

# Newsletter



**B A B A**

**British Artist Blacksmiths Association**

SEPTEMBER 2024

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## Editors Notes

Welcome along to the September Newsletter for the British Artist Blacksmith Association.

This will be my last addition as editor of the newsletter as the time has come to pass on the batten and get some fresh blood behind the keyboard. It has been a good challenge seeking out events and blacksmithing info to keep you all updated with the latest blacksmithing news and I hope that you have enjoyed my rambling updates each month. I do hope that the changes ive made over the past couple of years to update the newsletter, to a more modern format and push to publish it to the public and not just the membership has helped to widen the audience and awareness of the association and given the public a glimpse behind the curtain of the blacksmithing world and some of the fantastic benefits that come with being part of BABA.

Putting the newsletter together has not been possible in isolation and I wish to say a massive thank you to Shona and Steve for sending me a constant stream of info to add in each month and to all the members who took the time to send in an email with your news, events and things for sale. I hope that you will all continue to do so for the new editor. I look forwards to reading it next month from the other side of the desk.

So enough yakking from me let's get the news on the go, the fires lit and the hammers swinging!!!

**[Newsletter@baba.org.uk](mailto:Newsletter@baba.org.uk)**



## WHAT IS BABA & WHY JOIN?

For 45 years, BABA has developed and promoted the work of the modern artist blacksmith. BABA has united thousands of professional and amateur smiths (and interested many others) across Britain and the rest of the world in a spirit of friendship and collaboration, to learn about, enjoy and advance the extraordinary craft of creative blacksmithing.

To this end, we:



- Organise forge-ins and hold an annual conference
- Hold masterclasses, where members can get involved and ask the tricky questions
- Publish a for members magazine (usually 4 issues per annum) and the monthly newsletter
- The Members website, With member galleries and useful resources
- Offer a competitive discounted forge insurance scheme
- Organise the production of large public sculptures to display the talents of the members
- Organise talks from leading experts from around the globe
- Organise gallery Exhibitions, Competitions, meet-ups, digital events and much much more

For full details and to become a member go to: <http://www.baba.org.uk/>



# NEW: BABA MERCH



Baba merchandise is available for members to pre-order via the Baba website for collection only at the Baba 2024 AGM. This is a small run of items, for this event only, future events may have availability for ordering, but nothing in the pipeline at the moment. The pre-ordering system means we don't end up with surplus stock. Just Like a good Model T Hotrod All items will be in black only, with the newly modified white Baba logo embroidered on.

All items come with a spec sheet, please look at the measurements, these items are non-refundable so check and double check your sizing! A note to the ladies is that the women's items come up small, so size up at least one, if not two sizes, if in doubt why not order a male version, no one will know!

Merchandise purchases will close 2-3 weeks before the AGM to allow all orders to be embroidered in time. Happy shopping!!! closing date for orders is 31st August

# BABA's 40th Anniversary Conference & AGM 2018

Kelham Island Museum, Sheffield – 18 August 2018

Lucy Quinnell

*"To Timothy Puddephatt – Chairman of BABA – and to all BABA Members*

*I have been reminded that this last weekend was the 40th anniversary of the official establishment of BABA.*

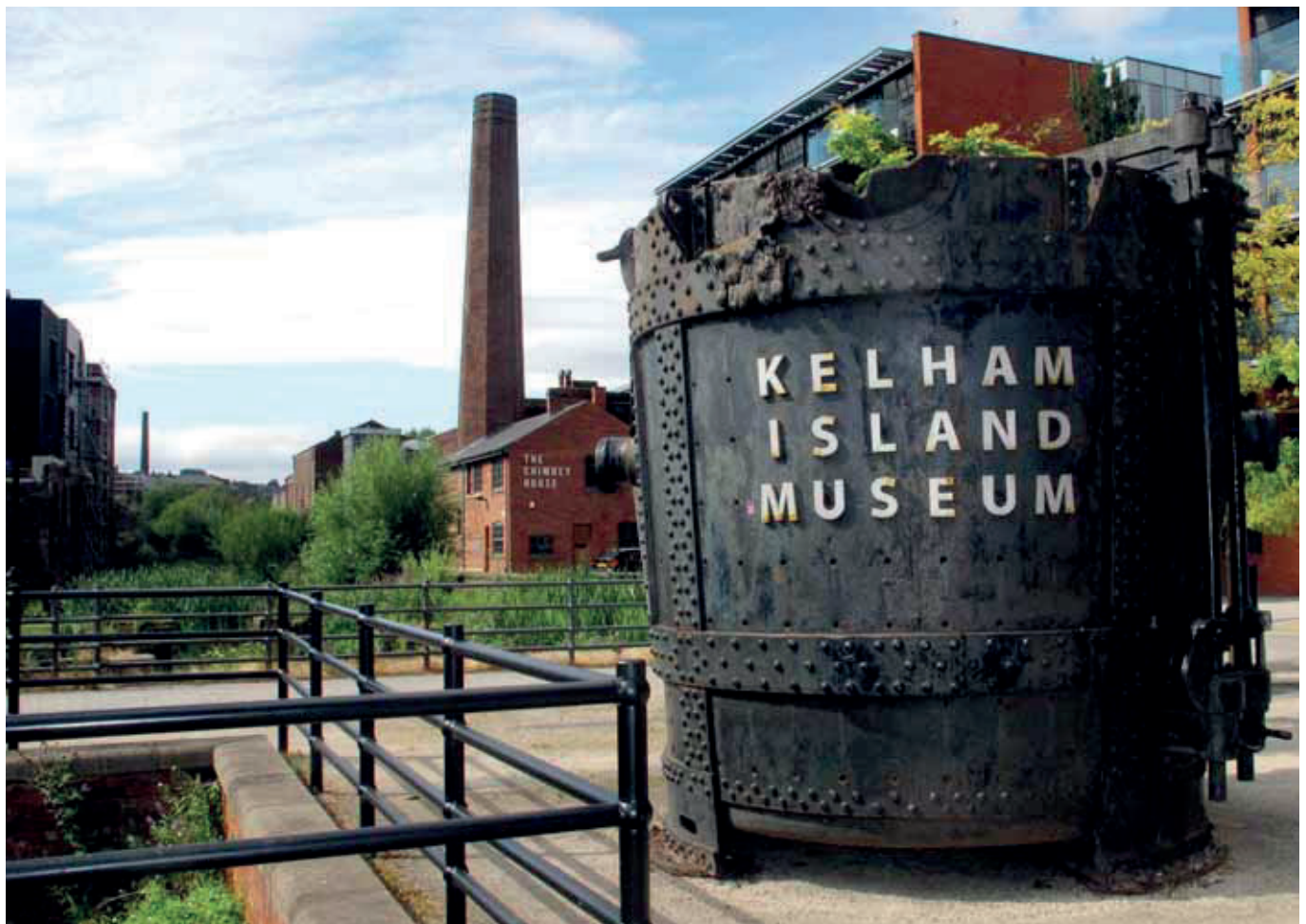
*Many congratulations.*

*It is about 40 years ago that I became aware of these very active and enthusiastic blacksmiths who galvanised their energies and imagination and evolved BABA into this wonderful organisation; ...the many talented and generous-spirited individuals who helped and encouraged me in my endeavours to learn the craft.*

*Thank you, BABA, and all of you who have worked and continue to work assiduously to promote this magnificent craft.*

*Here's to the future!*

*With heartfelt wishes" – John Creed*

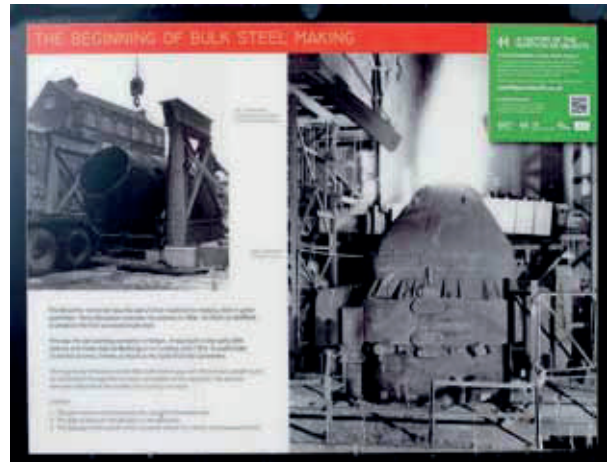


Can it really be forty years ago that, encouraged by ABANA and the terrific American enthusiasm for the creative possibilities offered by forged steel, a small group of blacksmiths gathered together at Rowhurst Forge in Leatherhead and founded BABA?

One of the great benefits of being a part of what is often referred to by members as an extended family, is the spur to travel all over the UK (and even further afield) to the events. That it doesn't always meet for its conferences, forge-ins, masterclasses and AGM in the same place each year is one of BABA's enormous strengths – we are introduced to places and people we may never

have encountered or been inspired by, from coast to capital. Having been at many Council meetings, I love the discussions about potential venues for future events, and the desire to keep it fair and moving from north to south and east to west and "We haven't been to Wales for a while now...".

So it was that after BABA visited Hastings on the south coast for the first time ever in 2016, and headed up a bit and west to Hereford in 2017, the AGM moved further north in 2018 to a new (and very atmospheric) industrial venue: the Kelham Island Museum in Sheffield.



# BABA's 40th Anniversary Conference & AGM 2018

*continued*



This was the kind of quiet event we have all been asking for. A calm chance – between the noisy, busy, exhilarating big projects – to talk, to consider, to learn, to catch up. The AGM itself was focused and productive, without the common situation where key people have to simultaneously ‘mind the shop’ and attend to ongoing forging and public engagement activity. Even then, the hours sped by and there was not really enough time to debate the future of the craft and BABA in this very challenging era of uncertainty, time poverty and rapid change. We need a week...

Two precious moments stayed in my mind: Robert and Carol Smith were rewarded again for the superb work they have done with their team for BABA Children’s Forging, when Chairman Tim Puddephatt presented them with the Addy Taylor Cup; and BABA Newsletter Editor Norman Brammer stood up and reminisced about his Sheffield past – he was born to a ‘Little Mester’ close to Kelham Island in 1938.



And then on to the Conference element and two very different and very wonderful guest speakers.

Richard Lewis – silver medallist of the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths – gave a talk about his career, and a running commentary to a screening of a film made about his forge while it was still operating. Richard has supported BABA in the past, producing specialist forgings for many members over the years, and also introducing everyone to Progen industrial tool steel. He featured in AB96, demonstrating power-hammer forging at Terry and Sally Clark’s ‘Weekend of Learning’ in November 2000. There cannot be many people in the world who can offer such a wealth of practical, technical and cultural information on so many aspects of blacksmithing, so it was an extraordinary privilege to be in the audience.

And the audience participated! Questions were asked as the film was showing, and it transpired that several delegates had used Richard’s skills and products in the past. This was an unexpected bonus – matching commissioned objects to commissioners who could add extra information about the jobs concerned.



The sadness of a forge closing down was tempered with the realisation that the machines and tools had gone on to new homes – there were calls from the floor as specific items were shown in operation: “So-and-so has that now”, “That one went to so-and-so”, and so on..



I would have bought my ticket and driven to Sheffield just for Richard’s interesting and wholly authentic presentation – it was like a gentle and mesmerising one-man theatre play.

Then it was Grace’s turn, and an enthralling presentation that had us all captivated. Grace Horne is a fabulous woman and a *brilliant* designer-maker. Cutler and corsetière, Grace works in an old public toilet built in the early 1900s for tram drivers. She exudes flair, wit, style and passion, and she has an





# BABA's 40th Anniversary Conference & AGM 2018

*continued*

academic approach and an engineering brain that will explore all avenues and stubbornly tackle any technical obstacle that dares to compromise the desired outcome. Aesthetically, much of her precise work has that appealing sense of period allure, decadence and danger that is becoming so popular again today in film and TV; she can make anything, to an outrageously high standard, and many of her pieces are strikingly modern, but for me it is

the scissors that combine her metalworking, engineering, textile and academic research skills which are the most definitely 'her'. Grace showed us examples of these, handing them round and explaining the design and technical processes involved. They are gorgeous and intriguing, and she shared a tale of Sheffield's social history, where prostitutes – forbidden to carry sharp weapons to defend themselves – had styled themselves as 'seamstresses', who were allowed to carry scissors...



Photo: Eric Eggly





Grace finished by donning a beard she had knitted in honour of blacksmiths, and we all retired to the bar and our 'proper Northern Tea' (amazing pie!). For those able to spare the Sunday as well, there was free entry to the Kelham Island Museum to see the River Don Engine in full steam (a 1904-built steam engine used for hot-rolling plate) and the extensive Hawley Collection of tools and 'tools that make tools'.

I drove home late on the Saturday night, and grabbed the opportunity to call in for a quick reviving coffee with Sheffield friends who have bought an old coach house. They asked my advice about the iron door and fire furniture, and it was intriguing to see so many witch marks – another article for another time...

*What a terrific, stimulating day, so full of camaraderie and inspiration – none of which would have happened if BABA hadn't happened forty years ago.*

# BLACKSMITHING EVENTS:

## Upcoming Events

Dorset County Show 7th-8th September

Newbury Show 16th-17th September

## BABA AGM and Conference September 2024

## Things to look forwards to...

Will Maguire Masterclass, Ratho Byres Forge,  
Scotland 14 - 15th Sept 2024

BABA AGM & Conference Expressive Metals,  
Hereford 21st - 22nd Sept 2024

Aspiring to Design - "The Basics" Museum of  
Making, Derby 12th - 13th Oct 2024

Designing, measuring and making sure it stays put.  
Northamptonshire 9th - 10th Nov 2024

If you know of an event taking place BIG or small  
email the details to;

[Newsletter@baba.org.uk](mailto:Newsletter@baba.org.uk)



CELEBRATING  
**RURAL**  
*life*  
IN DORSET  
7 & 8 SEPT 2024



The Dorset County Show is one of the largest and most prestigious agricultural events in the UK. Join us this year for a unique and immersive experience that celebrates the best of rural life.

With livestock competitions, equestrian events, fun forest activities, local food and drink stalls, craft vendors, educational exhibits, and entertaining performances, it's a must-visit for anyone looking to connect with nature, learn something new, and enjoy a fun-filled day out.

<https://dorsetcountyshow.co.uk/>



# Newbury Show is back for 2024!

Join us on 21st & 22nd September for Berkshire's Big Weekend of Farming, Food & Fun!  
A hands on Countryside adventure for all the family.



## The Competition

There will be live competition on Saturday and Sunday where student blacksmiths can compete. This year is floral themed. Material will be supplied on the day. The judging will take place on Sunday by a National Blacksmith Competition (NBC) judge even though the show is not part of the NBC

## The Static Competition

The static competition is for something you have forged yourself at college or at work. The static pieces will be displayed in the Marquee for the public to see on Saturday and Sunday and judged on the Sunday by a NBC judge.

<https://newburryshowground.co.uk/>





**The Australian artist blacksmith Will Maguire will be holding a Forging Masterclass hosted at Ratho Byres Forge, Scotland from 14th - 15th September 2024**

**Thick Shadows, Supple Line : Exploring Liveliness in Iron**

**A not to be missed opportunity to collaborate on a piece of sculpture with the international Australian Artist Blacksmith Will Maguire.**

**Only a few places left!!**

**Book your ticket now on the BABA website events page**

<https://www.babamembers.org.uk/will-maguire-masterclass-at-ratho-byres-forge/>



**With only 15 spaces available, this is a unique opportunity to work as a part of a group, in a well equipped forge, under the guidance of the renowned Australian blacksmith, Will Maguire.**

# **BABA AGM & Conference** **EXPRESSIVE METALS**

**20th - 22nd September 2024**



**BABA**  
British Artist Blacksmiths Association

**Rural Crafts Centre  
Hereford & Ludlow College  
Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL**

## **The Invited Demonstrators**



**Will Maguire**  
**Australia**  
**Friday evening talk**  
**Saturday demonstration**

**Cara Wassenberg**  
**England**  
**Saturday evening talk**



**Charles Lewton-Brain**  
**Canada**  
**Friday demonstration**  
**Saturday evening talk**

**BOOK NOW!!**

[www.babamembers.org.uk/baba-agm-and-conference-2024](http://www.babamembers.org.uk/baba-agm-and-conference-2024)

**Free Camping with your booking**

# **BABA AGM & Conference** **EXPRESSIVE METALS**

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**BABA**  
British Artist Blacksmiths Association

## **The BABA Event T-shirt!**



**Designed by Stephen Lunn**

**The event T-shirt is now available to pre-order  
with your BABA Expressive Metals event ticket  
collect at the event in September**

**BOOK NOW!!**

[www.babamembers.org.uk/baba-agm-and-conference-2024](http://www.babamembers.org.uk/baba-agm-and-conference-2024)

**Free Camping with your booking**





# **Notice of BABA AGM 2024**

**The forthcoming BABA AGM will take place  
at  
Holme Lacy Village Hall,  
Bridge Road, Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LP**

**Saturday 21st September 2024 9am - 11am**

**All BABA members are welcome  
You do not have to be attending the  
Expressive Metals event to attend the BABA AGM**

**There are several members of the current  
BABA council planning to stand down from this year.**

**Would you be interested in joining the BABA Council?  
If you would like to find out what is involved, chat to a  
council member or contact BABA Chairwoman  
Shona Johnson email [chairwoman@baba.org.uk](mailto:chairwoman@baba.org.uk)**

**We are especially looking for someone to take over  
editing the BABA Newsletter from Will Holland.**

**The newsletter is seen by BABA members and is sent  
out internationally to smithing groups around the world.**

## **BABA NEEDS YOU!**

# BABA Conference and AGM 2024

## 20th - 22nd September 2024

# EXPRESSIVE METALS

Centre for Rural Crafts, Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL

We once again return to the Centre for Rural Crafts at Holme Lacy, home to the National School of Blacksmithing for the 2024 BABA AGM and conference, Expressive Metals.

We have a busy and exciting programme with lots happening over the weekend, both at the college campus throughout the day and then into the evening at Holme Lacy Village Hall, a short walk from the campus. There will be free camping close by for delegates and catering will be provided and available to purchase along with your event ticket. For those that are not campers, a quick check on google will show several local inns or holiday homes nearby available to book.

We have three exciting demonstrators traveling from Australia, Canada & West Sussex to share their knowledge and love of manipulating different metals and materials in expressive ways with you.

A forging area with 36 hearths, allowing space for everyone to take part in creating a piece of work with the simple brief "Wearable Iron" over to you to get as expressive as you wish creating something to be worn.

Bring your work for **The Inner Space** exhibition, details in Artist Blacksmith174 and in the Newsletter or contact Steve Rook [secretary@baba.org.uk](mailto:secretary@baba.org.uk)

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**Show Me How** arena where some of those attending are happy to pass on their skills, if you wish to have a slot to pass on a skill contact Shona Johnson [chairwoman@baba.org.uk](mailto:chairwoman@baba.org.uk)

**Show & Tell** an informal opportunity to share images of your work and say a few words if you wish. It is always inspirational seeing what other creative makers are doing and hearing the thoughts behind a design or a particular way of forging. please send 5 images to Pete Hill [babasides@gmail.com](mailto:babasides@gmail.com)

**Tailgate Sale**, bring along any items that you wish to sell or gift.

**NHIG** (National Heritage Ironwork Group) will have a display on boards of the work currently being carried out alongside examples of traditional heritage ironwork. Members of NHIG will be available to answer any questions you may have.

We are continuing to develop and add to the programme so watch this space!!

## The Demonstrators

**Will Maguire - Australia** [australia.www.willblacksmith.com](http://australia.www.willblacksmith.com)

Will Maguire trained initially as an industrial blacksmith in Australia, then spent several years as a journeyman overseas, working, learning and collaborating with some of the best smiths in England, USA, Russia, Europe, Ukraine and Japan. Will is currently one of a few contemporary blacksmiths in Australia combining his contemporary designs with traditional forging skills creating innovative practical and sculptural work.

On Will's visit to the UK he will do a masterclass in Scotland at Ratho Byres Forge on 14th & 15th September, this will be limited to 15 delegates. Anyone wishing to attend can put their name on the waiting list by contacting Shona Johnson at [rathoshona@gmail.com](mailto:rathoshona@gmail.com) Tickets on the BABA website soon! The figurative sculptural piece created will be brought to the AGM & Expressive Metals Conference for everyone to enjoy.

At the AGM Will plans to explore the human form in closer detail and will demonstrate the expressive nature of soft iron by capturing a varied sense of human emotion working at the anvil with fullers and a striker.

There will also be a presentation from Will on the work he creates at his forge in the Hunter Valley, New South Wales.

### **Charles Lewton-Brain - Canada [www.ganoksin.com/member/charleslewtonbrain](http://www.ganoksin.com/member/charleslewtonbrain)**

Charles Lewton-Brain is a master goldsmith. He trained, studied and worked in Germany, Canada and the United States. A world renowned author, educator, artist and former teacher and Program Head at Alberta College of Art and Design, Lewton-Brain has been recognised globally for his art work, and received Canada's highest honour for Craft, The Saidye Bronfman Governor Generals Award. He was one of the founders of the Canadian Craft Federation, Canada's national organisation, and served as President for over two years.

Credited with inventing fold forming, a metal smithing technique recognised the world over as the only new, original innovation in metal working in millennia, Charles will demonstrate fold forming techniques using copper sheet at the BABA AGM. Fold forming uses the metal's flexibility to make complex forms resembling chased, constructed and soldered shapes. For those captivated by the forms that can be created through fold forming, the techniques that Charles will demonstrate can be transferred to be used in steel allowing the blacksmith the ability to create organic sinews forms not always possible to achieve by forging. This is a wonderful opportunity to add another skill and way of thinking to your own practise as an artist blacksmith. Charles will also give a presentation of his work.

### **Cara Wassenberg - United Kingdom [carawassenberg.com](http://carawassenberg.com)**

Cara Wassenberg is a metalsmith, teacher, and sculptor. Although she is originally from a fine art background, during her career she has consistently developed her skills in metal working. Following an initial introductory year spent at Hereford College of Technology she learnt from craftspeople in Germany, the US and England. She is fascinated by the process and has more recently learnt more about the casting of glass. Her preferred sculptural materials are iron and copper.

Cara will give a power point presentation titled Material, Method and Making Your Way.

In this talk she would like to share with you some of her educational experiences, the places people, workshops and materials that influenced her and continue shape her work practice today.

### **Catering**

Catering will be provided from Friday lunchtime at an additional cost. Breakfast and evening meal will be served in the marquee behind the Holme Lacy village Hall. Lunch will be served at the college campus. The majority of dietary requirements can be catered for.

See the registration form of catering details and costs.

### **Camping**

Camping is free and very close to the college and Holme Lacy village Hall!!! The camping facilities are basic with portaloos in the camping field. There are basic showers facilities available at the college. A google search will bring up various inns, Airbnb's local campsites and different styles of hotels locally for those who prefer not to camp on site.

### **Registration**

Timing to be confirmed but we hope that delegates will be able to arrive and pitch tents from Thursday afternoon.

Registration will be at the college campus from Friday morning 9am - 12noon

### **T-Shirt**

No BABA AGM event would be complete without the keepsake T-Shirt. This is being designed this year by the talented Stephen Lunn, Anvil Man of Red Row Forge, Morpeth. Watch this space for Stephens exciting design. The T-shirts will be available to purchase at the conference event and on the BABA website when you book your conference ticket.

**TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE BABA WEBSITE VERY SOON!!**

## "INNER SPACE"

### Personal expressions in metal forming: Interior pieces for the home.

This is an opportunity to design and make something unique for that 'inner-space', the home interior.

Organized by Steve Rook, initially, this exhibition will take place at the BABA AGM 20th to 22nd September at the National School of Blacksmithing, Holme Lacy, Hereford.

Should you agree, your piece or pieces entered for 'INNER SPACE' will then go on to be exhibited at Fire & Iron Gallery in Surrey for the Mole Valley "Arts Alive Festival" one of the biggest community arts festivals in Surrey, comprising around 80 local events taking place throughout October 2024. Otherwise, you may take your work away at the end of the conference.

#### Dimensions:

- It must fit within an imaginary cuboid measuring no more than 400mm x 400mm x 1000mm.
- The work does not need to fit the space closely. It can be smaller, much smaller if you wish.
- The finished work must be either completely stable and free-standing, or it could equally hang on a wall.
- The work can be positioned horizontally, vertically or at an angle, so the space to fill could be a metre high or a metre wide - or 'tilted' - as long as the other two dimensions are both within 400mm.
- The piece should be thoughtfully designed and explore/demonstrate the skills of the blacksmith.

#### Entry form and date:

Please email Steve at [secretay@baba.org.uk](mailto:secretay@baba.org.uk) and we will send an entry form which will contain further information. To help us plan, we will need to know what is coming, how it is arriving, etc.

If your work moves on to Fire and Iron Gallery, please give consideration as to how it will be protected during transport.

**The closing date for return of entry forms will be the 31st of August. Work for exhibition would need to arrive on the 19th or 20th September.**

#### On to Fire & Iron Gallery

Fire & Iron's director, Lucy Quinnell, would like each maker to provide a paragraph about themselves and their work, and she can help with this if required. This is your chance to promote yourself to a wider audience, and to get feedback regarding public reaction to your work. It is likely that unsold work could remain on display beyond the end of the festival, to give it a longer time period and a greater chance of selling.

- All work must be safe for exhibition purposes and fit for sale. Your work will be for sale unless you wish otherwise. This is a great opportunity to get paid for what you have made for the AGM and to get your name and work in front of the general public as well as invited professionals such as architects, interior designers and garden designers.
- Sadly, Fire & Iron Gallery cannot accept any lighting these days without the full (and prohibitively expensive!) regulatory requirements. An electrical test is no longer sufficient.
- All work will be insured while in Fire & Iron Gallery's care.

A few words from Lucy Quinnell:

*"Go for it. Do the very best work you are capable of and finish it beautifully. Exhibiting work in public is your chance to shine, and who knows where it will lead? There is still a reassuring public thirst for really high-quality, interesting work, finished well.*

*My advice is to imagine a client and aim for something they will want to live with for the rest of their lives; something that will make them smile every single time they see it, or even use it, if it has a function beyond artwork. Picture it in their home, with visitors, children, pets, and cleaners. Where will it go? How will it work with the rest of their space? Is it safe? Is it compliant? And so on. I look forward to seeing some really exciting work."*



"Salmon run"

Steve Rook



Thistle companion set Steve Rook

# Its Back! And moving down south!

**Limited Numbers** for our November 2024 BABA event.....**Keep an eye on the events section on the BABA website, tickets will be live 6 weeks prior to the event.**

**Designing, measuring and making sure it stays put. An introduction to making site-work work for you at either end of a job!**

A workshop led by Adam Booth - Pipers Forge, Jim Whitson - The Blazing Blacksmith and Pete Hill - Ratho Byres Forge - over 100 years of collective experience and making mistakes, so you don't have to!

Hosted at the forge of Kelly Burton, located in the midst of the Northamptonshire countryside.  
Old Dairy Farm, Upper Stowe, Northants, NN7 4SH.

**Saturday the 9th November and Sunday the 10th November 2024 (£100pp)**



This weekend event will be a chance to learn about some of the possible approaches to both the preparatory stages of a project and the final installation. The weekend will include discussion, demonstrations and hands on opportunities.

First day topics will include designing for a specific location, site survey techniques and approaches, apps to make this easier, thinking ahead, looking for issues, problem solving and tools that can make the measuring process easier and more accurate. We will undertake a hands-on demo surveying existing openings with the opportunity to have a go. Discussion of design approaches will follow with a focus on identifying the site parameters and restrictions that might guide the design process.



On the second day the focus will be on installing and fixing your work, fixing types and their uses, advantages and disadvantages with hands-on demos with tips and tricks. This will include most relevant fixing options, such as mechanical anchors, resin fixings and hot lead, with different drilling options and the chance to try these out.



Time allowing there will be a couple of presentations showcasing past projects, showing how the site influenced the design and how they were installed.



It is planned the event will take place from 10am - 5pm on Saturday and 10am till 3pm on Sunday. Hopefully folk can get together Saturday evening for a beer and to talk smithing.

Lunch for both days will be included at the onsite café (buffet style) and will be included in the ticket price, along with refreshments. The event will be limited to a maximum of 20 attendees.

While we are unable to offer camping at this time of year, there is limited parking for folk with campervans (6 ONLY) first come first serve basis at an additional £10 per night, who can park up at the venue. There is no shortage of budget hotels within 5 or 6 miles.

# CLASSIFIEDS: Toys for the toy shop...



Toby Forbes Gower:

The widest range of Blacksmithing tools at sensible prices:

<http://www.tfg-design-in-metal.com/shop>

# clever tools for blacksmiths

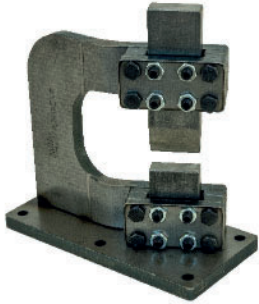
...not missed until today?

There are a number of little helpers that make forging easier and more efficient. Even a traditional craft can be optimised...



## Holdfast

This tool is perfect for fast clamping different workpieces directly onto the anvil. Only a simple hammer is needed to attach or detach the clamp. The size of the tool is suitable for different anvils and the shaft clamps securely in the square or round holes.



## Guillotine

This helper allows various jobs if you are working alone. Finishing, settling, punching and much more.

Flexibel handling due to the bevelled C-Frame design. With fast and easy tool change, suitable for different tool dimensions. Fixation on the square hole of the anvil or for mounting on the workbench.



## Adjustable spanner

The adjustable spanner is a perfect universal bending bar. The handle can be extended with a piece of pipe. This enables more power transmission. Hint: You can clamp a raw material with the same cross-section as the twisted material on one mouth-side. This allows working with a larger lever without damaging the adjustable spanner.

Due to import regulations, we can only deliver from a minimum order value of 150€.







## Victory Tools Power Hammer Sales and Hire

Power Hammer prices from £4295 plus vat.

Being a blacksmith for many years and having to weld a mile to buy my first Massey, I fully understand the hardships of buying your first power hammer. With this in mind, I have decided to hire out our new Anyang ST power hammers to help you complete your job with the option to deduct the hire charge from the full price if purchased.

For more information about our new Anyang ST power hammers, any of our second hand power hammers or forge force induction heaters, please contact us on 01362687116 or email us at [nigelbarnett@artist-blacksmith.co.uk](mailto:nigelbarnett@artist-blacksmith.co.uk)

<http://www.artist-blacksmith.co.uk/>



The National School  
of Blacksmithing



national\_school\_  
blacksmithing



## Why choose us?

The National School of Blacksmithing is the longest established blacksmithing college in the country. You will have the opportunity to learn the craft of blacksmithing and build your practical skills in our world leading workshop facilities, under the guidance of an experienced team of lecturers from a variety of industry specialisations.

### Courses we provide:

- BTEC Level 2 Diploma Blacksmithing
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma Blacksmithing
- BA (Hons) Artist Blacksmithing
- Level 2 Welding Apprenticeship
- Level 3 Blacksmithing Apprenticeship
- Level 3 Farriery Apprenticeship
- Short Courses

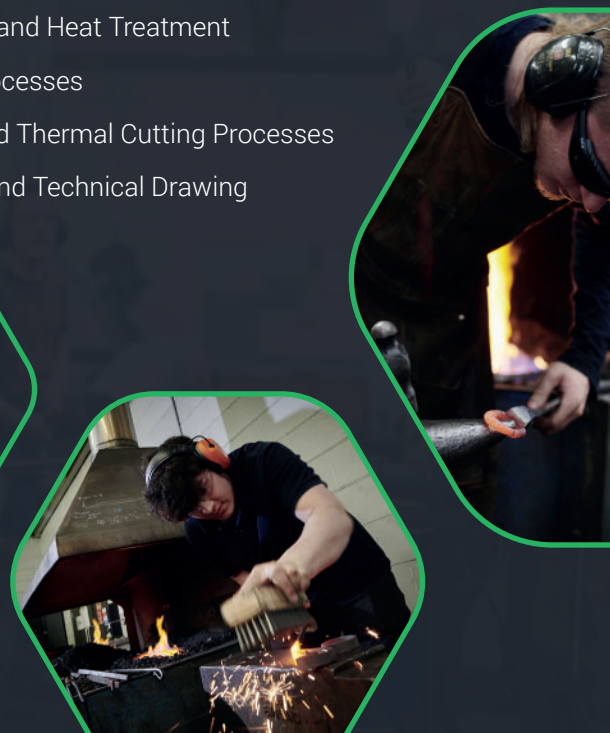
### Popular modules:

- Understanding and Using Forging Techniques for Blacksmithing and Metalworking
- Blacksmithing and Construction Skills
- Large Scale Design and Make
- Repoussé, Restoration and Conservation
- Metallurgy and Heat Treatment
- Forging Processes
- Welding and Thermal Cutting Processes
- Freehand and Technical Drawing



Holme Lacy  
College

Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL



## Power Hammer for Sale



Ross Rigby 2cwt one piece hammer

3 phase

Built in 1951

In good working order and, as still wired in, can be seen in operation. While old this is of solid construction made in an era when things were built to last. Unlike modern hammers this is a one piece hammer, which means installation is super easy. It simply bolts to workshop floor without the need for any special foundation saving both time and money.

Offers over £ 5000

Located in North Yorkshire, just outside Thirsk, YO7 2BJ

If you're interested, then do get in touch by contacting

Chris Topp 07773 368 643 / christoppironwork@gmail.com

Please do forward to anyone you think will be interested

## Cast iron Forge For Sale

Cast Iron Double Forge with  
Stainless Steel Hood.  
Also with water and coke tray.  
(No tools included)

Please contact Terry Clark 01483  
235244

Sally Clark mobile 07768 830933

Email [sally@artsmith.co.uk](mailto:sally@artsmith.co.uk)  
Guildford, Surrey.

£950 or offers.



# THE LAST GOOD ANVIL GOOD SALE

**Anvil for sale £230**

Collection Only - Near Guildford, Surrey

Buyer Collects - Cash on Collection

You are welcome to come to view

Any questions please contact

Terrence Clark Artist Blacksmith

Please contact

Terry Clark 01483 235244

Sally Clark 07768 830933

email [sally@artsmith.co.uk](mailto:sally@artsmith.co.uk)



# Richardson and Smith

8 Victoria Square, Whitby, YO21 1EA

## Live Auction Dispersal Sale of Blacksmith's Equipment

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**Including: Geka 80A Hydracrop Punching Machine,  
Samuk Forklift, General Equipment and Stores**



**On behalf of Godbold  
Blacksmiths Ltd,  
Egton, North Yorkshire,  
YO21 1TZ**

For more information or a catalogue visit:  
[www.richardsonandsmith.co.uk](http://www.richardsonandsmith.co.uk)  
Or call 01947 602298

# WORKSHOP SALE



I'm hoping to rehome and some of the other machinery I should like to dispose of. Notes and photos are below.

All equipment was in working order when they stopped being used and they have been kept in their original locations in a weatherproof, unheated building. To the best of our knowledge the only deterioration has been surface rusting but there's also a general need for lubrication.

## Presses

Manual Press. This is in good order. It is currently set up as a guillotine but I believe it has a die set for the Aberaeron pattern shovel.

The photos opposite show the press in its original and current condition. The video (link below) shows it in operation.

Power Press. This is powered by a separate electric motor. The motor turns freely by hand but I haven't powered it up and the belt connection to the press is absent. The press has die sets for a number of spade / shovel designs.

The photos show the press in original and current condition, and also some of the stamped spades/shovels and die sets. The video shows the main drive can be turned by hand and drives the flywheel but I can't move the lever to engage the flywheel with the piston so I can't show this in operation.

## Other Machinery

Shaping Machine. This is belt-powered by a separate electric motor.

Stand-mounted Pillar Drill. Belt powered by a separate electric motor. I occasionally use this and video shows it running.

Grinder. Powered by internal electric motor. I occasionally use this and video shows it starting and running.

Metal Cutting Saw. I'm not sure how this is powered. It would appear to have a pulley for a belt

Manual Sheet Metal Rolls Needs cleaning but in working order.

## Site Access

There are limitations on site access. The forge building is close to a narrow public road which is some 500yards from a larger B-road. The width of the road makes it unsuitable for very large lorries – artics are a definite no-no! As a guide, it can be comfortably accessed by Builders Merchant delivery vehicles (eg Travis-Perkins / Jewsons). The entrance to the forge yard is wide but slopes down towards the forge. Turning for large vehicles is difficult and most drivers prefer to reverse back down to the B-road.

For more details visit:  
<https://www.gof.littim.net/>

# Blacksmiths Workshop to Let



Later this year there will be a workshop unit of approx 900 sq ft becoming available, just outside of Ashford in Kent.

The unit is tucked away at the back of a working farm, has 3 phase electric supply, big doors, easy access for delivery lorries, no residential neighbours, a toilet, storage area and an insulated office with a sink.

At a small agreed cost I can leave the 3 phase sockets, alarm & CCTV I have installed, or remove everything to leave a bare unit with just single phase sockets.

I expect the landlords will set the rent circa £475 at lease renewal. Business rates exempt with small business rates exemption.

Workshop floor area circa 11m x 6m, storage and office area combined space around 3m x 6m. The pictures are very old and the workshop doors have since changed, but the scale drawn plan of the unit is accurate to date.

For more info ring Joel on 07714631202



# Retirement Sale:

John Spence:

As I am about to retire I wish to sell all of my equipment to vacate the unit I am in at the moment.

Please see attached photographs showing the larger machines all 440v.

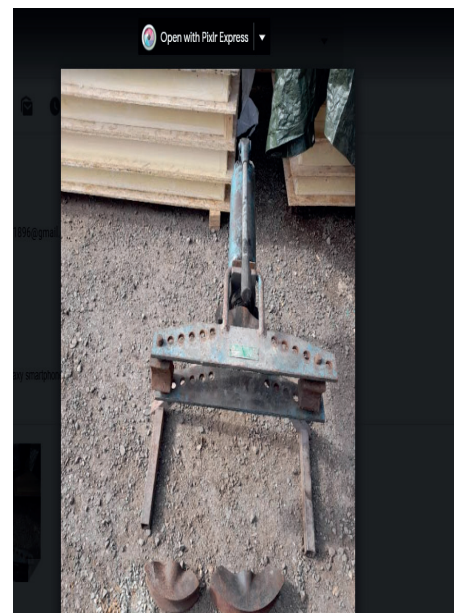
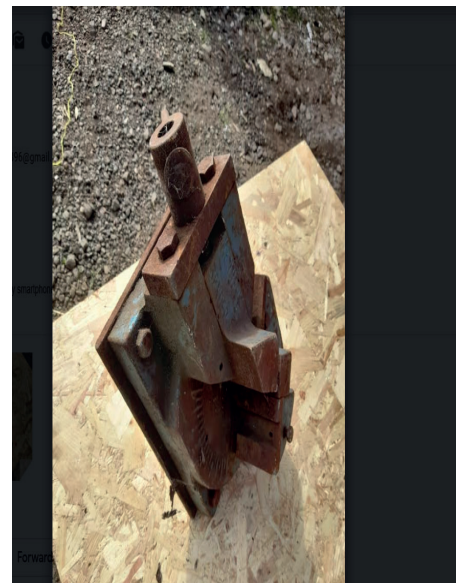
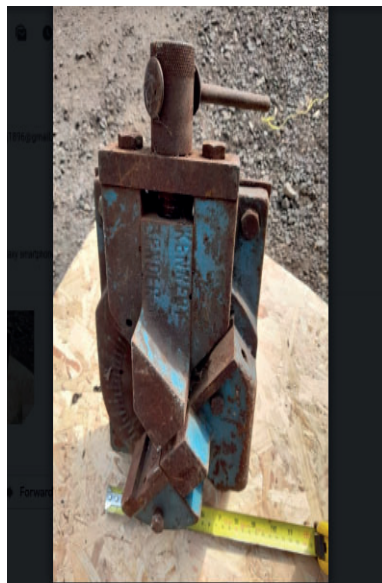
I have lots of 110volt power tools say 5" Bosch grinder for £20.00 all prefer order, masonry drills and machines etc but sale price in auctions.

I would like BABA members to have first chance before the dealers.

Kind regards,

John Spence

spencej1896@gmail.com



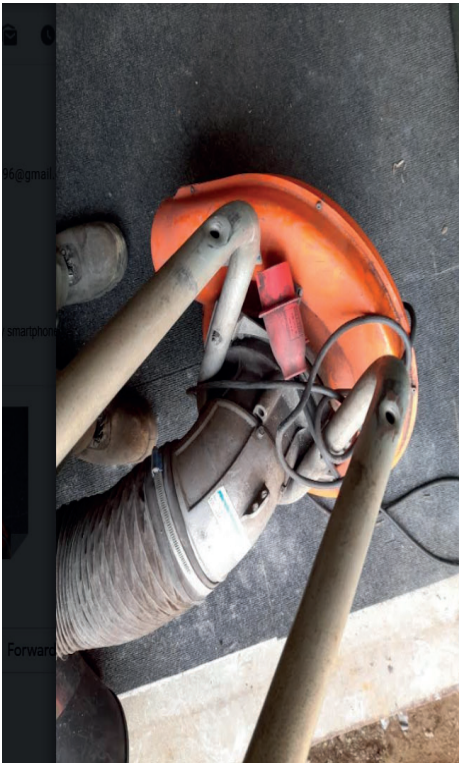


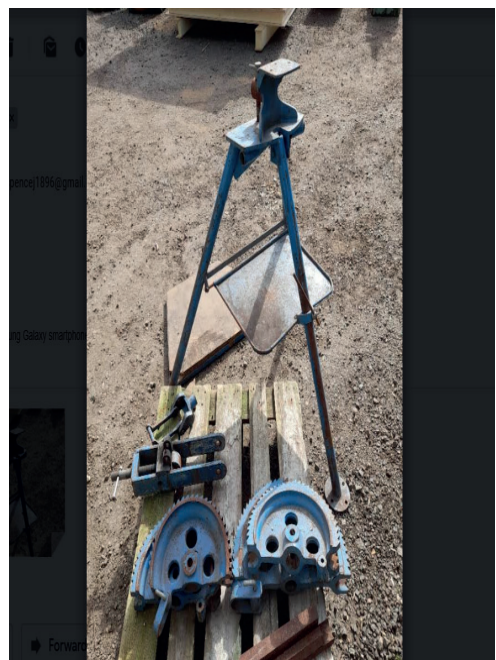
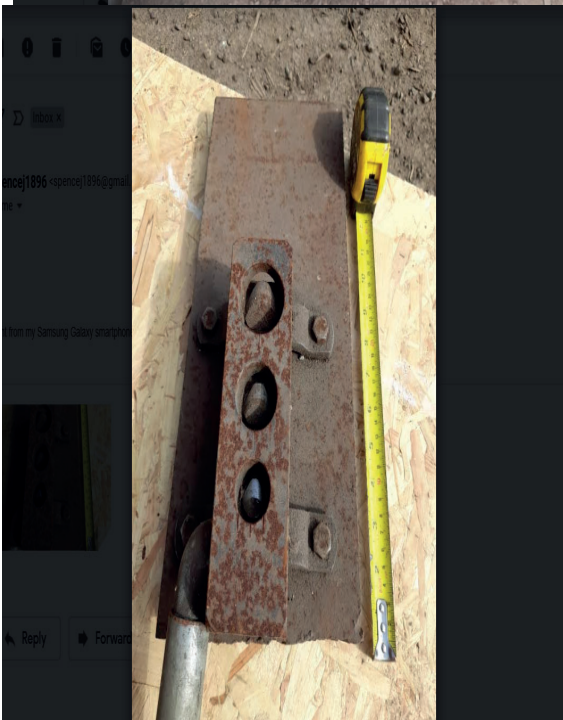
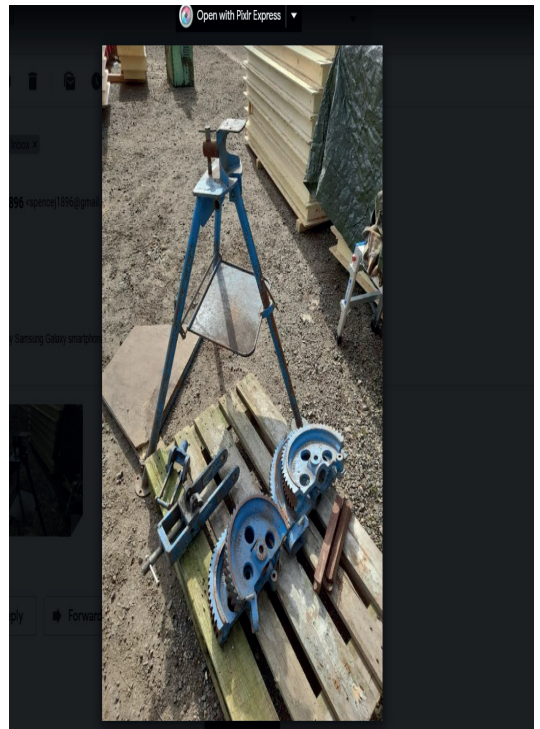
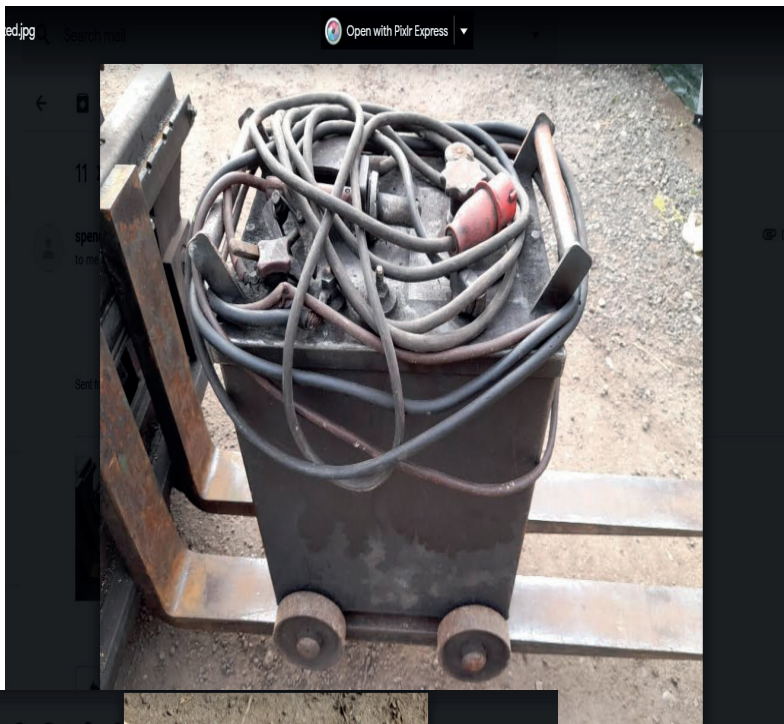


Contact:

John Spence for prices and availability

: [spencej1896@gmail.com](mailto:spencej1896@gmail.com)







## For Sale:

W Alldays double forge for sale, good working order but does require repairs to the canopy. Would consider all reasonable offers. Further information please email or phone. Situated in Cumbria.

steve.hopps2@gmail.com

07870785322



## John Hughes a'i Fab Cyf

Masnachwyr Glo, Poteli LPG a Logiau

Solid Fuel and LPG supplier

Yr Iard Lo, Carmel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 7DS

t: 01286 882 160

e: [johnhughescyf@gmail.com](mailto:johnhughescyf@gmail.com)

[www.johnhughescoal.co.uk](http://www.johnhughescoal.co.uk)

IB11 TAW / VAT No: GB 162 8083 62

As well as Welsh Anthracite in various sizes and Imported Steam Coal, we also have a limited supply of bagged Welsh Steam Coal available.

Please get in touch if you would like further information.

Best Regards

Aled Hughes



# JOBS, TRAINING & OPPORTUNITIES

## Work Experience & New opportunities

If you are looking for a new job, or looking for some vital work experience why not send in a few words about yourself and experience and the part of the UK that you are looking to work in and we will include it here for you.

I know a few of the more established players will be looking for some extra help in the new year on those upcoming projects in the pipeline so feel free to get in touch via email and send me those job adverts. You can also check out the BABA directory for a full list of Blacksmiths offering "Work Experience"

Looking for help in the forge? why not send in the details the newsletter is now reaching a much wider audience of talented smiths who might be just the person you were looking for to join the team.

**[Newsletter@baba.org.uk](mailto:Newsletter@baba.org.uk)**



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BLACKSMITHS AND  
THE NATIONAL BLACKSMITH COMPETITION COMMITTEE  
(WCB AND NBCC)

The WCB gives annual national awards for the Champion Blacksmiths static and live, together with the runners-up. These are established from combined competition results at authorised county shows. The competitions are regulated by the Rules of the NBCC.

The Static National Champion Blacksmith is an award for static display ironwork.

The Live National Champion Blacksmith is an award for live hot forging ironwork.

The Shows which are authorised are:

Points will be awarded at each of the below qualifying rounds. Static & Live Winners of each Championship - 10 points and a framed certificate; Reserve - 4 points and framed certificate.

North Somerset	Devon County Show	Edenbridge & Oxted
Royal Three Counties	Royal Welsh	Dorset County Show
Royal Cornwall	New Forest and Hampshire County Show	
NBCC Judging Seminar & Competition at Hereford College		

The Rules of the NBCC can be seen on the website [www.blacksmithscompetition.co.uk](http://www.blacksmithscompetition.co.uk).  
At the bottom of the "Home" page click on rules and regulations.

**SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS:**

**The Blacksmith Section is grateful for the support of:**

**The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths**

**The Worshipful Company of Farriers**

**The National Blacksmiths Competition Committee**

**Blacksmiths Guild**

**Philip J Harrison, Building Surveyors Ltd**

**Rob Percy Wildfire Forge**

**Stromholm Ltd**

**Solent Streetworks**

**Bullseye Farrier Supplies**

**Don Mallett and Babcock**

**Wessex Farriers Supplies Ltd**

LOVE  
MONDAY

sky arts

# BILL BAILEY'S MASTER CRAFTERS CASTING CALL



***Are you a budding Blacksmith?  
Would you like the opportunity to showcase your  
skills on TV?***

*Bill Bailey's Mastercrafters: The Next Generation is  
returning to Sky Arts for a third series, to shine a  
spotlight on heritage crafts. If you're over 18 and are a  
trainee, apprentice or student of the following craft  
we'd love to hear from you:*

## **BLACKSMITHING**

*To find out more, please send an email with your name,  
contact number, a brief description of your craft  
experience and any images of your work to:*

***crafts@lovemondaytv.com***

**NB. You will need to be available for filming on selected dates  
between 3rd-14th June and 5th-12th July 2024 to apply.**



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# SANDERSON

Quest Rising Star Craft Award May 2024 -

QEST is delighted to be partnering with international luxury interior furnishings brand Sanderson Fabrics and Wallpapers to launch a prestigious new award, with a career-changing cash prize of £25,000 ☒

The 'QEST Sanderson Rising Star Craft Award' is open to early-to-mid career craftspeople in the UK who are making a positive contribution to their craft, the wider craft sector and community.

# RISING STAR CRAFT AWARD

# NEW METALWORKING TENANCY

Flameworks is excited to open applications for a new artist in our metalworking community.

Suitable applicants will be active craftspeople or graduates, preferably with the capacity to offer teaching classes.

Studio W10 measures 12.5ft x 18.5ft and costs £233.00 monthly.

It is on the ground floor with rolling door access through the communal forge.

It includes a fixed metal bench, and metal storage cupboard with shelving and has both natural and interior lighting.

Studio Tenancy Includes:

- Access to our unique communal forge
- Ability to carry out paid teaching classes through the Flameworks website (requires DAB check and includes admin fees).
- Taking part in Flameworks events
- 24-hour secure access
- Profile and photography on the Flameworks website.

To apply, please email the following to [hello@flameworks.org](mailto:hello@flameworks.org):

- a description of your practice
- a copy of your current CV
- a link to your website/social media
- photos of your recent work

Available from 5 May 2023

**AVAILABLE FROM 5 MAY 2023**



# CALLING ALL HOBBYISTS WITH A PASSION FOR MAKING, CREATING AND TINKERING!

Do you have an impressive hobby project that you'd love to show off? Have a problematic project that needs expert advice? Or do you want to take your crafting skills to another level?

Whether it's a toy train or full sized plane, a lovingly restored vintage motorbike, puppets, woodcutters, upholsterers, glass makers, automatons and any home made invention; no matter how big or small we'd love to either help you perfect your project or show off your unique creation!

## Our Travelling Toolshed is here to help!

Get in touch with your **name**, **contact** information and **details** about your project:

[castingtoolshed@hungrybear.tv](mailto:castingtoolshed@hungrybear.tv)



## The Art Workers' Guild

is launching a new year-long programme called Creative Connections. The programme will create a space for creative people, who are beginning to establish themselves professionally, to meet and connect with Guild members, build supportive networks with each other and develop their professional practice.

The programme will include hands-on workshops, talks, discussions and social events - all opportunities to connect with other creative people to share insights and ideas, encourage each other and navigate the challenges of sustaining a career.

<https://www.artworkersguild.org/what-we-do/creative-connections/apply/>



SUPPORTING  
EXCELLENCE  
IN BRITISH  
CRAFTSMANSHIP



## New Scholars & Apprentices Announced

We are delighted to announce 27 new craftspeople have recently been awarded QEST funding to further their training and education, with the total awarded this round reaching nearly £300,000.

The 22 Scholars and 5 Apprentices include makers working in textile conservation, stained glass, bee farming, stone carving, millinery and more, across the length and breadth of the UK.

Click below to learn more about the makers and their exciting plans for their QEST training.

See all new Scholars & Apprentices

<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-880OE-2FYCCF-5654HD-1/c.aspx>



## Peer Review:

Ferrous is fast approaching and we were wondering whether anyone from BABA is coming who would be able to provide us with a peer review of the festival that would support our report to the main funder, Arts Council England? A peer review would provide a professional perspective on our work that will provide value to our understanding of its effectiveness.

This could be in the form of a brief written piece that comments on the quality and depth of the exhibitions and events or in another form such as a video. We would like the reviewer to think about some of the things in the attached document, as a guideline to what could be included.

All the best,

Rebecca

Rebecca Farkas  
 Freelance Arts Marketing  
 07801 367936  
[www.fabartboost.co.uk](http://www.fabartboost.co.uk)

Freelancing Mon - Thurs

Arts Marketing Association Regional Associate for the West Midlands

DIMENSION NAME	DIMENSION STATEMENT
Captivation	(i.e. It was absorbing and held my attention)
Thought-Provoking	(i.e. It was thought-provoking)
Concept	(i.e. It was an interesting idea)
Distinctiveness	(i.e. It was different to things I've experienced before)
Relevance	(i.e. It had something to say about modern society)
Rigour	(i.e. It was well thought through and put together)
Excellence	(i.e. It was one of the best examples of its type that I have experienced)
Originality	(i.e. It was ground-breaking)
Risk	(i.e. The artists/creators really challenged themselves with this work)

# the CHURCHILL fellowship



We will fund you to spend up to two months discovering new ideas and best practice among leading practitioners anywhere in the world. You can do this in person or online. Then we will help you to write up your ideas as a Report published on our website, to share your insights with your community or sector, and to turn your ideas into action in the UK.

The initial grant covers all expenses for your research phase, including all travel costs. If needed, it also covers interpreters and travel assistants.

The topic you explore is defined by you. It must meet our eligibility criteria, which include offering a practical benefit to UK society. Success will be assessed within your own terms, and may be local or national.

The success of your application for a Fellowship is not affected by your qualifications, background or age. We ask only that you are a UK resident citizen aged 18 or over. We are looking for people with the potential to inspire change.

The support we offer extends beyond the initial grant:

- We offer advice and assistance with planning your research and travels, writing up your findings, sharing your knowledge and implementing your ideas.

- We promote your ideas and activities on our website and social media channels.

- We plug you in to our online Fellows' networks which offer local and thematic contacts and collaborations.

- We offer post-research grants for your knowledge-sharing and events.

- We maintain contact for as long as you like, and include all Fellows within our community.

Many Fellows start their projects at a local level, in their workplace or locality, and then grow its influence, perhaps to regional or sector level. Some find themselves affecting national levels of policy or services. Almost all say that the Fellowship took them to places and levels they had not expected. In a recent survey, 100% of Fellows said they would recommend a Fellowship to others.

Crucial to this process is the personal and professional growth that comes from a Fellowship. You have an opportunity to take time out of normal life, for learning and thinking. You will be learning in a topic you care about, from leading practitioners you have chosen, anywhere in the world. You will have the status of being a Churchill Fellow, which opens doors overseas and at home. Many Fellows tell us that their ideas were not taken seriously until they became a Fellow, when their voice was fully heard.

Fellows report that these effects are long-lasting. Our survey showed that – as a result of their Fellowship – 77% of Fellows remain globally connected, 61% are leaders in their sector and 77% feel they are more fulfilled professionally. Some 88% said it was a life-changing experience.

You can read about the impact that Fellows make here, and about the impact on a Fellow's own life here:

<https://www.churchillfellowship.org/>



# BUILDING CRAFTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Building Craftsperson Award, sponsored by Owlsworth IJP, recognises the best up-and-coming craftspeople working with traditional materials and old buildings.

Do you know an early-career craftsperson working with traditional skills, buildings and materials? Nominating them could be a game-changer for their career.

Submit your entries or nominations by Wednesday 14 August 2024. You can find out more below, or get inspired by our previous shortlist and winners.

Any questions? Email [awards@spab.org.uk](mailto:awards@spab.org.uk).  
What are we looking for?

Early-career craftspeople and builders who are new to their trades (formally engaged with their trade for a maximum of five years in 2024)

Craftspeople working with historic buildings and traditional materials

Craftspeople working with traditional forms of construction or in a related craft

Traditional forms of construction include bricklayers, stonemasons, roofers, carpenters, joiners, framers, plasterers, earth builders, glaziers or conservation builders

Related crafts include blacksmithing, signwriting, gilding, bell founding, bell hanging, clock making, leadworking or wallpaper printing

Craftspeople must be practicing in the UK and/or Republic of Ireland (including Channel Islands and Isle of Man)

Enter online: <https://www.spab.org.uk/about-us/awards/building-craftsperson-year-award>

All Awards are free to enter. Shortlisted entries will be required to purchase at least one in-person ticket to the Awards Ceremony (£59 Members, £69 Non-Members).

We can only consider entries that meet the criteria above.

Any questions? Email [awards@spab.org.uk](mailto:awards@spab.org.uk).

# ASSOCIATION NEWS & MINUTES



## BABA DEVELOPMENT FUND

The BABA Development Fund is specifically for seed-funding events and projects such as masterclasses, in the form of an interest-free loan administered by the Council. Candidates should submit a written application outlining why funding is required, and how much is needed, together with a proposal as to how and when the loan will be repaid. Applications will be considered by the Council. For enquiries/applications regarding the Development Fund please contact the BABA Secretary,

Steve Rook; [secretary@baba.org.uk](mailto:secretary@baba.org.uk)

## BABA Event Fund

If you are planning on hosting a in person forging event, big or small there are funds available to help with the cost of hosting the event. For further information get in touch with Tony:

[Tresurer@baba.org.uk](mailto:Tresurer@baba.org.uk)



[NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK](mailto:NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK)

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



What do i need to do?

Give up a little of your free time to help grow BABA, raise public awareness and help organise the events,

How long will it take?

How long is a piece of string, As much or as little time as you can spare to help push the organisation forwards

What benefits are there ?

You get an orange T-shirt at the Agm, bragging rights, and a seat on the council

[NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK](mailto:NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK)

## WHETHER YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL OR AN AMATEUR WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE IMAGES OF YOUR WORK

You have several options:

**Single images** with a title/caption for 'gallery' pages are most welcome at any time.

### **Gallery**

A collection of 3 to 6 images of pieces by one artist. Please limit text to 100 to 150 words maximum. A very brief description or something about the inspiration or the artist's philosophy. A small insight.

### **Commission**

Similar to the above, but relating to one specific commission. The finished piece, some detail shots, or perhaps some images that clearly show aspects of the making. Again, with just a very brief outline of the commission.

- 1) Please send images at as high a resolution as possible.
- 2) Please give a title or caption for each image.
- 3) If you did not take any given photograph yourself, please give the name of the photographer so they can be credited.
- 4) Please ensure that the images are not blurred and try to avoid confusing backgrounds
- 5) WeTransfer <https://wetransfer.com/> is quick and easy to use. Dropbox, GoogleDrive or similar works too

Send images and text to Henry Pomfret: [artistblacksmith@baba.org.uk](mailto:artistblacksmith@baba.org.uk)



BABA members can advertise second hand tools and gadgets for free in the newsletter

Businesses & non-members can advertise from just £10/month to sell their wares, so if you have some tools going rusty in the corner of the workshop or the hottest must have contraption; send me a photo and your contact info and we will spread the word far and wide.

**[Newsletter@baba.org.uk](mailto:Newsletter@baba.org.uk)**