



West Riding Woodcarvers' Association

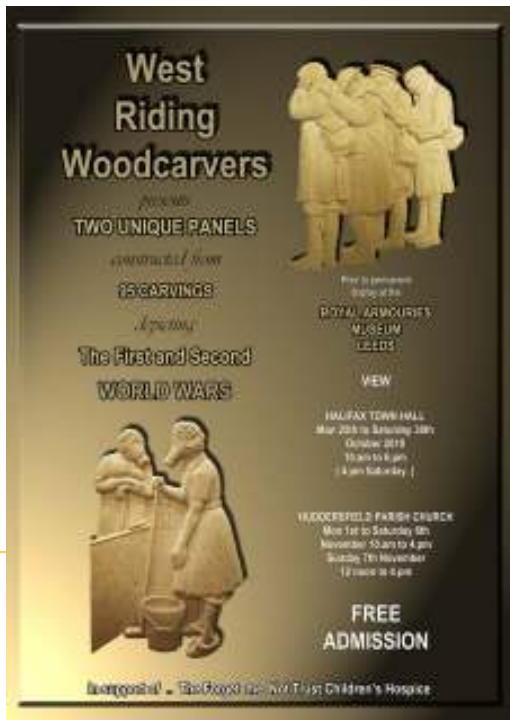


Life members
Anne Hobson
Albert Hobson

September 2010

Newsletter Issue 189

Joint meeting with the Lancashire and Cheshire Woodcarvers



I think this Newsletter, relating the tale of the September meeting, should be entitled 'How to make a Silk Purse out of a Sow's Ear'. We were badly let down by our speaker, Russell Birch, who for some unknown reason, thought the meeting was on Sunday 12th September - in a church hall with the congregation sat next door! He has sent me an apology as follows:

Hi John, Could you please pass this message onto your members at the next meeting. Please accept my sincere apologies for not attending your monthly meeting. John had originally contacted me and confirmed the CORRECT date Saturday September 11th. I had placed it in my diary on the Sunday and not the Saturday, my mistake. I hope that my absence did not spoil the day..... John told me that things went quite well with other people stepping in to talk about various things at short notice. Thank you to those who put in their time for my absence. Over the last few months I have prepared a lengthy PowerPoint presentation and carving display. I hope that in the near future it might still be possible to show and present my work at one of your monthly meetings.

Our grateful thanks to Graham, who took over most of the morning session, and played for the meeting the video he has so expertly compiled covering our 1st WW carvings set to the music of 'The Band Played Waltzing Matilda' with Ronnie Drew of the Dubliners singing Eric Bogle's anti-war song. This had the effect of bringing quite a number of the ladies present, and quite a few of the big tough men, to tears. His other music video, covering the 2nd WW, was The Fountain by Clint Mansell and although not quite as moving most certainly made one contemplate the horror of the Second World War.

We were also treated to the amazing story of one of our members, Graham Readhead, who has just returned from the European Rimfire and Air Rifle bench rest Shooting Championships held in Plzen, Czech Republic. Graham got Gold in the 50m heavyweight class and Silver in the 25m heavyweight class.

It always amazes me that we have so many members with interesting hobbies and life experiences who hide their talents away from the rest of us until something out of the ordinary comes along to put them in the limelight.

We must also give a big thanks to our good friends from across the border who made the day so much more enjoyable. And what a spread for lunch. I have never seem as many cakes and afters, all very fattening and off limits to most of us; the response from members was terrific. The hard work in the kitchen by Joyce, Margaret and Margaret, Marion and Carole, plus odd washer uppers, was very encouraging and shows the strength, and comradeship, within the club.



Graham

October 9th 2010: Birstall Woodturning Club will be coming along to give a demonstration of turning. We have agreed to give them in return a talk/display on carving on the evening of October 6th in Batley.

November 13th 2010: We are holding open this date as we may all be engaged in the Royal Armouries Panel presentation.

December 4th (I think) 2010: Christmas Luncheon at the Brighthouse Sports and Social Club.

Trevor and his 'Little Friends'. Trevor has his photo stuck on the front sheet but his write up is hereon the back. This doesn't mean that he isn't worthy of front page cover, just that I run out of space.

His talk was absolutely amazing and I'm quite sure that many of us are still left amazed, and still with dozens of questions, about the fascinating and complicated lives of the little stingy things that fly around our gardens.

He was off again the following Monday night at the Brooksbank class relating tales about drones being thrown out of the hives at the end of the season to die in the cold and, to Tracey's delight, a detailed description of how the poor old drone is 'blown up' after performing his marital duty with the queen bee. Tracey thought this was a great idea. All the Brooksbank class are clubbing together to send her for marriage guidance counselling before we find parts of Nigel spread around Sowerby Bridge!

How Trevor managed to get through his talk heaven's alone knows. He came to my house a few days before the meeting and we scanned onto the computer a series of pictures to assist with his talk. These were very carefully put in order but when we connected them to the club computer, for some reason, they moved all moved into alphabetical order and out of the nice logical order Trevor asked for.

Now Anne and I aren't the sort of people to cast doubts on the morals of others, but it was very strange that when Frank was in charge of the computer in the morning he was made to look super efficient, but when he left at lunch time everything went wrong and chaos descended. We're not saying that deliberate sabotage was involved but we will let you to draw your own conclusions.

Our grateful thanks to Graham Lockwood, Graham Readhead and Trevor Stanley for making what could have been a truly terrible meeting into one that actually turned out to be a very enjoyable day.



The club jumpers are now on order. We had a bit of a problem with the XL Club big boys' jumpers but that's all sorted now, and they should all be with us no later than the 14th October and in time for the start of our display at the Halifax Town Hall.

If anybody tells you that Margaret hasn't immensely enjoyed being in charge of the tape measure, just take a look at this picture. Jim looks in seventh heaven and for some reason I'm reminded of Trevor and his queen bee story.

Jane is taking names at the next meeting for the Christmas Luncheon at the Brighthouse Sports and Social Club in December. I can't remember the price that she told me and I'm off on my holidays in a few hours so not really bothered.

You will have noticed at the Shepley meeting that a poster has been designed by Margaret and Mary and put together by Graham Lockwood.

A number of these were left at the Halifax Town Hall, at their request, for the Heritage Weekend visitors and the response I understand was very positive.

Margaret and Mary are now in the process of getting the posters printed and will be distributing them to members and other locations.

If anybody can help with distribution, please contact them.

Our best wishes to all of our members who are still on the sick list. We trust you will get well soon and return to the meetings.

Royal Armouries Museum Panels: Everything is going, more or less, according to plan and all the 95 carvings are now in and have been photographed by Graham. Bryan and Dennis are going to start on the construction of the panels very shortly and they should be ready for the 8th October for photographing for the booklet.

I have enclosed, or sent as an attachment, the minutes from the last meeting of the Sub-Group at the Round Hill pub. This way everybody is kept fully informed of what goes on.

Raffle: £44 profit.

Management meeting "Round Hill pub 7:30pm October 7th 2010".