PRESS RELEASE

National Mills Weekend Returns Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May With the Theme 'Millwrighting: Past and Present'

Hundreds of mills across the country will open their doors to the public for National Mills Weekend 2023. This annual celebration of Britain's windmills and watermills is promoted by the Mills Section of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).

This year's theme, 'Millwrighting: Past and Present', celebrates this critically endangered craft. It highlights the importance of repairing and maintaining these much-loved historic structures, ensuring they survive for generations to come.

Participating mills include: Fosters Windmill, Cambridgeshire | Holgate Windmill, Yorkshire | Wilton Windmill, Wiltshire | Dunster Watermill, Somerset | Clodock Watermill, Herefordshire | Redbournbury Watermill, Hertforshire | Clyston Watermill, Devon | Mathern Watermill, Monmouthshire | Bourn Windmill, Cambridgeshire | Dalgarven Watermill, Ayrshire County.

Visitors, mill-owners and millwrights can get involved over the weekend by using the hashtag #NationalMillsWeekend and tagging us on Facebook @SPABMillsSection or Twitter @UKMills.

For more information, please contact SPAB Mills Section Officer Silvia McMenamin: silvia.mcmenamin@spab.org.uk / 020 7456 0909 (Monday to Wednesday).

NOTES TO EDITORS

<u>National Mills Weekend</u> is an annual celebration of Britain's windmills and watermills, organised by the SPAB Mills Section since 1984. It takes place on the second weekend of May.

<u>The Mills Section</u> of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings was founded in 1931 to preserve, protect and promote watermills and windmills.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) is the UK's oldest building conservation organisation, founded by William Morris in 1877, with a special interest in repair methods and good new design. The charity exists to support the public's interest in the historic environment. It promotes care, maintenance and the ongoing sympathetic use of old buildings to ensure their survival and protection for future generations. It is an amenity society with a statutory role in the planning system, and provides constructive guidance on schemes that need development or amendment.