Intro by our President

Dear TIMS Members and Mill Friends,

Again, another issue of E-News with mill news from all over the world. A special thank you goes to Leo, Katerina and Holly. They did it again!!

This year, from the 17th till the 25th of August, the TIMS Symposium in Berlin, Germany, will take place. The organizers are working hard to make this event one of the most successful events in the history of TIMS. There will be around 120 participants.

The first Symposium day, Sunday the 18th of August, will be in the URANIA Conference Centre and will be open to the public. On this day five keynote papers will be presented on the theme “Mills in History and Archaeology”. If you are in Berlin at that date, don’t miss this special event!!

In this issue of TIMS E-News you will find a report by Per Gliese on the restoration of Lille Mølle in Denmark, as well as a series of photos by Mike Beacham, of a dismantled watermill in the UK. And of course, there will be the yearly agenda of the National Mill Days, as well as the Book Corner.

The Transactions of the TIMS Symposium held in Sibiu, Romania, are now available. The price is 40 Euros plus postage. We have stocks of Transactions in a couple of countries. Should you be interested in getting your own copy, then please write to info@molinology.org. We then will let you know the postage costs, and how to make your payment.

Not a member of TIMS yet? It is easy to enroll, just complete the on-line application form..... as a member you will receive, twice a year, our journal International Molinology as well as all new issues of our Bibliotheca Molinologica series.

Do you want to be active inside TIMS? Just let us know by writing a short e-mail to me or Tarcis, our secretary: (e-mail: tims-secretary@molinology.org).

Enjoy reading the E-News !!

Willem van Bergen

e-mail: wdvb@gmx.de

One of the eight mills in Serres, South Tyrol, Italy.
AGENDA

NATIONAL MILL DAYS 2019

Portugal, Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th April, http://www.moinhosdeportugal.org/ws/

Belgium (Flanders), Sunday 28th April, http://www.molenforumvlaanderen.be/
National Heritage Day, Sunday 8th September
East-Flanders Mill Day, Sunday 8th October


UK, Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May, http://www.nationalmillsweekend.co.uk/


Switzerland, Saturday 1st June (Saturday after Ascension Day), http://www.muehlenfreunde.ch/fr/millday/index.html

Germany, Monday 10th June (Whitsun Monday)
National Heritage Day, Sunday 8th September

Denmark, Sunday 16th June, http://www.danskmolledag.dk/


REGIONAL MILL DAYS 2019

Sweden, Sunday 7th July, Skåne, https://www.hembygd.se/foreningen-skanska-mollor/

Make sure to check details before you go!
WORLD NEWS

DENMARK

LILLE MØLLE RESTORED!

In our Spring issue of 2016, Susana Louro reported on her visit to Lille Mølle, a watermill near Nyborg on the Danish island of Fyn, which was owned for many years by one of TIMS’ founding fathers Anders Jespersen. Per Gliese wrote an article on the restoration of this mill later that year in the Danish mill journal Møllen. He kindly agreed to translate his account and publish it in E-News, illustrated by some of his pictures.

Lille Mølle is all right again!

Two new waterwheels were installed last Tuesday [21 November 2016]. The listed beauty has been restored for 2.2 million Danish crowns.

“It can’t be that difficult. You just have to construct the two waterwheels to be identical to the old ones.” Such was the slightly light-hearted message from Lille Mølle’s owner to carpenter Hans Ravn when he, back in January, with his colleague Poul Bader, dismantled the old wheels and took them home to the workshop in Fredericia to make two new ones. And it has been easy for the two carpenters, who met at Lille Mølle on Tuesday morning with two new, beautifully crafted waterwheels. Made of oak and larch, they are pretty accurate copies of the old wheels, that were weather-beaten and had disintegrated. “The new waterwheels are not as strong as the old ones and so needed to be reinforced, but otherwise they are copies”, Hans Ravn said when the crane driver started to lift the first one.

The work of lifting the two wheels, each about 3 metres in diameter, from the truck and down in place was surprisingly painless. The crane driver had to take care of the mill’s newly thatched roof, a street lamp and some trees, but managed remarkably well. Once the wheels were in place, the giant oak shafts had to be put inside them and through the wall of the mill. This part was a little more cumbersome. Then an even bigger job was waiting: to fix the shafts and make sure that they were in the centre of the wheels. It requires accuracy and a lot of oak wedges.

When a few days later the work was completed, Lille Mølle was in absolute tip-top condition again. The owners Tommy Storm and Sevda Metin have renovated the house and other outbuildings over a period of several years, now it was the mill itself.
Part of the roof was newly thatched, the gable at the side of the waterwheels was completely renovated in larch, and the discharge channel that leads the water away after having passed the wheels was redone.

The project was not one that the owners could accomplish themselves, but when you own an important listed watermill, support is available. The cost of this phase of the renovation was 2,2 million Danish crowns, and support was received from AP Møller Foundation and from Kulturstyrelsen, who of course also watched the renovation.

The architect was Søren Vadstrup, probably the biggest name in Denmark when it comes to renovating old houses. >>

Source: article by Per Gliese, in: Møllen No. 3638, Jan/Feb 2017, 133 årgang.

UNITED KINGDOM

LOWER ALSTONE WATERMILL, CHELTENHAM, ENGLAND, SO93872.22983

The Final Years, by M J A Beacham.

The mill buildings shown below were erected between about 1815 and 1825, to replace a sixteenth century mill which in all probability was itself a replacement for an even earlier one. Milling had ceased during World War I.

All photographs by the author.

Photographs 1 (west end) and 2 (east end) taken in September 2000: Showing the mill in use as a social club, part of an undeveloped backwater between a small trade park and a major supermarket.

Photograph 3 (from the rear, across the river) taken in September 2004: All approaches to the mill are closed off for alterations to the rear of the mill and the construction of a raised footbridge across the river Chelt, and new retaining walls. The designer allegedly won a civic award.

Photograph 4 taken in January 2016: Aftermath of the fire, supposedly caused by drunken vagrants, who presumably went upstairs to bed.
Photograph 5 taken 31st July 2017: The skittle alley and storage buildings behind the mill having been already pulled down, work began on the miller’s cottage.

Photograph 6 taken 31st July 2017: The original rear of the mill exposed.

Photograph 7 taken 1st August 2017: With the cottage gone, the roof of the mill building itself is attacked.

Photograph 8 taken 2nd August 2017: Tiles and most of the roof trusses gone.

Photograph 9 taken 2nd August 2017: From the west end, over the footbridge.

Photograph 10 taken 3rd August 2017: The bin divisions in the loft are revealed.

Photograph 11 taken 5th August 2017: Work moved only slowly down to the ground floor.

Photograph 12 taken 5th August 2017: And the same at the rear.

Photograph 13 taken 7th August 2017: Morning of the last day.
Chinese boat mill on Wei He River in Gansu Province.

CHINA

CHINESE BOAT MILL

Heinz Schuler from Switzerland found a short film (about 30 seconds) of a working Chinese boat mill! There are also a few shots of a (rice?) stamping mill on the river bank. The film was shot in 1929, so 90 years ago, in the Chinese coastal province of Zhejiang, just south of Shanghai. It is held in an Italian movie library, but available on YouTube.

Movies of a working boat mill are very rare, which makes this a special find indeed!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMpyVrqjTBc

GERMANY

JACKERATH WINDMILL DEMOLISHED

Jackerath Windmill, a well-known landmark for those travelling on the motorway near Cologne, stands no longer. The listed tower mill, dating back to 1780, was brutally demolished in October 2018 without any advance notice. The demolition was commissioned by RWE, a big German energy producer. The mill and the neighbouring village had to make way for the extraction of brown coal, a type of fuel far from sustainable but still widely used in Germany. A large, open-pit mine, named Garzweiler II, will emerge here in the coming years. It is sad to see that this windmill had to be sacrificed simply for this reason, especially so, as there seem to be plans to reduce the use of brown coal.

A newspaper account can be found here:
https://www1.wdr.de/nachrichten/rheinland/immerather-muehle-abriss-tagebau-100.html

There is even a movie showing the demolition:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ewjk5gsY-Fo
FRANCE

FLIXECOURT WINDMILL

Fitting Sails the French Way

Last year the Moulin Basile at Flixecourt, in the Somme department in France, was restored. The windmill, built in 1776, had been an empty tower without cap and sails for almost a century. Jean Bruggeman sent me an account of the works; to see it click here. On 25 September 2018, the new sails were fitted. Pay special attention as to how this job was carried out!

UK

Mill links, mostly from the UK, received from William Hill.

Doc file with links from William Hill can be seen here.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK CORNER, by Leo van der Drift.

Presented here is a small but fine selection of, mostly, recently published mill books. Please note that prices are indicative and postage comes extra, unless stated otherwise.


The book, based on many years of research, is divided in two parts: the transition from human powered industries to wind and water powered industries in the period 1500 – 1800, and the transition “from wind to steam”. This is the 17th and final volume on the mills of the Nord department in France. It deals with the area around the city of Douai, an area where windmills predominate. The author found 177 windmills and 42 watermills. Many windmills had already disappeared. At the outbreak of the First World War, there were only 20 left, of which nine did not survive the war. Watermills were especially found in the city of Douai. As in his earlier volumes, each mill is described in detail and illustrated with photographs, old map fragments, etc. We congratulate Jean with the completion of the series on the Nord department. The 17 volumes have a total of 6480 pages! In French.

416 pages, hard cover, A4 size, richly illustrated in b&w and colour. ARAM Nord-Pas-de-Calais, 59650 Villeneuve d’Ascq. 2018, ISBN 978-2-490375-02-8. Price 85 EUR. To obtain a copy, contact the author at jeanbruggeman@nordnet.fr, or try Stichting Levende Molens in Roosendaal (Netherlands), email info@molencentrum.nl.

This book describes and shows, with many illustrations, how a neglected mill barn in the Zaan area in Holland became a windmill again. De Paauw [The Peacock] was not equipped as a corn mill or an oil mill, but as a hemp beating mill, a function unique in the world. The last hemp beating windmill in Holland was demolished over 100 years ago. Now such a mill stands proudly once more along the canal at Nauerna near Zaandam, where it can be visited. It will also provide an opportunity to carry out some research. Quite a few practical details of hemp processing still remain unclear. This reconstructed hemp beating mill makes it possible to investigate these details. In Dutch.

144 pages, hard cover, 22x28 cm, richly illustrated in full colour.
Stichting Zaanse Pakhuizen in collaboration with Stichting Uitgeverij Noord-Holland, 2018, ISBN 978-9-49-233506-7. Price 24,50 EUR. Available from the Zaans Molenmuseum, email info@zaanschemolen.nl, or try Stichting Levende Molens in Roosendaal (Netherlands), email info@molencentrum.nl


The Zaya is a river in Austria, in the northeast of the province of Niederösterreich (Lower Austria). This publication is practically identical to “Dokumentation der Mühlen im Zayatal”, a study that was carried out in 2013/2014 by the Vienna University of Technology on behalf of the Austrian Society of Mill Friends and in which the 44 mill sites along the river are documented in detail. Mirela Weber, known to us from the symposium in Sibiu, participated in this study. In German.

478 pages, hard cover, size 24x21 cm, richly illustrated in full colour, with separate map.


Another publication from Austria, and also from the province of Niederösterreich (Lower Austria). As the title suggests, this book deals with saw mills in the Waldmark, a region south of Vienna. Although the hilly area had many corn mills, stamping mills and forge hammers, saw mills were the most numerous. In pictures and short stories, what is left today of the saw mills is examined, from archaeological remains...
to the saw mill of today. After a brief chapter on the technical development of the saw mills, the saw mill set up in the Waldbauernmuseum Gutenstein, located in the village of Gutenstein, and its construction are described. Then follows a detailed inventory of the saw mills in the Waldmark, most of which have disappeared. Although published some years ago, it is a nice publication with many historical photographs, drawings and engravings of now lost saw mills. In German. 304 pages, size 21x23 cm, with many illustrations in b&w and colour. Gesellschaft der Freunde Gutensteins, Gutenstein, 2006. Price 39.80 EUR. Available from the Waldbauernmuseum Gutenstein, homepage http://www.waldbauernmuseum.at, or by sending an email to Judith Pawelak at pawelak-ast@aon.at

The doctoral thesis of Dr.-Ing. Richard Brüdern, who was 86 years old at his graduation (see E-News No. 25, page 3) is now available to the public. As the title indicates, it deals with the historical and technical development of the waterwheel. The work starts with an overview of the theory of generating power by using a waterwheel, then attention is given to everyday practice, in order to finally combine theory and practice. In German. 506 pages, A4 size, with many drawings and some pictures in b&w and colour. Mühlenvereinigung Niedersachsen-Bremen e.V., 2018. Price 50 EUR. The study can be downloaded for free (375 MB) at https://publikationsserver.tu-braunschweig.de/servlets/MCRFileNodeServlet/dbbs_derivate_00044681/Diss_Bruedern_Richard.pdf or it can be ordered as a printed book at the Mühlenverein Niedersachsen-Bremen e.V. by sending them the completed order form.

Please remember to send us details of the books that you would like to see here next time!
MESSAGE FROM THE E-NEWS TEAM

As you have already noticed, there is much news from all around the world and also a great number of new mill publications. We are dedicated to spreading this information to all mill friends. If you have news items, short articles, books, announcements or something else that you want to share, please send them to the editor, Leo van der Drift, e-mail: lvddrift@telfort.nl. This Newsletter cannot exist without you! Please be informed that the next issue of E-News will be sent out in October 2019.

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