

Time	FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST 2026
9.00	Registration opens Open auction area available.
9.00	1 st Visit to York University Library – Conservation dept.
11.00	Trade Fair open
11.00	2 nd Visit to York University Library – Conservation dept.
12.00 Theatre 1	IT rehearsal for Speakers
12.00-1.30	BUFFET LUNCH
2.00-3.15 Theatre 2	DOMINIC RILEY Tudor Style: a new approach to covering in leather This technique was devised by Dominic's first teacher Paul Delrue, as a way of covering a book in overlapping pieces of leather, which gives a very sculptural and tactile result. Leathers of different colours can be used, as well as curved pieces, all of which produce covers of beauty and intrigue. Dominic will show how to pare the leather, plan the design and cover the book, including final flourishes of 'secondary' layers which further enhance the beauty of the cover. He will also give a short slideshow of bindings, both by himself and others, of interesting uses of this versatile technique.
	TEA BREAK
3.45-5.00 Theatre 1	SUZANNE SCHMOLLEGRUBER Articulated - Architecture in Motion When designing the book Articulated – Architecture in Motion, Suzanne had a strong desire to use the movable elements that she had been collecting for decades in her sample box. She wanted to build a book with windows and modular pages, like a small architectural structure. The goal was, initially, simply to have fun. So she conducted numerous experiments, trying new ways to transform thick, rigid card into something soft, flexible, mobile, and playful. Then she added hinges, joints, and articulations of all kinds to the pages.... As the talk will explain.
5.15	AGM
6.00-7.30	SUPPER
7.45 for 8.00	Prizegiving presentation for International Competition

TIME	SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2026
7.30-8.45	Breakfast
8.30	Registration open for Day Delegates
9.15-10.30 Theatre 1	KATE HOLLAND Journey from Brain to Board An illustrated talk examining how someone with little artistic background tries to carve a path from initially reading the book to articulating a personal response, coming up with a semblance of a design, exploring which of the myriad different decorative techniques are the most suitable to realise said design, probably then needing to work out new decorative techniques because the existing ones do not suffice and then trying to wrangle it all into a cohesive whole.
	COFFEE BREAK
11.00-12.15 Theatre 2	ANN-MARIE MILLER A Legacy of Letters - Conserving the Family Archive of an Amateur Bookbinder for Townend; joined by Emma Wright, Townend's Collections & House Manager Townend, in the Troutbeck Valley, is a National Trust property in the Lake District. For over 4 centuries it was the home of the Brownes, an ordinary farming family with more than 400 years of extraordinary stories. A major feature of the house is its library, which contains the family's well-used book collection. Several of these volumes were bound by George Browne (1834 - 1914), an enthusiastic bookbinder and wood carver. George Browne took particular interest in the correspondence of his seventeenth and eighteenth-century ancestors compiling 16 volumes of their letters which are now held at the Kendal Archive Centre. It the conservation of 4 of these volumes that we will be focussing on, looking at the construction and repair of these historic bindings. How can we balance a need to safely access the letters with the intentions of the binder? The letters themselves present their own problems with vulnerable wax seals and various degrees of degradation. From soft, crumbling paper ravaged by mould to delicate doilies created by book worm. Balancing all these factors made their conservation a unique challenge. We will delve into this, discussing both how to practically repair such diverse materials and how to preserve their historicity.
12.30-1.45	BUFFET LUNCH

2.00-3.15 Theatre 1	GILLIAN STEWART Demonstrating the use of magnets for box closures. A demonstration of two processes for using magnets as box closures. Magnets offer a neat, secure and very satisfying way to create an invisible closure on boxes. During this demo Gillian will share some tips and tricks for successful and tidy use of magnets.
	TEA BREAK
3.45-5.00 Theatre 2	GLENN BARTLEY New Miniature Bindings for the Centenary of Queen Mary's Dolls' House. This illustrated lecture focusses on the creation of the new miniature bindings commissioned to mark the 2024 Centenary of Queen Mary's Dolls' House. Glenn will explore the historical significance of this world-famous dolls' house and the original 1920s library before outlining the vision for the centenary project. Much planning and execution was involved in producing 21 unique miniature design bindings, with the challenges of working at doll house scale, collaborating with the authors and binders and exhibiting the books at Windsor Castle.
6.30-7.15	Drinks Reception
7.30 onwards	Conference Dinner & Auction
TIME	SUNDAY 16TH AUGUST 2026
7.30-8.45	Breakfast.
10.00	Exit rooms & hand in keys