

From the Chattering Damsel at the Editor's Desk

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The Alton meeting report carries details of HMG work party activities so here are some Hampshire mills which provide leisure activities for enjoyable days out. Why not set yourself the important task of sampling *all* the homemade cakes and cream teas – but not all on the same day! At the same time you will be supporting the mills' continued existence. If you have a favourite Hampshire mill worth a trip out to, do share it with us. Now, enjoy!

Alderholt Mill near Fordingbridge is a working mill producing flour for sale and commercial bakers. In addition to the welcome tea room, the owners provide b&b and self-catering for that all essential get-away-from-it-all break. It is understood that plans for the installation of a turbine to produce electricity are now well under way.

Chesapeake Mill has overwhelming sense of history about it and although it is now used to display gifts and antiques, much history and machinery can still be seen throughout the building. A separate room has been devoted to telling the history of the captured warship. An audio visual display includes the involvement of the Hampshire Mills Group in consultations with the council and saviours of this marvellous old mill. An excellent tea room affords views over the river and delicious home-made fare. Check www.chesapeakemill.co.uk/ for opening times.

Eling Tide Mill made television news with the revelation that planning has been applied for the installation of a turbine to produce electricity whilst producing its various flour products. Is Eling the first Tide Mill to do this? Visit this fascinating mill, part of the Eling Experience incorporating the village, plus museum (and tea room!). Check out www.totton-and-eling-tc.gov.uk/Living_In_The_Town/Tide_Mill.aspx for opening times.

Gordleton Mill: this old watermill on the outskirts of Lymington has been a restaurant for quite a while but the owners are to be commended having spent several years restoring the waterwheel and all the paraphernalia that goes with producing electricity; the works are successfully completed complementing the restaurant's green credentials resulting in being awarded the New Forest Marque for sourcing local ingredients including **Eling Tide Mill Flour**, itself the proud bearer of the New Forest Marque. Gordleton Mill is in Silver Street, Hordle, Hampshire, SO41 6DJ | **Tel:** 01590 682219 | info@themillatgordleton.co.uk

Longbridge Mill up in the north of Hampshire at Sherfield on Loddon is owned by a restaurant chain – and is their only working mill restaurant out of the 19 purchased from Whitbread a couple of years ago. Flour produced at the mill is on sale during normal opening times and the mill is operated by HMG members (usually) on the fourth Saturday of each month.



Chesapeake Tea Room Ladies and Tea Shop sign