



A Club in South East London  
for people interested  
in wood carving

Visitors are very welcome

Website:  
[www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk](http://www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk)

 Woodentops Wood Carvers  
 #Carverofwood

# WOODENTOPS Newsletter

December 2019

We meet at:

St Johns United Reform Church Hall  
Lynwood Grove Orpington BR6 0BG

We meet on:

The first Saturday of each month  
with additional 'carve-only' meetings  
on many other months.

Full details of our meetings and  
much more on our website.

**Rex Homan**



This from  
<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/1a/c9/3e/1ac93e6b0b8b7c9d4e7c1afe6a7d6a54.jpg>


Rex Homan was born 1940 in Thames, New Zealand of Māori, Irish and Scottish ancestry. He lived in Auckland in his early years before moving to the Bay of Plenty. Rex has earned international recognition as a wood sculptor in the 1960s and 1970s and began working in bronze in the 1980s. His current work is influenced by the culture of the Pacific and displays uniqueness in its diversity of form and dramatic flow of lines. Rex has exhibited in solo, group and jury shows. He has won several national awards for "National Wood Skills" and is represented in corporate and private collections worldwide. (Taken from [http://www.spiritwrestler.com/catalog/index.php?artists\\_id=51](http://www.spiritwrestler.com/catalog/index.php?artists_id=51) )

Rex has a unique and delightful stylised form of carving, as shown in these shots below.



[https://synkroniciti.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/kr80201c\\_lrg.jpg](https://synkroniciti.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/kr80201c_lrg.jpg)



 spiritwrestler.com

## Rex Homan (cont.)



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/646618458978913203/>



[http://api.ning.com/files/cCBEHEX\\*jFdR1nMkUrIGmGHIS-5802ISnPGTtFK96w5AyUvnTffMMg4e2hsChkOXjOPXwDjyhZgAwUmcraEsWuiT\\*OV9jZj/rexhoman17.jpg](http://api.ning.com/files/cCBEHEX*jFdR1nMkUrIGmGHIS-5802ISnPGTtFK96w5AyUvnTffMMg4e2hsChkOXjOPXwDjyhZgAwUmcraEsWuiT*OV9jZj/rexhoman17.jpg)

## MacChair



Chairs to you! This beautifully proportioned dining chair is by Charles Renee Mackintosh, and can be seen in the museum dedicated to him in Glasgow.

## Little Wizard Metal Detector

How often have you started to carve a piece of recycled wood, only to find a chip of metal inside, perhaps an old nail that was in the tree before it was cut down? More likely, perhaps, is that you planed an odd-shaped piece of wood before carving it, only to find that your planer blade was ruined by a small spike left in the timber.

This great little tool is perfect for detecting nails and other metal in your wood before you work it.

No calibrating or guessing is required as it pinpoints metal instantly. It works on all types of woods and detects nails, staples and other metal objects.

It is available from Rutlands at £29.95. See <https://www.rutlands.co.uk/sp+little-wizard-metal-detector+24902?tyah=y>





# Vincent Bandúr

Vincent Bandúr was born 24 November 1961 in the village of Divina (Žilina district) of Slovakia. In his first creative years he devoted his time mainly to oil painting, but gradually his interest focused on wood and other natural materials/toys. Currently, he is mainly devoted to the formation of wooden folding plastics and embossed compositions in wood, in which it captures the scenes of traditional folk culture, but its wide motivational shot also touches the presence. He lives and works in Považská Bystrica. This shot of his interesting work was taken by member **Ian Hill**, on a trip to Bratislava. Thanks, Ian, for the contribution.

His fascinating website is at: <http://www.dielko.sk/overview>



The lower two pictures from Vincent's website, <http://www.dielko.sk/overview>



# Tools



Are your tools stored as neatly as this? I wish mine were. But be careful; if you store them in the open like this in a shed or outside workshop, you risk rust. Better to have them in a closed cupboard. From <http://www.woodworking.worldbests.site/10-happy-cool-tricks-woodworking-tools-videos-chisels-essential-woodworking-too/>

## Head of a Hound by Pieter Boel, 1672-74, Paris



It was the picture frame as much as the picture that caught member Ian Hill's eye at the Dulwich Picture Gallery.

The glorious roundels are expertly fashioned and were then gilded.

The picture itself is renowned for the realism of the hound's head.



# Six Ways to Make Your Small Workshop Feel Bigger

Here are Seven Ways to Make Your Small Workshop Feel Bigger, adapted from <https://sawsonskates.com/small-workshop-ideas/>

The tips are:

## 1. Paint your space

Replace dingy walls with crisp, white ones, fresh and inviting. Makes a small workshop feel larger and airier. Paint walls, door and cabinet the same colour to trick the eye and makes the small workshop feel bigger. Treat the floor to a colour makeover too.

## 2. Install bright LED lights

Remove the fluorescent lights and replace with bright LEDs. There is a huge range of affordable LEDs now. These will make your workshop look brighter and better

## 3. Make your tools mobile to maximize workshop space

Add wheels to the base of units so you can move them around as required. EBay and Amazon (for example) give you lots of wheel types to choose from.

## 4. Choose a space-saving workbench

Think about a folding workbench – there are plenty of plans out there.

## 5. Create a plan for dealing with scrap wood

We all keep too much scrap wood – that choice lump that you know one day will make a great project. But will it? And have you really got space to keep all that stuff?

Scrap wood can overtake your workshop making it feel crowded and disorganized – and possibly dangerous. Here are some thoughts from [https://sawsonskates.com/decide-scrap-wood-keep/?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=pinterest&utm\\_campaign=tailwind\\_tribes&utm\\_content=tribes&utm\\_term=737220804\\_29688088\\_111183](https://sawsonskates.com/decide-scrap-wood-keep/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes&utm_term=737220804_29688088_111183) :

## Scrap Wood Guidelines

Keep scrap wood that you'll use based on the projects you typically build.

Toss scrap wood that is warped, twisted, cracked or full of knots.

Create a “spacers box” to use as shims to help with proper spacing.

Use scrap wood as protectors when clamping.

**TIP: Are you unsure about your decision to keep a piece? Write today's date on the end of it.**

**If it's still in your shop in a year, you probably don't need it!**

But these guidelines are for DIYers, not carvers, so your criteria might be a little different. I would add the following caveats:

Beware of keeping wood that may have worm in it. Watch out for those neat piles of dust under your precious store: if there are holes in the wood above them, GET RID OF IT FAST! (This happened to me)

If in doubt, ditch anything that isn't pretty perfect. Those months you spend carving in average or poor wood is better spent carving in perfect wood.

But whatever decisions you choose to make about scrap wood, please keep your workshop organized and safe.

## 6. Organize your workshop

Disorganization can make our small workshop feel cramped and cluttered. Organizing helps our small space feel larger than it actually is. For example, store your sandpaper in an accordion file (from <https://sawsonskates.com/sandpaper-storage-solution/>)



With some careful planning, space-saving workshop furniture, and a little organization your small workshop can feel bigger and Carving in your shop will be easier. Plus, a well thought out small workshop will make spending time there more enjoyable.

In short:

**Too Dark** – Poor lighting and dark walls can make a workshop feel unnecessarily small.

**Oversized Inflexible Workshop Furniture** – Workshop furniture that is not properly scaled to the size of the space will make a small workshop feel even smaller.

**Poorly Organized** – Disorganized spaces feel cluttered and cramped. Organized spaces no matter the size feel large and spacious.



## Club Stuff

SPRING into action and show us YOUR interpretation of **Movement**. You have till **Easter 2020** to complete your wooden work of art



**New Club Project: Movement**

## Woodentops Christmas Meal

Christmas is finally upon us and to celebrate, our Christmas Meal will be on the evening of our December meeting; that is **Saturday 7 December**, in the Hall where we have our monthly meetings. It's 'Bring a Dish', so please advise Ann what you will be contributing. If you wish, bring your own plates ( there will be paper plates for those who don't, but be warned about gravy and custard) and take them home with you to wash them up. Also bring your own cutlery, please, and glasses, and drink. There will also be a quiz and a raffle. And music.. **If you want to come but haven't told us yet, please contact ANN as soon as you can. Details below.**



## T'Committee

Leader:	Ann High	01689 859617	highmorton@tiscali.co.uk
Treasurer	Andrew Cheesman	07843 274363	andrew.cheesman@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary/ Newsletter	Clive Nash	0208 4648902	clivewoodentops@outlook.com
Catering	Jane and Paul Mannering	01622 297834	paulmannering62@gmail.com slipknotdesign7@hotmail.co.uk
Committee Member	Tom Young	01689 851500	thomas.young67@ntlworld.com

Cakes for December Meeting:

**You Know Who You Are**

The next Main Meeting (Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to bring guests and potential new members) will be from 9am to 1pm, **Saturday 7 December 2019** *With our Christmas Party the same evening in the same Hall, at 7pm.*

All our meeting dates and other information are shown on our website [www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk](http://www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk)

*Members are reminded that if they demonstrate at an event on their own, they MUST tell Leader Ann to help ensure they are fully covered by the provisions of the insurance arrangements in place.*

