projects

Film Projection

The major art event during the reporting period was the projection of a film onto the walls of Building 17 the largest of the mill buildings in the Cromford complex.

This was held in early February and despite snow underfoot and freezing temperatures, over 100 adults and children – and one dog – attended the projection of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site commissioned film “to where it begins” as it was projected onto the side of one of the mills at Cromford on the evening of Tuesday 7th February. The video artwork was created by Matt, Rob and Ella Vale of Illuminos, and projected using state of the art digital equipment provided by the Collaborators, following a successful bid from the World Heritage Team for the loan of the equipment.

The film and accompanying poem follow a figure as she dances through seasons and space around buildings and landscapes up and down the Derwent Valley, bringing the site to life in a powerful and moving way. After the showing of the film, the World Heritage Site team gave a lecture to over 70 members of the Arkwright Society about plans for the future of site, its conservation and promotion.

Vickers Art Prize

This nationally significant art prize is based in Derbyshire and administered by the Derbyshire Community Foundation in association with the University of Derby. It is open to rising painters and offers a bursary, an exhibition at Derby Art Gallery, a studio at the University and the support of the Art and Design department. The 2012/13 award requires the artist to take inspiration from the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site. The Director has been working with the Foundation and the University to shape the project and an artist will be selected in 2012.

Format 2013

Format is now an established international photography festival which is run by QUAD in Derby. The theme for the 2013 festival is ‘Factory’. As a result they are working with the Partnership to develop ideas and possibly extend some of the venues and residencies beyond Derby into the World Heritage Site.

Textile Sculpture

The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site also worked with the separate attractions along the valley in helping develop and support other arts projects. This year we worked with the nearby Wirksworth Festival - a very popular arts festival bringing a temporary large scale textile sculpture ‘Twisted’ by Steve Messum which was housed in the oldest remaining mill at Cromford and temporarily opened to the public for the duration of the festival.

Publications

Souvenir Guidebook

Now in its fifth year, the Souvenir Guidebook proved to be a steady seller along the World Heritage Site. There is a need to update the guidebook with the new branding once this stock has sold out.

The Derwent Valley Mills and Their Communities

This book based on the Inscription Document for the Derwent Valley Mills was reprinted by the Derwent Valley Mills Educational Trust, with an updated introduction.

Fitton and Wadsworth books

Manchester University Press reprinted for the WHS Partnership 'Arkwrights: Spinners of Fortune' by RS Fitton and 'The Strutts and the Arkwrights' by Fitton and Wadsworth. The DVMWHS branding appears on the new covers and prefaces were written for both books.

Education

Partners within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Education Group have had another busy and exciting year. There have been continuing visits by schools and community groups to the various mill sites and communities for fieldwork, learning days and special events as well as a wide range of other programmes

On the run up to the 2011 Discovery Days presentations were given in eleven schools along the valley, to just over 2,000 pupils. The presentation took the form of an introduction to the World Heritage Site, its key events and figures from the newly appointed Learning Co-ordinator and a colleague from Environmental Studies. Pupils were then shown the "to where it begins" video. The pupils enjoyed following the split screen antics of the woman on screen as she darted from one part of the site to another. Pupils helped to identify local landmarks and a list of words which they felt summed up the Derwent Valley Mills were collated and handed on to the Derbyshire Poet Laureate for the work he was doing in the site with school children. Once the young people understood the importance and significance of this world heritage site they were told about the additional opportunities and family events taking place during *Discovery Days* and all pupils were given programme leaflets to take home.

Work with the Derbyshire Poet Laureate developed into a project involving four primary schools and two secondary shared between Derbyshire and Derby city, who worked with musicians from a professional midlands-based orchestra 'Sinfonia Viva' who specialise in educational work, and 'Mills and Chimneys' a local group of folk musicians. The Learning Co-ordinator led the group on two "inspiration days" at Cromford and Masson Mills in January and March where the pupils and the musicians learned about the history of the mills and used their learning in writing workshops with the Poet Laureate. A concert is planned for June 2012.

The collaboration between members of the Education Group and the teacher training department of Derby University continued. This year members delivered a whole day training session for trainee teachers around "Learning Beyond the Classroom and Planning a Visit". The students were given resources from the sites to help them plan and develop a learning programme for day visits, and trained on how to plan all aspects of a field trip including planning transport and completing risk assessments. Students were also given copies of a leaflet created by a member of the education group about how to travel by train to site attractions across the world heritage site with the aim of developing a more sustainable approach to school trips and less reliance on buses.

The Site has worked extensively with the Derbyshire County Council Environmental Studies Team and has produced a range of resources for schools. It co-ordinated the content and production of the leaflet *Bringing Learning to Life* for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils in 2012. This highlighted the partnership between Masson Mills, Cromford Mills and Strutt's North Mill and the Service in offering specially designed learning days. It was distributed to all schools across Derbyshire.

Transportation

Transportation issues play a key role in the long term conservation and management of the site. It is important to integrate different modes of travel as well as encouraging more sustainable forms of transport.

Objective 16: Identify and review transportation problems and opportunities within the site and on routes giving access to the site

The Derwent Valley Heritage Way

The Derwent Valley Heritage Way, a 55 mile continuous walking route between Ladybower Reservoir in the north to Shardlow in the south and passing through the entire length of the World Heritage Site, is a well marked walking route providing a sustainable mode of accessing the site.

Objective 17: Investigate the potential for better transport integration within the site and buffer zone

The Derwent Valley Line train service between Nottingham, Derby (pictured) and Matlock continued to attract more passengers during 2011/12. The overall increase in passenger journeys at local stations was 7%. For specific stations in the World Heritage Site the changes percentage changes in 2011/12 were - Ambergate 1%, Belper 8%, Cromford 11%, Duffield 7% and Whatstandwell -3%. Over the last four years comparing the number of passenger journeys in 2011/12 with 2007/8 (before the hourly timetable was introduced there has been an overall 108% increase in passenger journeys. The increases by station are Ambergate 102%, Belper 119%, Cromford 98%, Duffield 145% and Whatstandwell 78%. Reliability also improved slightly with 94% of trains running on time during the year.



Your guide to the Derwent Valley Line

'Your guide to the Derwent Valley' leaflet was again produced by the Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership in partnership with East Midlands Trains. It included train times, places to visit, walks and vouchers to some attractions including Cromford Mills and Masson Mills.

Objective 18: Ensure that Local Transport Plans and the proposals of other transport providers take into account the conservation needs of the whole site

In April 2011, following consultation during the period covered by this report, both Derbyshire County and Derby City Councils adopted their respective third Local Transport Plans, which together cover the World Heritage Site. Both Local Transport Plans seek to develop long term

transport strategies that look towards 2026 providing a basis for transport policy over the next fifteen years, which will help secure funding to develop a sustainable transport system. They also seek to support both the local and sub-regional economy and are intended to develop in a more sustainable and healthy transport system.

Both Local Transport Plans include consideration of economic, environmental, and social concerns in the years to come. In particular, there is much to learn about the true relationship between transport planning and a low carbon economy – this will emerge, as the work of the new Local Enterprise Partnerships gets underway. Their role is to create the conditions for economic and business growth through focussing on economic development using local knowledge and expertise. The partnerships will provide evidence to help inform the Local Transport Plan.

Following national guidance, the strategy for both Local Transport Plans starts with identifying a set of challenges for:

- Supporting a resilient local economy, supporting growth and economic competitiveness.
- Tackling climate change by developing and promoting low-carbon travel choices.
- Contributing to better safety, security, and health by improving road safety, improving security on transport networks and promoting active travel.
- Promoting equality of opportunity through the delivery and promotion of accessible walking, cycling and public transport networks, whilst maintaining appropriate access for car users.
- Improving quality of life and promoting a healthy natural environment by promoting investment in transport that enhances the urban and natural environment and sense of place.

Both Local Transport Plans have been produced after rigorous strategic environmental assessment of their respective transport strategies. The Local Transport Plans however are not a prescriptive list of things that both councils will be doing in the next 10 years, although in developing any proposals for the World Heritage Site, conservation needs of the whole site, including bio-diversity issues, will be taken into account.

Sustainable Tourism

Tourism is a key industry which contributes to the revenue of the sites themselves thus aiding their repair and restoration. It also supports local business resulting in economic benefit to the local community. There is a need for a careful balance to be struck between protecting the heritage asset and amenity for local residents and tourism. Pressure from an increased number of visitors is most likely to be expressed in terms of car parking and traffic management, which is addressed under the transportation section.

For the site to prosper there is a need for a strong economic base for the communities. Tourism will probably not become the main industry but it is a significant part of the economic infrastructure and will grow as the sites develop their product. The Site is an important heritage asset and can play a key role in the sustainability of the communities within it and as part of heritage led regeneration. The current Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas and the Townscape Heritage Initiative in Belper and Milford of 2005-9 are vehicles which will help deliver sustained economic vitality of the community.

Objective 19: Assess the capacity of individual locations within the site to absorb tourism and derive a sustainable tourism strategy which benefits the local economy

A combined Tourism and Marketing Strategy was commissioned by the Partnership in 2010 and this was delivered in July 2011. It was approved by the Board in January 2012. The strategy placed the Site and its attractions within a tourism context and acknowledged that they all required considerable investment before the Site could be fully marketed as a destination. It proposed marketing the attractions as clusters, based on Cromford, Belper and Derby. It also proposed a marketing strapline '*The Derwent Valley –the Valley that changed the World*'.

Objective 20: Encourage individual visitor attractions to adopt the principles of the Management Plan in their individual strategies

All the visitor attractions are involved in the delivery of the objectives of the Management Plan. The World Heritage Site team and members of the Partnership continue to work with owners to adopt the principles of the plan.

Objective 21: Develop an integrated marketing strategy for the site which takes account of the critical balance between conservation and tourism

The Tourism Strategy included a marketing strategy which is noted in Objective 19 above.

Objective 22: Ensure integration of strategies for tourism within the Site with the wider strategies pursued by local, county-wide and regional agencies.

The inclusion of the Derwent Valley Mills within the Scott Wilson report for East Midlands Tourism secured the World Heritage Site's position as a significant destination within the resulting Tourism Investment Plan for the East Midlands.

The Peak District and Derbyshire Destination Management Partnership is now a member of the Derwent Valley Mills Partnership and actively working with the Partnership to ensure joined-up development of strategies to integrate the DVMWHS into the regional tourism landscape.

Co-ordination, Monitoring and Consultation

Objective 23: Formulise arrangements for the continuing management of the site

During 2011/12 the new Board has developed as an effective decision making body for the Site. The Panels were re-structured and are now as follows;

- Site Operations Panel
- Conservation and Planning Panel
- Research and Publications Panel
- Tourism and Regeneration Panel

Each panel is chaired by a member of the Board which improves the lines of communication and allows Board members to utilise their skills and develop a greater insight into the work of the Partnership. In order to maintain involvement from the wider Partnership a Partnership Forum has been established which is open to all members. It provides Partners the opportunity to communicate with the Board and the Board the opportunity to inform and consult with them.

In addition to working groups the partnership plans to develop more informal cluster groups of organisations and individuals in Cromford, Derby and Belper in 2012/13.

Objective 24: Instigate a continuing programme of consultation and public involvement

Management Plan

Consultation on the Management Plan began during 2011/12. The issues were presented in the September 2011 edition of the Newsletter and questionnaires produced for the website and through the Derbyshire County Council Citizen's Panel. Consultation on the Management Plan also utilised Derby City Council's local forums. The consultation period will run until the end of April 2012 and the results will be analysed during the summer.

Talks

Heritage Coordinator Adrian Farmer continued to provide talks on the DVMWHS to numerous groups throughout Derbyshire. Learning Coordinator John Rogers has spoken at school assemblies and Director Mark Suggitt has spoken to the Dearly Abbey Society and Amber Valley Borough Council.

Discovery Day questionnaire

Information gathered during the *Discovery Days* Festival was overwhelmingly positive. People questioned found events entertaining and informative, and all said they would return for the 2012 festival. Information was received of people from London and the South-East, the South-West the West Midlands, Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire coming to Derbyshire specifically for the Discovery Days events and using local accommodation providers over several nights during their stay.

Objective 25: Develop a policy for acquiring and maintaining collections which support, enhance and help interpret the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site.

This new objective was established during the quinquennial review of the Management Plan, and was signed up to by the Partnership in January 2007.

Enlightenment!

The Heritage Lottery Funded project *Enlightenment! Derbyshire setting the pace in the eighteenth century* has continued to purchase, research, conserve and interpret objects relating to the World Heritage Site. Purchases over the last year have included a wooden Strutt's stationery box (right), a Harmony circular knitting machine which will be used for demonstrations at Strutt's North Mill in Belper, Derby porcelain and a sketch by Peter Perez Burdett of Full Street in Derby. Between April 2011 and March 2012 the project spent over £25,000 purchasing collections and has brought in additional funding from the Art Fund, V&A Purchase Grant Fund and the Beecroft Bequest.



The collections have been used to interpret the World Heritage Site through the enhancement of existing galleries, the creation of temporary exhibitions and objects have been used as the basis for events. Last year nearly 30,000 people engaged with these activities, including 6500 people who visited the project blog www.enlightenmentderbyshire.wordpress.com. These online visitors came from across the world, bringing a new and diverse online audience to area.

Collections Officer

A part time Collections Officer, Anna Rhodes has been in post since June 2010. She is coordinating the *Enlightenment!* project and has been organising events and exhibitions, researching and buying museum objects and updating the project blog. The post continues until June 2013.

Sir Richard Arkwright's Cromford Mill

Cromford Mill is planning on creating an area where their archive can be accessed by the public and will be stored to the National Archive standards.

John Smedley

The collection is being cared for as far as possible along museum guidelines and working towards Arts Council accreditation. Two stores have been set up and are monitored regularly [temperature, humidity and pests]. Dehumidifiers and heaters have been installed to this end. The entire garment collection has been sent to Nottingham Museum, for initial conservation and advice re storage boxes has been taken. Volunteers have been trained in terms of basic standards of care and good practice and ongoing training is envisaged (eg at the Derbyshire Record Office). Close co-operation with the Derbyshire Records Office is considered essential and contact is being maintained with both Archivists and curators. The advice of Museum specialists has been incorporated into all aspects of the work, from the initial database used for accessioning items, to consulting the Textile Curator at Leicestershire Museums Service and the Art Curator at Derby Museum and Art Gallery.

Objective 26: Establish a monitoring regime which informs priorities in the long-term

This annual report contributes towards the more formal monitoring regime now being established for World Heritage Sites through the introduction of Key Monitoring Indicators.

The Management Plan provides details of key strategic actions contributing to its aims and objectives. The table below is a summary of the targets where progress has been made by March 2011.

| STRATEGIC ACTIONS | ACHIEVEMENT |
|---|---|
| Objective 1: Ensure that the statutory Development Plan and Supplementary Planning Guidance provide policies for development that recognises the significance of the site. | |
| 1. Adopt Regional Plan Policy on Protecting & Enhancing the Region's Natural & Cultural Heritage | The Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) is given prominence in the Regional Plan as the only such designation in the Region. The Localism Bill proposes that Regional Plans be revoked. |
| 2. Review Local Plans, including Minerals and Waste plans | Derbyshire Dales, Amber Valley, Erewash and Derby City Local Plans include policies relating to the DVMWHS. |
| 3. Produce and adopt Supplementary Planning guidance | Opportunities for developing parts of the management plan as supplementary planning guidance investigated. |
| Objective 2: Ensure that protection within the policy framework, when developed, remains effective in the long-term | |
| 4. Review boundaries of site and buffer zone | The boundary of the DVMWHS has been scrutinised and recommendations made to the relevant local planning authorities for minor clarifications to mapping. |
| 5. Review success of development plan policies. Monitor management of the site and particularly significant development control decisions affecting it | Monitoring of development management decisions within the DVMWHS continues to be monitored in order to assess the effectiveness of planning policies. |
| 6. Develop key indicators of performance for the site | Key performance indicators have been agreed and incorporated in the revised Management Plan. |
| Objective 3: Review records of statutory designations for protection | |
| 7. Sites and Monuments Record | A number of additions and modifications have been made, bringing the total of entries wholly or partly within the World Heritage Site to 400. The Sites and Monuments Record is now known as The Historic Environment Record. |
| 8. Review non-statutory local lists and liaise with EH and DCMS on buildings threatened and deserving statutory protection | Work progressing with Derby City Council for new additions within the DVMWHS. |
| 9. Carry out reviews of conservation area boundaries | A review of the Cromford Conservation Area boundary has been undertaken by Derbyshire Dales District Council in 2007. Boundary reviews have also been undertaken as part of |

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| | Conservation Area Character Appraisals for Castle Top / Lea Bridge/ High Peak Junction, Matlock Bath and Bonsall Conservation Areas. |
| Objective 4: Establish an accurate picture of the current condition and vulnerability of the cultural heritage | |
| 10. Monitor condition of Scheduled Ancient Monuments | Monitoring ongoing. |
| 11. Maintain, review and update Buildings at Risk Register | The BAR Register has been revised. A number of properties have been removed in the Derbyshire Dales and Amber Valley entries – to be updated in 2010/11 |
| 12. Carry out condition survey of Belper North Mill | A full condition survey has been carried out for the owners by Adam Bench Architects |
| 13. Carry out condition survey of Darley Abbey Mills | Work completed as part of the Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy and actions to be proposed for buildings in poor condition. Update reports are to be undertaken so that schedules of works can be developed. |
| 14. Complete the Cromford Cultural Landscape Project and publish a Conservation Management Plan for the Cromford Canal | Conservation Management Plan published. Funding secured from the East Midlands Development Agency to safeguard and improve Cromford Canal. |
| Objective 5: Encourage owners to ensure that maintenance, repair and restoration are carried out sympathetically and to a high standard. | |
| 15. Establish and operate a Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) grant scheme for the Belper and Milford Conservation Area. | Scheme completed successfully. |
| 16. Continue and develop a Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (HERS) for The Derwent Valley | Continued investment in the repair and restoration of buildings in Belper & Milford and Cromford Conservation Areas through the PSiCA grant scheme and its subsequent phases or any successor scheme which replaced the HERS. |
| 17. Review grant schemes for listed buildings and conservation areas | A case for designating a conservation area for Ambergate and for including a number of presently excluded buildings within the English Heritage Derwent Valley Grant Scheme has been made by Melanie Morris Conservation |
| 18. Pursue strategies for identifying buildings at risk | Derbyshire County Council continues to liaise with district councils on updating buildings at risk register. |

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| 19. Review published advice and add new literature | New literature developed for PSiCAs scheme. |
| 20. Continue provision of specialist staff to advise owners | Specialist staff continue to be employed by the County, City and District Councils. |
| 21. Work with owners to encourage the development of conservation plans for the key properties | A Conservation Statement for Cromford Mill has been produced. |
| 22. Work with owners to pursue funding for essential repairs and planned maintenance to weirs and other significant water features within the site | Need for repair work raised with owners. |
| 23. Work with landowners to ensure that key biodiversity sites and features are maintained, and to deliver LBAP targets for habitat creation and management. | Ongoing through the Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Partnership. |
| Objective 6: Maintain and enhance the quality and distinctiveness of the Derwent Valley Mills Cultural Landscape | |
| 24. Define the quality and distinctiveness of the cultural landscape | A Cultural Landscape Statement has been added to the Management Plan as Appendix 17 |
| 25. Carry out conservation area character appraisals and produce townscape enhancement programmes | Conservation Area Character Appraisals prepared for Belper and Milford and for Darley Abbey. Conservation Area Appraisals have been approved by Derbyshire Dales District Council for Cromford, Castle Top/Lea Bridge/High Peak Junction, Matlock Bath and Bonsall. |
| 26. Carry out environmental improvements within the site | Environmental enhancement projects carried out in Belper as part of the THI programme. First Round success for HLF Landscape Bid covering the WHS and Buffer Zone. |
| 27. Carry out specific improvements at the Clusters, Belper and at Cromford Canal | A programme of research and consultation has been undertaken for the Clusters roads as part of the Belper THI programme. Residents are being encouraged to take the work further. Funding for a programme of repair and enhancement at Cromford Canal was secured from emda and implemented. Derbyshire County Council established the Cromford Canal Partnership and has commissioned a Scoping Report on its restoration. |
| Objective 7: Protect and enhance the character of parks and gardens, particularly those included in the English Heritage Register | |
| 28. Encourage Derbyshire Historic Gardens Society to develop its local list of historic parks and gardens | Enhancement for Belper River Gardens completed bar the rebuilding of the tea rooms. |

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| 29. Review status of Allestree Park | Local Nature Reserve Status achieved. |
| Objective 8: Protect and enhance areas of landscape character within the site | |
| 30. Finalise landscape character assessment for Derbyshire | The Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) for Derbyshire has been completed and published. |
| 31. Produce over-arching landscape management guidelines | The Landscape Character Assessment publication includes landscape management guidelines. |
| Objective 9: Conserve and enhance biodiversity within the site | |
| 32. Continue to promote targets and actions within the Lowland Derbyshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan | Work ongoing. Development work begun on developing plan for habitat and species work specifically within the DVMWHS. |
| 33. Continue to promote participation in the Environmental Stewardship Scheme and England Woodland Grants Scheme. Continue to seek appropriate agri environment HLS targets to benefit landscape and biodiversity features | Ongoing. Some Higher Level Stewardship applications were submitted. Promotion ongoing and will be included in project above. |
| 34. Continue to promote other grant aid opportunities for biodiversity enhancement such as those offered by Landfill taxes through SITA etc | Ongoing. Biodiversity Officer keeping partners aware of funding opportunities. |
| 35. Monitor operation of hydropower sites | Discussions have been held with the major hydro power operator regarding expansion of hydro power in the WHS. |
| 36. Seek, where appropriate, protection and designation for sites which support priority biodiversity habitats and species | Declaration of Darley and Nutwood as a Local Nature Reserve. |
| Objective 10: Ensure that effective measures are in place to deal with risks and hazards that may threaten the site | |
| 37. Formulate 'Fire Action Plans' for key buildings within the site | Ongoing. The manager of Belper North Mill undertook emergency and disaster preparedness training and documents to outline the emergency planning procedure were prepared. |
| 38. Formulate 'Flood Action Plans' for key buildings within the site at risk of flooding | The Environment Agency began a strategic review of flooding and flood management along the Derwent from Ladybower Reservoir to Derby. |
| 39. Establish ongoing programmes of evaluation to identify other risks to key structures within the site and to develop appropriate action plans | Protection for the listed Georgian Gangway footbridge at Belper via installation of a traffic impact protection system |
| Objective 11: Co-ordinate information from all sources to provide a comprehensive site database | |
| 40. Establish a GIS database of currently available information about key heritage resources and other assets (including natural heritage and tourism facilities) within the site | GIS database sits with Derbyshire County Council's Historic Environment Record Officer. Development continues. |

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| 41. Identify gaps in information and instigate surveys where necessary | Research gaps identified for further work. Some work (eg Rock House, Cromford, Bridge Hill House, Willerlsey Castle) carried out. |
| Objective 12: Encourage and promote further research into the historical, archaeological and other values of the site and its constituent elements | |
| 42. Agree an Historical & Archaeological Research Framework and Agenda | Funding bid to English Heritage submitted. |
| 43. Instigate research through voluntary bodies and research institutions | Research into the history of Darley Abbey and Rock House Cromford is ongoing. Also Bridge Hill House, Belper, and Willerlsey Castle |
| 44. Harness the expertise and resources of further and higher educational institutions | Derby University hosts the DVMWHS Web Site. Liaison with Derby University re Vickers Art Prize. Derby University rep on Research and Publications Panel. |
| Objective 13: Encourage a cohesive strategy for the presentation and interpretation of the site | |
| 45. Establish a Site Collections Working Group | Achieved. |
| 46. Develop site-wide guidelines for presentation, communication and interpretation | Development of interpretation material for the former Milford foundry site. |
| 47. Pursue museum development plans | Over the last 12 months since Derby Silk Mill was 'mothballed', it has had over 11,000 visitors as the result of a period of consultation, experimentation and piloting of concepts, with the support of MLA and now Arts Council England. This has supported the preparation of a proposed business plan which is now being brought into line with the new Derby Museums and Arts Trust business plan. The work is now in an architectural consultation phase, after which the right architectural plans will be taken forward. To do this well the right relationships with our funders and partners is important. Establishment of Belper's North Mill as a Franchise Tourist Information Centre with funding from East Midlands Tourism. |
| 48. Ensure nature conservation interests are integrated | Ongoing. Development work begun on developing plan for habitat and species work specifically within the DVMWHS. |
| 49. Establish an archive of high-quality digital images for promotional purposes | High-quality digital image library established and steadily growing. |

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| 50. Further develop the website to provide a comprehensive resource on the WHS and its management. | Increase in use of the DVMWHS website. |
| Objective 14: Develop Co-ordinated strategies for site publicity | |
| 51. Produce summaries of the Nomination Document and Management Plan | Book version of Nomination Document still in print. |
| 52. Produce an occasional Newsletter and site-wide leaflets | Publication of updated visitor guide and Ambergate leaflets. |
| 53. Encourage organisers of events within the site to encompass the world heritage theme | Information provided for distribution by running event organisers. Support for Derwent Valley Line event in May 2007. |
| 54. Ensure due emphasis is given to the natural environment, in addition to the built environment, in site publicity | Natural environment related activities established within Discovery Days. WHS Officer involved in work to develop plan for habitat and species work specifically within the DVMWHS. |
| 55. Encourage and co-ordinate participation from all partners and key sites in the annual Discovery Days events | Ongoing. Event is now a 9 day long festival. |
| Objective 15: Develop mechanisms to facilitate access to the site and to unlock its full potential as an educational learning resource | |
| 56. Establish and sustain liaison between education providers, advisers, heritage sites, museums and others to develop and exchange best practice, to explore joint initiatives and to promote the site in vocational training | Training of volunteers and staff within the mills and related sites, made possible through a Learning and Skills Council grant. Promotion of the Site by hosting meetings for ICOMOS-UK at Cromford and LAWHF in Derby. |
| 57. Explore the provision of education resources for both schools and lifelong learning | Education Working Group for the DVMWHS established to look at developing new resources. |
| 58. Pursue the creation of an interactive website, linked to the Derbyshire & Peak District Destination Management System. | Website created and heavily used across the globe. |
| 59. Extend and enhance the educational resources within the website. | Resources development progressed by the Education Working Group. |
| 60. Encourage arts and cultural projects involving local schools, community groups and others, which will provide material for the website which can help other educationalists | Active DVMWHS Arts Group has completed several projects, including provision of an arts strategy for the Site. Further work in development. |
| 61. Encourage the production of community guides, walking tours and other interpretation programmes which have a minimal physical impact upon the site and encourage use of public transport | Publication and launch of DVMWHS Souvenir Guidebook. Funding secured for Belper Town Walk focusing on the DVMWHS story. |
| 62. Encourage participation in regional, national and international education projects | Being investigated for future development by the Education Working Group for the DVMWHS. |
| 63. Develop an outreach programme to encourage and support the teaching of the DVMWHS story within the national curriculum | Developing the use of the Site by school groups via creation of an Education Working Group for the DVMWHS. |

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| Objective 16: Identify and review transportation problems and opportunities within the site and on routes giving access to the site | |
| 64. Initiate an Integrated Transport Strategy for the Site | |
| 65. Create a walking route along the Derwent Valley Heritage Way (Phase 1); pursue the creation of a multi-user route (Phase 2) | A long distance pedestrian way along the Valley – The Heritage Way – has been created. |
| Objective 17: Investigate the potential for better transport integration within the site and buffer zone | |
| 66. Liaise with relevant bodies in development of Local Area Transportation Programmes. | New hourly Monday to Saturday Nottingham-Derby-Matlock service to most Derwent Valley line stations agreed for 2008/9, through the new Community Rail Partnership. |
| Objective 18: Ensure that Local Transport Plans and the proposals of other transport providers take into account the conservation needs of the whole site | |
| 67. Liaise with transportation teams in the two highways authorities | Ongoing |
| Objective 19: Assess the capacity of individual locations within the site to absorb tourism and derive a sustainable tourism strategy which benefits the local economy | |
| 68. Establish liaison with tourism groups on capacity study results | Peak District and Derbyshire DMP representation on Tourism, Arts and Heritage Sites Panel, which has developed survey for venues. |
| 69. Ensure provision of essential infrastructure (first phase) | Considered in the newly adopted Action Plan by Derby City Council for its part of the WHS. |
| 70. Provide information and support for local shops, tourism providers and potential investors | Information packs provided. |
| Objective 20: Encourage individual visitor attractions to adopt the principles of the Management Plan in their individual strategies | |
| 71. Negotiate with site owners | Branding strategy to strengthen links across the WHS has been supported and embraced by site owners. |
| Objective 21: Develop an integrated marketing strategy for the site which takes account of the critical balance between conservation and tourism | |
| 72. Establish Tourism, Arts and Heritage Sites (TAHS) Panel | Work now undertaken by Site Operations and Tourism and Regeneration panels. |
| 73. Produce a marketing strategy | Produced in 2011 |
| Objective 22: Ensure integration of strategies for tourism within the Site with the wider strategies pursued by local, county-wide and regional agencies. | |
| 74. Establish liaison between TAHS Panel, the Peak District and Derbyshire Destination management Partnership, East Midlands Tourism, Derbyshire Tourism Forum and local groups | DVMWHS highlighted in the East Midlands Tourism Investment Opportunities Study |
| Objective 23: Formulise arrangements for the continuing management of the site | |
| 75. Establish constitution of Management Panel, Technical Panel and Liaison Panels to form Derwent Valley Mills Partnership | Panels re-structured and actively working. |
| 76. Secure sustainable funding and appointment of a Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Coordinator | Enlarged team established. |

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| Objective 24: Instigate a continuing programme of consultation and public involvement | |
| 77. Prepare a consultation programme. Implement the programme and monitor results. | Consultation programme for Management Plan revision established. |
| 78. Establish Industry and Commerce liaison panel to ensure economic development interests are involved in the plan | Work now a part of the Tourism and regeneration Panel. Establishment of Development Co-ordinator. |
| Objective 25: Develop a policy for acquiring and maintaining collections which support, enhance and help interpret the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site. | |
| 79. Establish which collections hold material relating to the World Heritage Site and which enhance the telling of its story | The <i>Enlightenment!</i> project has done two pieces of collections mapping to identify relevant holdings in other regional and national institutions. The mapping projects have highlighted the strengths and weaknesses in the collections and the project has been strategically purchasing in the weaker areas. |
| 80. Prepare collections policy | Collections Policy agreed. |
| 81. Implement the policy | Collections Policy adopted. |
| Objective 26: Establish a monitoring regime which informs priorities in the long-term | |
| 82. Develop key indicators for monitoring the site which align with those used by UNESCO in its periodic monitoring regime. | Key Performance Indicators agreed for three year trial period, before a final list of KPIs are agreed. |
| 83. Produce and disseminate an annual monitoring report | Annual report produced and made available through the DVMWHS website. |
| 84. Ensure ongoing programmes of evaluation to assess the progressive impacts of tourism activities and development. | Survey work established for the key tourism sites within the DVMWHS. |
| 85. Review and update the plan at regular intervals | The next quinquennial review of the Management Plan is in 2012. |



The Derwent Valley Mills WHS film was screened on the side of Building 17 at Cromford Mill on a snowy evening in February 2012.

Projects not Identified in the Management Plan

Economic Development

Many of the projects in this year have been in partnership with other areas including Arts and Education and these have been reported in the relevant sections of the Annual Report.

Belper Cluster

The first meeting of the Belper Cluster Group within the new structure was held in February 2012. The group had last met in September 2010. A mixture of local businesses from the Milford and Belper area were invited, along with community and voluntary groups, the Town Council and Borough Council. The group agreed to focus on areas where the businesses and community and voluntary groups could work together better for upcoming events including the Jubilee Celebrations in Belper River Gardens and Discovery Days.

Priorities for 2012/13

A number of targets for 2012/13 have been identified, which are listed below.

- Repairs to Belper North Mill
- Monitoring of planning applications within the Site and the Buffer Zone
- Maintaining dialogue with the owners of Belper North Mill to ensure improved maintenance
- Supporting the Arkwright Society Building 17 Gateway project
- Supporting the re-visioning and re-development of the Silk Mill.
- Supporting further development of Strutt's North Mill, Belper
- Supporting the Darley Abbey Mills Regeneration Work
- Supporting the dredging of a section of the Cromford Canal
- Supporting the residents' restoration plans for Long Row, Belper
- Supporting development of sustainable and tourism-related transport
- Supporting development of the three WHS regional clusters, and the network necessary to achieve that development.
- Delivering Discovery Days.
- Complete the revised UNESCO Management Plan
- Develop project for UNESCO Youth World Heritage Summit in Greenwich 2012.
- Developing a scheme for the recruitment, training and development of volunteers for the WHS.
- Working with QUAD to develop elements of FORMAT 2013
- Working with Derbyshire Community Foundation and the University of Derby to develop the Vickers Art Prize
- Completing the UNESCO Periodic Review

Board 2011/12

Cllr Andrew Lewer (Chairman)
John Beswarick IPFA
Helen Bishop (replaced by Jacqui Sutton)
Cllr Stuart Bradford
Cllr Philip Hickson
Dianne Jeffrey CBE, DL, Hon DUniv
Patrick Morriss
Andrew Pugh
John Rivers CBE, FCIPD, DL
Cllr Geoff Stevens MBE

World Heritage Site Team

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|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Mark Suggitt | Director |
| Adrian Farmer | Heritage Co-ordinator |
| Sukie Khaira | Development Co-ordinator |
| John Rogers | Learning Co-ordinator |
| Gwen Wilson | Business Services Assistant |