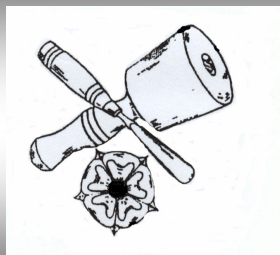


West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



Issue 161

Life members

Anne Hobson

Albert Hobson

Norman Walsh

www.wrwoodcarvers.com

Monthly meetings 9th February 2008

David Hey - Marquetry

It was only on the Thursday evening prior to our Saturday meeting when I rang David Harland to confirm that he was still available for his presentation on chip carving, that he informed me that he had been laid low with a bad back for three weeks and would not be attending.

We have been holding David as first reserve for just such an occasion and he very gallantly stepped into the breach with a terrific talk on his hobby of Marquetry. I'm sure he would have appreciated more than a few hours' notice, if only to dust off the many items he seems to have stored in the loft.

Our thanks to David for a well structured talk and a display of exquisitely finished pieces that must have taken half a lifetime to complete and would have tried the patience of the most dedicated craftsman.

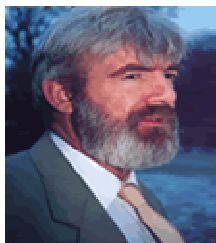
The other good thing about our own members taking over as guest speaker is that they are nice and cheap and only "insist" on accepting our thanks for their time. And I don't have to send them a letter of thanks!

Many thanks David from all 59 members and guests who attended.



Also a big thanks to David Holt for his "Hollywood" efforts with the Lottery photographic equipment. We don't think we have got it quite right yet but this month's screening was an improvement on its first outing. Next month David is going to try and put the screen high up in the bottom left hand corner which is probably the darkest area. At least we are getting the full benefit of the acoustic equipment as David, the speaker, could be quite clearly heard at the back of the room and he wasn't constantly falling over the cable from the room's microphone system. A by-product of the new equipment is that we now have a permanent record of all the Saturday meetings as the recording is downloaded to compact disc and is available for loan by members who could not attend the meeting, but are interested in the subjects being demonstrated and discussed.

Jane passed me a list of the members who had sent in their apologies. Owing to the traffic I was a bit late and left my folder in the car, and for the life in me I cannot think where I have put the piece of paper, so sorry but I don't know who sent in apologies. I'm sure everybody was delighted to welcome back Des Lindley, who, unfortunately, has been having a rough time over the last few months. Des is without doubt one of the most respected members of the Club and has been sadly missed.



March 8th 2008. Howard Boyd - Artist and Sculptor in Wood: Writing under the name of O.H.Boyd, Howard is a regular contributor to the Woodcarving Magazine and is best known for his "Longitude" sculpture. Other works include an above life-size interacting pair of figures of Robert Louis Stevenson and Long John Silver. Howard has a studio in Horkstow, Nr Barton upon Humber and will be with us from 10.30am until approx 3.30 pm. We are planning a pea and pie lunch and a small fee of £4 will be charged at the door, to cover the cost of bringing Howard to the Club for the day and the lunch time refreshments.

O.H. Boyd



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PUBLISHED WORK

OH Boyd currently writes for "Woodcarving" magazine. His latest works are a series of beginners guide to whittling describing techniques and tips, also giving projects for the novice to tackle in a stage by stage way



The above picture shows the figures of Robert Louis Stevenson and his creation Long John Silver adorning the entrance to "Highfield" at the home of Felix Dennis the Poet and publisher.

April 12th 2008. Club 17th Annual General Meeting: If this is destined to be a short meeting we may try and get one of our members to give a short half hour, or so, talk on a subject that will be of interest to all members. Reports and nomination forms for office will be sent out with the March Newsletter. (See Web-Site below)

May 10th 2008. Nothing planned yet but this could possibly be a Club "Free and Easy" together with the return of the very popular "Sharpening Session". Watch this space.

Friends of Beaumont Park: We have been contacted, via the Web-Site, by a group of people who have a connection with Beaumont Park, Huddersfield. They have requested that we put on an exhibition of the Club members' carvings at an Open Day at the park on Sunday 14th September 2008 between 12.00pm and 4.00pm. They have suggested that they erect a marquee for us, in case the weather is not very good, and that we display our work and possibly give a small demonstration of carving.

Because Dennis Farmer lives in the Beaumont Park area (and he has to face the people if we say no) he has been co-opted to organise the event should we decide to offer our services.

Jane will raise the matter at the March meeting and if we decide to help she will be looking for volunteers to assist Dennis.

Web-Site: We are getting more and more interest in the Club via the web-site which has now had well over 5000 hits since we launched it. Regularly we are now being asked for assistance from people wanting carvings done to their specific design and on occasions, where appropriate, these have been passed on to Club members who have been happy to assist.

Before these enquiries are passed on we have now started advising people that carvings can't be done in a couple of hours and that skilled craftsmanship comes at a cost. Quite a number of people who contact us think that they can commission a carving for delivery within a week for about £20 and don't appreciate the time and skill involved.

Quite a number of people have also enquired about carving classes and two of these are now involved with the Brooksbank Monday night class. Other people have been directed, and enrolled, with carving clubs in their particular area.

What we would like to do is bring the Web-Site up to date with photographs of all the new, and old, carvings that members have done since the last big push. Ideally it would be nice if each member had his or her own gallery. With this in mind we are going to set up a photographic booth with dedicated lighting and background at the April AGM. Members are invited to bring along any carvings they have to be photographed and Anne will be on hand to fill in the forms stating what type of wood the carving is made from, the name of the carving, the carver and any special details of interest.

After our exposure on Look North, with the Overgate Panel, we found a steady increase in the number of people looking at the site and I think this could be repeated with our coverage in the Woodcarver magazine in the February issue.

So please, please, please can we have all those carvings for photographing at the April AGM? Or Anne will be after you!!!!

Arthur Brook has very kindly carved a relief carving of the church buildings that we meet in as a thank you to our hosts. This will be presented to the Minister of Shepley Methodist Church between 10.00am and 10.30am at the March meeting. I understand that a number of church members will accompany the Minister for the presentation.

Woodcarving Magazine and the Overgate Panel.

As previously reported the Overgate Panel will be the main feature article in the 28th February issue of the magazine.

The Management Committee meeting on the 14th had to be cancelled and has been re-scheduled for February 28th at 7.00pm at the Round Hill pub Rastrick.