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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 Summer 2023

Hello everyone,

I hope you are all enjoying this wonderful warm weather and finding plenty of opportunities to soak it up.

Far from soaking up the sun, however, BBV has been very busy over the last few weeks on a big project for one of our champion sponsors, the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers. A dedicated group of veterans has been working hard in the barn making over 100 leather Explorer notebooks, embossed with The Leathersellers logo for a prestigious dinner at the Guild on 5th July.



THE LEATHERSELLERS'
COMPANY

We are so grateful to volunteers Dean, Wendy, Stefan, Kevin, Jonathan, Gilly and Alan for giving up their time to complete this project.

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(l to r) Kevin, Alan, Wendy and Dean with 150 formed Explorer cases.

Alan(l) and Kevin cutting the Explorer template.



Gilly is not practicing her pint-pulling technique but is blocking the Leathersellers' logo on the cases.

As well as being a great team and work experience for all concerned, this project will bring thousands of pounds into the BBV coffers, which will help us to keep up the good work in providing bookbinding as a therapeutic activity and training in a fascinating craft. The notebook production has been so successful, we are thinking of making another batch to sell in the run-up to Christmas – watch this space! If you would like to help with making products for BBV to raise funds, please do get in touch as we are always grateful for extra pairs of hands.

A view of the production line at the barn with Kevin in the foreground



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Blenheim at the beginning of June, in aid of Bound by Veterans. Having swum 750m, cycled 20km and run 5.4km, Mylyn said the swimming was her worst bit! She goaded herself on however, showing true grit and again, we thank her for her supreme effort in raising money for BBV.

If you would like to add your support the JustGiving page can be found on this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/mylyn-mccoll-1686686662653?checkoutMode=Headless>

I am personally so very grateful for the wonderful support and hard work that all our BBV volunteers offer – a big thanks to all.

Have a wonderful summer and see you at the barn soon I hope!

Alison

Chair BBV.



The Daffodil Barn at Woodborough

COURSE NEWS

BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Sauchie Scotland - 20th April

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Veterans and bookbinding, with the introduction-to-bookbinding sessions. There are many happy customers who enjoy the sessions.



Three of the attendees, who are concentrating intensely on their book making.

Gerry, centre at the back, with the whole course proudly showing off their completed books.



Gerry said It was a really great session and, for the majority of attendees, it was their first time at taking part in the bookbinding class. Only Joyce and Ginny have taken part before.

Here are some of the comments

'I can't believe that I have made something so professional looking, I am normally rubbish at stuff like this' was one quote, and everyone left feeling so proud and pleased with themselves. All of them said that they want to do it again and can't wait until the next session. Joyce said that *"bookbinding is my joint favourite activity"* (alongside our wind chime making craft sessions!)

For more information about Veterans Tribe Scotland visit:

<https://www.veterantribescotland.co.uk>

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BBV City & Guilds Level 3 - Module Springback Binding Course

by Wendy Lagden

teaches this has until now proved near impossible. The Springback binding is one of the optional Assignments for the C&G Level 3 and I was delighted when Dieter Räder, a very experienced and excellent Bookbinder agreed to run a trial course for BBV. Due to the logistics involved it was agreed that the course would take place at Dieter & Philippa's Bindery in Carmarthen, Wales.

What is a Springback Binding? In 1799 John and Joseph Williamson patented a new method of binding which later became commonly known as the 'springback'. This style of stationery binding thrived during the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. With the demise of the commercial stationery binding, the springback almost disappeared from the bookbinders' curriculum, and is now a structure that few bookbinders and conservators have experience of making.

Anatomy of a Springback binding

(Image from www.thebookandpapergathering.org)



On arrival, I was welcomed by Dieter before I joined the other Veterans, Stefan Godfree, Kevin Reilly, Jonathan Powell and Gilly Turner enjoying the last of the evening sun. The sounds of the cows mooing in the adjacent fields and birds singing all around added to this delightful setting in the stunning Welsh countryside.

On each bench in the studio there was a pile of pre-prepared materials including paper, bookcloth, various sized pieces of board, leather and cotton. Dieter began with an introduction and a brief slideshow presentation showing the various stages of how the structure of the springback is formed. The image above shows the intricacies of this structure, and I am sure I wasn't alone in thinking *'that looks fascinating and complicated and I'm definitely going to be taking lots of notes!'* I had no doubt in my mind that with step-by-step guidance from Dieter we would all be fine.

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paper and sewing the sections to form the text block. A slightly different style to the familiar 'French style sewing' as it incorporated an additional thread at the kettle stitch at the head and tail of the text block.

< Jonathan sewing sections

Each day brought its own challenges whether it was for precision sewing, measuring, cutting, making the lever, hammering the mill board to form the perfect size spring, making the endpapers or paring the leather to name but a few.

Wendy flattening the kettle stitch to ensure the spine has no bumps or ridges >



Day four was spent lining and attaching the spring, forming the endcap and attaching the leather. The temptation and desire to open the book to see if it worked was constantly on my mind. If the spring was too tight the book wouldn't open at all. Too loose and the book would open but not close. A full day to wait for the answer as we were under strict instruction not to open the book fully at this point!



Stefan attending to the fine detail of the measurement of his spring.



Gilly takes a saw to arrive at the correct length of her spring.

The final stages of adhering the leather corners and cloth to the covers and pasting down the marbled endpapers were all completed on the last day of the

were home.

Throughout the five-day course, we may have faced a few of our own personal challenges, but each day I found rewarding and a step closer to completing this remarkable style binding. The evenings came to a close after we enjoyed a delicious home cooked meal that had been prepared by Philippa. Other than touching base with those at home in the evening or early in the morning, we had no distractions from the outside world and were able to immerse ourselves fully into the course.



Four happy students; Gilly, Kevin, Wendy and Stefan.

Thankyou Philippa and Dieter for your hospitality, great food, excellent instruction and allowing BBV to share your wonderful home and studio. I can't speak for the others, but I am sure they will agree, we have all learnt loads and will look back on this course with fond memories.

Wendy.

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BBV City and Guilds Levels 1 & 2 Design and Sampling Course March 2023

This course is for those who would like to achieve a certificate in Levels 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.

The most recent course was in March at the Barn and run by Margaret Walker aided by mentors Wendy and Jack.

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Students (l to r): Susie James, Jim Smith, Julie Sessions, Carol Davies and Sally Smith.

Comments from the course:

- *Wonderful team of tutors. Thank you.*
- *The standard of the course was very high.*
- *It is a course where people open their eyes and mind to the wonders of colour & texture. It's lovely to see & to play with creativity.*
- *Very enjoyable.*
- *This has been a FANTASTIC 3 days. The knowledge from Margaret and Jack was endless. Great teaching methods and gave me confidence.*

Margaret Walker (l), tutor, explaining a point. >



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BBV City and Guilds Level 2 Unit 220 Leather Case Binding Course April 2023

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.

Veterans Gilly Turner, Kevin Reilly and Alan Steele; and Claire Wardle (from Shepherds) attended this course which includes a day learning about and getting experience in sharpening tools.



(l to r) Gilly, Alan, Claire, and Kevin on the Leather Case Binding course in The Barn at Woodborough.

Alan paring his leather and... >



... these are the final results.

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BBV One-Day, Online, Single Section Course for Veteran Tribe Scotland (VTS) 22nd June 2023

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organised by Gerry MacGregor, coordinator for VTS and there were four students, Gerry, Malcolm, Carol and Corin. A good, fun day was had by all with lovely looking books being created.

For further information about BBV bookbinding courses available through VTS in Scotland, contact Gerry McGregor

at: gerry.mcgregor@veterantribescotland.co.uk



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BBV C&G Beginners' Course (118), at The Barn 12th to 16th June 2023

There were four students on this course, of which Abby Chilton and Susie James were veterans. This five-day course gives students a grounding in the basic skills of bookbinding and by the end of the course they will have learned to make single and multi-sectioned booklets with a variety of covering materials.

During this course the students had a conducted tour of the Shepherds bindery.

Susie James pasting up her endpaper before casing in the multi-sectioned bookblock.



Gilly Turner (a veteran apprentice (l)) explaining some of her work to Abby Chilton(r) during the tour of the Shepherds bindery. Jonathan Powell (l), founder of BBV, looks on.

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Some of the lovely books produced during the C&G Level 1 (118) course

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STOP PRESS



BBV does not currently have any satisfactory connection with the most popular social networks. If anyone would be prepared to take on this on behalf of BBV please get in touch with the office at the barn on office@boundbyveterans.co.uk

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BBV NEWSLETTER - NEXT EDITION

The next edition of this newsletter, following this Summer edition, is planned for the beginning of September 2023

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BOOKBINDING COURSES - 2023 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

The BBV Introduction to Bookbinding sessions are continuing to be held at Tedworth House and also at the Veterans' Outreach Support (VOS) in Portsmouth. In addition they are available through Veterans Tribe Scotland (VTS) and Help for Heroes (H4H) Scotland with online and in-person sessions.

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), in-person 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 16.00hrs 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. 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**.

July 2023

- **4 Jul (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.
- **11-14 Jul (Tue-Fri) C&G Level 3 Diploma - cloth Drop-Back box and Brass Post Folder.** During this intensive course you will make both a drop-back box (also known as a clamshell) and a folder with hidden brass posts. To get the most out of this course it is recommended that you have some bookbinding experience.
- **17-21 Jul (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 2 (Unit 221) Alternative and Historical Binding** This course is the second unit in the Level 2 C&G certificate in Bookbinding. You will learn how to make a range of non-adhesive bindings, including a Coptic binding. For those with a little bookbinding experience.

August 2023

- **8-10 Aug (Tue-Thu) & 15-16 Aug (Tue-Wed) Photographic Album and Slipcase** For those with a little bookbinding experience, this course is the second unit necessary for the Level 1 C&G certificate in Bookbinding,

- **8 Aug (Tue) (1030-1230) 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.

September 2023

- **5 Sep (Tue) (1030-1230) 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.
- **8-10 Sep (Fri-Sun) C&G Level 3 GOLD FINISHING.** During these three days you will learn the traditional way to decorate a spine and leather label in gold leaf. You will learn about rollers, hand tools, gauges and fillets. It is recommended that you have some bookbinding experience.
- **25-29 Sep (Mon-Fri) C&G Level I (Unit 118) Pamphlet and Multi-section bindings (Course held at the Barn, Woodborough)**
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.

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

INTERESTED?

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 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!

courses coming up in the near future.

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ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

We are aware that the cost of accommodation can present a problem for potential students who want to attend courses at the Barn in Woodborough. Through the generosity of our donors who sponsor BBV we are now able to provide financial assistance to individuals wishing to come to the Barn for courses.

For further information about support for accommodation and travel, please get in touch with Wendy, our Course Administrator at: courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk

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 Wendy Pearson (wendy.pearson@vosuk.org) 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) and
 - for H4H students (contact Emma Weir 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
- The session is conducted by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl and will last about 2 to 2.5 hours.
- 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

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

This Newsletter, from Bound by Veterans (BBV), is sent to all who have attended an Introduction to Bookbinding Session at Tedworth House, or VOS Portsmouth, or VTS Scotland 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
- **Email:**
 - **The Course Administrator:** courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk
 - **The Bindery at Woodborough:** office@boundbyveterans.co.uk
- **Telephone:** 01672 851979



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