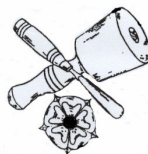


WEST RIDING WOODCARVERS' ASSOCIATION



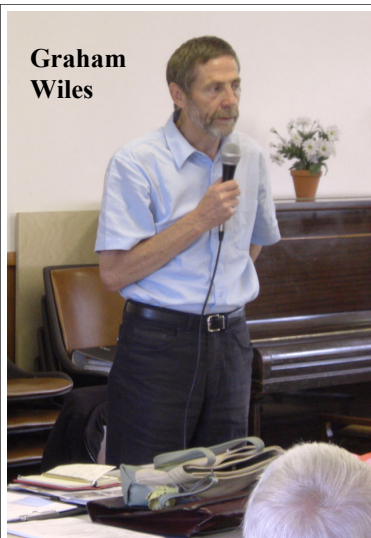
Life members
Anne Hobson
Albert Hobson
Norman Walsh

Issue 166

July 14th 2008

www.wrwoodcarvers.com

Graham Wiles



At the July meeting we had the company of Graham Wiles, Project Manager for the Green Business Network which is a non profit making organisation which manages The Able Project, a community based fish farming scheme providing transitional and training for disadvantaged young people.

Graham very eloquently, and very movingly, spoke for an hour to the members present on his vision that our Club would become involved in a small way with the provision of one to one tuition and encouragement to disadvantaged youngsters who are not academically inclined but quite interested and gifted in artistic projects. His hope was that a number of our members could put to one side an hour or two per week to assist voluntary and professional carers, initially in the Wakefield area, to pass along the skills of woodcarving and other related subjects like art and woodwork.

A Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check will be required of any member who wishes to be involved but we were assured that the cost will be met by the Green Business Network. We were also assured that no member will be left unsupervised with a young person taking tuition and that grants are available for the supply of any specialist equipment required and members' out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed.

Initially the meetings will take place on the 34 acre woodland site in the Wakefield area where suitable accommodation is available but Graham advised us that further developments are progressing on a 10 acre site at Heckmondwike and a further site in Todmorden.

It was clearly pointed out by Graham, and endorsed by some of our own members with past experience in this area of education, that getting involved with disadvantaged youngsters is not an easy undertaking but if successful can be extremely rewarding to both parties.

When Graham departed there was little chance to fully discuss his proposals, therefore, it was decided that members should have the opportunity to read the enclosed document relating to The Able Trust, have time to think about their own commitments and time schedules and that names would be taken at the August meeting of any member who would like to learn more about this project. (If you can't get to the meeting and are interested please give me a call on 01422-361109.)

Members who put their names forward will be invited to take up the offer to visit the Wakefield site for an official visit and discussions as to the next step forward.

Without a doubt if, as a Club, we can offer assistance to less fortunate individuals than ourselves it will be a very interesting undertaking with immense personal and collective rewards. However, we shouldn't underestimate the difficulties involved but we are all reasonably sensible adults with a wealth of work and lifetime skills that we can put to good use.



For the July meeting we had a "Free and Easy".

Regular "Free and Easy" meetings, were proposed by a number of members at the previous two AGMs. Although these meetings are very beneficial for new members to get to know old members and for people attending to generally have a good chat and catch up with personal and Club news, I personally wonder if they are all that popular with members as certainly numbers attending are well down on the meetings where we have speakers. Just a thought, and something that we can perhaps discuss when appropriate.

We did say that we would have an "Unusual Carving Competition" and a big thank you to all who dug out those odd carvings. We also said that a prize would be awarded to the winner but in all the excitement we forgot to pick a winner which was just as well as Jane, who volunteered to donate the prize, forgot to bring it!!!!



Run out of room on the other side but I can confirm the Jane has managed to book **Ian Clayton**, the very well known and entertaining TV broadcaster for the Christmas luncheon.



John Kemp causing trouble again!

Limited for pictures this month as our "official photographer" was a bit out of focus - again!!



Future meetings:

9th August 2008: We have a return visit of **Brian Chapman** who last spoke to the Club in May 2004. On his last visit Brian talked in detail about the Geisler-Moroder Austrian Woodcarving School. The courses cover 9 days of intensive carving, 2 days' painting and staining in the Tyrolean way and a visit to various interesting places in the beautiful Lech Valley. The school is 5 hours' from Munich and is priced at approximately £600.00 for the course, excluding transport. I'm sure Brian will again make an interesting guest speaker.



13th September 2008: For the September meeting we are going to try something a little different, (and quite cheap seeing as we are paying out quite a bit for the speaker in October). We are going to have a "Woodcarvers Question Time" based on the very popular Gardeners Question Time.

Fortunately, as a Club, we are very blessed by having individuals who are only too ready to put up their hands when Jane asks for volunteers. And instantly, without any thought to the fact that they could be made to look very foolish, up jumped four members with offers to sit on the Panel.

So your **Question Time Panel** is made up of:

Question master;	Jane-	<i>you will do as you're told or no Christmas Lunch-</i>
Panel Master;	Trevor -	<i>I can knock out three carvings between breakfast and supper time-</i>
Senior Member;	Malcolm-	<i>I can knock out an oak carving in two years that you can't lift-</i>
Junior Member;	Jim-	<i>I can knock out a carving that you need sun glasses to look at-</i>
Infant Member;	Dennis -	<i>I can now knock out a carving of Castle Hill in half an hour-</i>

**Renshaw.
Metcalf.
Till.
Longbottom.
Farmer.**

So now it's your turn. We want you to *Knock Out* plenty of questions, some serious, some foolish—I don't know why I bothered writing that—thinking of some members at the rear of the room, and plenty of samples of things that have gone wrong in your woodcarving life. There must be plenty of them. This can only work with everybody's combined involvement so plenty of questions please.



Question Master



Panel Master



Senior Member



Junior Member



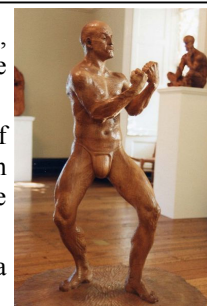
Infant Member

Dennis
looks
asleep
already!!!

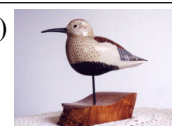
11th October: Thompson Dagnall for a full day's demonstration and lecture. He specialises in outdoor carvings, taking commissions for huge creations out of trees. But as you can see from the picture he also does quite a lot of life size figures which have been exhibited in a number of prestigious art galleries.

Thompson doesn't come cheap and we are, therefore, following the usual practice when we have special guests of charging a nominal fee at the door for members and their guests. It has been agreed to set the door fee at £5 per person which, as always, covers the services of Thompson, pea and pie lunch - this is the easiest to do and seems quite acceptable to most people - and a sweet of some sort.

The Lancashire & Cheshire Woodcarvers will be our guests at this meeting, but obviously we shall not be imposing a charge on the door for them as their invitation over to Lancashire always includes a lunch.



On either the **1st or 15th November** -not sure which yet - (the room is not available on the second Saturday in November) the **British Decoy Wildfowl Carvers Association** have agreed to undertake a carving demonstration and talk. We have a number of members who have dabbled with duck and bird carving so this should prove quite interesting.



Emley Show on the 2nd August: You will remember at the July meeting when I tried to put forward a few words of wisdom regarding who was doing what and was very cruelly put in my place and told everything was taken care of by both Jane and Arthur - well I have just rung Jane to find out who they eventually decided was going to collect carvings and assist at the show and she hasn't got a clue!!! I have also been trying to ring Arthur for hours and he is off probably dancing and chatting up the ladies. So to conclude I don't know who is doing what, I don't very much care and was sulking so didn't write anything down for the Newsletter.

I do have a couple of entry forms for people to fill in (I shall have to copy one and print another load off - and you wonder why I spend so much on printer ink) and then I suggest you ring Miss Renshaw on 01484-541278 and Mr "Twinkle Toes" Brook on 01484-309580 to find out who you give your carvings to. But to be serious we do need a good turn out so please, please help to make the show a big success.

Malcolm Till's class starts on Thursday 25th Sept at 2.20pm (funny time). Brooksbank starts on the 8th Sept at 7.00pm and with 24 members is now full. Not sure about Mike's and Vernon's but will report on the date and time in the August Newsletter.

The steel and carbide rotating burs for the Dremel type machines which I was going to purchase is a bit slow getting off the ground but we should have them for starting carving classes in September.. I have been asked by a number of people when they will be available and can only apologise for the delay - you can blame Mike Chambers for going on holiday for three weeks, annoying motorists with his caravan.

At the July meeting a Club trip to the Bakewell Show (near Buxton) on either the 6th or 7th August 08 was discussed.. Because the response wasn't overwhelming and time to organise it is a bit limited it has been decided to shelve the idea. We shall, however, look at a trip for later in the year, or into early next year, and take time to organise it correctly.

Apologies were received from Peter Nicholas, Trevor Kilvington, Mike Hadfield, Terry Thorley- Etc Etc and Anne Allan..

Club badges have been distributed to John Farrar, David Hey, Nigel Combes and David Kent