



# NEWSLETTER

No.128

JUNE 2025

[www.watersidewoodcarvers.co.uk](http://www.watersidewoodcarvers.co.uk)

## COMMITTEE CHIPPINGS

This is the time of year when the club makes its presence felt at local events – to encourage new members to join and to promote our annual showcase exhibition. Please come along and support these if you can: they are always enjoyable and the club exhibition in particular will include a wide range of carvings that are sure to inspire you.

We have already attended a Waterside Arts festival event at the Vibrant Brewery. Next up is **Marchwood fete on Sat 5 July**, which has been revamped and looks really interesting. We can park on Lloyds recreation ground but may not drive out between 11am and 3.30pm as the entrance is shared with pedestrians.

**On Sat 2 Aug is the Exbury Fete**, held at the Exbury club – not the gardens! Parking on the field again but access is not time restricted. For both Marchwood and Exbury, please bring something to sit on and a couple of carvings to display on a table.

**Sat 9 Aug is our Annual Exhibition** at St Andrews, Dibden Purlieu in the main hall. Set up from 10am to be open at 11am. Finish about 3pm and away by 4pm.

- There will be a sales table: if you wish to sell any carvings please label them clearly with your name and price. The club would appreciate a 10% commission.
- Paul has carved a lovely wren for the prize draw: tickets will be on sale only on the day at £2 each.
- The committee thought that this year we would have a pyrography/burning corner as part of the display. So many of you produced amazing pieces at Maggie's workshops last year, it is an opportunity to flag up that interesting aspect of finishing a wood carving – so please bring along your samplers or 'burned' carvings.
- For the main exhibition please bring up to 8 carvings for general display and up to 2 carvings for the table set aside for voting 'Best in Show'.

After that we will have a small stand at the **Hythe of Activity event on Sat 6 Sept**: a day when locals get to find out the huge range of activities available in the area –including wood carving!

Finally a note about **paying for Noadswood workshops**. The next Quarter includes July, August and September, covering 6 workshops. At the request of members we have arranged to continue workshops right through the school holidays, so we hope many of you will take advantage. The standard fee per quarter is £15, payable to Waterside Woodcarvers, acc no 61264490, sort code 60-20-40 by bank transfer, cheque or cash.

## **VISIT TO CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY**

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May we organised a club visit to Christchurch Priory. We had a really good tour and our guide Peter Hellawell was exceptional: very well informed, humorous and considerate. He had reserved parking spaces for us beyond the usual public car park.

Pippa needed her wheelchair and the choir where the bulk of the wood carvings are found is normally accessed via 8 steps but he knew the place so well that he enabled us to use a different access, involving the removal of a piece of furniture, with only 5 steps which Pippa managed - and he provided a chair for her at the top. We were very privileged to actually sit (carefully) on the misericords which dated from 1200 to 1600AD!

Having regaled us with various historical tales associated with the church and given special access to a wooden alter carved by Pugin who also carved the Great Hall at Westminster among other things was definitely the highlight. That and the gory story of the execution of Margaret Pole, ordered by Henry VIII, which our guide acted out by executing Maggie!

Many of us bought a small booklet published in 2000 about the misericords. Lots of photos were taken and we all had a lovely lunch in the church cafe.

A thoroughly good outing and worth a revisit as there is so much to see. Would recommend a visit to anyone who was unable to attend on this occasion.

Di Smith



*Our merry group*



*The Miserichords*

## WATERSIDE ARTS

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June, as part of the Waterside Arts Festival there was live music at the Vibrant Forest brewery at Hardley and we were invited with other craft groups to go along and promote ourselves. Several of our members went and set up a small exhibition which, as you can see from the picture, let the locals know exactly who we are. Whether or not they sampled the Vibrant Forest's own products is not recorded.



## RON LANE EXHIBITION

Also on the 14<sup>th</sup> June there was an exhibition of the work of Ron Lane in Fawley Church. Ron was a local woodcarver of exceptional talent who was internationally recognised and whose work went all over the world. He began his working life as a pattern-maker at the British Powerboat Company in Hythe and so that is where he first gained his woodworking skills. After spending many years in the drawing office at the Esso refinery he retired early to devote all his time to his carving. He also taught carving and one of his pupils was Mr. Ivor Fountain who in turn became a night school teacher himself and was the founder member of the Waterside Guild of Woodcarvers – the name by which we were formerly known, so there is a direct connection between him and us.

He died in 1976 only in his mid-fifties and periodically his widow Eleanor would exhibit his work. Now that she is no longer with us, his daughter Terry has taken over that role and we are grateful to her for letting us see his fabulous work.





## SOCIAL EVENING & TROPHY NIGHT

We were pretty thin on the ground for our June social with only eleven people turning up which was a shame as, unlike last year, we had a lovely, warm summer's evening to get out on the lawn and play boules. Nevertheless, we made the most of it and divided ourselves up into teams of two (with Mark playing on his own) and had a bit of fun trying to control the balls on the hopelessly uneven ground behind the church hall. After each team had played every other team we totted up the scores and it was Di and Maggie who received the (rather sticky in the heat) mars bars as their reward.



The second part of the evening was the trophy competition and again it would have been nice to have had more entries but what was on display was of excellent quality. This year, in order to encourage interest, we introduced an intermediate section to go between the 'Novices' and the 'Experienced' which even included its own cup and it was that section which had the most entries with five.

As usual voting was by the members present and the results were:-

Premier Cup (experienced) : Di Smith

Shield (experienced runner-up) : Paul Humphriss

Intermediate Cup : Mark Baker

Novice Cup : Yvonne Shackleton



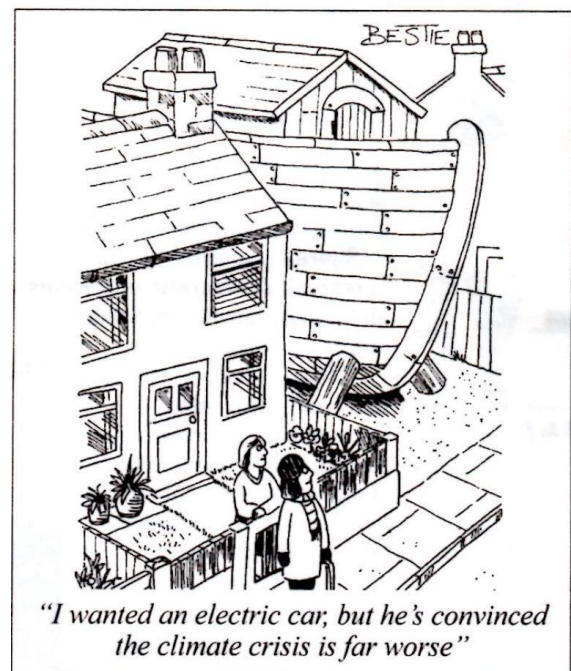
*Mark, Yvonne, Di and Paul*

## **PETER SAYERS**

Back in April we were saddened to learn of the death of Pete Sayers, a long-time member of the club who had been in a care home following several years of living with dementia. Pete, together with wife Trish had been an active member, always turning up at carving and social events and generally helping with the smooth running of the group.

Half a dozen club members turned up at Test Valley Crematorium on a beautiful, sunny 1<sup>st</sup> of May to join the family in celebrating Pete's life. At Trish's request, everyone wore bright colours, especially yellow which made a nice change from the usual black.

Our condolences to Trish who, knowing what an active individual she is, will no doubt continue to be part of our club.



## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS** – notes for your diary

### **JUNE**

Thursday 26th.....Club night – Noadswood School

### **JULY**

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> .....Marchwood Fete  
9am – 4pm

Thursday 10th.....Club night – Noadswood School

Thursday 24th.....Club night – Noadswood School

### **AUGUST**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> .....Exbury Fete  
10am – 4pm

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>.....Club night – Noadswood School

Saturday 9th..... Annual Exhibition

Thursday 21st.....Club night – Noadswood School

### **SEPTEMBER**

Thursday 4th.....Club night – Noadswood School

Thursday 18th.....Club night – Noadswood School

Friday 19th.....September Social  
Details TBA

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*“A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.”*

James Dent

