

THE TIDE MILL LIVING MUSEUM

Patrons of the Tide Mill: Lord & Lady Framlingham

CHAIR CHANGE

This may not be new news to many of you, but at least it is not fake news...

Nigel Barratt, who has been warming the Chair of Trustees for the last nine years, has decided to step aside and John Carrington is now sitting in the hot seat (see 'View From The Bridge').

Since Nigel took hold of the reins he has steered the Tide Mill through the successful HLF grant application, the hugely successful refurbishment, the extraordinary development of milling to produce the high quality flour we are becoming famous for, including its marketing and distribution, and the every day running of the organisation*, not to mention the media interface and the money, etc., etc.

There are not enough words in this brief article to express the benefits the Mill enjoys now thanks to the dedication, commitment and devotion to duty of both Nigel and Anne Barratt, but it is undeniable to say the Mill would not be anywhere near where it is without their input.

However, we must not be sad at their going, because they are not going, just taking on less, under a new chair. So this could be an opportunity for those among us who feel ready and able to take on more responsibilities, that perhaps were not necessary before now. If you think you can justifiably ask for promotion, then let John Carrington or Bob Spillett know. (or Ed. and I'll pass it on WTMEditor@gmx.com)

(* the use of 'every day' is literal, and not to be confused with 'everyday', meaning ordinary or mundane)



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

I am honoured to have been elected Chair of Trustees as Nigel Barratt steps down (You can find out more about me in the new faces section of the January 2017 Newsletter). Nigel has done so much to create the Mill as we have it today and he has agreed to stay as a Trustee to enable a smooth handover. I will not say more here but have a date for your diaries: 7pm on 7 July at the Shire Hall when we will hold our AGM and hope to see many Friends. Refreshments will be provided. Your Trustees will be there to update you on plans for the Mill and to answer your questions. It will also give us an opportunity to say thank you to Nigel and to Anne for their splendid work for the Mill. They both remain important members of the Tide Mill community.

I am still learning the ropes so will not say more here except that if you need to contact me my email address is: jcc@carringtoncom.com."

John Carrington

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TIDE MILLING PRACTICE & THEORY



THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
PRACTICE AND THEORY
IS LARGER IN PRACTICE THAN IN THEORY.

Tales of Mills (and Millers)

May has seen two national events close to the heart of the Tide Mill. National Mills weekend was 13th and 14th May. The Mills weekend is the annual celebration by the Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings of the country's rich heritage in milling and millwrighting. The Tide Mill always joins in with an exhibition of some description. This year it coincided with Real Bread Week which covered 6th to 14th May. This is organised by the Real Bread Campaign which fights for better bread in Britain – bread made without the use of processing aids or artificial additives – so much better for you, and so much tastier.

It is often called artisan bread and Suffolk is rich in artisan bakers. The Mill displayed samples of artisan breads from many of these, celebrating Suffolk as an "Area of Outstanding Natural

Bread" and gave information on the different breads and techniques as well as the bakers themselves and where to find them. A visit to the real Bread website - https://www.sustainweb.org/realbread/bakery_finder/ and filter for Suffolk will list some of these bakeries and the outlets where you can find their bread.

Some breads were also on display at the Kitchen Shop in the Thoroughfare, who also demonstrated the ease of baking your own bread with a bread maker. It isn't really cheating as it's the ingredients that are important, and a simple recipe of Tide Mill wholemeal flour, a little olive oil and honey combined with yeast and water delivers a fantastically healthy and tasty loaf, however it's baked.

Nigel Barratt

(This article first appeared in the EADT, May 2017)

**We are sad to announce the recent death of ex-warden Alan Murray.
We hope to bring you a brief obituary in next month's issue.**

SCHOOLS FARM AND COUNTRY FAIR TRINITY PARK 20 April 2017

The Trust team attended the above Fair held at Trinity Park for the fifth year when over 4,500 junior school pupils attended the event. Wendy Reid, John Wood and Bob Spillett were busy for over four hours on the Trust stand challenging long queues of children to mill grain using the hand quern and small electric mill, and test their knowledge of grains grown in East Anglia in the Grain Detective Game.

Bob Spillett



ENGINEERING GAZETTE

The team is growing! To introduce ourselves, there are now seven of us. That is:- Richard Bull, John Wood, Steve Brereton, Rick Chapman, Peter Heath & Fraser Hale & me, John Smith. I'm afraid we have no mug shots of this bunch [Watch this space! Ed.]. Rick joined us a few months ago, while Peter & Fraser are due their initiation rites soon.

Last month we had a few electrical changes made by Michael Martin, an electrical contractor. The first was to change the lighting in the pit area. Despite strong lighting, there were dark areas & it was difficult to see the big gear wheels turning. We experimented with some small lights at different places & found an improvement in seeing the wheels. The electrician suggested some suitable & powerful lights & installed these at locations we (mainly John Wood!) had chosen. It was a big improvement & now one can see into the pit & around the area much better.

The next improvement concerned the drive to the electric stone. We had been getting occasions when the motor had cut out. We thought this may be due to overload & a high current. The electrician suggested a simple clamp on meter to measure current flow. This now gives us advance warning of overload & is proving a boon.

The third item is complex to explain, but I will try! We use a sack hoist to raise & lower the wheat & flour sacks to & from any floor. The hoist originally, & still, uses the water wheel as the drive. To enable us to work the hoist independently of tide, we had installed an electric drive to the same hoist system. In normal use, either can be used as convenient. BUT, under one condition they can clash, with potential damage to the water wheel. The electrician is installing a special trip switch to stop us operating the system under this special condition.

John Smith

BUSKER'S CORNER



There have been some complaints that my previous 'busk' lacked prosody, so try this...

When you're on a Woodbridge visit, then the question must be "Is it, Good to go and see the Tide Mill for an hour?"
You may get to see some milling and your time will be fulfilling,
If you end up with a scrumptious bag of flour.

There is loads to do and view; you can even use the loo,
And the wardens are as friendly as can be.
Any children in your group will go home quite cock-a-hoop,
And you'll all have learned some Tide Mill history.

You know how to stop this busking: send me lots of good copy for inclusion in future issues. Ed.



The Tide Mill still needs millers! Please come and try it. It can take many years to become a Master Miller, but it only takes a couple of hours to get useful under supervision, and it only takes a few minutes to start having fun.
Contact Dan on 01394 389673, or dantarrantwillis@yahoo.com

WARDENS' DIGEST

One of the things that constantly surprises me on my shifts as a warden, is that so many of our visitors are amazed, that we can actually grind flour and that although our machinery dates back to 1793 this is still possible!

The fact is, we are currently the only fully functioning tidal mill in the UK. This unique achievement has been largely made by the massive and tireless contribution of leadership and organization made on a daily basis by both Nigel and Anne Barratt. There have been and are many volunteers, who have made and are making extremely important contributions, yet it was under Nigel's leadership that the mill become a fully functional flour producing mill.

Nigel has recently stepped down as chairman, but it may not be widely known that, he was involved in every aspect of the mill and led from the front with tenacious style and in a robust manner. His involvement is and will be sadly missed. Nigel's ability to successfully gain lottery funding and project manage the 2011 restoration was crucial and fundamental to the present state of the mill, we all owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

I am personally grateful, as Nigel's and Anne's hard work has afforded me the unique opportunity to be involved with the mill as a warden and also as a miller, where he has spent many hours teaching me the intricacies of using tidal energy to produce flour

Nigel has handed the reins to our new chairman, John Carrington. So we enter a new phase where we can support John to continue to maintain and build on what we have inherited. Nigel is still with the mill as a trustee and we are all extremely grateful that he and Anne will continue to help.

As wardens we thank them both, as do all those involved and appreciative of what the mill stands for.

Dan Tarrant-Willis

SCHOOL REPORT

This past weekend was Mills weekend. Thanks to Bee we had a selection of local Artisan bread and a display of sketches of Bread.

Although Saturday was quite quiet, we had some very interesting visitors including a gentleman who had visited the Tide Mill in 1972 and had a letter with him thanking him for his £1 donation towards the restoration of the mill. He and his family thoroughly enjoyed visiting the mill and seeing the difference 45 years later!

We are making arrangements for a couple of schools in the coming weeks. As a teacher myself I know the focus of most schools at this time of year is Sats. Hopefully we will have more visits after half term. It is hard to believe there are only 8 weeks left in the school year!

Sharon Lockhart

NEW FACE AT THE MILL

It is with great pleasure that we can introduce another New Face at the Mill. Peter Heath has joined us as an Engineer and a Guide. It would have been with even greater pleasure if we had been able to put a face to this New Face, but we have been unable to organise our team of paparazzi to produce a photo for us. Also, Peter will need to remain somewhat of a Mystery Man for the immediate future, as his biographical details have remained a mystery to us. But, we are 'on the case' and will make suitable disclosures as the facts emerge.

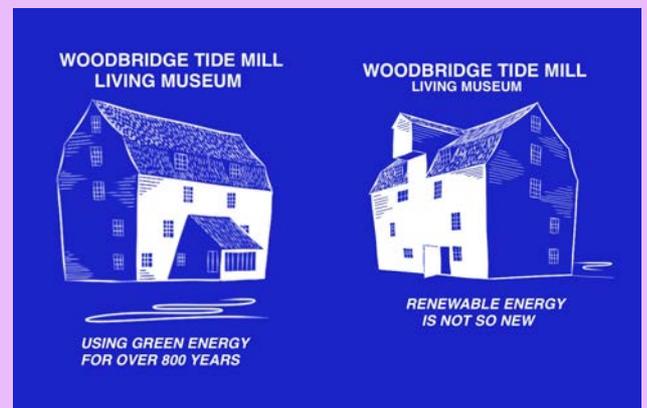
NEW FENCE AT THE MILL

This Tide Mill was built in 1793, just as the war against the Revolutionary French was getting under way. There is a link: at that time, Britain was defended from the French by the wooden walls of the Royal Navy's ships of the line-of-battle, but none of those ships would have lasted long without their Carpenters. The Tide Mill is the same, in that it would not last long without the stalwart work of Peter Luxmoore, who has once again excelled himself by constructing a new fence for the millpond. Two small pictures are intended to encourage you to come along and admire it at close inspection.



ART GALLERY

We still have not received any of your artwork. We know there are many of you artists out there just longing to have your artwork admired - after all, that's why we do it, isn't it - but perhaps you are reluctant to be the first to expose yourself here. Consequently, to break the ice, here is a suggestion for a new tee-shirt design that was sent in. Of course, it's not 'art', but it'll do to demonstrate that lack of ability is no bar to getting displayed.



Diary Dates 2017

Maidstone Kent Club visit	2 June	Tide Mill AGM	7 July
1st Holbrook Brownies visit	7 June	Woodbridge Regatta	16 July
Cultural Tours visit	11 June	Maritime Woodbridge	8-10 September
Ipswich High School visit	14 June	Shucks Festival	September/October
Woodbridge Art Club visit	14 June	Mill Closes	29 October
SPAB Mills Group visit	24 June		

For mill working times this month go to this link: [Turning & Milling](#)

Correspondents: all copy for inclusion next month to be sent to WTMeditor@gmx.com by the middle of June please.