



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

Visitors are very welcome

Website:

www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk

 Woodentops Wood Carvers

 #Carverofwood

WOODENTOPS Newsletter

January 2018

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.

Picture of the Month



Carved by Jos Vanoverberghe and featured on the public Facebook group: [group: de hout beeldhouwers](https://www.facebook.com/groups/128354997216714/)
(which means **the wood sculptors** in Dutch). Find them at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/128354997216714/>

Jos's page: <https://www.facebook.com/jos.vanoverberghe/about>



Jos Vanoverberghe



It's not often an abstract piece is featured in this or other such newsletters/journals. They seem a little out of fashion. But the exceptional work above, by Dutch carver Jos Vanoverberghe is worth displaying. Jos is a woodcarver living in Avelgem, Belgium. With a penchant, it seems to me, for the human form, more of Jos's works are shown to the right.

Bits and Bobs



How do you get a cube in a cube? In a cube? It's all done by a clever bit of wood turning. All is revealed in the video at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1116272145073125/permalink/1779020222131644/>
By one 松水藝木工車床 交流網

Very clever – well worth a look!



Hang Your Keys Here



What a nice simple design.

Maybe a little late for making into a Christmas present (or perhaps not!!) or just a present to yourself as part of *'This year I am going to be more organised'* New Year's resolution.

Use a circular saw set at 45 degrees to cut the slots, then practise your letter-carving skills for the word **KEYS**.

From website <http://www.toftiaxa.gr/2014/12/idees-gia-organosi-kleidion.html>, which includes a huge number of other key-organisation ideas.

Get your miniature chisels from: <http://www.leevalley.com/US/wood/page.aspx?p=31062&cat=1,130,43332,43337&ap=1>

Miniature Chisels & Scalers

These surgical dental instruments are superb for detail work. Each is small enough to allow delicate use, yet durable enough to withstand vigorous operation. About 6" long with 1/4" diameter serrated,



hexagonal handles, the tools are well balanced and easy to control. The set of seven chisels includes three straight (2, 3 and 4mm), left- and right-hand 3mm skewers, and two fantail chisels (4 and 6mm). The fantail chisels are particularly well suited for cleaning up corners, shoulders and mortises. The chisels require only final honing before use.

The scalers can be used as scrapers and picks. The set of four includes a bullnose and three claw-shaped trapezoids.

All represent excellent value. Stainless steel hardened to Rc40.

'A Strange (Woodworker's) Suicide' Poster (US only)



The Strange Suicide of a Wood Worker

What a peculiar story. These words from the Lost Art website:

For those who prefer your workshop art to be a little twisted (as opposed to a sexist cheesecake calendar) we offer this poster from the back page of the April 5, 1903, edition of the French illustrated newspaper Le Petit Parisien.

Unearthed by researcher Jeff Burks, this poster reproduces the original printed page in full size and full color.

We obtained two original copies of the original newspaper, scanned them and merged them to produce this poster.

The wording under the poster is as follows:

This is obviously a particular case of madness, that of the strange suicide of this joiner from Sainte-Ménehould, with whom all the press is occupied. Mr. Lemaître, the joiner in question, was sick for a long time; He was, in addition, suffering from paranoia; his rationale seemed very shaken.

Tired of suffering, he resolved to finish his own existence. But he did not use, like so many others, poison, the revolver or the rope; He wanted to be guillotined. He very patiently sharpened a spade, so it would be keen as a razor; he tied it to his joinery workbench, which had been loaded quite heavily with wood; then, using a piece of wood as a brace, he lifted his bench to 60 centimeters in height and spread himself on the ground so that, by removing the piece of wood, the spade would strike his neck.

UN ÉTRANGE SUICIDE

[A STRANGE SUICIDE]

Paris, Le Petit Parisien, Jeudi 5 Avril 1903, Dernière Page

The Club has decided to extend the deadline for our leaf carving project. This is to help ensure that participating members don't rush things! More on this anon – but carry on carving those leaves

These tragic preparations had taken a fairly long time. With a chisel, Mr. Lemaître knocked out the brace that was holding the workbench and the spade descended suddenly, working as a guillotine blade. Indeed, the carotid artery was severed and the head weakly attached to the body. The doctor who was called found him dead.

This poster is available in the USA only from the Lost Art Press. Details (and the text set out above) from its website:

<https://lostartpress.com/collections/apparel/products/a-strange-suicide-poster>

The Carvings of Božo Terzić



Božo Terzić's unusual carvings can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/boza.terzic> and also (with a video) at : <https://bozoterzic.wordpress.com/>.

Božo lives in Belgrade, Serbia. He studied sculpture at the Faculty of Applied Arts, Belgrade and works as an independent artist.

He has an unusual and humorous take on life through his sculpture – which is what appealed to me – and is clearly very talented. Several examples of his unique work are shown below.



Mr. Weasel's morning gesture.



A Carving School in Italy

This is from the website: <http://www.scuolaintagliomeana.it/index.php> [Note: Google Chrome has been used to translate the Italian original, and you will see the translation is not always perfect – but it always gets the point over.]. The school is in Meana di Susa, near Turin in Northern Italy. The laudable Club motto is:

"Living is like sculpting, it is necessary to remove, pull away the most, to see inside."

The school of carving and wood carving, under the guidance of the master Ugo Bolley, was born in the '90s, when the lessons took place in makeshift places with limited spaces. In 2004 the Municipality of Meana provided a large and bright room. The inauguration of the current school took place on May 28th. Named "Mediana" to remember the Latin name of the village; the Club currently hosts between twenty and twenty-five students. Courses take place from November to May every Monday evening.

The current teachers are Bolley Ugo and Faure Giorgio; who teach students the art of carving and wood carving bas-reliefs, high-reliefs, all-round, baroque art, carpentry lessons, construction of work tools that their ancestors used in fields and woods, tools that with modernity are disappearing. Also in the school the art of wood turning is taught, without, it states on the website, neglecting the basic design, very important for those who want to start this experience.

After some years of school activity, some participants wanted to transmit their knowledge and experience to other people who wanted to learn new things. Thus was born the school of sculpture and wood carving dedicated to the boys / girls of primary and secondary school. The courses take place from March to May and are run by four teachers who alternate in drawing, clay, pyrography, carving, wood carving and surface treatment. It also teaches to build the various work tools used by farmers, rakes, cote holder [sic] (to sharpen the scythe), injured [sic] (sledges), wooden nails, handles of shovels, picks, etc using the appropriate type of wood to every situation; they tell stories and legends about trees and woods of our territory.

What an inspiration to take carving into schools. And the website is a mine of information about wood types and carving technique – and much more. (Use Google Chrome to translate). Below are some of the works by members, as shown on the website.



Ian Norbury on Video



Most carvers will have come across the excellent British carver Ian Norbury. Well, now he has a whole series of equally excellent video tutorials available. For example, the shot on the left was taken from his video which concentrates just on carving wrinkles. It is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUVS0VD-9vE>.

There are similar short lessons focussing on other specific aspects of carving. The shot below is from short but masterful video on carving eyes. This is one of many available on Ian's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/harkerEI>). Within a huge range of 'carve a bit a day' short videos and all of which are, so far as I can see, free to the user.

You can view a range of Ian's tutorials by searching on YouTube. The YouTube site states: *Download the whole series from Ian Norbury's website for £1* – however, I found these difficult to find on his website (<http://iannorbury.com/>).

But a wide range of digital downloads is available from Ian's site at <http://iannorburyshop.weebly.com/iannorburyvideos.html>

Each costs \$9.99. But if you decide to stick to YouTube, don't feel too guilty about looking at Ian's e video classes without paying - there is usually a short advertisement at the start of each clip, which no doubt helps to pay production costs.

And of course you can buy Ian Norbury DVDs from his website to help support his marvellous creative work.



Club Stuff

The Christmas Party on **Saturday 2 December** at St John's URC, was a terrific success. Everyone brought food of a huge variety. We were truly stuffed by the end of the meal. We had a free raffle, too, with some covetable prizes and many happy winners (particularly as they did not have to buy a ticket!)

All in all, it was a great start to the Christmas season. Particular thanks go to Cathy and Dave, who organised the warming and other kitchen facilities, as well as making sure everything hang together just as it needs to to make a party go with a real swing.

Leader:	Ann High	01689 859617	highmorton@tiscali.co.uk
Treasurer	Cathy Thomas	01689 829646	Thomascathy@virginmedia.com
Secretary/ Newsletter	Clive Nash	0208 4648902	clivewoodentops@outlook.com
Beverage provision	Mary Paddick	07929 051373	Marye.paddick@sky.com
Committee	Tom Young	01689 851500	thomas.young67@ntlworld.com

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.

- Members are reminded to bring old sheets for under their work benches or tables when the 'mid-month 'No-Frills' meetings are held in the Link area of the church.

Cakes for January meeting:

Laurie

The next Main Meeting
(Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to bring guests
and potential new members) will be from
9am to 1pm,
Saturday 6 January 2017

All our meeting dates and other information are shown on
our website www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk

