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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 Autumn 2023

Hello Everyone,

I hope you have all had a good summer and are enjoying this late sunshine which makes up for a bit of the wash-out we had in the school holidays. Whether you have children of school age or not, this time of year has that 'back-to-school' feel and we start thinking about new projects, things to do and what we might achieve over the long winter ahead.

Learning a new skill is something we all benefit from, and (you can see where I'm going with this) you already know about the sessions and courses in craft bookbinding that we offer at BBV, free of charge. Perhaps you enjoyed an introductory session at Tedworth House, or with Veterans' Tribe Scotland (VTS) (see picture right), or Help for Heroes (H4H) Scotland, or with VOS in Portsmouth, or possibly you came to the barn to do a week's beginners' course, but didn't take it any further.



Now could be a good time to pick up that bodkin and bone folder and learn how to make something new – apart from the proven therapeutic benefits of the craft, you could be making all your Christmas presents!



*examples of homemade boxes -
ideal for Christmas presents.*

Take a look at our calendar and get in touch with Wendy if you would like to try something new – she will talk you through what is involved in each course and whether you need any experience. Remember that we also offer online courses which can be done in the comfort of your own home, with a small on-screen group.

*A student showing the result of her
endeavours done in her own home.*



If you don't feel able to commit to a course, maybe you would like to help the charity by coming in to make some of the notebooks and journals that we sell to raise funds for BBV. The explorer, urban and garden notebooks proved very popular at a recent event at Stationers' Hall, where they sold like hot cakes to members of the public on an open day in September. They are made at the barn and we regularly run days where volunteers get involved in the production line – it's great fun!



GARDEN Notebook
Page size 120x78mm
50 leaves of Tyger Kraft
Spiral bound over covered boards



GARDEN Pocket Book
Page size 135x103mm
80 leaves of Tyger Kraft
Spiral bound over covered boards



GARDEN Journal
Page size 152x130mm
80 leaves of Tyger Kraft
Quarter bound sewn sections

These products can be bought through our website too – so if you would like to support the charity, but haven't the time to take part in our activities, please buy a notebook or two for some Christmas pressies. <https://wiltshirebarn.co.uk/shop/>

Ok, I've said the "C" word twice - apologies!

Till next time - I wish you all a fruitful autumn

All good wishes,

Alison
Chair BBV.



The Daffodil Barn at Woodborough

COURSE NEWS

**BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Sessions at
Tedworth House, Tidworth.
Recent Courses**



Tedworth House, Recovery Centre for Veterans of all three services

BBV has been delivering monthly Introduction to Bookbinding Sessions at Tedworth House for about 10 years. The early sessions were delivered by Jonathan Powell (founder of BBV) and Ali Strachan (now Chair of BBV). Sally Gregory (BBV Trustee and Volunteer) and Robert East (Volunteer) now share the instruction.

*Ali Strachan
demonstrating at
Tedworth House in
November 2017*



The two-hour sessions are held in the art room in Tedworth House and course sizes range from 3 to 10. Considerable pleasure and personal satisfaction is derived by the students from this short course and achieving the end product of an attractive notebook.



*16th May 2023
Seven students and Daz Crowle
(Tedworth House coordinator, photo
bombing!)*

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6th June 2023
Seven happy students



4th July 2023
Another eight students

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BBV City & Guilds Level 1 (119) On-Line Workshops

by Mylyn McColl, BBV Principal Tutor

In August we had two online Level 1 (119) workshops. Students learnt the fundamentals of making photo albums and slipcasses. There was a mix of veterans and civilians (including two students in the USA!) on the two courses and there was a good amount of chat and banter throughout the days.

A kit was sent out to each participant containing a set of materials and a full set of hand tools so they all had everything they needed to create the books and box. Sally and Carol worked together in one room sharing a screen which worked really well.



City & Guilds qualification in bookbinding.



Carol Davies and Sally Smith worked together at Carol's home and shared a monitor!

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A Visit from Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth)

The Art of the Book

by Mylyn McColl, BBV Principal Tutor

One Saturday in August, seven veterans and carers from Veterans Outreach Support (Portsmouth) (VOS(P)) joined us at the Barn for a fabulous creative day making an Art of the Book single section binding. Most had attended the taster session at VOS(P) with Wendy and were keen to learn more about the process of bookbinding. So, Kevin Reilly drove a minibus with a selection of students across to Woodborough so they could use the tools, equipment and materials we have here at the Barn.



The workshop set up with the Art of the Book sheet in the foreground



Everyone busy and concentrating at work.

From l to r: Tony Sheppard; Tim Pugh; ????; Mark Perryman; Susannah Denman

... and here are the finished results of the group's labours for the day.

The Art of the Book
The booklet provides an introduction
to the structure of a single section
pamphlet and its case >



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TESTIMONIAL

by
Susie James

We often get brief comments at the end of our courses about how students have found the course and whether they enjoyed it but occasionally we are able to hear more profound comment on, not just the course, but how the experience of bookbinding and the training has affected an individual. Here is one such testimonial from Susie James who has recently attended courses at the Barn. Susie has kindly given us permission to publish her testimonial.



Susie James

Faced with medical discharge, life as a civilian after 21yrs Service in the Royal Air Force and a diagnosis of PTSD, it was all overwhelming and my confidence was at its lowest.

Bound by Veterans encouraged me to try a new skill, work with like-minded individuals who would understand me. Small groups in the workshop meant that I was able to slowly work on my communication and confidence.

Such experienced tutors sharing their knowledge teaching me, guiding me through a methodical and beautiful new craft and timeless skill.

I had not done anything like this before, but it allowed me to become absorbed in the beauty, art and precision of bookbinding and by doing so meant that other worries or stressors were kept at bay whilst in that moment I felt a calm.

I found with encouragement from the tutors and the team at BBV I could try new things, explore my creativity and successfully produce a beautiful book.

I have now signed onto the City and Guilds course as I have enjoyed this so much and can't explain how much it has helped me find space in such a busy head.

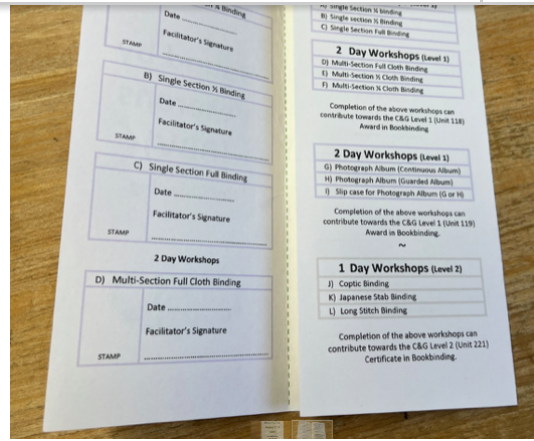
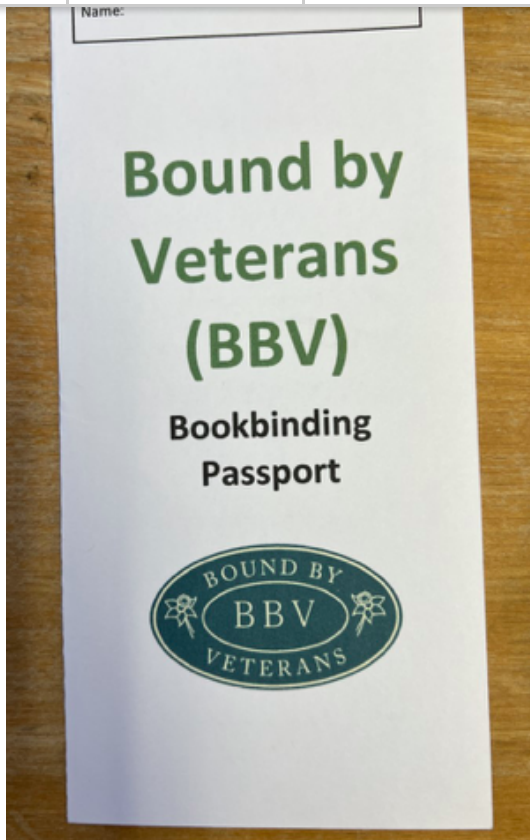
Whilst on the course I was accommodated locally and BBV covered this cost, without it I would just not have been able to attend as I live over 3 hrs away. I was able to review my work each night and do a little homework, again helping maintain the peace and calm the course had given me.

I couldn't recommend this course more to any veteran particularly when your path is a little rocky the support of BBV really does smooth the way. "

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BBV BOOKBINDING PASSPORT

This notice was published in previous BBV Newsletters but is repeated here as it is an important addition to the way progress can be made and recorded to achieving certificates in City and Guilds courses.

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BBV has developed a number of one and 2-day workshops both on-line and in-person which, when completed, can contribute towards the C&G Level 1 (Units 118 and 119) Awards in Bookbinding and C&G Level 2 (Unit 221) Certificate in Bookbinding.

Attendance and satisfactory completion of the workshops will be recorded in a BBV Bookbinding Passport shown here.

For more details of the new scheme contact Wendy our Course Administrator.
courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk

STOP PRESS

DONATIONS AND SPONSORS

VOTE FOR US
TESCO
Community Grants

Wendy, our courses administrator, has, for many months now, been submitting applications for these Community Grants. Her dedication and patience have been rewarded with huge success and BBV has, to date, been awarded a total of £10,500. Congratulations Wendy.

These funds were allocated to tuition costs, course materials, tools and contributions to accomodation costs.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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 the BBV newsletter, following this Autumn edition, is planned for the beginning of December 2023 to cover the months of December 2023 to January 2024

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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 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 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.

online tutorial courses please book early to ensure we can get the tool kits to you in time. Remember **FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED**.

October 2023

- **3-4 Oct (Tue-Wed) C&G Level 3 Module - Cloth Reback** One of the most useful skills to learn if you are trying to make a living from bookbinding, this two-day course will teach you how to repair and reback cloth hardback bindings.
- **9-13 Oct (Mon-Fri) 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 case-bound leather books in quarter and half leather, and how to pare leather and sharpen knives. Some bookbinding experience is necessary.
- **17-19 Oct (Tue-Thu) Unit 201/202 Design and Sampling.** 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.
- **21-23 Oct (Sat-Mon) and 28-30 Oct (Sat-Mon) C&G Level 3 Module, Qtr-Vellum Binding (Parts 1 and 2).** An optional assignment in the C&G Level 3 curriculum, where you will learn to make a laced-on hard binding with a French groove, which will be covered with quarter vellum and decorative paper sides.
- **25 Oct (Tue) (1800-2000) BBV Introduction to Bookbinding Session (for VOS Students only.)** This short session provides an opportunity to learn some basic bookbinding techniques and make a small notebook. To book a place please contact Wendy Pearson at VOS.
(wendy.pearson@vosuk.org)
- **28-30 Oct (Sat-Mon) C&G Level 3 Module, Qtr-Vellum Binding (Part 2).** See above
- **31 Oct (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
- **31 Oct - 2 Nov (Tue-Thu) and 7-8 Nov (Tue-Wed) C&G Level 2 Unit (221). Online course via ZOOM. Non adhesive/alternative bindings.** This is the second unit in the Level 2 certificate in Bookbinding. You will learn to make a range of non-adhesive bindings, including a Coptic-style of binding.

November 2023

sewing tapes/cords of a book and cover a book in full leather by drawing it on. Students should have at least completed the level 2 bookbinding unit.

- **9 Nov (Thu) C&G Level 3 Module - Edge Decoration.** Edges are another surface for the binder's creativity to shine but they are often overlooked. They act as an important protective barrier as well as being a key design element of a fine binding. In this workshop, Kate will show you how to achieve the 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.
- **13-17 Nov (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 1 Unit 119. Photograph Albums & Slip Case.** For those with a little bookbinding experience, this course is the second unit necessary for the Level 1 C&G certificate in Bookbinding, where you will learn how to make two different types of photograph album, one with folded guards, and one with stiff boards, and a lined cloth slipcase.
- **21-23 Nov (Tue-Wed) C&G Level 3.** This two-day assignment is part of the Storage & Enclosures module for Level 3 Bookbinding. You will learn how to make a slip case with a chamfered, rounded, leather entry. If taking the C&G Level 3 qualification, the slipcase would be made to hold your laced-on leather binding.
- **28 Nov (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.

December 2023

- **4-8 Dec (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.
- **12-14 Dec (Tue-Thu) C&G Level 3 Module - Leather Reback.** Following on from cloth rebacking, this course will teach you the fine skills involved in sympathetically rebacking a leather book. These two courses combine as a mandatory assignment for the C&G Level 3 Diploma in Bookbinding.

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

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!

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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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 sessions are being arranged:
 - for Veterans Tribe Scotland (VTS) students (contact Gerry McGregor gerry.mcgregor@veterantriberscotland.co.uk) and

For those undertaking the online sessions:

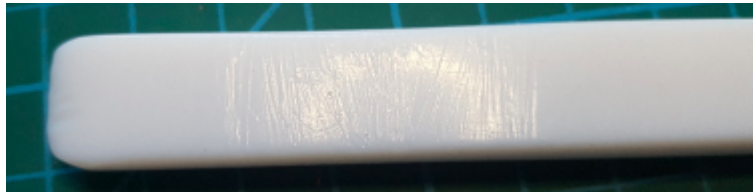
- You can participate in the comfort of your own home, in a group organised session or from anywhere.
- All the tools and materials you need for the course will be sent to you by DHL
- The session is conducted by our Principal Tutor, Mylyn McColl and will last about 2 to 2.5 hours.
- It is for complete 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

Bookbinding Tips and Tricks

by

Mylyn McColl, Principal Tutor

I recently scratched my beloved Teflon folder by using it on some metal beading on a box I was restoring.



Damage to the folder can be clearly seen

To bring it back to its original glory I used wet and dry paper to smooth off the surface again. Starting with an 800, working through different grits and finishing with a 5000 grit. Use the paper wet and avoid using sandpaper as you don't want to create plastic dust.



As you can see it did the trick and I am able to use my folder on delicate surfaces again.

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them to suit your need. Bone folders are easily shaped using regular sand paper as well as wet & dry. Again start with a heavier grit working your way up to the finer grit to give them a smooth finish and it is best to have the paper wet or work outside to avoid bone dust.

Shaped bone folders to meet a variety of uses and situations.



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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

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.

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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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