



**Friends of  
Windmill Hill  
Windmill  
NEWSLETTER**

**Number 43  
Summer 2016**

# Official Opening, 14th May

The Official Opening took place on 14th May to mark the (near) completion of the restoration of the milling machinery.



*Lester Handley - Trustee, Michael Foster DL - High Sheriff of East Sussex, James Braxton from BBC TV's Bargain Hunt and Flog It, Bee Frost - Project Director, Huw Merriman MP, Barby Dashwood-Morris - Chair of Wealden District Council, Paul Frost, Crispin Freeman, Brian Holdstock and Martyn Mitchell - Trustees*



*Above: Michael Foster DL and Barby Dashwood-Morris cut the ribbon; right: Jenny Alder with Windmill souvenirs.*





*Barby Dashwood-Morris with a prize winning entry from Herstmonceux CofE Primary School.*



*Friends enjoying the music provided by Peter Willson and his 'al fresco' piano.*



*Some visitors to the mill.*

---

## The best laid plans.....

In the Spring newsletter Alan Alder wrote about the momentous day in March 2016 when flour was milled – using the power of the wind – for the first time in over 100 years. Well, it seems that the giant of Windmill Hill was a little reluctant to start working full-time after its long rest, because by May it was apparent that some adjustments would have to be made before milling could start again.

There were two key issues. Firstly, on occasion the sweeps were hitting the body of the mill and it was thought that this could be corrected by changing the elevation of the post. Moving a one and a half ton post might seem a Herculean task — but once an engineering solution had been worked out the volunteers, working with Douglas Andrews, were able to move the post by the necessary three inches to rectify the problem. The second issue was more complicated, requiring a new method of attaching the new wooden stocks to the original metal canister. So, scaffolding has gone up again in order that new fixings can be fitted — and all this right in the middle of our main opening season!

This has been a set back – but we are fully confident that the work will be complete by the end of August and that the sweeps will be turning — and the millers will be milling — in the autumn.



*The Long Man Morris Men entertained visitors on Mills Day in May.*

## 100 club prize draw

*The recent prizewinners:*

### April

- 1st Karl Hopper-Young
- 2nd Gillian Beecher
- 3rd Roger Wintle

### June

- 1st Alan Mead
- 2nd Peter Carey
- 3rd Rhys Clatworthy

**Front cover photo:** James Braxton addresses the guests at the opening ceremony.

### Diary Dates

**Friday 21st October 2016 at 7.30pm in Herstmonceux Village Hall (A271 Hailsham Road).**

Talk by Ian Everest — 'From the Sussex Ox to the Fordson Major'.  
£6.00 to include tea or coffee, tickets on the door.

**Sunday 11th December 12.00 to 2.30pm**

Come and join the volunteers for mince pies and meet Father Christmas at the mill.

## Windmill Hill Windmill Trust

Old Bakery, Windmill Hill, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 4RT  
Tel: 01323 833033

Email: [bee@WindmillHillWindmill.org](mailto:bee@WindmillHillWindmill.org) • [www.WindmillHillWindmill.org](http://www.WindmillHillWindmill.org)  
Registered Charity No. 1054504

**Beatrice Frost (01323 833033)**

**Trustees: Brian Holdstock (01323 832082); Crispin Freeman (01323 870353); Paul Frost; Lester Handley (07736 597013); Martyn Mitchell (01424 893158)**

The newsletter is available electronically. If you would be happy to receive the newsletter this way, please send an email to [bee@windmillhillwindmill.org](mailto:bee@windmillhillwindmill.org) advising your name and postcode.