

We meet at:

St John's United Reformed Church Hall
Lynwood Grove Orpington BR6 0BG

We meet on:

The first Saturday of each month
9am-1pm. New members welcome

The Woodentops London and W Kent Branch of the BWA

Twitter: #carverofwood



**Extra Carving Days!
See last page**

Something a bit different: Dan Southern's carvings

Email: d.southern@me.com Website: www.woodenaddictions.com

Dan says on his website:

My work is a diverse collection of stylized primitive art sculptures, jewellery boxes, turnings and home accessories that range from traditional to wildly contemporary. Influenced by everything from arts and crafts, Scandinavian, Asian, oceanic and tribal traditions. My goal is not to copy, but to explore the essence of these traditional art forms, blending them into my own free form stylized work.

Deep Sea Dragon

Highly stylized yet simply formed this award winning sculpture exhibits all of the fearsome qualities of those truly bizarre deep sea creatures that beautifully display nature's stunning approach to survival. These wildly shaped fish have given me an endless supply of inspiration in helping me achieve the goal of creating unique pieces with real attitude that depicts the savage beauty found in nature. Deep Sea Dragon is made with African Mahogany and Makassar Ebony, providing a visually effective contrast.

L 31" x H 21" x D 5"



Cricket

A passion for wood and a desire to be original have been the driving forces behind my insect series that is designed to surprise the viewer with a different take on nature. I strive to create a presence of pronounced delicacy that is enhanced by the use of gleaming hardwoods. I enjoy the challenge of pushing both myself and my material to the edge of what is possible. The body is Hawaiian Koa and the spikes are African Ebony.

15" x 11" x 10 1/2"



Carve an Egg Competition!



See next page

Club Project: Carve an Egg – or a Spoon!

Jason Townsend, Editor of the BWA Gazette, wrote to Ann:

In the Summer issue I have started a new national member competition to carve something from a Birch egg. I will be covering the cost of the Birch eggs but if the national committee choose to the BWA might be able to cover the cost of them. Could you please ask your members if they would like an egg to carve and let me know how many eggs to send you to distribute to them (by the end of July). The deadline for the members sending their carved eggs back to you is 31st October after which point I'd like to ask you to post them to me to photograph and collate. I hope to organise some sort of charity Easter egg hunt with them next year maybe (volunteers to help arrange such an event are welcome). Prizes will also be awarded.



I have also launched a national project in the Summer issue to carve spoons. If you haven't seen it, please see page 21. Could you please encourage members to carve spoons for the project - I hope that we could have hundreds of spoons so that I can make a BWA book and exhibition with all the publicity for the BWA that they would entail. It would also be great if any of you as regional leaders could carve one or more spoons as examples



So ten blank eggs have been ordered –FREE to Woodentops members - which should be available to hand out to anyone interested at our August meeting. How you carve yours is up to you! Do have a go!

And if anyone is interested in the Spoon carving, and hasn't got the BWA magazine with details, let me know.

Bargain Carvings on the Web: Condemn or Praise?



Netsuke are a carved button-like ornament, especially of ivory or wood, formerly worn in Japan to suspend articles from the sash of a kimono. By chance I saw this gorgeous Netsuke carving and others like it for sale on Amazon (see http://www.amazon.co.uk/Boxwood-Netsuke-whispering-picked-Art/dp/B0067XHJQW/ref=pd_bxgy_201_img_y). Several were available – the one below is just one example.

What astonished me was their cheapness – only £16.50! Perhaps they are machined carved and finished by hand, or maybe they are hand-carved by sweated labour or, worse, by children for pocket money. However they are produced, there is a lot of work there for your money.

So - should we celebrate the availability of carvings at reasonable prices like this so more people can enjoy them, and so that at least some money is provided to the carvers and who might otherwise have no source of income? Or should we chide the producers for selling such items too cheaply and for encouraging forced labour?

Discuss.



Boxwood Netsuke of whispering Mice . Hand picked by Art Of Netsuke
by Art of Netsuke

★★★★★ - 4 customer reviews

Price: £16.50

Only 1 left in stock.

Dispatched from and sold by sexton blakes.

Estimated delivery 15 - 20 July when you choose Standard Delivery at checkout. [Details](#)

- beautiful carved netsuke of two whispering Mice , approx 45mm high
- NOTE please accept slight colour variation in the stain finish, due to the hand finishing

The Amazon ad.

Etruscan Art

A very skilled form of sculptural art was produced by the Etruscan civilization in central Italy between the 9th and 2nd centuries BC. Particularly strong in this tradition were figurative sculptures in terracotta (often life-size on sarcophagi or temples) and cast bronze, wall-painting and metalworking (especially engraved bronze mirrors).

We don't know if the Etruscans produced anything in wood – plainly all such items would have decayed to nothing by now, but there are plenty of examples of their marvellous art in other media, in the British Museum and in Italy. Here are some examples from the tiny town of Fiesole, near Florence, in the archaeological museum there (well worth a visit!). Apart from the relief sculptures, these are all tiny pieces only an inch or two high – perhaps they could provide you with inspiration for your next carving. And these were produced well before the birth of Christ – about 800 BC!



Hand compete with signet ring. It's 3000 years old, but looks so modern



Grapes in marble, high relief



Three inch high head, beautifully proportioned, And such a hairstyle!



Three inch high man. My favourite –this little man has such a sense of shape and movement



Huge relief –six foot high. 800BC

Did you know..

Though there are many examples of Etruscan writing, this language has still not been properly deciphered, but we know about some words (see below). It's alleged that Nero spoke and wrote it. The Etruscans were wiped out by the Romans in the first century BC (some historians more kindly say they were 'absorbed into Roman culture'). **Did you know** (good Quiz Night questions, these) that the following words have Etruscan origin:

- Belt
 - Ceremony
 - Market
 - Military
 - Person
 - Satellite

Events

Ripley Garden Party – the home of Bromley Arts Council
 12.30-5pm 29 August 2015

Venue: Ripley, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley Kent

Celebrating their 50th Anniversary

Arts, Crafts, Demonstrations, Bouncy Castle, Punch & Judy, BBQ, Bar, Strawberries + cream

& much more... Fun for all the family!!

Woodentops will be demonstrating there. Can you help by being there?

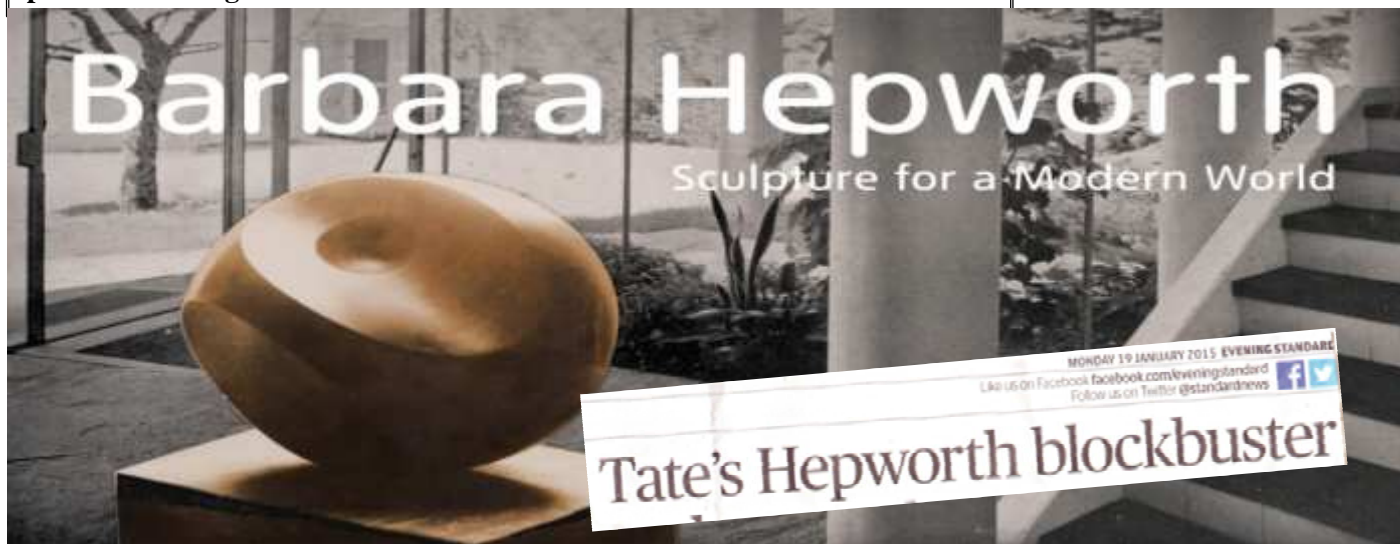
Tell Ann or Clive



Barbara Hepworth: Sculpture for a Modern World
 24 June – 25 October 2015

Venue: Tate Britain Gallery, London

This major retrospective charts Hepworth's progress from her earliest surviving carvings to the large-scale bronzes of the 1960s. **Among the highlights are four large sculptures in sumptuous African hardwood – the high point of her post-war carving career – reunited in one room**



European Woodworking Show
 12th & 13th September 2015

Venue: Cressing Temple Barns, Essex, UK

The show is a mix of woodworking demonstrations backed by trade stands. The focus is primarily on hand tool skills although some small workshop machinery will also be on sale at the show.

This historic venue is an attraction in itself and with good quality food & drink outlets dotted throughout the site for visitors to enjoy. EWS 2015 boasts the widest range of demonstrators to be found at any woodworking show in Europe. **Also there is a carving competition Why not enter? [See overleaf]**

Tickets for the show can be bought in advance saving a few pounds (see chart below)



Pre-booked tickets:	£10	Concessions £8
Entry on the day:	£12	Concessions £10
2-day Advance passes:	£17.50	Concessions £14
Tickets from:	01473785946	www.ews2015.com

Odds and Ends

QuickTest produces items for the jewellery industry, but for carvers they sell a terrific range of eye glasses and magnifiers of all types.

At the end of this month QuickTest has its stock check, and claims that all sorts of curious things will emerge from the depths of their warehouse, so keep your eye on our website in July and August. They are at <http://www.quicktest.co.uk>, QUICKTEST, PO BOX 180 , WATFORD , WD19 5JD Telephone 01923 220206



1 Minute Workbench

Designed by www.OneMinuteWorkbench.com

Plans for this cost \$0.99 (off their website)

DESCRIPTION

Compact and self-contained (only takes up about 15"x3' of floor space), yet it is an absolute MONSTER for all types of hobby! This portable workbench provides a 4'x32½" work surface, and works w/ a wide variety of compact style portable mitre & table saws. The work surface doubles as an out-feed table for your table saw & allows for clamping of materials. It's on wheels & easy to move around. The best part is that it's inexpensive & easy to build. It's also a great way to keep dust out of your garage!

DIMENSIONS

96" W x 32 1/2" D x 35 1/2" H (Imperial)

TOOLS NEEDED

Table Saw, Jig Saw, Drill, 18ga Brad Nailer, Mitre Saw (Mitre saw is recommended, but a hand saw will suffice.)

<http://www.sawtoothideas.com/woodworking-plan/workshop/1-minute-workbench>

Sawhorses

Plans for the sawhorses used in the 1 Minute Workbench are **free**, available from Oneminuteworkbench.com



NEW!! Extra 'Saturday Carving Workshop' dates at the Church Hall

At our Saturday meetings, after catching up on the gossip and admiring what everyone else is carving, well, the time seems to fly by and it's then time for a cup of coffee and a cake. All very pleasurable, but sometimes this means for some of us that there is less time than there might be for actually carving wood.

To address this issue, some members have asked if there could be additional carving time available at the Hall.

The good news is that our Treasurer, Cathy, has been able to secure some more mornings in our usual place for extra **Saturday Carving Workshops** in the weeks between the regular First-Saturday-Of-the-Month meetings.

The first two of these new dates are:

These new extra dates are shown in yellow in the timetable below

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

These extra **Saturday Carving Workshops** are designed to be very informal and reserved very much for hands-on carving. There won't be a 'business section' (what we lovingly call the séance) and there won't be cakes laid on.

That should leave the whole of these mornings free for undisturbed carving. If that's your bag, as they say, (and there's no extra charge) please come to these in addition to the normal meetings (which will carry on as usual).

Our website

Anyone trying to access our website will currently see:

THIS WEBSITE IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE...

This is a temporary situation and we very much hope to have the website www.thewoodentops.co.uk up and running again before too long, as it is our 'window on the world'. Watch this space.



Cake-maker for August: Laurie

2015 Meetings: all 9am to 1pm, Saturdays

1 Aug	15 Aug workshop	5 Sep	19 Sep workshop	3 Oct	7 Nov	5 Dec
<i>Our Leader:</i>	<i>Ann High</i>	<i>01689 859617</i>	<i>highmorton@tiscali.co.uk</i>			
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Cathy Thomas</i>	<i>01689 829646</i>	<i>homas Cathy@virginmedia.com</i>			
<i>Secretary and Newsletter</i>	<i>Clive Nash</i>	<i>0208 464 8902</i>	<i>clivewoodentops@outlook.com</i>			
<i>Catering</i>	<i>Mary Paddick</i>	<i>07929 051373</i>	<i>Marye.paddick@sky.com</i>			
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Terry Vincent</i>	<i>01689 827680</i>	<i>terence.vincent@mypostoffice.co.uk</i>			
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Tom Young</i>	<i>01689 851500</i>	<i>thomas.young67@ntlworld.com</i>			



Next meeting : 1 August