

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

Visitors are very welcome

WOODENTOPS Newsletter

January/February
2021

We meet on:

The first Saturday of each month
with additional 'carve-only' meetings
NO MEETINGS AT PRESENT BECAUSE OF THE COVID PANDEMIC
Full details of our meetings and
much more on our website.

Website:
www.woodentopwoodcarvers.co.uk
f Woodentops Wood Carvers
#Carverofwood

Discussions are proceeding with the Hall to reopen for carving. Watch this space!

'Covid Is An Angry Virus!'



One Albert McCracken has carved a model of this nasty little virus which is changing our lives, under the heading shown above. Find it at [Covid-19 is an angry virus!](#) : [Woodcarving \(reddit.com\)](#) and [vwsmc4d4jr41.jpg \(4160x2080\) \(redd.it\)](#). One shot is with the mask; one without.

Well done to this creative soul for the carving, but now go away, little pesky germ – we have had quite enough of you!

Coronavirus: Woodcarver makes superhero plaques for NHS

The BBC has reported that a wood carver has hand-carved plaques to show appreciation for the NHS. **Johnathon Whittaker**, a full-time wood carver and sculptor from Devon, said he received over 4,000 requests for the plaques from NHS staff.

The requests were consolidated and then donated into deliveries for 67 hospitals. He said if his designs made staff feel "more appreciated at the end of a long shift, it's the least I can do".

A Royal Devon and Exeter Foundation Trust (RD&E FT) spokesman said "[Ours] is now sitting proudly in our main reception for all to see." (See below.)

Johnathon and partner Christine



More at: [Coronavirus: Woodcarver makes superhero plaques for NHS - BBC News](#) More on next page....

NHS Superheros



We have had hundreds of requests from nurses, doctors, support staff, family members and patients to make and donate these NHS superhero plaques, and we are happy to say that we are now carving and donating them to 70+ hospitals around the country.

There are so many people out there putting their lives on the line, to help and take care of us, and we think it's wonderful that, what we are creating is able to symbolise the great level of appreciation we have for the job that they are doing.

Not only do colleagues want their teams to be recognised, but staff family members want their loved ones celebrated, and patients want the people who are caring for them, so incredibly well, to be appreciated for the sacrifices they are making and the efforts they are putting in on a daily basis.

It is an absolute pleasure to be the one to create something that, not only signifies how amazing they all are, but to be doing it in a way that will last forever.



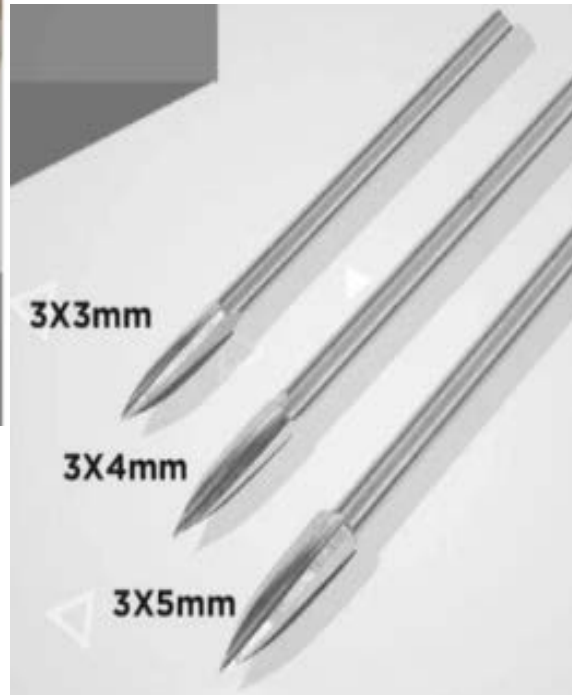
Engraving tools

I've not seen these carving tool bits before, and have not purchased them, but they seem impressive. First seen on an American website ([Wood Carving & Engraving Drill Bit Set - Vaschoen](#) at \$19.90, I then found them on Amazon ([LifeBest 5Pcs/Set Wood Carving And Engraving Drill Bit Milling Cutter Root Carving Tools for DIY Woodworking Carving Carving Tool: Amazon.co.uk: Kitchen & Home](#)) and ebay ([1 Set Wood Carving And Engraving Drill Bit Milling Cutter Carving Tool For Sale | eBay](#)) at a much more reasonable cost of four to five pounds.



The top left and bottom right shots are from the American website. The others are from eBay and Amazon.

If you have any of these, or plan to buy them, please let me know what you think of them. Thanks.



Sign



Your editor's modest project during lockdown – a carving for a friend who has christened his new greenhouse. I printed the words on paper, using a program (Photoshop) to 'bend' the letters a bit to fit the shape of the wood I had to hand, then stuck the paper on the wood. I carved through the paper, then sanded off the excess paper afterwards. The font is Comic Sans. The wood is, I think, mahogany.

Letter from Cathy

It was lovely to get a Christmas letter from member Cathy, who now resides in Madeira. An extract is below:

...I have watched with sadness as each time it looked like you were going to manage a real life Woodentops meeting, the goal posts moved and you were not able to. As you say in the newsletter Clive, hopefully the vaccine will speed up the chances of returning to normality next year.

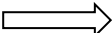
I have not been able to do any carving here yet as we are still waiting for the house to be built, although my hobby has influenced some of the house design. We have a corner in the garage which has a big window and has been marked as my future work area. We will ask the carpenter to put in a chunky work bench for mounting the vice etc.

..Life continues relatively calmly here. We are not as restricted as the UK, although masks are mandatory nearly everywhere. We get to eat out a lot and spend plenty of time doing our beloved walks. Right now it is .. fun to walk in the town centre as they have fantastic Christmas lights to look at.

I think of you often and look forward to seeing you when the world settles down again.

I send all Woodentops my best wishes for a happy and healthy 2021, and hope that you manage to get back together very soon, and, of course, Happy Carving!"

Cathy x

NB Cathy and her husband Dave are having a rather impressive house built for them in Madeira. This is It so far . 



Carvings are all around



On a 'Lockdown' solitary walk, I spied these bears in Walden Wood, part of Walden Road Recreation Ground in Chislehurst, Kent. And very well carved they are two, these cheeky bears on a rowing trip. There is no sign attributing the carvings, so they remain anonymous for the time being. If you know who carved them, let me know!



Old Jokes Home:

I gave my French girlfriend a carving engraved 'Le Monde'.

It means the world to her.

Cool Statues

A short sequence showing a very creative set of statues includes the ones shown here, and which may provide inspiration for your next carving. I can't include a link in this newsletter, but will add it to the email that goes out with the link to our newsletter.



Hope



The District of Hope, Alaska. Carved Sign. Let us hope we are all in the 'District of Hope' once the vaccination programme gains momentum.

Sign from [hope-hc.jpg \(3129x2248\) \(wordpress.com\)](#)

The Committee

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Committee Member	Tom Young	01689 851500	thomas.young67@ntlworld.com

The next Main Meeting
(Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to...

**NO MEETINGS AT PRESENT BECAUSE OF THE
COVID PANDEMIC**

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



BROMLEY
ARTS
COUNCIL



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.