

WOODBIDGE TIDE MILL MUSEUM[®]

Celebrating 850 years

Patrons of the Tide Mill: Lord & Lady Framlingham



Features This Month:
Walk Through Woodbridge continues on p3
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Sophie's Soda Bread Recipe p6
The Flood, Episode Umpteen p7
Bob's Visitor Analysis p8

PHOTO: MIKE WHITBY



by John Carrington

EDITORIAL

Your Editor recently took the bold, and many would say foolish at his age, step of undertaking the Editorship of the newsletter of another organisation of which he is a member. A much more serious affair comprising forty pages, but only published twice a year (currently). This is also a printed newsletter, involving 'proper' publishing techniques, the first of which is to learn how to use a new publishing software programme called Affinity Publisher, working on his iMac computer, which miller Ian Gray has been helping him with.

In order to prepare himself for the new task he decided to prepare this edition of the WTM newsletter on the same software, and on his iMac, having previously always prepared this newsletter on his iPad, using Apple 'Pages' software.

He failed!

After spending some days trying to master the new system he reverted to his iPad, in order not to miss the, somewhat fluid, deadline for this issue to be distributed.

The alert reader (if we have one) will notice that the Diary Dates looks a little different this month. The programme of forthcoming events has been reproduced in the form used by the Tide Mill management, which it is hoped will be clearer than the hitherto used format.

Please continue to enjoy your walk around Woodbridge, which will last another issue or two, so it is suggested that you print each edition and save them for warmer times, when you may be able to enjoy the walk without needing an umbrella.

Ed.

WTMeditor@gmx.com

We open again at the end of March for what will be a full year. The Team aims for the visitor experience to be more than a visit to an iconic Grade I listed building. We believe that using the renewable energy of the Deben to make flour as often as possible, together with our Guides' commentaries on how the process works and the historical context of the Mill in Woodbridge, makes for a better visitor experience. Visitor feedback indicates we do achieve this.

To add to the experience in 2020 we shall be marking the 850th anniversary of the first record of a tide mill on our site. 1170 was the year Becket was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral. Closer to our own time, we will have a special exhibition to celebrate the great generosity of Mrs Jean Gardner, who, in 1968 at very short notice, bought the dilapidated Mill at auction to save it for posterity.

We shall also be undertaking a major external redecoration - the most extensive since the restoration in 2011. So we will be looking after the fabric as well as celebrating the spirit of the Mill.

We look forward to welcoming you.

John Carrington

Chair, Woodbridge Tide Mill Charitable Trust.

Weekday Mill Closure 20th April – 5th June 2020

During the period of redecoration works, from 20 April to 5 June, regrettably the Tide Mill will only be open at weekends and bank holidays as well as for pre-arranged groups and school visits. This is required to ensure the safety of visitors and the redecoration team.

We do apologise for this and hope that visitors will still come and see the Mill at the weekends and Bank Holidays. We will be holding Milling Demos every Saturday and Sunday over this period as well.

The Riverfront Easter Egg Hunt happening on Mon 13 April and the Half Term Craft morning on Wed 27 May will take place as scheduled.

CONTACT US

Here are live links to send emails to the contacts needed for those readers who want to contribute to the life of Woodbridge Tide Mill by volunteering for one or more of the various interesting, and fun, jobs that need doing...

If you want to put something in the newsletter (or comment on it):

Ed.

If you want to be a Guide:
Wendy

If you want to be a Miller:
Dan

If you want to be a Flour Bagger:
Brian

If you want to be a Warden:
Dan

If you want to be an Engineer:
John W

If you want to be a Leafleteer:
Bob or John W

If you want to help with Marketing:
Simon

If you want to help with something we have not thought of:
Bob

If you would like to contribute to our Collection or Archive:
Fraser

If you want to contact our Chair of Trustees:
John C

If you want to be a Friend of Woodbridge Tide Mill:
Be A Friend

A MILLER BY ANY OTHER NAME



I'M GLAD MY OLE MA AND PA CALLED ME GLENN, 'COS THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE ELSE CALLS ME!



At the top of Church Street, on the left, stands the Abbey. Glance through the enormous gateway to see this much-restored Tudor private dwelling built on the site of the Augustinian Priory. The building was occupied by the Seckford family from 1564 to 1672. The Abbey continued to be the home of the Lord of the Manor until 1949 when it was purchased by the Seckford Governors for use as a prep school for Woodbridge School.

Enter the churchyard through the 19th century wrought iron gates beneath the magnificent plane tree. A visitor in 1637 noted that the area was "annoyed and profaned" by inn signs standing on holy ground. For hundreds of years, in fact, the churchyard was the centre of town life, a meeting place and a hub of business activity; today it is a place for quiet reflection. At the west end can be found the grave of John Clarkson, friend of William Wilberforce and prominent figure in the anti-slavery movement.



The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin is a building in the Perpendicular style, constructed between 1400 and 1450. The townspeople were generous in their gifts for its construction, at a time of real prosperity based on the wool trade. Externally, the

tower, 108ft. high, and the north porch are the most impressive features. The flint-work panels at their base are worthy of your attention. The children will enjoy tracing the individual letters of the monogram Maria, of which there are numerous examples.

Inside the porch you will see the cupboard from which bread is distributed weekly to the poor as a result of a bequest made over 300 years ago by John Sayer. Step inside the church now, the coolest place to be in Woodbridge on a hot summer's day. In front of you is the mediaeval font, damaged by Dowsing in 1644. Close examination will reveal traces of paint; originally it was highly coloured. Under the tower you will observe six fine hatchments, four of which represent the Carthew family, Lords of the Manor in the eighteenth century. Beneath your feet the bones of a dog or boar were discovered 100 years ago. The beast had been buried alive so that its ghost would drive off witches and warlocks.

Walk down the nave towards the altar. The candelabrum above your head is one of the oldest in Britain, the gift to the church of Robert Elfreth in 1676. Glance up at the east window; strangely it is not centrally positioned in the wall one of the mysteries of the church. The table-like construction between altar and organ is the tomb of Thomas Seckford, a most inadequate memorial to a man who did so much for the town. Walk back along the south aisle. The Pitman memorial in black and white marble is magnificent and is said to have been made by the Janssen family who constructed the Shakespeare memorial at Stratford.



High above your head are some amusing corbel stones said to represent the deadly sins. The gaping glutton and the broad-tongued' slanderer are easily identifiable. Note also the opening that led to the rood loft, where minstrels sat in the Middle Ages.

Leave the Church and walk up the steps through the passage-way, noticing the overhanging first floor of the building on the right, once a coaching inn.



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You are now in the ancient core of Woodbridge, the Market Hill, for centuries the nucleus of the community. In the Middle Ages an annual fair was held here on St. Audrey's Day, 23 October. The gaudy souvenirs of the saint sold here gave a new word to the English language, tawdry.

One building dominates this attractive square, the distinctive Shire Hall. It was built in 1575 by Thomas Seckford to house the sessions. The present appearance of the building, with stone steps and railings, dates from the late 17th century and the arcades, once open to admit carts, were enclosed in 1803. A three-storey building with a stone-coped Dutch gable, its ground floor was used as a Corn Market until just before World War II. The Seckford coat of arms is displayed at the west end of the building, the crescent denoting Seckford's position as second son. Note at the east end the iron doors of two small cells. The Shire Hall used to be used as a Magistrates and Juvenile Court. The Gothic-style pump and drinking trough, with a stone canopy, were erected in 1876 by the Governors of the Seckford Charity, at a cost of £256.



6

Here at the west end of the square, the group of buildings which include the "King's Head Inn" and the terrace of picturesque cottages present an incredible



7

skyline of gables and uneven tiled roofs. Many of the buildings have attractive 18th century shop fronts. Cross the road and step into the narrow entrance to Glovers Yard. The rear of no. 32, on the right, is almost in its original 16th century condition.



9

On the corner stands the Old Court House, a fine Georgian building erected in 1784. It is now a home for the elderly.

Opposite stands the "Bull Hotel", built in the 17th century, it has always been a popular meeting place and had in the past a close association with the horse trade. An ostler, George Carlow, chose to be buried near the stables at



10

the rear in 1738 rather than in the churchyard opposite. His tomb can be seen through the hotel garage in New Street and his bequest, a small charity of bread, was distributed from there annually.



8

Back in the square, walk down to the elegant Georgian White House. Notice its elaborate doorway with an ornate wrought iron lamp bracket above. Walking on you will see above no. 10 a plaque commemorating the residence of Edward Fitzgerald.

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road Queen Victoria stands in space given to the people of by an American citizen. There are many interesting buildings beyond this gap; no. 7, for example, now a private dwelling, has a lovely 18th century bow window.

On the other side of the an open Woodbridge

Continue up the left side of the hill to Seckford Street. On the corner stands the ancient "King's Head Inn". It was probably erected in the late 15th century; much original half-timbering is still evident on Seckford Street and includes five carved heads. Their origin is unknown but they do appear to be a family group. They have been severely damaged by traffic and have been re-carved. An early fireplace and some massive beams within are well worth a visit.

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5	MARKET HILL	CHOOSE WOODBRIDGE
6	SHIRE HALL	ALAMY
7	KING'S HEAD TERRACE	GEOGRAPH
8	GEORGIAN WHITE HOUSE	RIBA
9	OLD COURT HOUSE	WKP ARCHITECTS
10	BULL HOTEL	GEOGRAPH
11	KING'S HEAD INN	GEOGRAPH

CURATOR'S CORUSCATIONS
By Fraser Hale
Elevator Musing

Up on the Crown Floor of the Mill, sitting modestly on the boards, is a remnant of Georgian ingenuity.



It is easy to think of the Victorian age as being the setting for the great surge of technological change that transformed modern Britain. The first third of the 19th century, however, under the auspices of the last of the Hanoverian kings, saw the latter stages of what is now referred to as the First Industrial Revolution. It was the age of Davy, Faraday and Trevithick; of steam, of magnets, and even of electricity. The early nineteenth century also witnessed the impact of new technologies upon the customary lives of rural people; East Anglia being among the worst affected regions – unrest peaking in events such as the Littleport Riots. Under new management since 1811, Woodbridge Tide Mill continued to do what it had done for

650 years. In the continuing unrest that followed the Napoleonic wars, and a string of poor harvests (1816 was known as 'the year without a summer'), grain prices were at a premium – not so good for the poorer sort in Britain, but a business opportunity for millers. Wanting, no doubt, to reduce his labour costs and therefore increase his profits further, the then owner of the Tide Mill, John Manby, approached an enterprising young millwright in Melton to build a machine that would lift grain from the quayside to the top of the mill. This would reduce the need for relatively costly carters to man-haul sacks up three floors to the grain stores.

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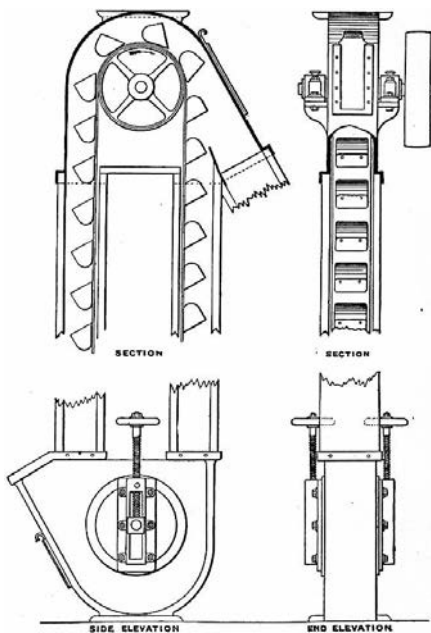
BUSKER'S CORNER

I lie in my bed, my thoughts are quite deep,
I wonder again if I'll now get to sleep,
Sometimes I do, and sometimes I don't,
Sometimes I will, and sometimes I won't.
I feel pretty drowsy, maybe this is a good one,
To lie here for hours is never my best fun,
But now things a coming, my sleep ducts are filling,
And so I drop off and start dreaming of milling.



WHAT IS THIS, AND WHAT DOES IT DO?
Answer on last page





Henry Collins, the millwright in question, built Manby a Bucket Elevator. Consisting of an 'endless' chain of scoop-like buckets running inside a vertical duct, the elevator, also known as a 'grain-leg', was powered by a flat belt running from the jack-shaft on the Crown Floor.

Made almost entirely of cast iron and wrought steel, the elevator was a closely engineered piece of technology. Elevators of this kind ran at between 3 – 5 cycles (the time taken for one bucket to make a complete circuit of the loop) per minute. Each bucket held approximately a kilo of grain. This

means that the grain-leg that Collins installed could have lifted between 100 – 150 kgs of grain (the equivalent of 1.5 coomb sacks) per minute. This would equate to a pair of carters working flat out at a rate that they would surely not have been able to maintain for very long.

No record has yet come to light regarding the cost of the elevator but, given the labour that it probably displaced, it almost certainly proved a good investment.

The local carters probably weren't impressed – I wonder how often the grain-leg mysteriously 'broke down'?



ENGINEERING GAZETTE

By John Wood

The working model of the river, mill pond and operating cycle can be found next to the wardens desk. It has fascinated little fingers for many years. Unfortunately at the end of last season, leakage signs were noticed below the model.

Closer inspection under the model showed that water and electrics were somehow getting together. Certainly an unsatisfactory situation. Led by Fraser we lifted the model and carefully inspected every inch to find the leaking point. At last we thought, with some confidence, that we had found and sealed the leaks. So we put it back into service.

Alas three days later more water was spotted. This time it was a leak from the electric water pump. Luckily with Fraser's electrical know-how a new motor was sourced and fitted. He has also enhanced the model with extra lighting.

Hopefully we are now good for the next few years.

PHOTO: DIABETES UK

(This is the recipe used by Pippa's daughter Sophie, very successfully)

Soda bread

This is the quickest, easiest way to produce yummy bread for your family, and the recipe is endlessly adaptable. Increase the amount of whole-grain flour as your child matures, or try adding some herbs, grated cheese or seeds (not large seeds for baby babies). Or leave out the salt and add chopped dried fruit, a pinch of spice and a little sugar to make a lovely tea bread. And it's freezer friendly.

For Babies: Chunky slices are good as finger food.

Makes one loaf (about 20 slices) or 10 small rolls.

500g plain white flour, or a combination of white and wholemeal or spelt flour [Or why not just use our flour, neat. It's lovely. Ed.]

1 level tsp bicarbonate of soda

½ level tsp fine sea salt

300 ml plain full fat yoghurt

200 ml whole milk

PREHEAT the oven to 200°C/gas 6. Lightly grease a baking tray or line with a non-stick liner.

Put the flour, bicarbonate of soda and salt in a large bowl and use a whisk to thoroughly combine. Stir the yoghurt and milk together, then add to the dry ingredients and mix well. This will produce a sticky dough (much stickier than other soda bread doughs you may have made), which I find produces a lovely moist loaf that keeps well.

You can shape the dough with well-floured hands if you like, but I prefer to simply scrape it onto the baking tray in a big mound, then shape it roughly with a spatula, leaving the surface nice and textured. If you want to make rolls, scoop small portions of the dough onto a well-floured worktop. Roll them in flour and form into rough BAP shapes before transferring onto the baking sheet.

Bake for about 45 minutes (20 minutes for small rolls), until well risen and golden brown. Leave on a rack to cool.



THE MILLER'S CHRONICLE

By Dan Tarrant-Willis
dantarrantwillis@yahoo.com



On Monday the 10th of Feb we flooded 8 inches (20cm) above the

dried out with no ill affect. All electrical systems are well above floor level. In fact the upside of this flood is that with all the scrubbing and sweeping the floors have never been cleaner.

This recent flood was much lower than 2013 and a little higher than 2004. Our problem as millers is the amount of time it takes the mill

floorboards.

We were prepared and no serious harm was done. Yet, there was a lot of cleaning. We are all dried out now and back in action.

Being the lowest building in Woodbridge we flood first and worse than any other. The mill was designed with this in mind so we can take it and be back in operation quickly and no worse off. We have a trap door in the floor that's drains flood water directly back into the estuary. The wooden ground floor itself is constructed of untreated timber (Ash) so like our oak wheel can be wetted and

This year's production of our super flour to date is 710kg.

(1565¼lb Ed.)

HAVING A PRIVATE DO?

Did you know you can book **Woodbridge Tide Mill** for your own private evening function, for as little as **£130.00** (see below), subject to availability in the mill's Events and Appointments Diary.

Contact Dan at enquiries@woodbridgetidemill.org.uk (Friends of Woodbridge Tide Mill are charged £130.00, excluding the optional extras. The general public are charged £150.00 ditto.

There are three optional extras; wheel turning, milling demonstration and guided tour that total a maximum of £35.00 if all are possible and included.)



Don't forget that the best way to ensure that you continue to receive this newsletter (regardless of all the other benefits) is to keep up your membership of The Friends of Woodbridge Tide Mill. If you are not already a member, but would like to be one, use this link: [Be A Friend](#)



Did You Have A Good Visit?

If you enjoyed your visit to Woodbridge Tide Mill recently, or in the past, please let everyone know so that they can share experience your enjoyment by posting a message on [tripadvisor](https://www.tripadvisor.com)

East Coast Diner

+44 (0)1394 389076

2 Church Street,
 Woodbridge, IP12 1DH

Don't forget, if you go here and have a pizza it helps you and the Tide Mill, too.



www.woodbridgetidemill.org.uk

The Tide Mill reaches out

Every year Dr Robert Spillett analyses the visitors to Woodbridge Tide Mill Museum. The data, gleaned from the many visitors to the Mill, is useful for future marketing. The decision was made recently to focus the Mill's modest marketing budget on social media rather than the more-expensive and harder-to-monitor press. Knowing

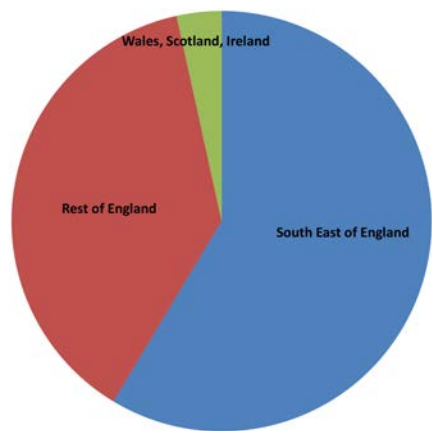
where your customers come from is useful with social media as it can be quite precisely targeted.

Last year the majority of visitors to the Mill, just over 50 percent, came from the south east; Suffolk, Essex, London, Herts & Middx, Norfolk, Kent, Cambridge and Huntingdon.

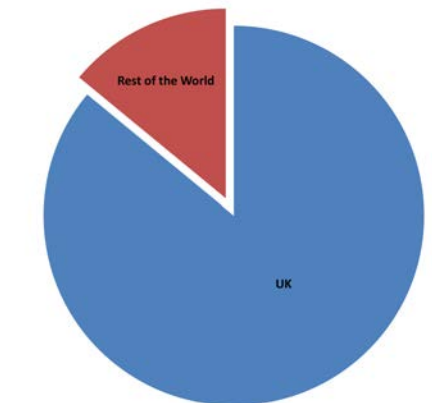
Unsurprisingly over half of these were from Suffolk and Essex. Concentrating our social media on groups from these areas continues to pay off. Visitors from the rest of the country accounted for a further 32% but visitors from Wales Scotland and Ireland a mere 3%. This was less than the rest of the world from which we welcomed nearly 14% of our visitors; Europe sent us over 5%.

As far as trends are concerned these numbers are fairly static. If anything the bias towards visitors from our own backyard appears to be strengthening. Our reach, even via social media, is limited by funds. As a charity we need visitors to survive but their generous contributions are insufficient, after the costs of maintaining the Mill, for us to

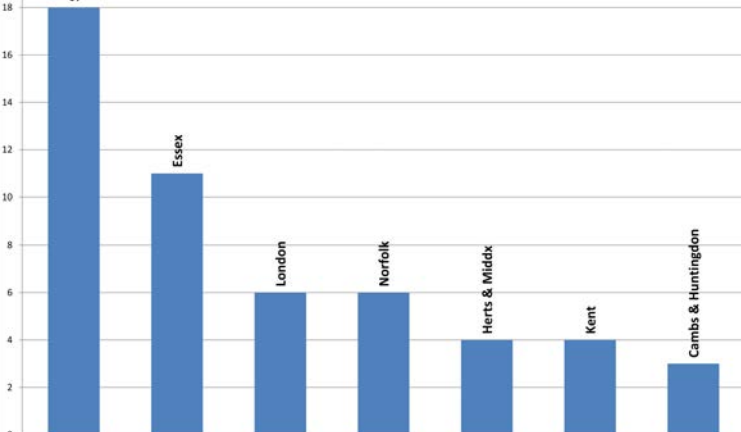
Woodbridge Tide Mill Museum 2019 Visitors from the UK %



Woodbridge Tide Mill Museum 2019 Visitors from the World %



Woodbridge Tide Mill Museum 2019 Visitors from the SE %



PURPOSE: The purpose of this newsletter is to support and advance the objectives of the Trustees of Woodbridge Tide Mill. The newsletter provides all supporters a forum of their own, together with information about current and future events and it is hoped it will foster a sense of common interest and shared identity, encourage increased participation and entertain.

EDITORIAL POLICY: The editor has full editorial responsibility for the newsletter. Articles that appear and views expressed are not the official position of the Trustees on any subject, unless specifically noted as such. Items submitted for inclusion may be edited for grammar, style and/or space requirements and contributors wishing to be alerted of any changes prior to publication must notify the editor at the time of submission.

IMAGES: Unattributed images are by the article author or Ed.

DISCLAIMER: The Glenn Miller gag cartoon does not make a comment about any real helpers at WTM.

Tide Mill Events 2020

School Holidays	Event	Date
Easter		03/04/2020
	Easter Craft Morning	08/04/2020
	Easter Monday Funday	13/04/2020
		17/04/2020
	Beowulf 2020	1-4/05/2020
	1968 Launch Day	17/05/2020
	Woodbridge Regatta	24/05/2020
May H/Term		25/05/2020
	May Half-term Craft Morning	27/05/2020
		29/05/2020
	Suffolk Day	21/06/2020
Summer		23/07/2020
	Lammas Day Craft Morning	01/08/2020
	Mid Summer Craft Morning	12/08/2020
	Harvest Craft Morning	26/08/2020
		02/09/2020
	Maritime Woodbridge	05 & 06/09/2020
	850th Anniversary Open Day	27/09/2020
		26/10/2020
Autumn H/Term	Arts Award 'Discover in a Day'	28/10/2020
		30/10/2020
	Thrill at the Mill	31/10/2020
	Kids in Museums Take Over Day	18/11/2020
		21/12/2020
	Christmas	Festive Fun Craft Morning

Please Note

On Beowulf Saturday, 2 May, Suffolk Day, 21 June and 850th Anniversary Day, 27 September, the Tide Mill is free entry to all, not just Friends of the Mill.

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

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

WHAT IS IT? ANSWER



This is a redundant grain shute. Over the years the mill has been reorganised to deal with different requirements. Other redundant shutes can be found around the mill.



Tide Mill Events 2020		
School Holidays	Event	Date
		03/04/2020
Easter	Easter Craft Morning	08/04/2020
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		17/04/2020
11 April to 5 June Mill open weekends only	Beowulf 2020	1-4/05/2020
	1968 Launch Day	17/05/2020
	Woodbridge Regatta	24/05/2020
		25/05/2020
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		29/05/2020
	Suffolk Day	21/06/2020
		23/07/2020
Summer	Lammas Day Craft Morning	01/08/2020
	Mid Summer Craft Morning	10/08/2020
	Harvest Craft Morning	26/08/2020
		02/09/2020
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Christmas	Festive Fun Craft Morning	30/12/2020