Whereas Sacred Geometry introduced readers to two-dimensional forms, Platonic & Archimedean Solids presents the world of three dimensions, which was understood as early as neolithic time. Daud Sutton elegantly explores the eighteen forms—from the cube to the octahedron and icosidodecahedron—that are the universal building blocks of three-dimensional space, and shows the fascinating relationships between them. For anyone interested in design, architecture, and mathematics, this will be a delight. Wooden Books — Small Books, Big Ideas Historically, in all known cultures on Earth, wise men and women studied the four great unchanging liberal arts—numbers, music, geometry and cosmology—and used them to inform the practical and decorative arts like medicine, pottery, agriculture and building. At one time, the metaphysical fields of the liberal arts were considered utterly universal, even placed above physics and religion. Today no one knows them. Walker & Company is proud to launch Wooden Books, a collectable series of concise books offering simple introductions to timeless sciences and vanishing arts. Attractively simple in their appearance yet extremely informative in content, these unusual books are the perfect gift solution for all ages and occasions. The expanding title range is highly collectable and ensures continuing interest. In addition, the books are non-gloss and non-color, appealing to a greener book-buying public. Wooden Books are ideally suited to non-book outlets. Wooden Books are designed as timeless. Much of the information contained in them will be as true in five hundred years time as it was five hundred years ago. These books are designed as gifts, lovely to own. They are beautifully made, case-bound, printed using ultra-fine plates on the highest quality recycled laid paper, finished with thick recycled endpapers and sewn in sections. There are fine, hand drawn illustrations on every page. The fast-moving world of Wooden Books brings you a selection of fascinating titles. All hardcover, 64 pages, 100% recycled paper at $10.00 each.
My Personal Review:
Before even getting into my review, let me congratulate M. Connelly "Polyhedron" for his excellent review, which gives a good summary of what's in this little book. I also noted that it is the one and only from him; and hope he continues to submit more in the future.

I first came across this series of small, but enchanting books some time ago when I found "Sacred Geometry" by Miranda Lundy, Published in April, 2001. I loved it; as you can see by my Review posted on November 28, 2003. My interest was really tweaked with these models, a couple of years ago. I met a man who made this type of models and, spent a few afternoons with him at his home. He also fell in love with these solid models and has built a couple of hundred of them. He is a retired engineer in his eighties and knew H.M.S. Coxeter and Magnus Wenninger. He worked out a way to build these Geometric models using wooden balls for the vertices and sticks for the edges. This leaves the faces empty, thus the solid models become skeletal; resembling those used to show the arrangement of atoms in compounds. Drilling the holes in the balls is complicated and must be done very precisely. To accomplish this, he constructed a set-up and jigs for this purpose. He paints the balls different colours; creating very interesting configurations. He also built a computer which helps him calculate the angles for the holes and length of the sticks. His computer also allows him to find out what stellations are possible to construct as models, and which ones are not possible. He gave me one of his models and it is one of my prized possessions.

The last page of the book, "Further Reading" will give the reader wonderful insights an exquisite examples of what fascinating solids are possible to construct. I have owned "Polyhedron Models" by Magnus Wenninger, and highly recommend it; and also highly recommend his excellent Website to view his spectacular models.

I had not known or even heard of George Hart; but now, thanks to this book, I visited his Website and it is simply outstanding; and a must for anyone who wants to see to what heights these models can be taken. Oh yes, I wondered what other books existed in this series and a search on Amazon under "Wooden Books" produced about 35 in all. If they are all as good as the ones I've seen, there are many more treasures to be found here.

If you are a fan of Recreational Mathematics, you may already have "Mathematical Recreations" by W. W. Rouse Ball, a classic, first published in 1892 and published in many later Editions. The 11th Edition contained a new chapter "Polyhedra" by Dr. H. S. M. Coxeter mentioned above. It has been reprinted several times.

If you want to look further in this subject, I strongly recommend the book "King Of Infinite Space" - The Man Who Saved Geometry by Siobhan Roberts in 2006; one of his students. I reviewed that book on February 11, 2008.