



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

September 2017

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



The heading (on Facebook, from [Woodworks101](#) is

[What would you make with one of these?](#) Answers varied from 'Build a house' to 'A fire'.

Difficult to know how old the picture is and from which part of the world. You can see they are cutting a slice with some sort of giant saw.

My reaction to the picture was:

Shame to see such a great old tree come to an end. How long did it take to grow to such a magnificent size.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/Woodworkinghowto/photos/a.984220721621568.1073741828.982680148442292/1486789928031309/?type=3&theater>

Club Project – Leaves!

The Club has decided on its new project for members.

And this is not really a competition - remember, there are only winners here, not losers!

The idea is that we all carve a leaf, to the design and of the tree of our own wish. If you decide to carve a leaf in the wood of the same tree, all the better, but that is up to you, and of course doing this could pose an additional carving challenges.

It's possible that a carving celebrity will judge which is the best, but we shall see (and always remembering that beauty is in the eye of the beholder). Perhaps we can even run to a tee-shirt award of some sort (see below (but no promises)).

The collection of leaves can then be displayed as a focus for publicity , for exhibiting at shows, but first and foremost to show off your exceptional skills and artistry! Who knows, maybe we'll later design a wood tree to hang them from. But that's for the future. Meanwhile, think about what leaf you might carve for discussion at our next meeting.



Rules (such as they are)

- Your leaf should be in a piece of wood no more than 150mm x 150mm (It can be as thick as you like)
- Carve a relief or 'in the round' – as you wish
- The target date for completion is Christmas 2017



Internet Links

How some other people live! This posted by James Drouillard on Facebook through Woodentops Woodcarvers Facebook page (see <https://www.facebook.com/groups/613932708787657/permalink/798849040296022/>)

Been on vacation up in Alaska for the last week. While up there I took advantage and looked for some, umm, different materials.

While top isn't "historical" the three below are. Top is just a moose tine though completely solid. The third one is stellar sea cow rib. Used it in knife making. Comes from an extinct saltwater manatee-like creature from the Bering Straits area. The second and forth were what I hunted for, these are oosic. I've also used these in knife making and have been hunting for piece just right for pens.



All sorts of work and hobby attire is available on the web. This is but a small selection. There are various suppliers. Man glitter from <https://teespring.com/sawdust-is-man-glitter-apparel#pid=2&cid=2397&sid=front> from £14.95, £22.87 for the thicker hoodie



From: <https://www.facebook.com/Woodworkinghowto/photos/a.984220721621568.1073741828.982680148442292/1486267684750200/?type=3&theater>



Ahmed Alwesabi

Ahmed is an artist member of the International Wood Culture Society (IWCS) based in Sanaa, Yemen. He would appear to specialise in these beautiful miniature sculptures. More information is at: https://www.facebook.com/ahmed.abomazen.5?fref=ts&ref=br_tf



Ahmed wrote on Facebook: *Today is the happiest day of my life.. Sold one of my artwork (Eiffel Tower) in Qatar ministry of culture, good amount of \$70.*

This post was noticed some weeks ago. Let us hope Ahmed is not affected by the conflict currently affecting that area.



Miniature sandals



Knots show a hidden bear. How unlikely is that?



Bandsaw skills

These skills are from a YouTube video. There is some great YouTube material, well worth exploring. This one shows how a band saw can be used to quickly make a spoon or bowl. The mechanical aid takes away a lot of the hard work, leaving the hand carving to the final, arguably more interesting stages.

But I'd have loved him to have taken a little more care in protecting his hands (see below).



Bandsaw pics from https://www.facebook.com/MarvelousWoodworking/?hc_ref=ARTsvuL6D5sVoPr0xZSK81BufWow0jRBOncz25kyUna_TtLzLzk1oMC16NiLn1N0zc



When using a band saw or similar kit, a risk assessment is likely to show the need for:

Personal Protective equipment

- Kevlar gloves
- Eye protection (to guard against splinters flying up) and
- Ear protection (band saws can be noisy) as our guy is wearing.

Work method

- Using push sticks is usually very advisable.



More Pics from Jeskyns

These pictures arrived too late for our feature on the Club's demo at Jeskyns last month. These great shots were taken by Paul and Jane Mannering, and for which many thanks



Plenty of interest from the public as children carve soap

Our carvings are on proud display



Ann talks to more interested folk as Paul carves



The 'Woodentops' Sign, carved by members, shows the public where our tent is



Club Matters

Events: We have people to man the stalls at the two events set out below, but if YOU can help too, it would, and you would, be most welcome. Contact a Committee member for more information.

Saturday 26 August 1pm – 5pm
Ripley Arts Centre Garden Party

24 Sundridge Avenue Bromley BR1 2PX
<http://www.bromleyarts.com/>



The Club decided at its August meeting that it would not be participating in the Hever Handmade & Homegrown Festival from 1-3 September.

Monday 28 August 1pm -5pm
Cudham Show and Fete

Cudham Recreation Ground, Cudham Lane South, Cudham, Kent. TN147QB
<https://www.stallandcraftcollective.co.uk/cudham-show-&-fete-17369-event>



Members of the Club went to Club founder Mick Cuomo's home after the main July meeting to help him and his wife Toni celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. Mick's daughter Loretta was there too and treated us to a glass of wine to help mark this glorious achievement. Mick was on good form, and passed favourable comment on the various carvings we took over for him to critique. Few were up to his standard – his outstanding works, from love spoons to the human form, animals to relief carvings, filled his lounge. The Club is indebted to Mick for forming the Club and wish him and Toni the very best on this great occasion.

Congratulations, Mick and Toni!



The European Woodworking Show is on 16/17 September Advance tickets: www.ews2017.com.
 Venue: Crossing Temple Barns, Essex, UK.



T'Committee

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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.

Cakes for Sept. meeting: Barbara

Cakes for October meeting: Jane

The next 2017 Main Meeting
(Carving, coffee & cake, an opportunity to bring guests and potential new members) will be from 9am to 1pm, Saturday 2 September 2017

There is NO additional mid-month meeting in September. The planned 16 September meeting has been cancelled as it coincides with the European Woodworking Show on 16/17 September (see above) and to which some club members plan to attend.

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

