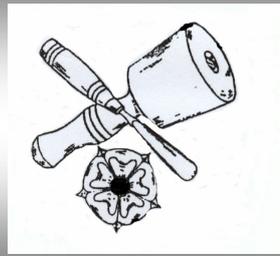


# West Riding Woodcarvers' Association



Issue 158

Life members  
Anne Hobson  
Albert Hobson  
Norman Walsh

[www.wrwoodcarvers.com](http://www.wrwoodcarvers.com)

Monthly meeting 8th September 2007

John Gay



Minutes of West Riding Woodcarvers' Association. September 8<sup>th</sup>. 2007.

The meeting started shortly after 10 a.m. with a short period of routine club business. The future programme of meetings was restated through until January. Jane laid some emphasis on the October visit to the Lancashire and Cheshire woodcarving group and the probability of running a mini bus for the trip. Mention was made of starting this from the bus station but a suggestion from the floor that it might be better to start from our Shepley venue seemed to meet with approval. More of this later but a list was then circulated for those intending to take part.

The speaker; John Gay from Huddersfield was introduced. On his subject of aero modelling he proved to be an enthusiast who knew every aspect of his subject. He took the audience through a chronological development of aero modelling from its early solid wooden kit inceptions to the complex technological apparatus of modern model flying. Indeed such was his obvious enthusiasm that he spoke at times as though he were actually piloting the aircraft he was describing and his terminology was that of the a pilot sitting in the cockpit itself.

He described his modelling, beginning as a schoolboy and its subsequent advances over perhaps fifty years or so through to his present enthusiasms, waxing almost poetical at times. He no doubt rekindled memories in the minds of many of the listeners of their own schoolboy modelling days. From balsa wood, through the beginnings of plastic Frog and Airfix models and on to modern materials such as fibreglass and resins, John Gay was a mine of information and illustrated his material by continually circulating examples and photographs throughout the audience.

He had brought with him large models with up to eight or so feet wingspan and a large collection of constructional materials. He was such an informed speaker that he could have continued for a longer period and time was short.

He concluded by talking on the subject of radio controlled flying and its constant developments and here as earlier in his talk, his enthusiasm knew no bounds.

He was thanked by the Chair and warmly applauded.

The meeting was concluded at approximately 12-15 p.m.

M. Till.



Many thanks to Malcolm for providing the minutes. (They appear to be lopsided - he must have been sat on a slope.)

**October 20th: Lancashire and Cheshire joint meeting in Lancashire:** Please note this is **not** the second Saturday. Jane, with the permission of our Treasurer, has hired a small bus, a 35 seater! (she's either very optimistic or bringing all her family). The cost is £200, with each person taking the coach being charged £5 and the rest Dennis is funding from under the bed. The coach will leave Shepley Methodist Church hall at 10.45am and will then travel to St Georges Square, Huddersfield to collect other members at 11.00am. We are expected at the Lancashire and Cheshire Club rooms at about 12.30 pm. George Moore, the Secretary, has asked that we participate in a "Show and Tell" session (sounds like something from my teen years). The idea seemingly is that a few volunteers, (who Jane is going to ring and inform them that they are going to be our participating members), display a favourite carving and tell everybody present how they carved it and all the problems they face in doing so - sounds exciting, I can't wait. All who are going, and I am pleased to report that should be about 20+, please bring along your carvings for display. Two years ago the L & C Club put on a magnificent display so we don't want to be the poor relations. Guests are very welcome.

**November 3rd:** (*Note this is now the 3rd not the 10th November, the church hall is being used for a fundraising event on the second Saturday*) **Dominic Sudderby** Stick maker.

**December 8th: Christmas Club luncheon** at the Meltham Golf Club with guest speaker Fred Butler. Humorous tales of living and growing up in Dewsbury. The meal is priced at £14 per head and guests are very welcome. Enclosed with this Newsletter is a menu and a tear off booking slip which, together with your cheque, should be returned to Jane.

**January 12th 2008: Graham Lockwood** from High Burton, Huddersfield is a retired teacher. Graham's hobby is "Automata", the art of robotics, in Graham's case in wood. Graham is also one of Europe's leading kite flyers and I have asked him if he will give some of his talk / demonstration on this subject.

### Woodcarving Classes

Classes are now running with just a few places still open in Vernon Secker's and Mike Hadfield's classes. Malcolm's is full. Brooksbank School on Monday night has a very pleasing and friendly membership of **21**, demonstrating that an extra evening class was needed and justified. Mike Chambers has very kindly agreed to give tuition throughout both terms on alternative Monday nights (he will be attending Des Lindley's class the other Monday nights). We are *extremely grateful* to Mike as the class, with a number of new carvers, desperately needs some on-going tuition week by week. But we would like to call on other member's occasionally, when Mike is not available, to give specialist talks/sessions on things like sharpening, relief and in the round carving etc.

Please note that the Club has paid £126 for Public / Product Liability insurance which covers Club members **only** while taking part in the above carving classes.

### Shepley Church Autumn Fundraiser.

Arthur Brook and Trevor Metcalfe have very gallantly volunteered to do a woodcarving demonstration at this event. I understand the demonstration is from 10.00am to 2.00pm in the hall where we hold our monthly meetings. This is a nice way of saying thank you to the Church for accepting us into their building in such a friendly manner. The Club would like also to put on a carving display, so would members please bring carvings for display to the November 3rd meeting. I'm sure Trevor will take them away and look after them until the 10th. (He can study them for a week to see if he can pick up tips on how to improve his own carvings!)

Many thanks Arthur and Trevor.

### News & Up-date.

At the September meeting member's gave their support to approach the **Children's Hospice** committee with our offer to produce a Panel, of one sort or another, for display in the Hospice. The **Community Foundation for Calderdale**, who gave us a grant for £1570 for the Overgate Panel, have asked me to fill in a questionnaire regarding what we did with the money and what it did for the Club and community. (It runs to about 20 odd pages). Nothing has been heard from our application for the **Queens Award for Voluntary Services**, not even an acknowledgement. Better news on our **Lottery Application** for £3850. I've received a letter stating that we have been accepted for consideration. **Woodcarver Magazine** have put back the Overgate Panel story to issue 101 which I think will now be early next year.

**Any member with an e-mail address please send me an e-mail so I can log you onto the Club members address file.**

Apologies were received from Mick Wilson, Des Lindley, Reg Platt, Neil Simpson, Peter Nicholas, Anne Allan, Derek Lindley, myself and Tracey Goddard. ( And I've forgotten the rest!)

**Alan Brook** our thoughts are with Alan who is out of hospital but still experiencing discomfort. We all wish him a speedy recovery. **Des Lindley** is at home and managed to take part in his carving class last Monday.

Thankfully I don't have to report the sad demises of any member this month, in fact I don't think I shall ever again report the passing of any member. My apologies for the error in the August Newsletter.