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West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



Issue 155

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Monthly meeting 9th June 2007

Bob Lees.

For the June meeting we were treated to the amusing anecdotes of Bob Lees plus a demonstration, with audience participation, of pottery making both free hand and on the wheel. Our grateful thanks must go the Mary, Carole, George and Peter for getting up and, to the amusement of all present, gallantly trying their hand at pottery. Our special thanks to Peter who took an awful lot of ribbing for his "Salvador Dali type Pig/Elephant". As you can see from the photos some of the finished offerings were quite good and some of them - well I'd better not go there as my wife was one of the volunteers and I hate folding and putting these Newsletters into envelopes and I like to eat occasionally. A letter of thanks has been sent to Bob. Because of holidays the turn out was a poor 37.



Where the hell's it gone?



Peter's pigging elephant



The return of Quatermass



What talent - wasted on woodcarving

Issue 155 Page 2

In the last Newsletter I reported that we were struggling for speakers for a whole variety of reasons but with the assistance of Albert and a suggestion from our new member, Derek Adams (see below) we have suddenly managed to fill all the spots to the end of 2007. Most of our speakers are home grown, don't have to travel too far which is always an advantage.

Glenda Bennett who is an expert on Celtic carvings very kindly answered my letter but because of personal circumstances has had to decline our invitation, but may be available next year. Tony Wilson who demonstrates the Router and David Tippey, decoy carving I have rung on numerous occasions without the courtesy of a reply so I have now allocated them to the reject pile. Peter Benson & Pete leClair seem to have dropped off the end of the earth and are now relegated to next year (also they would be very expensive to bring up from down South). Brian Chapman, ecclesiastical carving is still in the running but will now go into next year also.

July 14th meeting: *Colin Wilson* from Rochdale. He is a toy maker, fretsaw specialist and Rocking Horse maker. I understand that Colin has made a Rocking Horse out of plywood. (Colin is a member of the Lanc's and Cheshire Woodcarvers).

August 11th: *Graham Lockwood* from High Burton, Huddersfield is a retired teacher. Graham's hobby is "Automata", the art of robotics, in Grahams case in wood - or so I am told. Graham is also one of Europe's leading kite makers and I understand flies them all over the World. I have asked him if he will give some of his talk / demonstration on this subject.

September 8th: *John Gay* is again from Huddersfield and his subject is "Aspects of Aero Modelling". This is John's second visit to the Club, his first one being some time prior to 2002. I remember being at his previous talk and being fascinated by the models he brought that were suspended from the ceiling with the aerofoils being moved by radio control.

October 20th: Lancashire and Cheshire joint meeting in Lancashire: Please note this is not the second Saturday. We are looking at the possibility of hiring a small 16, or so, seater bus for the occasion. We must ensure a good turnout this year.

November 10th: *Dominic Sudderby* who is one of the leading Stick Makers in the UK and regularly demonstrates at all the countries leading shows. Dominic rang me the other day after receiving his confirmation letter, and the Overgate Panel booklet that I now send out to all our speakers, to say that he was concerned that with "the beautiful work we had done" not to expect somebody that was highly skilled at carving stick heads. He asked me to stress that his work was more biased to the practical aspects of stick carving. I assured him that a warm welcome awaited him.

December 8th: *Club luncheon* at the Meltham Golf Club with guest speaker Fred Butler. Humorous tales of living and growing up in Dewsbury. Fred was our Christmas guest some years ago and was a great success.

Apologies for this meeting were received from Malcolm Till, Bryan Hodgson, Dick Wood, Arthur Brook, Jim & Margaret Durrans, Tracey Goddard, Anne Allen, Margaret Myatt, Derek Lindley and Terry Thorley-Lawson.

The carvings kindly supplied for the table display and photographed by Frank (he still hasn't supplied me with each carvers name, we shall have to send him for extra training) are from top to bottom on page one: Graeme Richardson, Trevor Metcalfe, John Murphy, Trevor Metcalfe, Neil Simpson.

We think the sticks were brought in by Gordon Taylor, but we don't have a photo.

On this page are two of Albert's lovely work. One of them, the Eagle, has been burnt onto leather.





At the last Management Meeting it was agreed that Jane would act as House Mother and enquire how sick and poorly members were progressing. I called her for a report a few minutes ago only to be greeted by somebody that sounds as if they had being chewing broken glass. She informs me that because she has discarded her woolly vest for summer she has got a chest infection, soar throat and a bad eye. She must have poked herself in the eye getting the woolly vest over her head. Get well soon Jane, no excuses for missing meetings.

Des Lindley is at home and making slow progress. Derek Lindley is keeping us informed of his progress and members of the Ladymill Carvers are keeping in regular contact. Bob Lees, the potter, has asked me to send his regards to Des as they are old friends.

Our best wishes also go to Alan Brook who has recently undergone chemotherapy but remains cheerful as always.



Derek F Adams

On your behalf may I welcome Derek to the Club. I hope next month to send out a new list of

The story, photos, booklet, DVD etc regarding our Club project for Overgate Hospice, has been sent out to the Woodcarver magazine. No response as of the 22nd June.

Overgate did quite a big spread in their latest Newsletter about the Panel. I will try and copy it into the July Newsletter.