

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

SID08600: BLACKSMITHING – A TASTER DAY

Tutor: PETER PARKINSON

Date: 1 DAY SUNDAY 17 MARCH

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This one-day course provides an insight into the world of the blacksmith, offering you the opportunity to use the tools and equipment to discover something of the thrill and magic of blacksmithing. There is an excitement in creating beautiful forms from an apparently unexciting material and playing with fire – just like your Mum told you not to.

You will be shown some key hot-forging techniques and processes that are the fundamental elements of the craft – and working at your own forge and anvil – use these to make a series of sample pieces. These processes include tapering, twisting, hot cutting, and bending. The intention is to offer you a feel for the nature and rhythm of the craft, and some insight into the vocabulary of forms which derive from fundamental blacksmithing processes.

You should expect to produce a number of small sample pieces illuminating the potential of these techniques – and providing an understanding which may encourage you to pursue a longer blacksmithing course.

LEVEL: BEGINNERS

Starting points. For those with little or no experience who want to go back to basics and would like a structured introduction to a subject.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Peter Parkinson is an artist-blacksmith with extensive teaching experience. He studied at the Royal College of Art and has published several books including *The Artist Blacksmith* and *Forged Architectural Metalwork*. His most recent book is *Making Sculpture from Scrap Metal*, published by the Crowood Press in 2015.

TIMETABLE:

This course is held in the Forge, a short walk from the main college through the gardens. Coffee, lunch and tea are included.)

8.55–9.05am	Registration and coffee at the College (the Main House)
9.15am	Morning classes until 12.30pm
10.30am	Coffee at the Garden Restaurant
12.45pm	Lunch at the College
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.30pm	Tea at the Garden Restaurant
5.00pm	Classes finish

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm for any materials you wish to purchase from the shop.

All the materials and tools will be supplied for the course including: fuel, mild steel, blacksmithing tools.

Please bring:

Items of drawing equipment if you wish

Please bring continued:

You will need clothing suitable for workshop use – please note that cotton or wool clothing is preferable to nylon or other synthetics. A pair of cotton jeans is far more protective than a pair of nylon trousers.

PROTECTIVE CLOTHING SUPPLIED:

Leather aprons, work gloves, safety spectacles and ear defenders are provided in the Forge, and suitable protective clothing **must** be worn.

You may wish to bring any of the above, if you have them. If for example you have particularly large or small hands, your own work gloves are likely to be a better fit.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Please note that tutor supervision is required at all times when students work in this workshop. Students must wear the protective clothing provided by the College and also sturdy boots/shoes.

For your safety it is mandatory to wear steel toe capped safety boots or shoes when undertaking a course in the forge. Students must provide their own footwear and bring them with them to wear on the course. If you fail to bring suitable footwear, you will not be able to take part in the course.

Safety boots can be purchased from most tool hire shops and builders merchants as well as online.
www.cromwell.co.uk www.bhinone.com