

Acting Site Managers Report

Report of the acting site manager of Bursledon Windmill
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1 Introduction

This report covers the period April 2009 to Oct 2009. It updates the members on the activities and events at the museum.

2 Activities and Events

2.1 School holiday events programme April – Dec.

A different activity every week of the school holidays, through out the year. These are family friendly and either free drop in or bookable at £2.50 per child taking part.

Date	Male Adult	Female Adult	Child	Activity
07/04/09	1	7	14	Dough Monsters Book
08/04/09	2	4	8	Dough Monsters Book
14/04/09	0	4	7	Spring Flour Pictures Book
15/04/09	0	3	4	Spring Flour Pictures Book
26/05/09	0	2	4	Windmills from paper & willow Book
27/05/09	1	5	11	Windmills from paper & willow Book
28/07/09	4	10	20	Dough craft – double session Book
29/07/09	1	13	26	Dough craft – double session Book
04/08/09	1	11	21	Mosaic Windmills Book
05/08/09	0	8	13	Mosaic Windmills Book

11/08/09	0	7	11	Harry the Harvest Mouse Book
12/08/09	2	7	11	Harry the Harvest Mouse Book
18/08/09	1	7	11	Pond Creatures Investigation Book
19/08/09	0	2	6	Pond Creatures Investigation Book
25/08/09	2	4	7	Gears and Windmills Book
26/08/09	3	8	11	Gears and Windmills Book
01/09/09	0	6	15	Weaving With Nature (double length session) Book
02/09/09	1	5	14	Weaving With Nature (double length session) Book
27/10/09				Big Draw at the Windmill Free
28/10/09				Big Draw at the Windmill Free
22/12/09				Christmas celebrations in the Barn Free
23/12/09				Christmas celebrations in the Barn Free
29/12/09				New Year celebrations in the Barn Free
30/12/09				New Year celebrations in the Barn Free

2.2 Added value days

These events are days, usually Sundays, when an added attraction is included in the normal visit to the Windmill. This added interest attraction is free to those visiting whether they decide to pay to do the standard Mill visit or just drop in for a coffee. The next of these will take place on Tuesday 27th October when we will be running two free Spider Sessions at the same time as the free Big Draw at the Windmill event.

2.3 Forthcoming fairs

The Meet the Chef event was set up by Hampshire Fare to promote Hampshire Fare members products to the managers and chefs of the 16/18 Fuller's pubs in Hampshire. This year the fairs we are involved in to advertise the windmill both as a visitor attraction

and as a working mill, all happen in the latter half of the tax year. We will also be trialling the new small rotary quern at the Pumpkin festival. This quern was purchased this year as a piece of equipment to take to events and as an easier to work quern for the younger visitor at the mill.

Date	Male adult	Female Adult	Child	Activity
18/05/2009	35	25	0	Meet the Chef – Hampshire Fare event
10/10/2009				Autumn Pumpkin Festival - RVCP
16/10/2009				Octoberfest – Milestones
17/10/2009				Octoberfest – Milestones
18/10/2009				Octoberfest – Milestones
March 2010				Bitterne Local History Society

2.4 Group Visits

Booked visits to the mill take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Occasionally named groups also visit on Sundays in these cases they are counted as drop in visitors not as a group in our visitor figures. To give an idea of the sorts of groups interested in visiting the mill I have included Sunday visiting ones in the following chart.

Date	Male adult	Female Adult	Child	Group Name
08/04/09	1	1	2	family visit
26/04/09	approx 25	approx 20	approx 6	4 Classic Car groups as part of "National Drive In Day"
20/05/09	0	7	15	1 st Locksheath Brownies
27/05/09	2	2	5	2 family visits
14/07/09	5	2	0	Yinnon & new Councillors
15/07/09	6	30	0	Bursledon WI
19/07/09	0	2	0	Local Art Group

21/07/09	3	8	15	7 th Itchen Beavers Group (Southern)
04/08/09	0	2	0	small group visit
11/08/09	1	0	2	family group visit
19/08/09	2	2	0	family group visit
01/09/09	1	1	2	family group visit
09/09/09	0	2	0	family group visit
27/09/09	approx 6	approx 4	0	Durley Camera Club

3 Education

Following the workshop in December 2008 two sessions were worked up and trialled as family activities during the summer. These were the Harry the Harvest mouse and the Gears and windmills. This was done with the expectation that these will become part of the educational offer for Reception & Yr1 children. Money has also been acquired to purchase a stuffed Barn Owl for use in both family and educational activities.

Date	Male adult	Female Adult	Child	School
01/04/09	0	2	11	Mark Way School
21/04/09	1	6	14	Out of School Club Steiner Waldorf School
29/04/09	0	5	17	Ladybird Nursery, Highbury College
02/09/09	3	5	12	Out of School Club Steiner Waldorf School

4 Visitor figures for April –Sept 2009

A comparison with the figures for the same period last year show for the most part a healthy increase. The dip in numbers in June 2009 may in part be put to the fact that June 2008 included an added interest Sunday for National Insect week. This was not offered in 2009.

Visitor Figures	2009	2008	% change
April	520	384	35%
May	509	312	63%
June	192	354	-46%
July	425	317	34%
August	720	641	12%
September	390	219	78%

5 Flour sales & Production April – Sept 2009

Sales of the blended flour stopped in early June 2009. From then on we have only sold wholemeal flour in the three qualities, fine, medium and coarse. We began to supply the Southern Co-op with 500g bags of fine, medium and coarse flour in May of 2009. We now supply the Southern Co-op branches in Stockbridge, Wickham, Alresford, Lee-on-Solent, Denmead, Milford-on-Sea, Romsey, Bishops Waltham, Titchfield, Overton, Odiham, Alderholt, and Tadley. The figures in brackets are the amounts of flour supplied to Southern Co-op in those months (the total figure is inclusive of the Co-op flour).

	Total Flour sales in kg 2009	Total flour sales in kg 2008	
April	144	73	
May	231 (45)	72	

June	342 (165)	101	
July	160 (65)	140	
August	222 (40)	206	
September	174 (65)	101	

6 Site and Buildings

This year saw the first major maintenance check of the pole end of the windshaft and the sails. This will be a yearly activity starting this year. All is satisfactory.

The sail canvases and ropes are also in good condition. The repair of an accidental tear earlier this year allowed the contractor to assess their current state.