

WINDMILL NEWS

Friends of West Blatchington Windmill - Newsletter - Autumn 2019

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14 July 2019

One Summer Day!

We celebrated in style ...

On the **40th Anniversary** of our opening, the great and the good gathered in West Blatchington to honour the Windmill, which was opened by **The Mayor, Cllr Alex Phillips** and **Hove MP, Peter Kyle**.

Visitors were entertained by the **Black Powder Morris Dancers** and **Hangleton Band**.

We estimate that well over **100**



visitors explored the museum and climbed the mill.

Happily, we raised an impressive **£1,066.72^{net}** towards ensuring the mill can be kept open for future generations.

The images here are just a selection of many taken on the day. Many more can be seen on our website.

www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org



Did you know...?
Hove MP Peter Kyle has a photo of our Windmill in his office at Westminster.

Craft, Fun & Tea

There was a good selection of craft stalls on the green, many of whom were local. These included artisan chocolate, metal art, jewellery, decorative bottles, candles, knitting, crochet, and giftware.

In front of the Mill we had a wide range of activities such as hook-a-duck, target wall, darts, hoopla etc.. We also had books, bric-a-brac and

face painting! The raffle was also well supported by local businesses. Plus our own souvenirs, boosted by new arrivals (*see over*).

Inside the barn, the excellent Strawberry Cream Teas proved very popular, as did all the lovely cakes. A very busy afternoon for everyone serving teas, taking over **£400!**



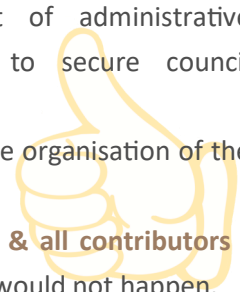
Thank you

Ken & Grace Upton - for the planning, set up and organisation of the day.

Joy Ford & Joya Freestone - for the inordinate amount of administrative work undertaken to secure council support.

Sue Burgess - for the organisation of the craft stalls

Friends, volunteers & all contributors - without whom this would not happen.



At a recent auction at the Sussex Postcard Club I was fortunate to make a successful bid for a previously unseen photographic card of the mill. Entitled “*A Quaint Spot on the Lovely Sussex Downs*” and taken by Fenner of Shoreham, with a handwritten date of **26/7/28** on the reverse.



It clearly shows St Peter’s Church, the windmill with sweeps facing due west and complete with the north, south and west barns plus some of the out buildings and the manor house in the background. Standing in the field, which takes up the whole foreground of the card and is approximately where Sunninghill Avenue is today, there are four workers three with what appear to be wooden rakes in their

hands and a younger lad, all of course wearing the cloth caps so synonymous with that era!

An enlargement of the card can be viewed in the photographic collection in the exhibition room (2nd floor) of the mill.

Even after 42 years of collecting images of the mill there are obviously still some unseen ones out there to be discovered!

Peter Hill

Another one for the collection!

KEY DATES

Sun. 15 Sept - 2.30-5pm
Heritage Day

FREE entry

Sun. 29 Sept - 2.30pm
Last Day of Opening

Advance Notice:

Christmas Gift Fair
Sat. 30 Nov 2019

Carols at the 'mill
Weds. 11 Dec 2019

www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org



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Poem



No need to search around all day
We see them there upon the hills
For many years they've faced the wind
Tall and proud, the Sussex mills.

The Jack & Jill we've known for years
We played upon the Downs below
Or looked across the Wealden view
In those happy times so long ago.

Where Belloc lived for many years
You'll find the lovely Shipley mill
And up the hill at High Salvington
On windy days the sweeps are turning still.

On Ashdown forest there's the Nutley mill
There's one near the coast at Rottingdean
And close to my home at **West Blatchington**
Where on open days the inside can be seen.

Some are quite beyond repair
And though it's always sad to see
You learn a lot of bygone days
When searching for their history.

Think of the millers from the past
Who ground the wheaten seed
Their mill stands as a monument
To the memory of a dying breed.

Based on a poem by J. H. Barker

Shop Update

Tea Towel - The new stock arrived just in time for the Summer Fair and sold well on the day. They feature a new design based solely on our Windmill and Museum. They are cotton and 48cm x 78cm. Available in the shop at just **£3.95**. The photo (*right*) shows the Tea Towel in production by Supreme Creations/Bags of Ethics in India, where 9 out of 10 employees are women, many of whom are the main breadwinners in their families. You can find out more at.

www.bagsofethics.org.



BARN HIRE

North Barn is available for hire at very reasonable rates. For details contact Peter Hill on 01273 776017 or via email with **Barn Hire** in the subject line.

EDITORS NOTE:

Thank you to Stephen Batey for the use of his photos here, and on the website.

I am hoping to get a photo of Peter Kyle in his office for the next edition.

Please send any ideas and/or contributions in via email with **Newsletter** in the subject line.

Please also let me know if I can place printed copies anywhere for additional public viewing.

Sue Burgess



Restocked Items - Bookmarks, Key Fobs, Coasters, Erasers, Sharpeners, Kinetic Torches and Monoculars!

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