



MILLS SECTION

Direct Line: 020 7456 0909

PRESS RELEASE

Date of issue: April 2022
Media contact: Silvia McMenamin, SPAB Mills Section
silvia.mcmenamin@spab.org.uk / 020 7456 0909 (direct) or 020 7377 1644

NATIONAL MILLS WEEKEND

MAY 2022

NEW LIFE FOR OLD MILLS

What? A nationwide celebration of Britain's mills
When? Saturday and Sunday 7- 8 May 2022
Where? Across UK & Online
See <https://www.spab.org.uk/mills/national-mills-weekend>
for more details

Windmills and watermills are some of our landscape's best-loved structures. These buildings are rooted in the nation's agricultural life and are an integral part of the food supply chain. National Mills Weekend (7-8 May) will focus this year on **'New Life for Old Mills'** to celebrate the repair of wind and watermills which allows those important historical buildings to survive for future generations to come. The National Mills Weekend will take place at mills and online on YouTube and SPAB Mills Section social media channels.

The **National Mills Weekend, an annual celebration of our milling heritage** is organised by the Mills Section of SPAB (the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings). The National Mills Weekend will take place on 7th & 8th May, some mills will be open on 14th & 15th May to give visitors a chance to visit mills on an alternate weekend, as hundreds of mills across the country will be opening their doors to the public.

Our theme for this year will be **'New Life for Old Mills'**. The SPAB and the SPAB Mills Section have recently embarked on major repairs to Kibworth Harcourt Post Mill, Leicestershire, an at-risk Grade



MILLS SECTION

Direct Line: 020 7456 0909

It * listed mill, which dates back to 1711, by combining traditional methods of repair and cutting-edge technology.

Windmill and watermills across the country will be open for visitors during the weekend. Some of the mills that will be open are: New Hall Watermill, West Midlands, Holgate Windmill, Yorkshire, Ullesthorpe Windmill, Leicestershire, Charlecote Watermill, Warwickshire, Hockley Watermill, Hampshire, Hele Cornmill, Devon, Burton Watermill, West Sussex and Trefriw Woolen Mill, Wales, Billingford Windmill, Norfolk and Bursledon Windmill, Hampshire just to name a few.

For the first time SPAB Scotland and Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust will be hosting a dedicated **Mills Weekend in Scotland** on 7th & 8th May at Lower City Mills in Perth. The weekend will bring together the Scottish milling community and will include a wide range of mill related talks and site visits in the Perth & Blairgowrie area.

If you're visiting a mill this National Mills Weekend or would like to share your own mill repair project, then the SPAB Mills Section wants to see your photos, join the hashtag #Millsweekend and tag @SPABMillsSection

More information about the **National Mills Weekend** can be found here

<https://www.spab.org.uk/mills/national-mills-weekend>

More information about the **Kibworth Harcourt Mill** repair project can be found here

<https://www.spab.org.uk/content/kibworth-harcourt-mill-project>

More information and booking instructions for the **Mills Weekend in Scotland** on 7th & 8th May can be found here <https://www.spab.org.uk/whats-on/events/milling-matters-scottish-mills-weekend>

ENDS

Further information and images

Details of all mills open are available at <https://www.spab.org.uk/mills/national-mills-weekend>

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS
37 Spital Square London E1 6DY Telephone 020 7377 1644 millsinfo@spab.org.uk



MILLS SECTION

Direct Line: 020 7456 0909

Images available:

Kibworth Harcourt Mill, Leicestershire, image credit John Wallis

Contact for images, further details or interviews, including region-specific information:

Silvia McMenamin, SPAB Mills Section
020 7456 0909 (direct, Mondays to Wednesdays) or 020 7377 1644 / millsinfo@spab.org.uk
Ali McClary, SPAB Communications Manager
020 7456 0908

Notes to editors

1. National Mills Weekend runs every year during the second weekend of May. It has been organised by the SPAB Mills Section since 1984.
2. The **SPAB Mills Section** launched the event in 1984. The SPAB (the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) is the UK's oldest heritage charity.
3. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) was founded by William Morris in 1877 to care for and preserve the UK's architectural heritage. The Mills Section of the SPAB was founded in 1931 to protect and promote windmills and watermills.