

White Rose and Thorn

Income Opportunities

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Introduction

The things in this section are probably not going to make you rich, or even self-sustaining immediately (if ever). What we hope it will do though, is provide inspiration for things you can do to circumvent the guaranteed upheaval of the looming financial crash.

It takes will and determination to put your name onto a product that your customer will have for years. Having the confidence to make something and be proud to sell it, knowing that it is your own reputation on the line, is a very satisfying thing.

With a combination of pride in your end-product, common sense and hunting for information online you can make high quality goods people want to buy, that will last them a lifetime potentially. Imagine that their children might inherit something you made, or that it might be passed on for generations. That is the quality and craftsmanship our people were renowned for.

It isn't just about making money though. If you are able to make things for yourself you save money because you no longer have to buy them and your new found competence will give you the confidence to try your hand at other things that are completely unrelated. Skills transfer is the way we adapt to the future.

Wood and metal working

Carpentry



Dining tables, desks, chairs, chopping boards, bookcases etc. are all things skilful craftsmen have always made by hand. With an undisturbed workspace, basic tools and dedication, you can start making these things yourself.

Wood is the easiest material to work with and our homes are full of it, so it is always in demand. Because of this and the low-cost tools, carpentry could be a great starting point for somebody with a large enough shed, garage or outbuilding.

There are plenty of designs online you can find and alter to create something unique.



Wood and metal working

Wood carving

Carving is a skill that has been around for millennia and it is still thriving. Many carvers do so for the beauty of creating something for their family home or a Christmas present for family members, but some also do it as a business.

As with many of the trades included in this document, alteration/repair of existing items may be a better starting point, which can then lead to the creation of your own unique designs.

Shelving

Currently, when people want shelving, they buy it from IKEA, Amazon or a number of other furniture shops. This is another item our people could produce either out of metal, for the archetypal wire racks you buy from Ikea for kitchen storage, or a more decorative wooden variety.



Wood and metal working

Cabinetry

When people think of getting a new kitchen, the first thought is to go to the usual suspects (B&Q, Wickes, Home Depot, Mernards etc). Cabinetry is a skill well worth investing in and it creates opportunities for other people within the community in the form of Kitchen Fitters, restoration, and general furniture making.

Handle Maker

It goes hand in hand with the blacksmith in many ways, but it is a craft that also has the utility of being able to replace broken handles from tools people bought out of hardware stores.

It is a skill that many carpenters could add to their repertoire to help supplement their income. It's an easy skill to learn and will be in demand for as long as hand tools are in use.

Wood and metal working

Product shell making

Making high quality shells for a reasonable price might be difficult for most of us at the start. But though a combination of 3D-printing and metalsmiths producing one off or low run parts we could solve this problem.

That will require designers who have their own 3D-printer or craftsmen who can precisely cut and bend metal. If you are already working with 3D-printers or metal, this could be a great side business with a steady revenue stream from people within the community who are making useful products people would otherwise buy from the large chains that over charge us.

This is a skill our people will desperately need, especially if people start to make electronics (such as alarm clocks, small radios)



Wood and metal working

Blacksmithing



Making our own hand and garden tools would be an excellent first step to blacksmithing. Things like chisels, garden forks, wood planes, hammers, axes, shovels, pots and pans, knives as well as fire pokers and tongs are things many of us need. These do not just serve as decorative items to make our homes pretty but are useful tools which we have always needed.

In terms of decorative items, there are many, many things around the house that have always been made blacksmiths. Curtain rails, pot stands, candlestick holders and trivets for example.

A side business for a blacksmith could also include things like a knife sharpening service.



Wood and metal working

Welding

Welding is a trade that has a lot of versatility for the home welder. With your welder, grinder and cutting torch, you can fabricate many things out of long-lasting materials. It is invaluable because you can repair and modify equipment and tools as needed.

Going further into training will allow this hobby to create an income for you and your family as a professional welder. It will always be in demand, and once you have your qualifications, you can set up your own welding shop and repair or fabricate products.

Many cars every year fail their M.O.T because of rust on the undercarriage. If you treat the problem and keep a car on the road, you could be saving a family from unnecessary costs arising from replacing a perfectly roadworthy vehicle. It might not seem very glamorous, but actions like this that will starve the establishment of our money, and further support our own community members.



Work at home

Sewing, knitting and clothes making

Sewing, knitting and dressmaking have seen a resurgence in the last few years. The quality of handmade goods makes them priceless in terms of quality and durability, and they will save you a lot of money if you are able to make these things for yourself. What if you want to turn this into a business? There are many opportunities to make a good income from your hobbies now. It's always an idea to make sure you update your skills as often as possible, and there are many free or discounted courses online that will assist with this, or, if you prefer, a multitude of videos that will break down the process from drafting patterns, to professionally cutting and finishing a garment.

If this is of interest to you, here are some ideas that might inspire you to develop your career further:

Alteration service

Making clothes for children of friends and family

Crochet/Knitting service

Designer clothing/upholstery

Making uniforms for groups like scouts, or a school, for example

Wedding dresses, christening gowns or prom dresses.



Work at home

Sewing, knitting and clothes making

The sky is the limit if you have the time and equipment to drive your business. Don't worry if you are forced to start small. A great idea will thrive if you have the motivation and offer quality.

Finally, make sure you have the correct equipment and, should you turn this into a full-time business, have a second machine on hand, should the first need repairs. If you are mid-order, this will ensure you are still able to meet a deadline and will cement your good reputation.



Work at home

Home Cooking and Baking

For those of us who prefer to work from home, a local meal-prep service could be a useful, additional income. To get started, you might consider providing for local business units, clubs, or groups. You might also consider baking and decorating cakes for special occasions.

But it isn't just cakes you can make at home, its bread, crackers, biscuits, crisps, sweets, and pies as well as jams and other preserves.

All food businesses must register with the local authority (Food Safety Act). Registration involves filling in a simple form and there is no fee payable. Your local authority should then inspect your kitchen to ensure that the risks to the general public from food poisoning are minimised. Food handlers must be trained to the right level for their jobs. So, if you want to run a home-based catering business you will need to have been approved for a certificate in basic food hygiene. These can be obtained via online courses, or applying at your local college, should you prefer.

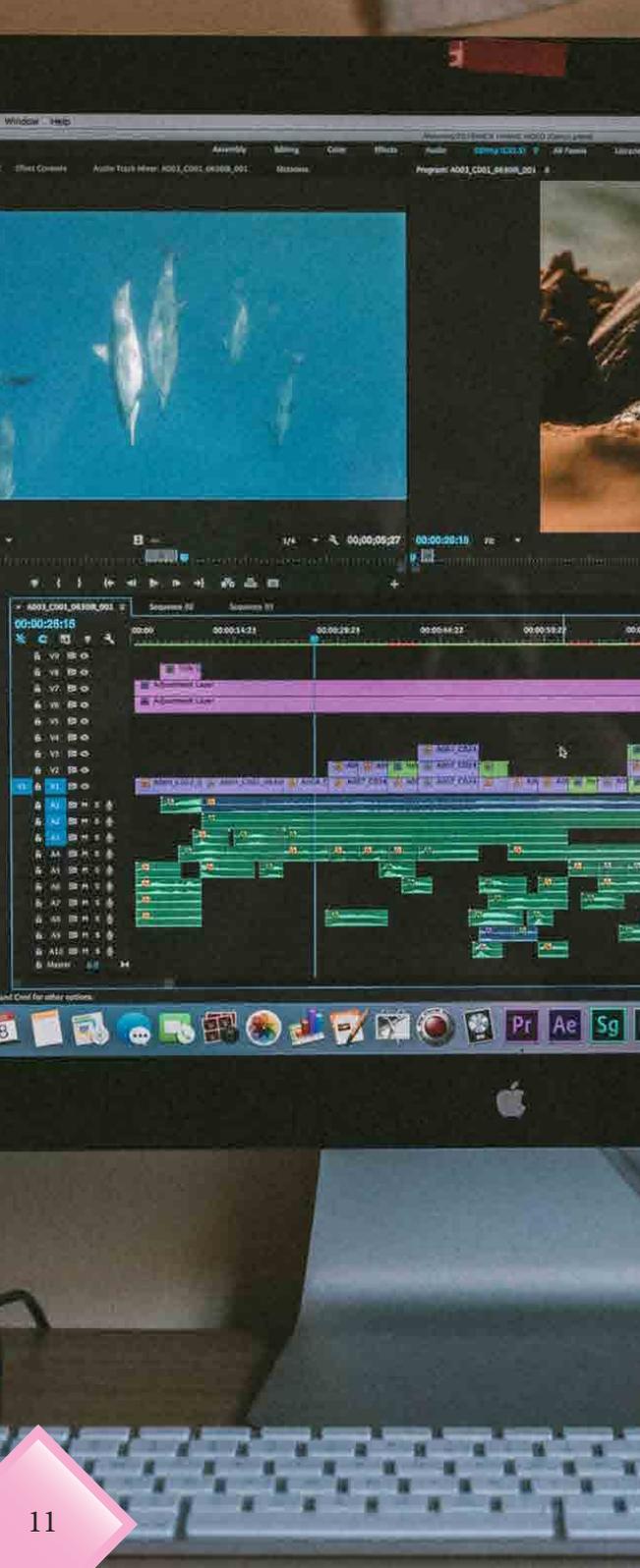
You could also sell gift baskets at Christmas, or other seasonal holidays by making Cookies, fudge, butterscotch, preserves and other delicious treats, with beautiful presentation. Handy for those on a budget.

Work at home

Video editing and graphics design

With so many new businesses starting there will be all sorts of opportunities for the creation of promotional videos and material such as leaflets and business cards. These are things that could really help our people to create a professional first impression and keep money within the community.

As more of us start our own businesses, we will need these basic tools for advertising and marketing. It is a guaranteed career for those willing to invest time to learn.





Work at home

Pottery / Ceramics

Mugs, cups, plates, plant pots etc. These are all objects we buy many times throughout our lives, most of us unthinkingly go to supermarkets or department stores yet these are the exact sort of things we should be buying from our people. We are also buying more cheap replaceable plastics, and it goes against preserving our lands to encourage the throwaway culture we have inherited. Fine china tableware was the norm, even for the poorest families, on the tightest budget. This is something we should strive to preserve for the future generations, who will inherit these items.

This would make the perfect addition for a lot of artists who are looking to expand their customer base. Even if pottery is not of particular interest to you as a long-term career, bowls, vases, and other containers will always be popular, and may fund your move into your chosen path.

Car, bin and window cleaning

It may not be the most glamorous job, but a mobile car cleaning and bin cleaning service are very easy and inexpensive to setup. They are the sorts of businesses where your growth will spread through word of mouth, especially the bin cleaning service as people will see you working.

For window cleaning you will need a little more, in the form of a ladder or waterfed pole.

If you have a job and want to start a business like this, you could devote the weekends to building up a regular, loyal customer base, especially if you are on a zero hours contract and have no job security.





By starting at a small scale, gardening is a business that could grow rapidly. If you are seeking to make it a career, you could also learn additional skills such as landscaping and/or patio laying as well.

All that is needed to get started is a petrol lawnmower and petrol hedge cutter, assume you'll never have access to power, a vehicle that is large enough to load bags of material into and basic tools such as a shovel, fork, loppers and secateurs etc.

It is another business that will grow through word of mouth through your customers telling their friends and family as well as other residents on their street seeing you at work. If you expand and acquire a van, you could also do all sorts of clearance work on the side of your gardening business.

Accounting and bookkeeping

As our community businesses grow, we are going to need services. If you have the organisational abilities and the time, it may well be worth gaining accounting or bookkeeping qualifications. This would not only allow you to provide for your family, but it will also provide a much needed service for many of our small business owners.

For more information on accounting qualifications in the UK ([Click Here](#))

For more information on bookkeeping qualifications in the UK ([Click Here](#))

Web Design

Much like accounting and bookkeeping, this is a service that will become more in demand as our community grows and our networks expand. By building websites and hosting them for our community you will not only provide them with something they need but provide them with something to help them grow. By hosting their websites for them as well. You take all the worry out of it for them.



Butchery is the sort of thing that could start off as a hobby and quickly grow into an actual business. You could buy a whole animal, butcher it yourself and use it to feed your family and friends. In time they could pay you to butcher their animals and provide them with meat and you could expand into making your own hams and bacons.

By being smart and staying within the laws, you could potentially turn this into a proper business where you buy the animal, butcher it, produce the bacon and hams your customer bought and send it to them anywhere in the country via the post.

There are numerous fantastic videos on youtube and forums all over the internet to help give you started with this. The only problem may be finding enough freezer space to store it.

Services

Home vehicle servicing



If you are mechanically minded and have access to a vehicle and tools this could be a great way to make a bit of extra cash over the weekend and possibly use it as a step towards starting your own mechanics workshop.

It could be replacement of windscreen wipers or light bulbs, or you may require a second opinion on that “strange noise” coming from your vehicle. Knowing the cause of these problems will prevent our people getting scammed by those outside of our community.



There's a course called PTLLS, now AET which allows anyone with relevant experience and qualification to become a tutor. They can train direct, or through webinars or even set up their own online training course.

Career path

Teaching or tutoring in the adult sector

Become a Qualified Trainer

Freelance trainer/teacher

Becoming a Health and Social Care Trainer

Becoming a First Aid Trainer

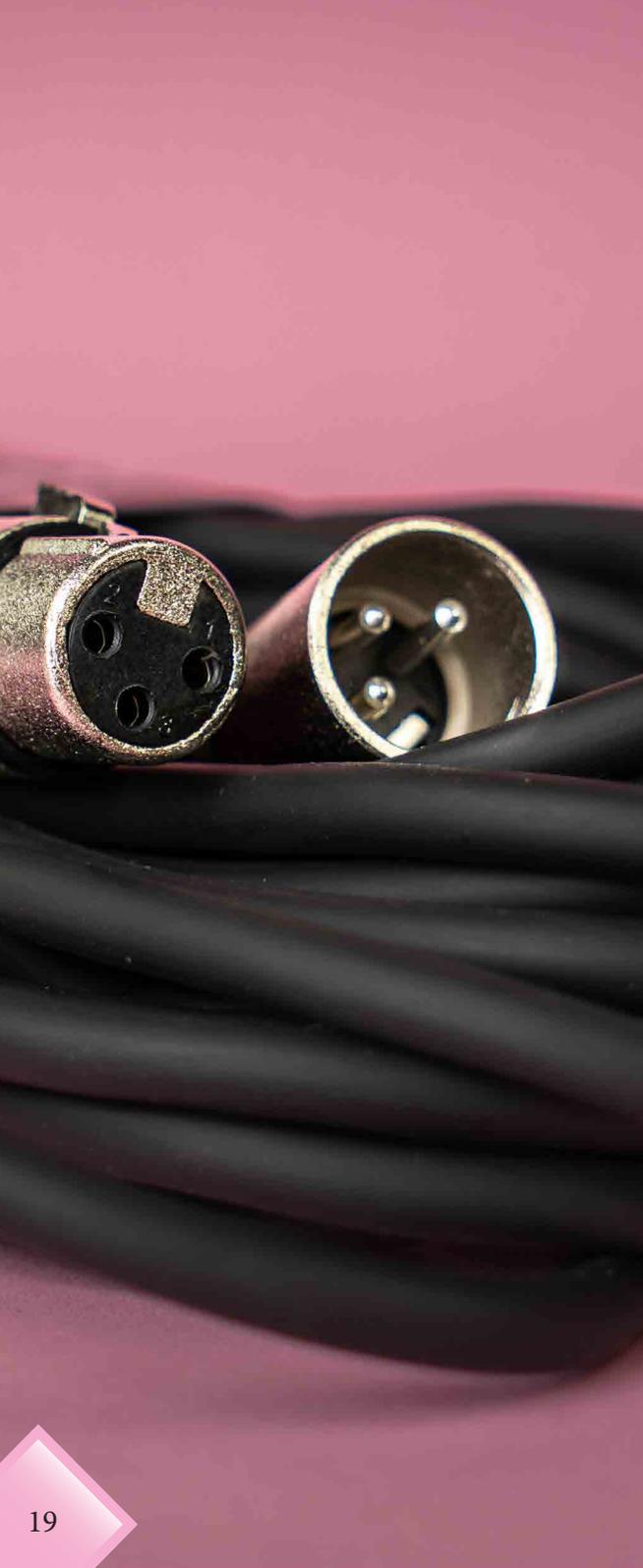
Becoming a Beauty Trainer

Private Tutor

Community or corporate trainer

Career changer

This list isn't comprehensive, so please do check for specific courses/careers and the qualifications required, that we may not have covered on this list.



Miscellaneous

Cable Making

You can make many cables at home yourself and they are pretty simple. What is a cable? It is literally a wire with two ends (connector) that transfer an electrical impulse from one object into another.

The connectors are standardised so manufactures know what they are making is the correct item every single time, but that also works in our favour. This standardisation allows us to, effectively, paint-by-numbers.

XLR, Line Inputs, 3.5mm jacks, Ethernet, power, SDI cables as well as wire rope are just a handful of things you can try your hand at making.

Moving services

If you have a van, or access to one, this might be the opportunity for you, however, undercutting the competition will need to be offset with insurance costs. It's worth doing some research before undertaking any business, to ensure you know in advance what financial commitment is involved.



Miscellaneous

Vehicle and Trailer manufacturing

In the UK there are laws in place to allow the small-scale production of vehicles and trailers.

For most areas of the vehicle or trailer, you can request a “comparison test”, which is a test the Vehicle Certification Agency runs against your vehicle or trailer by looking at pre-existing things that are similar.

More information can be found in section 5.3 and 5.7 of the Individual Vehicle Approval Scheme document ([Click Here](#)). The process takes approximately one month from the initial application date (6.6 in the previous link)

Inspection fees and information can be found here ([Click Here](#))

Vehicle construction and safety laws ([Click Here](#))