

The Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust

Newsletter: November 2022



Reasons To Be Cheerful!

Since the formation of our Trust back in 2011, when the original John Hastie Museum, (gifted to the people of Strathaven in 1916) was closed, our Trustees, Members and Friends have combined to plan and prepare for the creation of a new, modern Community Museum for Strathaven and Avondale. It's been a steep learning curve!

Since then, our team of Trustees and volunteers has been working hard to obtain premises for our new Community Museum, as well as developing major exhibitions (each attracting 1,000 visitors) and events, these being held in The Town Mill, The Epicentre, the Strathaven Hotel or other hired premises - or even out of doors, in the Common Green. The help of Members and Friends has been invaluable.

Behind all of these public activities, Trustees, assisted by some of our Members, worked away, spending hundreds of hours in detailed research, negotiation and the all-important fundraising necessary to keep our museum work going and to obtain professional advice.

Our goal was to find a suitable place of our own for our Trust's community museum - and now, with the help of Councillor Margaret Cooper and The East Overton Community & Sport Benefit Fund, we have succeeded, taking an initial 2-year lease at 10 Todshill Street. This will give us opportunity to gather experience of running the Museum and to extend our welcome to our own community and to visitors - in person and online. Stand by!

Over the last 3 months, our very active Trust team has been exceptionally busy, making our new home ready to welcome visitors from near and far. The exterior has been painted and new signage by 360 Graphics makes sure that The Strathaven Museum is easy to find. Thanks are due to all involved - and to those who have promised further help.

The Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust

Scottish Charity SC 043189

Website <https://strathavenmuseum.org>



Money, Money, Money

Creating and running a Museum is possible only with a sustained income. Anna, our Treasurer, spearheads our efforts to find and to enlist the support of funding sources. The BIG news is that our Trust has been awarded £5,000 by the Pennies fundraiser. Pennies works with numerous companies, large and small, to collect small donations which, being numerous, can be pulled together to enable Pennies to make substantial funding available to help charities such as ours. Pennies managers were very impressed by our Trust's decade-long development and achievements. We are very grateful.

In October,, our own volunteer team of Members welcomed almost 100 enthusiastic participants to our third Quiz, held at Strathaven Golf Club. Thanks are due to all - the Golf Club itself; to local firms and personal supporters for generous donations to our Grand Raffle; our team members for setting up the Quiz (including Liz for organising the event and Margot for preparing the Qs and As) and you, Trust Members, Friends and Others (Others - please join our Trust!) for entering the fray in good humour. A fun evening for all - and your generosity has helped our Trust to the tune of around £1,000. Thank you!

Inside Out

Have you tried it yet - the Strathaven App, accessible on your Smart Phone or Tablet? Just search your App Store for "Inside Out" (or "Strathaven Guide"). After its quiet launch some months ago, the App will soon be updated with the latest "dynamic" information ((business, events and local organisations) about Strathaven and district. Strathaven Business Association and Discover Strathaven are right behind it and the Big News is that for the past 2 years, our Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust has contributed Walking Trails, Cycle Trails and a heritage feature on Transport through the ages. In anticipation of the re-launch, the Trust secured funding from the Scottish Government's Town Centre Capital Grant Fund 2020-21 (which financed the development of the App) which has allowed purchase of materials to publicise the App, Strathaven and importantly the SJHMT.

Make a date with 2023

Our Trust Calendar, featuring the work of local photographers, is always very popular - and helps us greatly with our funds. Look out for the 2023 Calendar, which is available in The Common Greenery and Craig's Newsagents. Remember, it's also a favourite among far-away friends.

Fair's Fayre

Yes, Santa will be here before we know it. The Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust will be at the Christmas Fayres in Glassford PS (2nd Dec), Kirkland Park PS (6th Dec) and St Patrick's PS (9th Dec), selling a wide range of attractive and affordable items - just right for those wee gifts for family and friends. Supporting these Fayres helps to keep the SJHMT in the public eye in the run-up to Christmas, whilst proceeds help our Trust activities.

Show Time

To celebrate the opening of our new premises at No 10 Todshill Street, we look forward to welcoming you to our special inaugural display - an exhibition comprising selected extracts from our displays since our Trust was formed in 2011, plus material which has been donated to the SJHMT but which we have not been able to display until now.. How quickly time flies - and how interesting it will be to see what we have achieved over the decade. As a Member or Friend of our Trust, you will have received from our Secretary, John, an invitation to look round on Friday 25th November as we put the finishing touches to the display. Our Museum Opening Day is a day later, on the 26th, and opening dates from that weekend to Sunday 18th December will be in "Echoes" and on Facebook. Come and Join Us!

Brilliant volunteers!

You can't have read this Newsletter so far without noticing a common theme - the dependence of our Trust upon our volunteers' time, creative ideas and hours of work. That's been true of our first decade and it's all the more essential as we move into our new home and share the task of taking the Trust into a sustainable future. Thanks to everyone who has helped us. We need and value your commitment.