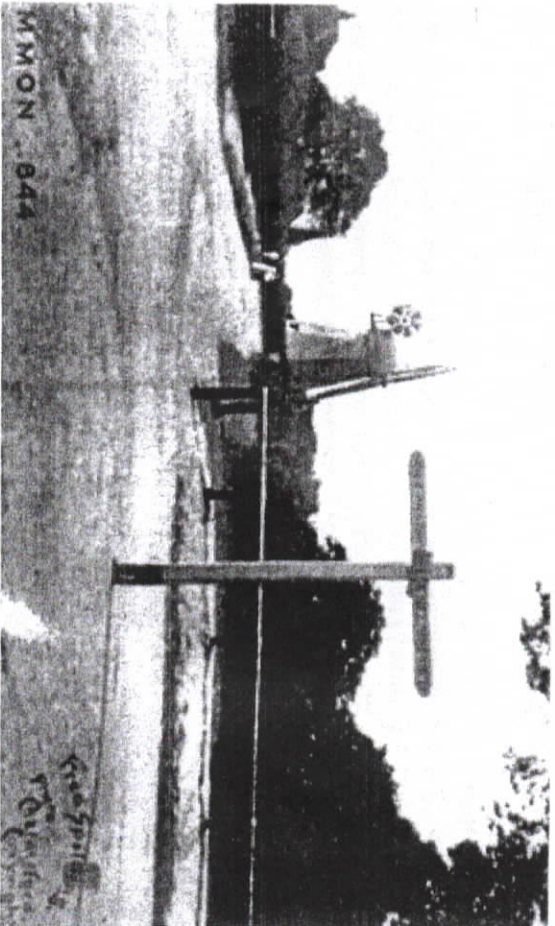


### Galleywood's windmills

There were two windmills in Galleywood, one mill was situated in a meadow by Brick House in the Street in the vicinity of Ponds Road. This is now referred to as the Lower Mill. The Upper Mill was in Margareting Road on the common where Mill House still stands.



Upper Mill

### The History of Mill House

Mill House, on the common, was recently for sale and I am grateful to Daphne Field for supplying the following information on its history.

Mill House is set in grounds that originally housed the smock windmill together with outbuildings, machinery, stables, coach house or cart lodge, granary, orchard and gardens. At one stage it also included a henhouse, shed, turkey house, pig styes and paddocks. Originally a copyhold property, part of the manor of Great Baddow, it became a freehold property under a deed of enfranchisement on 19 December 1867. The property also originally included the adjacent mill pond on the other side of the road that was formerly part of the waste ground of the manor of Great Baddow.

Records show the property to have been in the occupation of a series of millers. Henry Sewell was admitted to the property on the surrender of John and Benjamin Brazier at the court of the manor of Great Baddow on 16 November 1825. He was succeeded by his son, Peter Sewell, in 1838 and subsequently by Samuel Sewell in

1863. Following Samuel's death in 1885, his widow, Sarah Sewell sold the property to John Westbeech Kempster, who in 1881 leased it to James Jarvis of Galleywood Common, miller and farmer, for £35 pa.

In 1896 Kempster sold the property to William Bodkin, a Doctor of Medicine, who lived in London Road in Chelmsford, for £700 and he continued to lease it to James Jarvis. The lease of 1898 includes covenants for the repair of the windmill in the event of fire or storm damage (referencing the hurricane of 1897) and the use of a steam engine in the event of the head of the windmill blowing down. William Bodkin died in 1906 and in 1914 his executors and trustees (Herbert Alfred Bodkin of The Cloisters, London Road, Chelmsford, medical practitioner, Jessie Mary Berryman (formerly Jessie Mary Bodkin) the wife of William John Berryman of 12 Lingard Street, Barnsley, West Riding of Yorkshire, school master, Amy Maud Bodkin of Homerton College, Cambridge, lecturer, and Leonard Gray of Chelmsford, gent.) sold the property to Frederick Pluck of Pleasant View, Danbury, Essex, Farmer, Percy James Debnam of Chelmsford, tobacconist, William Grose Webber of Chelmsford, jeweller, Philip William Stapleton of Chelmsford, sanitary engineer, and Frederick George Burrell of Chelmsford, solicitors clerk. In July 1918 they sold it to James Thomas Jarvis of Dukes Hall, Billericay, farmer, who occupied the property.

The date of the mill's construction is not known but at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in response to the threat of Napoleonic invasion, fortifications were built on Galleywood Common. Newspaper archives record that a duel was fought with pistols next to the mill in 1806 between Lieutenant Torrens and Surgeon Fisher of the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, resulting in the death of Torrens the following day.

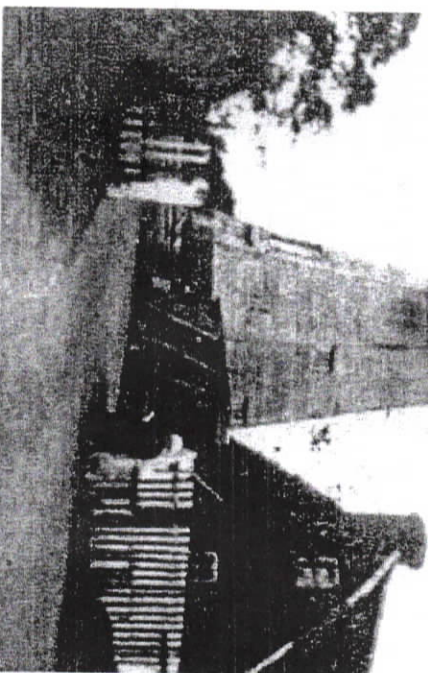
The mill was demolished in the 1920s but the original mill mound remains, together with stables and cart lodge and the house itself.

If anyone has any article, news or information about Galleywood that they would like to be included in Past Times, please send it to the Editor:

[Geraldine.willden@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Geraldine.willden@hotmail.co.uk) who will be very pleased to receive it.

**Introduction**

Our speaker on 12<sup>th</sup> November will be Adrian Wright who will be talking about the Branch lines of the Great Eastern Railway. Here are a few words from Adrian:  
After considering the general nature of branch line railways, the illustrated presentation will look at a number of such lines across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and London, coastal and inland, urban and rural.



Mill with sails removed before being demolished.

Both mill photos courtesy of Galleywood Heritage Centre

**Galleywood Heritage Centre – forthcoming events:**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00 am – 3.30 pm – Remembrance Exhibition – Entrance free

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November**

1.30 pm for 2.00 pm

Talk 'Words in times of Crises' by Dr. Viv Newman. £3.00 per person

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

12.30 pm to 3.00 pm – Authors' Event – Entrance free. Meet local authors and a good opportunity to buy a book for Christmas

[susan.wilson@galleywoodheritagecentre.org.uk](mailto:susan.wilson@galleywoodheritagecentre.org.uk) or 07780 763127.

**Chairman:** Graham Mundy **Treasurer, Membership and Editor:** Geraldine Willden.

**Secretary:** Pat Stuart. **Committee:** Stephanie Troop | Gillian Parker **Website:**

John Turkentine | **Programme Director:** Pat Stuart

Please note our new website address: [www.e-voice.org.uk/ghs/](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/ghs/)

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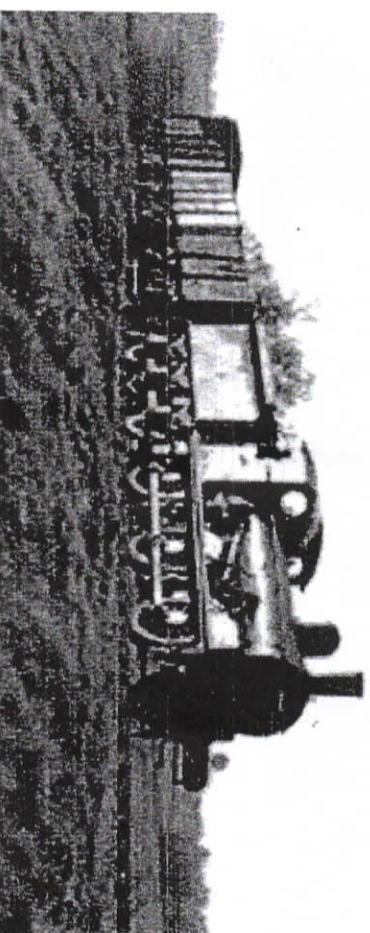


Photo courtesy of John Jolly, Mangapps Railway

Our talk will be preceded by a short AGM. It also marks the start of our financial year and membership subscriptions will be due. The rates are the same as last year: £10.00 per member paid by cash or cheque. £9.00 if paid by Standing Order.