

South House Silver Workshop-Shetland

The first week-long workshop with seven Bishopsland graduates



The first Shetland workshop was a huge success. The seven Bishopslanders worked really hard, all making a copper form by hand and then chasing the piece with different decorative designs. We covered the technique of chasing in great detail, the making of tools, pitch and how to lay out a design. We had roving conversations about soldering, commissioning, hammer work and design. I was also able to see their recent work and give each of them a constructive tutorial. The workshop, with the help of my good friend David McNicol, was just about ready, there are still a few things to be completed. All the new benches were given three coats of oil, the new lights and chairs were excellent. The leather skins gave the workshop a very beautiful new smell. The group really enjoyed Shetland, the travel, the environment and the music. On the first day alone, from the workshop windows, they saw an otter and three porpoises. On the last day they saw over thirty seals. Sheila and I would like to thank everyone, who made this first venture possible, for their kindness and generosity. The next Bishopsland group arrives in June !!