

GREEN'S WINDMILL TRUST



NEWSLETTER 48

April 2026



Mill Repairs Progressing



Essential repairs to bring Green's Windmill back to working order are progressing apace. The scaffolding took six weeks to assemble and led into the Christmas festive break. In the New Year the scaffolding was wrapped in monarflex sheeting to help protect the contractors and ensure work can continue all year round. With the sails and stocks removed, preparations were then made to raise the cap by three metres and this was done in February. Additionally, the 8ft diameter brake wheel in the cap was also raised. All this allows work to the cap, cap frame and machinery to be done *in situ*.

There's been a recent change to the programme as it has been decided to build a new cap frame. After further inspection the current one was deemed in too poor condition to retain or repair. The state of the frame is a contributing factor to the cap alignment issues we were having and a new frame offers better value for money and reduces risk to the programme due to less

likelihood of unknowns and difficulties with repairing the existing frame. This will also allow for fundamental improvements, i.e. more suitable joints, making areas watertight and using modern scanning technologies to ensure all elements can be set out concentric between the iron curb on the top of the mill tower and the bearing housing the journal of the upright shaft. Production and assembly of the new oak frame will take place offsite, so there'll be less to report over the coming months. This change is within budget and should not impact the timeframe of completion by next November.

As a reminder, whilst the repairs are ongoing the mill shop, Science Centre and Community Garden remain open to visitors Wed to Sun 10am-4pm. Entry is free.

In this photo you can see the cap (white wood) suspended in the air and the brake wheel at centre. The circular top of the brick tower is visible with the curb sitting inside. Between the top of the tower and the brake wheel are the thick beams that make up the cap frame.

Ways to Support Us



While we will be excited to see the sails turn once again, the current repair work has inevitably led to a reduction in the number of people visiting us.

This has had a negative effect on our income. Added to that, a rise in the costs of everything means that our finances are in a precarious position. However, there are several ways that you could help us during this difficult period. Donations of any amount are welcome and would help secure a future in which we can inspire the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, artists, historians and gardeners.

The Trust have to raise over £1,000 a week to keep Green's Mill and Science Centre open. As costs increase and competition for grants and donations becomes more acute, this is a continual task for the staff and trustees. If you can help support us in any of the following ways, we would be extremely grateful.

JustGiving

The easiest way to give is a one-off donation via our JustGiving donation page here: <https://www.justgiving.com/charity/greenswindmilltrust>

We also accept cash and cheque donations. The latter should be made to 'Green's Windmill Trust'. Please send these to Green's Windmill and Science Centre, Windmill Lane, Sneinton, Nottingham, NG2 4QB

Sponsored Challenges

Taking part in a marathon? Being silent for 24 hours? Or something else?! Set yourself a challenge and get sponsored. Be a fundraiser for our cause (Green's Windmill Trust, Charity No. 1163116) and encourage your friends, family and colleagues to sponsor you. Sponsorship money soon adds up and would give our reserves a boost.

Easyfundraising online shopping

Shop online? Raise money for our charity *at no extra cost to yourself*. Sign up to easyfundraising and your online shopping at over 7,000 brands turns into much needed funding for us - they give a small percentage of your spending to our charity. This is a really easy way to raise funds for us at no extra cost to yourself. Click the link to get started: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/greenswindmilltrust/>

Become a member

Support our work by becoming a member of Green's Windmill Trust. Join a group of passionate people who wish to see Green's Windmill continue to prosper and develop. Annual membership costs £30 and offers a range of benefits including the opportunity to contribute to the future direction and activities of the Trust through the AGM.. Life membership is also available for £300.

Join here: <https://webcollect.org.uk/greensmill>

Pledge to our Legacies Fund

Last year we launched our legacies scheme '*Will for the Mill*'. To make a lasting difference please consider pledging. A legacy would ensure we remain open and continue to offer an exceptional heritage and educational resource for the benefit of all. For more information visit our legacies webpage: <https://www.greensmill.org.uk/support-us/legacies/>

Corporate Sponsorship

The uncertain financial climate has encouraged us to diversify our fundraising approach through our membership scheme and the legacies strategy. We are also developing a corporate fundraising scheme called *SOS: Sponsor Our Sails* to attract support from the business community.

There will be three tiers of sponsorship available at different costs to suit a range of business sizes. We'll be launching this new venture in the next few months, but if you'd like more information in advance please email Heritage Development Officer Jamie Duff at greens.mill@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Last Christmas at the Mill

Due to the windmill repairs, the annual carol event could not take place last December, the first time we have been unable to hold this event for the past 35 years or so. But that did not stop us bringing merriment to the mill, with live winter and festive-themed music in the garden, holiday themed children's activities provided by students from the Nottingham and Nottingham Trent universities, a Penguin Trail and visit from Santa Claus. Approximately 270 people attended the event and £357 was raised. All being well, the usual Carols in the Millyard will return next December.

We'd like to say a huge thanks to all the students who gave up their free time to make this event one to remember and to all our regular volunteers for making it such a success, despite working under the constraints the mill repairs programme brings.

Meet the Team – Azahara



What's your hometown and country?

I grew up and live in Oxford, England but I am also half Spanish and speak it fluently.

What's your role?

Museum Visitor and Events Assistant, happy to lend a helping hand in any odd jobs around the site, particularly anything artsy and crafty, despite having no artistic skill whatsoever.

How long have you been involved?

8 weeks.

What attracts you to contributing at Green's Mill?

I liked the idea of being able to contribute to a place which sits at the heart of a community and getting to meet new people, seeing how different circles come together.

Where did you first hear about Green's Mill?

I first heard about the mill through the University of Nottingham Arts Placement Programme.

What's your favourite memory of the site?

My favourite memory of the site was spending an afternoon willow weaving bird feeders because, as

someone with no artistic talent, with the help of Lynn I improved quite quickly and produced some quite impressive (by my standards) finished products. I felt very proud of myself and my new skill.

Which flour is your favourite type, and why?

Without a question, white spelt. White because I am a slight picky eater and white bread is generally the main bread I eat, and spelt because it's just a cool word to say, very satisfying and rolls off the tongue.

What would we most often find you baking in your kitchen?

Again, due to being a picky eater, my favourite bake always has and always will be chocolate cake. My favourite memory is baking one every Sunday with my grandma, refusing to make anything else, no wonder my family are sick of it. One day I hope to make my own sourdough starter as it is my favourite loaf. If anyone has a fail-proof recipe, please send it my way.

From the Community Garden

The sowing season is well and truly underway. Our fabulous gardeners have been planting seeds to grow crops such as radish, cucumber, tomatoes and chillies. Most of these are still developing in the greenhouse, though we already have strawberries, garlic, broad beans, rhubarb, pak choi and wheat growing in the outdoor beds.



Speaking of which, volunteers have renewed six of the growing beds by fitting new bed edging and improving the surrounding paths. This will improve our growing capacity and provides better access. Maintenance has continued with a much more organised tool shed, cleared gutters on the buildings to improve harvesting of rainwater, tidying the pond area and renovating the rock wall seating. Our fruit trees are starting to blossom – including the descendant of Isaac Newton's famous apple tree at Woolsthorpe Manor - and the pond is coming to life. Spring has well and truly sprung in the garden.

Funding News



Nottingham Trent University

Our fundraising subcommittee are continuing to complete fundraising bids to help raise money for both core costs and projects. We have several grant decisions pending, but there's no guarantee of success. Meanwhile, we were delighted to receive

£250 from **Nottingham Trent University** to develop a new exhibit which will highlight the importance of MRI scanners and how George Green's mathematics were crucial to their development. We hope to launch this exhibit prior to the summer holidays.

Coming Events

We're running several events over the Easter period from an Easter Egg Hunt to Biscuit Baking and Cool Science. For a full list of our holiday activities head to our events page here: <https://www.greensmill.org.uk/events-news/>



Easter Egg Hunt
28-29 March & 1-5 April



Easter Biscuit Baking
28 March, 2 & 4 April



Cool Science
8 April



Scone Baking
9 April



Children's Bread Baking
11 April



And later this year . . .

Sunday 14th June: From Fleece to...?

Members of the Nottingham Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers return to Green's Windmill to demonstrate their skills, including how sheep's fleece can be spun by hand into beautiful yarn and then used to create lovely craft items.



Have a go for yourself at spinning with a drop spindle or a wheel or add your own contribution to a communal weaving. But beware: spinning and weaving can be addictive. No booking required, just drop in.

Sunday 12th July: Picnic in the Park

Bring a picnic to Green's Windmill and Windmill Park as part of Sneinton Festival. It's our annual summer community funday including live acoustic music and children's activities.

Keep an eye out for further announcements about the day in due

course.

Would you like to get involved?

Green's Mill and Science Centre needs people to volunteer their time, experience and expertise to keep the site open and to provide all our (award-winning) recreational and educational activities.

In addition to our staff - Jamie (Heritage Officer), Andy (miller) and Leigh (trainee miller) we have a small group of trustees, a larger group of gardeners and an even bigger group of all the other volunteers who do so much for us.

But we can always use more.

Would you like to . . .

Meet and greet visitors and serve in the shop?

Wield a trowel in the Community Garden?

Assist with tours and family activities?

Could you . . .

Help develop our retail operation?

Advise us on our educational programme?

Become a fundraiser?

Be a trustee? A treasurer? An archivist?

A Newsletter editor and social media guru?

Have some fun with other people who love the windmill?

If it's a Yes to any of these, please get in touch and come and have a chat

Overheard . . .

"I bought a book on [Zeno's Paradox](#) but somehow I just couldn't finish it"

"Gosh, I've just found out that Albert Einstein was real, a real normal person. I always thought he was a mathematical physicist"

Green's Windmill and Science Centre

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M greens.mill@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

W www.greensmill.org.uk

F www.facebook.com/greenswindmill

George Green

Miller

Sneinton

Open Wednesday to Sunday 10.00 - 4.00 Free admission

Parking on Windmill Lane (W3W tested snaps seat)

(2 hours free, then pay by Ringo app)