## Tail Race ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~



You've read the factual account of a tide mills convention, now read **The Tide Mill**, a novel. The author, Richard Herley, sets it in 13th century Sussex and combines details of medieval engineering, economics and law with an illicit love affair. One reader describes it as "a fascinating exploration of medieval theology and its conflict with the secular administration. As well, we have an extremely detailed, and absolutely absorbing, foray into medieval engineering. The design of the mill is described in some detail and I must admit I had absolutely no idea that medieval engineers were so sophisticated. Herley must have done an incredible amount of research...how a manor was run, relations of serfs, freemen and nobles, clothing....." Not available in bookshops, this is an e-book which can be downloaded from www.richardherley.com.for a modest donation of about £3.

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Early Ordnance Survey maps were produced from a national survey of England and Wales at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. **Cassini Old Series Maps** are reprints of these, ideal for the local historian for the detail included i.e. mills, smithies and hamlets, and showing transition caused by changes in travel methods and population growth through the past two centuries. Visit <u>www.cassini.com</u> or your local independent bookstore for more information on what's available.

**Chudleigh Mill**, on the river Yeo in Somerset is promising homeowners free electricity for ten years from a hydropower scheme which will generate 20KW of power per hour and cover at least 95% of electricity costs.

The original mill buildings are being restored and converted and together with some new flats constructed using eco friendly materials including a rainwater recycling tank, are due for completion later this year. After the 10 years, home owners will pay the developers a nominal fee to help to cover running costs of the scheme. Source: New Builder 21/11/08

**British Waterways** In partnership with The Small Hydro Company, said it intended to build 25 small-scale hydro-electric schemes with a capacity of 40MW, enough to power 40,000 homes. The hydro initiative hopes to raise £120m in private capital over the next three years, create 150 construction jobs and reduce CO2 emissions by 110,000 tonnes annually.

Underwater turbines will be installed next to existing weirs and will not affect the navigation of

canals and rivers. Larger waterways such as the Trent and Severn rivers will be used for the first hydro power projects, with many of the installations likely to be located in the East Midlands and Yorkshire. It is hoped the first of the 25 hydro installations will be generating renewable electricity by 2010. Source The Guardian