

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

Visitors are very welcome

# WOODENTOPS Newsletter

Aug./Sept. 2021

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.

Website:

[www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk](http://www.woodentopswoodcarvers.co.uk)

 Woodentops Wood Carvers

 #Carverofwood

## August Report

**The Club** met on the first Saturday in August, our second meeting since lockdown restrictions eased, and it was great to see our carving community reformed and starting to be reenergised. The following points were discussed.

The good news is that there will be no subscriptions this year as we have not had to pay for hall hire during lockdown. Similarly, there will be no AGM this year, until things get back to 'normal' (whatever that means!).

It was also agreed that (subject to there being no further emergencies) we would be having our Christmas party on the evening of the first meeting in December, so please add that date to your diaries.

Members were reminded that it is their personal responsibility to wipe down their own tables, tools and equipment in the hall. For the time being, people will also have to bring their own tea and coffee.

There won't be any additional 'no frills' meetings in the weeks between our normal, First-Saturday-of-the-Month meetings, but these are planned to continue as normal from now on. Do try to come along and enjoy the Club as we build up our momentum again.

Last, but by no means least, congratulations to **David** for winning our 'Movement' competition. His winning sculpture is shown later in the magazine.

Any thoughts for our next competition? Give it some thought...

[From \(2005\) Pinterest](#)



SEPTEMBER

Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa  
1 2 3 4

*Next meeting:  
Saturday 4 September*

## The Committee

Leader:	Ann High	01689 859617	fellowcarver@gmail.com <i>Note new email address</i>
Treasurer	Andrew Cheesman	07843 274363	andrew.cheesman@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary/ Newsletter	Clive Nash	0208 4648902	clivewoodentops@outlook.com
Committee Member	Tom Young	01689 851500	thomas.young67@ntlworld.com

## Rex Homan

I featured Rex Homan once before. Here are a couple more of his stylish and eye-catching pieces. Rex is a New Zealand woodworking artist. Often he devotes his works to local endemic birds. To create works uses wood, kauri shells, metal as a stand, aluminium to create claws. His works are often sold at auctions and cost between \$6,500 and \$20,000. Find more at [\(2657\) Pinterest](#). Through this link, it is asserted that a gallery of his works is at [http://www.spiritwrestler.com/catalog/index.php?artists\\_id=51](http://www.spiritwrestler.com/catalog/index.php?artists_id=51) This takes you to a Vancouver Art Gallery which is now closed after 24 years (COVID related?) but there is a lovely video in this link which traces the history of the gallery. Rex's books are at <http://www.wheelers.co.nz/spb/author/2203433-rex-homan/?view=gallery> "Raven dreaming" "The Birds of Tane"



## Dongyang woodcarving

**Ann writes:**

*I spotted this carved from a tree in Llanidloes when we had a camper van trip there in June. No idea what tree it is.*

And what a superb carving it is!



## Competition Winner! Elephant on the Move

Remember those dim distant days before Covid? Well, we started a competition just before lockdown, asking for carvings to the theme 'Movement'.

Well, full marks to David for actually remembering our completion and not only this but actually completing a splendid sculpture to that end. David brought it to our first meeting post-lockdown and here it is. A fine specimen.



At our July meeting, we all agreed that this was a worthy winner of our 'Movement' competition.

Congratulations, David, and a prize will be presented in due course.



## Wooden Statue (Pieta): Winchelsea Church

This very skilled piece is in Winchelsea Church.. As so often the case in the UK, there is no acknowledgement of the carver, so far as I can see, nor is it clear what the wood is. But it is a beautiful piece, with exquisite folds and hands.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
JOHN AND DOROTHY KNOX  
FORMERLY OF CLEVELAND HOUSE  
WHO PRESENTED THIS STATUE OF  
OUR LADY AND THE HOLY CHILD TO  
ST. THOMAS' CHURCH  
IN 1960

## Henry James' Bust

Henry James, the renowned 19<sup>th</sup> Century author, lived in Rye, Kent.

He apparently bought this bust and it was in his writing studio at Lamb House.

Whenever he had writer's block he looked at this statute for inspiration, and hopefully it never let him down.

I'm not sure if it would give me inspiration or just keep me awake at nights.

It is a skilfully carved piece, of wood unknown.



## Grind and Sharpen



There always seems to be interest in these small rotary grinder/polisher/sharpener machines, and Rutlands is now offering one at £70 (saving £30). More at [Bench Grinder | Next Day Delivery \(rutlands.com\)](#).

It includes a flexible shaft, sharpening stones and polishing wheels, plus a range of other accessories.

Tempted?

## And Finally...

[From Woodwork humour](#)

You know you're a woodworker if/when:

1. You come home from work and the kids find you still in a suit and tie in front of the workbench covered in shavings a half an hour later.
2. You shop for a new car based on the amount of wood it can carry, not on the mileage it gets.
3. Christmas time is time to make toys and gifts to give... hoping only to receive new tools (to make more gifts next year!).
4. You go to bed at night and find your safety glasses still perched on your forehead, your tape on your belt and the pencil you lost hiding behind your ear.
5. You spend \$500 on wood and new tools to complete a project for your wife that you could have just bought for \$75 at the local furniture store.
6. Your partner would rather you wore gloves to bed than to allow you to touch her with your scratchy rough hands!



That's it for tonight... got to go get the kids to bed and find some soft gloves.

From [Collection of magnificent woodworks \(woodworkessence.com\)](#)