



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

July 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.

### Traditional Edition

This edition features traditional carvings, often in oak, the medium conventionally used for carvings, particularly in religious settings. Oak is a hardwood and so can be difficult to work. It can also be prone to splintering. But the benefit is that, being hard, it is long-lasting. The quality of these ancient oak carvings is particularly impressive given that the carvers of that time had no power carving aids. All done by hand-tools – many of which would look like the ones we use today.



These magnificent oak figures were spied in St. Martin's Church, Colmar (Eastern France).

With their descriptive looks, and great detail, these pieces are extraordinary.

Each is about 200cm high. All of them adorned two confessional boxes in the church. The church dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century so the carvings could date from that time.

## Old Carvings Close to Home – Part 1: Guildhall Art Gallery (London)

In 1666, the Great Fire of London destroyed huge swathes of the City. King Charles appointed six surveyors to assess the damage and a special commission of Royal Judges was appointed to apportion compensation.

This was called the **Fire Court**.

This is one of them - Sir Hugh Wyndham.

But what I liked particularly was the glorious and very well-carved frame to his portrait – combining delicacy and skill.

You can see this likeness – absolutely free – at the Guildhall Art Gallery, close to Cannon Street station.



## Old Carving Close to Home – Part 2: Ightam Mote



One of the National Trust's properties close to our Club is Ightam Mote; well worth a visit. These delightful carvings in the round are from the main staircase.

### **Editor's Note:**

*So if I can do it, why can't **you**? When you are next visiting a place of interest, and see some carvings you think are worthy of sharing, take a shot or two and sent them to me. It couldn't be easier nowadays with cameras on mobile devices*

*(Note always ensure you have permission to take pictures in the place you are visiting, and give what credits you can, such as the carver's name if you have it, and the location*

## Old Carvings Close to Home – Part 2: Ightam Mote



More from Ightam Mote: a splendid example of linen-fold panelling and the fireplace, with its splendid relief busts of Henry VIII's son (who died very young) and of Shakespeare.



## Agenda for Annual General Meeting of 'The Woodentops' – To Be Held 6 July 2019

The meeting will be held at 12 noon during our usual Saturday meeting.

1. Leader's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Secretary/Newsletter Editor's Report (in absentia)
4. Election of Committee
5. Any Other Business

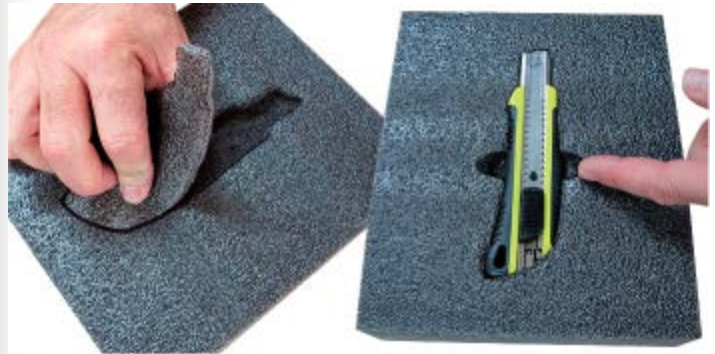
It should be noted that the Treasurer and Catering roles will be vacant, so nominations for these posts would be particularly welcome. Neither role is onerous but both involve rewarding work that does need to be carried out. Please do think about standing!

Here's a great idea for the storage and transport of your gouges and other carving tools.

Protect your tools with 13 layers of premium quality foam in each sheet, and add heat moulded finger holes to improve accessibility. Supplied in large 57mm x 1200mm x 600mm sheets that can be cut down or applied together to suit any storage space.

**EASY TO USE** - Simply trace the shape of your tool, cut around the outline and peel away the foam layers to your required depth.

From Rutlands, at [https://www.rutlands.co.uk/sp+kaizen-foam-tool-organiser-sheets+M\\_DK6765?tyah=y](https://www.rutlands.co.uk/sp+kaizen-foam-tool-organiser-sheets+M_DK6765?tyah=y)



<b>Leader:</b>	<i>Ann High</i>	<i>01689 859617</i>	<i>highmorton@tiscali.co.uk</i>
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<i>Secretary/Newsletter</i>	<i>Clive Nash</i>	<i>0208 4648902</i>	<i>clivewoodentops@outlook.com</i>
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<i>Committee</i>	<i>Tom Young</i>	<i>01689 851500</i>	<i>thomas.young67@ntlworld.com</i>

Cakes for July Meeting:

**Ann**

The next Main Meeting (Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to bring guests and potential new members) will be from **9am to 1pm, Saturday 6 July 2019** Then a 'No Frills meeting on **20 July ('Jamieson' Hall)**

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.