

West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



Patron
Micheal Painter
Life Member
Jane Renshaw

January 2023 Newsletter



Representing 'Medical Detection Dogs', Laura Makey introduced us to an amazing ability of 'man's best friend', the dog.

It all started with the CEO and Co Founder, Dr. Claire Guest, when she came into contact with a lady whose pet dog 'Daisy' started fussing around her and continually sniffing a mole on her leg. Starting to wonder if she had a problem, she was checked out and found the mole to be in the early stages of cancer—her dog knew.

Dr. Claire came in contact with Dr. John Church, a former Orthopaedic Surgeon, who believed that animals could help human healthcare. (He introduced a maggot treatment to the NHS which is now used by hundreds of hospitals).

Dr. Claire and Dr. John founded the Medical Detection Dogs with the 'John Church Bio Detection Building', in Milton Keynes opening 18.08.22, with Camilla Queen Consort as Patron, to train dogs to detect the odour of diseases such as Cancer and Parkinson's. The charity has two parts to it, Bio Detection Dogs and Medical Alert Assistance Dogs. Bio Detection Dogs are trained to detect even the tiniest smells associated with diseases like Cancer, Parkinson's, Covid-19 and bacterial infections.

Medical Alert Assistance Dogs support people with complex health issues when they are in danger of having a potential life threatening medical event and thus raise the alarm before their human partner is aware (e.g. epilepsy) and so prevent hospital admission.

The dogs require to be of good temperament and commence training between 18 and 24 months, normally Labrador or Spaniel, at a cost of £29,000 each. They stay and live with volunteers for a working life of up to 9 years and remain with the volunteer after retirement. A dog has about 300 million sensor detectors in their nose and detect changes in a person via breath or urine.(Cell changes produce volatiles which a dog can sense) Dogs are being trained to detect malaria from items of clothing; like socks. The dogs actually work in the centres 9.00 until 5.00 in periods of 20 minutes, 3 times per day. The accuracy of detection in trials during 2021 was 71% accurate for detecting prostate cancer and from 3,750 covid samples were 92% accurate. In general they are regarded as been over-all 75% accurate in detection. The work and research goes on.

January Carving Display



Many thanks for the carving display. Old ones, new ones, loved ones and neglected ones. It's what we do isn't it.? Pleased to say some more than others. I really must get my Sea Horses finished—make time. Thanks to Graham for the photographs—hope I got them all.

A message from Anne Ellwood,

Anne is in the process of updating our Web Site. Please spend a little time and have a look. Has anyone got anything for the bulletin board other than coming events? Have members any carvings they would like adding to their galleries. If you don't have a gallery and would like one, send electronic copies of your carvings along with a description and type of wood to Anne. (mail@anneallan.com)

Meeting Calendar. 2023

- a) 11th February. Richard Uttley, Wood with a Twist.
- b) 12th March. Our very own Derek Adams. Making a Guitar.
- c) 8th April.(Note it is Saturday before Easter Sunday—members agreed to have a meeting. Speaker Pending.
- d) 13th May.AGM. Please try to attend.
- e) June,July and August there are no meetings.
- f) 9th September. Speaker Pending.
- g) 14th October. Speaker Pending
- h) 11th November. To be checked with date for Harrogate Show.
- i) 9th December. Christmas Lunch at Crow Nest Golf Club.

Matters from the Saturday Meeting 14.01.23

British Hardwood Open Day 2023.

Saturday 4th February 10.00am until 3.00pm

Venue : Unit 9, Riparian Way, The Crossings Business Park, Cross Hills, Keighley.
BD20 7BW. The event is indoors at the factory with ample parking.

Cost : Free to exhibitors.

Event : Timber Sale, Woodworking Demonstrations, Woodcarving Demonstrations, Pyrography, Power Tools, Hand Tools, Turner's Retreat, Craft-Maker Stalls etc.

Refreshments : Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

It is hoped that some of our members will try to attend. Our stand will be run by Derek, Graham, Margaret and Jeoff, but more the merrier..

(Don't forget your carvings for the display)

Adrian R. Lindley