SUFFOLK MILLS GROUP Newsletter

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S.M.G. has been very active in the three months since the last newsletter. The February public meeting was one of our most successful to date, with a full house to hear Brian Flint and Chris Hullcoop speak about the history and future of Suffolk windmills. Another enjoyable occasion was the visit to Jordans in April, when we spent about two hours being shown round their beautifully restored and maintained flour mill, still in active use by water power (see my account inside). National Mills Day was blessed with a strong wind and fair sky, and at Herringfleet we had the luxury of only having to hoist two of the sailcloths. In the days that followed, no doubt many of you saw the short features on mills on BBC1's *Look East* evening news programme, in what was optimistically termed 'National Mills Week'! Finally, we had the Group visit to Walton smock mill. Stephen Bloomfield had obtained the deeds, which were eagerly scrutinised for names and dates to help fill in the history of this little-known mill.

Coming up, for the first time S.M.G. will have a presence at the Suffolk Show. We hope to use the turning sails of the Drinkstone miller's model to attract attention, and hopefully some new members. It's all go, as they say!

To mark our twentieth anniversary this issue contains a small competition, with a £20 prize for the first correct entry drawn at our A.G.M. at Woodbridge tide mill on June 22nd. Be there!

The mill diary for the coming months reads as follows.

S.M.G. Annual General Meeting	Sunday June 22nd
Stanton post mill work-in (week 1)	July 19th-27th
Stanton post mill work-in (week 2)	August 9th-17th
S.P.A.B. weekend tour (Cambs)	August 28th-31st
S.M.G. visit to Old Buckenham mill	Sunday Sept. 14th

Mark Barnard

TALL POST MILLS - TALL STORIES? Peter Dolman

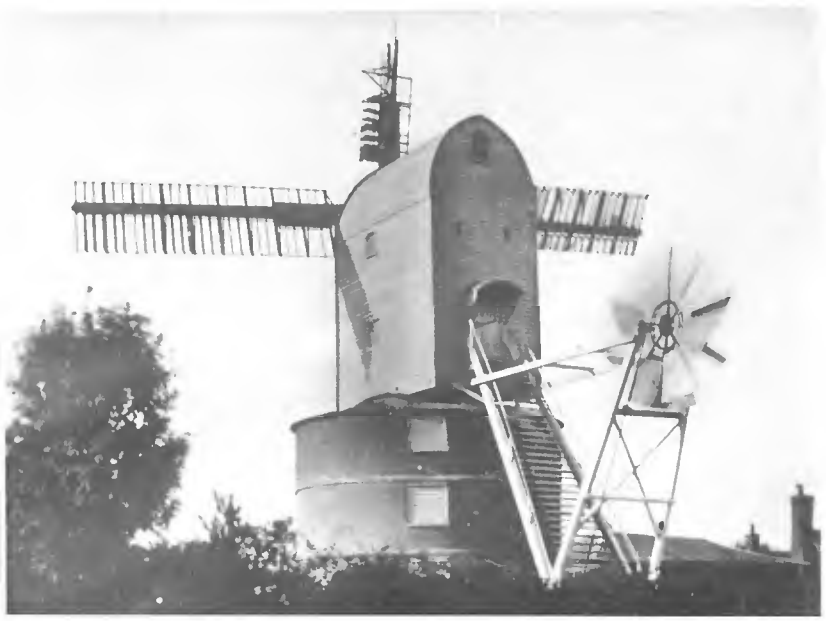
It has long been held that some of our Suffolk post mills with three storey roundhouses were of immense height. Honington and Thorndon were stated to be 55 feet for example. But how true is this, considering no-one was around to measure them accurately? My definition of a tall post mill incidentally, is one where the crosstrees are above head height on the first floor. Some mills had a second floor at this level, others had none.

Honington Mill

Recently I had a chance to measure the roundhouse at Honington,

which still retains both crosstrees and parts of the quarter bars, together with the original roof ring. The crosstrees are 13ft 4ins above the ground floor; taking Stanton mill as a typical large mill of the area (which it is) and applying it to the Honington roundhouse gives a total height of 49 feet. Similarly, the height to the ring at the top of the roof is 23ft 11ins; if we allow 6ins to the sheers and then add the Stanton buck height this gives a height of 50ft 2ins. Tall, certainly, but not 55 feet. The post butt at Honington would have been about 26ins across flats, compared to 27ins at Stanton; the crosstrees are almost identical, at 24 feet long, 12 x 13ins. Stanton mill is 41ft 6ins high above the roundhouse floor, which, being sunk into the ground, gives a true height of about 40 feet. At Stanton the roof has been raised to fit in a bin floor; the later East Suffolk mills were designed with more headroom from new and were likely to be of similar height.

Thorndon Mill



This mill (right) was pulled down in 1924 so only missed Rex Wailes by two years! As at Honington, the roundhouse survives, this time with its post and trestle intact (if shortened). I took measurements here many years ago (1974), the round-house roof being 26 feet above ground level. This looks more promising! However, no Suffolk post mill buck was taller than 26 feet, so far as we know, and Thorndon was a stocky mill, not particularly tall. In addition, the buck rear window survives and by measuring this and comparing it to the number of weatherboards a height of about 24 feet for the buck is arrived at. If we allow another 12 inches for the sheers and a bit of clearance then a total of 51ft 6ins is reached. Oh dear!

Friston Mill

A genuine big one, this. Brian Flint reckons it to be 51 feet high. There are 40 steps up to the buck and this can be a useful guide when looking at old photographs of other mills.

Smaller examples

Saxtead mill is about 46 feet high and Framsden 48 feet. Ramsey in Essex (which is in style an East Suffolk mill) is 48ft 6ins.

Above: Ashfield Road Mill, Framsden
Right: Cranley Green, Eye
Below: Weybread

Bygone 'big-uns'

Swilland mill was measured by Rex Wailes as 26 feet high buck and 25 feet high roundhouse. Unfortunately he was not clear whether the roundhouse height was to the spout floor or the top of the roof. If the latter, then the overall height would be 52ft 6ins. Photographs exist of tall mills at Aldeburgh (similar to Saxtead), Saxmundham (estimated at 51ft 6ins), Southwold (a very big mill, at least 50 feet), Badingham (a small mill, similar to Saxtead), Benhall (similar to Friston), Coddenham (another big mill), Dennington (a small mill, like Saxtead), Earl Soham (similar to Saxtead), Cranley Green, Eye (similar to Friston), Framlingham (similar to Swilland), Ashfield Road, Framsden (similar to the other Framsden mill), Grundisburgh (similar to Friston), Kelsale (similar to Framsden), Laxfield (similar to Saxtead), Pettaugh (44 feet), St. James South Elmham (similar to Saxtead), George Hill, Stanton (stated to be 48 feet, although I think this may be

Coddenham post mill during demolition (1909)

exaggerated), Sweffling (about 45 feet), three mills at Trimley, one of which was similar to Friston, Wetheringsett (48 feet), Wrentham (similar to Saxtead) and Weybread, which is my personal favourite for the title, with a tall buck, genuine three storey roundhouse, and 42 steps. If we take Thorndon's roundhouse as being the same as Weybread, add a tall buck of 26 feet and then another 18 inches for sheers and clearance, then we can get up to between 53 and 54 feet. Nearly there!

Documentary records show that there were other tall post mills. Ingate mill, Beccles had a three storey roundhouse which could hold 300 coombs of wheat *and* 400 sacks of flour; Brandeston mill, said to have been like Swilland and Friston; Hacheston, with a three storey roundhouse; Henley mill, also like Swilland; one of the Halifax Mills at Ipswich (which had a roof fan and looked very much like Ramsey, if engravings are to be believed); Melton, with a three storey roundhouse (moved to Weeley in Essex where photographs show it to have been almost identical to Swilland); Mill Hill, Woodbridge, with a three storey roundhouse, and Yoxford, said to have been similar to Friston. There were others, no doubt.

Who built them, and when?

From anecdotal and documentary sources the tall post mills seem to have been built between about 1810 and 1830, with later raisings of existing mills up to the 1870's or later. The new-built examples were probably built by Collins of Melton (and possibly related Collins at Framlingham and Ipswich), with Samuel Wright of Ipswich another contender. Stanton mill was probably built by Bloomfields of Thelnethem. Although common or spring sails *could* have been set from a high travelling stage it is most likely that the advent of Cubitt's patent sail in 1807 freed millers to build high. The later raising of mills seems to have been a Whitmore (Whitmore & Binyon) speciality and they of course built the last example at Wetheringsett in 1882-3.

What about elsewhere?

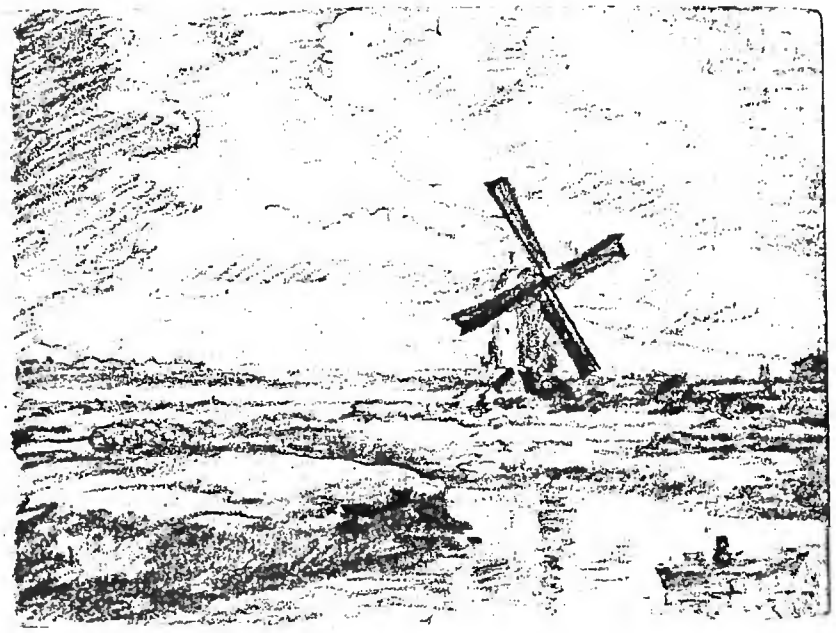
The tall post mill was not just a Suffolk phenomenon. Essex had several, including a whopper at Chadwell Heath which must have been over 50 feet. Norfolk also had a number, as did Sussex. Sussex has one of the few giants remaining, at Windmill Hill. Martin Brunnarius gives the height of this as 49 feet. There is a picture of a wierd mill at Ifield, Sussex which had a three storey roundhouse, a tall buck with panniers each side, yet still retained a tailpole, as at Windmill Hill.

PUTTING MILLS IN THE PICTURE (6) Peter Steggall

CONSTABLE COUNTRY - WINDMILLS AT BRANTHAM

In my previous article, about East Bergholt windmills drawn and painted by Constable, I was rather confused, and probably confusing, about some of the details. Moving now into the adjoining parish of Brantham, I will try to be more lucid, but I cannot be sure that I have sorted out all the difficulties.

I will start with the post mill on which the experts - Brian Flint, Mark Barnard and Peter Dolman (my thanks to them all) - seem to be in agreement. It stood on the river bank just south of Brantham watermill, where, incidentally, my grandfather worked for a few years at the beginning of this century. This seems to have been the open trestle post mill the subject of a small pencil sketch *'Windmill on the Brantham Marshes'* made in 1814. On the extreme right one can see in the distance what I am sure is the tower of Dedham church. Peter Dolman tells me that the windmill was auctioned in October 1825 'to be removed from the premises at the expense of the purchaser', and that it had gone by the end of that year.



Windmill on the Brantham marshes.

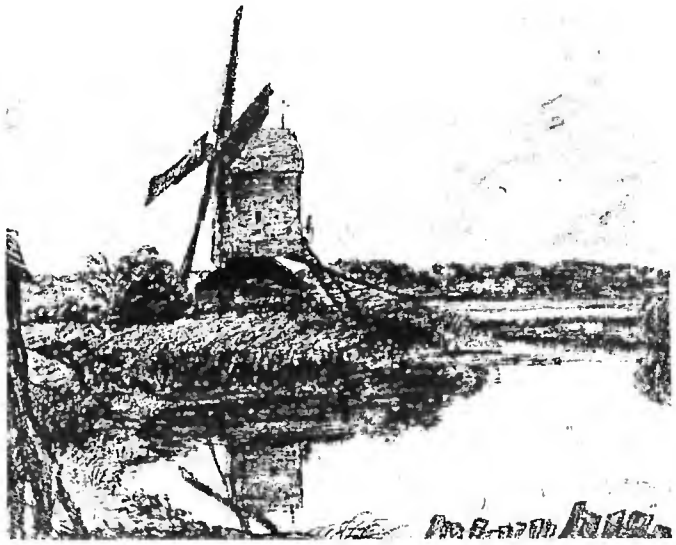
When I saw the site in 1996 there were no visible remains of the watermill or the windmill, but the mill pond and mill stream were still there. The watermill site is now occupied by a small industrial estate. From the flat, open land on which the windmill stood (Grid Ref. 095333), close to the river bank, one can still see the church tower at Dedham about two miles up the valley.

In 1802 Constable had drawn *'A Mill on the banks of the River Stour'*, which looks very much like the mill in his 1814 sketch, but appears to have a roundhouse. However, looking at such small drawings in Constable's sketch-books (about 4" x 3"), it is almost impossible to be certain about technical details. I am inclined to think that the two drawings are of the same mill seen from different viewpoints.

The element of doubt caused by the apparent roundhouse reminds me that I originally thought that the mill in the 1802 drawing might have been one that stood at the far end of the parish, over two miles to the east, near another watermill, Stutton New Mill, where the Dodnash Brook runs into the Stour estuary. The Tithe Map of 1837 shows 'site of mill' about 300 yards west of the watermill. According to Peter Dolman, it was probably a post mill, and the remains of its roundhouse were standing before the Great War of 1914-18. In Brian Flint's book, *Suffolk Windmills*, both of the windmills about which I am now writing are in his list of those that were 'auxiliary aids to watermills'.

All this gave me a welcome excuse to walk on a beautiful, sunny day in February down Newmill Lane, near the Bull Inn,

Brantham, to the shore of the estuary, and east along the raised bank to Stutton Mill House. The windmill site (Grid Ref. 130331), about 300 yards to the west, is now outside the flood defence bank, and has been reduced by time and tide to a few minute islands on which a host of wading and other sea birds were waiting for the tide to recede and uncover their feeding grounds. It was a perfect day for watching the birds and the nine helicopters returning from duty as escorts for the Royal Navy frigate, HMS Grafton, as she sailed up the Orwell to Ipswich. I enjoyed my outing enormously, but I discovered no more about the windmill!



A Mill on the Banks of the River Stour, 1802. Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Later in 1997 I hope to visit West Sussex to see and write about other mills which were painted by Constable.

VISIT TO HOLME MILLS, BIGGLESWADE Mark Barnard

The midweek S.M.G. visit to Jordans proved most enjoyable, and attracted about a dozen members. Holme Mills is about a mile south of Biggleswade, on the River Ivel. The site is now a hive of activity, being the centre of a multi-million pound cereal business employing some 250 people, as well as separate animal feed and flour milling operations.

We were met by John Barker, one of the feed mill managers, who apologised for the unavoidable absence of John Jordan due to business commitments. The Jordan family have been milling at Holme Mills since 1855. The cereal side has seen major investment in recent years, with over 40% of production exported, even before a French distribution company was bought 18 months ago. There is a new state-of-the-art £3 million oat-flaking plant at Bedford, and a distribution building in Biggleswade. The feed mill has been rebuilt following a fire in 1985. There is already a well-stocked shop on site, and a new visitor centre with cafe and viewing area are planned.

The flour mill is an attractive gault brick building, very similar in style to watermills at nearby Astwick and Langford, all dating from the mid 19th century. In 1995 the flour mill's ugly 1950's flat roof was replaced by a pitched roof to restore its appearance to that on the Jordans logo, part of a renovation costing £150,000. It is believed to be the only water turbine roller mill in regular use in the country, although in truth it is as much regarded as a museum piece - we were told that the

The restored flour mill

renovation included removing some modern machinery! It supplies all the flour for the cereal plant as well as local bakers and retailers. Output is around 10 tonnes a week.

We were given a detailed tour of the flour mill interior by the miller, John Goddard, who was a mine of eye-opening information about modern milling practice. The history of the mill is even more interesting than we were told. The old mill had a 14ft waterwheel with oil engine. In 1896 it was equipped with Carter system roller mills but on April 14th 1899 it caught fire (presumed to be caused by the oil engine) and was completely gutted. The walls were taken down and rebuilt from first floor level, with new floors and roof. E.R. & F. Turner designed and erected the new mill, equipping it with a 3-sack plant. The waterwheel had been damaged in the fire so this was replaced with a Gilbert Gilkes & Co. (Kendal) 'Vortex' turbine of 25 h.p., working on a 4ft 9ins fall. (See article in *The Miller* 2.4.1900.) The oil engine was replaced by the present Allen diesel engine in the 1920's.

The mill runs at 200 r.p.m. By comparison, John said his former mill, Spillers at Tilbury Docks, now ran at 1000 r.p.m. Bakers today want flour which will absorb plenty of water, typically about 62%, and more with steam baking. Grinding hard at these speeds rips open the grain, enabling this level of absorption to be achieved. John said modern large-scale roller milling was entirely computer-controlled and so automated it was no longer a craft with job satisfaction for the miller. Home-grown wheat is now widely used, owing to import tariffs on Canadian

wheat. Protein content is lower at 11-12% but this can be increased by adding gluten. 1% gluten (at £300 a tonne) increases protein by ½%, a cheaper way than blending with Canadian wheat.

There are eight sets of rollers on the first floor, three break and five reduction. None of the 1900 E.R. & F. Turner rolls survives, but a Turner roller mill of 1910 has been kept although not in use and those which are used are of 1920's and 1930's vintage, by Turner and Simon. Above is the purifier floor, full of machines to extract the semolinas (particles of white flour) from ground-up wheat feed, in order to obtain a pure white flour. As the mill now only makes wholemeal and brown flours, the purifiers are not used. Also on this floor is a massive Turner dust extractor, which had to be lowered from the floor above when the pitched roof was reinstated.

In one half of the attic are a Turner plansifter and centrifugals, a reel, a germinal brush (to give the grains a final clean before milling) and a waterwheel damper (an ingenious device for conditioning the wheat with moisture). All except the germinal brush are still used, as is the lucam hoist. The other half of the attic is used as a screen room, for wheat cleaning and storage. There are six wooden bins holding 12 tonnes. The original roof trusses are still in situ, as the later flat roof was simply set over them.

The mill is beautifully finished inside, with all wooden spouting (and even some wooden pulley wheels), all varnished, and is a credit to the company. John Goddard spoke ominously of problems with the Health and Safety Executive over non-compliance with ever more stringent legislation, and the possibility that the mill may eventually be forced to close. Let's hope this can be avoided, so this old mill continues to play its small part in the Jordan success story.

VANISHED MILLS Peter Dolman

RASH'S MILL, LONG GREEN, WORTHAM

A smock mill, standing at Grid Ref. 081768, it was stated to have been 200 years old in the 1930's but I believe a date of 1800-1820 is more likely. It is first indicated on Bryant's map of 1825-6. In the tithe return of 1838-40 John Rash is given as owner and occupier and it continued to be run by his family for at least three generations. Between 1879 and 1883 the cap and sails were blown off, and the mill was repaired extensively at this time, gaining a new iron windshaft which was inscribed 'T.S.SMITHDALE & SON ENGINEERS NORWICH'. It is not clear whether they did the repairs or just supplied the shaft. Part of the upright shaft was replaced in iron, probably at the same time. Possibly at the same time the steam mill was built alongside, using stones. In 1894 a roller flour mill was attached to this (the weatherboarded building on the extreme left in the photograph on the following page) with plant by E.R. & F. Turner. In 1923 the Rash family, who may have had it since the beginning, sold it to Harold Pearce (formerly of Great Ashfield) who continued to run the mills until 1944, although the windmill stopped in 1939-40 due to getting into

bad condition. There were attempts to preserve it in 1947 but it would have cost £1000 to put it into good repair so the work was not done. Instead the mills were pulled down in March 1948. The last sails on the mill were second-hand, coming off the tower mill at Framlingham in 1919-20. In the 1930's the flour (from the roller mill) was sent to Cambridge and the feedstuff went to London, there being little local trade. With the flour mill and both steam and windmills running they could produce three tons a day. Since 1908 or earlier the steam engine had been replaced by a gas engine and the 'steam' mill finished up with a 55 h.p. diesel engine.

Wortham mill was an unusually pretty mill for the area, with a horizontally boarded dome cap with a large finial and unusual rear extension, similar to those on mills further south such as Drinkstone smock. This, and the fact that the fanstage appears to have been tacked on, suggests that it may have been hand-winded originally. Like the nearby Stanton mill (to which it was in many ways similar) the first storey of the timber part was half into the brick base. There was a floor below this and, from the way the base batter differed from the timber tower, I believe it had been raised, perhaps when the steam mill was built alongside. The millstones were on the second floor, overdriven from a wooden clasp-arm spurwheel with iron teeth bolted on. Only one pair (of two) remained in the 1930's, and these were modern composition stones as the mill was only used for grist work. There was a separate crown wheel on the third floor for the sack hoist (and dresser originally) and the wallower was an iron mortise wheel. The brakewheel was another clasp-arm wheel with iron teeth. One remarkable feature of the mill which Rex Wailes and all subsequent writers have missed is that it had ten sides, not the usual eight.

20TH ANNIVERSARY COMPETITION

To mark the twentieth anniversary of Suffolk Mills Group we have devised a small competition. Mark Barnard (Questions 1-5), Peter Dolman (6-10), Brian Flint (11-15) and Chris Hullcoop (16-20) have each come up with five questions on Suffolk mills which we hope will be straightforward enough to encourage many of you to enter. The prize is a book token for £20. The winner will be drawn

at our A.G.M. at Woodbridge tide mill on Sunday June 22nd. Answers, on a separate piece of paper, are to be posted to the editor, Mark Barnard, 41, Melbourne Road, IPSWICH IP4 5PP, to arrive no later than Saturday June 21st 1997.

1. Which Suffolk windmill is looked after by English Heritage?
   a) Pakenham; b) Saxtead Green; c) Dalham

2. How many pairs of stones does Buttrum's Mill, Woodbridge have?
   a) two; b) three; c) four

3. Roughly how many post mills were standing in Suffolk in 1950?
   a) 26; b) 18; c) 12

4. Where is the last substantial remain of a Fenland windpump in Suffolk?
   a) Stowmarket; b) Mildenhall; c)Lakenheath

5. Where is there a roundhouse converted by Benjamin Britten?
   a) Aldeburgh; b)Snape; c)Sweffling

6. There are two tower mills in Woodbridge now but there was formerly a third. What was it used for?

7. There was a small hollow post mill at Southwold until about 60 years ago. What was it used for?

8. A famous artist was born at a Suffolk watermill and later lived in another famous miller's son's countryside. Name the artist and the mill.

9. Which was the last new mill site to be occupied by a post mill in Suffolk?

10. Which was the last traditional corn-grinding windmill built in Suffolk, and in which year?

11. Where, in Suffolk, was a windmill erected on a (vacated) castle mound?

12. In which year was the fine mill at Debenham, built by the Wickham Market firm of Whitmores, reduced to its present height?

13. What is the name of the miller who last worked the oldest windmill still standing in Suffolk?

14. Two corn-grinding windmills in Suffolk were fitted with annular sails or 'windwheels'. One was at Haverhill; where was the other?

15. Which village boasted two tall post mills in the early 1920's, one of which is still preserved?

16. A Welsh poet could make a wish here.

17. This armarda of fishing drifters has not been seen in Yarmouth for many years.

18. You had to weigh your sacks and count your change at this Woodbridge mill.

19. A Beccles millwright who also made medicines for dogs.

20. Once on the move, this buck should have been passed all the way to Bill Clinton's garden, but where did it stop?

NEWS

WILFRED FOREMAN

Sadly Wilf died aged 87 in February. A full obituary of this much loved and respected member will appear in the next newsletter.

WINIFRED CLOVER

Winifred Clover of Drinkstone mills died in May this year. Born in 1905 and one of the last surviving children of Daniel Clover, she lived in the mill house all her life, only leaving it for a nursing home late last year. She was associated with the grain and milling industries all her life and worked in the office of Byfords, the grain merchants of Clare. She travelled there by train from Elmswell station, and during the week stayed in Clare. She remembered both the great wars of this century, with men leaving for the trenches in 1914-18. She recalled the peace of the countryside during World War Two, walking from Elmswell to Drinkstone and not seeing a single motor vehicle.

As often at funerals, friends and old colleagues gathered early at the church, well before the cortege and family mourners arrived. Talk was of the old days and of old family businesses long gone. Winifred Clover's life spanned most of the twentieth century and she often reflected on the changes she had seen, some good, some bad, but mostly good. (C.H.)

EUROMOLLERS COME TO NORFOLK

During June a group of trainee millwrights from a number of countries will be staying in Norfolk as part of an E.E.C. initiative designed to develop training in windmill repair and provide experience of the cultural heritage of different countries. The Euromol project is run by a team of professionals from Sweden, Denmark, Greece, Spain and the U.K., the last-named being represented by Michael Knights of Norfolk County Council. In all there are 18 trainees, including three from Norfolk. These have been selected from people with suitable backgrounds, such as building craftsmen. The first of two 27-day intensive training sessions was held in Rhodes in March. The second session in Norfolk will include work to Billingford mill, mainly the fitting of sail shutters, under the supervision of a professional millwright. The trainees will also have lectures, and visits to local mills. S.M.G. salutes this imaginative way of funding mill repairs and millwright training and wishes the project well.(M.B.)

WORK AT GREAT WHELNETHAM MILL

Good progress has been made at Great Whelnetham tower mill this year. Brian Flint and I spent several cold but fine winter days there fitting corrugated steel sheets onto the existing roof frame which is still in good condition. The sheets were fitted with heavy 4" galvanised clout nails with stainless steel washers, driven home with a nylon-headed hammer to avoid breaking the zinc coating. The last sheet was nailed down leaving me on the roof without a ladder! A rope had to be threaded out under the steel sheets and attached to my harness, and Brian payed out the rope from inside. One third the way down he hitched the rope to take a photograph of this bizarre manoeuvre. It looked like a ritual hanging and I hope we did not startle any passing motorists! I was reminded of the time at home when I had to dig some holes for concrete fence posts. The only way I could make them a yard deep was to lie flat with my arm down the hole, trowelling out the last foot or so. I had just completed one and looked up to see a policeman! A passing motorist had seen me and concluded I was either a victim of accident, violence, in need of medical attention or drunk.

Inside the tower a new ladder has been made and holes in the floor patched. The whole mill has been swept out and looks surprisingly neat and mill-like.

A dozen or so yards from the tower is a fine little power mill building containing a pair of stones on a hurst complete with engine drive, sack hoist, hopper and bin. These stones and those

Chris Hullcoop working on the new roof at Great Whelnetham mill (February 1997)

in the tower were driven by the Crossley oil engine. Sadly this has now gone but replacement with a similar engine is always possible. The building is some 20ft long and 12ft wide and rapidly going from derelict to ruinous. The ground floor has brick and flint walls while the upper floor is timber framed and weatherboarded under a slate roof. Total neglect and rampant ivy growth have done their worst and from the farm side it is impossible to distinguish it as a building so great and all-embracing is the ivy. One side of the roof has lost half its slates and much of the timber frame is in poor condition, but the sturdy internal boarding is holding it all together.

Today very few windmills remain complete with their auxiliary buildings. Most existed with a complex of smaller buildings such as stores, granaries, power mills and stables, all having their place in the business. With very limited resources available for mill preservation it is only the windmills themselves that have been kept. A classic case is Billingford in Norfolk which many at first sight think is a drainage mill. Although these days I have to guard against escalation of mill projects where the future is uncertain, we really ought to try to at least halt the rapid decline into roofless ruin of this fine building. We are therefore planning some first aid work this summer which should extend its life by many years. (C.H.)

EVENTS

S.M.G. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SUNDAY JUNE 22nd, from 11am, at WOODBRIDGE TIDE MILL

The agenda for this, our 20th A.G.M., is included with this mailing. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this nostalgic occasion.

STANTON WINDMILL WORK-INS: JULY 19th-27th & AUGUST 9th-17th

Details of these work-ins were included in the last newsletter. This is a reminder to contact Peter Dolman on 01359 259622 if you would like to lend a hand at this fine 1751 post mill.

JOINT MEETING WITH FRIENDS OF NORFOLK WINDMILLS: OLD BUCKENHAM, NORFOLK; SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14th from 2.30pm.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of both S.M.G. and FONWi, we are holding a joint event with them, starting with the visit to the newly restored Old Buckenham tower mill. This is a very large mill: 80' x 10' sails, 20' cap, 60' high, 5 pairs of stones, 13' spurwheel, 6' wallower, etc.

At about 5pm we will adjourn to the village hall for a buffet meal and a slide show (bring any slides of interest you have).

Entrance to the mill for S.M.G. members is free; those wishing to stay for the meal and slide show should budget for £6 a head (precise costs yet to be established). If you are staying for the meal, please give Peter Dolman a ring in the week beforehand so we know how many to cater for (number above).