

The Welding Institute Sheffield Branch

Technical Meeting

24th October 2022

**The Manufacture of Scissors and Shears**

**Speaker**: Philip Wright

**Scissors and shears are often over-looked, yet are a ubiquitous and much needed tool. Their function appears simple, yet unique and nothing as yet replaces a good pair of scissors for those jobs that, well, only a pair of scissors can and will do.** **However the apparent simplicity in use of scissors and shears belies the complex processes involved in their manufacture. This requires the making of two blades married together to perfectly cut from pinch to point without any hassle, which only occurs as a result of the skills learned by the tradesmen over a number of years.**

**A brief history will be given of how and why the manufacture of scissors and shears, (which comes under the umbrella title of the “Cutlery Industry”), was established within the town centre area of Sheffield. The Industry was always a very fragmented trade, each company specialising in the manufacture of specific items, usually with some form of cutting edge, items such as scissors & shears, pen & pocket knives, butchers & boning knives, catering & cooks knives, secateurs, scythes & sickles, as well of course all the major range of table cutlery.**

**Virtually all of the 150+ patterns of scissors and shears which are required in a multiplicity of trades will be on display at the talk.**

**Philip Wright was employed in the Sheffield Cutlery Industry for 53 years and joined the family business of Ernest Wright & Son Limited in 1960, which had been established by his Grandfather, as a Little Mester, in the year 1902, manufacturing Scissors & Shears.  Philip commenced by doing a 3 years Cutlery Apprenticeship Course at Granville College of Further Education and worked for 10 years on the shop floor before eventually becoming M.D. & Chairman. By the mid 1970's the company under their trade name of Kutrite of Sheffield and Horse's Head Registered Trade Mark was trading to 45 countries which, in the main, were British Commonwealth countries throughout the World.**

***Time:*** *A light buffet will be served from 5:30pm. Meeting starts at 6pm.*

***Venue****: TWI Yorkshire, Advanced Manufacturing Park, Catcliffe, Rotherham, S60 5TZ*

*All welcome- members and non-members.*

*This will be a combined in-person and zoom event. Please Enrol for the meeting on The Welding Institute Sheffield Branch webpage.*

This technical event qualifies for CPD points