

West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



March 2016
Newsletter Issue 244

Patron
Dr Ingrid M Roscoe
Lord Lieutenant of
West Yorkshire

Life members
Albert Hobson
Jane Renshaw

Peter Berry - Caricature Carver

Shepley meeting Saturday March 12th - full day workshop.

Well, I think we should put that down as another great big success. How pleasing to see 26 work-mates distributed across the room and a good number of non-carving colleagues in support at the back.

I'm sure that a practical meeting of this nature addresses a number of comments often heard at club meetings where members feel that there isn't enough time to converse with others. But on Saturday there was plenty of chat, cursing, cut fingers - mine, laughter and friendly banter flowing across the room.

Our grateful thanks to Peter Berry who did a terrific job keeping everybody's 'Fred No2' on track, it's just a pity we only managed to, again, get about 60% of the way finished. When we bring Peter back again we shall have to try and move things along a little quicker somehow. Peter did kindly offer to pop along to the Brooksbank class and also to the Wakefield class but, unfortunately, found that Monday evenings this next couple of months clashed with prior engagements. I did send out to everybody the article in the Woodcarving magazine showing the carving steps for the Golfer and do know that quite a few people have completed them already.

It was suggested that all the 'Fred No2s' should go on display at the Christmas Luncheon. You may remember that last time we did this the variety of finished carvings were quite remarkable. So everybody has a chance to sit in the sun over the summer months and work on completing his, or her, 'Fred No2' for December 10th 2016. We have a few blanks for anybody who wants to start from the beginning.

Our grateful thanks also go to David who spent the whole day working the camera for our benefit and as such couldn't get down and dirty actually carving. I understand he stole a blank and is going to catch up ready for the Christmas Luncheon. Our thanks, as always, to all the ladies, Marion, Margaret and ?? who worked tirelessly in the kitchen providing coffee and a splendid lunch, with special mention to Margaret the pie collector and pea maker and Carole who provided all the sweets. Our thanks to Jeff for keeping a firm check on the door money and Jill for organising the raffle. It was lovely to see so many ladies enjoying the day.



Trevor's golfer all finished

25th Annual General Meeting - 9th April 2016: Please remember that it is important that all members try to attend the annual general meeting. Should anybody wish to apply for office please contact Adrian or myself before the meeting.

Saturday 14th May 2016: Remember David Peckett? He was one of the two gents who gave the brilliant talk about travelling to Everest Base Camp. David is back again with a new talk entitled 'The Boy Behind the Book'. This is our last meeting before the summer break.

Birstall Woodturning Club, Mirfield. Unit 46, James Walker, Holmes Bank Mill, Mirfield, WF14 8NA.

Liz McFarlane, who attends our Wakefield class at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, is the Secretary of this turning club and has invited our club to put on a small carving display and for members to pop along to their open-day, on **April 24th 2016 - 10:00am to 4:00pm.**

Royal Armouries, Leeds.

You will now be aware that Adrian and I, along with our Patron, Dr Ingrid Roscoe, had our planned meeting with the Director General and Master of the Armouries, Dr Edward Impey, on the 14th March 2016.

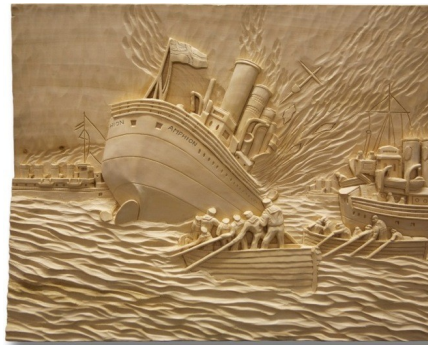
The purpose of the meeting was to make Dr Impey aware of the history of the two World War panels and request assistance from the Royal Armouries to enhance our display by means of improved lighting, directional information to the panels and the introduction of touch screen digital technology. Prior to the meeting a Time-Line had been sent to Dr Impey briefly outlining the Royal Armouries personnel involved and the decisions taken leading up to the hand-over of the panels at the Remembrance Day Service on the 11th November 2010.

For the first time since our panels went into the Armouries both Adrian and I left with the clear feeling that we were talking with somebody in authority who appears totally on our side and willing to work with us to enhance our display.

Dr Impey agreed that the lighting could be improved on, display boards in appropriate places would increase the footfall to the panels and that digital technology would add interest for visitors. Dr Impey confirmed his, and the Royal Armouries, support to improve these areas.

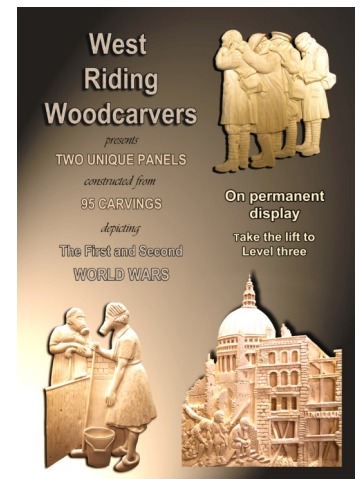
Since the meeting I have sent to Dr Impey the minutes of our meeting and two follow up emails regarding progress since the meeting. I had a phone call from Dr Impey the other day apologising for not getting back to me and asking if a 10 days, or so, delay would be a problem while he cleared his desk of urgent items. Never in five years of dealing with the Armouries have I had such a polite and personal phone call from the Leeds end, which can only bode well for the future.

We are looking at the following for the display by the ground floor lift, after approval by the Armouries.



The poster is A1 size and Trevor Metcalfe has very kindly agreed to recreate the amazing carving that he did of the 'Sinking of the HMS Amphion'. This will sit on the metal tray located below the A1 poster.

Further details will be given at the AGM.



Ripon Cathedral club trip. At the last Shepley meeting and at the January 'Free and Easy' discussion meeting, our Vice Chairman, Brian Walker, brought up the possibility of a tour of Ripon Cathedral.

Derek Ching and Maurice Taylor, the two gentlemen who wrote the book about the carvings in Ripon Cathedral, have both agreed to conduct a tour for us around the cathedral and at the same time talk to us about the carvings they have depicted in their book.

Brian has confirmed that the date agreed will be Thursday June 2nd. Brian will soon be contacting everybody with times, prices and places where the coach will pick up members and guests. The price Brian is working out will include the coach, all costs at the cathedral and a lunch at some local pub. More details will be given at the AGM.

You may remember that at our last meeting Arthur Brook mentioned that a young man that he knows, Lee Foster, had all of his joinery tools stolen from his van. Arthur asked if any of our member's, who have tools that were not being used, if they would kindly donate them to this young man, as his livelihood was in danger. I'm please to report, and I'm sure Arthur will have more to say at the AGM, that quite a lot of tools have been passed onto Lee. A letter has been received from Lee that reads:

To everybody at the West Riding Woodcarvers. I would like to thank you so much for your generosity in helping me get back on my feet again. Since my van got broken into I've been so angry with the people who did it. Then Arthur came round saying everybody was willing to donate a few items to me and it really made me feel that there are some really nice people out there. Thank you once again it means a lot to me. Lee Foster.

In the progressively nasty world its nice to know that we can occasionally help somebody in trouble.