



NEWSLETTER

No.107

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www.watersidewoodcarvers.co.uk

CHRISTMAS PARTY

It's not often that we struggle to find space for everyone at our social meetings but there were more than thirty people at our Christmas party on the 21st of December so pretty much all chairs were taken. As people were arriving we arranged tables for the food and also the entries for the woodblock challenge, the theme for which was "Something in a band". We had had since March to think about this one and apart from the obvious ideas about music a couple of people came up with things wrapped in an elastic band and one individual had carved a head wearing a headband! We are nothing if not original in the Waterside Woodcarvers. Of course, unlike the Trophy night later in the year, the woodblock challenge is a bit of fun where everyone gets a vote whether they are members or not and so slips of paper were handed out and after much deliberation, were popped in the box for later counting.

We then got down to the serious business of "Jenga" which is of course the garden game consisting of a precariously balanced stack of large wooden blocks which must be dismantled one by one without collapsing the whole thing. It's fun but can be surprisingly tense when it's you in front of the whole room and a deathly hush descends with everyone hoping you are going to fail. Of course someone has to be the unlucky one as you can see in the photo.

A couple of games of that worked up an appetite and so we then tucked in to a delicious buffet of both hot and cold food courtesy of club funds.

Cont.



Lesley just about to lose it completely

The winner of the woodblock challenge was then announced and it turned out to be Allan Mechen with a four piece orchestra and he also took second place with a one-man band. In third place was Dorothy with a very clever piece of carved sheet music. Congratulations to them and thanks to all those who entered especially Lesley whose entry was only the second carving she had ever done. We finished up the afternoon with a



The eleven entries

draw which was made a bit more interesting in that every prize was gift-wrapped and so you didn't really have much idea what you were getting - I just looked for something vaguely bottle-shaped. So that was it for another year - roll on 2020.



Allan with his winning entry



HYTHE LIBRARY

As usual our first exhibition of the year was in the local library at Hythe and here are some photos of this year's display. It might be timely to remind newer members that we did a millennium panel for the library which is now hung on the wall of the activities room and if they wish to view it, I guess they can ask a member of staff.



20 YEARS AGO

Now that we are twenty years into the “new” millennium, perhaps it's time to have a quick look back through the archives and see what we were doing in the first quarter at the turn of the century. How many of you remember.....

A report on the previous Christmas meeting which was the first to be held in the “new” St. Andrew's Centre. (Previously of course, we met in the old hall which is now the coffee shop)

A photo of our then chairman Cyril Wicks presenting the Millennium Panel (mentioned above) to the county librarian.

A talk by Peter Hurrell of the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers about his work with the Giesler- Moroder school of woodcarving in Austria. (Our member Brian Williams went there for a week's tuition)

Mention of an upcoming “3 minutes” programme on Meridian TV (remember them?) which would feature some of our members talking about what we do. I seem to remember it was a programme that went out just before or after the evening news.

SUMMER EVENTS

Here is the list of summer events at which we aim to have a stand to show off what we do. Please put these in your diaries and let one of the committee members know if you are willing to help at any of these. They are good fun.

During the summer, in addition to our annual big exhibition in Lymington - on Sat 29 Aug - we aim to have a presence at 4 different local venues to promote our club and show off what we do. **For each of these, we will ideally need at least 4 members to set up and 'man' a small display of carved items.** The Marchwood Fete and Tractor club (Beaulieu Countryside Show) will need people to put up a tent, so will need more like 6-8 members. *Times shown are approximate and may change.*

Sat 4th July. Marchwood Fete, Lloyds Recreation Ground, set up from 11, open 2-5pm. Tent needed.

Sat 25th July Dibden Purlieu Horticultural Show, St Andrews Church Hall. Set up late morning, open 1-3pm

Sat 1st and Sun 2nd Aug. Bucklers Hard. More details to follow.

Sat 15th Aug. Tractor Club/ Beaulieu Countryside Show. Set up about 8am, open 10-4pm. Small marquee to put up.

Sat 29th Aug. Our Annual Woodcarving Exhibition, St Thomas Church Hall, Lymington. Set up Friday 28th 5-6pm. Saturday final set up from 8am, open 10-4.

SHIRTS

As mentioned above we are coming up to the “outside events” time of year when we display and demonstrate our carving skills at all levels and it is very nice to see our carvers at these events in our club colours so if you don’t already have one, you might like to buy either or both of our sweat and polo shirts. The club subsidises the cost of each item by £4.00 therefore the cost to you would be sweatshirts £13.00 and polo shirts £10.00. I will have some samples for you to try on at the first two club nights of the summer term, but the chart below will give you an idea of the measurements.

Pippa

Sweatshirts		
	Chest	Length
Small	19.5 ins. 50cm	26.5 ins. 67cm
Medium	22.5 ins. 57cm	27.5 ins. 69cm
Large	24.5 ins. 61cm	28.5 ins. 72cm
Polo Shirts		
	Chest	Length
Small	21 ins. 53cm	27 ins. 69cm
Medium	22.5 ins 56cm	28 ins. 71.5cm
Large	24 ins. 60cm	29 ins. 74cm
X Large	25 ins. 63cm	31 ins. 79cm

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - notes for your diary**MARCH**

Friday 20th -----Social – Annual General Meeting
 Speaker: Allan Mechen, “Before You Carve”
 Wood block choice

APRIL

Thursday 2nd -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

SUMMER TERM BEGINS

Thursday 23rd -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

MAY

Thursday 7th -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

Thursday 21st -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

JUNE

Thursday 4th -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

Thursday 18th -----Club Night – Applemore Technology College

Friday 19th -----Social Event – Trophy Night
 Followed by boules competition on the lawn

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.....and on the coronavirus

Preserving the health by too strict a regimen is a wearisome malady.

Francois de La Rochefoucauld