

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)

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

Bound by Veterans

Crafting a Positive Future

NEWSLETTER Summer 2025

Dear All

I hope this summer newsletter finds you well and enjoying the warm sunny days we are lucky to have at the moment.

We have begun a busy summer for BBV, kicking off with fabulous courses by Flora Ginn (see Kevin's report below) one of the finest gold tooling experts in the world; and Kathy Abbott teaching her fabulous limp vellum binding that many of you have loved. Both these ladies are respected bookbinders across the world, and we are very lucky to have them as teachers.

However, there are other BBV events to come, the first of which happens just as we are going to press on Armed Forces Day, 21st June, in Tidworth. We will be running a stall there so please come along if you can and give your support in spreading the word about what we do, make a pamphlet and maybe buy a notebook or two to help us raise funds for more bookbinding sessions and materials. We would love to see you.

Then, later in the summer on August 15th, we are hosting a special celebration for the 80th anniversary of VJ Day at Woodborough Yard. We will be inviting

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Bookbinding sessions, tours of the binderies, shopping opportunities (not too early to buy Christmas pressies of tools, materials or books!) drinks and snacks. This will be a celebratory fun day for all the family so pop it in your diaries and keep your eyes on your emails to find out more in due course!

If you are interested in getting involved, making bunting, notebooks, supplying cakes or any other way that might help us raise awareness of BBV, raise some money, and make the day as special as possible, please get in touch with Wendy or Jonathan.

I look forward to seeing you soon – enjoy the sun!

Alison
Chair,
Bound by Veterans



The Daffodil Barn at Woodborough

AMI JOHNSON - A CASE STUDY

by
Mylyn McColl

Ami was an Army Nursing Officer and after years of many intense situations found herself at an MoD Recovery Centre.

In December 2023 she attended an in-person Taster workshop at Tedworth House recovery centre. She found the session quieted her mind and enabled

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Ami provided her contact details to say she would be interested in learning more and when Wendy contacted her with course availability she jumped on the chance to attend a five day beginners course in January. She then went on to join the next course producing beautiful photo albums, impressing Ali, our Chair with her very high standard of work. Ami is preparing her submission for City and Guilds and in doing so has created a series of maquette board for each book she has made which she plans to carry through for further bindings. Producing these extra elements also allows Ami to take her mind off her current situation and absorb herself in the creativity.



Ami proudly holding her photo album..



..and her certificate and products of her 119 course

Having got the bookbinding bug, Ami has also attended the Design course, Edge Decoration and Cloth re-back courses, getting passed her anxiety about group situations and enjoying chatting with others in the workshop.

After purchasing our student tool kit, outside of the courses she has attended, Ami has also made a book for the 75th QARANC Anniversary Dinner at Hampton Court Palace which she took great pride in and felt that she was giving something back. She also designed and produced a bookcloth-covered dungeons and dragons board for a friend as well as a small run of single section bindings for gifts.

Most recently Ami joined a BBV online course as part of the Level 2 creating leather case bindings. The five-day course is delivered over two weeks and again Ami took well to the bookbinding processes and found it a great help to dedicate some time to the craft of bookbinding. She says that it is a huge help

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

eager to make more leather bindings.



Working on a re-back and...



... and two leather bindings made on-line.

Ami's enthusiasm has been inspiring for those around her. She describes attending the courses as transformative and is a great example of how BBV workshops and the mindful approach to bookbinding we offer, genuinely benefits individuals.

Mylyn

December 2024

O - O - O - O - O

COURSE NEWS

BBV C&G LEVEL 3 MODULE - GOLD FINISHING JUNE 2025

by Kevin Reilly

Gold, gold everywhere but not a drop to spend!

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

around Gold Finishing.

A new vocabulary for certain tools and the pure art of laying gold leaf certainly caused me considerable frustration as I tried to get my head around making a simple label. Positive thinking on my behalf and expert patience and specialist tuition from Flora Ginn pushed me on to completing an acceptable leather spine for my portfolio of City & Guilds coursework.

Preparing leather with Gleane (a synthetic albumen), marking out and tooling the leather through 24c Gold Leaf is definitely nowhere as easy as using the Blocking Machine. Just getting the correct temperature on the antiquated stoves was hard enough. My astonishment was reserved for the thinness of the gold. Wafer thin sheets worth a pound each were soon consumed and so wastefully when you think how much gets brushed away. The slightest sniff of a breeze would see a fiver worth disintegrate before my very eyes.

Dextrous positioning of the decorative irons, often done blind because of the covering of gold, eventually produced some hard earned book spines ranging from the sublime to my ridiculous, but very satisfying effort. In comparison to Mediaeval versions that were made under far more testing circumstances, there was little difference in design, which is a thought for me to take away when considering book conservation.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

A very pleased Kevin with his decorative book spine..



... and being presented with his certificate by Flora Ginn



A tiring couple of days ended with a feeling of great satisfaction and a completely honest surprise at how difficult and time consuming this aspect of the craft is. So much skill is involved in Gold Finishing that it is a true art within our craft of bookbinding. I leave the barn with so much respect for the skills of our teacher and her ability to get me through the challenges.

Kevin Reilly

O - O - O - O - O

TEDWORTH HOUSE - INTRODUCTION TO BOOKBINDING SESSION

Once a month, BBV runs a two-hour introduction-to-bookbinding session for students on course at Tedworth House. The latest one, held this month, was attended by 10 students.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Some of the students from June's bookbinding session proudly displaying their handmade books.

Students are invited to comment on the session and here are some of their observations from this course.

- *Very interesting, was nice to see it all coming together.*
- *Good/Great*
- *Good - thank you*
- *Really nice session, enjoyable and learnt something new*
- *Very detailed instructions*
- *Session was very good and interactive. Highly recommend*

○ - ○ - ○ - ○ - ○

CITY & GUILDS IN CRAFT BOOKBINDING

Many Bound by Veterans (BBV) students who undertake bookbinding courses through the charity have the opportunity to acquire City & Guilds qualifications in bookbinding. These notes below help to explain the City & Guilds scheme.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

City & Guilds

organisations in the UK and the only body to offer internationally recognised qualifications in Craft Bookbinding.

For over a century, professional bookbinders have undergone training based on a City & Guilds curriculum. Over time the syllabus had adjusted to industry changes and in 2012 Shepherds was instrumental in revising the Craft Bookbinding qualifications to meet modern requirements.

Why are City & Guilds qualifications important?

By linking our courses to a City & Guilds curriculum we are offering a universally recognised set of qualifications and standards. Those who gain a City & Guilds qualification will have the satisfaction of achieving an independently assessed level of competence.

Here are some brief details of the levels of qualifications structured in the different courses.

LEVEL 1 - Award in Bookbinding (Units 118 & 119)

Level 1 is designed for complete beginners. Unit 118 teaches the basic principles of bookbinding and gives a thorough grounding in the use of materials and basic hand tools.

In Unit 119 the student learns how to design and make two types of photograph album, one with folded guards and the other with stiff boards. The course also teaches how to make a simple slipcase.

LEVEL 2 - Certificate in Bookbinding (Units 220 & 221)

The second level continues to develop hard skills, adding more complex techniques to the learning programme. It is suitable for those with some previous experience in bookbinding.

Unit 220 - Leather case binding. Introduces leather as a binding material and teaches how to make a book with a quarter-case leather binding.

Unit 221 - Non-adhesive/Alternative and Historic style bindings. Alternative binding techniques and includes constructing a book in a "Coptic Style" binding with an exposed sewing structure.

Design & Sampling Unit - Exploring Design Ideas (Unit 201/202)

Students applying for City & Guilds Level 2 Qualification in Craft Bookbinding are required to demonstrate design skills by producing a portfolio of design and sampling ideas.

The basic principles of design and colour theory are covered in a three-day Craft Design course. The course includes creating a design portfolio that uses

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

LEVEL 3 - Diploma in Bookbinding

The Level 3 City & Guilds Diploma is a relatively new qualification which was devised to complement the Queen's Bindery Apprenticeship Scheme in 2018.

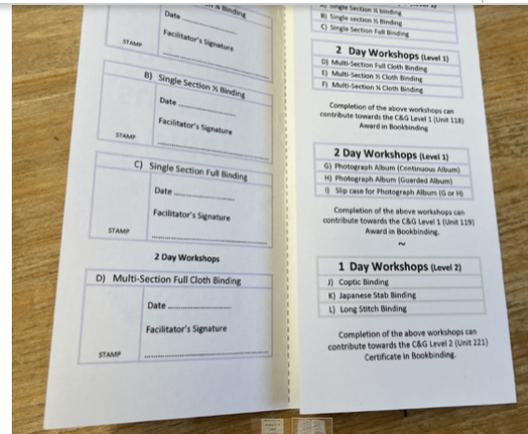
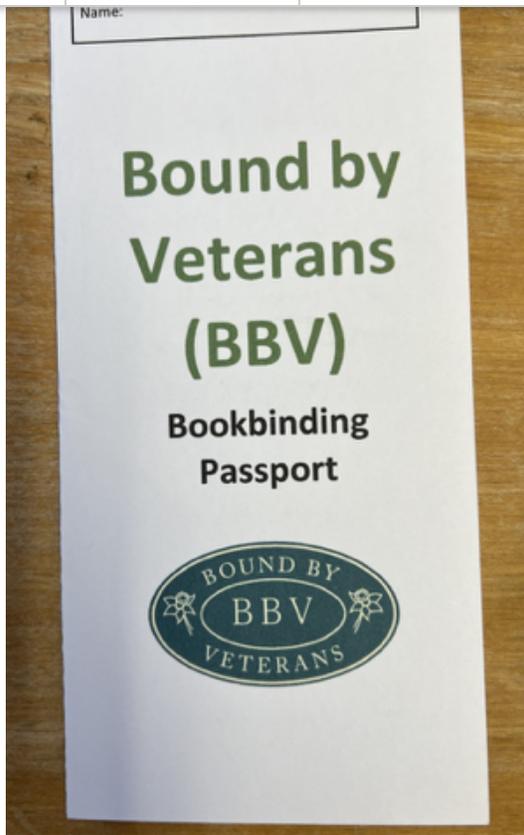
The Level 3 is wider ranging and more challenging than the first two levels and covers a broad range of bookbinding skill which will prepare a successful candidate to work in a commercial or institutional bindery.

If you wish to know more about the courses run by BBV and how they relate to C&Gs get in touch with Wendy Lagden, our Course Administrator, at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk and see details of the course programme further in this newsletter.

○ - ○ - ○ - ○ - ○

BBV BOOKBINDING PASSPORT

This notice has been 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.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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 scheme contact Wendy our Course Administrator on:

courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk

STOP PRESS

DIARY DATES

Here are dates for your diary for some upcoming events in which BBV will be taking part:

- **Saturday 21st June: Armed Forces Day.** Taking place at Tidworth Polo Ground. From midday to the evening. BBV will have a stand. Although rather short notice, if anyone would be available and willing to assist BBV with its stand please get in touch with

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

newsletter, an event taking place at the Workshop in the Barn at Woodborough, come and see how the workshop operates and some of the items made by students and practical demonstrations.:

- 14.00 - Event opens, three tours of the BBV workshop and bookbinding demos
- 16.30 Drinks
- 17.00 Close
- **Sunday 21st September: Stationers' Hall Open Day - London.** Watch out for more details in due course

○ - ○ - ○ - ○ - ○

DONATIONS AND SPONSORS



NEW SPONSORSHIP FROM THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

Just in time for our new 2025 financial year we have been able to secure a substantial grant for our face-to-face courses at the Daffodil Barn. The sponsorship comes from The Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) and this is the first time we have been able to attract funding from the Army's National charity. The grant will cover just over half of all the in-house tuition over the coming 12 months from our team of instructors, many of whom are not only at the peak of bookbinding skills and techniques but are award winning craftsmen and women. Although the ABF exists specifically to support Army Veterans, it is keen to support Bound by Veterans because such a large percentage of our Veterans are former soldiers.

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)



Mylyn McColl(I), BBV's Principal Tutor, assists Rachel, a veteran on a C&G's Level 1 - One-Day Workshop. This one-day workshop contributed towards the achievement of the Unit 118 award.

The ABF's vision is that all soldiers, veterans and their immediate families should have the opportunity to avoid hardship and enjoy independence and dignity. This vision makes a good fit with our own objectives of improving our BBV Veterans health and well-being through our programme of craft training in bookbinding. I hope this will prove to be just the beginning of a close working relationship with the ABF.

Jonathan (Treasurer - BBV)

○ - ○ - ○ - ○ - ○

TESCO COMMUNITY GRANTS - UPDATE



Wendy Lagden has continued her sterling work in getting support through the Tesco Community Grants and she informs me that we have recently been selected as one of the charities chosen for voting in the Marlborough branch of Tesco between the months of July and September.

Furthermore, Wendy has just learned that BBV has just been accepted for voting in the Amesbury branch from the first week in July to the end of September. This will guarantee £1,000 in grants for BBV and possibly a maximum of £3,000, so if you happen to be in these shops during the coming months be sure to drop a blue token in the BBV box.

○ - ○ - ○ - ○ - ○

NOTICES

ARE YOU A SUBSCRIBER TO THIS BBV NEWSLETTER?

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

If that is the case then you can UNSUBSCRIBE and free up more space in your in-box. You can simply do this by clicking on the unsubscribe link at the very end of the Newsletter.

O - O - O - O - O

SOCIAL MEDIA



Mylyn has created a BBV page on Instagram where there are many images of BBV veterans on bookbinding courses and other aspects of bookbinding - well worth a visit. <http://@boundbyveterans>

If anyone is interested in contributing to the charity by taking on the management of social media on behalf of BBV please get in touch with the office at the barn on tutor@boundbyveterans.co.uk

O - O - O - O - O

BBV NEWSLETTER - NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the BBV newsletter, following this Summer edition, is planned for September 2025 and will be the Autumn 2025 edition.

O - O - O - O - O

BOOKBINDING COURSES - Summer 2025 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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Tedworth House in Tidworth 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, held at the Barn workshops in Woodborough, 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 below 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**.

June 2025

- **5-6 Jun (Thu-Fri). C&G Level 3 Module – Gold 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 leather label.
- **10 Jun (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.
- **10-13 Jun (Tue-Thu) & 17-18 Jun (Tue-Wed). Photograph Albums & Slip Case. (ONLINE ZOOM - ANY STUDENT)** Cost £20 for materials. (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) For those with a little bookbinding experience, and/or have completed Unit 118, 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.
- **13-15 Jun (Fri-Sun). C&G Level 3 Module – 17th C-Style Vellum Binding.** An optional assignment in the C&G curriculum which offers an

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

July 2025

- **21-22 Jul (Mon-Tue) Paper Marbling.** Cost £10 for materials. (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk)
- **24-25 Jul (Thu-Fri) Paper Marbling.** Cost £10 for materials. (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk)

August 2025

- **18-22 Aug (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 2 Unit 220 Leather Case Binding (Includes Tool Sharpening)** Cost £20 for materials (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) Using Vegetable leather from Harmatan or Hewits 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 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.
- **25-29 Aug (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 1 - (Unit 118)** Cost £20 for materials (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) 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.

September 2025

- **3-5 Sep (Tue-Thu) C&G Level 3 Module, Storage and Enclosures III. (Qtr Leather Bound drop back box)** Final part of the Storage and Enclosures programme for C&G Level 3, you will learn to make a rounded spine, quarter leather drop back box Previous experience in leather work and box making is necessary.
- **11 Sep (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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

- **22-24 Sep (Mon-Thu) C&G Level 2 - Online Passport Workshop.** Veterans Tribe Scotland Students only. Decorative stitch, Coptic & Japanese stab binding.
- **30 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.

October 2025

- **6-10 Oct (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 2 - Unit 221 (Alternative and Historic 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.
- **14-16 Oct (Tue-Thu) C&G Level 2 - 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 little or no previous arts experience. You will put together a portfolio of samples relating to bookbinding, its materials and learn about colour and design, textures and tones.
- **21 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.
- **27-31 (Mon-Fri) C&G Level 1 - (Unit 118)** Cost £20 for materials (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) 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.

November 2025

- **3-7 Nov (DATE TBC) (Mon-Fri) Photograph Albums & Slip Case.** Cost £20 for materials (for further details contact Wendy at courses@boundbyveterans.co.uk) For those with a little bookbinding experience and/or have completed Unit 118, 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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

for Tribe Students only.

- **17-18 Nov (Mon-Tue) C&G Level 1 - (Unit 118 Pt 2) ONLINE COURSE**
for Tribe Students only.

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 in-person 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.

COSTS: While the cost of the tuition is free for veterans, we do ask that for a five day course, (C&G Levels 1 & 2), students make a £20 non-refundable contribution towards the cost of materials. For shorter, one- or two-day courses for C&G Levels 1&2 a contribution is based on £5 per day. Payment is to be made before the start of the course via BACS transfer and the course administrator will send the bank details out when a place is booked on the course or with the Joining Instruction. Should the student cancel their place on the course then the money can be transferred over to another course.

ON-LINE COURSES: 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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

O - O - O - O - O

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 (other than at Tedworth House), 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 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

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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: 07474934524



[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

Our mailing address is:

office@boundbyveterans.co.uk

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Bound by Veterans · Blake House · Everleigh · Marlborough, Wilts SN8 3EY · United Kingdom

