

THE TIDE MILL

LIVING MUSEUM

Patrons of the Tide Mill: Lord & Lady Framlingham

DOLDRUMS?

If one were to walk past the Tide Mill on one of these short, dull days one would probably notice the many signs of inactivity, and would assume that the Mill is in stasis - WRONG! Many helpers have their plates full just now: the wheel needs turning every day to prevent water-logging; the Engineers need to run the machinery regularly to keep it sweet; the Millers and Baggers are kept honest by our steady flour customer-base; the existing and new merchandise has to be sorted out; the new programme of events needs arranging, etc., etc., and last, but by a long way not least, this newsletter has to be scraped together. And our Chairman and Vice-Chairman have to keep all these plates spinning.

At the end of this month (February - whenever you read this, it will still be the February 2018 issue) it will be just ONE MONTH before the new season starts!

So, if you do not have a plateful, and would like one, now is the time to join us. We also always need plenty of Guides and are still short of a Warden or two. You will find something interesting, perhaps educational, and certainly FUN to do, so contact anyone you know who helps at the Tide Mill, or one of us:

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WTMeditor@gmx.com



VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

As our Ed. says in his piece this month, there is much to do even though we are in a so-called closed season. Peter has listed many of the tasks and I would like to specifically ask if you or someone you may know can help in one specific area.

This is social media. We are well into planning publicity to bring in visitors for the coming season. To do this effectively we need to use, among other resources, social media – facebook, twitter and our website. It is especially relevant if we are to reach young people. We have some resource to put out the messages on the social media channels but we could do with more help, as the flow of information needs to be frequent, almost daily, to be effective. The tasks could be attractive to younger people, perhaps at school or college. Do please let me know if you would be up for this or know someone who might be.

John Carrington, Chair of Trustees

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HARD MILLING



THE BOSSES HERE LIKE HARD WORK -
ESPECIALLY BY THOSE THEY ARE PAYING!

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE MILL NO.7 THE OTHERS

Over the past few months we have brought to you the names, and a few details, of nearly all the Fellowship of the Mill - in other words, the helpers - in an attempt to improve people's knowledge of who joins them in their enthusiasm for the Tide Mill and their efforts to keep it a Living Museum. This month, we are trying to pick up those whom we have missed, by covering all eventualities, so you will see some people again, doing jobs that have not previously been mentioned and others who should have been featured before. Next month we will reissue the complete [I hope! Ed.] list of all the helpers, updated for 2018.

Here are brief autobiographies of the Missed, the separate ones hereunder are the people we have not previously covered, in approximately alphabetical order, and, over on the right are the jobs we haven't covered, being done by people we have.



Brian (Bryn) Ansell

I am a Master Stonemason and Stone Sculptor, and my career in stonemasonry began in the 1960's and as part of the learning process attended stonework training institutes at Cambridge, Bath, Weymouth and London. I qualified at Lincoln Cathedral in 1980 specialising in advanced masonry, stone sculpture and

portrait carving. Further studies and in-depth practical knowledge of the more complex styles of decorated medieval architecture allowed me to work on some of our internationally renowned historic buildings including the re-carving of York Minster's Great West Door.

My present interests include interactive experimental archaeology, speaking on English medieval history and assisting when required by our Tide Mill team with the general maintenance and re-dressing of the millstones.



Tom Auber

Retired solicitor, retired sailor, retired (probably) golfer, and now active Flour Bagger, we came from London to Waldringfield in 1975 for weekends, and we've never really gone away.



Simon Ballard

Simon Ballard has lived in Woodbridge for about 18 years, a 'blow in' from Colchester. Having worked in marketing all his life he retired from the daily City commute and, after a spell at Woodbridge School, has recently been interfering in his daughter's marketing company The Bridge Marketing.

They worked with the Tide Mill a few years ago but nowadays Simon is a volunteer, helping with the website and marketing until someone else takes over so he can take a year off to travel and concentrate on his first love – Woodbridge Rugby Club.

First, we have the jobs that have **not** previously been mentioned, done by people that **have** preciously been mentioned - so just a brief summary of each:

Admin

Whilst Nigel was busy chairmaning, Anne has been busy adminning, i.e. looking after all the business side, and the financial incomings and outgoings, the Friends of the Tide Mill, organising volunteer Rita's, blah, blah, blah - all with Nigel's help, of course.



Cleaner

Dan Tarrant-Willis keeps turning up in the most unexpected of places!



Fundraiser

Fundraising is one of those things everybody does, by helping with the Tide Mill, but a number of people have it as a specific job, including Jane Lynam, whom we have already met as a Guide and Judy Riggs, whom we have met as a Bagger and Guide and about to meet again as a Leaflet Distributor.



Leaflets

Again, anyone and everyone can distribute leaflets, but the specific appointees include Keith Bolton (Maintenance and Bagger), Carol Gurney, John Leming (Trustee), Judy Riggs (Bagger, Guide and Fundraiser) and John Wood (Engineer, Miller and Guide).



Merchandise

Dan and John have the job to sort out what we sell at the Tide Mill (and, maybe elsewhere) and what we sell it for.



Records/ Archives

Fraser Hale looks after and sorts our Records and Archives, as you will know if you read the very entertaining articles in the Archivist's Review in the newsletter. He also Guides and is, in his words, an Apprentice Miller.



Website

Wendy Reid has been looking after our website, when she wasn't looking after the Volunteer Rota or Bagging or Guiding. Reorganisation is happening, and consequently Deborah Seabrook has now been designated webmaster, soon to take over, but we have no doubt that Wendy's input will continue to be of great value.



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page three)

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE MILL NO. 7 THE OTHERS

(Continued from page two)



Margaret Booth-Smith

As a Miller's daughter I have always had an interest in mills. My father Robert Rackham and the family owned Wickham Market Mill on the River Deben and were friendly with the Haywards who owned the Tide

Mill at Woodbridge. I was born in 1939 and went to Deben Bank School, Woodbridge and then to Mills Grammar School in Framlingham. I qualified as a physiotherapist at King's College, London and met husband Peter at Ipswich Rugby Club. After a while we went to live in Kenya for seven years and then came back, with two daughters, and lived in Kent, working at Farnborough Hospital and in private practice with a friend in Chislehurst. We retired 'home' to Suffolk and I met Fred Reynolds, who rekindled my interest in the Tide Mill, where I enjoy being a guide.



Deborah Seabrook

You heard all about me, under 'New Faces' in the Bumper Christmas issue.

I joined the Woodbridge Tide Mill Living Museum in the autumn of 2017 in the role of Administrator, and have spent the last few months learning the ropes and getting to know the team.

The main part of my role is to manage the Mill's finances and support general admin processes. I will also be taking the lead acting as the Mills webmaster, keeping the website updated with newsworthy content, and will use our social media platforms to inform all WTM Facebook friends, our Friends of the museum and volunteers with current news. So please drop me a line with any news you would like to share!
deborahseabrook@icloud.com

We are always looking for new Friends to join the museum so this Spring I will be working with the Marketing Team to provide a comprehensive programme of events throughout the year to showcase the Mill. Look forward to seeing you there!



And Finally...

John Clogg tells me he cannot continue as a Guide this year, due to poor health.

I did not know John, but he deserves a special mention here, because he is a fine example of the rarest of creatures - a reader

who has said he enjoys the newsletter.

Thanks for that, John, and, of course, for all your help at the Tide Mill.

Ed.

"I want to be a cartoonist, when I grow up." I said to my Mum. She replied, "Don't be silly, dear; you can't do both!"

So, I spent many years trying to be grown-up engineer, evolving into a lighting designer with a sideline in lifts and escalators, until I called it a day. At last I became a cartoonist, with a strip featuring in an international monthly magazine for some years, which led to my being invited to join The 1805 Club, where I also became a published naval historian and occasional cartographer.

My decline has continued with my becoming editor of this newsletter.

Previously a frequent holiday destination, Woodbridge became home for Ann and I in 1994, at first retaining a work base in Chelmsford. Alan Brewer eventually coerced me into becoming a Tide Mill Warden in 2009, for which I thank him.



Margaret Potter

Margaret was born in May 1927 and worked as a physiotherapist. After training at Middlesex Hospital she was posted to Stoke Mandeville Hospital, where she worked with Dr Ludevic Gutteman during WW2. She has been involved with the Tide Mill since it's first refurbishment, when it was to prevent it from "eventually sinking into the mud" as she puts it.

Margaret has been married now for 67 years and has been an enthusiastic Guide for many years, sometimes helped by her small grand-children, who are now between 29 and 36 years old!



As usual, we have some helpers who choose not to have publicity which, as we have said before, in no way diminishes the value of their input. They are:

Rachel Bartlett, Victor Bellingham, Ann & Brian Brackley, Dil & Steve Brereton, Ann Clark, Veronica Falconer, Karen & Richard Freeman, Anne Gartley, Barrie & Oscar Hayter, Peter Heath, Anna Morter, Greg Pritchard, Alan Readhead and Ann Were.

Next month we will publish the complete list of all Tide Mill helpers, updated last year's list that was in issue 50.

Tales of Mills (and Millers)

Tales of Mills (and Millers) has been produced by Nigel Barratt, as part of a package for the East Anglian Daily Times (proper) newspaper, in response to an initiative from Choose Woodbridge. It seems that this arrangement has ceased, at least for the time being, so consequently, we will have no TOM(&M) in this issue.

If we are able to resurrect this feature, you will be the second to know about it - after me. Ed.

WORD WHEEL

By popular demand we will have a Word Wheel in each issue (can be done on a scrap of paper), using a nine letter word from the Mill Guidebook. Four letters minimum for each word, one of which must be the hub letter. Give yourself ten minutes, and don't use proper nouns, plurals or foreign words.

15=average;
25=good;
30=v.good &
40=outstanding.
Answers on last page.



BUSKER'S CORNER

Tide millers of old were both canny and bold,
Mother Nature induced to their uses,
With the enslaved tide, from the Deben most wide,
Manumitted by opening sluices.
Now the millrace alive and the wheel is a-jive,
The millstones are soon at their duty,
And the grist jetting in, from the overhead bin,
The good miller will soon see his booty.
At the end of the day, with the flour packed away,
He would then turn and study the time,
And off home for his tea, which is good news for me,
'Cos I no longer need to make rhyme.



One of my sailing friends is a Scotsman named Wylie White. With his unusual first name it was only natural to lure him down to our eponymous power source and take this photo in July this year. Wylie is a member of our Probus Club and is crew on my Hawk 20 day boat berthed in the Yacht Harbour.
Peter Luxmoore



PHOTO: P LUXMOORE

[N.B. When the Tide Mill was refurbished in 1971 the machinery could not be demonstrated, because the mill pond had been sold separately from the mill, by the estate agents, and it went on to form the Tidemill Yacht Harbour seen next door. In 1982, when a quantity of clay became available from dredging of the moats at Heveningham Hall, Peter Wylie, the first secretary of the Friends of the

Tide Mill, acquired it, organised the construction consents and, more importantly, the construction of the new mill pond, including the rounding up of a bunch of (mostly) willing volunteers, which resulted in the new millpond being deservedly named in his honour. Ed.

As we promised you last month, the total flour production for 2017 amounted to **6,160.69kg**

(6 1/15 imperial tons)

Since then, this month's production of our super flour is **288kg**, so that is the total for this year, so far.

We will no longer also give the weight in English avoirdupois measures, but will use 'Sacks', which is a tenuous measure, varying for divers contents, but the measure we will use are Sacks of grain, or flour, which are usually said to weigh 26 stone or 364 lbs. (165kg to the youngsters) (more than two of me! Ed.)

These are more traditional in the milling trade, though not used by our poor, millers, else they may hurt themselves.

So this month's figure is **1 3/4 sacks.**

Diary Dates for 2018

Winter Wheel Turning and Milling Demonstrations

(Just come along and watch.
No charge, but donations welcomed.)

Wheel Turning at 13:30 on the 10th, 15:00 on the 11th, 15:30 on the 12th and 16:00 on the 14th of February

Milling Demos at 09:00 on the 7th, 12:30 on the 9th, 15:30 on the 13th and 09:00 on the 21st of February

Milling Demos at 09:00 on the 7th, 08:30 on the 21st and 14:00 on the 26th of March and at 08:30 on the 4th of April

Other Events

BBC Civilisation Festival: 9-11 March

Season Starts: Good Friday 30 March
(Possible Easter Egg Hunt: 1 April)

Mind & Body Spirit Festival (Community Hall): 21-22 April

Beowulf: 4-7 May

National Milles Weekend: 2nd weekend in May

Bank Holiday: 28 May

Regatta: 17 June (Father's Day)

Folk East Festival: 17-19 August

Bank Holiday: 27 August

Maritime Woodbridge: 8 & 9 September

Shuck Festival: 29/30 September

Halloween: 31 October

Fireworks: 11 November

For full general mill working times use this link to the website: [Turning & Milling](#)

Correspondents: all copy for next month to be sent to

WTMeditor@gmx.com

by the middle of February please.

Other Tide Mills

Woodbridge was the last commercially operating Tide Mill and, out of an apogee in excess of over 200 in he UK, is now one of only two Tide Mills still producing flour for retail to the public, the other one being at Eling, on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire. But, there are also nine more Tide Mills in the UK, surviving but most are not active. Use these links for more information:

[Eling Tide Mill](#), Hampshire

[Battlesbridge Tide Mill](#), Battlesbridge, Essex (converted for business)

[Carew Castle tide mill](#), Pembrokeshire

[Fingringhoe Tide Mill](#), Fingringhoe, Essex (house converted) (No Website)

[Pembroke tide mill](#), Pembrokeshire (mill ponds only)

[Place Mill](#), Christchurch, Dorset (working order, restored)

[Thorrington Tide Mill](#), Thorrington, Essex

[Three Mills tide mill](#), Bromley-by-Bow, London(aka House Mill)

[Tide Mills](#), Newhaven, East Sussex (sluice only)

Go to [Wikipedia](#) for more

Programme program, gannmer, gannme, gromer, genna, omega, marge, gaper, pager, rager, gamp, ropor, reorg, ramer, mager, gape, page, are, gear, gamp, gram, marg, agro, gora, germ, pegu, ergo, goer, gore, ogre, gorp and prog.

WORD WHEEL ANSWERS