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The Daffodil Barn, Unit 2 Woodborough Yard, Woodborough, Nr Pewsey, Wiltshire SN9 5PF. Tel: 01672 851979, Registered Charity Number 1149583

# Bound by Veterans

## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

**Dear Veterans and Families,**

As the long hot summer drifts away and becomes a distant memory, we move into the autumn with its chillier mornings, fewer daylight hours and Christmas looming just round the corner!



In early August we set up a Bound by Veterans stall at the Wessex Country Fair show at Wilton. It was a scorcher of a day but there was a lot of interest in the stand and many BBV products were purchased and the sales raised funds for the charity.

Sadly August was overshadowed by the death of Rob Shepherd, Managing Director of Shepherds Bookbinders and co-Founder of Bound By Veterans. A full obituary is given below.

Bound by Veterans has developed an intern training programme which is now underway with two student veterans, Gilly Turner and Dean Williams. An article by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl, about a recent visit made by her and the

In the last BBV Newsletter, mention was made by Ali for anyone who would like to join in making BBV products. The call is repeated here. We have a commission from one of our headline sponsors, the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers, to make 100 leather journals by next year.



THE LEATHERSELLERS'  
COMPANY

This is quite a challenge, but we will be paid for the job and the profits will go back into our BBV coffers to help more veterans discover the therapeutic benefits of this lovely craft. Do get in touch with us if you fancy finding out more.

Robert East  
Editor

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*The Daffodil Barn at Woodborough*

## Rob Shepherd - Co-founder of Bound by Veterans



It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Rob Shepherd, Managing Director of Shepherds Bookbinders Ltd and co-founder of Bound by Veterans, who died on 13<sup>th</sup> August after a long illness. He set up his bookbinding business in 1988 and not only became widely known and respected amongst the bookbinding community but was also passionate about training and spared no effort in trying novel

Project, and as its prime sponsor helped it reach charitable status a year later. He then helped place Bound by Veterans on a secure footing by persuading the City & Guilds Institute to reinstate bookbinding onto its list of heritage crafts and provided the means by which we are now able to award these internationally recognised City & Guilds qualifications to Veterans. In recent years he was a catalyst for the creation of the Queen's Bindery Apprenticeship Scheme and pivotal in the development of national Apprenticeship standards for bookbinding, although perhaps behind it all he was inspired by a keen desire to find Veterans from his "special" charity who might graduate from classes at the Daffodil Barn to a full-blown commercial apprenticeship in the bookbinding trade.

He promoted the charity tirelessly through the Worshipful Company of Stationers, of which he was a Liveryman, and the many other links he had made in the bookbinding and commercial world. He gave us a solid financial start and mapped out a development programme that we follow today. It combines craft training with the therapeutic support for which this charity has become synonymous, and produces a regime that promotes confidence, self-esteem and mental well-being. We will miss his advice and influence but, above all, will miss a real gentleman who supported us with charm, dedication and determination.

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## COURSE NEWS

### BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Sessions

BBV began running these courses about 8 years ago at Tedworth House in Tidworth. The scheme faltered during the Covid pandemic but it has resumed at Tedworth House now on a regular, monthly, basis and the sessions there are taught by BBV volunteers. In addition some courses are now given remotely by Zoom by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl. Also, they are available as in-person courses in Portsmouth and in Scotland. Full details of these and who to contact can be found in the Bookbinding Courses 2022 section below.



*Two students concentrating on their books at Tedworth House in September and...*

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*...six satisfied students proudly displaying their finished books.*



## Other Introduction To Bookbinding Courses



*This course was a Zoom course held in Livingston in Scotland, with instruction given by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl, who can be seen on the screen at the back.*

Here are a couple of comments from students who attended:

- From Pam McLennan: *Great to catchup yesterday. Brilliant to do the book-binding and to chat with the group. Will look forward to hearing more about how the guild certificate progresses.*
- From Hazel: *Many thanks for a great day! Never thought I could do this?? But I did with the help and instructions of everyone. Looking forward to the next challenge?*

Gerry McGregor of Veterans Tribe Scotland (VTS) has begun taking classes in Scotland and one of the students, Ginny, sent in this picture of the book she made and gave the following comment about the course.

*"Hi Gerry, thank you for today's book binding session, it was informative and fun. And this is now my knitting log book!"*



## Bound by Veterans Intern Training

BBV has developed a training programme for interns to learn about bookbinding and develop their skills in the craft. A summary of the scheme is:

***Aim.*** *To produce rapidly trained bookbinders who are qualified at least to C&G*

- *Workshop Instruction and “Bench-Time”*
- *City & Guilds Tuition up to Level 3*
- *External Educational Visits*
- *In-House work for Sponsors (Bound by Veterans and Shepherds)*

**Programme.** *The weekly training programmes will include elements of more than one facet. This aims to provide plenty of variety and to promote interest in the profession.*

BBV currently has two veterans who have embarked on the internship, Gilly Turner and Dean Williams. As part of the course includes external educational visits one was arranged to Bayntun's, a commercial bindery in Bath. Our Principal Tutor, Myln, accompanied the two students on the visit, and her report of the visit is below.



*The George Bayntun shop front during the 1940s*

Edward Bayntun-Coward welcomed us and gave a very informative history of the building, it used to be a post office sorting building before George Bayntun took it on in the 1930s and some of the benches are the original sorting desks. We then had a good look around the bindery where Don showed how they thin leather, rather than splitting it they have a machine that sands the thickness away. We saw the gold edging station - all books are edged by hand with gold leaf. Then Spike talked us through some of the design processes as we looked at a brochure of some of their prestigious bindings. Next we moved on to see Tony at work in the finishing department working on a lovely design of Animal Farm with a lovely pig - just one of the binderies thousands of hand tools.

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drawers of blocks from previous bindings including Winnie the Pooh and Alice in Wonderland.



Edward then took us upstairs to see some of his collection including some spectacular French Bindings - we talked about how we don't know who actually bound the books as the French way is that the designer gets the kudos and the binder is usually an unknown craftsman.

It was fascinating to see a different bindery space, how it functions with different staff taking on different stages and what type of work they produce. Dean and Gilly very much enjoyed the experience and asked many interesting questions.



The exhibition of bindings was also very good and it was great to see the different variety from case binding, to fine leather binding, gold finishing, to artist book.

The whole team were very generous with their time and knowledge, we were there for 2 hours and assured Dean and Gilly would be welcomed back if they wished to visit again in the future. - *Mylyn*

## BOOKBINDING COURSES - 2022 through Bound By Veterans

**Courses at the Barn continue to flourish and the online Zoom courses being run by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl, are proving very popular by those who have difficulty getting away or are unable to find accommodation near the Barn. Details of both in-person and online courses are shown below**

The BBV Introduction to Bookbinding sessions are continuing to be held at Tedworth House and also at the Veterans' Outreach Support (VOS) in

Online tutorials (via Zoom) for the C&G Certificate Level 1 Foundation Bookbinding Course (Unit 118) are now well established in the BBV course programme. This course is normally a 5-day (Mon to Fri) course but for the on-line course it has been split into two modules, spread over two weeks.

In addition, C&G's Level 2 Courses (Units 220 and 221) are now available as Zoom on-line courses.

The online courses run from 10.00 to 16.00 each day but the tutor will be available until 16.30 to assist with questions and practice. A thirty-minute lunch break will be taken at approx 13.00. Details of these courses are given below.

Anyone interested in booking a place on any of the courses listed should contact Wendy at [courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk). If you are interested in the online tutorial courses please book early to ensure we can get the tool kits to you in time. Remember **FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED**.

### October 2022

- **24-28 Oct (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 2 (Unit 220) Half Leather Case Binding**  
This course is the first unit in the Level 2 C&G certificate in Bookbinding. You will learn how to make casebound leather books in quarter and half leather, and how to pare leather and sharpen knives. Some bookbinding experience is necessary.
- **26 Oct (Wed) (1030-1230) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth) (VOS).** This is an In-Person group session at The Royal Maritime Club Portsmouth where students will have the opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook. Contact Philippa Clare ([philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com](mailto:philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com)) facilitator for VOS, for further details

### November 2022

- **1 Nov (Tue) (10.30-12.30) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Tedworth House.** This short session is for RRP Students at Tedworth House only. Students will have the opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook.
- **1-3 Nov (Tue-Thu) C&G Level 2 (Unit 201/202) Design and Sampling Course.** This course is for those who would like to achieve a certificate in Level 1 or 2 Bookbinding and who have no previous arts experience. You will put together a portfolio of samples relating to bookbinding, its materials and learn about colour and design.
- **10 Nov (Thu) Edge Decoration.** Edges are another surface for the binder's creativity to shine but they are often overlooked. They act as an

perfect glass smooth finish to your edges and work through a variety of decorative finishes. From basic sprinkling and sponging through graphite, marbling, paste, gaufering and gold leaf.

- **14-18 Nov (Mon-Fri) C&G Level I (Unit 118) Pamphlet and Multi-section bindings**

For complete beginners, this is the first unit in the Level 1 C&G certificate in Bookbinding, where you will gain a core knowledge of the basic skills and make single and multi-section bindings in quarter, half and full cloth.

- **16 Nov (Wed) (1830-2030) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth) (VOS).** This is an In-Person group session at The Royal Maritime Club Portsmouth where students will have the opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook. Contact Philippa Clare ([philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com](mailto:philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com)) facilitator for VOS, for further details
- **26-27 Nov (Sat-Sun) C&G Level 3 Diploma Gold Leaf Finishing**  
Two days in which you will learn the traditional way to letter a book in gold leaf with both hand tools and typeholder, and decorate a lather label.
- **29 Nov - 1 Dec (Tue-Thu) & 6-7 Dec (Tue-Wed) C&G Level 2 (Unit 220) Leather Case Binding** This course is the first unit in the Level 2 C&G certificate in Bookbinding. You will learn how to make casebound leather books in quarter and half leather, and how to pare leather and sharpen knives. Some bookbinding experience is necessary.

### December 2022

- **13 Dec (Tue) (10.30-12.30) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Tedworth House.** This short session is for RRP Students at Tedworth House only. Students will have the opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook.
- **14 Dec (Wed) (1030-1230) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth) (VOS).** This is an In-Person group session at The Royal Maritime Club Portsmouth where students will have the opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook. Contact Philippa Clare ([philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com](mailto:philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com)) facilitator for VOS, for further details

Please watch out for further details and any changes to the course programme in later Newsletters or on the BBV website at: <https://wiltshirebarn.co.uk/events-info/training-courses/> or from the course administrator, Wendy Lagden, at [courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk)

If you are interested in taking part in any of our courses (either a webinar or at The Barn) please contact Wendy at [courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) who will be happy to answer any questions and allocate you a place on a course.

**Please note, places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and please get your bid in early if you are wanting to attend the live webinar courses because we need time to get the tool kits and materials out to you.** Even if you have done the introductory session before, you might want to refresh your memory and hone your skills. You will have the chance to ask questions and get personal attention as it is all live.

We send out boxed tool kits and materials via DHL to those who register for the online classes, and the tool kits will be collected by DHL after the course is finished. All you will need is a space a bit bigger than A3 to work on, a computer or tablet with wifi, good lighting and a bit of peace and quiet!

We will be offering more live webinar classes during the year in addition to the onsite sessions at the barn. Watch this space! Also look above for details of courses coming up in the near future.

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## **IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING taking part in any of the Introduction to Bookbinding Sessions, then please note:-**

- **Veteran Outreach Support (VOS) Portsmouth:** Group in-person two-hour sessions are held at Portsmouth. For further details, see below or contact Philippa Clare ([philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com](mailto:philippa.clare.vosp@gmail.com)) facilitator for VOSP.
- **Online Individual Introduction sessions:** For students in Scotland. These new sessions are being arranged:
  - for Veterans Tribe Scotland (VTS) students (contact Gerry McGregor [gerry.mcgregor@veterantriberscotland.co.uk](mailto:gerry.mcgregor@veterantriberscotland.co.uk)) and
  - for H4H students (contact Emma Weir [emma.weir@helpforheroes.org.uk](mailto:emma.weir@helpforheroes.org.uk))

For those undertaking the online sessions:

- You can participate in the comfort of your own home, in a group organised session or from anywhere.
- All the tools and materials you need for the course will be sent to you by DHL

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- It is for complete beginners who have no bookbinding experience.
- The timetable for the coming sessions can be seen above.
- For further information about the introduction sessions please contact Wendy Lagden at: [courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk)

## DONATIONS AND SPONSORS

VOTE FOR US

**TESCO**

Community Grants

In previous newsletters we announced that BBV was, once again, successful in qualifying for a grant from Tesco - Community Grants funds (previously known as the *Bags of Help* scheme) during the months of April/May/June this year.

We reported that in total we have been awarded £8,500, a truly staggering amount, congratulations Wendy.

We thank Tesco for their enormous generosity in supporting Bound by Veterans through their Community Grants scheme.



We have received a cheque from the Fratton Branch of Tesco for the £1500 we were awarded there through the Community Grant scheme.

Wendy Lagden and Kevin Reilly (a BBV member) went there on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. Wendy gave a brief talk on what we do at BBV before being presented the cheque alongside a few members of the Tesco staff. The staff, and Kevin, are holding a few samples of Level 1 bindings. .

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**Support BBV through Smile.Amazon.**  
When ordering goods through Smile.Amazon you can select Bound by

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## HELP WANTED

BBV is a charity which relies on sponsorship and volunteers to carry out its good work. To keep operating smoothly we are in urgent need of voluntary and/or paid helpers for the following posts:

**Fundraising and Events Manager**

**PR Manager (esp social media)**

If you or anyone you know would be interested in helping us out in any of these areas, please get in touch with us at [enquiries@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@boundbyveterans.co.uk)

This Newsletter from Bound by Veterans (BBV) is sent to all who have attended an Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Tedworth House AND who have consented to being contacted. It has also been sent to those on the Band of Sisters (BoS) list and others who have requested it.

If you do not wish to receive future Newsletters please unsubscribe using the link at the foot of this newsletter.

### CONTACT

For further information on course details or to book a course:

- Visit the Bound by Veterans website: [www.wiltshirebarn.co.uk](http://www.wiltshirebarn.co.uk)
- Email:
  - The Course Administrator: [courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk)
  - The Bindery at Woodborough: [office@boundbyveterans.co.uk](mailto:office@boundbyveterans.co.uk)
- Telephone: 01672 851979



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