

SPIRIT OF NORFOLK WINDMILLS

Chris Herring

The windmills of Norfolk are perhaps the most iconic of all the county's landscape features. Scattered across the county they stand as sentinels to a distant industrial past in which they provided wind-driven power for milling and for draining the marshland. In the nineteenth century at their peak there were around 700 working windmills in Norfolk and those that survive are important for having played their part in how the Norfolk landscape looks today.

The best known of these survivors are the windmills of the Norfolk Broads. The engineering of dykes and associated windpumps helped to drain the marshland, allowing farming and settlements to grow. This process began over 250 years ago, and whilst over the years the drainage mills of the Broads have gradually been replaced with more efficient diesel and electric pumps, plenty of examples of the original mills can still be found in both working and derelict states.

Whether the mills were originally built to grind corn or to drain water the basic process of harnessing wind power through the use of sails is still the same, and this book showcases a selection of the photographer's personal favourite windmills and drainage mills that can be found in Norfolk today. Chris Herring's photographs are superb in bringing out the best of the romance of these beautiful historic structures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris Herring is a Norfolk-based full time professional freelance photographer who specialises in photographing the wonderful and varied landscape and wildlife of the Norfolk & Suffolk Broads along with other areas of East Anglia and elsewhere in the British Isles.

Chris is quickly gaining a reputation as one of Norfolk's leading young photographers concentrating on landscape and Nature photography of the Norfolk Broads and countryside producing bright vibrant pictures that inspire. This reputation has led to Chris regularly having work published in local and national magazines in calendars and taking on commissions for both local companies and large global brands. *Spirit of Norfolk Windmills* is his first book, to be followed by *Spirit of Suffolk Windmills* and *Norfolk at Night*, all to be published by Halsgrove.

HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

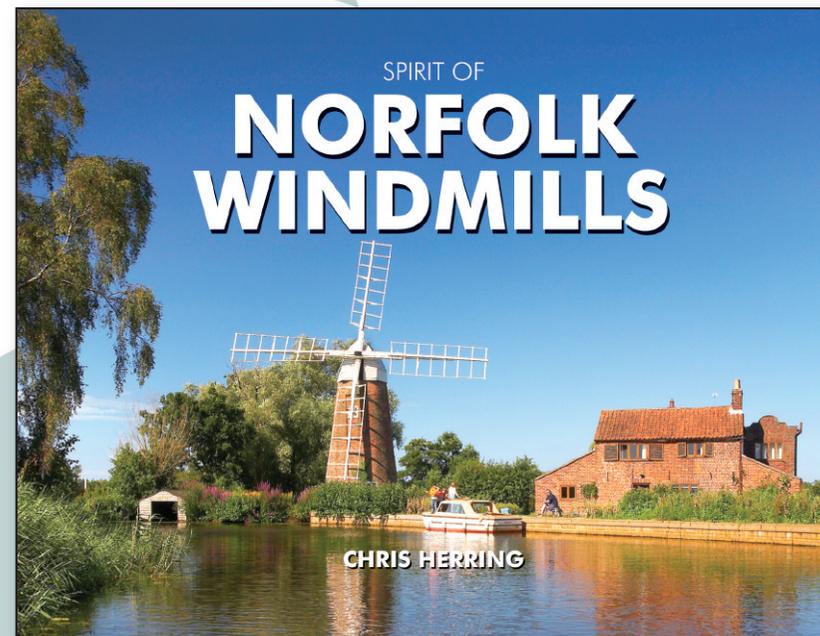
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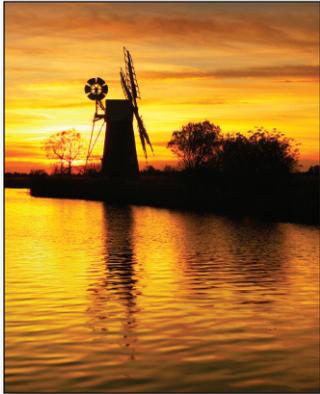
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SPIRIT OF NORFOLK WINDMILLS



Turf Fen drainage mill at How Hill.



Berney Arms Mill sits alongside the River Yare and is the tallest mill on the Norfolk Broads.



Horsey drainage mill reflecting in the calm still waters of Horsey Staithe on the Norfolk Broads.



Right: A typical Broadland scene with a wooden sailing boat passing Turf Fen drainage mill.



The white-painted windpump of Thurne Dyke is one of the most distinctive on the Norfolk Broads. The mill was built in 1820 and after lying derelict for a number of years it was eventually saved from destruction by Bob Morse in 1949 and is now in the hands of the Norfolk Windmills Trust.

Opposite page:
A calm mystical morning captured on the River Thurne with a wooden sailing boat in the foreground and Thurne Dyke windpump on the far side of the river.



Example of a double-page spread.



Late evening light illuminates the reeds beside Boardman's drainage mill.