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West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



14th February 2009

LIFE MEMBERS

Anne Hobson
Albert Hobson
Norman Walsh

Issue 173

Jim Wrathall.

www.wrwoodcarvers.com



David Holt



Trevor Stanley



Graham Lockwood



Norman Walsh

Many thanks to Jim for a very interesting talk on Misericords. And just so we get the correct spelling - the word misericord is derived from the Latin word misericordia. Meaning "pity of the heart" or "act of mercy" when applied to an infirm person.

I understand Jim spent most of his working life as a teacher and his easy manner and faultless presentation was obviously the result of many hours before an audience.

With Jane being absent celebrating her birthday, Arthur stepped in to take the meeting in his unique style and asked for an up-date on members who were still having problems with illness.

We were pleased to see the return of Eric Schofield who thanked the members for all their cards and best wishes during his recent absence. It was reported that Mick Wilson is now out of hospital and making steady, if slow, progress. Fred Chapman has now had an operation and is on the mend.



Regretfully it is my sad duty to report that Alan Brook has lost his fight with the cancer that he has been living with for some considerable time and died in hospital on the 16th February. I'm sure we all admired the way that Alan remained cheerful in spite of his illness and his passing will be a big loss to the Club. A letter and card has been sent to his wife, Maureen. I understand quite a number of members will be attending his funeral on Friday 20th February at Wakefield Crematorium, especially from Des's class which Alan used to attend.

The question of greeters was yet again raised and although everybody agreed that this is an important subject we had little response for a further volunteer when Arthur asked for one more person to take on the role with Dick and Anne. We shall now leave it to Anne to co-opt another person. I'm sure she will get a more positive response on a one to one basis - it's a good man who can say no to a woman!

Apologies were received from Peter Nethergate, Jane Renshaw, Vernon Secker, Trevor Kilvington, Tracey Goddard and Anne Ellwood.

Our thanks to Margaret and Jim who slaved away in the kitchen.



Not sure who carved this.



I'm sure everybody will agree that this relief carving by Trevor is technically one of the most detailed and brilliantly executed carvings ever done by a member of the Club - and the annoying thing is that he will probably have another couple finished by next week!

March 14th 2009: **Brian Taylor** from Lancashire - Caricature carver.

April 11th 2009: Annual General Meeting. (Arthur has stated his intention to stand down at the AGM as Joint Co-ordinator for health reasons).

May 9th 2009: In the Jan/Feb 2009 No:106 issue of Woodcarving there was an article on "Relief to Bronze" and described the process of converting a carving of the 1306 staircase at Wells Cathedral into a bronze. The company who did this was the Sculpture Lounge, Woodhead Road, Holmfirth. The person who actually did the work is Martin Norman and he has kindly agreed to give a talk / demonstration to the Club at the May 2009 monthly meeting.

July 11th 2009: A very well known local artist, Richard Gawthorpe, has agreed to address the Club in July. I understand Richard has been to the Club before, but certainly before my time. Richard has kindly agreed to waive a fee on the understanding that the members present purchase some of his "cards" with all proceeds the going to the hospice.

November 21st 2009: The very popular **Michael Painter**.



From wood to bronze.

Carved Panels for the Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds..

The first bit of news is confirmation that the Club has secured the grant we applied for from the Leeds Community Foundation. A recent meeting, at Overgate Hospice, was held with Steve Burt, Collections Director of the Armouries, who was very impressed with the craftsmanship, balanced design and selection of subjects for the Overgate Panel. The Armouries confirmed that they are very keen to work with us.

During discussions about finance Steve was asked, if certain items had to be cut back, because of financial restraints, would the Royal Armouries be willing to assist with costs over and above the grant award. Steve assured the meeting that the Royal Armouries would not want the quality; planning or occasion of the finished work to suffer from lack of reasonable funds and any request for additional funding would be evaluated with, hopefully, a positive response by the finance department of the Armouries.

Before we can go much further pictures will have to be collected, selected for carving and the overall diagram of the two Panels agreed. The Armouries are going to make available their archive library. Until this is done timber cannot be purchased. The members of the sub-committee are already gathering together pictures and if any member would like to forward pictures to myself, or Mike Hadfield, they will be considered along with all the others.

It is possible that one or two members have a special family connection in a particular area and, if you submit a picture for carving, the sub -committee will take this into consideration and try where possible to include it in the Panels. However, members must appreciate this may not be possible as the picture may not complement the rest of the Panel. (For example I have a friend whose brother was one of the Cockleshell Heroes and in his memory I would like this to be represented on the 2nd World War Panel, especially as he was a local man from Halifax.)

When we produced the Overgate Panel it was only as an afterthought that we decided to compile a professionally printed booklet and the Club put up front £850 which was returned to funds out of the receipts we got for the booklets. (We still managed to donate £1200 to Overgate.) This time £965 has been included in our grant application so, hopefully, 100% of booklet receipts will go to a children's hospice. The Armouries have agreed to give back to the Club any money taken while the booklets are on sale at the museum. (Incidentally I got a call today from Overgate to say they have just sold the last booklet out of the 1000 we had printed. I have asked the printers for a quote for a further 500—who pays for them I'm not sure.)

A sub-committee of ten volunteer members was formed to oversee this project and at its last meeting it was agreed that the project would benefit from the guidance of a respected member of the Club to act as "Guardian". Duties would be to primarily approve the decisions made by this sub-committee and to use his carving expertise and good sense to ensure the overall project is completed to a standard that is in keeping with the good name of our Club. Albert Hobson, Founder and Life Member of the Club, has kindly accepted this very important and essential position. All meeting minutes will be forwarded to Albert for his approval before action is taken and finished carvings of all participating carvers will be referred to Albert for his approval, or advice, before being accepted for fixing onto the Panels by Bryan and Dennis.

The response for carvers has been quite staggering and a credit to the Club members and reflects the pleasurable experience we have all had producing previous Panels. To date we have 53 carvers signed up. A small number are not full members yet but are anxious to participate and we trust will become members in April 2009. Very nearly all of the 53 attend one or other of the carving classes that the Club runs.

Below is a list of carvers. If you don't see your name on the list please contact Mike or myself.

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|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Adrian Lindley | David Kent | John Davison | Maurice Oldale | Tony Smith |
| Anne Ellwood | Dennis Farmer | John Dean | Mike Chambers | Tracey Goddard |
| Arthur Brook | Derek Adams | John Farrar | Mike Hadfield | Trevor Kilvington |
| Brierley Hellowell | Derek Lindley | John Kemp | Mike Thompson | Trevor Metcalfe |
| Bryan Hodgson | Doris Spencer | John Murphy | Neil Simpson | Trevor Stanley |
| Catherine Davison | Des Lindley | John Spencer | Nigel Combes | Peter Keene |
| Colin Ellis | Frank Greenwood | Ken Cockcroft | Norman Shaw | George Crawshaw |
| Colin Glasford | Graham Lockwood | Ken Taylor | Norman Walsh | |
| Colin Pratley | Graham Readhead | Liz Willoughby | Peter Nethergate | |
| Darrel Edwards | Graeme Richardson | Malcolm Till | Peter Slavin | |
| David Hey | Jim Wrathall | Margaret Myatt | Reg Platt | |
| David Holt | John Murphy (Hudd's) | Mary Stott | Terry Thorley-Lawson | |

This gives us 55 carvers in total.
Only 4 people don't attend one or other of the 5 classes. 2 will rejoin in September.
36 members were involved in carving the Overgate Panel. 32 of them are again carving the Armouries Panels.

The raffle seems to be doing well and the profit this month was £38.

Management meeting: 23rd April '09 8:00pm Round Hill pub.