

GREEN'S WINDMILL TRUST

Newsletter



Issue 28 Summer 2020

Green's Windmill is Open Again



Visitors to Green's Windmill made a welcome return on Saturday 15th August as we reopened for visits, five months since our COVID-19 enforced closure. Amongst the first group of visitors was the Leader of Nottingham City Council and local Ward Councillor David Mellen, who said it was great we were open again.

Entry remains free but you must book in advance so that the number of people on site can be safely managed. Please visit our website for more information.

If you would only like to buy flour, takeaway refreshments or garden produce there is no need to book, please just drop by.

News Just In

We have just heard some great news. . .

We are delighted to have received a grant of £38,000 from the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage. This fund will provide us with vital financial support over the coming months, going a long way to compensate for the loss of income that we have suffered over the past eight months. The grant will allow us to improve the efficiency of our milling and to make improvements to the visitor experience.

So, a massive 'thank you' to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England for their contribution. #HereForCulture
We will have more on how we are going to use the grant in our next newsletter

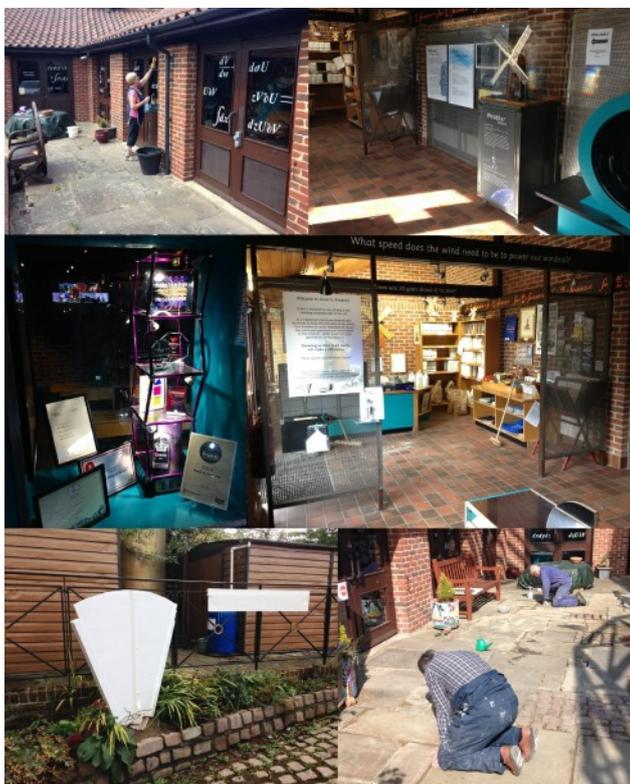


Our first day open again



Flour Production

During the COVID-19 flour shortages the team here have continued milling throughout, often working 12, 14 and even 16 hour shifts to meet demand. Using 19th century technology, we have fulfilled a remarkable 830 flour orders – five times the number in a normal year – between closing in March and reopening in August. The flour shortage experienced in the UK hadn't happened anywhere else in Europe so it took us completely by surprise. The demand for flour now isn't quite what it was at the height of lockdown but we still recommend ordering in advance to avoid disappointment. Please give us a call on **0115 915 6878** to place an order.



Lockdown Projects

Whilst it was disappointing that we couldn't welcome visitors for five months, it did provide the staff and volunteers with the opportunity to carry out some much needed maintenance and developments to the site. During lockdown we;

Repainted all the science centre doors inside and out and removed the grubby and faded window filters

Overhauled the semi-functional weather station exhibit by making it more compact, updating it to run the latest software and installing a new solar-powered anemometer

Added two partitions to define and separate the shop and the science exhibits area

Weeded and repointed the paving in the millyard

Repurposed the display case to create a space dedicated to our many awards

Renovated an old blade from the fantail of the windmill and a spring sail shutter for display in the millyard

All these developments came in at under £200 and will

enhance the visitor experience and aid longevity to ensure further outlay is not required further down the line. We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge 'thank you' to all the volunteers who have helped bring these projects to fruition.

A Bumper Year for the Community Garden



An array of crops has been produced in the Community Garden this year as it continues to flourish under the care, dedication and passion of our volunteer gardeners. They've grown apples, blackberries, blackcurrants, broad beans, carrots, cavolo nero, cherries, chillies, corn on the cob, courgettes, cucumbers, damsons, green beans, gooseberries, onions, plums, potatoes, quince, redcurrants, rhubarb, runner beans, rosemary, sage, squash and tomatoes. Well, they do say variety is the spice of life!

The gooseberries, cucumbers and quince were particular favourites, while 25kg of damsons were picked and sold. The produce has helped raise a whopping £700 which will help sustain and develop the garden.

The volunteers are now busy planning and preparing for next year. Please get in touch if there's something specific you'd like to see us grow (and maybe become a volunteer to grow it?)

In addition to the money raised through garden produce we've also received some generous donations for the Community Garden. Firstly, we've been given a Flymo GardenVac Turbo (or leaf blower) from local supporter George Woodcock.. With both blow and suck functions, it's proven to be a big hit and saves lots of time collecting fallen leaves.

Secondly, flour customer Angela Brown kindly donated eight aloe vera 'pups' and their parent plant. The pups were very popular with visitors and the well-established parent has been kept and should give us many more pups for years to come.



Thirdly, garden volunteer Jo has created some attractive lavender bags (using lavender from the garden) and donated homemade teacup and saucer bird feeders. We're feeling very grateful for all of these contributions. If you have any items or plants which you'd like to donate please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

World PVNH Disorder Awareness Day

Green's Windmill was an illumination partner for World PVNH Disorder Awareness Day on 7th August which saw the mill lit up in yellow and pink. PVNH stands for Periventricular Nodular Heterotopia which is a rare neuronal disorder. PVNH Support & Awareness supports more than 575 families in 34 countries to make a positive impact in the lives of those affected by neuronal heterotopia disorders. For more information please check out their website :

<https://pvnhsupport.com/>



Heritage Open Days



Green's Windmill Trust again took part in Heritage Open Days between 11th and 20th September. We created an exhibition using items from our extensive archive which were chosen by volunteers Sam, Peter and Dave. Another volunteer, Ellie, then scanned all the selections and organised them for display. Visitors could learn more about the famous mathematician George Green, view photos of the mill's restoration and read our many press cuttings.

Gedling Country Park

Green's Windmill features in the new landscape viewing platform at Gedling Country Park. About 4 miles from the mill, the park opened in 2015 and has been expanded and developed ever since. The windmill was identified

as one of several landmarks that you can see from the elevated position and our dedicated interpretation panel was revealed in July 2020. Give us a wave next time you are up there.



Meet the Team – Richard King

What's your hometown and country?

I was born in Cardiff so I'm a proud Welshman, although you might not guess that unless there is a rugby international on.

What's your role?

I help out wherever I can around the mill, I've also been getting involved with fundraising efforts since I retired last November'

What attracts you to contributing at Green's Mill?

I have worked in science all my life and making bread is also a passion of mine, so it seemed like a natural fit.

Where did you first hear about Green's Mill?

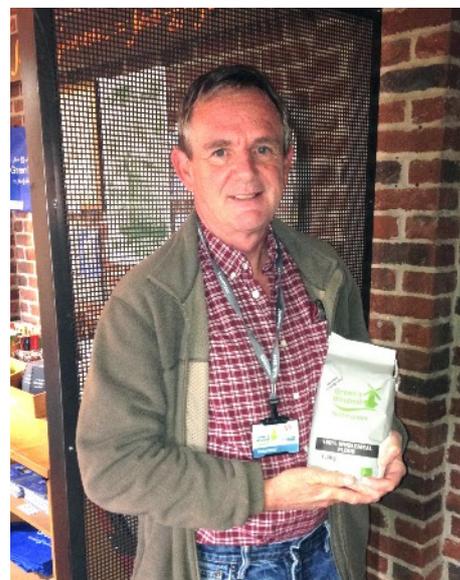
I used to live nearby and have been an occasional flour customer for a few years.

What's your favourite memory of the site?

I loved the atmosphere at last year's Carol Service when the mill was lit up and the yard full of people. I hope that we can get back to that soon.

Which flour is your favourite type, and why?

I like to use a little bit of spelt in my loaves, it adds flavour and makes for great toast. I bake yeasted tin loaves, or sourdough when I've got the time, usually using 50/50 wholemeal / white flour, with a bit of spelt added. But I tinker with the recipe all the time depending on what I've got available.



Your Starter for Ten

So often on radio and TV programmes that deal with the history of science - and electricity in particular - the narrative jumps from the practical experiments of Michael Faraday to the achievements of James Clerk-Maxwell on electromagnetic theory. No mention is made of any of the pioneering scientists or mathematicians whose endeavours were crucial steps along the way such as, of course, George Green. (Yes, I'm talking to you Jim Al-Khalili and you, Melvyn Bragg)

So it was splendid that 'George Green' was the answer to a question recently on University Challenge. So, well done those clever young people of Merton College, Oxford, for knowing it.



Another happy customer

Will over at Secret Pizza, based in Sneinton pub the King Billy, with a sack of white spelt flour and cavolo nero picked fresh from our community garden. Go check out his pizzas, they're the best in town!

In the Park

Here at Green's Mill we are very keen on wildlife; we have a lot of it in the park and in the allotment gardens behind the mill. But we were a tad concerned when this notice appeared in the park warning visitors that an unusual - and toxic - fungus had been found there.

According to Wikipedia

"When young, it may be mistaken for . . . the miller (*Clitopilus prunulus*).

Mistaken for the miller? Really? I think we can usually tell the difference between a mushroom and Andy.

That said, the mushroom is described as having a grey or white cap so perhaps there is some similarity.



These aren't the mushrooms in our park but an indication of what to look out for



A Helping Hand . . .

Despite our recent success in securing grants, the Trust remains financially vulnerable, especially as we don't know how long the Covid-19 restrictions will limit our income from visitors and events. We need to raise in excess of £1,000 a week to keep the sails turning.

Soon we will be able to take donations on-site by contactless card payments which we hope will increase donations as fewer people carry cash these days.

And if you shop on-line - as so many of us do these days - you can support the Mill **at no cost to yourself** by using Give As You Live or Amazon Smile. Essentially, you sign up for it once, choose Green's Windmill Trust and then a small percentage of the cost of purchases comes our way.

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

You can also contribute - either as a one-off donation or regular contributions on-line at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greenswindmilltrust/>

One for Physicists

Albert Einstein and his wife are having some marital problems.



'Leibling' says Albert, what can I do to help?' She says 'I just want two things, Albert, - time and space'.

'Of course, meine kleine Wurst' he replies 'and what's the second thing?'



Thanks to Heage Windmill Society trustee Roger Hatcher for this photo

Heage Windmill

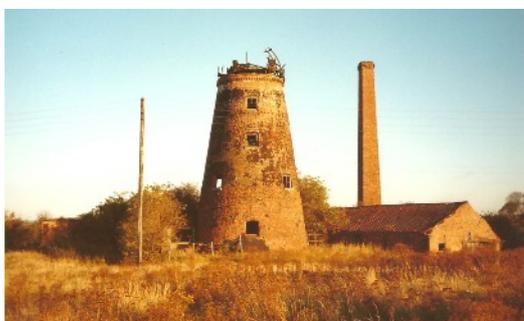
We'd like to say a huge thanks to our fellow millers at Heage Windmill in Derbyshire for their time during our recent visit. We want replace our old and temperamental flour dresser which extracts white from wholemeal with a much more compact and efficient machine. A better dresser would allow us to produce white flour at a quicker rate, improve its quality and reduce waste. Their machine is a fine example of what we're after and they were kind enough to examine their dresser in great detail.

Happy windmill anniversary to our Heritage Officer, Jamie, who started on a six month contract and is still here eight years later. We just can't get rid of him (nor would we want to)

And it's gratifying that our other staff members, miller and Andy and trainee miller Leigh, also started as volunteers



Some Nottinghamshire Windmills



Everton Mill

We don't know much about this tower mill. It has been reported that it was disused by 1915 but also that it was worked by 'motor power' in 1930.

A Sun Fire Insurance policy dated 1778 was taken out by 'John Clarke of Marton in the Co. Of Lincoln, Millwright. On his Corn Windmill with the going geers therein at Everton in the Co. Of Nottingham, £200'. We don't know if this refers to the mill pictured here.

Fiskerton Mill

This is the substantial roundhouse of a postmill. Again, we have little information on the history of this mill. The Stamford Mercury of 19 December 1851 had an advertisement: 'Wanted a working miller, capable of managing a steam engine. Apply to Mr Joseph Marriott, Fiskerton'



Farndon Mill



This is the roundhouse of Farndon Mill, near Newark, photographed c.1936 when it was being used as a summerhouse.

Our Archives

Since Green's Mill and Science Centre opened in 1985 we have accumulated an extensive archive of information and images of Nottinghamshire windmills (and a few watermills). You are very welcome to use the resources for e.g. local history or family research.

However, there's always more that could be added to the archive. As noted, there are some mills for which we have very little history and for many of them our photographs are not up to date. Mills change over time, whether it be restoration, house conversions or further decline. So, here's a plea . . . if you are out and about and see a windmill (or, indeed, a watermill) we would love to have a snap of it to add to our archive. You can email us at www.greensmill.org.uk. Likewise, any information you may find on the history of mills, vanished or extant, would find a place here.

Actually, we rather like all mills so photos, postcards and the like of *any* mill in the UK or abroad would be welcome.