

WINDMILL NEWS

Friends of West Blatchington Windmill - Newsletter - Spring 2019

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DONATED ANONYMOUSLY

by 'a Windmill Person'

This wonderful sketch of the Mill was left in a brown paper parcel in the porch. It is signed by E Hardwick 1971. It was accompanied by a message which read

"I hope you can use this lovely drawing of the mill which fell off my wall last eve & I cannot repair the frame. From 'A Windmill Person'"

Our chairman has now repaired and painted the frame. Now after a little t.l.c. it hangs proudly in the North Barn for all to see.

We would really like to say a heartfelt **THANK YOU** for this generous gesture.



News of a recently acquired, very early, painting of the mill!

NEXT ISSUE

You never know!

In September we were contacted by a local English language school UKHSI, who had a group of students arriving in Hove and needed somewhere for them to leave their luggage whilst they explored Brighton before being collected by their host families. As the North Barn was free we were pleased to offer them that facility and so arrangements were made.

At 10am. on the appropriate day, as I approached the mill there was trail of 35 students wheeling their suitcases towards the mill. *(I can imagine that the local residents, as they peered from behind their net curtains, were horrified as they speculated that we had converted the mill to a hotel!!)*

Having flown in to Heathrow after an 18 hour journey from [Indonesia](#), they were brought straight to the mill by coach where I had a brief



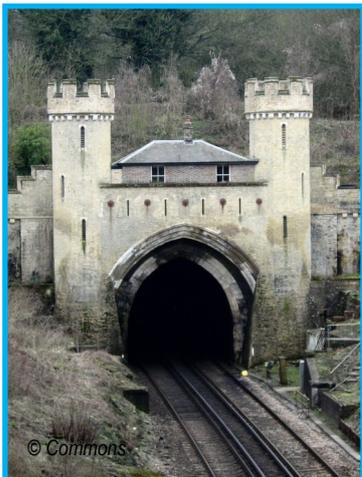
opportunity to show them around the ground floor before they took a local bus to visit Brighton. They had returned to the mill by 3.45pm and by 4.30pm. they had all been collected by their hosts and **we were given a very nice donation for our 'trouble'.**

Aged 12-14 they were a real credit to their teachers and great young ambassadors for their country. None had been to the U.K. before and yet each had a good command of our language and were so polite and grateful. It was a great pleasure to meet them and as a result of our hospitality the school will use the mill again and arrange visits by other foreign students. In fact we have just had a request for 15 Spanish 12 year olds to pay a visit.

As I said at the start, "You never know!" *Peter Hill*

YOU ARE INVITED!

The *Friends of the Windmill* invite you to join them for their **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** on Thursday 14 March at 7:30pm in the North Barn.



After the short official business there will be refreshments followed by an illustrated talk by David Porter on **Life above a railway tunnel**.

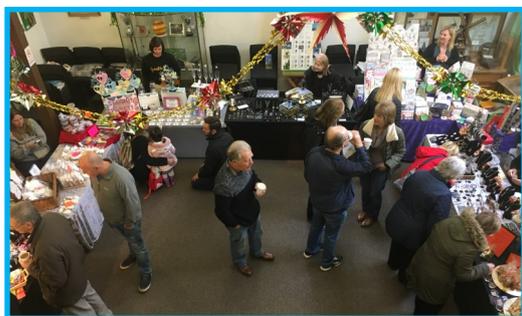
“What’s it like having hundreds of trains hurtling under your living room every day? For most people the castellated entrance to Clayton Tunnel remains a mystery. David Porter will shed light on a Gothic Folly that has been a home to many happy families for over 160 years.”

We look forward to seeing you!

In Memoriam—Mrs Josie Potten

Following the demise of Mrs Josie Potten, we were very fortunate to receive a sum of money which had been donated in her memory, to be divided between West Blatchington and Jill mills. Josie came from the milling family that were involved with Fletching Watermill (demolished in 1951) and her husband Johnny was, until his untimely death, a very active volunteer worker at our mill. Amongst other things it was him, along with Frank Gregory, who built the grain storage bins on the Bin Floor.

The money we received will be put towards the new heaters we have had installed in the north barn.



Christmas Gift Fair Nov 2018 : Sue Burgess

Christmas Gift Fair

The over-riding emotion after the event was of pleasure. I was delighted with the response of the visitors, stallholders and volunteers alike.

The weather was kind and the atmosphere relaxed and inviting. Comments were received on the quality of the stalls and mince pies! A good mix of visitors from across all age groups attended.

Carol Singing

This was again a lovely event. The new heating was well tested and a merry time was had by all. The visit of Santa added extra smiles as refreshments were served and carollers were encouraged to purchase raffle tickets in aid of Martletts Hospice. We are happy to report a healthy £394.63 was raised.



Carol Singing Dec 2018 : Sue Burgess

Email: fwbwindmill@gmail.com

KEY DATES

Thurs. 14 March 7:30-10pm

Friends AGM

Guest Speaker: David Porter
Life above a railway tunnel:
Clayton Tunnel North Portal

www.westblatchingtonwindmill.org

Advance Notice:

First Open Day

Sun. 5 May 2019

National Mills Day

Sun. 12 May 2019

Fathers' (Sussex) Day

Sun. 16 June 2019

40th Anniversary BIG EVENT

Sun. 14 July 2019



@WestBlatchMill



@WestBlatchingtonWindmill



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

Next Edition: MAY 2019