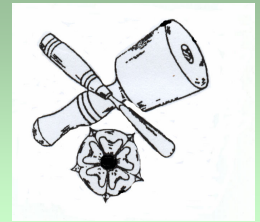


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# West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



## LIFE MEMBERS

Anne Hobson

Albert Hobson

Norman Walsh

Issue 151

www.wrwoodcarvers.com

## Monthly meeting February 10th 2007

So much for "Global warming": in front of my door at 8.00am on Saturday the 10th February was a drift of snow about two foot deep, mind you Jim and Margaret Longbottom and myself do live at nearly the highest point in Halifax. Both Jane's phone and mine were ringing off the hook with cancellations from members under similar conditions. Trevor Metcalfe was despatched, with crampons and ice axe, over the road to greet and turn away anybody brave, or foolish enough, to travel to Shepley. As it happens only two intrepid souls actually made it, Norman Shaw and Peter Slavin. Their names will be recorded in the minutes for prosperity and I'm sure Jane will take them out for a slap up meal, well maybe a MacDonald's. We shall have to re-schedule the sale and Free & Easy for a later date.

## Future meetings

March 10th: meeting is a talk by Malcolm Till on "Relief Carving". Malcolm is planning to bring to the meeting quite a number of relief carvings that he has done over the years (all no doubt in hard as hell Oak) which I understand he intends to use to demonstrate his personal progression, in relief carving, from a dashing young man to a harassed woodcarving teacher of mature gentlemen, and of course ladies.

Malcolm intends to use most of the space usually allocated for the monthly display of Club members' carvings (well he does have one or two the size of a barn door). So for the March meeting only, could we ask that no members' carvings are brought for display. However, this is quite fortuitous as on the 10th March meeting we would like loads and loads and loads of boxed up members' carvings brought to the meeting for our display at the Halifax Town Hall from the 13th March. More later under Overgate Panel.

April 14th: Annual General Meeting. The necessary papers will be sent out with the March Newsletter. However, any member that would like to stand for office in 2007/2008, or any officer who is not prepared to stand again, please make your intentions known to the Joint Coordinators, Jane and Arthur, or myself as Secretary. It is always healthy for the Club to have a turnover of officers, and new ideas, so don't be shy.

To ensure that the Overgate Panel was a 100 % WRWC Club project we asked, at a recent meeting at the Round Hill pub, if carvers who were not members would kindly join us. And on your behalf can I offer a very warm welcome to the individuals below who kindly obliged.



Alan Brook



Ken Cockroft



Maurice Oldale



Mike Chambers

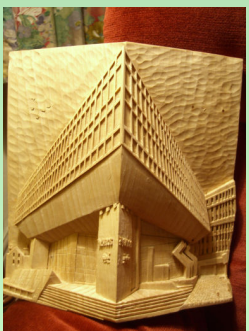


Peter Nethergate



Tony Smith

We have an e-mail from George Moore, Lancashire & Cheshire Woodcarvers, saying that he was very flattered to be featured in our January Newsletter. He also thanked us for the letter I sent acknowledging the wonderful demonstration he did on woodturning. He has also invited our Club over to Lancashire for their October meeting as their guests. I have accepted on your behalf. We will have George and his colleagues over in March for Malcolm's talk.



**Overgate Panel up-date**. The very latest is that on Thursday 15th February Amanda Harper, from BBC Look North, will be going to Overgate Hospice with Mike Hadfield and myself to do an interview with the staff of Overgate regarding their thoughts on being the recipients of the Panel. Amanda, who is a photo journalist (this means she humps around a very expensive camera, and films and conducts interviews on her own, I think) will then go to Malcolm Till's class at All Saints School to video some of the Panel carvings, and carvers, and do a piece on "The ancient art of woodcarving". She then has an appointment at Kirkwood Hospice to take photos of the Millennium Panel. Any carver who is desperate to be on the Telly please come along to Malcolm's class, but please bear in mind that this class has over twenty carvers already and things could get ridiculously crowded. Letters, and a publicity pack, have gone out to the Halifax Courier and the Huddersfield Examiner and I am trying to get them to do interviews and take photos, at either Mike Hadfield's class or at Brooksbank or Des Lindley's class on a Monday evening. It's very difficult dealing with the press as they hold the whip hand and tend to be a law unto themselves. But we have got BBC Look North, so here's hoping!

Frank Greenwood and myself have managed to get a very obliging gentleman, called Stuart Noble, from Halifax Photographic Society to take all the photographs of the individual carvings for the Booklet on which we are working. The booklet should be available for the 13th March, and the completed Panel will be available for the first time at Meltham Golf Club on the 7th March. Stuart took some sample photos of a relief carving and the results, with a blend of light and shadow, were first class.

Neil, Anne and myself are working with the printers on a Booklet, same size but thicker than the Besançon booklet, which will be available for the handover, fingers crossed. One downside is that the cost of printing is higher than we anticipated, but we should be able to cover the costs with the remainder of the grant money and a nice big raffle at the dinner on the 7th March. Instead of individual photographs of each carver in the Booklet, which if we don't get them all the identical will look terrible, we have decided to go for a group photo that will look more Club like and friendly. Stuart has agreed to take the photo and is pretty sure that he can "graft" on the head of anybody who finds it impossible to attend the photo call, as long as we can find a body to step into the picture of approximately the same height as the missing carver. Inevitably where ever, and when ever, a place and time is called it won't be convenient for somebody. So as time is short we have arranged to have the group photo taken at Brooksbank School, Elland at 1.30 pm on Sunday 25th February. The caretaker has very kindly agreed to open the sports hall for us if it is raining, but if it is fine then the photo can be taken on the playing field outside the Sports Hall. We thought this was an agreeable location as it falls between Calderdale and Kirklees. The Sports Hall is at the rear of the School which is located on Victoria Road. You turn off Victoria Road onto Linden Road then first right into the School premises and just follow the road round. If any Panel carver cannot attend please let me know, this is important as we have to find you a body double. Frank has asked for one with a good hip and knee and an arm six inches longer than his so he can get back to bowling.

Most people will now be aware that the Panel will be presented to Overgate Hospice, on Tuesday 13th March 2007 at 7.00pm in Halifax Town Hall. Dr Ingrid M Roscoe, Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, will be presiding at our hand-over. The Mayor, Councillor Colin Stout, will be presenting to each carver who worked on the Panel a signed Certificate of Appreciation. Norman Walsh is carving a couple of suitable items that will be presented as a token of our appreciation of their support to Dr Roscoe and the Mayor. All Club members, and their partners, are very welcome to attend the handover and Jane has asked me to stress that this is a Club project that all members should feel involved with, not just the Panel carvers. Dress casual smart. The Halifax Light Opera Junior section, who are presenting Fiddler on the Roof at the Halifax Playhouse from February 20th to 24th, have agreed to lighten up the occasion with a selection of songs. Having seen the children on many occasions I can guarantee they will be a delight.

The display to the public will take place from 10.30am to 4.30pm from 14th to 17th inclusive and 19th to 24th inclusive at Halifax Town Hall. To ensure that members of the Club, irrespective of if they have worked on the Panel or not, are involved in the occasion we are planning to have a full show of all members' carvings on display at the hand-over and for the two weeks that the Panel is on public view. Could all members, who want to participate, please bring display carvings, loads and loads of them please, to the March 10th Shepley meeting, or arrange to hand them to myself, Dennis, Bryan, Mike or Norman Shaw. It would be helpful if the individual carvings were boxed up and labelled with the carver's name please. The Club, as at the Huddersfield viewing, will provide stewards during public viewing and Mike will shortly be putting together a schedule of volunteers. The smaller carvings will have to be cleared away into a secure area when our members are not in attendance and put out again for the next day.

A dinner for all the carvers and partners, and interested Club members, where the completed Panel will be displayed for the first time, has been booked at the Meltham Golf Club on the evening of the 7th March. Names to Mike Hadfield, Bryan or Dennis please. They need final numbers ASAP so table decorations and seating arrangements can be sorted out. Neil will present each carver with a spiral-bound full version of the Booklet and we shall try to have some photos available of the completed panel.