



AN INTRODUCTION TO LETTER CUTTING 2011

Tutor: DAVID BROWN

Saturday & Sunday July 30th & 31st

10 am - 4 pm

£138.00

David Brown is a retired Physics teacher who now has a small business as a Letter-cutter and Sundial maker. As well as stone sundials, his work includes inscriptions and memorials. David has received awards from the British Sundial Society for two of his dials. One of these in particular a polyhedral dial at Christ Church, Oxford has 11 dials on its many faces and 24 gnomons. His vertical sundial at St Thomas's Square, Salisbury, commissioned as a millennium project by U3A won a Salisbury Civic Society Commendation.

At Shute Farm Studio 2004, David completed a Human Sundial, to allow the user to tell the time from their own shadow, and enable them to find the time and position of sunrise and sunset throughout the year. The components of the dial; cobbles from the old dairy, also act as stools for picnics and stepping-stones for exercise and balance. The dial enables the user to be involved with the cosmos. In 2007 David was elected a Member of the Guild of Master Craftsmen.

Course description

Students will be introduced to the technique of cutting a non-serif upper case letter form on slate. By the second day it may be possible for students to progress to the making of a short inscription, such as a name-plate. Methods of fixing will be discussed as well as surface colourings and treatments; other types of stone will be available for comparison and their suitability for lettering. The cost of tutorial slate is included. Tools are available for use during the course. Slate for the name-plates will be available for purchase at cost. Extra slate may be purchased if required.

Materials to Bring:

- Notepad and pencil.
- A universal 6mm letter cutting chisel. This may be obtained from Avery & Knights, Bath 01225 425894 or Tiranti's 08451232100
- Clothes should be comfortable and practical. Substantial shoes essential. Please bring your own face mask if you are sensitive to dust.

Refreshments are provided, but please bring a picnic lunch.



Art for everyone

