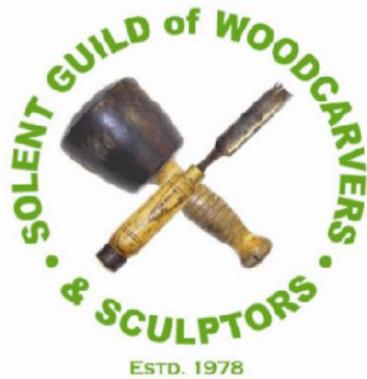


Issued on the 31st January



NEWSLETTER No 123

November, December and January 2019

Winter Edition

Web site: <http://www.solentguildofwoodcarvers.org.uk/>

EDITORIAL

The Newsletter Editor's report newslettereditor@solentguildofwoodcarvers.org.uk

Welcome to the New Year it's been a busy start so far and the carve-ins have already started and the first Committee meeting of the year has already taken place. The guild is already in touch with 2019 and I hope it's going to be a Good year for the Guild to continue in the vain that we would like it to.

Chairman's Musings by George Palmer

Hello all and welcome to 2019. Well the New Year got off to a poor start with the semi successful showing of a DVD and the bad news that Michael Painters mother had just passed away. This of course has meant understandably that the long awaited visit of Mike for the 2nd of Feb has had to be cancelled; he has said that when things settle he will rearrange it.

Despite this the show will go on. John has lined up two new demo venues at the Rural Life and the Sustainability centres. Thanks John hopefully they should prove interesting. Members need to check the programme for dates and venues for this year's events.

Don't forget to get those carvings underway both for the Bill Pinney trophy in May and the main competition in August at the Southdowns show.

Did you realise that the oldest known wood carving is the Shigir idol that was carved from a larch that was over 150 years old. The totem stands over 2.8m tall and is over 11,000 years old. It would be nice if some of our carvings last and are cherished for a long time but if they are we need to put our heart and soul into them and not just churn them out.

Membership Lapel Badges by George Palmer

At the last committee meeting I suggested and it was felt that it would be a good idea to give all members a lapel badge to wear. This would simply be the roundel section of our badge and have a broach pin on the back. It was felt that it would be a nice gesture, be free and another way to advertise the Guild.

The total cost for 100 badges would be £210; we have over £4800 in the bank at the moment. If you have any comments or objections can I have them please by the 7th Feb as I will then be putting the order in soon afterwards.

Visit to SWS Show at Henfield 22nd December

Lin and I decided that it would be nice visit the SWS Annual show at Henfield. It also gave us a chance to catch up with Bob Jubb who came to us to do a class on netsuke carving. There were a good number of entrants across many different classes not as many as in previous years as some of their more prolific carvers etc had passed on. Nonetheless the display was a good one. They get in a small group of outside judges to judge all the classes and the public vote for their overall favourite on the day.

We met the Chairman, Paul, Bob the secretary and Bob who organises their speakers etc as well as many others. We were well received in fact they would like us to do a talk on ourselves at some point. It was a lovely visit, with many thanks to the SWS.

These are some of the entries on show that day:-



Peoples choices



1st Place Two swans
by John Bennington



2nd Place A green sea turtle
by Chris Grace



3rd Place An ammonite
by Bernie Harris

THE BILL PINNEY COMPETITION for 2019

Bill Pinney competition at the AGM is all about the sea, on it or in it. So remember you only have 4 months to get it completed in.

The winner of the 2018 Bill Pinney competition, was George Palmer, and he has chosen the theme “Anything to do with the Sea” for the 2019 competition. The carving can be in relief or in the round with a maximum size of 9” x 9” x 9” (230mm x 230mm x 230mm). Closing date is the 2019 AGM.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee met on the 16th January. The Chairman stated the 40th anniversary of the Guild had on the whole been successful. He thanked the Committee for their support throughout the year. The main items discussed was, the finalization of the programme for 2019. After agreeing to demonstrate at the Solent Gardeners Faye on 2nd June we were informed that Milland would be reinstating their Fair on the same day; regretfully we had to turn them down. Two new demonstrations have been included in the programme – South Downs Green Fair at the Sustainability Centre in East Meon and Rustic Sunday at the Rural Life Centre in Farnham. These are in addition to demonstrations at QECP, Stubbington and Weald & Downland Living Museum. Another change of venue is the Skittles. It was the intention to revert back to Southwick Golf Club, but they have increased prices and limited the menu to curry only. The Crofton Pub in Stubbington is being considered. Other details are given in the Programme. The Chairman proposed the introduction of ‘a Guild business card’, to supplement the Guild’s brochure which is a little out of date, and lapel badges, subject to no objection by Members. Both these proposals were supported by the Committee. The next Committee meeting will be on the 17th of April at Portchester Community Centre

WEB SITE (by John Vardon)

We have been informed of a ‘slight increase’ in the cost of hosting our web site, due in August 2019. The ‘slight increase’ worked out at 45%! The providers were contacted and I managed to negotiate payment at the current rate if I renewed now; in fact they gave a 12% reduction for a further two years.

Well done John!

The Treasurers Report By A Brace

Subject: Annual Subscriptions

Once again we are approaching a new financial year for the Guilds accounts and this being the last newsletter of this current financial year, I have the unenviable responsibility to ensure that all members are aware that subscriptions become due once again on April the 1st for the new year 2019/2020.

As in previous years, payments is acceptable by cash or cheques, but may I stress one point in regard to cheques, where the bank will only accept cheques made out in TWO payee formats which are as follows:-

- 1) SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS AND SCULPTORS
- 2) SGWS

The committee has also discussed the possibility of enabling members who would like to pay by bank transfer, to do so.

If any members wish to make use of this facility from this year, then the required details are as detailed below.

ACCOUNT NUMBER Contact the Treasurer or Secretary for Account Number

SORT CODE Contact the Treasurer or Secretary for Code

REFERENCE MUST BE MEMBER(S) NAME(S)

(THIS IS TO ENABLE TRACEABILITY FOR ACCOUNTS)

If using the above please double check details entered BEFORE completing transaction as errors would be difficult to resolve.

SATURDAY CARVE-INS

The next Carve-ins are as follows

Saturday the 2nd of February

Saturday the 16th of February

Saturday the 2nd of March

Saturday the 16th of March

Saturday the 6th of April

Saturday the 27th of April

HAPPY CARVING

DEMONSTRATIONS Do not start until May

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome Peter Hallam to the Guild, he has in fact already been and started carving with us on the first Saturday's carve-in this year.

SOCIAL REPORT By Gill Sadler

'Life below Decks on the Royal Yacht'



In November Lt. Cdr. Mike Hill came to talk to us about 'Life below decks of the Royal Yacht'. He joined the Royal Navy in 1954 and during the next 30 years visited most places in the world. Immediately following Princess Margaret's honeymoon cruise to West Indies in June 1960 he joined the Royal Yacht Britannia. During the following four years he travelled the world with practically every member of the Royal Family. He said that forward of the funnel the operational equipment and crew's quarters were in cramped conditions in stark contrast to the magnificent Royal Apartments. The crews were hand-picked and every effort was made to preserve Royal tranquillity by orders being given by hand signals whenever possible and soft white plimsolls worn to reduce noise. Any work near the royal apartments had to be completed by 8.00am. He told us that with TV and press coverage of State Visits, etc. his wife was always kept well

informed of his movements around the world. He said it was a privilege to serve on the Royal Yacht and to be involved in State occasions.

Christmas American supper by Lin Palmer

Yet again I'm over whelmed by the support you give me in organizing the Christmas Supper, it seems to improve every time, this year was no exception. The food choices were of excellent quality so there wasn't a lot left over this time. The 2 quizzes supplied by Gill were very good and thought provoking; She does it every time, making your brain cells get twitchy. Well I hope I'm right in saying that all things being good, and down to yourselves that it will happen again in December, and that next year will be even better.

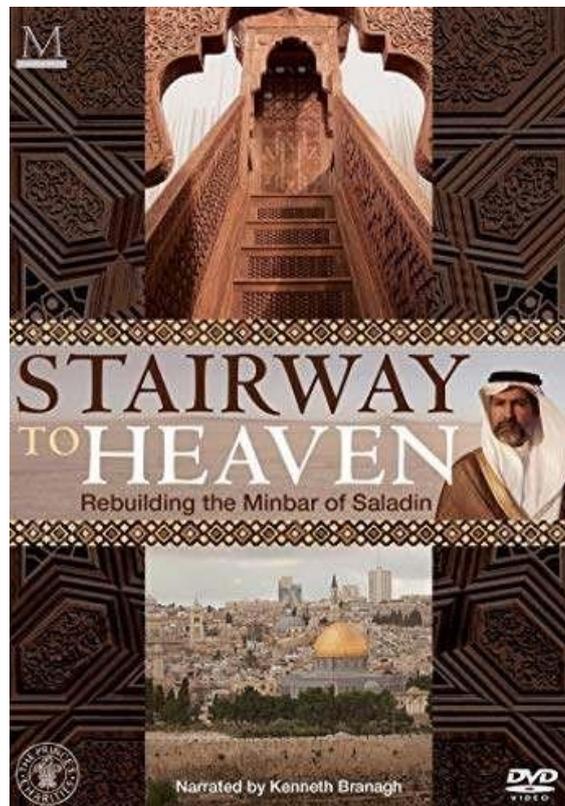
Just to show that we do enjoy ourselves, and quiz concentration can be seen here to



'Stairway to Heaven' The Minbar of Saladin by George Palmer

A minbar is an Islamic pulpit used by the Iman to preach to the faithful. This particular one was given by Saladin on the defeat of the crusaders in Jerusalem to the Al-Aqsa mosque in the 12th century.

The dvd takes you through the story of its rebuild after the original was burnt down along with the mosque in 1970 by an Australian extremist.



It documents the difficulties the Prince of Jordan, the custodians, had in finding people with the necessary skills to design and construct such a masterpiece of Islamic art in today's modern world.

Unfortunately due to difficulties with equipment and lack of experience with the projector the show wasn't as successful as I had hoped. We did though, with strained ears, get the gist of the story and were able to follow the trials and tribulations that led to successful conclusion of a 60,000 piece jigsaw that used no glue, screws or nails in its construction. Well worth a watch if you get a chance

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENINGS

Pub and Board games by George and Lin Palmer

In February on the 13th we have our annual games evening when dominos, shove ha'penny, cribbage and various other games will be here for us to compete with each other. Apart from the usual games mentioned we will be bringing some more games to try. There will be 'nibbles' to enjoy on the tables, just to add to the excitement, but you can bring your own beer. Tea and coffee and soft drinks will be available as usual.

A Close up look at the Life of a Honey Bee

In March David Nield from Portsmouth Beekeepers Society is coming to give an illustrated talk on 'a close-up look at the life of the honey bee'. David was in the Royal Navy for 20 years, Deputy Head at City Boys, Portsmouth and has been a beekeeper for 25 years and in his own words 'still learning and occasionally getting stung!' He will be bringing some of his honey along to buy. This should be an interesting and informative evening.

Quiz Evening By Gill Saddler and Jean Cripps Wednesday the 10th of April, is the month for a Quiz evening, the subject will be a surprise!

Ironic Comments Jean Cripps came across these sayings

1. Money can't buy Happiness; but more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle.
2. Forgive your enemy but remember the name.
3. Help someone in trouble and they will remember you when they are in trouble again.
4. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.
5. Alcohol does not solve problems but neither does milk.

Sickness

Apart from the usual winter ailments that everyone gets, Andrew and Doreen Huebler wish you all a happy new year.

Next issue April 31st 2019 (Please make sure that any submissions for the Newsletter, are received by no later than the 21st of April 2019)