



The Combe Yard

Newsletter of the Combe Mill Society



December 2020

It's hard to write a newsletter when we are all enduring the second COVID lockdown but you will be pleased to learn that things are still happening at the Mill.

Even without our popular Christmas Market there is still the festive break to look forward to.

We wish all our members the best Christmas they can manage within the constraints of their respective 'bubbles'.

Easyfundraising receipts

At this time of year our spending invariably increases so it is good to report that an increasing - not nearly enough - number of our members are using Easyfundraising to make donations to our funds.



Since we started we have earned £465 which includes £16 in the last month. According to the Easyfundraising dashboard we have eight supporters one of whom has never shopped.

Our two best supporters have raised £26.50 and £20.41 in the last twelve months and they are to be congratulated.

We've just been paid by #easyfundraising! Thanks to everyone who's raised donations. If you're not already supporting Combe Mill Society, please sign up now. It takes 2 minutes and 4,300+ shops will donate to us for free every time you shop with them!

Visit: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/combemill/payments/64/>

If you regularly shop on-line why aren't you doing it too? Information on how to get going is on the home page of the website.

Director resignation

We recently received the resignation of John Sylvester as a director. John and Helena intend to remain members and are willing to look after the retail activities for the moment.

John feels he is no longer able to contribute as much as he used to and that the time has come to resign. We are very grateful for all the input John has made to keeping the mill going since he joined in September 2011.

Wanted

We are looking for a donation of a bench pillar drill for the workshop shed. It needs to be in reasonable condition and preferably have a ½ inch chuck.

Upcoming works

Over the next few weeks we will have contractors working on electrical remedial work and also a service of the air source heating system.

This is another hit on our finances but must be carried out to keep everyone safe and warm.

We thank Terry Bailey for his efforts in arranging these works.

Forthcoming events

Monday 14 December - 18.00hrs ZOOM Board meeting

Invitation

When we emerge into 2021 there will be lots to do in recovering our finances and arranging new activities. If you would like to contribute please think about putting yourself forward as a director and help take some of the burden off those already working hard.

Donations received

We thank Peter Trowles for donating a large screen television for use at the Mill to display interpretation videos in HD. Tony Simmons has collated a collection of films for the interest of visitors and members taken at the Mill over the years from as far back as the first steaming of the restored beam engine in the 1970s and made by several past and present members.

Our thanks are also owed to our mystery benefactor who has generously provided the money to cover the cost of the pumps display that Derek Goddard has been working on.

Tea Room management

Please contact Wendy by email - education@combemill.org to let her know your availability.

If you have offered to work in the tea room provided someone else does the organising - here's your chance to help.

Many thanks

Wendy

Annual subscriptions are now due

We have kept the same level of subscription fee as 2020. Subs fall due on 1 January and should be paid either by cheque payable to **Combe Mill Society** or by BACS to **account 00213458 sort code 30-19-83** as soon as possible.

Given the poor state of our finances any additional donation you care to make will be mightily appreciated.

The fees are: Single Member £8, Family members £12. Friends fee is a minimum of £20.

There is an additional charge of £10 if you wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.

Please post your cheque to Membership Secretary, Combe Mill Society, Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Combe, Oxfordshire, OX29 8ET

Finally

After this disruptive and trying year, we would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

It is still very important to put your name in the signing-in book on arrival at the Mill every time you visit. The log book is located in the Tea Room.

WE CAN BE FINED FOR NON-COMPLIANCE
