

Summer 2021

TOUCHPAPER

The Newsletter of the Royal Gunpowder Mills Friends Association
Registered Charity No. 1115237

The Mill Stone Returns

Jim Burgess Chapter 25: The ERDE Housing Estate

Early ideas for a narrow gauge railway

Down to the Lea in Ships

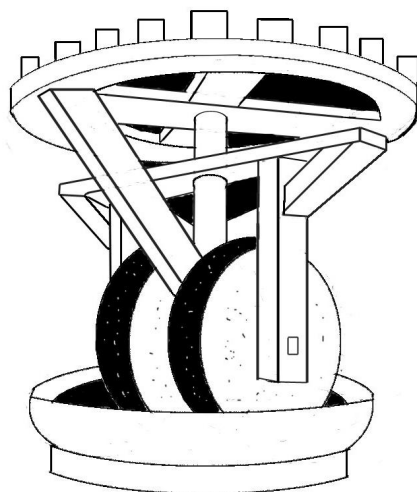
Sailing Club Memories / Bryan Howard

Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills Friends Association AGM June 25 2021

Obituary: Bryan Howard

Julie's Nature Column

Gunpowder Press near Burning Ground



Summer 2021

Officers of the Friends Association

Chairman

Len Stuart
13 Romeland
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1QZ

romeland13@gmail.com

Treasurer

Ron McEvoy
6 Lea View
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1BJ

ronaldmcevoy@btinternet.com

Secretary

Len Stuart
13 Romeland
Waltham Abbey
Essex
EN9 1QZ

romeland13@gmail.com

Membership

Friends Association
Royal Gunpowder Mills
Beaulieu Drive
Waltham Abbey EN9 1JY

**All enquiries relating to this newsletter and articles
should be addressed to:**

Brian Clements
56 Park Road
Enfield
EN3 6SR

wargmfa@btinternet.com

Deadline for the next issue is 27th August 2021

Chairman's Chat

At last we should be reopening to the public in June, following extensive refurbishment of the site over the past few months paid for by the DCMS recovery fund, which has also allowed us to renew our web site. We have also welcomed four new trustees to the Foundation with a recent site visit and have recruited four new trustees to the Operating Company. The long term future of the site still remains uncertain, with new management at PGL having visited the site but as yet with no decision one way or the other. Meanwhile the Foundation is looking at other development opportunities.

The Friends committee have resumed meetings via Zoom and hope to hold face to face meetings shortly. Recent purchases include display cabinets for the model Rapier missile launcher donated by MBDA and for firefighting equipment in our new Fire Exhibition. There will now be a further vacancy on the committee following the resignation of Derek Back who has moved out of the area. We must also thank Derek for his work in the Rocket Vault, both talking to visitors and polishing rocket motors.

We now urgently need more volunteers to explain these exhibits to visitors, a job ideally suited to former staff as the majority of the exhibits relate to the work of the site. As well as the Rocket Vault this includes the Green Hut alongside the Main Lab. Along with the Powder Boat this houses a number of other exhibits including a working Victorian fire alarm system. We arrange our own rotas in half day slots from 10am to 5pm and you will also enjoy the benefits of other site volunteers.

Len Stuart

Editorial

The Spring issue appeared with a plain white cover, no longer a 'Light Blue Touchpaper'. This was due to Images of Chase Side no longer printing booklets. They had provided an excellent service for us for many years but, I assume, changes had been forced on them by the Covid pandemic restricting their business. The premises they occupied are now offering 'Dream Doors'! The local printers I found for the last issue would have charged a large premium to provide a card cover and did not have light blue in stock so I went for the economy option and will probably continue for this and future editions. I hope this does not disappoint too much.

The last issue noted the loss of Dave Sims and sadly this time we have lost Bryan Howard. He has done much good work for the Mills and been a committee member for many years. He could always be relied on to produce items, including many quizzes, for Touchpaper.

Notice of our AGM appears in this issue, I know it is not much warning but do please try to attend if you do not have too far to travel. We are not having a formal reunion but you will be able to meet old friends and have a chat.

To complete the issue we have a series of photos of the gunpowder press from the Waltham Abbey Image collection suggested by Dave Hewkin who has worked for a long time to understand and preserve the structure.

Brian Clements

The Mill Stone Returns

Scanning through some old papers I came across the minutes of a Friends Association Committee meeting held on Friday 5th June 2009. Under “Matters Arising” the minutes say “Geoff Hooper is to be contacted concerning the situation at Fort Halstead, to see if he can arrange for any useful artefacts to be “earmarked” for us before their otherwise probable disposal”. You will no doubt be gratified to hear that twelve years later I have completed this action.

In the summer of 1991 we were closing up shop at Waltham Abbey and moving the work programme and the people down to Fort Halstead. We also took with us a few artefacts; one was a large Mill Stone.



The Mill Stone used to sit opposite the Director's office; the location is shown on this black and white aerial photograph of a few years before site closure. The landscape has changed enormously since then; the series of buildings around and including the Director's office were demolished and the land is now a housing estate; likewise the former buildings H10 and H16, etc is now the Beaulieu Drive estate.



Anyway, the Mill Stone languished at Fort Halstead for thirty years, but that site is now in the process of redevelopment, and the Ministry of Defence Site Manager at the Fort agreed that the mill stone should come back to the Royal Gunpowder Mills. It returned on Thursday 8th April 2021. It cannot go back to its original location because that is now no longer land that we own, so we are placing it just opposite what is now the Spinks Gallery and was formerly the Glass and Chemical Store.



Here you see the lorry that has just arrived from Fort Halstead unloading the mill stone. It arrived late because we had all underestimated the weight of the stone (thought to be four tonnes but in reality nearer six) and the lifting strops had failed when it was being loaded on to the lorry at the Fort. Anyway, it is now back home.

Geoff Hooper

Jim Burgess Chapter 25: The ERDE Housing Estate

I've already mentioned that, in 1946, the old Waltham Abbey Gunpowder Mills Ordnance Factory was converted into a Research and Development Establishment, called the Explosives, Research and Development Establishment (ERDE). It first came under the Ministry of Supply, then the Ministry of Aviation Supply, then the Ministry of Technology and, finally, the Ministry of Defence.

Up until the time it ceased to be an Ordnance Factory, the work force was drawn largely from Waltham Abbey and its immediate environs and some local families could trace their association with the Site back for several generations — indeed, it has been claimed, to the 18th Century. A study of the records of Births, Marriages and Deaths held in Waltham Abbey Church reveals that some causes of death are described as 'killed by a powder mill'.

After its conversion to a Research and Development Establishment, it became necessary to recruit scientists and engineers with the types of academic qualifications and practical background needed to pursue research, principally into propellants, explosives and material science (non-metallic materials).

To facilitate this recruitment and to encourage new scientific and technical staff to the area, a New Estate of one hundred houses was built on the East side of the town. The Estate was completed in 1952. It was built on a green field site and in accordance with the 'Garden City' philosophy prevailing at the time, although some of the ground may have been previously taken up with green-houses.

The houses conformed to the general Ministry designs prevalent at the time which included a mixture of four-bedroom and three-bedroom semi-detached types. The gardens were quite spacious and there was plenty of 'open space' throughout the estate, including a central 'Green'.

Originally, the houses were reserved for 'professionals' i.e. scientists and engineers plus a few administrative persons but, during the 1970s, some were let to a broader spectrum of employees. In accordance with the Government Policy for the sale of Council Houses at the time, the houses were sold off to sitting tenants in the early 1980s. Those which weren't taken up by sitting tenants were sold to independent housing associations.

When I moved on to the estate following my marriage in September 1970, some of the original residents had retired and had moved away and a few of the houses were let jointly to young, unmarried scientists so the Estate took on some aspects of a university campus. Some of the old-timers took exception to this change of occupancy but, speaking personally, I found the presence of the young people refreshing. I was reminded of my time at university. ...!

Amongst the few residents on the Estate from the Establishment's Administration was the Establishment's Chief Executive Officer and his family. I shall call him Walker. Although a nice enough fellow at heart and meticulous in the conduct of his duties, Walker tended towards pomposity and sometimes displayed a well developed sense of propriety occasionally tempered with an unwarranted self-importance.

Underneath, I think he rather resented the scientists and the important part they played in serving the *raison d'être* of the Establishment and was quick to seize on any opportunity to say that, if it weren't for him and his Department, everything would grind to a halt. There was, of course, an element of truth in what he said but he often failed to appreciate that he was there to serve and facilitate the needs of the Establishment but indeed there was more than a little truth in his claim, uttered in jest, that he could carry out his job much more easily if the scientists weren't there! He did have a facility to irritate people!

In the early 1970's there was, living a few doors away from Walker, a scientist whose work brought him in close contact with the Home Office Forensic Department.

One day, he brought back a handful of seeds and broadcast them over the end of Walker's front garden. In the fullness of time, the seeds germinated and grew to produce a healthy-looking crop of young plants.

My colleague, with the Home Office connections, chose a moment to stroll past the bottom of Walker's front garden when he, Walker, was contemplating the strange new greenery. "You know what those plants are, don't you?" asked my friend, casually. "No, I don't" responded Walker. "They're some of the healthiest young cannabis plants I've seen in a long time" was the reply! "I wonder how they came to be there".

"Whaaaaat!!!" expostulated Walker. "How shall I get rid of them??" "You'll have to dig'em up," replied my friend and, as an after-thought, "then burn 'em!"

The general regard for Walker rose for a while after he 'rescued' a couple of kids from a fire a few doors away 'single handed' and before the fire brigade could arrive. He rather sullied his newly won reputation as a life-saving 'action man' shortly afterwards by excessively bragging about his brave exploit!

When I first lived on the Estate in 1970, the Establishment management still favoured the idea that certain key officers be permanently resident there. In addition to the aforementioned Chief Executive Officer there were also resident the Superintendent of one of the Propellant Branches and the Establishment's Chief fire Officer.

The Superintendent had a dog. It is maintained in some circles that dogs can eventually start to resemble their masters - or visa-versa. This adage was very evidently true with regard to the Superintendent and his hound. The Superintendent was elderly and nearing retirement. He was becoming slow and arthritic. His dog was an aging Basset Hound, lugubrious both in attitude and demeanour as befits the species. During the spring and summer months the Superintendent would take his dog for a walk around the Estate in the evenings. The Estate was very 'open plan' with areas of

grass between the unfenced front gardens of the houses and the public foot path and also between the foot path and the road.

The Superintendent would allow his dog to defecate at the bottom of the Chief fire Officer's front garden. This act gradually became a permanent ritual - a part of the walk. After a while, the Chief fire Officer became fed up with this behaviour and remonstrated with the Superintendent asking him to stop his dog from 'shitting on his grass'! The fire Officer's request was first delivered politely but when the Superintendent continued to ignore it and the dog persisted in 'doing its dump', relations became increasingly acrimonious. In the end, the fire Officer reached the end of his tether. According to witnesses living in the vicinity, the Fire Officer waited by his front door for the approach of the dog and its master armed with a shovel. When the Superintendent's dog had finished its crap and had started to move off under the influence of its lead, the fire Officer stepped out behind the dog and its master, shovelled up the noisome deposit and, unbeknownst, followed the Superintendent and his canine companion home. On approaching the Superintendent's house, the Chief fire Officer held back until the Superintendent had opened his front door, entered the house and was in the process of closing the door. The fire Officer rapidly stepped forward and put his size-twelve boot in the door. He pushed the loaded shovel into the hallway and inverted it so that its contents fell on to the carpet. "I think this is yours" he said to the Superintendent!

I never did hear whether there was any 'come back' to this act of retaliation but the fire Chief was a 'large fellow' and I would surmise that the hound was no longer allowed to soil the fire Chief's front garden.

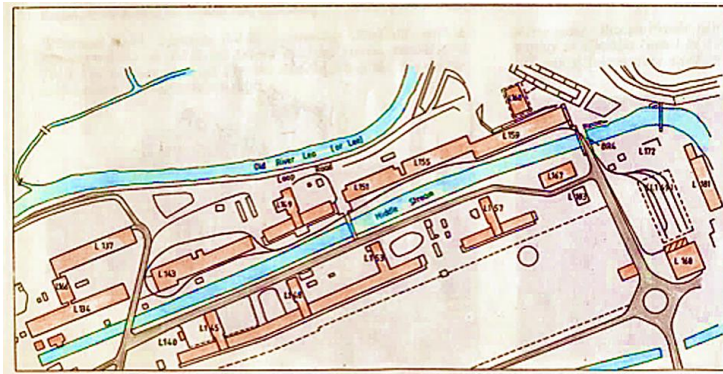
Jim Burgess

Early ideas for a narrow gauge railway

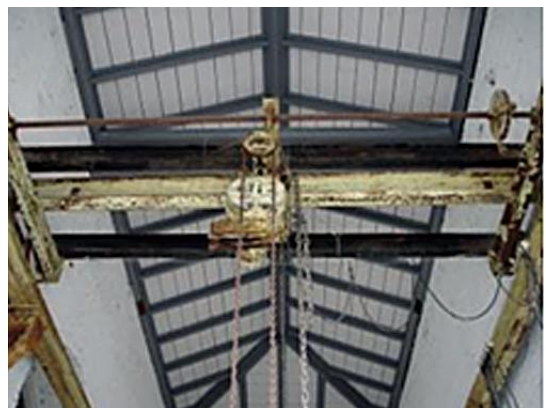
The routes of the 7¼" and 2' 6" gauge railways on the site are now well established, but they do not follow the lines original mooted at the time when the site was being opened up as a visitor attraction back in 2001. An article in the April 2002 issue of the journal "Engineering in Miniature" explained the plans. The line was to be 18" gauge. The terminus of the railway would be on the site of the former Building L169, now known as "the Slab". A Box Store on the South Site had been carefully dismantled and moved over to the North Site and put first of all on to the slab, and then into storage. The picture below, dating from 1999, shows the steel girders that formed the structure of the shed.



This building was planned to be the home of the rolling stock. From there the track was to go across bridge BR4 on to the Eastern Flank and along the front of the Cordite Buildings L159, L155 and L151, then by the Incorporating Mill L149 to terminate at L146/143 around which the track was to make a balloon loop.



This, it was felt, would give plenty of scope for extending the line northwards at a future date when funding permitted. The rolling stock was to include the locomotives “Woolwich” and “Carnegie”, which had been acquired from the Bicton Woodland Railway which had in turn got them from Woolwich Arsenal in 1963. They have now moved on to the Statfold Barn Railway. A maintenance shed for the two engines was to have been provided in L168, entry having been via the roller shutter door on the northern face of that building.



The inside of that building featured a disused overhead crane with a capacity of 5 tons that, once restored, would facilitate maintenance work on Woolwich and Carnegie, the latter shown here on “the Slab” in 2005.



One problem that was identified was the bridge BR4 over the canal had been originally constructed to cope with an axle loading of in the region of 2½ tons, inadequate to deal with the loading of the locomotives.



The second problem was that some wayward contractors on site chose to cut up the steel box store girders for their own use. The rest, as they say, is history!

Geoff Hooper

Obituary

Bryan Charles Howard, 1932-2021



Bryan was born in Lowestoft on 7 July 1932 and evacuated to Glossop, Derbyshire, during WWII. On his return he went to Lowestoft Grammar School. He started work in the Lowestoft Fisheries Laboratories at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food involving several sea trips to the Arctic.

He then did National Service in the RAF as ground crew on Spitfires. Afterwards he went to St Andrew's University where he obtained a BSc and MSc. He came to Waltham Abbey in about 1960 where he worked on propellants on South Site and had a year's secondment to a USA research establishment.

As Head of Ballistic Assessment Section when the site was closed, Bryan decided to take early retirement at aged 57; the alternative was to be transferred to Bishopton, so he had been retired for 31 years!

In 1961 Bryan took a lease on Waltham Common Lockhouse in the middle of Cheshunt Marshes where conditions were primitive - no gas or electricity, just one tap, and in the big freeze of 1962 there was no water for 3 months. Myself and Dave Parker shared this with him. We were known as the Martians!

Bryan had many interests and was always willing to do his bit as Committee Member or officer of the Badminton Club, Residents Association, Friends Association etc.

Bryan commuted most weeks between Oulton Broad and Waltham Abbey from about 1960 until quite recently. At one time he built a dinghy in Cheshunt for racing on Oulton Broad where he was also a Committee Member and Officer of the Yacht Club. He also made sails for dinghies.

He liked to go to scientific lectures and concerts in London, the Proms, enjoyed classical music plus Ella Fitzgerald and others. He never had a TV and was pestered to buy a licence, so got Bill Smith to write a letter in Welsh for him and heard no more after that!

We always spent time together when he returned to Glossop annually for the Evacuees visits, which visits were reported in the local paper, plus meeting up many other times over the years.

Many will remember Bryan as a very likeable, kind, gentle, sociable, clever man with a fantastic memory. He wrote many articles plus quizzes for Touchpaper as well as helping in many ways at the Powdermills before and after reopening in 2001. He sadly passed away on 6 May 2021, aged 88.

A lovely friend to both of us for 60 years, many fond memories, very sadly missed not only by us but many others who knew him.

Tony & Beryl Barratt

Bryan's work covered many aspects of nitrocellulose rocket propellants, design, instrumentation and assessment. He survived the changes from ERDE to PERME to Royal Ordnance but chose to take early retirement when the site closed.

For many years he was the mainstay of the ERDE Croquet Club which met on summer Mondays at Larsons rec (now defunct) and afterwards at the Green Man (now also defunct)

In the 60's and 70's he towed his Merlin Rocket all round the country at weekends to compete at National regattas, and became an official measurer for the class to certify compliance with regulations. He also made sails for dinghies, and used the off cuts to make shopping bags for favoured friends. Each of these was decorated with an emblem appropriate to the recipient.

Dave Hewkin

Down to the Lea in Ships

Sailing Club Memories / Bryan Howard

I intended to contribute this article to Touchpaper partly as a challenge to Bryan Howard's identification abilities in his valuable contribution to the Archive identifying figures in group photographs with no identification.

Sadly this will now not be. I will remember Bryan for his unfailing friendly and kindly manner, his good humour and his inexhaustible fund of knowledge of the activities of the post War Establishment and its people.

This article and image by 'Gudge' Taylor appeared originally in Touch Bytes in an early Touchpaper and subsequently in the Friends booklet 'Trials Tribulations and Pranks'.

Re print of Gudge Taylor article and image Trials booklet P. 9

*"Down to the Lea in ships
As well as undertaking the most
esoteric and exacting scientific
studies nearly all staff in my
days were a very social bunch
and partook in a wide range of
leisure activities, many of them
sponsored by the very active
Social and Sports Club. I well
remember the
glorious days of the ERDE
Sailing Club when we built
'Heron' sailing dinghies on the site of the North Site Surgery and
launched them on local waters. We had practice sailing and a
children's regatta on the Lea by Lea Road from 1961.*



The guiding lights were Bob (Commodore) Simkins, Eric Speller, Jack Mead and ICP Smith. It all started with a notice in the Powdermill Lane Office asking if someone would like to go sailing with the CSSA for a week. After an enthusiastic response an inaugural meeting was called by the Social & Sports Club to appoint an ERDE Sailing Club Committee. It duly became known as the Fisher's Green Sailing Club where we all worked with the incentive of larger waters on the old Ham River gravel pit. Happy Days!

Gudge' Taylor JUNE 1997"

Identification is challenging but perhaps someone might be able to spot one.



Fishers Green Sailing Club area WAI 600 – 03

Allen Clarke's daughter Ann wrote about the Club's fitting out of the barge in the Winter 2018 Touchpaper P. 28.

"The first is what I think was an open day on South Site and going into a room where there was a big vat with this stuff in it . The label said it was called 'Whiskers'. I have no idea what this actually was but it has stuck in my mind ever since that day.

The other memory is that of going down to ERDE on Sundays, with my dad and my sister, whilst my dad and some colleagues worked on fitting out a canal barge.

Brenda and I used to go and play in some of the old abandoned huts. I know it was near water and I do have a photo of us on the barge once it was finished. We travelled up the river Lea to Bishops Stortford and back. I was horrified at the size of the slugs at the river's edge at Broxbourne, I seem to remember! It's very strange that there some things you never forget!

I wonder if there is someone out there that worked on the boat with him?"



Bryan wrote occasionally about the Sailing Club, e.g. Touchpaper Spring 2019 P.15.

“Allen Clarke was a great friend who did a lot of design for me in the Ballistics Section. We also met socially as he was the Badminton Club Treasurer until he left for Australia; even then we kept in touch with Christmas cards. I was sorry to have missed meeting Ann Clarke as I knew her sister, Brenda, who also played badminton at one time.

The picture of the barge is almost certain to be of ‘Elmira’ which was obtained from the Civil Service Sailing Association as a basic ‘shell’. I recall Eric Speller, Vic Clifford, Ron Treadgold and Pete Topley (to mention a few) casting cement blocks for ballast in the lunch hour.

‘Elmira’ provided some happy times on the Lea but eventually the ‘call of the sea’ meant that she was traded in for a small sailing cruiser, whose name I forget, kept on the Blackwater.”

I came across the following by Dave Salter in Touch Bytes 1995-03. I think it would have made Bryan smile:

"Senior staff at the Ministry of Defence and a Japanese company once attended a course held at Oxford University for top managers. As a result of some friendly rivalry that developed between the two organizations during the course, it was decided to hold an annual competitive Boat Race on the River Thames.

Both teams practiced long and hard to reach their peak performance on the day of the race, and each team felt they were as ready as they possibly could be.

The Japanese team won by a mile !

The MoD team were very demoralized and this was evidenced from a general decrease in work performance.

Senior Management decided that something had to be done and a Study Team was commissioned to investigate the problem and to recommend appropriate action.

The study team deduced that the reason for defeat lay in the fact that the Japanese team had eight people rowing and one steering, while the MoD had one PTO rowing and an Assistant secretary, a Rear Admiral, a Brigadier, an Air Commodore, a Principal and three HEOs steering.

MoD Senior Management immediately let a contract, at great expense, to a management consultant to study the team structure. After many months and thousands of pounds later the consultant reported that 'sole reason for defeat lay in the fact that the opposition had eight rowers and one steering whereas the MoD had one PTO rowing with an Assistant Secretary, a Rear Admiral, a Brigadier, an Air Commodore, a Principal and three HEOs steering.

To avoid losing again the following year, a MoD Rowing Team Organization Review was undertaken. As a result the Team Structure was revised to provide a Steering Manager, a Steering Co-ordinator and 3 Steering Officers. In addition a Rowing Quality Performance Scheme was set up for the PTO to give him an incentive to work harder.

Next year the Japanese team won by two miles!

MoD Senior Management gave the PTO a Box 4 marking for poor performance. After a further review It was decided that the need to support rowing as one of the Nation's core capabilities could be obtained more economically by a Trade Agreement with the Japanese Government. The oars were sold for 15p each to private industry as surplus to requirements and a development project for an improved boat was cancelled. The Steering Managers were cited in the New Years Honours List for their contribution to Defence Cost Savings and services to International Relations."

Perhaps someone could contribute further memories of the Sailing Club.

Les Tucker

Julie's Nature Column

It's a lovely time of year to be at the Mills, trees bursting into life, birds busy catching food for their young, the deer in their smart summer spotty coats and of course, some nice warm sunshine. In the last issue I mentioned that a Starling was checking out the Cordite press as a potential nest site, well it did choose to nest there in the end and has been very successful. A pair of crows nesting nearby usually sit on top of the press, each time they did this it did stress the Starlings out somewhat so perhaps they will think twice about using the press in future.

Around the corner from the Starling nest is a Great Tit nest which happens to be inside a road cone. I went to move the cone out of the way and a Great tit flew out sounding its alarm call. I carefully placed the cone back down and thankfully the Great tit came back. Always goes to show how careful we have to be when moving things as wildlife seems to make a home out of anything left in place for some time. I usually check under road cones for voles, I certainly wasn't expecting a bird to fly out of it. Here's a photo when it had just come out of the cone.



Our swans have had 8 cygnets hatch. Unfortunately one has disappeared, but this is why birds have so many young to ensure a good survival rate. I love to see the cygnets, they constantly chat to each other and the parents take great care of them. There is also another swan family in the Abbey Gardens.

This is an area that our swans would normally take their cygnets to visit, but due to swans being so territorial they will have to choose another area, possibly the flood relief channel which is on the west side next to the Mills.



I have seen a few Muntjac deer around the site, often just glimpses, but this time one looked at me a little unsure...what am I, which gave me a good opportunity to get a photo or two. These deer are also known as Barking deer due to the sound they make when alarmed, quite often mistaken as a dog barking. I experienced this a few weeks ago where the Muntjac was actually barking at me and stomping its feet! I have always heard them bark, but never seen it with my own eyes before. Here's a couple of photos, one barking and one not.



Our herd of fallow deer are enjoying all of the new grasses and shoots. They even nibble the tops of nettles, not sure whether it's because they are tasty or whether it helps with digestion. I have found a few cast antlers on the ground, how strange it must feel for them to have them drop off. This is the only time of year that I see them huddle together, knowing that they can't harm each other. They look like quite small without them. Here's a photo of them relaxing on the Long Walk.



I have seen a Green Woodpecker quite a lot, but it's always one step ahead of me when it comes to getting a photo. I have tried to creep up on it without any luck, but this one chance I had I was lucky enough to be inside a building and it didn't see me. It pays to have my camera at hand. It was probing the grass with its beak looking for ants along the edge of a kerb stone. For just about every second or two it looked up for danger from above. I can remember very early on when I first came to the Mills that I saw a Sparrow hawk chase one. It was so very close to catching the woodpecker, but the woodpecker managed to escape in the nick of time. This photo looks like I got very close to it, but I did zoom the camera quite a bit.



I have placed a wildlife camera in position in the hope to catch an Otter passing through. I will be checking it soon. We have not yet had our Barn owl boxes checked for young, hopefully this will happen soon and I will have some photos to share with you next time. Until then I will be keeping my eyes peeled for more wildlife photo opportunities to share with you all.

Julie Matthews

Mills Nature Conservationist

Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills Friends Association AGM June 25 2021

We are **NOT** holding a Reunion this year mainly due to the uncertainty over the Covid 19 situation. However, we do need to hold an AGM. This will be on Friday 25th June at 11am in the café where we can socially distance.

As you will know, sadly we have lost 3 members of the committee this year, please consider whether you could join the committee. We normally meet on site about every 6 weeks although during Lockdown we used Zoom.

However, we ask you all, as members, to come and support the Association and vote on the resolutions put before us all.

Please let me know whether or not you can make the AGM.

My email address is WARGMFA@btinternet.com

Best wishes

Daphne Clements

**WALTHAM ABBEY ROYAL
GUNPOWDER MILLS
FRIENDS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING
Friday 25th June 2021 at 11.00 am at
the WARGM Site**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of previous Meeting
held on 10th May 2019
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Future of Site
7. Election of Office Holders
8. Election of Committee Members
9. Selection of Auditors
10. Any other Business

Gunpowder Press near Burning Ground



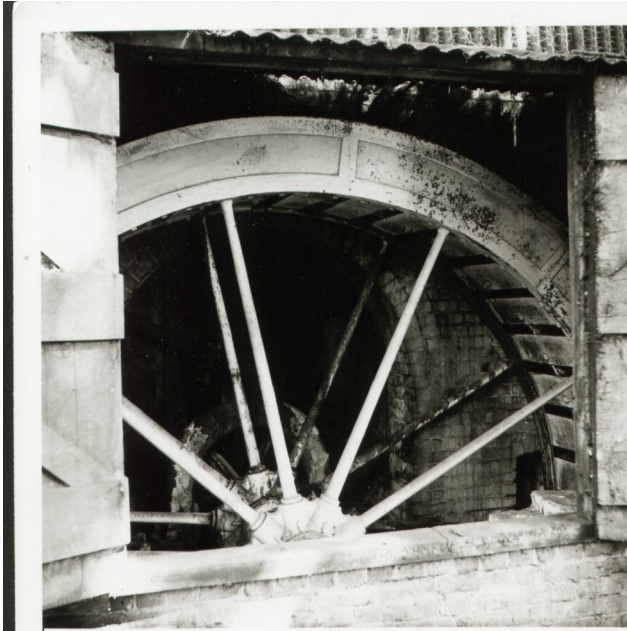
**WAI 160-1
1940**

**Almost as it
was when in
use. Note
turning pond
for powder
boats and
light wooden
building
around press**



**WAI 159-5
1972**

**The exposed
water wheel
with most
paddles
intact**



**WAI 160-04
1940**

**The enclosed
water wheel**



**WAI 160-05
1940**

**The gunpowder
press**



**WAI1213-7
1994**

**Before site
clearance**



**WAI1582-1 2005
After site decontamination remedial work**