

www.thewoodentops.co.uk

WOODENTOPS Newsletter

Jan/Feb 2016

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 is the SE London and W Kent Branch of the BWA

Twitter: #carverofwooc 

**For 2016:
EXTRA
Mid-
month
Carving
Sessions**
(see last page for
full dates)

Thanks Rebecca!

Our youngest member, Rebecca, provided the cakes for our December meeting, and what lovely cakes they were too.

We all ate far too much but what a great start to the Christmas season it was – and what a talented girl!



You don't see things like this in British Airports 

Greeting you at the baggage carousel in Prague airport is this expertly carved larger-than-life goat, advertising a local beer. (Perhaps I should have said 'lager than life!') What a great way to celebrate the noble art of wood carving. A pity we don't utilise craft skills to similar effect for advertising in the UK.

Saytrees.org

So we use wood to make carvings. But without trees, not only do we have no raw materials - a relatively minor consequence really - but there are far more awesome and terrible impacts from the global loss of trees. One website is doing its best to bring the effects of this loss to as many people as possible in Bangalore, India - saytrees.org. Below are examples of just one way they are trying to get the message across graphically- living posters, if you like, posted on the trees themselves. Find these and much more about tree loss at saytrees.org.

saytrees

Every day
I supply oxygen
for up to 4 people.
Dont you think
I am worth saving?

saytrees.org

saytrees

Your survival
depends on my
existance.
Wake up !!!

saytrees.org

you have
no future
without me.
"Let me live"

saytrees.org

Bangalore has lost
78% of its trees.
my sympathy
towards citizens of
garden city..

saytrees.org

My roadside friends
reduce nearby indoor
air pollution by
more than 50%.
And you kill them
for widening the road ?

saytrees.org

Killing me in name of
development?
How will you live
without me?

saytrees.org

You are losing 15
billion "me" every
year.
Preserve or be
ready to perish

saytrees.org

Where Does This Carving Come From?

Can anyone help? This charming carving, only six inches (150mm) high and carved with great skill, was given to the Editor by an old friend, who had no idea of its provenance. What might be its country of origin? And what is the wood it is carved from?

The Editor has his own ideas but your thoughts would be very welcome. Email me with YOUR ideas (email addresses on the back page). The item itself should be available for inspection at the next Club meeting.



Eggs again

As we wait with baited breath for the results of the BWA egg-carving competition (See previous issues entry for details), here are some ideas for carving something else to do with eggs – egg stands. It's the lettering that's tricky, of course, with such things, as the concave holes could be made mechanically (with a drill attachment on a drill stand) if using a spoon gouge manually doesn't appeal.



Spoon gouge



A Wood carving joke

(from <http://www.thespoof.com/jokes/880/the-woodcarver>)

This is the story of a woodcarver who lived in a house in a forest with a rabbit and a housemaid. Among the duties of the housemaid was to dress the rabbit each morning as he was unable to dress himself.

One day, after they had had their breakfast and the rabbit was dressed, the rabbit and the woodcarver went out into the forest to find wood that would be suitable for carving. They soon found what they agreed was a wonderful piece of wood just perfect for a wood sculpture.

Unfortunately, they couldn't agree on what to carve. The woodcarver wanted to carve a mother sheep feeding her lambs.

The rabbit wanted to see the piece become a wooden Dutch shoe. Finally, they agreed to let the housemaid decide, so they went back to the cottage and explained their problem.

The housemaid decided to flip a coin: Heads would mean that the woodcarver would carve the sheep, tails would mean that the shoe would win. You can imagine the suspense when she flicked up the coin, caught it and peeked. . .

Wood ewe or wooden shoe? Only the haredresser knew for sure.

Club Stuff

For the first year, we went to a local hostelry for our Christmas meal. And what a great time we had. Thanks to **Terry** for organising a great 'do'. Here are a few shots



- Thanks too to Terry again for excellent cakes at the year's inaugural January meeting (including a scrumptious fruit cake made by wife Pam). Cakes for the sixth of February main meeting: **Cathy**
- **Our very modest subscriptions for 2016 are now due.** Cathy will no doubt start collecting the cash at our February meeting.
- The Company that publishes **Woodcarving Magazine** has some very good carving books for sale at present, on special offer. This includes Chris Pye's excellent '*Woodcarving – Projects and Techniques*' – now only £5 (from £16.99). Call 01273 488055 or visit www.thegmcgroup.com to order.
- And we have a new Facebook page called: Woodentops Wood Carvers. There's not much on it as yet – but in time the content should build and become a useful resource and source of contacts.

2016 Meeting Schedule

You might like to cut this out and stick it in your diary, or copy it to your mobile device or computer

2016 <u>Main</u> Meetings (Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to bring guests and potential new members, occasional guest speakers) All 9am to 1pm, Saturdays	2016 <u>Additional</u> Meetings (No frills, just carving) All 9am to 1pm, Saturdays
2 January	23 January
6 February	20 February
5 March	19 March
2 April	16 April
7 May	21 May
4 June	[No extra June meeting]
2 July	16 July
6 August	20 August
3 September	17 September
1 October	15 October
6 November	[No extra November meeting]
3 December	[No extra December meeting]

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