

West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



August 2015
Newsletter Issue 238

Patron
Dr Ingrid M Roscoe
Lord Lieutenant of
West Yorkshire

Life members
Albert Hobson
Jane Renshaw

Colin Pratley

15th October 1932 – 9th June 2015

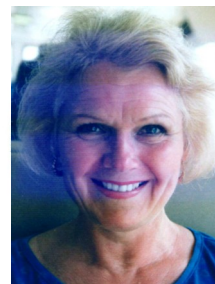


Hard to believe that the summer, or what there was of it, is rapidly passing by and we will soon be back into weekly carving classes and monthly Shepley meetings.

Before I go further with this newsletter, I must mention the very sad, and unexpected, passing of two very well loved members of our carving community. On the 9th June 2015, Colin Pratley suddenly passed away at his home and on the 5th July 2015, after a short illness, Anne Lindley was rushed to hospital but could not be saved.

The families of Colin and Anne have asked me to pass on their grateful thanks for all your kind words of sympathy, cards and letters of condolence.

Anne Margaret Lindley



25th May 1943 ~ 5th July 2015

I'm sure that I echo your thoughts when I say that the Shepley meetings, day classes at All Saints and the evening classes at both Wakefield and Elland, will never quite be the same again.

On a much brighter note, we have our September meeting rapidly approaching and we have been trying to start the season off with a really good speaker that is related to our craft of carving. I am delighted to report that we have surpassed our expectations.

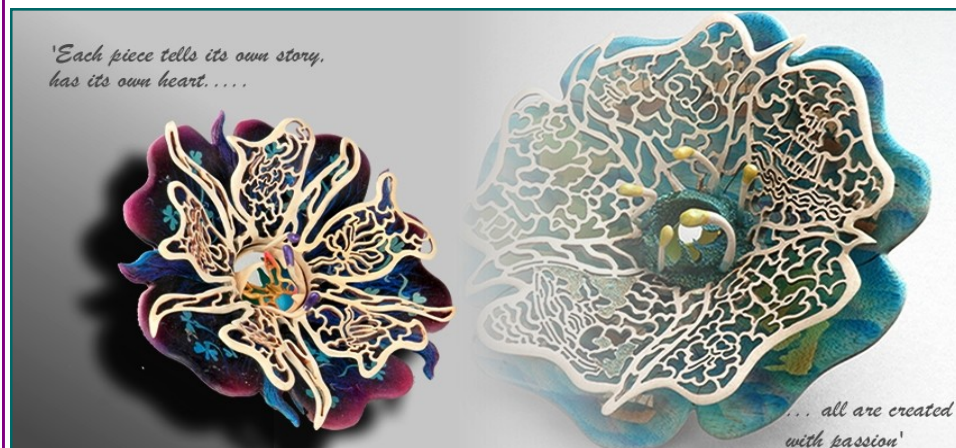
On Saturday **5th September** at 10:00am we are delighted to welcome, for the first time to our Shepley meetings, a lady from Grimsby called **Joey Richardson**. (Please note that our meeting in September will be on the *first* Saturday, not as usual on the Second Saturday).

Joey is a highly skilled wood turner and creative artist and her beautiful work is exhibited in the most prestigious art galleries throughout the world. Joey specialises in producing thin walled turnings and then piercing, texturing, colouring and airbrush painting them. She is one of the world's experts on decorating wood and demonstrates and lectures in countries as far away as America, Australia and New Zealand, to mention but a few.

We are very fortunate to catch Joey on a free Saturday morning in her busy diary. She is demonstrating at the European Wood Show on the 14th and 15th September and then the week after that in Belgium and then Joey and her talents are off to America.

Because of time limitations, Joey is going to talk about her life in turning and undertake a practical demonstration of piercing and airbrush painting on some of her work. I understand, time permitting, that there may be a hands on session for those brave enough to follow Joey's demonstration.

Below are samples of Joey's work and I would encourage you to look at her website to be truly amazed. www.joeyrichardson.com



I have already sent Joey some information on our panels but I would ask that, again, we have a fantastic display of our carvings for Joey to view. So could we all bring along to the September meeting at least one, if not two, carvings for the table display please.

Woodcarving Classes: I'm not sure if I have informed everybody about the situation regarding our day classes at All Saints. I don't think I have so in full below is the latest situation.

All Saints Catholic College, Bradley Bar, Huddersfield.

Over these late few weeks, I have been communicating with the new Schools Manager, Deborah Walker, regarding the availability of our woodcarving classroom from September 2015 onwards. You will be aware that, starting 2016, the school is going to be demolished and a new school built on the present site. This will be done while the pupils still attend the school with the music block being the first to be taken down and the pupils, later this year, being moved into the Technology area, where our classroom is located.

Deborah has managed to move around the school timetable for us and has kindly offered us the room we now use for one afternoon per week from **1:30pm to 4:00pm**. The only day available is **Thursday** afternoon, starting on the **10th September 2015**. The children return on the 3rd September but we have to give them a little time to get sorted out.

We are guaranteed this room until Christmas and, although Deborah envisages that we will be able to continue until Easter 2016, at this moment in time, she cannot definitely confirm availability.

Deborah has stated that the school is delighted that we are using its facilities and during and after the build is completed they will do everything they can to assist in hiring us a woodworking room.

I have confirmed that we will return in September but it will obviously mean that from **September 10th 2015** we will be running **one** class only. The price per person will have to be worked out when I get confirmation of the charges and we know the numbers attending.

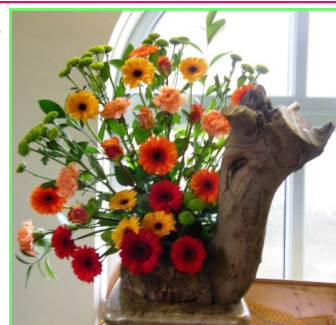
Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield: Adrian has just confirmed to me that that class will commence at 7:00pm on Monday evening September 7th 2015.

Brooksbank School, Elland: I have confirmed with the school that we can start classes at 7:00pm on Monday 7th September 2015.

I'm sure nobody needs reminding how fortunate we are as a club to have available to us these three purpose built rooms. However, each of these three schools insists that we make available to them a copy of our Public & Product Liability Insurance, which this week we have just renewed at a cost to the club of £137.01. Students who are not full members of the club will be required, as usual, to pay an extra £5.00 per term over standard carving class costs to cover their share of our insurance cover.

Graham & Paddy Readhead: Our thanks to Graham and Paddy for baking loads of scones, of various types, providing jam and cream and generally making everybody welcome at their lovely home on Saturday 13th June. Paddy had a lovely selection of hand painted cards for sale with proceeds going to charity.

Shepley Methodist Church: Our thanks to Margaret and Jeff Myatt for setting up the display of carvings and our contribution of flowers that we had at the church over a weekend in July. The church had its annual weekend Flower Display and asked if we would join in with a display of carvings. Also thanks to Trevor Metcalfe, who only lives a stone throw away, for providing the majority of the carvings. The remainder were pinched from our display at Holmfirth, much to the concern of some of our carvers who thought their carvings had been spirited off for sale on eBay.



Holmfirth Art Show: In previous years we have been stuck away upstairs in a small side room that has its advantages but has more disadvantages regarding its size and isolated location. After complaining, this year we were allocated part of the stage in the main hall. What they failed to tell us is that our bit was in the small scenery dock with the spiders and cobwebs. Some of us, me, thought we should just pack up and go home but the more resolute amongst us got stuck in and created what eventually, became quite a good location.

Not least because, on the day that Carole and I were stewarding, we had a young lady on the stall next door in a most delightful mode of dress, or the lack of..!



One of Paddy's paintings



Shepley

Shepley Meetings: We are talking to a number of people who have stated their willingness to come along as speakers. Amongst them one is a stone carver, whose father is a woodcarver. Unfortunately, we are struggling with dates at the moment and the same problem applies to a lady who was displaying at the Yorkshire Show. She sculpts animals and turns them into bronze statues. Again, unfortunately, we cannot yet agree on a suitable date.



Animal Sculpture



Joseph Hayton

What I can confirm is that we have managed to get a return visit, the last one was in June 2012, of **Master Carver, Michael Painter**. Michael is coming again for the whole day on Saturday November 28th and at the moment I'm not quite sure what he will be doing. If anybody has a particular request for him please let me know and I will see what we can arrange.

You will note that the date for Michael is not the second Saturday. He is booked solidly throughout the year and the only date we could tie him down to falls on the fourth weekend. We are finding that the only way to book speakers is for us to be more flexible with our meeting date during a particular month, assuming of course that the room is available to us.

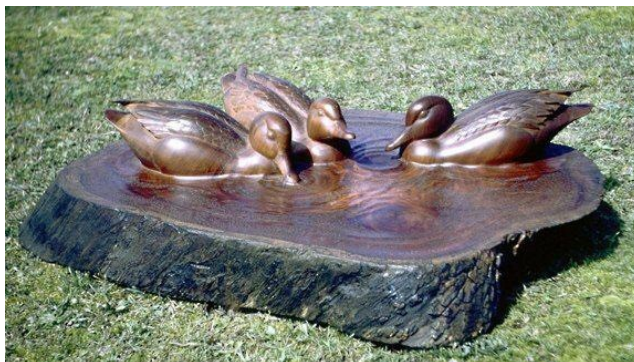
On previous visits, Michael has taken us through the process of carving hands, eyes and faces. If you have a request for him to demonstrate anything in particular please let me know. I'm sure Arthur won't be putting forward his carving again as a demo piece after Michael cut his baby's face off...! But it was an ugly little thing.



Michael Painter

Facebook and Twitter: Thanks to Peter Keene, who is the person responsible for and controlling our club account on these two mediums, we are generating a big following around the world, but mainly in America and Canada. We also seem to have attracted a following from Graham Lockwood's kite flying mates from all across the globe. Peter has recently put on a tribute to Colin Pratley and will shortly, when Adrian sends him some of Anne's carving photos, one for Anne Lindley.

These are a few of the pictures other clubs and individuals have posted on our Facebook



Speakers: As you all know finding speakers relating to carving is increasingly difficult and when found they are very expensive. In an effort to address this I am asking you, the members, for your help. We have a large membership of multi talented people with varied skills and strengths. I am asking each and everyone of you to give serious thought to your own talents and those of friends and family. We need a pool of speakers who would interest our members. If only half of you come up with a good suggestion that would provide us with speakers for over four years. Don't just dismiss it but give it some thought. Yes, I mean you. No excuses, not even a note from your mother will let you off the hook. Please contact me by phone or email. Jane Renshaw - Speaker Finder