



SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

Report for AGM to be held on the 21st June at 7.30pm in the Brass Mill, Saltford

This report covers the period from July 2015 to June 2016.

Chairman's Report

The Brass Mill re-opened to visitors on the 9th May 2015 following its enforced shutdown for essential repairs.

There has been good progress with planned work but problems do remain. The positives are that the full scale mock-up of one battery hammer has been completed and it is now in operation - many thanks to Mike and Judy Reed for their efforts on this. And work is now under way on construction of a replica turntable for loading brassware into the annealing furnace. On the publicity front, Tony Coverdale's programme of talks to local groups has done much to generate interest and we are receiving requests for group visits as a result (more of this in the Secretary's report).

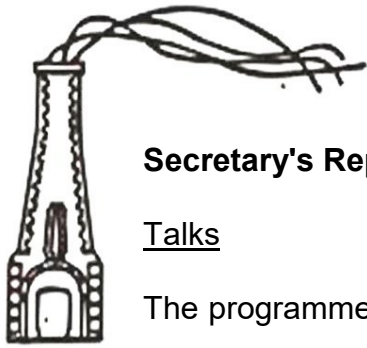
The gardens continue to be maintained to a high standard which is an important visual feature for visitors to Saltford in general and the Shallows in particular.

On the negative side, we are still awaiting action from B&NES on repairs to the Brass Mill roof. The waterwheel saga has moved on; volunteers have constructed a dam across the entrance to the sluice and, the sluice gate having collapsed, have installed a temporary gate in its place. The Project is in negotiations with B&NES over fitting of a permanent replacement sluice gate.

And the Mill suffered one minor flood over the winter, needing little in the way of a clean-up

Progress on 2015/16 Work Programme

- a) To negotiate a new management agreement between the SBMP and B&NES - this no longer seems to be a B&NES priority.
- b) To repair/replace the waterwheel sluice paddle, then continue essential repair and maintenance of the waterwheel starts, sluices and drives.
- c) To produce a full-size replica of a battery hammer - complete
- d) To continue promotion of the mill to the public - ongoing, good progress
- e) To seek additional volunteers to enable increased opening hours - ongoing



SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

Secretary's Report

Talks

The programme of talks and support to off-site events has continued throughout 2015 and 2016. The details of the talks delivered are at the annex. In summary 25 talks were delivered in 2015. 8 have been delivered to-date in 2016 and a further 5 are planned, with 2 further talks planned for 2017. Four talks are available:

- The Early Avon Valley Brass Industry.
- The Later Avon Valley Brass Industry.
- The Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill.
- John Padmore: 18th Century Engineer.

The Widcombe Association, Bath, requested that a talk be prepared on Mills in Widcombe. This talk has been delivered on two occasions with the donations received from the talks being donated to the Saltford Brass Mill Project.

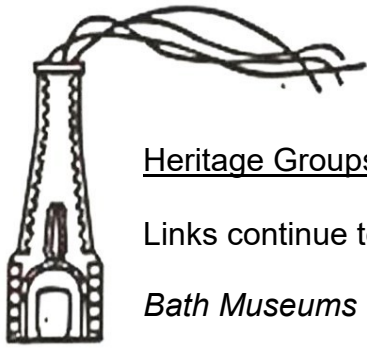
Publications

Three A5 booklets have been printed for the new season:

- A re-print of the 2010 Guide Book, with some minor corrections.
- A re-print of Joan Day's 1984 paper 'Continental Origins of Bristol Brass', which has proven popular with people researching their family history who have links to the Brass Industry.
- The Avon Copper and Brass Industry by Joan Day and Tony Coverdale, first published in 2013 by the Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society.

Website

The website continues to be maintained and updated. The Annual Reports for 2003 to 2015 are available online. Bookings for visit and talks can also be made via the website.



SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

Heritage Groups

Links continue to be maintained with heritage groups in the region.

Bath Museums Group

Richard Ross and Tony Coverdale continue to represent the SBMP on the Bath Museums Group.

Twerton and Bath Industrial Heritage

The SBMP has supported two Industrial Heritage Events organised by Bryan Chalker, held at Twerton Football Ground [12 Sept 2015 and 9 Apr 2016]. A further event is planned for the 24 Sept 2016.

Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society (BIAS)

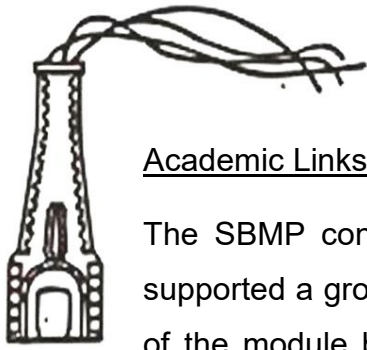
The SBMP maintains its links with the Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society. A group of BIAS members visited the mill in August 2015 and a talk was given to BIAS members in March on the topic of 'John Padmore - Eighteenth Century Engineer'. In April 2016, Tony Coverdale was elected to Chair the Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society.

Avon Industrial Heritage Forum (AIH)

Tony Coverdale represents the SBMP on the Avon Industrial Heritage Forum, formed in 2015 to promote joint-action to research and conserve the industrial heritage of the former county of Avon by establishing a forum to: share information and ideas; agree policy and proposals on matters of mutual interest; support affiliates on planning and conservation matters; and encourage research and publish its findings. The Forum's membership includes the BIAS, the Museum of Bath at Work, The Avon Industrial Buildings Trust, The Bristol Underfall Yard; and South Gloucestershire Mines group.

Avon Local History and Archaeology (ALHA)

Olive Woolcott is an active member of ALHA and represents the SBMP's interests within that association. Tony Coverdale is on the list of available speakers for ALHA members and delivered a talk on the Avon Valley Brass Industry to their annual conference in April, the theme of the conference being 'Vanished Industries - Surviving Skills'. Olive also has access to the ALHA's booklets, a large array of which are sold in the mill on open-days.



SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

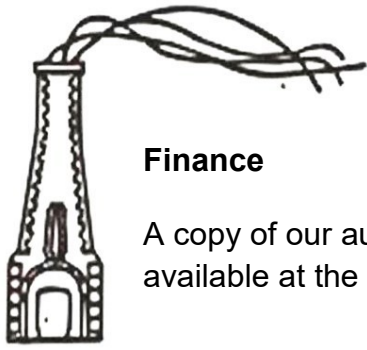
Academic Links

The SBMP continues to maintain its links with academic institutions. The SBMP has supported a group of 2nd year students taking the Heritage in Practice module, the theme of the module being to produce a series of riverside walks based upon the 'know your place' mapping project. Discussion are also been held with Richard White, an Associate Lecturer: Creative Media Practice and Heritage at Bath Spa University on a 'walking arts project' he is seeking to undertake on 'the legacies of slave-ownership'.

Research

Research continues into various elements of the Brass Mill and its history.

- The SBMP is constructing a replica of the turntable associated with the annealing furnace, requiring a survey of documentary evidence, investigation of structural evidence and experimentation into construction methods.
- The repair to the waterwheel sluice in increasing out knowledge of the water-power technology used in the mill.
- Questions raised and information offered by people attending the talks on 'John Padmore - an eighteenth engineer' has stimulated further research, to the extent that it seems likely that there was a John Padmore the Elder and a John Padmore the Younger, active between 1695 and 1735. John Padmore may have been the engineer who converted Saltford Mill for Brass Battery in the 1720s, and certainly copied the technology in Swansea in the 1730s.



SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

Finance

A copy of our audited statement for the financial year to 31 December 2015 will be available at the meeting.

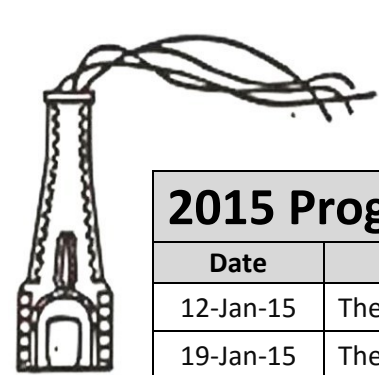
2016/17 Work Programme

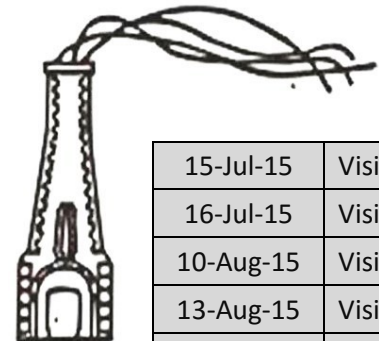
- a) To complete repairs to the Mill roof.
- b) To repair/replace the waterwheel sluice paddle
- c) To resume essential repair and maintenance of the waterwheel starts, sluices and drives.
- d) To complete the annealing furnace turntable.
- e) To continue promotion of the mill to the public.
- f) To seek additional volunteers to enable increased opening hours.

SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

2015 Programme of Talks, Events & Visits

Date	Title	Group	Venue
12-Jan-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Bristol & Avon Family History Society	BAWA Centre, Southmead Road, Filton
19-Jan-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Keynsham Local History Society	Key Centre, Keynsham
28-Jan-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Saltford Brass Mill Project	
28-Jan-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Keynsham Rotary Club	Saltford Golf Club
03-Feb-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Paulton Library Group	Paulton Library
18-Feb-15	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	Bristol Society of Model Experimental Engineers	Stapleton & Begbrook Centre
21-Feb-15	Display	Beau St Hoard Roadshow	Saltford Village Hall
05-Mar-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Wick & Abson LHG	Church Rooms, Wick Church
07-Mar-15	Heritage Open Day		Twerton Football Ground
15-Apr-15	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Widcombe History Society	Widcombe Baptist Church
16-Apr-15	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Frome Cruising Group	Full Moon, Rudge, nr Frome
29-Apr-15	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	Filton LHG	
07-May-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Bath Trefoil Guild	Wessex Water
09-May-15		National Mills Weekend	Saltford Brass Mill
13-May-15	Visit	Alveston LHS	Saltford Brass Mill
14-May-15	Visit	Wick & Abson LHG	Saltford Brass Mill
26-May-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Midsomer Norton Probus	Centurion Hotel
03-Jun-15	Visit	Filton LHG	
09-Jun-15	Visit	Burnham on Sea U3A	
13-Jun-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Saltford Festival	Saltford Brass Mill
14-Jun-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Saltford Festival	Saltford Brass Mill
20-Jun-15	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Saltford Festival	Saltford Brass Mill
21-Jun-15	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	Saltford Festival	Saltford Brass Mill

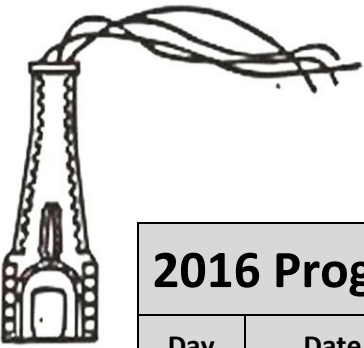




SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT

15-Jul-15	Visit	Paula Freeland - B&NES Planning & Con	
16-Jul-15	Visit	Phil Houghton - Brassmills Pub	
10-Aug-15	Visit	Age UK	
13-Aug-15	Visit	BIAS	
06-Sep-15	Visit	Keynsham LHS	
12-Sep-15	Visit	Ian Gilchrist - Chairman B&NES	
12-Sep-15	Heritage Open Day		Twerton Football Ground
12-Sep-15	National Heritage Open Day		Saltford Brass Mill
15-Sep-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Science in Radstock	Radstock Museum
16-Sep-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Bristol Society of Model Experimental Engineers	Stapleton & Begbrook Centre
29-Sep-15	Visit	Kingswood Rotary Club	
10-Oct-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	National Trust - Bristol Centre	St Monica's Trust, Cote Lane, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3UN
12-Oct-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Bristol & Avon Family History Society	BAWA Centre, Southmead Road, Filton
19-Oct-15	Widcombe Mills	Widcombe Local History Society	
24-Oct-15	B&NES Heritage Open Day		Saltford Brass Mill
25-Oct-15	B&NES Heritage Open Day		Saltford Brass Mill
31-Oct-15	B&NES Heritage Open Day		Saltford Brass Mill
01-Nov-15	B&NES Heritage Open Day		Saltford Brass Mill
11-Nov-15	Widcombe Mills	Combe Down Local History Society	
18-Nov-15	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	Thornbury U3A	Armstrong Hall, Thornbury
19-Nov-15	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Paulton History Society	Wesley Hall, Park Road, Paulton
14-Dec-15	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Keynsham Local History Society	Key Centre, Keynsham

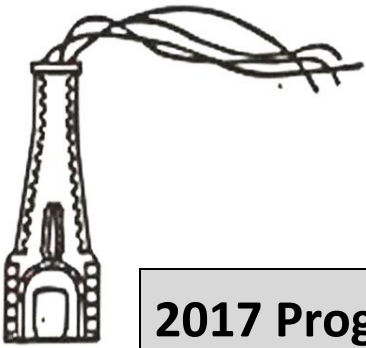
SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT



2016 Programme of Talks

Day	Date	Time	Title	Group	Venue
Tue	12-Jan-16	19:30	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Saltford WI	Saltford Hall
Sat	16-Jan-16	14:00	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Friends of Bristol Museums	M Shed, Bristol
Thurs	24-Mar-16	19:30	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	BIAS	British Legion, Keynsham
Sat	09-Apr-16	10:00	Industrial Heritage Open day		Twerton Football Ground
Tues	12-Apr-16	20:00	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Dundry Historians	British Legion, Dundry
Sat	16-Apr-16	11;30	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Avon Local History & Archaeology	UWE Frenchay Campus
Mon	18-Apr-16	19:30	The Later Avon Brass Industry	Weston LHS	Weston Parish Room
Mon	23-May-16	14:00	John Padmore - 18th Century Engineer	Bradford on Avon U3A	
Tues	06-Sep-16	14:00	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Keynsham WI	Wansdyke Room
Mon	31-Oct-16	19:00	Widcombe Mills	Bath and Avon Family History Society	BRLSI
Fri	20-Oct-16	19:30	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Gordano Civic Society	Portishead Methodist Church
Wed	16-Nov-16	20:00	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Hinton Blewitt History Group	Hinton Blewett Village Hall
Wed	23-Nov-16	19:30	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Alveston Local History Group	

SALTFORD BRASS MILL PROJECT



2017 Programme of Talks

Thurs	12-Jan-17	19:30	The Early Avon Brass Industry	Frenchay Village Museum	Quaker Meeting House
Thurs	19-Jan-17	14:00	Restoration of Saltford Brass Mill	Staple Hill Ladies Methodist Group	