

Hardley Windmill

Newsletter Spring 2015



www.hardley-windmill.org.uk

Sail inspection and repaint

In what will be the largest maintenance task carried out since the sails turned again in 2009, the sails will be removed in September to allow a very thorough inspection and repaint.

We had originally planned to repaint the sails last year, but were not able to arrange a millwright to do the work until the early part of this year. Mindful that the turning sails are a big draw encouraging many passing river users to make an unscheduled stop, it was decided to postpone the work until later in the season.

Removing the sails as part of this process allows a thorough inspection of all parts of the sail assembly. Allowing areas which are prone to rot but which can't be seen or accessed when the sails are in place, to be inspected and repaired if necessary.

All this work has to be paid for. Our usual fund raising activities (opening the mill, special events and mooring fees) will go ahead again this year. The format for the Yare Navigation event has changed this year, and there is a new event to coincide with national mills weekend. The listing overleaf gives more details.

We are also looking to expand on the events we host for local organisations. Last year we welcomed Coldham Hall Sailing Club for one of their club BBQs, Buckenham Sailing Club and 2 visits from wherry "Albion" carrying passengers on sailing charters. All these help bring extra visitors and consequently cash into the mill. If you are involved with an organisation and may be interested in an event at the mill please contact us for further information.

Friends of Hardley Windmill

New members always welcome. 2015 subscriptions are now due. Please complete and return the enclosed form. Alternatively complete your renewal online (instructions are on the form).

We need more helpers for opening the mill and willing hands for special event days. We won't be able to continue our activities at the mill indefinitely without getting more help so please do get in touch.

Thank you for your continuing support which helps keep the sails turning.

Peter Grix

Peter's family along with other members of the Friends have entered a nomination for an EDP Star of Norfolk Award to recognise the great service Peter has done for the county in firstly fighting for the chance to restore the mill (it took 8 years negotiation with various bodies simply to get the permissions to start work) and secondly having the dogged determination to see the work through to its conclusion 21 years later.

In that time Peter spent a small fortune and, while funding was available from the Leader+ Broads and Rivers program, camped in the mill tower and later the relative luxury of the visitor centre to ensure that all the necessary work was completed in the limited time available.

While the mill stands as a monument to Peter's dedication, enthusiasm and indomitable spirit we feel it would be fitting if he were to receive formal recognition for his role in bringing this important landmark back to working condition for all to enjoy.

To add your nomination please visit www.edp24.co.uk/home/stars-of-norfolk-awards-2015

2015 opening and events

April - June & September Sundays 11am - 3pm
July & August Saturday & Sunday 11am - 3pm

Ad hoc opening on other days - if the sails are turning the mill is open.

2015 Events

Sun 10th May 10 am National Mills weekend mills walk

Walk from Loddon Staithe car park (close to Loddon Mill) via Wherrymans Way to Hardley Mill. Ploughman's lunch and refreshments at Hardley with minibus available for return to Loddon. Tickets £5.00 from Frances (01508) 520331.

Sat 20th June Midsummer Frolic 7 pm - 10:30pm

Our annual celebration of all things summery. Relax on the river bank and enjoy the sunset. Bar & BBQ plus music. Walk from Hardley Staithe (don't forget a torch for the return journey) or catch the minibus from the sign posted car park. Bus running from 6:30 to 7:30pm and 9:00 to 10:30pm

Sun 13th Sept 2 - 5pm Friends of Hardley Mill AGM

Featuring a guest speaker. AGM business will be followed by afternoon tea. Mini bus transport available from 1:30pm.

Sat 26th September 11 - 5pm Yare Navigation Race Lunch

Walk to the mill from either Langley or Hardley Staithe and enjoy views of classic broads sailing cruisers competing in the annual Yare navigation race. 2 course lunch served at 1:30pm.

Tickets £7.50 from Frances (01508) 520331
"Possibly the best spot on the river to view the action" - a YNR veteran.

Please see the website for further details.
www.hardley-windmill.org.uk
Or call Francis on 01508 520331

Help the mill through easyfundraising.org.uk

If you've looked at this section on earlier newsletters and thought "Good idea, I'll do that later" please don't delay any further.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hardleywindmill

You could be raising money for the mill from online shopping or searches. Most participating retailers donate 1 to 3% of your purchase value and there are often special offers. It really does work (we've had cheques to prove it!) so please give it a try.

The mill on Facebook

Hardley Mill has a facebook page! Get updates on opening and events, contribute your thoughts and photos and tell your friends all about us.

www.facebook.com/HardleyWindmill



Thanks to Paul Barber for sending this image of Hardley Mill in action. The date is not certain, but Paul suggests that the photo was taken by his mother on a boating holiday in the 1920's — possibly her honeymoon trip. The photo clearly shows the open doors on the outlet sluice gate. These gates are still in situ, buried under the river wall.