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Our AGM will be on Friday 5th July 2013, 7:30pm at the Mill House. It will be a chance to hear the latest on the Development Plan. Please send your nominations for the Committee to Charles Pinchbeck by 30th June.

Heckington Windmill Trust Newsletter Summer 2013



Join us at www.heckingtonwindmill.org.uk



Heckington Windmill

SAILS UPDATE

As Mill Manager Jim Bailey points out, it seems a long time ago when a coach was hired to take members to Alford to look at the sails being manufactured by Tom Davies and his team. Then followed a frustrating wait when our installation programme was pushed back by Tom's heavy workload, including emergency repairs to other mills.



We were all surprised to learn late last year that Tom was retiring through ill health and R Thompson and Son would cease trading before the New Year. This left Lincolnshire County Council and their contractor, Mouchel, needing to find a new millwright who could complete the contract so we can start milling again.

LCC and Mouchel now have a very good idea who that will be, but the millwright's workload dictates that they are not available until mid-summer. Additionally there are some concerns about the adjacent buildings which may need addressing before the work goes ahead. So we will have to be patient for a little longer before we see our sails turning again.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

National Mills Weekend

May 11th and 12th

The Mill will be open this weekend and we hope to be able to arrange a baking demonstration to tempt the visitors.

Visit by local MP

May 17th

Stephen Phillips MP for Sleaford and North Hykeham is scheduled to visit the mill on Friday 17th May and we hope to have media coverage by the Sleaford Standard.

Day Trip

Saturday 21st September
Martin Hanson is aiming to organise a coach trip for members, possibly to look at mills in the Cambridge area.

Threshing Weekend

28th—29th September

We hope to be able to organise another ever-popular Threshing Weekend when the wheat harvest is in.

Jubilee "Crown" Loaf from one of our baking demonstrations.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

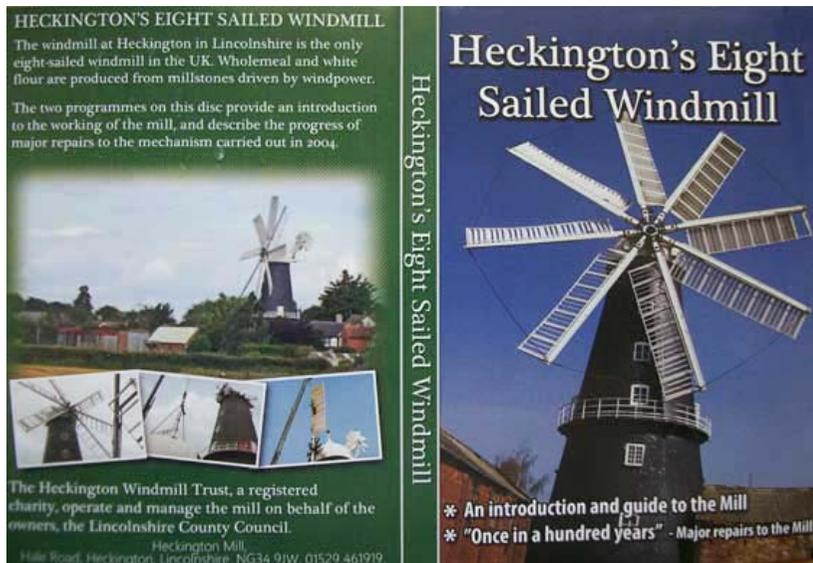
Sheila Channing, our Membership Secretary, would like to remind you that it is membership renewal time. A renewal form will accompany this newsletter or you can pay your membership on-line by going to our website.

Sheila writes that one of our original members, Sonia Pacey, is 90 this year. Sonia and her late husband George first became members in 1983 and supported the mill actively in many posts.

George was a miller himself and is on the DVD about the mill which is now on sale.

Sonia still makes all the jam and marmalade that we sell in the shop. So congratulations and a warm thank you to Sonia.

You can buy the DVD on our website for only £6:19. Rose Bakker's recipe book is also available priced £5.



SELF RAISING FLOUR



"Why do we buy self-raising flour from another windmill," asked Michaela from the Tea-Room. A small group of enthusiasts decided to experiment with the mix and see what they could come up with by using our own flour.

The ingredients are very simple, our own white flour and a raising agent, but the best ratio for combining them was hard to find.

Michaela, Fay, Finn and Pat volunteered to use the mix to bake a Victoria Sandwich and a selection of scones, biscuits and other cakes.

Above you can see Jim and Charles undertaking the arduous task of testing of the products. Our self-raising flour was a success and is now in use in the Tea Room, so why not try it there for yourself?

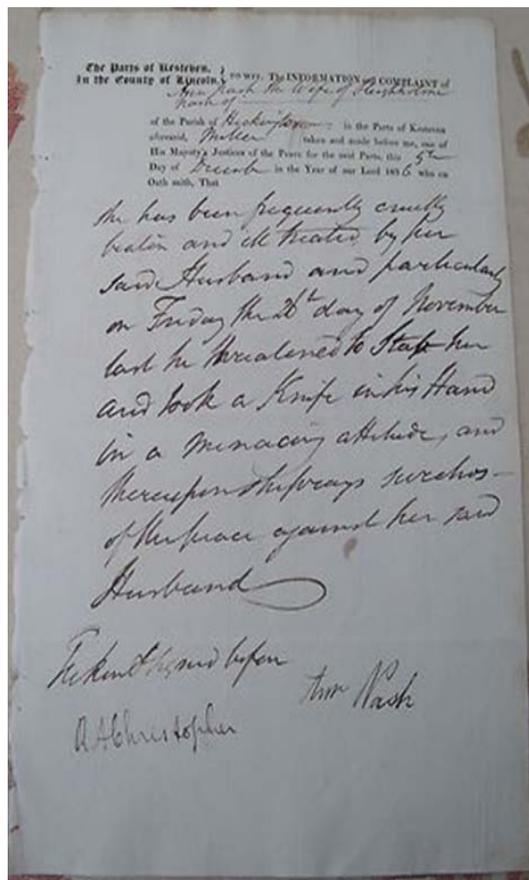
TROUBLE AT MILL

Wife beating and threatening behaviour are not usually stories we associate with Heckington Windmill. However, a court document from 1836 shows that all was not well between mill owners and newly-weds Anne and Sleightholme Nash.

When miller Michael Hare died, Anne Hare aged 29 remarried a 65 year-old baker, Sleightholme Nash, in 1836.

A court document from the same year records a complaint from Anne that “she has been frequently and cruelly beaten and ill treated by her husband.”

If any more documents can be obtained, then we will report out the outcome of the court case in a future Newsletter.



Thanks to Charles Pinchbeck for his vigilance on e-Bay which enabled the Trust to acquire this fascinating document for our archive.

GENEROUS DONATIONS

One of our patrons, Tony Worth has generously donated £1,000 towards the Heckington Windmill Trust.

Also one of our local businesses, Wheelcraft, gave the Trust a cheque for £150. We are very grateful for their support.

Local support is vital to our continuing success.



MILL ACTIVITIES

A delicious smell of baking filled the mill over Easter. Fay Knight was giving baking demonstrations using our flour products and it was a case of standing room only. Last year she did 22 such demonstrations and already has a new set of bookings.

Fay, with her husband John, has also developed a series of recipe leaflets available at the mill.

The tourist season is under way and the mill is now open on both Saturdays and Sundays. We have had several groups visiting the mill and braving the weather, including the whole of class five from Heckington Primary School. We were also visited by a group from Upminster Mill who were keen for advice on Lottery funding.