

From the Chattering Damsel at the Editor's Desk

Burseldon Windmill. Hampshire's only working windmill is appealing for volunteers to help run the mill one day a week to avoid closure Got time to spare?
Then help throw a lifeline by ringing 023 8068 8436 NOW!!

Eling Tide Mill has passed Stage 1 of a Heritage Lottery Fund application. SPAB has awarded grants to the following: Crux Easton £1,000 towards repairs to the well and Headley Mill £1,000 towards roof repairs. Slipper Mill, Emsworth: the leaking millpond's banking is to be shored up to the tune of £75,000.

Advance **Mills Open Day** news: **Hockley Mill** will be open to the public on 15th May. More Hockley Mill news is that HMG will discuss the Environment Agency's proposal to place a fish ladder in one of the sluices.

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Many HMG members may be concerned to learn that Helen Major, a redoubtable lady without whom Ken Major would never have got his copious surveys and reports on mills written, is recovering from an operation carried out on Monday, 14th February. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing Helen a full and speedy recovery – but please- don't swamp her with telephone calls.  
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The Hampshire Mills Group is now affiliated with the Federation Francaise des Amis des Moulins, the national organisation for all French molinologistes. HMG members have long shared knowledge, interests and mill visits. (Our reprint of John Silman's notes in this issue covers the Federation's representative here). A translation of their newsletter can be accessed on the internet and amongst the many items of interest is an announcement that an international symposium is to be held in Norway on 30th April. For full details see the newsletter at: tel : +47 45871940 www.moulinsdefrance.org

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The Friends of King Alfred's Buses running day was on Sunday January 2nd this year so Hockley Water Mill in Twyford and City Mill in Winchester were open. Hockley had about 150 visitors, our best ever open day mostly arriving by **vintage** bus, but others who happened to be passing by walking a dog or just enjoying the perfect winter day were rounded up by 'sheepdog' Nigel Smith and invited to look round. Angela Smith did sterling work with selling leaflets and cards and Mick Edgeworth & Eleanor Yates gave guided tours of the building.

Hockley's next open day will be on National Mills Sunday 15 May and we look forward to seeing lots of visitors to this unique site.

Eleanor Yates