

Another engaging piece of furniture has recently come to light through our membership which reinforces the idea that regional furniture could equally be made for institutions, places of work, or indeed, for the garden. Simon Baldwick, who deals in furniture from his home in Ravenstonedale in the Cumbrian Dales, rang to tell me that he had bought a garden seat in a local auction which had a metal maker's label on it reading 'HARBORNE BROS. MAKERS. SNITTERFIELD, STRATFORD-ON-AVON'.

The bench itself is quite remarkable in being made in the form of a settle, but with wheelbarrow handles at one end and a decorative iron wheel at the other, presumably in order that it could be wheeled to different places in the garden. Unusually, the faux panelled back hinges down over the slatted seat. Perhaps this was to protect the seat and back from the weather, or perhaps there was another purpose for this bench? Any suggestions would be welcome (the legs are now shortened due to decay at the base).

Our thanks go to Simon for taking the trouble to photograph and notify me of the existence of this piece. Do let me have details of any new items which you may find. Our newsletter is a fine place to share your finds and revelations with others.

*B. D. Cotton*



Fig. 16



Fig. 17