West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



September 2013 Newsletter Issue 221 Patron Dr Ingrid M Roscoe Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire

> Life members Anne Hobson Albert Hobson

Wakefield Cathedral display 23rd - 29th August 2013



Two fine looking men, Roy Williams and Jim Wrathall, splendidly turned out in club jumpers on duty at Wakefield Cathedral on the Saturday afternoon.

The display managed to raise over £500 and the cathedral, has kindly let us keep all the receipts for us to pass on to the children's hospice. We did originally have an agreement with them that we would give them a donation for use of the cathedral premises.

Our thanks to Roy Williams' nephew for the loan of a wagon and driver for the return transport of the panel from Wakefield to Halifax. Derek, our normal transporter was off on holiday sailing.

Halifax Town Hall, Heritage Weekend display- 14th & 15th September 2013

The Halifax Town Hall was quite well attended and once again we were made very welcome by Karen and Sue from the Town Hall staff. We managed over the 10 hours of the Heritage Weekend to make £203.45. One of the main problems we had was carrying the panel up the eleven, very steep, steps from the car park to the hall, but with a lot of huffing and puffing it was eventually managed.





Derek has decided to run for Mayor next year!

Forget-Me-Not Children's Hospice Panel:

The panel is now safely back in the children's hospice and, I understand from Adrian and Margaret, that we have in the region of £4,000 to hand over to the hospice. This total is made up from the booklet sales, monthly club meeting raffles, money collected for talks and the sale of a few of the WW1 and WW2 booklets. We still have to write the story of the children's hospice panel and sell it to the Woodcarving magazine and others.

Adrian was hoping that a representative from the children's hospice could come along to our November 9th meeting to accept a cheque but on that day they have their own Community Fundraising Open Day and are unable to attend. They have asked if some members from our club can attend their Open Day to talk about the panel and assist with booklet sales. It has now been suggested that we leave the presentation of a cheque until our Christmas Luncheon on the 14th December where, hopefully, our Patron Dr Roscoe and her husband Marshall may again be present.

I think that a few special 'thank you's' should be made to a number of individuals who have put a lot of time, effort and not a considerable amount of money in the form of petrol costs into the project. The first who comes to mind is Derek Adams who has, except for two occasions, transported the panel all over Halifax, Huddersfield and Wakefield as well as spending hours in his workshop making the frame and with Colin Pratley attaching the finished carvings. Graham Lockwood and David Hey have spent hours and hours on the mechanism and electronics for the carvings with movement and sound. Trevor Stanley for constructing the control panel for the electronics and, along with Peter Keene and Darrell Edwards was always available to hump the panel in and out of vans and various premises. Without doubt Trevor's friend and fellow bee keeper Jeff needs special praise for constructing the terrific stand that cost the club only a thank you letter and a nice bottle of whiskey. The booklet turned out rather well and credit must go to Janet, for the wording, Margaret, Colin and Anne for the drawings and Graham for all the photographic work. All the members, wifes and husbands, that turned out to steward the panel, and arrange the display material, in Huddersfield, Halifax and Wakefield. I'm sure, as always when you start thanking people, that I have left out quite a number who have gone that extra yard but our special thanks to Adrian who took on the daunting task of Project Leader and has done a splendid job. And last but not least all the members who each put time and expertise into carving the individual plaques.

The delight in the face of the children who tried to wreck the panel at Halifax Agricultural Show and danced to the music at all the other locations made the effort involved well worth while. I'm also sure that the children who unfortunately use the services of the children's hospice will love it and derive endless pleasure pushing buttons and listening to Billy Goat Gruff and his mates - but don't mention any more panels for quite a while please!



Meeting on Saturday 12th October 2013:



We have a <u>full day</u> booking for the return of Thompson Dagnall. Many of you will remember Thompson from previous visits and for those who haven't had the pleasure of meeting him do yourself a favour and make that extra effort to turn up. He is a terrific speaker and certainly a character.

We shall again be doing the pie and pea lunch and would ask for contributions with the sweet course please.

£5 entrance fee will be charged on the door to cover the costs of bringing our celebrity speaker back again. His last visit to us was in October 2008 - it seems like yesterday!.



Overgate Hospice: Last week Bryan and Dennis, with the help of the people at the hospice, took down the panel and managed to take it all to pieces. Bryan has all the carvings safely at home and Dennis has the frame, that is in sections, as a guest in his spare bedroom. The re-construction is in their very capable hands at the moment and progress will be reported as, and when, they decide on the best way to put it back together again. The main problem, as we all know, is the two carvings that were carved to go round the angle of the wall. The only positive is that the two carvings giving the problems belong to the two guys who are in charge of this project, Bryan and Dennis.

Dennis has just informed me that the annual Beaumont Park display on Sunday 15th September was totally wiped out by torrential rain.

Shepley meeting 9th November 2013: We did have a chainsaw carver called Mike Burgess book marked for this date who we met at the Halifax Agricultural Show but after a more detailed chat with him it has been decided to put him back until the weather improves next year. He was concerned that without a practical demonstration he would dry up after about half an hour and have nothing more to say. So he will be coming next year to give a practical chainsaw carving demonstration. He is very good but he has only been in full time business for about four years. His web site is *www.mbchainsaw-art.co.uk*





Into the gap has stepped **Graham Lockwood** to give a talk on the mechanism relating to the automatons that he is very expert at making.

The idea behind his talk is that he will go through the components of a simple mechanism and then distribute detail paper plans to all who are interested with the encouragement to make the automaton mechanism and then design their own adaptation of a moving figure for the top.

The end product will be a small friendly competition with finished

efforts to be displayed at the Christmas Luncheon. You will all remember the very successful competition we had last year when Peter Berry took a workshop in November with the end product being a number of very interesting 'Little Fred's'. Well, like the panel for the children's hospice, we are going one step further, and in all probability too far, and making Fred, or Freda or Fido or Thumper, move.

I'm sure that a few members, like Malcolm Cooper who managed to carve an army of Fred's, will go that extra yard and we shall have some very interesting, and amusing, items to brighten up the Christmas Luncheon.

Christmas Luncheon 14th December 2013: It's that time again and the years just seem to keep rolling round ever faster.

This year the luncheon will be at the Crossland Heath Golf Club, Felks Stile Road, Crosland Hill, Huddersfield, HD4 7AF.

Unfortunately, we could not get back into Meltham Golf Club but I understand that the facilities and the food, which is the usual buffet, is first class with the rooms more suitable for displaying our carvings and being able to actually see, as well as hear, the speakers. The cost is $\pounds 20$ per head which is about the average for a decent meal and premises these days around the Christmas period.

Our speaker will be a lady from the National Mining Museum and her talk will be entitleed 'Coal to Canvas' which should be of special interest to the many amateur artists that we have in the club.

Below is a slip for you to tear off and return to Adrian Lindley, or just give him a ring on 01484-861452 or email on aramlind-ley@talktalk.net

West Riding Woodcarvers' Association

Christmas Luncheon 14th December 2013. Start 10.00am. Crossland Heath Golf Club, Huddersfield. £20.00 per person.

I would like to book _____ places for the Christmas Luncheon please at £20.00 each.

My cheque for £_____, made out to West Riding Woodcarvers' Association, is enclosed.

My preference would be to sit near my friends _____

My name is: _____

Guest entertainer: National Mining Museum - Coal to Canvas.



Cheque and booking form to be returned to: Adrian Lindley Mayfield 13 South Croft Upper Denby HUDDERSFIELD HD8 8UA

Guests are very welcome.