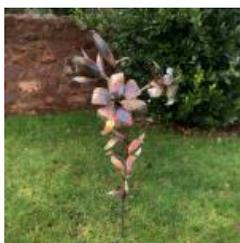


## Cowbridge Sawmill newsletter number 13 – July 2019

### Cowbridge Forge



Cowbridge Sawmill would like to welcome our new blacksmith, Belle Cole, who has recently started trading from the Forge. Belle is a qualified engineer who provides fabrication and TIG welding services as well as creating bespoke, handmade pieces of metal artistry. Belle can design and fabricate anything from personalised keyrings to large scale garden sculptures. She primarily uses stainless steel but can work with any steel or aluminium, if required. Belle also accepts commissions, from drawing and design right up to finishing off the item. She is also available for repairs, fabrication and TIG welding of any sort.



Please get in touch if you have any queries or would like to discuss any items:

Mobile : 07889878926  
Email : [bellecolewma@gmail.com](mailto:bellecolewma@gmail.com)  
Facebook : <https://m.facebook.com/bellecolewma/>  
Instagram: bellecolewma

### PROGRESS REPORT FROM OWEN

Thanks to the efforts of the fantastic volunteers, in particular Martin and Gordon, the wheel is now back up and running as smoothly as ever following the collapse of the rotted shaft. We have thankfully had water to power it and no recent hassle from our neighbour, let us hope it stays that way. The Mill continues to be developed and the Semi-automatic Lathe is now operational. The Fire Pump has been restored by John and it was a pity that, due to the excessive dry weather, we had no water during the Open Weekend to demonstrate it.

I want to say a massive Thank You to everyone who made the Mills Weekend such a success, including, of course, those such as the ladies who made cakes, who were not necessarily here at the time. I still cannot fathom how we made over a thousand pounds from just 154 visitors until I remember our fantastic guides and the super sales team, of Don and Mary, in the garage. Every penny of the money raised is ploughed back into restoring the Mill. Since the Open Day, Don has sorted out numerous surplus tools which Lesley and Tony delivered to Work Aid in Taunton so that they can find a new lease of life in Africa, where they are much needed. The large Bandsaw Rackbench base is taking shape, slowly, and I can only hope that the machine will fit in the spaces being built when we finally get it out. If not, then I may have to bring in a few more items to display along the top of the wall!!!

With regard to future items, we should be receiving a model plus a shaft with pulleys from the Watchet Boat Museum. In October we have a Mill tour booked by the Exmoor Society.

As always, and especially now that I am not able to do as much, I want to say a Massive Thank You to everyone for your continued support. It really is appreciated. Owen.

## Cowbridge Sawmill newsletter number 13 – July 2019

Our featured volunteer this issue is Mike Smith.

Mike spent 41 years in the London Insurance Market specialising in marine losses (especially cargo). He was churchwarden at All Saints', Wootton Courtenay, for 7 years and has a particular interest in the maintenance of the Grade 1 listed building, which he still oversees. After stepping down as church warden, he was looking for something new.

Mike says *"I wasn't exactly sure how I might be able to help but was made very welcome and very quickly handed a spade! After many years in London, I particularly enjoy working outside and there has been ample opportunity for that during my time at the Mill. I also enjoy working with the engineers and am simply amazed by both the extent of their knowledge and their wide range of skills. I have learnt a great deal at the Mill and also enjoy the great atmosphere and the leg-pulling!"*

Mike has been one of the many volunteers who have spent hours clearing weeds and grass, along our legal access route to the Leat, in order to keep the water flowing. He has frequently worked at the bottom of the Leat in the mud to keep the channel clear. His energy and cheerful outlook have been a real asset to the team. Mike is, unfortunately for us, planning to leave the area to be closer to his family, without yet completing the obligatory ten years!!! We shall sorely miss him but wish him well in his new home, whenever that happens to be. Be sure, Mike, we will make the most of you before you go!!!!.....and you will always be welcome to "visit".



*Pictured volunteers Mike(right) and John(left) clearing our legal access route alongside the Leat.*

Future Events: National Heritage Days

### **COWBRIDGE SAWMILL OPEN DAYS**

Sat 14<sup>th</sup> and Sun 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Open 11am to 4.30pm each day

Guided Tours and Displays throughout the weekend. Refreshments available.

***Free Admission but donations welcome.***

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We continue to hold tours for local groups, all free of charge - although a donation is always welcome! If you are a member of a group which would like a tour, or would just like to see how things are progressing yourself, please contact Owen Rush on 01643 841744  
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The Yarn Market Hotel is willing to give all Mill visitors a 10% discount off their accommodation booked directly with them which **MUST BE CLAIMED** by saying **COWBRIDGE MILL 10% DISCOUNT**. The hotel would also give 10% to Cowbridge Sawmill so if you have the Mill weekend down on your calendar for a visit why not give them a call. Bookings can be made by email [hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk](mailto:hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk) or by phone to 01643 821425