



WINDMILL NEWS

Friends of West Blatchington Windmill - Newsletter - Winter 2018-19

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OUR NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE!

We are pleased to announce that the Windmill has a new online presence. This has been in the planning stage for some time, but has now reached a point where it can go live! The URL is:

www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org

It is hoped that the content will encourage new visitors and renewed appreciation for this wonderful heritage location. There is a section dedicated to facilities available at the Mill and a condensed history and story of the Mill. The aim is to whet the appetite of potential visitors and to promote the use of the Barn.

There will be galleries of photos celebrating events plus promotion of events planned in the future. A page is also dedicated to the Friends, where you can download a copy of this Newsletter. The contacts page allows you to communicate with us. Indeed it would be wonderful if you could use this to give us feedback about the website so it may continue to develop and improve.

Thank you to our Website Editor, Sue Burgess!



Remember, remember, the 5th November

Gunpowder, treason and plot.
I see no reason why gunpowder, treason
Should ever be forgot..."



But for us the date has a different significance.

On this date, 193 years ago, John Constable stood in the village of West Blatchington and created this sketch of the Windmill serving Court Farm. It is a pen & ink watercolour clearly dated in the top left-hand corner.

The original belongs to a private collector in the US but the Mill has several prints on display in the museum and on sale in the shop. Constable, as a son of a miller, knew about mills and sketched many around Brighton, where he stayed in a cottage on the half-built outskirts of the resort with his young family from 1824-1828



Dear Volunteers

At the end of another successful season at the Mill we would like to say **thank you** to all of you who gave so much time and enthusiasm to make it so. Also, after a local leaflet drop we are very happy to say that we have ten new volunteers which means that we will have enough cover to open every Sunday afternoon again from May to September next year. We look forward to welcoming our new friends and meeting up with you all again at the AGM in the new year.

Thanks again, David & Sue Bernard

Heritage Day

There were so many visitors on this day that at one stage there were people on all stages of the windmill! It was a lovely sight.

There were children working the quern stone, with dogs having a welcome rest while their owners enjoyed a cuppa and cake in the North Barn.

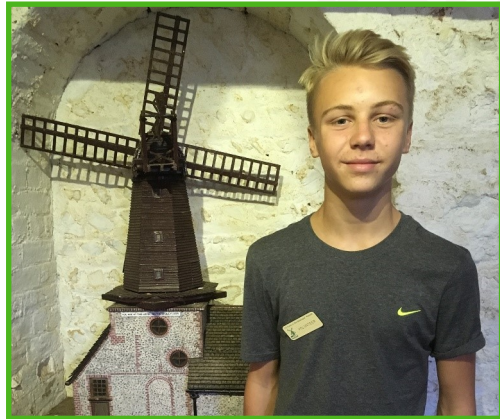


Guides, including some of our new volunteers, were also in full flow all over the mill telling stories. Please see the new website, for more pictures.

It was good to see young Jack Barden (left), our Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteer, being very helpful and enthusiastic.



www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org/HeritageDay2018



Heritage Day Sept 2018 : Sue Burgess

KEY DATES

Sunday 25 Nov. 11-4pm

Christmas Gift Fair

Shopping & Refreshments

FREE entry

Weds. 12 Dec. - 6.30pm

Carols at the 'mill

Raffle, and all proceeds go to



Advance Notice:

Friends AGM

Thurs. 14 March

Guest Speaker: David Porter

Life above a railway tunnel:

Clayton Tunnel North Portal

First Open Day

Sun. 5 May 2019



@WestBlatchMill



@WestBlatchingtonWindmill

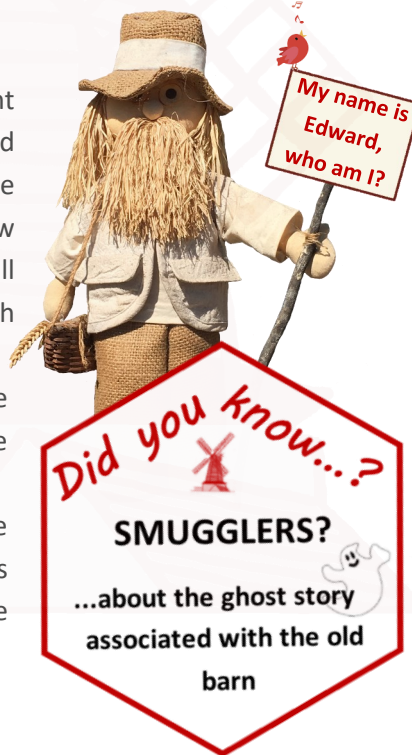
2018 Review

We have had a good season with excellent attendances on both National Mills day and Heritage Open day. A leaflet drop campaign in the immediate neighbourhood resulted in 14 new prospective volunteers responding, covering all three duties i.e. counter, guiding and teas which bodes well for the rota organisers next season.

New floodlights have been installed though some adjustment is still needed to the elevation on the south side.

Our next project is to improve the heating in the north barn. We have been informed by City Parks that landscaping on the south side will take place during the autumn....watch this space!

Peter Hill



The Old Mill, West Blatchington

It stands, a sentinel of the past,
Memorial of the vanished age
No more its sweeps turn in the wind
A silent and deserted stage

No more the russet Downland wheat
Is stacked upon its granary floor:
For years it stood alone – but now
The Town is creeping to its door

Change – but new values vie with old –
Where mingled tangled sedge and brier
And the wild gorse kindled a flame
Now burns a homely household fire.

Evelyn Skinner

BARN HIRE

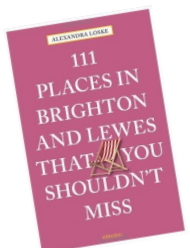
North Barn is available for hire at very reasonable rates. For details contact Peter Hill on 01273 776017 or via email with **Barn Hire** in the subject line.

EDITORS NOTE:

I am always happy to receive contributions for the next edition via email with **Newsletter** in the subject line.

Sue Burgess

New Shop Items



BOOK: Our Mill is beautifully described on p.188, with a lovely photo on p.189
On sale for £ 9.95



CALENDAR: Another super photo of the Mill, on show for the month of May.
On sale for £ 6.95

Both available, with our great range of souvenirs, at the upcoming **Christmas Gift Fair**

Email: fwbwindmill@gmail.com

Next Edition: FEBRUARY 2019