



The Combe Yard

Newsletter of the Combe Mill Society



April 2025

Change and adapt steaming event

Our first event of the season took place on Sunday 16 March and the theme was Change and Adapt. This was based on the theme for this year's Science Week.

Organised by Nigel Evans, the main displays were set up in the Foreman's Office and attracted a lot of attention from all ages.

We had 104 paying visitors on what was a dull and cold Sunday.

The various displays ranged from currency, telephones, calculators, cameras, record players, data media, thermionic valves, cable and fibre optics, valve radio and toys.

Children found typewriters were the most interesting items to examine.



Thanks to everyone who loaned exhibits and helped on the day.

Stall holders attending our Spring Market were disappointed by the low visitor numbers and some had cancelled beforehand.



Upstairs in the Pattern Shop visitors found plenty to interest them. Marc Richmond worked on the belt-driven wood-turning lathe and Bob Wheeler and Ron Winfield had more space in the enlarged model engines area to chat with visitors.



Richard Edwards was able to give a youngster experience of wood turning.

In the tinkering area children enjoyed playing with old coinage and making rubbings of them.



Riverside shed repairs

Terry and his team have been taking advantage of the dry weather to empty the shed and remove the wet insulation caused by the flooding reported last month.

They have also coppiced some of the willows by the river and made repairs to the fencing washed away in the floods.

Membership Cards

Every member should have a laminated membership card to confirm they are a member of the Society.

IF you do NOT yet have your card, please ask our Membership Secretary, Terry Bailey.



Thanks to those members who have signed up to this roster. Gaps will in future be filled from the membership list and YOU will need to arrange any swaps that may be necessary.

Please arrange any swaps yourself

Non-steaming Wednesdays

Date	Ticket Office Clerk	School Hol
April		
Wed 02 April	Rose R	
Wed 09 April	Tony S	
Wed 16 April	Derek G	
Wed 23 April	Peter T	
Wed 30 April	Alan B	
May		
Wed 07 May	Rose R	
Wed 14 May	Richard S	
Wed 21 May	Peter T	
Wed 28 May	George F	
June		
Wed 04 June	Rose R	
Wed 11 June	Derek G	
Wed 18 June		
Wed 25 June	Alan B	
July		
Wed 02 July	Tony S	
Wed 09 July	Derek G	
Wed 16 July		
Wed 23 July	Alan B	
Wed 30 July		
August		
Wed 06 Aug		
Wed 13 Aug	Alan B	
Wed 20 Aug		
Wed 27 Aug		
September		
Wed 03 Sept		
Wed 10 Sept		
Wed 17 Sept		
Wed 24 Sept		
October		
Wed 01 Oct	Cliff M	
Wed 08 Oct		
Wed 15 Oct	Alan B	
Wed 22 Oct		
Wed 29 Oct		

Forthcoming events - 2025

Friday 25 April - 7.30pm in Foreman's Office - Annual General Meeting

Thursday 1 May - 11.30am - Classic Car club visit

Monday 12 May - 2pm - Board Meeting @ Mill

Monday 2 June - 11.30am - Oxford Rotary Club visit

Wednesday 16 July - 1pm - Vintage Motor Cycle Club visit

Date	Title
20 Apr	Military Vehicles incl Easter Egg trail
11 May *	National Mills Weekend
18 May	Classic Wheels
15 June	The Mill at Work
20 July	Wildlife by the Evenlode
17 Aug	Models & Collections
21 Sep	Crafts & Skills
19 Oct	Woodcrafts + Autumn market
30 Nov *	Christmas Fayre

* Not in steam

Recruiting Day

Our recruiting day on 22 March was disappointing since not one person came. We will try again targeting a different audience.

Europa School visits

On 24/25 and 31 March and 1 April we hosted Europa School year 8 and 7 respectively to the Mill. A full day of activities took place each day with each cohort of 45 being divided into three. One group spent an hour in the woods and at the pond completing natural history activities. The second group of fifteen went to the Foreman's Office for an activity of social history based on past workers at the Mill. The third group was divided in two and spent an hour being shown around the Mill looking at steam and water power and water quality.

Wendy Foster organised the visits and thanks all those who assisted:

Robin Bowl; Nigel Evans; Richard Edwards; Wendy Foster; Derek Goddard; Bob Kitchener; Robin Long; Cliff Manion; Richard Newman; Marc Richmond; David Ralphs; Rose Ralphs; Tony Simmons; Richard Stone; Tony Thurlby; Peter Trowles; Bob Wheeler; Ron Winfield.



Children and members take a lunchtime break

