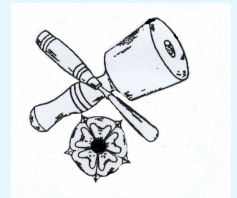


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West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



15th November 2008

LIFE MEMBERS

Anne Hobson
Albert Hobson
Norman Walsh

Issue 170

www.wrwoodcarvers.com

Keith Royle

The British Decoy Wildfowl Carvers Association.

Our grateful thanks to Keith who gave a very interesting talk on his particular subject of carving decoy wildfowl.

Keith used an American DVD to assist with his presentation and for anybody who is interested it was produced by the "Wildfowl Carving Magazine" an American publication and was part 1 of their *Learn at Home Series* entitled "Del Herbert Carves an American Avocet". We managed to pinch a copy of the DVD and David Holt is the man to talk to if you want one.

The book he recommended was called "Carving award winning Songbirds" by Lori Corbett and is available on Amazon, new £13.16 second hand £8.40.



Another excellent book is "Carving Realistic Birds" by David Tippey this is also available from Amazon at £22.95 each but these are now out of print and only 7 are available.

Should anybody want to join the BDWCA Keith left me some Membership Application forms - £15 per annum subs.



Albert Hobson



Dennis Farmer



Darrel Edwards



Graeme Richardson



Arthur Brooke.



Just received in the post a brochure and list of opening days for the 1 1/2 acre garden and nursery of Jacqueline Iddon, the wife of Thompson Darnell. Looks very interesting and I'm sure that a trip over to Bretherton, near Preston next year will make an excellent day out.



Christmas Luncheon at the Meltham Golf Club Saturday 6th December 2008.



Our guest speaker for this year is the very popular **Ian Clayton** who is probably best known in Yorkshire as a TV presenter but, from following the hippy trail to India to helping prisoners in Wakefield Jail create an opera, Ian has done many other things in his life that should make his time with us both interesting and entertaining.

Wendy Hodgson is again kindly organising the Christmas raffle and donated prizes, either before or on the day, will be very gratefully received.

This year could we please, please ask all members to bring along just one carving of their choice for display. Jane and Arthur have asked me to stress that the carving selected by our guest is "the carving that appeals to him personally" and that the selection is in no way a competition to find the technically best carving but just a fun way of showing both our members, guests and partners why we are all part of the Club and the range of carvings and subject matter that is produced by members.

We start at 10.00am with coffee then on to our speaker followed by a buffet lunch.

I understand that we have over 60 places taken, way down on last year's attendance - not sure why - but places are still available just give Jane a ring. I am sure we shall again have a great day.

Overgate Hospice Panel.

I recently received an invitation from the Hospice to the official opening of the refurbished Inpatient Unit by HRH The Duke of Gloucester and Dr Ingrid Roscoe, Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire on the 25th November 2008. The Club received only one invitation addressed to me, as the person being the main contact with the Hospice. It was agreed at the last Management Meeting that I should attend and represent all the members of the Club.

To my surprise when I got to the Hospice I was pulled out of the 120 or so people in the marquee who were representatives of organisations that have contributed in some way to the Hospice, and asked to join the official party in the main building. They wanted me to be available to answer questions from the Duke, and his party, on our Panel in the entrance to the building.

On eventual arrival the Duke, Dr Roscoe and their party were greeted by the singing of the Calderdale Young Singers (copied I was told from our idea at the Halifax Town Hall during our presentation) and then brought into the foyer and introduced to myself as Secretary of the WRWCA. I was asked to take them through the various aspects of the Panel. To say His Royal Highness, and his party, were impressed is an understatement and I think we perhaps lose sight as to how impressive the Panel is to people who confront it for the first time. You always get one question that stumps you and mine was in reference to Ken Taylor's carving of the Gibbet "Was this pre-guillotine?" I hadn't got a clue what he was talking about but managed to mumble something about it being used until 1650, which seemed to satisfy him. He also pointed out Dennis's HBOS carving and commented on what he considered a very ugly building and suggested that in the present economic climate we should consider replacing it. After that he was quickly ushered away and I slunk off to the marquee where I found I had been seated on the same table as Dr Roscoe.

The people who had been waiting in the marquee for over an hour and a half were absolutely frozen, and so was I after about 30 minutes. When the official party came into the marquee they were split up onto various tables and on arriving at our table, and asking where she would like to sit, Dr Roscoe chose to sit "with her woodcarver friend". Fame at last! She is extremely nice and genuinely interested in the Club, the classes we are involved with and projects that we are embarking on, especially the proposed Panels for the Royal Armouries Museum and the Children's Hospice.

Never being one to miss an opportunity I managed, with no persuading at all, to get her to agree to present, should we wish, any future Panels we complete.

The Duke of Gloucester unveiled a new commemoration plaque and the backing board was supplied to the Hospice, free of charge, from WRWCA. Our grateful thanks go to Tony Smith for making the board for us. The Duke was presented with a framed copy of the two page article that we had in the Woodcarver magazine on the concept and construction of the Overgate Panel which when printed out on photographic paper looks really impressive. Should any member want a copy please just ask and I will e-mail them a copy or print them one off.

Needless to say the Hospice, and all who use its services, are delighted with the Panel and went out of their way to make their feelings known to the Royal party.

Carved Panel to Commemorate the 65th Anniversary of VE Day.

Having decided that the Panel, or similar, we have promised to undertake for the Children's Hospice is some two or three years away it was agreed at the October monthly meeting that we would undertake a Club project to produce an interim Panel and anybody interested in serving on a "Steering Group" was invited to attend a first meeting on Thursday 30 October 2008 at the Round Hill pub. Anybody not wishing to serve on the "Steering Group" but who would like to have their thoughts added to the agenda for discussion was invited to make their wishes known.

Nine members attended the meeting, with one apology, and it was agreed that Mike Hadfield would continue the good work he did on the Overgate Panel and act as Leader. Myself to act as Secretary and Dennis and Bryan to take overall charge of Panel construction and design with Anne being in charge of any pamphlet/booklet documentation required.

After lengthy discussions about the pros and cons of various locations for the proposed Panel it was agreed that an ideal location would be the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds. The reasons being that the Panel would be located in West Yorkshire, there is more certainty of obtaining a grant to cover materials and ancillaries if located in this country, there is a likelihood that we could generate interest from the local press and TV and that Club members and their guests will conveniently be able to view the completed Panel.

It was agreed that the subject matter of the Panel should cover as many aspects of the Second World War as possible including sections that were not in the direct theatre of conflict e.g. The Bevan Boys, Land Army etc.

I was to contact the Directors of the Armouries and include details of the Club, the article from the Woodcarver, booklets and photos of the other Panels we have undertaken with a view to arranging a meeting to discuss our proposals. All the information was sent off on the 2nd November.

Then nothing! Why cannot people in this day and age take the time and courtesy to just acknowledge correspondence sent to them? On the 24th November I rang the Director who I sent the information to at the Armouries to ask if he had received our letter and information and to ascertain if they were interested in our proposal. Needless to say I finished up talking to a faceless mail box. I did eventually get a reply the next day but only on my answer phone with a suggestion that I contact a Philip Abbott who would be able to help me. No Mr Abbott available so I e-mailed him and explained that I was meeting the Duke of Gloucester and Dr Roscoe, who would be asking questions about the project, and would he please get back to me urgently.

Not a word. But being bloody minded I will get answers out of them and report accordingly.

Flowers have been sent to Barbara Ainley in thanks for the many years she has slaved away behind the tea pots at break time. Our best wishes are sent to Barbara on her retirement from the Club kitchen.

Club Monthly Raffle.

Still going well - this last month we cleared over £20 for both the Club and the Children's Hospice.

Our thanks to Peter Keene who kindly donated a new mallet for a raffle prize. Anybody who has anything for prizes please let Graham Redhead know. Graham has volunteered to take over the running of the raffle and the total receipts will be handed over after the AGM to the Hospice.

Apologies: Eric Schofield, John Kemp, Nigel Combes, Trevor Metcalfe, Peter Nethergate, Tracey Goddard, Anne Allan, Adrian Lindley, Des Lindley and Ken Taylor..

Sickness: We have a number of members who are having problems at the moment. Eric Schofield and Peter Nethergate are still not with us although it was nice to see Norman Shaw back at the November meeting.

Jane mentioned to the meeting that regretfully Derek Lindley's son had sadly passed away after a long illness and our collective condolences were expressed to both Derek and his family.

Management meeting: 29th January '09 - 8:00pm Round Hill pub.