



NEWSLETTER

No.117

SEPTEMBER 2022

www.watersidewoodcarvers.co.uk

COMMITTEE CHIPPINGS

Well, after a rather frantic fortnight we are now in our new workshop home at Noadswood School, making use of their lovely woodwork/craft rooms. Noadswood School staff have made us feel really welcome. It seems that Applemore College had sent a letter to our treasurer back in the summer but it never arrived and it was only in an email at the very end of August that we found out they were changing arrangements and our workshops no longer fitted in.

Please note the timing has changed to 6pm -8pm and workshops continue on a fortnightly basis. All dates are on our website www.watersidewoodcarvers.co.uk events page.

The first session on 22 September was well attended and had a real buzz. We have been delighted to welcome back some past members plus at least 5 new faces.

Now your committee will be turning their thoughts to a fun Christmas social.....

Di Smith

QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

The Queen's Green Canopy (or "King's" as I suppose it should be now) is an initiative to get organisations like schools and community groups to plant trees all over Britain in the jubilee year in the hope of capturing carbon and getting away from our position of least forested country in Europe. Entering into the spirit of this we have made enquiries about planting a commemorative tree of our own and have been given permission on principle by Fawley Parish Council to plant a lime tree somewhere within the parish. At the moment nothing has been decided for definite but we will keep you informed.

MARCHWOOD FETE

It was fine, dry weather when we turned up at the Lloyd recreation ground on the morning of the 2nd July and we soon had the marquee up and our stall set out. However, there was a bit of a breeze blowing and this only seemed to get stronger over time until we were in danger of a collapse. But not to worry – the scouts came to our rescue. They very kindly came over with a couple of lengths of rope which they attached to the tops of our uprights and then secured to the ground with some hefty wooden pegs.

The event itself was the usual fun, noisy family occasion with plenty of people around wanting to chat to us and admire our carvings. Will it result in new members? – we will have to wait and see. Either way we had a nice day out and once again we extend our thanks to the Marchwood Scouts with the promise that next time we ourselves will, “Be Prepared”.



PICNIC

Once again we were at Maggie's idyllic cottage in Colbury for our club picnic although it nearly didn't happen as Maggie sustained an eye injury on the previous evening and spent a few hours in Southampton A&E but being the trooper she is, she carried on and so there were about 20 of us on a warm Thursday afternoon for a bit of a chat, a lovely tea and some silly games. We played lawn darts and Paul brought along his Molky game of throwing a piece of wood at other pieces of wood (which was won by Pippa) and we even played 'Pin the tail on the donkey' which I don't think I've done for over fifty years!

It was a fun afternoon and thanks go to all those who organised it and baked delicious cakes and other treats and a special mention to Chris Challis who brought along a big glass vessel with a tap which was filled with orange juice and ice – just the job in the warm conditions.



DIBDEN PURLIEU SHOW

After a couple of years absence due to you-know-what, the Dibden Purlieu Horticultural and Craft Show returned to St Andrews and our club was well represented in the 'Woodcraft' section; in fact all eight entries were by our members and even the judge, Allan Mechen was one of us. Talk about a family affair! Pippa Smith won with her Girl Reading with Dorothy Lockyer second and Mary Manston third.



Pippa's winner

HYTHE OF ACTIVITY

This was the second year of the event and we had a prime spot outside Waitrose under the plane tree. With the weather being sunny and hot we were grateful for the shade of the gazebo and were able to engage members of the public as they made their way up and down the high street looking at the stalls of all the other clubs and voluntary groups in the Hythe area. We were even able to watch our member Alan Frampton doing his stuff as a Morris man with the New Forest Meddlars just a few yards away. We had quite a lot of interest from passers-by and hopefully some of them will be along to join us when we start up again after the summer break.



ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Saturday 13th August was the date chosen for our exhibition and happened to be in the middle of that very hot spell which for those of us old enough, felt like 1976 all over again. But it didn't put us off and sixteen members came along with a total of over two hundred carvings which made a fine display for the one hundred plus people who came along to view it.

Visitors also had the benefit of a touch table, a sales table and a demonstration of pyrography by Maggie. Another attraction we must thank Maggie for was a raffle to win a beautiful carved and painted wren which she had generously donated; it raised enough money to cover the cost of hiring the hall and was won by a neighbour of Pete and Trish Sayers.

As usual we dished out voting slips so that visitors could nominate their favourite carving in the exhibition and of the 63 votes we received the outright winner this year was Maggie's hare. Out of interest, other carvings that got votes were Paul's tall brown abstract and satchel, Ces's lily pad, Di's octopus, grebes, breaching whale and tree frog, a lot of Allan's incredibly detailed carvings (too many to list), Mary's owl, Andy's sharks and trout, Dorothy's gloves, Pippa's wren, dormouse nest, nativity, menagerie and bat, several of Maggie's birds and a carving of a man with his dog by Mike Passfield.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it such an attractive exhibition. We had a lot of positive comments and several people who expressed an interest in joining us in the new term.



SEPTEMBER SOCIAL

Graham Limburn is the man in charge of Oaklands Woodcarving Club in Lordshill to which a number of us go on a Monday night and he kindly agreed to come along to our September social meeting to talk about his other passion which is leatherwork.

We were told about the process of tanning in both ancient and modern times and in days gone by it was a particularly disgusting process with an accompanying awful smell hence tanneries tended to be situated away from centres of population. But the finished product is a wonderful material and in the hands of people like Graham it can be transformed into many types of beautiful objects. Most of the leather items that we come across in everyday life are simply coloured or embossed but Graham takes it to the next level by tooling the leather so that he comes up with pieces that have the appearance of being carved which is essentially what it is and no doubt his woodcarving experience has helped him in this.

We saw book covers, purses, containers, water bottles and even a chessboard but the star of the show was the tunic/breastplate which you can see in the picture below, the main body of which had been moulded over a mannequin before being embellished with elaborate designs and multiple buckles.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS – notes for your diary

OCTOBER

Thursday 6th.....Club night – Noadswood School

Thursday 20th.....Club night – Noadswood School

NOVEMBER

Thursday 3rd.....Club night – Noadswood School

Thursday 17th.....Club night – Noadswood School

DECEMBER

Thursday 1st.....Club night – Noadswood School

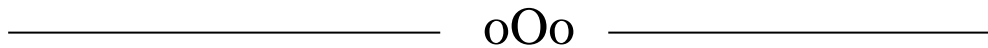
Saturday 3rd.....December Social

St.Andrew’s Church Hall

Remember!! Your woodblock challenge needs to be

Finished by this date.

Thursday 15th.....Club night – Noadswood School



Probably in most cases the greatest wisdom of a constitutional king would show itself in well-considered inaction.

Walter Bagehot