

**Chedham's Yard**  
**Supporters Newsletter No 3**  
**May 2020**



Welcome to the third Newsletter from Chedham's Yard for 2020. We still have time for an interesting series of events during 2020 dependent upon the prevailing restrictions due to the Coronavirus.

At the moment the **earliest** we are likely to open is **4<sup>th</sup> July**, but this date will be kept under review.

**An Opportunity to Participate**

Many were disappointed that the Photo Competition was cancelled this year. Even though there have been restrictions in recent months many photographers will have been actively using their cameras in the garden and whilst out on their exercise walks.

We would like to invite you to have your picture/s in the next copy/copies of the Chedhams Newsletter. Please send one or two pictures, as jpegs, of something relating to "Nature and the Natural World" around us at this time of the year such as birds, mammals, plants, trees sunrise/sunset etc.

Send your pictures by 8<sup>th</sup> June to [e.lawley@ntlworld.com](mailto:e.lawley@ntlworld.com) for the next Newsletter. Photos arriving after this date will be in subsequent issues.

**New Equipment**

Since the last newsletter we have had another piece of equipment donated. It is a **treadle operated whetstone grinder** made by Follows and Bate of Manchester who made a wide range of metal tools ranging from marmalade cutters to industrial equipment. The grinder was donated by Mrs Savage of Warwick, daughter of the original owner. It dates from early 1900s. For most of its life it was used by Hinton's Nursery at Warwick, initially at their Birmingham Road site. In 1962/3 the grinder moved with the company to their new Coventry Road site. It was given to Mrs Savage by Hinton's when she retired.



The stone we have is 18" diameter and the grinder would have cost 27s 6d (137.5 p) when new. At the turn of the century this was an expensive item. It is in need of some renovation including repairing the stone itself but no work has been done to renovate it, at present, due to restrictions on movement etc. but our plan is to repair and renovate so that it can be used again.

**IMPROVED**

# GRINDSTONES

**FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.**



*These Grindstones are the best in the Market, being substantially made throughout, carefully balanced, and well finished. They are specially adapted for Farmers, Carpenters, and Amateurs' use, and are suitable for Edge Tools of all kinds.*

**Standard sizes of Stones:**

- 18in. by 2½in.
- 24in. by 4in.
- 26in. by 4in.

*They are mounted on neat and substantial Cast-Iron Troughs and Frames, and worked either by means of the Wrought-Iron Treadle, or turned by a Cranked Handle at the opposite side to that shown in the engraving.*

**Prices.**

- 18in. by 2½in. ... 27/6
- 24in. by 4in. ... 42/0
- 26in. by 4in. ... 55/0

**Follows & Bate Limited,**  
ENGINEERS,  
**GORTON, MANCHESTER.**

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TELEGRAMS: "CLIMAX, GORTON."      NATIONAL TELEPHONE: 5127.

More 'new equipment' in the next Newsletter.

## **Old Tools and Equipment**

Many people have old tools and equipment and wonder how it can be retained for future generations or passed onto others who would benefit from it.

When items are offered to us, if they are of the period of the Yard and relate to the work carried out at the Yard they can be added to the collection. If not suitable, we offer them to 'Tools with a Mission' (TWAM) for refurbishing to be used in Third World countries where basic tools are more suitable than the latest high tech gadgets which cannot be maintained.

## **Presentations**

Presentations to groups and clubs have been postponed due to the virus but as soon as the government allows it we will be resuming the events. Presentations are important to us because they not only help us to publicise the Yard to a wider audience but they are also a useful source of income. Interestingly some of the new 'old equipment' that has been donated has been as a result of a presentation.

## **'Save it, it may be useful one day'**

This subject was mentioned in the previous newsletter, here is another example of recycling discarded kitchen cupboard doors.

A local church required an adjustable height, tilting lectern, the minister was short but visiting preachers were usually much taller, so the lectern had to be adjustable to suit whoever was leading the service



to



In this instance the doors were solid oak so the whole door could be used. The costs were limited to screws and a few simple machined parts but less than £20. To buy a similar item the cost would have been about £1,500.

If you have a project and you are unsure how to proceed why not come along to the Yard (when we are open again) and discuss your ideas with some of the team, we may be able to help.

If you have a project in mind and need wooden or metal parts making just ask - we may be able to make the dream become a reality, In the past we have had some interesting requests including parts for vintage cars, something the yard would have done in the past.

## **An overview of what should have been happening during June**

### **6<sup>th</sup> June Street Fayre**

We had planned to take part in the Annual Village Street Fayre, which is always a good time to reach out to those who would otherwise be unaware of our existence, but this has been cancelled / postponed. At the yard we were planning to have general wood turning and blacksmithing demonstrations. The Street Fayre has always been an interesting and productive day with many leaving the Fayre and going to the Yard, maybe for the first time.

### **13<sup>th</sup> June General Wheelwrighting**

Robin Hill had planned to return to the Yard for a third season and would have been demonstrating the art and craft of wheelwrighting.

Robin is an experienced wheelwright and advises many groups on this fascinating and essential heritage craft.

Robin will be back at the Yard later in the year when we plan to fit a metal rim/tyre to a wooden wheel.

This is always a well attended event which provides many photo opportunities.



### **20<sup>th</sup> June Bats and Countryside Conservation**

Bats are a common sight in the countryside, emerging from their roost at dusk to go hunting for food.

A small team from the Bat Conservation Trust had planned to be on site to talk about bats, why they are important and answering questions. They play an important role in many environments around the world.



Some plants depend partly or wholly on bats to pollinate their flowers or spread their seeds, while other bats also help control pests by eating insects.

We hope to be able to have the team at the Yard in 2021.

Preservation of our countryside is important for all of us and the **CPRE** ( Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England) team would have been on site talking about their work preserving our natural heritage for future generations.



The  
countryside  
charity

To find out more and see how you can become involved visit the CPRE web site.

## 27<sup>th</sup> June Open Studios

Open studios is an annual county wide event drawing artists together at many venues across the county showing what they do.

Unfortunately, this is not an option this year but the pictures below give a taste of what would have been on display.

For more information on the artists listed below go to 'Warwickshire Open Studios' or look them up by name.

A brief overview and contact details of those who had planned to participate are given below;-

**Jack Kirk** - Metal Artist

07561454963



**Sue Steward** - Photographer [newleafimages@live.co.uk](mailto:newleafimages@live.co.uk)

No images available at the time of editing

**Audrey Sibert - Water Colours and Tutor** [audrey.sibert@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:audrey.sibert@hotmail.co.uk)



**Lesley Cunnane - Felt Artist** [willowsfarm101@gmail.com](mailto:willowsfarm101@gmail.com)



Frameable Artwork.

Felted Pots

Wraps

Hand made, felted gift items using natural colours of traditional and rare breed sheep and richly coloured Merino

**Sue Lindon – Ceramics, artwork and willow/rush work** [suelindon01@gmail.com](mailto:suelindon01@gmail.com)



Please contact the artists direct if you want more information on their work or you wish to buy a unique item for your home or garden or just want to learn how to improve your own skills.

## **Coronavirus**

Chedhams Yard will remain closed during the current crisis. We will regularly review the situation and open as soon as possible.

**Currently all of the May and June events have been cancelled.**

Please continue to look at the web site for the latest information regarding reopening dates. Alternatively, if you want information on reopening directly from us, please send your details by e-mail to [enquiries@chedhamsyard.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@chedhamsyard.org.uk) and we will contact you directly.

### **AND FINALLY - something to cheer us all**

This video clip was sent in by one of our supporters showing an industrious Blue Tit reshaping the entrance to the nesting box, this is not uncommon according to the RPB.

There are many birds singing in the background. How many birds can you identify?

Follow the link to view the video clip.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/pQ18RfVRejkSvnVr6>



For more information on any aspect call us on 01789 842770 (office) or 01789 555678 (home) and leave a message.

## Programme of Events

### Free Entry on Saturdays

#### Opening Times 11am to 3 pm

11 April	Easter Egg Hunt & Children's Crafts	cancelled
18 April	Blacksmith & Wood Turning demos	cancelled
25 April	Hedgehog Conservation/Preservation	cancelled
2 May	Quilting and Patchwork	cancelled
9 May	6.00am Dawn Chorus Walk	cancelled
9 May	Children's Craft Workshop	cancelled
16 May	Moths & their Role in Our Life	cancelled
23 May	Photo Competition	cancelled
30 May	Masonry / Stone Carving	cancelled
6 June	Blacksmiths & Wood Turning demos	cancelled
13 June	Wheelwrighting Skills Explained	cancelled
20 June	Bats & Countryside Conservation	cancelled
27 June	Open Studios – Multiple Artists	cancelled
4 July	Ewe to You – Spinning & Weaving	
11 July	Heart of England Wood Turners & TWAM	
18 July	Wellesbourne Art Group	
25 July	Stained Glass Workshop	
1 Aug	Willow Weaving - Baskets & More	
8 Aug	Honey and the Honey Bee	
15 Aug	The Wellesbourne & District Lions	
22 Aug	Children's Craft Workshop	
29 Aug	Plight of the Farm Labourer	
5 Sept	Patchwork & Textile Display	
12 Sept	Sketch Pad Day	
19 Sept	Heritage Open Day - Hidden Nature	
26 Sept	Iron Tyre Fitting Demonstration	
31 Oct	Halloween Pumpkin Carving & Fun	
12 Dec	Christmas with Carols, Santa & Fun	