



# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS & SCULPTORS

by

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# 1. Introduction

This document gives a brief history of the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors. It covers the period from the formation in 1978 to 2024. (The original version only went to 2018). The history that follows has been extracted from the archives. It is split up into sections as follows:

- Introduction
- Formation
- Membership
- Council/Committee
- Newsletters
- Carve-Ins
- Demonstrations
- Exhibitions
- Competitions
- Projects
- Social Meetings
- Socials and AGMs
- Visits
- Finances
- Publications
- Website
- Closing Comment

It supported by several Appendices:

- Appendix 1. Yearly Membership
- Appendix 2. Officers and Council/Committee Members
- Appendix 3. Tips
- Appendix 4. Demonstrations
- Appendix 5. Exhibitions
- Appendix 6. Competitions
- Appendix 7. Social Meetings
- Appendix 8. Visits
- Appendix 9. Puzzles

Any comments given below are those of the author and not of the Guild. I have tried to be as accurate as possible but there may be errors!

## 2. Formation

The Guild was formed in 1978 from an idea by four local wood carvers James Bell, Vic Flower, Stan Cullan and Bill Judge. Notes of this meeting are given below.

### SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS AND SCULPTORS.

A meeting was held on Tuesday, ~~1st~~<sup>2nd</sup> May, 1978, at 10.30 am., at 101 Havant Road, North End, to discuss the formation of a Guild for woodcarvers. Mr. J. Bell (Acting Chairman), Mr. V. Flower, Mr. S. Cullan, and Mr. T. W. Judge were present.

After considerable discussion the following points were agreed upon:

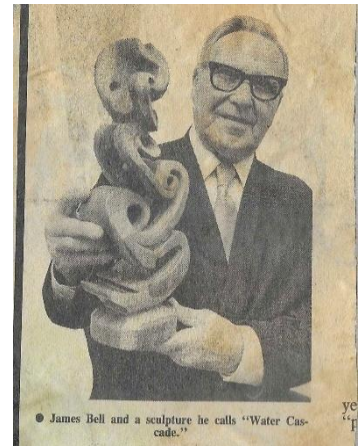
- (1) The title of the society shall be "Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors"
- (2) Objects—To further the aims and interests of woodcarvers and sculptors in the Solent area by means of talks, discussions, exhibitions, etc., as well as the encouragement of beginners in this art.
- (3) The Entrance Fee shall be £2.
- (4) Subscription shall be £1 per annum, payable on 1st January of each year.
- (5) Officers and Committee to consist of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Minute Secretary and six members from floor, to be elected annually.
- (6) Membership Cards to be printed and distributed on payment of Entrance Fee.

Mr. A.P.P. Durrant to be asked to become President of the Guild.

The first meeting (Inaugural) of the Guild to be held on Thursday, 18th May, 1978, at Cosham Park House Annexe, at 7.0 pm.

The meeting closed approx. 11.45 am.





*Founding Members Vic Flower, Bill Judge and James Bell (no image of Stan Cullen are in the archives)*

The initial objectives of the Guild were “to further the aims and interest of woodcarvers and sculptors in the Solent area by means of talks, discussions, exhibitions, etc. as well as the encouragement of beginners in this art”. Note the word ‘art’ rather than ‘craft’! These objectives are essentially the same in the current constitution but with the word ‘art’ dropped.

Following this meeting an inaugural meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1978 when twenty like-minded woodcarvers attended. Minutes of this meeting are given below. It appears that minutes of general meetings, i.e. social meetings as we call them today, were written and maintained for several years. All these minutes were hand-written; computers were only just taking off. These minutes were read and approved at the start of each meeting.

The Inaugural Meeting of the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors was held on Thursday 18th May 1978, at 7.0 pm, at Cosham Park House Annex, Albert Road, Cosham, 20 persons being present. Apologies were received from A. Broadway, V. Flower, G. Roakey and J. Brown.

Mr. J. Bell, whose idea the Guild was, explained the Purpose of the Guild. He felt that there was not enough recognition given to woodcarving in the arts. He then introduced Mr. A.P.P. Durrant, who had been asked by Mr. Bell to become the first President of the Guild. Mr. Durrant spoke of the need to further the aim of woodcarving. He said that during his visits abroad, woodcarving had a higher place in the arts than in England, and he hoped that the Guild would foster a friendly & social interest in this art. He suggested that trips to art galleries, etc., forming a library of films of sculpture would help in this direction.

#### Election of Officers

The following Officers for the ensuing year were elected:  
Chairman - Mr. J. Bell; Secretary - ~~Mr. V. Flower~~ Mr. S. Callan;  
Treasurer - Mr. V. Flower; Minute Secretary - Mr. The Judge;  
Committee: - J. Brown, G. Roakey, W. T. Barber, A. Cooper,  
T. Masters and C. Herbert.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the first Committee Meeting were read and discussed.

#### Meetings

Mr. Bell proposed and Mr. W. T. Barber seconded that the Guild meet once a month. Carried.

#### Future Meetings

Suggestions for future meetings included discussion of members' work; Care of Tools; Clay modelling; Visits to art galleries, etc. and starting a library of films. The meeting closed at approx 9.0 pm.

M. Shadrin  
In Chairman



This meeting was also reported in the local press. In fact, in the early days many more of the Guild's activities, e.g. exhibitions, demonstrations and competitions, were reported in the local press.

## Carving a happy retirement

It sounds like an advert, but life was miserable for retired decorator James Bell — until he discovered sculpting.

"My first two years of retirement were awful. I was so miserable," said Mr. Bell (72), of Eastfield Road, Southsea, "and then five years ago I started wood carving."

Now he and other enthusiasts are trying to form the Portsmouth Guild of Sculptors and Wood-carvers.

"We hope to hold meetings, talks and exhibitions and perhaps sculpting workshops, but everything depends on finance. We want to attract people interested in working in wood, stone, plaster, metal, clay or any other material."

"Another objective is to find somewhere people can work on large scale sculpture. The back garden of a terraced house is not exactly suitable."

Mr. Bell says there is a lot of interest — courses at further education centres are fully subscribed — yet Portsmouth Museum cold-shoulders sculptors.

"They are only interested in professional or international painters. At a recent exhibition for local artists, 1,000 pieces of work of all kinds were entered.

## SOLENT CARVERS FORM GUILD

MAY 1978  
An organization to further the aims and interests of sculptors and wood carvers has been formed at Cosham. It is believed to be the first of its type in the South.

The organization is to be known as the Solent Guild of Wood Carvers and Sculptors, and will meet at Cosham Park House annexe, Albert Road.

Twenty members joined at the meeting, and 15 more have said they will do so.

The guild is the idea of Mr. J. A. Bell, of 7, Eastfield Road, Southsea, who feels that wood carvers and sculptors get far less recognition than those involved with other forms of art.

Mr. A. P. P. Durant, a design examiner, congratulated Mr. Bell on suggesting a guild and said it would be appropriate if the programme included visits to art centres and galleries, and the formation of a library of films and slides.

### WORK

Mr. Bell said he was particularly pleased to welcome two 13-year-old boys to the guild, because they were keen on sculpture which was not in the school syllabus.

It was stated that, at the next meeting on June 21, members would take along work for examination. Wood carvers were being asked to take the tools of their craft, as a demonstration of sharpening and general care would be given.

Officers elected: President, Mr. A. P. D. Durant; chairman, Mr. J. A. Bell; secretary, Mr. S. A. Callan; treasurer, Mr. V. L. Flower, minutes secretary, Mr. T. W. Judge.

### 3. Membership

A numeric list of membership is given in Appendix 1 and is shown graphically below.



*Members of Guild taken mid 1980's in All Saints Church Hall.*

In 1980 the membership was 50 **carvers** (including honorary members). Since then, the number has averaged

- a) 62 between 1980 and 1989, with a peak of 72
- b) 75 between 1990 and 1999, with a peak of 82
- c) 52 between 2000 and 2009, with a peak of 55
- d) 38 between 2010 and 2019 with a peak of 38 and
- e) 28 Between 2020 and 2024 with a peak of 30 and a low of 25.

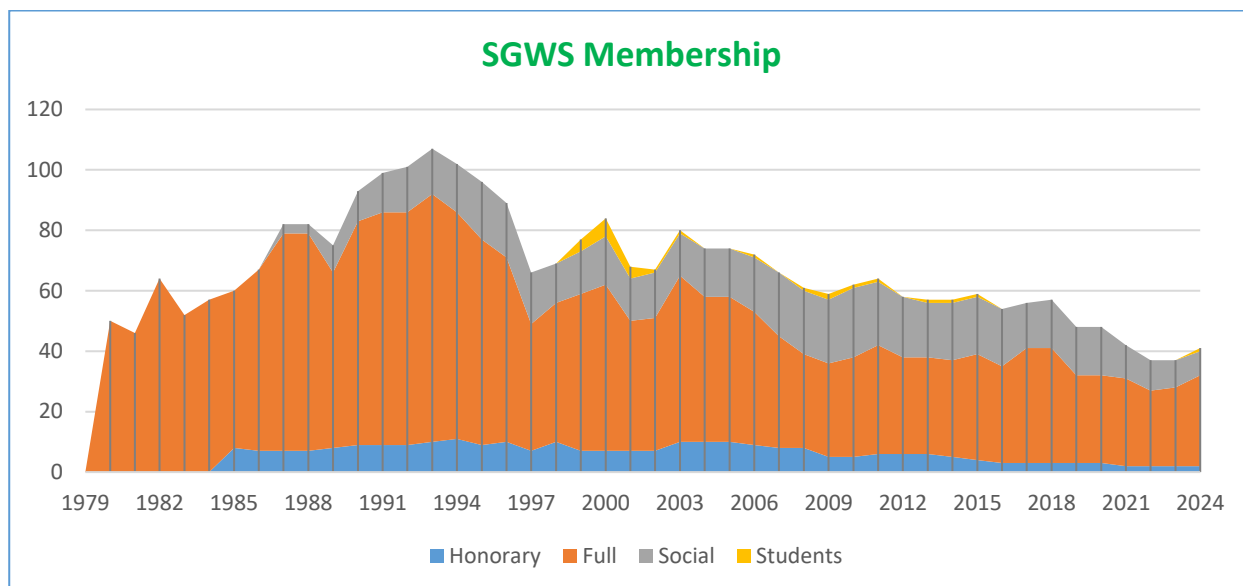
In about 1987 social membership was introduced and then in 1999 students were allowed to join at nil cost. Taking **all members** into account the averages were:

- f) 64 between 1980 and 1989, with a peak of 82
- g) 90 between 1990 and 1999, with a peak of 107
- h) 72 between 2000 and 2009, with a peak of 80
- i) 57 between 2010 and 2019 with a peak of 64 and
- j) 41 between 2020 and 2024 with a peak of 48.

It is interesting to note the fall in membership in 1989, 1997 (in particular) and 2002 map on to an increase in subscriptions. Note some of the years mentioned may be a year out as the date of membership lists varied and, in some cases, there were conflicts with minutes of meetings. Between around 2000 and 2022 the trend in reducing numbers was a concern. However, in 2023 the number of carving members increased. The increase in subscriptions in 2024 did not result in any decrease in membership. Another consideration for the fall off in membership is the impact of the digital age.

In 1991 the Council discussed closing membership because it had grown to over 75 carvers; this was not taken up. Although the current membership is 38 it has remained in the thirties for 12 years which is encouraging. However, the current big worry is the age of membership which must be 65 plus. It has been suggested that this has always been a concern despite a young people sculpture competition in the 1980's which attracted nearly 100 entries. The current mix of members is approximately five to one male to female; this compares to a ratio of 5:1 in 2010, 3:1 in 2000 and 6:1 in 1990.





At the start the Guild provided membership cards

**OBJECTS**

To further the aims and interests of woodcarvers and Sculptors in the Solent area by means of talks, discussions and exhibitions, as well as the encouragement of beginners in this art.

Secretary :  
.....  
.....

Treasurer :  
.....  
.....

Member's Name :  
.....

Date	Subscription	Initials
1978		
1979		
1980		
1981		
1982		
1983		
1984		
1985		

In 1980/90 membership badges were introduced. The earliest badge identified was a metal/plastic one. At some stage these ran out and around 2021 a new metal lapel badge was introduced for members. There have also been several versions of shirt.



## 4. Council/Committee

A table of Officers and Members of the 'Council' since 1982 is given in Appendix 2. Since the Guild's inception the 'organisers' were known as the Council but in 2013 it was decided that with the reduced membership to change the term to 'Committee'. At the same time, the term 'President' was changed to 'Chairman'.

The size of the Council was always large (in number!) for the size of the Guild until it was rationalised a couple of times since 2002. In 2002 the number of members attending Council meetings was up to fifteen for a membership of under fifty carvers! The fifteen were President, Vice President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Immediate Past Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Speakers Secretary, Newsletter Editor and five others. The current (2024) Committee comprise Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Newsletter Editor and three others and it continues to be difficult to fill these few roles.

## 5. Newsletters

Newsletters were considered extremely important from the word go. Apart from word-of-mouth it was the only way to communicate with members; no such thing as email in the 1980's. Obviously the cost of postage was a worry as highlighted by the Newsletter Editor at times. The first newsletter was issued in August 1979.

It does appear that the Guild, in its early days, got a lot of publicity in the local press. No doubt this would have helped recruitment.

The content of the newsletters has been essentially the same from 1979. They give a list of future activities, which was important in the early days as a separate programme was not issued, reports of events, welcoming new members and saying goodbye to those that left, concerns about the Guild, etc. The format and content of the Newsletters varied depending on who the editor was at the time.

Some interesting contents extracted from the Newsletters and worthy of noting are:

- a. At the first carve-in in September 1979 the public were invited to 'have a look around' in the afternoon
- b. The death of James Bell, chairman and founder Member, in 1979 was reported (not long after the formation of the Guild) and a cherry tree was planted in Milton Park in his memory with a carved plaque (replaced with a stainless steel one in 1990). I do not know if the tree is still standing. Also, his tools were to be 'auctioned' at a Guild meeting. Were they really auctioned or just sold? This term was used several times during the early years.



- c. Tips was a regular appearance in the 1980's. A list of the tips is given in Appendix 3.
- d. In 1982 a bird carving course by John Powell was organised and several members attended; some twice (or two times as the modern language demands!) or more.
- e. In 1983/4 there was, for a number of years, correspondence between 'woodlouse' and 'wild hops'. It is not documented who the two correspondents were but I could hazard a guess, but my lips are sealed! The main theme was 'wine and drink'.
- f. In 1985 (and again in 1995) Charlie Perkins was awarded silver medal at the Woodworker Show for his carving of Mirror Image. In the same year the Guild planted a lime tree in Leigh Park Gardens.



*Charlie's Mirror Image Carving*

- g. In 1986 the Newsletter Editor was still using a fifty-year-old typewriter and using the photostat method of printing using a 1936 printer! In 1990 the Editor got a new typewriter for their birthday.
- h. In 1987 suggestions were requested on how to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Not sure if any were made.
- i. In May 1988 there was concern with the cost, about one third of the subscription, of producing and posting the newsletters.
- j. In 1989 there was some discontent voiced by some members in particular the way the Guild was run. It was suggested these criticisms were out in the open.
- k. In May 1991 the Council considered closing the membership list as stated in section 3. Also, some consideration was given to giving the newsletter a name; this was not taken up.
- l. In July 1991 two members purchased two tents for the Guild for use at demonstrations. The following year one of these members purchased a third tent.



*Tented Village*



- m. In 1992 two members donated money for the purchase of cups and medals.
- n. In 1996 a record twenty carvers attended a carve-in. Two members provided thoughts about the Guild and where to we go from here. It is unclear whether these thoughts were translated into actions. (In 2024 this record was broken when twenty-one carvers attended with a much-reduced membership.)
- o. In 1997 there was some discontent within the Guild resulting in some members resigning.
- p. Also, in 1997 it was agreed to have a raffle at various events. This has since subsidised the subscriptions by a large percentage.
- q. It was also stated in 1997 that there would only be four issues of the Newsletter produced and after each quarterly Council meeting. This never seems to have happened as they continued every other month. However, in 2008 the number was reduced to five and then in 2014 to four issues a year. The reduction coincided with an annual programme being issued and regular updates of the Guild's web site.
- r. In 1998 the Guild's banners were purchased. These are shown in the photo below.
- s. Also, in 1998 the first Guild web site, hosted by Hampshire County Council, was developed. This was replaced to the current one in 2014.
- t. In late 1998 there was concern on the aging profile of the Guild. Things have not changed!
- u. In 1999 the day of social meetings was changed from a Friday to Wednesday. This did not go down well with some members.
- v. Also, in 1999 it was decided to buy, with financial support from some members, two new tents for the Guild. A third one was purchased in 2007.



*The Current Tents*

- w. In 2000 the average attendance at Carve-Ins was 20 with a membership of 55 carvers. In 2018 the attendance is the same but with a 30% reduction in carving members. In 2023/24 the average attendance increased to 17, i.e. more than half the membership.
- x. In 2001 it was reported there was a lack of support at demonstrations; this has not changed!
- y. In 2002 the Guild purchased its first 'first aid' kit. Are we now less careful?
- z. In 2004, 48 members and guests attended the annual dinner.



- aa. In 2004 a new trophy was presented for 'non-wood' carvings.
- bb. Also, in 2004 one of our members decided to take a tumble at a demonstration at Marwell Zoo.



- cc. In 2008 the 'entrance fee' for new members was withdrawn.
- dd. In 2010 a new trophy was presented for a competition (with a theme) to be held at the AGM and voted for by members; other competitions are voted for by the public.
- ee. In 2014 some members were winners at the annual completion of The British Decoy & Wildfowl Carvers Association (BDWCA).
- ff. In 2015 a change to the Guild's name was discussed, but not taken forward, together with a revised committee structure.
- gg. In 2017 a photographic essay of the Guild was produced. A copy can be seen on the Guild's website.



*Guild Members at a Carve-In (2017)*

- hh. Sometimes puzzles were included in the Newsletters. A couple are given in Appendix 9.
- ii. In 2018 a brief history of the Guild was produced.
- jj. Also, in 2018 the Guild celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an 'American Lunch'. Also, a new 'pop-up banner' was purchased to help to advertise the Guild.

- kk. In 2019 Mike Painter, Master Carver visited the Guild to give a talk and advice to each Member present.
- ll. Also in 2019, the Chairman was concerned about poor attendance at socials.
- mm. During 2020/2021 the Guild's activities were suspended due to Covid.
- nn. In 2020 metal lapel badges were purchased for Members.
- oo. Carve-Ins and Demonstrations, paused because of Covid, resumed in late 2021.
- pp. In 2022, a revised information leaflet was produced.
- qq. In 2023, a new banner, with the Guild's logo, was purchased to supplement those purchased in 1998.
- rr. Also in 2023 it agreed to increase subscriptions from £21 to £30, the first increase since 2012.
- ss. In 2024, the information leaflet was updated with new photographs.
- tt. In 2024 the brief history of the Guild was updated.

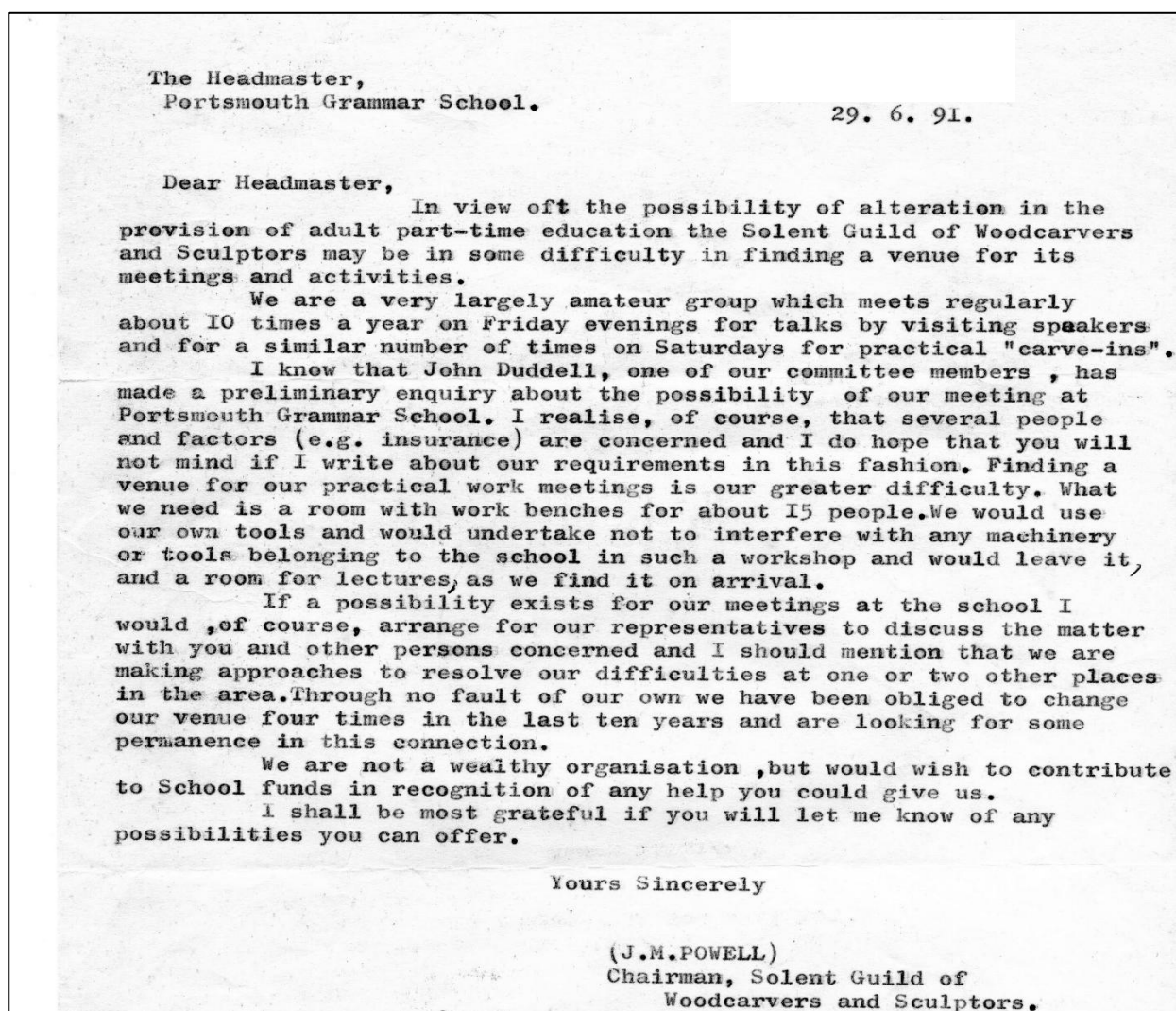




## 6. Carve-Ins

The first carving session, or carve-in as the members call them, was held in September 1979 in the All Saints' Church Hall, Commercial Road, Portsmouth (opposite the old Royal hospital which was closed in 1979) where carvers had to bring their own workmates, tools and sandwiches. Tea would be provided. To offset the cost of the hall a charge of £0.50 was made. Due to the local authority not supporting night school classes a second carve-in was held in January 1980. However, this decision appears to have been reversed in the March. Further carve-ins were held from the February but with an increased fee of £1; the fee was increased to £1.50 in 1987. The average attendance at these early carve-ins was around ten.

In 1982 the carve-ins became monthly except for the summer months. In 1989 the carve-ins were moved to the Portsmouth Drama Centre (later renamed Portsmouth Art Centre) in Eastney where they had work benches until 1991 when 28 members turned up and found all the benches had been removed! In 1991 the then Chairman wrote to Portsmouth Grammar School (PGS) seeking facilities for the carve-ins. A copy of the letter is given below which suggests 'a place of permanence.' No written reply has been found but it must have been positive as PGS has been the venue for carve-ins ever since. In 2000 the average attendance at the monthly carve-ins was twenty, dropped to around thirteen in 2023 but increased to 17 in 2024. Drinks and biscuits are provided at the carve-ins.



Following members' requests additional carve-ins, i.e. twice a month in three months, were introduced in 2004; this was further increased in later years to twice a month for most months (except July and August). In 2024 the number of carve-ins was reduced to 15 due to increase of PGS costs. In 2015 it was decided to trial evening carve-ins at Portchester Community Centre; there was a fee of £5 to ensure it was self-financed. However, these were not popular, and they were discontinued the following year.

During the early years there was some confusion as attendance at demonstrations and exhibitions was often referred to carve-ins.

## 7. Demonstrations

From the archives it appears that demonstrations at various ‘local’ venues started in 1983. The word local is in quotes as some events, e.g. Andover, were some distance. Demonstrations were considered important to engage the public and attracting new members. In the first twenty or so years there were some annual ‘must-haves’ venues, e.g. Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QECF), Marwell Zoo, Catherington Lithe, Amberley Chalk Museum, Emsworth Horticultural Society, Stanstead Park, Leigh Park Gardens/Staunton, Stanstead House/Park, Arundel Wildfowl and Wetland Trust. At these venues there may have been two or more events each year. In addition, the Guild supported several local events, e.g. church and school fairs. A list of the demonstrations is given in Appendix 4.



*Demonstration at Portchester Castle (ads a good advert for B&D Work Mates!)*

In 1996 it was reported that the Guild attended nineteen events and twenty-five days demonstrating! A few years later the number of events was reduced to about twelve per year and has slowly reduced to about five. One common concern made over the life of the Guild has been the lack of carvers attending demonstrations. This seems to go in cycles – a few one year and then back up to ten or more in the following years before dropping off again. Since 2010 the number of demonstrations has slowly declined with only five in 2023. Does this relate to the drop-off of new members?



*Demonstration at Stanstead in 1993*





*Display at Annual Competition held at South Downs Show in 2022*

Some other interesting facts about or at demonstrations recorded in the newsletters:

- a. In 1999 the demonstration at Arundel Wildfowl Trust was initially postponed due to fuel crisis (remember that?) and then cancelled the following month due to flooding.



*Another time at Arundel*

- b. In 2000 the Emsworth Horticultural Show was badly hit by thunderstorm
- c. In 2001 foot and mouth forced the cancellation at Milland and possibly also at QECP.
- d. In 2002 we came unstuck (sic) at the Sussex Game and Country Show when following torrential rain, the ground became a mud bath; this was very much experienced by Andrew when he fell over. Even two years later there was still mud on my car from this event!



- e. In 2008 whilst demonstrating at the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, it proved to be colder inside the Lavant House than out and the electric heaters resisted every attempt to switch them on. To save the day, the Museum staff lit a fire for us in the large grate. So, the first visitors arrived to find a couple of carvers choking in a London Smog atmosphere, with the sensible ones off in search of bacon rolls and drier firewood. Once the chimney warmed up the smoke inside the room diminished



*A foggy day in ~~London Town~~ Lavant House ...*

- f. Even Fareham Model Engineers in 2012 did not escape when they had to cancel due to flooding.



## 8. Exhibitions

Exhibitions were held on a regular basis for twenty years from 1979. A list of exhibitions is given in Appendix 5. Over these years there was a public annual exhibition initially held at the All Saints Church, later at the Portsmouth Art Centre and then in various venues, e.g. Fort Purbrook and Havant Art Centre (now called The Spring).



### Guild carves out new niche

A GROUP of craftsmen in the Portsmouth area carved a new niche for themselves when they organized a joint sale of their work.

Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors held their fifth annual exhibition at the Owen Room, All Saints Church, Commercial Road, over the week-end.

Carvings and wood sculptures of various styles, from chess sets to intricately carved roses — with scent added — were on display.

As a departure from previous years the Guild put some of the fruits of their labours on sale.

"People complained at previous exhibitions that they could not buy anything, so this year we have items on offer to sell," said retired school teacher Mr. John Duddell.

About £250 worth of work was put on offer, and the proceeds will go to The Parkinson's Disease Society.

Vice-President Mr. George Rockey (60) teaches the art of woodcarving at evening classes in the area.

He was commissioned by Mr. John Broomhead, chief diver on the H.M.S. Invincible project, to produce a life-size carving of a Rottweiler.

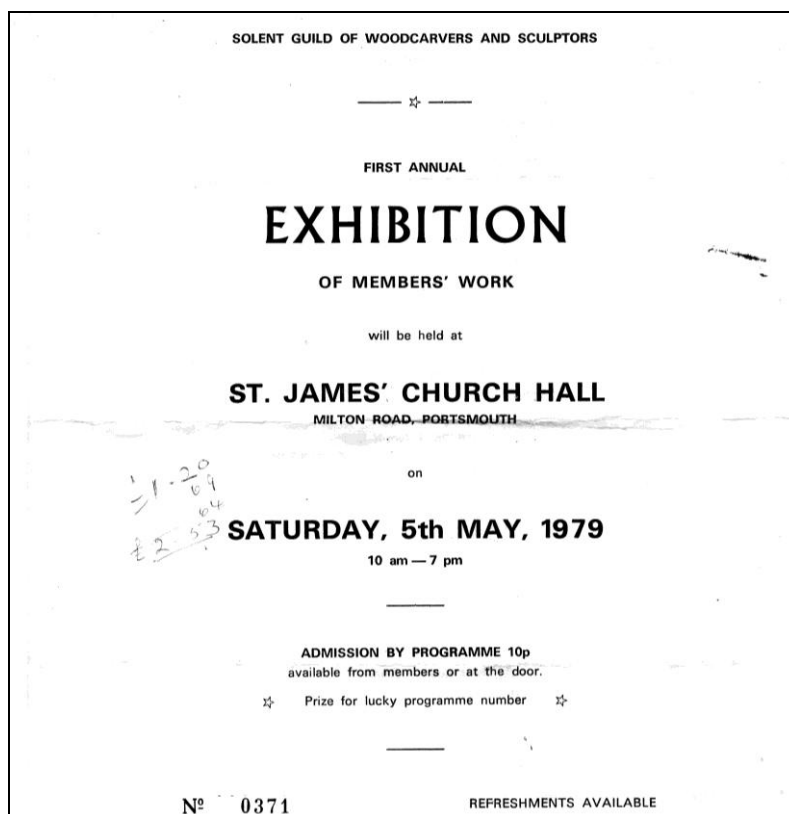
Mr. Broomhead's wife breeds the German dogs, and wood for the 3ft. high carving — made from solid mahogany — costs £60.

Mr. Rockey said: "Wood is expensive. At one time the city tree surgeon used to notify me when any useful hardwood trees were felled."

The 60-strong group welcome new members to their carve-ins at the church, to swap ideas — and sometimes wood.

Would-be craftsmen — or women — can telephone Mr. Rockey on Cosham 386087.

Another exhibition was held at St James' Church Hall. The public paid a nominal fee to enter and could even buy some of the carvings. A listing of the carvings was produced. The exhibition was reported in the local press.



Each member of the Guild has an Exhibition number programme containing details of o

EXHIBIT	MEMBER'S NAME	MEMBER'S No.	SELLING PRICE
Born Free	BELL, J. A. 7 Eastfield Road, Portsmouth	B.1.	£190
	BROWN, Mrs. D. 54 Kinross Crescent, Cosham	B.2.	
Fruit Bowl	BARBER, W. 1 Edmund Road, Southsea	B.3.	
	BELL, T. 49 Manor Road, Portsmouth	B.4.	
	BROADWAY, A. School Lane, Compton, Sussex	B.5.	
	BELCHER, Mrs. E. 173 Francis Avenue, Southsea	B.6.	
Tropical Fish	BRANCHFLOWER, Mrs. B. 68 Queens Road, Portsmouth	B.7.	
	BRANCHFLOWER, C. 68 Queens Road, Portsmouth	B.8.	NFS
Jewel Box	CALLAN, S. 12 Court Close, Cosham	C.1.	NFS
	COOMER, J. 9 Redhill Road, Rowlands Castle	C.2.	
Tern	CAMPBELL, J. 106 Cardiff Road, North End	C.3.	
	CORPES, Miss E. 53 Central Road, Drayton	C.4.	
	COWARD, N. H. 36 Velder Avenue, Portsmouth	C.5.	NFS
	CROCKFORD, A. 96 Roseberry Avenue, Cosham	C.6.	
Last Rose	DURANT, A. P. P. Hundred Acres, Wickham	D.1.	
	DODGE, B. 64 Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham	D.2.	NFS
Salmon Leap	DUFF, Dr. D. Newton Place, Lee-on-Solent	D.3.	
	FLOWER, V. 73 Havant Road, Cosham	F.1.	
	GREIVE, Mrs. H. Portsdown Hill Road, Cosham	G.1.	
	GOODSON SMITH, Mrs. T. 18 Widley Road, Cosham	G.2.	
Tobacco Jar	GREGORY, R. 9 Claydon Avenue, Milton	G.3.	NFS
The Model	HERBERT, C. 10 Netley Terrace, Southsea	H.1.	NFS
	HARFIELD, H. 57 Tregarron Avenue, Cosham	H.2.	

and this number will be seen on each exhibit, the  
only one of the member's exhibits.

EXHIBIT	MEMBER'S NAME	MEMBER'S No.	SELLING PRICE
Queen Nefretiti	HEMMINS, D. 76 Old Farm Road, Farlington	H.3.	NFS
Desolation	JUDGE, T. W. 101 Havant Road, Portsmouth	J.1.	NFS
Owl	LANE, E. 34 Crofton Road, Portsmouth	L.1.	NFS
	LAVIS, Miss C. 36 Copnor Road, Portsmouth	L.2.	
Agony and Ecstasy	MASTERS, T. 11 Laverlock Lea, Portchester	M.1.	NFS
	OGLE, R. P. 16 Farlington Road, Cosham	O.1.	
	PAINE, D. C. 15 Hartley Road, North End	P.1.	
	PEACH, E. 94 Silvester Road, Cowplain	P.2.	
Man Complete	PEARCE, A. R. 34 Parkside, Bedhampton	P.3.	NFS
	PILBEAM, Mrs. P. 77 Lovett Road, Copnor	P.4.	
	PILBEAM, D. 77 Lovett Road, Copnor	P.5.	
Hands	ROCKEY, G. 37 Dysart Avenue, Cosham	R.1.	NFS
	RIDOUT, Lt. F. G. Station Road, Southampton	R.2.	
	SHERATON, G. 4 St. Davids Road, Southsea	S.1.	
	SYKES, Mrs. G. 45 Catfield Road, Milton	S.2.	
Abstract Form	SEWARD, K. B. 48 Wigan Crescent, Bedhampton	S.3.	NFS
	TURNBULL, P. 352 Milton Road, Cowplain	T.1.	
Catch 22	WARD, G. R. 106 Mayles Road, Milton	W.1.	£50
The Model	WRIGHT, Mrs. D. 9 Netley Terrace, Southsea	W.2.	NFS
	WOODFORD, D. 6 Buckland Close, Waterlooville	W.3.	
	WOODFORD, Mrs. D. 6 Buckland Close, Waterlooville	W.4.	
Hunting Stroat	WALLAGE, W. 2 Shirley Road, Southsea	W.5.	NFS
	WARDALE, E. 65 Reginald Road, Eastney	W.6.	

## SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS AND SCULPTORS

In May 1978 four men, strangers, except that they were students at a further education woodcarving class, met at a house in North End to discuss the possibility of forming a Guild for woodcarvers. This was the brain-child of one of the four — Mr James A. Bell, who felt that more recognition should be given to this art. It was decided to advertise this project and subsequently a meeting of 20 interested persons was held on Thursday, 18th May, 1978, at Cosham Park House, at which the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors was officially inaugurated.

The following were elected as officers for one year :

Mr. James A. Bell, (Founder), Chairman;

Mr. Stan Callan, Secretary;

Mr. Victor Flower, Treasurer;

Mr. T. W. Judge, Minute Secretary;

Mr. A. P. P. Durant, a specialist in woodcarving, was asked to be the first President of the Guild.

The objects of the Guild are :—

To further the aims and interests of woodcarvers and sculptors in the Solent Area by means of talks, discussions, exhibitions etc., as well as the encouragement of beginners in this art.

Membership of the Guild is open to all interested in carving generally. Application should be made to the Secretary or any member of the Committee.

Entrance Fee - £2.00

Annual Subscription - £1.00

Potential members welcome to any of the General Meetings.

**General Meetings :** 7.30 p.m.

Third Friday in January, March, May, July, September and November.

**Committee Meetings :** 7.30 p.m.

Third Friday in February, April, June, August, October and December, all at Probation Office, Isambard Brunel Road, Portsmouth.

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Acme Printing Co. Ltd. 36 Middle Street, Portsmouth, Hants.



Members of the public visiting The Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors exhibition at the St James Church Hall, Milton, Portsmouth, watch woodcarver George Rocky, of Dysart Avenue, Drayton, give a demonstration.

In its first year, the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors has established itself as an organization with a singularly talented and gifted membership.

The guild's objects are to further the aims and interests of craftsmen and women in these categories in the area by talks, discussions and exhibitions, and to encourage beginners in the art.

The first annual exhibition of members' work certainly did this, and many of those who saw the exhibition at St James Church Hall, Milton, Portsmouth, must have gone home determined to make better use of their own leisure.

The group's founder and chairman, Mr. James A. Bell, whose skilful work was on show, was ill at St Mary's Hospital, but his telegram of good wishes to the guild was displayed.

It was Mr. Bell, with three fellow students of a further education woodcarving class, who first discussed the forming of a guild to fill a gap in the city's cultural and artistic life.

#### AMATEURS

To the uninitiated it appeared unbelievable that the dozens of exhibits on show had been created by amateurs, one of whom, Mrs. Doris Brown, of Kinross Crescent, Cosham, began woodcarving only a year ago.

Her delightful painted birds attracted attention, and she told The News that she had to make 450 undercuts on the wings of

an owl, fashioned in lime wood.

For sheer excellence of carving, it was hard to find an exhibit to beat a pair of aged, veined hands, with most beautifully executed nails, which had the title "Peace," and took Mr. D. Woodford, of Buckland Close, Waterlooville, 53 hours to complete in teak.

Pale sycamore was chosen by Mr. D. Dodge, of Gudge Heath Lane, Fareham, to create a charming, lively representation of a mother otter and her three young.

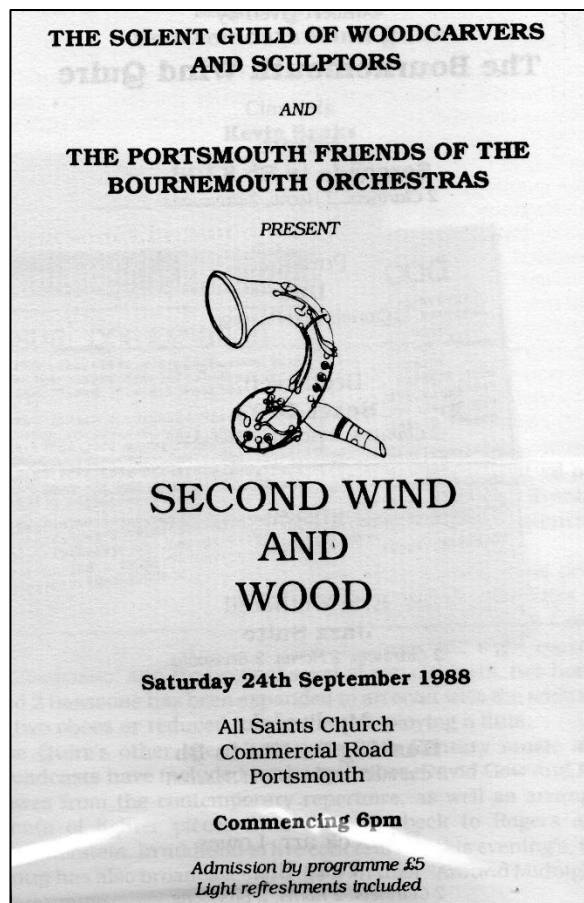
Exhibits by Mr. T. W. Judge, of Havant Road, North End, Portsmouth, who began to carve four years ago, by chance, included Welsh love spoons with their intricate chains, and "Desolation" an evocative carving representing the plight of refugees in Angola.

A main exhibit was Mr. Bell's delightful "Born free," carved from one large piece of two-shaded beech, the dark streak resulting from honey fungus, and used competently for perfect effect.

In 1990 it was reported there were over 160 entries. At some of the annual exhibitions a 'best of show' competition was held for the James Bell trophy.



Some exhibitions were held in conjunction with another event, e.g. a musical evening or with Bournemouth Wind Quire.



In addition to the annual exhibition, members' carvings were sometimes on display at various venues, e.g. Portsmouth Central Library, and Waterlooville and Andover Museums, for one or more weeks. For some of these posters were printed. An example of one is shown below together with photos of a couple of exhibitions.

Sometimes the Guild exhibited and demonstrated carving in aid of various organisations. One was held in Portsmouth Guildhall.



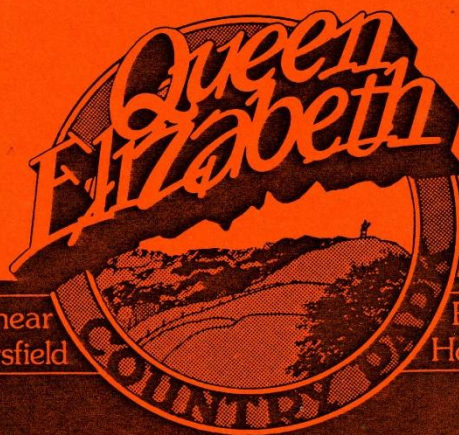
Although exhibitions displaying members' carvings are no longer held there is a limited display of carvings at the various demonstrations.

# SOLENT GUILD *of* WOODCARVERS & SCULPTORS

*Show*

*30 April - 8 May*

An exhibition and demonstration  
of members work



On the A3 near  
Petersfield

For details ring  
Horndean 595040





*Exhibition at Havant Museum*



*Exhibition at Portsmouth Cathedral*



## 9. Competitions

In 1981 the Guild hosted the first Portsmouth Young People Sculpture competition. It appears this was for sculptures in all media and not just wood. The overall winner was awarded with a trophy carved by George Rockey. Later this trophy was renamed the 'Harry Wareham Trophy'.

### Invitation to sculptors


Organizers of Portsmouth's first sculpture competition for young people will be playing host at a cheese and wine evening at All Saints Church, Commercial Road, tomorrow at 7.30 p.m.

The prize-winner's trophy carved by Cosham sculptor Mr. George Rockey, will be on display during the evening, which is aimed at raising funds to cover the cost of the competition.

Entry forms for the competition, which is open to young people aged between 12 and 17, are available from all branches of the Trustee Savings Bank in Portsmouth and Cosham.

Completed entries will also be accepted at the banks until May 9.

All entries will be exhibited at the Mountbatten Gallery, Guildhall Square, from Saturday, May 30, to Friday, June 5. Judging will be on May 29.



Mr. George Rockey, vice-chairman of Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors, holding the new trophy.

The following year, 1982, the Guild together with the Portsmouth Rotary Club organised the 2nd Portsmouth Young People Sculpture competition. As well as the trophy carved by George Rockey for the overall winner, there was another trophy, the Bell Trophy, awarded for the best wood carving. Note there were eighty entries. Were there any more after this one?

### Successes carved out 21.6.82

About 200 children and adults crowded into Portsmouth's Mountbatten Gallery to see the prize-giving in the Young People's Sculpture competition.

They were also able to see the entries — 80 in all — and a display by the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors.

The Lady Mayoress of Portsmouth (Mrs. Carol Fisher) presented the prizes.

Seven entries were commended, six highly commended and five won £10 best of group awards.

The George Rockey Trophy and £25 for the best entry went to Sophia Taylor (15), of Priory School, Southsea.

Andrew Dredge (17), of Shiplake College, Henley-on-Thames, won the James Bell Trophy, and £15 for the best woodcarving.

Anthony Parham, of

Portsmouth College of Art, won the T.S.B. Trophy and £15 for the best entry from a 16 to 18-year-old.  
Susan Chadwick (11), of

Morelands Middle School, Purbrook, won the Portsmouth North Rotary Trophy and £15 for the best junior entry.



Trophy winners pictured from left, Anthony Parham from Portsmouth College of Art, Sophia Taylor from Priory School, Southsea, and Susan Chadwick, from Morelands Middle School, Purbrook. — Picture 1767-1

A list of Guild competitions and winners is given in Appendix 6. The first competition I found evidence for was at the annual exhibition in 1985 when the 'best-in-show' was competed for and was won by Charlie Perkins for his carving of 'Reflection'. He was awarded the James Bell Trophy. He also won in the following year with his carving 'The Lovers'. Voting was by members and the public.



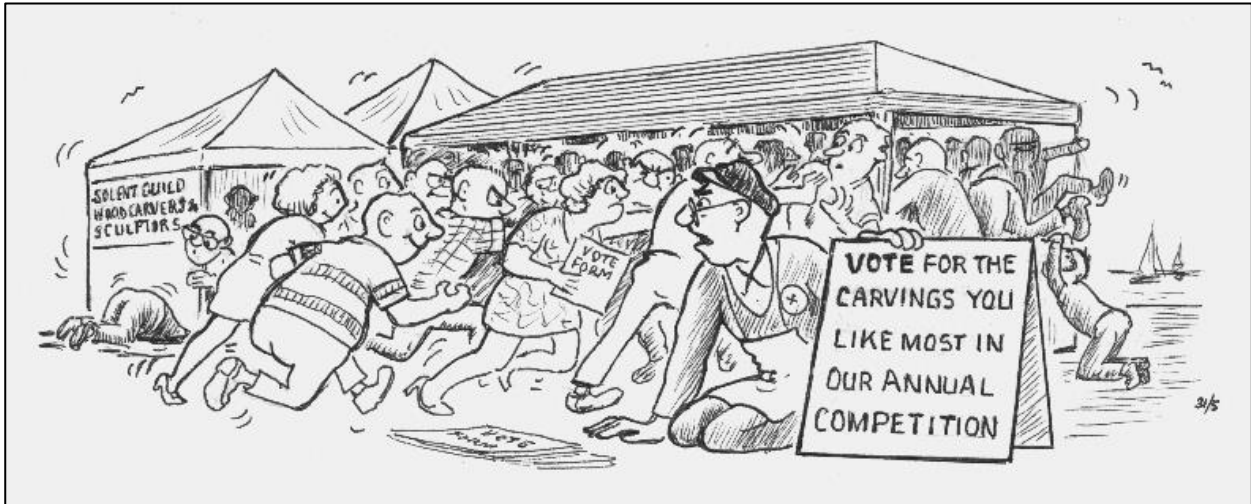
*Charlie's carving of The Lovers*

In 1987 a trophy carved by George Rockey appears to have been renamed 'The Harry Wareham Trophy', in memory of Harry Wareham who had died in 1986, and was awarded for the best carving in a 'figure sculpture class'. Details in the Newsletters is a little vague but I believe the first winner of this trophy was George Rockey in 1988 when the theme was 'Dance'. In following years, the themes were 'The Olympics', 'The Musician', 'Village Life' and 'Elizabethan Dress'. Voting in this competition was at the AGM and by members only. However, in later years the Harry Wareham Trophy was voted for by the public at the Annual Competition.



In 1993 the James Bell trophy was competed for in various classes, General, Abstract, Relief, Human and Wildlife. Winners in each classed were awarded certificates and medals. The trophy still went to the best-in-show. This competition was in conjunction with the Harry Wareham trophy, held at a two-day exhibition at Queen Elizabeth County Park and voted for by members and the public. In the mid/late 1990s these competitions were held after the AGM or on a separate night and voted for by members only.

From 1999 the annual competitions were held at key demonstrations normally in May or June and voted for by members and the public. Normally the competition was held on one day only but in 2003 It was held over two days and nearly 700 votes were cast!



In 2004, following the death of past Chairman Dr Derek Duff, his daughter presented a new trophy to be competed for by novice carvers. This trophy was aimed at new carvers and hoped that it would encourage newcomers to enter the Guild competition.



Some members not only carved wood but also carved other materials, e.g. stone. However, there was no class for this medium. In 2005 Jess Jay kindly offered to present a new trophy for 'non-wood' carvings. The first winner of this trophy, given as a special award, was John Tappy.



In 2006 a new trophy in memory of founder member Vic Flower was presented. This trophy was initially awarded, for two years' to the winner of the Wildlife class, Pat Kyari.



In 2008 a review of competitions and trophies was carried out. Prior to 2008 voters voted for the first, second and third places in each class. Counting of the votes was quite time consuming and voters complained it was too difficult to place three carvings in each class as well as best in show. An analysis of the results over several years concluded that the winner was the same if only first place was considered. It was therefore agreed that the voters would only vote for a winner in each class and not to have 'best in show'. At the same time, it was agreed to 're-allocate' the trophies so there was one for each class. This required a new trophy, the Presidents trophy, which was presented jointly by Pax Benger and Alan Crockford. In 2024, as there is no longer a President it was agreed to rename the trophy the 'John Vardon Trophy' (in recognition of his work for the Guild over twenty-four years).



Trophies were therefore competed for during the annual competition day as follows:

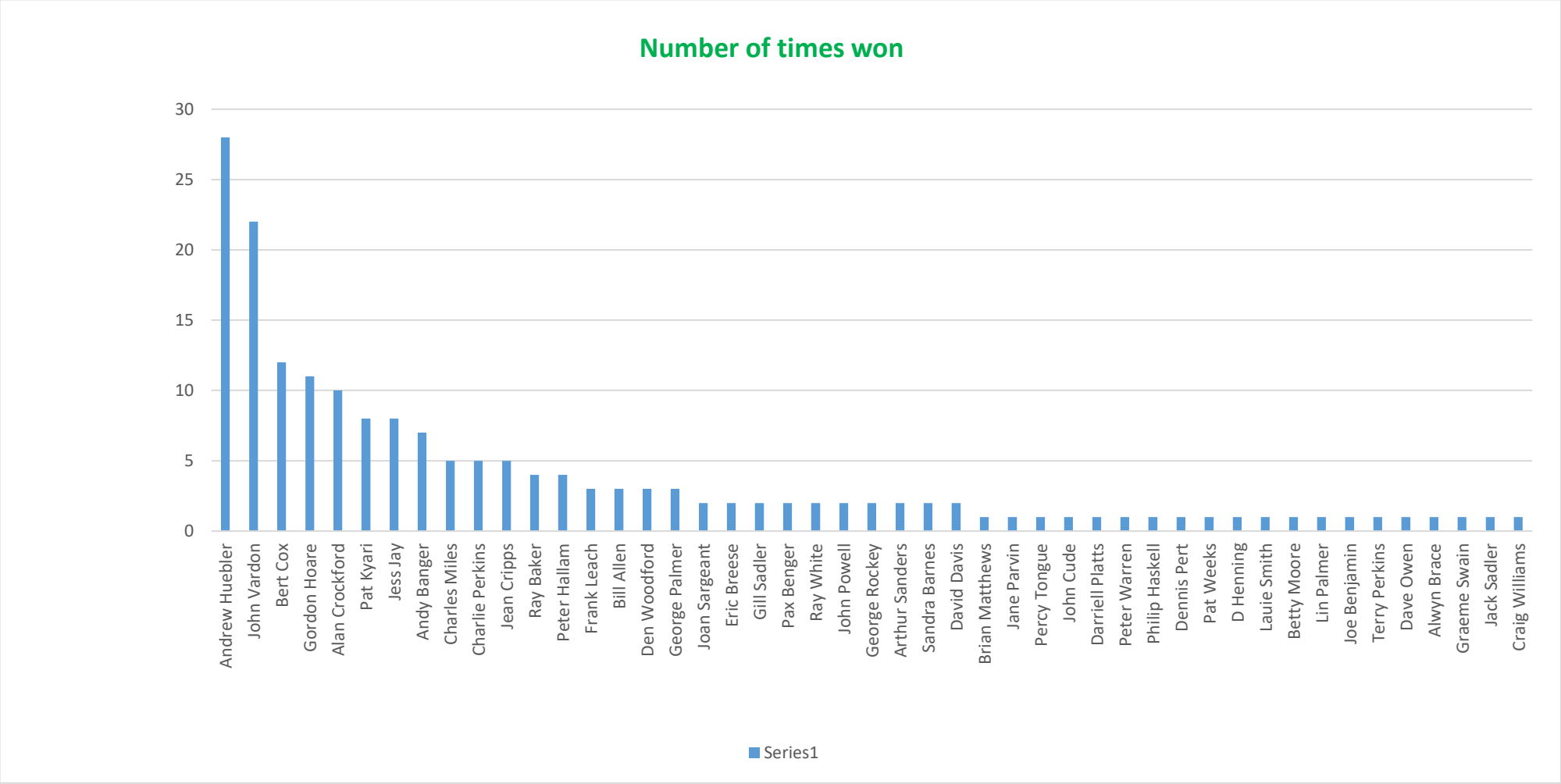
Class	Trophy
General Class	James Bell Shield
Relief Class	Vic Flower Trophy
Human Form Class	Harry Wareham Trophy
Wildlife Class	John Vardon Trophy
Non-wood Class	Jess Jay Trophy
Novices Class	Derek Duff Trophy



In 2010 Frank Leach presented another trophy, the Bill Pinney Trophy, to be awarded to the winner of a competition held at the AGM. The idea of the trophy was to encourage members to attend the AGM! This competition has a differing theme each year. The first winner was in fact Frank himself.



The following histogram shows the number of times when members won (excluding second and third places) different competitions.



## 10. Projects

Since the formation the Guild has been involved in several projects. This generally involved the recipient providing funding for the materials and the carvers donating their own time. Sometimes the carvings were individual and others formed a larger carving.

In 1989 the Guild was asked to carve a plaque for Marwell Zoo. Over the next two years various members carved several small plaques each reflecting an animal at the zoo. The carvers, based on the photographs were Alan Crockford, Ray White, Derek Duff, John Powel, George Rockey and John Bowen. (Apologies for anyone missed). They (the carvings and not the carvers!) were hung in the 'old game larder' Outside Marwell Hall and was officially opened by Johnny Morris.



*Carvings at Marwell Zoo*



© Animal tributes... Don Shepherd, from Fawlington, at work on the project. Photo: Peter Smith

### Skill of the woodcarver

WOODCARVERS from the Portsmouth area have been demonstrating their skill at Marwell Zoological Park by carving panels depicting endangered species.

More than 20 different species were depicted in different woods, and together the panels will form part of a carving of Marwell Hall, Winchester, where the assembly will be on permanent display from next spring.

The carved animals on the panels include the Siamang Gibbon, the Scimitar-horned Oryx and a Snow Leopard.

ard. The woods used include beech and lime, but not rare hardwoods.

Don McKay, the Guild's secretary, said that each panel took between 30 and 40 hours of work, and the Guild members had not charged for their time.

Craftsmen and women from the Solent Guild of Woodcarvers exhibit their work each year at Marwell.

On Saturday they will be exhibiting their work at Reginald Road Arts Centre, Southsea, to mark the centre's change of name from Reginald Road Drama Centre.

In 1992 a Guild project to carve a series of carvings with the theme 'Uniforms of Old' was proposed. These carvings would then be displayed at exhibitions. Review of the Newsletters indicate the project was started but unknown if it was ever completed. A couple of possible carvings by Ray Baker and Vic Flower are shown. (Vic's carving was entered into the Ashley Isles/Woodworker Competition in 1981),

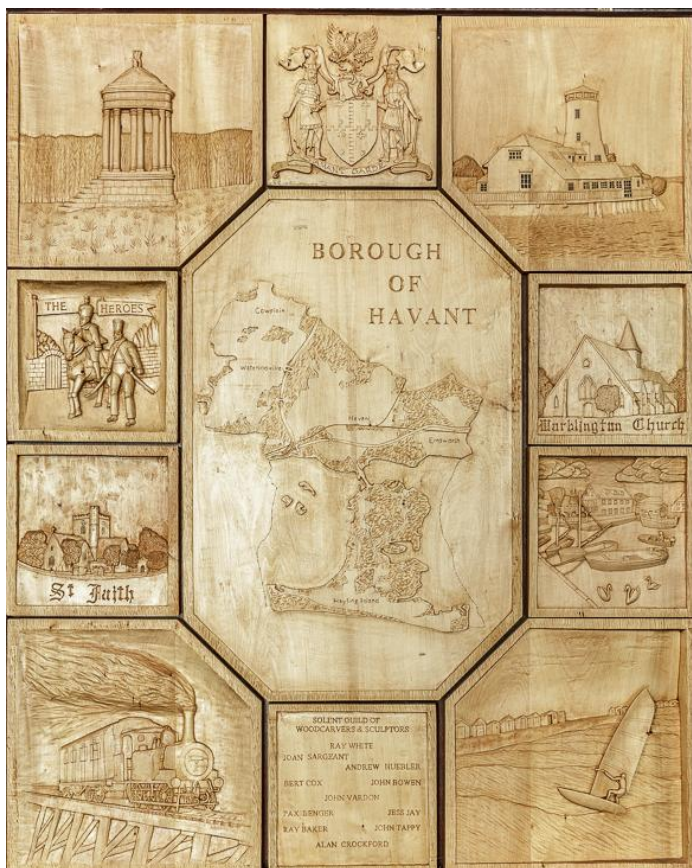




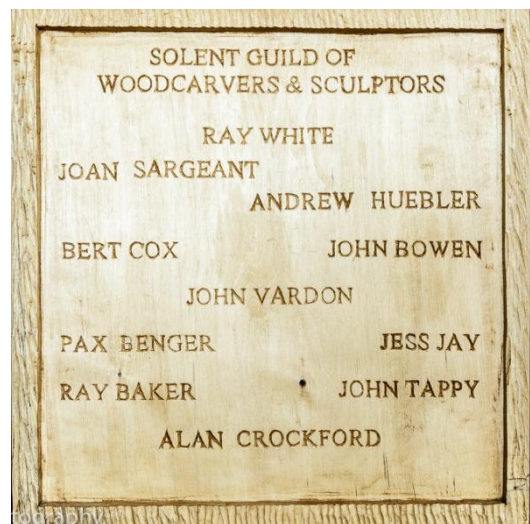
*Carving by Ray Baker*



*Carving by Vic Flower*

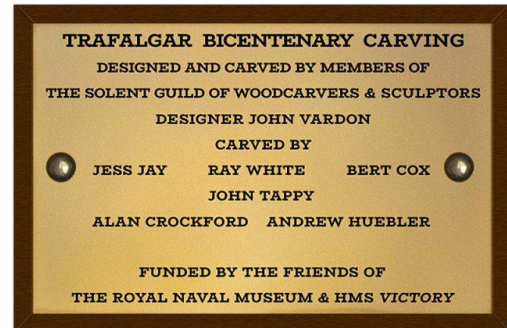
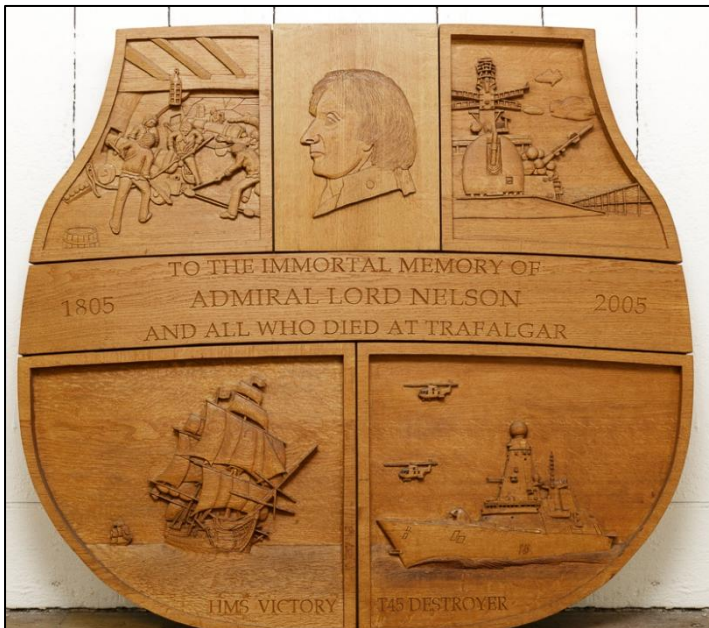


At the turn of the millennium, the Guild was asked by Havant Borough Council if they could create a carving reflecting the Borough. The carving comprised a carved map of the borough in the centre and with other carvings around the map reflecting key buildings or events. In 2002 the carving was completed and handed over to the Mayor. It is currently hung near the entrance to the Council chamber.

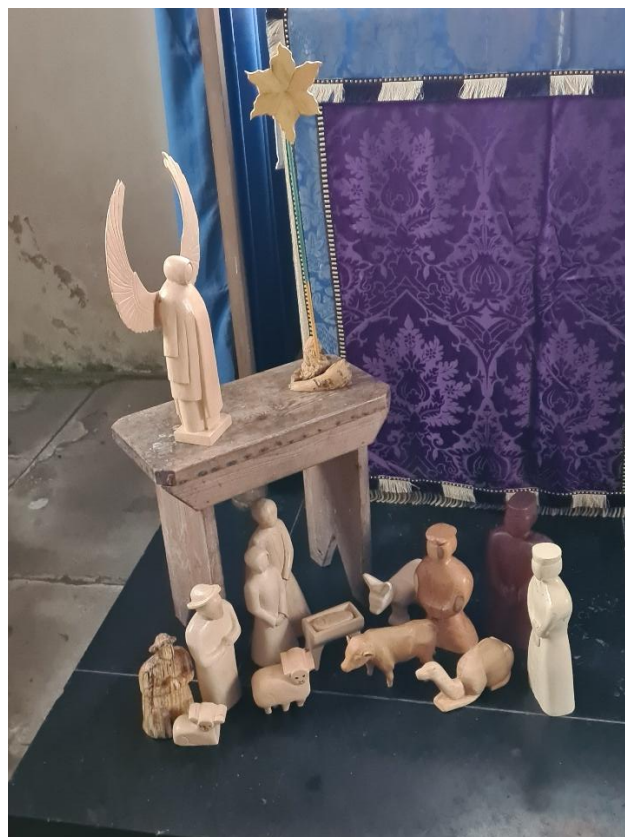




In 2004 the Guild was given the go-ahead to design and carve a carving to commemorate the bi-centenary of Nelson's great battle of Trafalgar. This project was funded by the Friends of the Royal Naval Museum and HMS Victory. As well as a carving of Nelson other carvings reflected naval warfare of past and present. This carving is currently in storage.



In 2024, the Guild was approached by The Friends of St Hubert's Church, Idsworth to carve a Nativity set for the Church. The carvings were funded by a lottery grant. The carvings are in only wood and styled on Henry Moore and Giacometti. The woods included Lime, Holly, Yew, Mahogany and Mahonia. The carvers were George Palmer, Jess Jay, Barry Williams, Alwyn Brace, Craig Williams, Brian Mill and Jean Cripps. The carvings are displayed in the Church during the Christmas period.



## 11. Social Meetings and AGMs

From the start the Guild held monthly meetings except during the summer months. A list of all social Meetings is given in Appendix 7. Events, such as AGMs, BBQs, etc., that occur on a regular basis have not all been included except for the first and last occurrence. During the first few years the subject of the social meetings tended to be wood related. There were several on other crafts, e.g. enamelling and stone masonry, There was even one called 'Female Carvers'! It was not until the mid-1990's that topics started to become more general. Was this to cater for the social members? In fact, over the last few years there has hardly been any related to wood; should this change?

Initially social meetings were held at the Probation Offices, Isambard Brunel Road and later in the All Saints' Church in Portsmouth (in the Hall or the Owen Room) on a Friday evening. In 1999 these meetings were changed to a Wednesday although some members were not happy with this change.

The Annual General Meetings were generally held in May, there being one or two exceptions. The first AGM was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 1979 and the minutes were hand-written. The meeting started at 1930 and did not finish until 2145. Whatever did they talk about for so long! The meeting was even reported in the press. Was the Guild that important or did we have a good publicist?



The First Annual General Meeting of the Guild was held on Friday, 25th May, 1979, at the Probation Offices, 15 Lambard Brunel Road, at 7.30pm. 16 members present. Apologies received from Mr. A.P. Darnant (President) and Mr. J.A. Bell (Chairman). In the absence, through sickness, of Mr. Bell, Mr. T. Masters chaired the meeting.

#### Chairman's Report

It had been a year of triumph through the efforts of Mr. Bell. — Good publicity, including an interview with Southern T.V., various exhibitions, especially our One-day Exhibition at St. James' Church Hall, on May 5th, which had been acclaimed a great success, and great interest had been shown by the public. There were now 45 members in the Guild.

The Chairman spoke of the illness of Mr. J. Bell, just previous to the Exhibition, and the good wishes of the meeting would be passed to him.

What of the future? We should be considering other projects besides exhibitions, etc., such as pooling of ideas, encouragement of beginners, criticisms of work, Guilds own class, etc., "work-in"

#### Secretary's Report

Mr. S. Callan spoke of the functions and exhibitions taken place during the year and expressed thanks to all for their help and interest, especially to Mr. G. Rocky and Mr. J. Portman for their practical demonstrations at exhibitions.

#### Treasurer's Report

Mr. V. Flower submitted the Statement of Accounts which showed a balance over the year's working of £111.71p. It had been a successful year financially. The Balance Sheet showed that the Exhibition costs had been covered, with a small profit.

#### Constitutions

These were read and presented to the meeting, having been discussed by the Council and checked by the Solicitor. With minor alterations they were agreed by the meeting on the proposition of Mr. S. Callan (Secretary); seconded by Mr. G. Rocky.

It was agreed that the Financial Year should run from Annual General Meeting (after Exhibition) to A.G.M., Subscriptions to be payable on 1st January each year — amount to be decided in Council and agreed at A.G.M.



Mr. S. Callan mentioned Guild Badges and Ties, also next Exhibition. These items were left to Council.

### Subscriptions

Mr. V. Flower (Treasurer) proposed that Secretary should collect Subs. and give receipts and that Banker's Orders be used. This was seconded by Mr. S. Callan and carried. The amount of Subscription was discussed. Increases to £1.50 and £2 were suggested, as well as leaving as at present. It was decided by the meeting to ballot the full membership.

### Elections

It was proposed by Mr. T. Masters and seconded by Mr. T. W. Judge that Mr. J. A. Bell be elected as life Vice-President of the Guild in appreciation of his efforts as Founder of the Guild - Carried with acclamation.

The following were elected to serve for the coming year:

Chairman - Mr. T. Masters. Pro. V. Flower, sec. Dr. D. Duff.

V. Chairman - Mr. G. Rocky. Pro. S. Callan, sec. V. Flower.

Secretaries - Mr & Mrs. D. Pilbeam. Pro. V. Flower, sec. S. Callan.

Treasurer - Mr. V. Flower. Pro. T. Masters, sec. Mrs. D. Brown.

P.R.O. - To be left to a Council member.

Council: Messrs. T. W. Judge, Dr. D. Duff, S. Callan, J. Coomer, Mrs. D. Brown.

A.O.B.

Discussion took place on future activities, and included Guild's own class for beginners; "Work-in" at which public could be invited, when members could discuss

each other's work and accept criticism, etc.

It was decided to suspend meetings in July and August, being holiday months.

The next meeting of the Council would be on Friday, 22nd June, 1979.

The meeting closed approx. 9.45 p.m.

It appears that a constitution existed at the time of the first AGM as it was read and presented at the meeting have first been checked by 'the Solicitor'. A few amendments were made and then accepted.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PROPOSED NEW</u> <u>CONSTITUTION</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">11/2 20/4 AGM 1/8</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Guild shall be known as the SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS AND SCULPTORS.</li> <li>2. The aims of the Guild shall be to further the interests of Woodcarvers and Sculptors in the Solent area and to encourage newcomers to the art. Regular talks, discussions, exhibitions, outings and practical meetings will take place to further these aims.</li> <li>3. The Council shall comprise six members, with the Officers of the Guild as additional ex-officio members. This Council shall have power to co-opt as necessary. Three members and two officers shall constitute a quorum.</li> <li>4. The Officers of the Guild shall be: Hon. President, Hon. Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary and Newsletter Editor.</li> <li>5. There shall be one/two Hon. Auditors.</li> <li>6. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of May at which the Officers, Council Members and Hon. Auditors shall be elected. Election nomination forms shall be included in the Newsletter which announces the AGM but further nominations may be accepted at the meeting itself. Officers shall be elected for two years and must have served on the Council during the year prior to the AGM. Council members shall be elected annually but must retire after a maximum of four consecutive years' service. In order to achieve efficient continuity, the Guild should endeavour to achieve a turnover of approximately 25% of the Council each year.</li> <li>7. The Council will be responsible for the running of the Guild and the arrangements of its activities. A Newsletter will be produced bi-monthly informing members of these activities and any other items of Guild interest. The Council will also be responsible for the Bank account held in the Guild's name - the Treasurer presenting full details at the AGM. Any alterations of fee, or subscriptions must be approved by the Guild at the AGM.</li> <li>8. The financial year shall be from each 1st April until the following 31 March.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">- 1 -</p>	<p>9. Membership is open to all who are interested in the aims of the Guild. New members should be proposed and seconded by existing members and pay the set joining fee in addition to their first annual subscription.</p> <p>Other Guilds may become Associate Members free of charge, but they will have no voting rights.</p> <p>Social Members may join the Guild on paying half the Annual Subscription, but they will have no voting rights.</p> <p>Full members shall have equal voting rights.</p> <p>Any person more than three months in arrears paying the Annual Subscription shall be considered to have resigned from the Guild.</p> <p>10. Alterations to the constitution may only be made with the approval of the Guild at the AGM.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- 2 -</p>
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#### *The first Constitution*

Even from the word go the AGM was often followed by cheese and wine supplied by the Guild. In some cases, the meeting was followed by a brief talk or demonstration, e.g. sharpening of tools, a sale or exchange of tools and books and in the late 90's the annual competition.

In 1994/95 the venue for the social meeting moved to Havant Arts Centre (now called The Spring) and then in 2014 to Portchester Community Centre.

In 2021, with the reduced number of social members, it was decided to hold the AGMs at a Carve-In. Reports were sent to members in advance and the meeting limited to around 30 minutes. Also in 2021, with rising costs, difficulty getting good speakers and lower membership, the number of social events was reduced. In 2023, due to rising costs, the social programme was further reduced.



## 12. Socials

As well as more formal social meetings there were many social affairs. It is interesting to note the first non-meeting event was a skittles evening at the Boar's Head Hotel in 1983 (this was followed by one the following year). It was not until thirty years later in 2013 that there was been another one and became a yearly until 2020 when Covid intervened. It has been difficult to find a bowling alley, at a reasonable cost, since then.

One event that started in 1985 and went on for 22 years (until 2006) was by the kind invitation of Dave and Pam Pilbeam to their annual Guild BBQ at "The Nest". Based on the comments made in the Newsletters members always looked forward to this social. Members (and guests) paid their money and Pam & Dave supplied all the food and drink. In 1999 one of our members, Charles Miles, produced a cartoon of an event; this is shown below.



"A frenzied 'Food Carve-in' more like!"



BBQ 1991



The BBQ must have wetted a few appetites as in December 1985 it was decided to have a Christmas Dinner. Not sure where the first one was held but the second one was held in the Hogs Lodge and then in the following years at the Seafarers Restaurant in Old Portsmouth. It must have been good at the Seafarers as it was held there for the next seven years. It then moved to the Crofts Restaurant for two or three years; this restaurant may have been the same as the Seafarers.



*Christmas Dinner 1985*

In 1999 the annual dinner was moved to January and to the Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club where it was organised by Pax Bengier and held there until 2014.



*Annual Dinner 2004*

In 2015 the annual dinner was moved to South Downs College Restaurant where members and guests enjoyed a 'tasty starter and dessert' with a choice of a main course in-between. The dinner had also become the presentation night for the various competitions held during the year.

There were no dinners between 2019 and 2022. In 2023 the presentation dinner was revived and held in a local pub.



*Presentation Dinner 2015*

In 2014 two new events were introduced – Petanque/Boules and American Christmas Supper. The Petanque has become a yearly challenge with members of the Portchester Petanque Club whose rink we use. In addition, some of the meetings have become quizzes, ‘pub games’, etc.



*American Christmas Supper 2015*

These types of socials continue in the reduced social programme.



### 13. Visits

For the first twenty years visits to various places was a key event with four or five visits a year. A list of places visited is given in Appendix 8. Most visits were to places in the UK but a couple were overseas to Normandy and the Swiss Carving School. Since 2000 the number of visits has reduced possibly because modern transport makes it easier for individuals to visit. Some visits have been suggested but for whatever reason there were no takers.



*Visit to Hampton Court*

### 14. Finances

At the start in 1978 the annual subscription was just £1 and with a joining fee of £2. In addition, at the Carve-Ins Members paid £1.50 for a full day carving or £0.75 for half a-day. In 1981 subscriptions were raised to £2, in 1986 to £4, in 1989 to £10, 1996 to £15, in 2002 to £16, in 2006 to £18, in 2008 to £20, in 2011 to £21 and then in 2024 to £30. It is interesting to note the increases in 1989, 1996 (when there had been a steady decrease for several years prior) and 2002 map on to a fall in membership. Note some of the years mentioned may be a year out as it was difficult to determine the precise time as the decision to change was often taken the year before and the date subscriptions were due varied. The carve-in fees were abolished in 1996 hence the large increase in subscriptions. Also, some members complained that visits were subsidised whereas Carve-Ins were not. The surplus in funds is primarily due to donations from sales of tools, wood, etc. and legacies. This surplus is being retained for replacement of tents and other capital expenditure.

In the early days some members paid their subscriptions by 'banker's order'. It probably ceased when the Guild's accounts moved to a Building Society. In the mid 2010's the accounts were moved back to a bank. In the 2020's members could pay by cash, cheque or direct online (BACs).

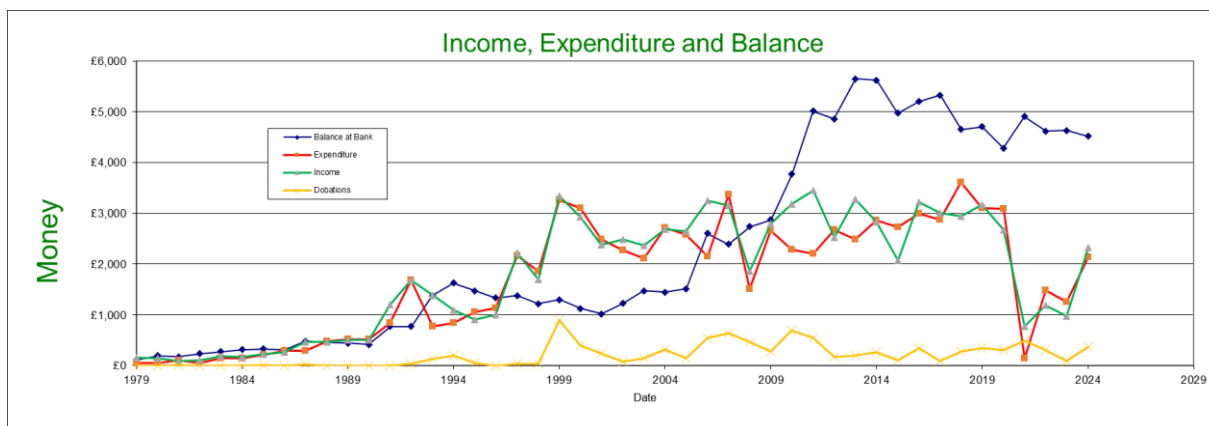


Solent Guild of Woodcarvers and Sculptors					
Income and Expenditure					
Account.					
for the period ending					
5th May, 1979					
Income	£ . p.		Expenditure	£. p.	
Entrance fees	100.	00	Phone & postages	10.	40
Subscriptions:-			Printing & stationery	15.	90
1979	34.	00	Purchase of equipment	4.	15
1980	3.	00	Hire of room for c'tee meeting	2.	00
			Hire of table at Denmead Craft Shows	10.	00
Proceeds of Exhibition:-			Subscription to Southern Arts Association	7.	50
Sale of programmes	£82.40.				
Sale of refreshments	£ 8.40.		Balance carried forward	111.	71
	£90.80				
Less:-					
Hire of hall	£25.00				
Printing and stationery	£41.14	£66.14			
		24. 66			
		£ 161 .66			£ 161. 66

Certified correct  
V.L. Flower Hon Treasurer.

*Audited and found correct.*  
*John 7*  
*2nd May 1979.*

A copy of the first set of accounts in 1979



Graph showing the fluctuations in the Guild's income and expenditure.

In 1997 it was agreed to hold raffles at various events in particular carve-ins. It is not clear in the archives but it is assumed this was to replace the fee paid at each carve-in. The raffle provides some fun with members providing all sorts of prizes from bottles of wine to bottles of washing-up liquid! It should be noted that for many years the raffle subsidised membership fees; without the raffle the subscription fee for full membership would have had too nearly double.

In 2023, the Portsmouth Grammar School wished to increase the hire cost of the rooms used for Carve-Ins by 140%; after some discussion this was subsequently reduced to 50%. Even this reduced increase and low membership meant subscriptions would need to be substantially increased, the first since 2011. To minimise the increase in subscriptions the number of Carve-Ins was reduced from 18 to 15 each year.

## 15. Publications

Over the years articles, rather than reports of activities, about the Guild have appeared in the technical press and the local press. All these except for one (see note below) are on the Guild's website <http://solentguildofwoodcarvers.org.uk/>

- a. Practical Woodworking May 1995
- b. Woodcarving No. 48 May-June 1999 celebrating the Guild's twenty-first anniversary
- c. The (Portsmouth) News, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2002
- d. Havant Arts News February 2003
- e. Woodcarving No 81 Nov-Dec 2004
- f. The (Portsmouth) News, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2007
- g. Woodcarving No. 138 May-June 2013
- h. The (Portsmouth) News, October 2013

One not on the Guild's web site appeared in the Hampshire County Magazine in 1991. There is a copy in the archives but it is stuck on the page and the second side cannot be scanned.

In addition to the above articles a photographic essay of the Guild was produced in 2017 and a brief history of the Guild (this article) was produced in 2019 and updated in 2024. Both are also on the web site.

## 16. Website

In the 1998 Hampshire County Council provided facilities to host websites for various local organisations. The Guild was one of them. John Tappy created the initial website and managed it until 2014. After that date John Vardon took over this role of web manager. In 2016 HCC upgraded their computer system and discontinued the hosting of the website. The opportunity was then taken to completely revamp the website and to use another professional company to host the site. The homepage is shown on the following page.

The web site now contains details of the current programme, current newsletter, information for beginners and galleries of members' carvings past and present, amongst other information.



# SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS & SCULPTORS

Menu
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Latest News
Newsletter
Programme
Activities
Membership
Gallery
Beginner
Contact
Links

## Guild Background

**Site Search**

6 result(s) found for search term:  
Lorem

**Home**

Nulla vestibulum eleifend nulla.  
Suspendisse potenti. Aliquam  
turpis nisi, venenatis non,  
accumsan nec, imperdiet lacoreet,  
lacus. In purus est, mattis eget,  
imperdiet nec, fermentum  
congue, tortor. Aenean ut nibh.  
Nullam hendrerit viverra dolor.  
Vestibulum fringilla, lectus id  
viverra malesuada, enim mi  
adipiscing ligula, et bibendum  
lacus lectus id sem. Cras risus  
turpis, varius ac, feugiat id,  
fructibus vitae, massa. Nunc  
gravida nonummy felis. Etiam  
suscipit, est sit amet suscipit  
sociates, est neque suscipit erat,  
nec suscipit sem enim eget leo.  
In porttitor rutrum leo. Ut eget  
leo....

## Welcome to the Guild's website and over 45 years of woodcarving



The Solent Guild of Woodcarvers & Sculptors was founded in 1978 by the late James Bell in conjunction with three others – Vic Flower, Bill Judge and Stan Callan. At a meeting in Cosham, which was attended by twenty people, the Guild was officially inaugurated. A couple of Founder Members, i.e. those who joined during the first couple of years, are still Members of the Guild. We are probably the oldest amateur woodcarving group in the UK.

The Guild regularly holds [Carving Sessions](#), [Socials](#), [Demonstrations](#) and [Competitions](#). Further details are given on the [Activities](#) page.



We are a voluntarily run Guild of people, of both sexes and all ages, interested in all aspects of carving, whittling and sculpting and other wood related activities. We have many members from all over the Solent area, centred on Portsmouth in Central Southern England.




Members 1980's
Members 2017

## 17. Closing Comment

This document hopefully provides some interesting information about the Guild since its formation in 1987. I hope you found it interesting. There may be errors or information left out and I apology if this is the case. If anyone has further information, then please let me know.



## Appendix 1.                      Yearly Membership

<b>Year</b>	<b>Honorary</b>	<b>Full</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Total</b>
1979	0	0	0	0	0
1980	0	50	0	0	50
1981	0	46	0	0	46
1982	0	64	0	0	64
1983	0	52	0	0	52
1984	0	57	0	0	57
1985	8	52	0	0	60
1986	7	60	0	0	67
1987	7	72	3	0	82
1988	7	72	3	0	82
1989	8	58	9	0	75
1990	9	74	10	0	93
1991	9	77	13	0	99
1992	9	77	15	0	101
1993	10	82	15	0	107
1994	11	75	16	0	102
1995	9	68	19	0	96
1996	10	61	18	0	89
1997	7	42	17	0	66
1998	10	46	13	0	69
1999	7	52	14	4	77
2000	7	55	16	6	84
2001	7	43	14	4	68
2002	7	44	15	1	83
2003	10	55	14	1	80
2004	10	48	16	0	74
2005	10	48	16	0	74
2006	9	44	18	1	72
2007	8	37	21	0	66
2008	8	31	21	1	61
2009	5	31	21	2	59
2010	5	33	23	1	62
2011	6	36	21	1	64
2012	6	32	20	0	58
2013	6	32	18	1	57
2014	5	32	19	1	57
2015	4	35	19	1	59
2016	3	32	19	0	54
2017	3	38	15	0	56
2018	3	38	16	0	57
2019	3	28	16	0	57
2021	2	29	11	0	42
2022	2	25	10	0	37
2023	2	22	9	0	33
2024	2	30	8	1	41

## Appendix 2. Officers and Council/Committee Members

P - President	VP - Vice President	C - Chairman	VC - Vice Chairman	PC - Past Chairman	S - Secretary	T- Treasurer
MS - Membership Sec	PS - Programme Secretary	NE - Newsletter Editor	CM - Council Member	SS – Speakers Secretary	EO - Entertainments Officer	A – Archivist
W- Web Master						

Start Year 1982

	From	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	To	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
John	Bowen	C	C	S	S	S	CM	CMI	CM	CM		T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	CM	CM														
Alan	Crockford	VC	VC	C	C	CM	CM	T	T	CM	VP	VP	VP	VP	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	CM								
Dave	Pilbeam	S	S		CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																											
Pam	Pilbeam	S	S		MS	MS	MS	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																								
Vic	Flower	T	T	T	T	T	T	CM	CM																											
Derek	Duff	NE	NE	VC	VC	C	C	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	CM	CM		VP	VP	VP															
Norman	Coward	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																													
Mike	Dredge	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																												
Derek	Gautrey	CMI	CMi	CM																																
Bill	Judge	CM	CM	CM	CM																															
Trevor	Masters	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																										
?	Smyth	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM																														
Ray	White	CMI	CM	CM	CM	VC	VC	C	C	CM	CM	CM		S	S	S	S	CM	CM	CM	CM															
John	Duddell				EO	EO	PS	PS	PS	PS	A	A	A	A	VP	VP	VP	VP																		
Don	McKay					CM	S	S	S	S	S	S	S																							
Jo	Addisson						CM	CM	CM																											
John	Powell							VC	VC	C	C	CM																								
Roger	Bennett								CM	CM	PS																									
Don	Shepherd									VC	VC	CM	C																							
Alan	Nokes									T	T	CM	CM				CM	CM																		
Peter	Hurrell									CM	CM	CM	CM	VC	VC	C																				
Ray	Baker										CM	VC	VC	C	C	PC	PC																			
Pat	Weeks										CM	CM	CM	CM																						
Betty	Moore											CM	CM	CM	CM		CM																			
Frank	Howkins												CM	CM	CM	CM																				

	From	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	To	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Pax	Benger												CM	CM	CM	NE	NE	S	S	VC	VC	C	C	C	C	PC	CM	P	P							
Ted	Houghton													CM	CM	VC	C	C	PC	PC	PC		C	C	C	PC		P	P							
Arthur	Sanders													CM	CM	CM	VC																			
George	Goodway														CM	CM	CM	VC	PS	CM	CM	CM														

## Start Year 1997

	From	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
	To	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
John	Tappy	CM	CM	VC	C	C	PC	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W	W																			
Andrew	Huebler		CM	CM	CM	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS																									
Bill	Pinney		CM	CM																																
Heather	Way			CM	CM	CM	CM																													
Joan	Sargeant			CM	CM	CM	CM																													
Brenda	Cotton				NE																															
Bert	Cox				S	S																														
Steve	Carpenter				CM	CM	MS	CM	CM			PS	PS	PS	PS	PS																				
John	Vardon					T	T	T/NE	NE	NE	NE/VC	NE/VC	C	C	C	PC		S	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	S/W	W	W	W						
Jess	Jay				CM	NE	VC	VC	VC	VC	C	C	PC			S	S	CM	CM										C	C						
Charles	Miles					CM	CM																													
Roger	Mawby						S	S	S	S	S	S	S																							
Pat	Kyari								T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T																				
Paul	Molloy							CM																												
Frank	Leach								CM	CM	CM				VC	VC	C	C	PC																	
Jane	Parvin											CM																								
Brian	Pace										CM																									
John	Cude												CM	VC																						
Dariell	Platts													NE	NE	NE	NE	NE																		
Jean	Cripps													CM/A	CM/A	CM/A	CM/A	T/A	T/A	T/A	T/A	T/A	T/A													
Shirley	Cripps														S	S																				
Gill	Sadler														CM	SS	SS	SS/VC	SS	SS	SS	SS	SS													



	From	97	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24								
	To	98	99	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25								
George	Palmer															VC	VC	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	S	S								
Greg	Gregory															CM	CM	CM																			
Lin	Palmer																	CM	CM	CM	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE								
David	Newsam																	NE	NE	N/E																	
Sandra	Barnes																			CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM									
Doug	Phillips																				CM	CM															
Alwyn	Brace																							T	T	T	T	T	T								
Martha	Chippenda																						CM														
Peter	Hallam																							CM	CM	CM	CM	CM	CM								
Chris	Mason																										CM	CM	CM								

## Appendix 3. Tips

### SOLENT GUILD of WOODCARVERS and SCULPTORS - NEWSLETTER TIPS

#### FIXING SMALL or FLAT PIECES FIRMLY WHILST CARVING

D.DUFF.

Use a piece of blockboard and a PVA adhesive. Dilute the adhesive 50/50 with water and brush on to one surface of the blockboard. Cover with a single sheet of newspaper, applied firmly. After an hour apply another coat of adhesive and a further sheet of newspaper. After another hour apply more adhesive and then the piece to be carved, and clamp it overnight. Wash the brush in water. The blockboard can be held with cramps or a bench screw whilst the piece is carved, eventually it can be separated by inserting a chisel between carving and newspaper and giving a sharp blow with a mallet.

#### FILLING CRACKS

A.CROCKFORD.

When faced with the awful crack or other flaw that appears in your latest (and best!!!) carving try the following. Mix up some epoxy resin glue, such as ARALDITE, and add some sawdust, of the same type of wood, to saturation. Fill the crack and leave surplus for final sanding. The filling will polish well and be hardly noticeable.

#### RIFFLERS

G.ROCKEY

As rifflers are usually double ended, and, in use, the end digs into the palm of the hand. Both for economy and safety it pays to grind or saw rifflers in half and to put handles on the shanks as with a gouge. Because of limited penetration of the handle it is recommended that the shank be set in with ARALDITE.

#### DO NOT SCRAP

D.DUFF

Never throw away old toothbrushes. Clean them thoroughly and then use them for brushing away chips when carving in relief, or for cleaning drills when clogged.

#### AWKWARD CORNERS

C.SMYTH.

An emery board, normally used for manicure purposes, can be pointed or cut to shape, and then can be used to get into awkward corners when sanding. Also, use a small bulldog clip to hold small pieces of sandpaper preferably folded to give them strength to get into tight corners when cleaning up carvings.

#### HOLDING RELIEF CARVINGS

W.JUDGE.

When carving in relief on a flat board, affix a square block of wood 1/4 - 1 inch thick, by means of one screw and a washer, in the centre, to the back of the board, for fixing in a vice. This will enable the board to be turned in any direction required without removing it from the vice.

#### BRUSHES/BOARDS

L.ALLEN.

Old nail brushes are useful when modelling shaggy hair for dogs, sheep or highland cattle when working with clay, the clay must be moist. Emery boards are useful for fining down antlers, ears and tails of terracotta animals after firing.

#### DANISH OIL/DEGREASING

A.CROCKFORD.

Use Danish Oil, made by Rustin's, for outside woodwork such as name plates, giving three coats to produce a good looking semi matt finish

which is waterproof, doesn't spot and doesn't split and flake like polyurethane varnish.

If you wish to degrease something before painting or polishing use acetone, which can be purchased cheaply from the chemist. Do not be tempted to use carbon tetrachloride!! It works well but its fumes can do your lungs a power of no good.

#### SEASONING

G.ROCKEY.

Unseasoned timber will normally be used for carving "in the round" and often the very act of carving releases many of the drying stresses in the timber, especially if the piece is kept in a plastic bag between carving sessions. To store and season timber, the best approach is as follows:-

Obtain logs at least 9" in diameter and saw into lengths of between 12" and 24" dependent on ease of splitting, leaving the bark on the log. Split down centre of log with axe and wedges (hardwood wedges are often adequate). Paint the ends of the split logs with old thick paint, and mark on type of wood and year. Store in racks if possible in a covered area (loft or garage). A new process has been evolved in recent years of soaking unseasoned timber in poly-ethylene-glycol (P.E.G.) for a period of weeks before drying in the normal way. The PEG wax is taken up in the outer layers of wood, resisting rapid drying and preventing splitting.

#### BIRD CARVING - EASE OF HOLDING

J.RANDALL.

This will be of interest to members who carve birds in the Derek George style, or do other small carvings. Cut off a piece of broom handle about 4"-5" long and fix a small screw vertically in one end. To do this first drill the handle using a drill bit slightly smaller than the screw, cut the head off the screw and split the shank for about 1/4" with a fine hacksaw, and then force it into the handle along with some epoxy adhesive to fix it. When the bird is being shaped concentrate on getting the under surface nearly finished as early as possible, then drill a hole where the final mounting will be, and screw in the handle. This will help to hold the carving more easily whilst further work is done, and is of course removable for finishing of the under surface.

#### BOG OAK FINISH

D.DUFF.

If a bog-oak mount for a Derek George style carving is too light in colour to show off the bird well, apply dark oak stain all over with a brush and when dry go over it with a wire brush attached to an electric drill. Part of the stain will be removed, leaving an interesting mottled effect.

#### CARVING'S SLIPPING

K.WADE.

A piece of pile carpet can be used as a bench holdfast for relief carving. The backing tends to cling to the bench, and the pile will prevent a flat piece of timber from slipping around during chip or shallow relief carving. The size can vary, but it should be larger than the piece being carved.

#### FUMING OAK

J.DAVEY.

"Fuming oak" is one method of darkening the wood to the shade you want. Prepare the carving up to the stage where you would normally seal it prior to polishing. Place a saucerful of household ammonia in the



bottom of a plastic bucket and suspend the carving over it and cover the bucket. The fumes will gradually darken the wood - look at it every hour until it is the shade you want then remove it, seal and polish. If you wish part of the carving to remain a pale shade, for example the underside of a bird, seal that area before fuming.

#### HOLDING WHILE PLANING

B.EAMES.

How do you hold a piece of wood whilst you plane it to 1mm of thickness? The answer is to chalk the bench and the underside of the piece being planed, this creates sufficient friction to prevent the piece sliding.

#### BUFFING GOUGES

T.ELLIS.

Use an electric drill on a stand with a 6" calico buff impregnated with a polishing compound. As your gouges become "dulled", a quick polish on the buff is easier and more efficient than a strop. Also the buff accommodates to the shape of the gouge on either side.

#### HOLDING SMALL CARVINGS

A.CROCKFORD.

Double sided carpet tape (i.e. sticky on both sides) can be used for fixing small carvings and relief carvings to the bench or other work surface whilst carving.

#### WORKMATE CHOPS

D.DUFF.

The following article appeared in the Woodworker Magazine:-

### Workmate chops

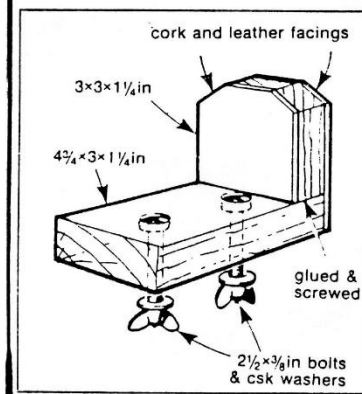
D. R. Duff writes: There is no doubt that the carver's chops is an ideal vice for holding small carvings. However, its price is now well beyond the means of many amateur carvers. It was this consideration that led me to develop an attachment for my Black & Decker Workmate: it consists of a pair of jaws which can be bolted to the vice-jaws of the Workmate, and which then use the existing screw mechanism to enable them to function. The attachment is quite easily made, and the necessary parts are inexpensive.

The diagram gives all the necessary

details for construction. Each jaw is made of two pieces of a suitable hardwood which are glued and screwed together. Each side should be faced with cork,  $\frac{1}{4}$ in thick (a cork tile is quite cheap), covered with a thin layer of leather (an offcut from a leather merchant is also cheap). An epoxy adhesive will stick them all together very firmly. The base should be  $4\frac{3}{4}$ in long, the same as the width of the Workmate vice-jaw, and the bolt holes should be about  $\frac{7}{8}$ in from each end so they pass through the holes in the Workmate.

Each jaw is held firmly in place by two coach bolts  $2\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{3}{8}$ in with washers and wing-nuts. The bolt heads should be recessed in the bases: remember to insert the one bolt before gluing and screwing the pieces together.

In use the jaws are individually reversible, so that when facing each other they open from nil to 4in, when one is reversed they open from 3 to 7in, and when both are reversed they open from 6 to 10in. The Workmate's unique 'taper action' also allows for some angulation between the jaws - a feature not included in the function of the ordinary carver's chops. This can be a help in wood sculpture when holding irregular shapes. The attachment can be fitted to either end of the Workmate vice-jaws as well as in the middle: this factor, together with the space between and below the vice-jaws when open, allows an even larger variety of shapes and sizes to be held firmly when carving.



## Appendix 4. Demonstrations

Year	Month	Venues	Year	Month	Venues
1983	Apr/May	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	1991	Aug	Hambledon Horticultural Society
	May	All Saints Church Fete		Aug	Catherington Show
	Aug	Model and Hobbies Exhibition in Guildhall		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park - World of Wood		Oct	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
1984	May	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Oct	Portsmouth Cathedral
	Jun	Portchester Castle		Mar	Wickham Community Centre
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park - World of Wood		May	Quarley Church Fete, Andover
	Oct	Havant Leisure Centre		Jun	Leigh Park Gardens
1985	Jun	Portchester Castle		Jun	Grately Church Fete
1986	May	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jul	Amport Church Fete, Andover
	Jun	Portchester Castle		Jul	Butser Ancient Farm
	Jun	Leigh Park Gardens		Jul	Havant Lions Fete
1987	Jun	Portchester Castle		Aug	Stanstead Park
	Jun	Leigh Park Gardens		Aug	Hambledon Horticultural Society
	Jun	St Philip's Church, Highbury		Aug	Catherington Show
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society
	Aug	Havant Conservative Fete		Sep	Amberley
	Aug	Hambledon Fete		Sep	Marwell Zoo
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Sep	Marwell Zoo
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Oct	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
1988	May	Leigh Park Gardens	1992	Apr	Royal Naval Museum
	Jun	Portchester Castle		Apr	Manor Farm
	Jul	RNLI Fete		May	Finchdean Hocktide Fair
	Aug	Hambledon Horticultural Society		May	Staunton Park
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society		Jun	Clanfield Carnival
	Sep	Marwell Zoo		Jul	Amport Church Fete, Andover
	Sep	Marwell Zoo		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Sep	Marwell Zoo		Jul	Havant Town Fair
1989	May	Leigh Park Gardens		Aug	Stanstead Park
	Apr	Wickham Community Centre		Aug	St Joseph's Church, Havant
	Apr	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Aug	Catherington Show
	Jun	Leigh Park Gardens		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Sep	Amberley
	Aug	Stanstead Park		Oct	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Hambledon Horticultural Society		Nov	Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, Arundel
	Aug	Catherington Show		Nov	Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, Arundel
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society	1993	Apr	Royal Naval Museum
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Apr	Manor Farm Country Park
1990	May	Leigh Park Gardens		May	Royal Naval Museum
	May	St Mary's Church May Fair		Jun	St Joseph's Church, Havant
	Jun	Leigh Park Gardens		Jun	Havant Conservative Club
	Jul	Amport Church Fete		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Jul	Havant Town Fair
	Aug	Stanstead Park		Jul	Romsey Art Festival
				Jul	Manor Farm Country Park
				Jul	Stanstead Park

Year	Month	Venues	Year	Month	Venues
	Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jun	Marwell Zoo
	Aug	Catherington Show		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society		Jul	NE Hants Agricultural Show, Alton
	Sep	Manor Farm Country Park		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Sep	Amberley		Aug	Stanstead Park
	Oct	Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, Arundel		Aug	Heavy Horse Show, Rowlands Castle
1994	Jan-Mar	Manor Farm Country Park - every Sunday		Aug	Catherington Country Fair
	Apr	Manor Farm Country Park		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society
	May	Aldingbourne Trust		Sep	Amberley
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Jul	Havant Town Fair		Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Jul	NE Hants Agricultural Show, Alton		Oct	Arundel Wildfowl Trust
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers			19 events and 25 days exhibiting!
	Aug	Stanstead Park	1997	Mar	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair
	Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		May	Marwell Zoo
	Aug	Catherington Show		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society		Jul	NE Hants Agricultural Show, Alton
	Sep	Elizabeth Foundation Open Day		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Sep	Manor Farm Country Park		Aug	Stansted Park (Balloon Rally)
	Sep	Amberley		Aug	Rotary Motor Gala
	Oct	Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, Arundel		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Show
	Oct	Southern Countries Heavy Horse Trials		Sep	Amberley
1995	Apr	Fareham Shopping Precinct	1998	Mar	WJT Crafts
	Apr	Manor Farm Country Park		May	Marwell Zoo
	May	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	Salisbury & S Wilts Agricultural Show; won 3rd prize
	May	St Mary's Church May Fair		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Jun	Staunton Park		Jul	WJT Crafts
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jul	NE Hants Agricultural Show, Alton - lack of support
	Jul	NE Hants Agricultural Show, Alton		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Aug	Stansted Park
	Aug	Stanstead Park		Aug	Marwell Zoo
	Aug	Catherington Show		Aug	Earthworks Trust Craft Show
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Society		Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Show
	Sep	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Sep	Amberley
	Sep	Manor Farm Country Park		Sep	Crabb Wood Craft Fair
	Sep	Amberley		Sep	Sandown Park
	Oct	Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, Arundel	1999	May	Havant Arts Festival
1996	Mar	Catherington Lithe		May	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	Apr	Fareham Shopping Precinct		Jun	Milland Rural Fair
	May	Donnington Hall Spring Fair		Jun	Stamshaw Junior School
	May	Marwell Zoo			
	Jun	St James Church, Emsworth			



Year	Month	Venues	Year	Month	Venues
2000	Jun	Salisbury & S. Wilts Agricultural Show. Won 1st prize for display; previously won 3rd	2002	Oct	Arundel Wildfowl Trust
	Jul	Bedhampton		May	Havant Arts Festival
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		May	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jun	WJT Crafts
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Jun	Milland Rural Fair
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Show - hit by thunderstorm		Jun	HM The Queens Golden Jubilee, Chichester - attendees given a gold medal and certificate
	Sep	Amberley		Jun	Uppark House
	Sep	Arundel Wildfowl Trust - postponed due to fuel crisis and then cancelled due to flooding		Jul	Bedhampton
	Sep	Sandown Park		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Oct	WJT Crafts		Jul	Double LL Club, Birdham
	May	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	May	Havant Arts Festival		Aug	Sussex Game & Country Show - muddy
	Jun	Milland Rural Fair		Aug	Marwell Zoo
	Jun	Stamshaw Junior School		Sep	Worthing Woodcraft Exhibition
	Jun	Salisbury & S. Wilts Agricultural Show. Won 2nd prize for display; previously won 1st and 3rd		Sep	Sandown Park - cancelled
2001	Jul	Bedhampton	2003	Sep	Amberley
	Jul	Trinity Barns, Weston, Petersfield		Oct	Arundel Wildfowl Trust
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		May	Havant Arts Festival
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		May	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Jun	Milland Rural Fair
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Show - hit by thunderstorm		Jun	Staunton Country Park Wood Fair
	Sep	Amberley		Jun	Uppark House
	Sep	Arundel Wildfowl Trust		Jun	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	Sep	Sandown Park		Jun	Gosport and Fareham Countryside Fair
	Oct	WJT Crafts		Jul	Bedhampton
	May	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum - possibly cancelled due to foot & mouth		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	May	Havant Arts Festival		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	May	Uppark House		Aug	Marwell Zoo
	Jun	Milland Rural Fair - cancelled due to foot and mouth		Aug	Havant Town Fair
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Sep	Amberley
	Jul	Bedhampton		Oct	WJT Crafts
2004	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers	2004	Nov	Portsmouth Dockyard Christmas Festival
	Aug	Emsworth Horticultural Show		May	Havant Arts Festival
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		May	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair
	Sep	Amberley		Jun	Staunton Country Park Wood Fair
	Sep	Sandown Park		Jun	Uppark House
				Jun	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
				Jul	Bedhampton - cancelled

Year	Month	Venues	Year	Month	Venues
2005	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	2009	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Aug	Southdown Hot Air Balloon Rally and Rural Fayre		Aug	Marwell Zoo
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Aug	Stubbington Fair
	Sep	Amberley		Sep	Amberley
	May	WL Wests		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	May	Catherington Lith - Living Woodland Fair - over 2500 attended		May	Havant Arts Festival
	May	Havant Arts Festival		May	WL Wests
	Jun	Staunton Country Park Wood Fair		May	Amberley
	Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport		Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport
	Jun	Uppark House		Jun	Sussex Game & Country Show
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jul	Soberton Festival
	Aug	Havant Town Fair		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
2006	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Aug	Marwell Zoo
	Sep	Amberley		Aug	Stubbington Fair
	Sep	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	May	WL Wests	2010	May	WL Wests
	May	Havant Arts Festival		May	Amberley
	Jun	Milland Rural Fair		Jun	Milland Rural Fair
	Jun	Uppark House		Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport
	Jul	Bedhampton		Jun	Sussex Game & Country Show
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jul	Alton Show - won third prize
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Aug	Medieval Village, Gosport		Aug	Stubbington Fair
	Aug	Havant Town Fair		Sep	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	Sep	Amberley	2011	May	WL Wests
	May	Havant Arts Festival in Emsworth		May	Amberley
	May	Havant Arts Festival in Waterlooville		Jun	Bishops Waltham Village Show
2007	Jun	Sussex Game & Country Show		Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jul	Alton Show
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Southwick Village Fete		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers
	Aug	Uppark House		Aug	Stubbington Fair
	Aug	Marwell Zoo		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum
	Sep	Amberley	2012	May	Amberley
	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	Bishops Waltham Village Show
2008	May	WL Wests		Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport
	May	Havant Arts Festival		Jun	Milland Rural Fair
	Jun	Milland Rural Fair		Jul	Alton Show
	Jun	Sussex Game & Country Show		Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
				Jul	Fareham Model Engineers - cancelled due to soggy fields

Year	Month	Venues	Year	Month	Venues	
2013	Aug	Stubbington Fair	2018	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	
	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	Solent Gardeners Fayre	
	May	Amberley		Jun	West's Wood Fair	
	Jun	Bishops Waltham Village Show		Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	
	Jun	Medieval Village, Gosport		Aug	Stubbington Fair	
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Sep	Priory Park 100, Chichester	
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	
	Aug	Stubbington Fair				
2014	Sep	Amberley	2019	May	South Downs Green Fair	
	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	Solent Gardeners Fayre	
	May	Amberley		Jul	Rural Life Centre	
	Jun	Milland Rural Fair		Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	
	Jun	Bishops Waltham Village Show		Aug	Stubbington Fair	
	Jul	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	
	Jul	Fareham Model Engineers				
	Aug	Gilbert's Games and Country Fair		2020	-	Demonstrations not held due to Covid
2015	Aug	Stubbington Fair	2021	Sep	South Downs Green Fair	
	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	2022	May	South Downs Green Fair	
	Jun	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	West's Wood Fair	
	Jul	Woodlands Country Show, QVCP	2023	Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	
	Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	
	Aug	Stubbington Fair		May	South Downs Green Fair	
	Oct	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		Jun	Botley Sustainability Show	
	2016	Jun	Milland Rural Fair	Jun	West's Wood Fair	
Jun		West's Wood Fair	Jul	Stansted Show		
Aug		Queen Elizabeth Country Park	Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		
Aug		Stubbington Fair	Aug	Compton Festival		
Oct		Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	Sep	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum		
2017		Jun	Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	2024	Jun	West's Wood Fair
		Jul	Fareham Model Engineers		Jul	Stansted Show
		Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Aug	Queen Elizabeth Country Park
	Aug	Stubbington Fair	Aug		Compton Festival	
			Sep		Weald & Downland Open Air Museum	
Note – most demonstrations in 2020/21 cancelled due to Covid						



## Appendix 5. Exhibitions

Year	Month	Venue	Comment
1979	Oct	Denmead Craft Centre	
	Nov	Fareham Library	One week
	Nov/Dec	Portsmouth Central Library	Two weeks
1980	May	All Saints Church	Entrance 25p, tea 5p. Carvings for sale
1981	Mar/Apr	Trustee Savings Bank	to make public aware of the Guild
	Oct	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition – carvers asked to include a) inspiration for carving, name of carving, wood, how long it took, type of finish, comments on the carving, details of carver and if carving is for sale
1982	Oct	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition
1983	Jan	Waterlooville Library	
	Apr	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	Bird carvings
	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition
	Sep	All Saints Church	Exhibition in conjunction with musical evening
1984	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition
1985	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition & carving of the year competition – won by Charlie Perkins
1986	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition & carving of the year competition – won by Charlie Perkins
1987	Mar/Apr	All Saints Church	Musical Evening
	May	All Saints Church	Exhibition in conjunction with musical evening by PGS Musicians
	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition & carving of the year competition – won by John Powell
1988	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition
	Sep	All Saints Church	Exhibition in conjunction with Bournemouth Wind Quire
1989	Jul	All Saints Church	Annual Exhibition
1990	Jul	Portsmouth Art Centre	Annual Exhibition 160 exhibits
	May	Waterlooville Library	Marwell Plaques
	Jun	Grately Church	Marwell Plaques
1991	Jan	Havant Museum	
	Jun	Portsmouth Art Centre	Annual Exhibition
1992	Jun	Portsmouth Art Centre	Annual Exhibition – lack of public
	Oct	PGS	Poor attendance
1993	Jun	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	Annual Exhibition – 2 days, best ever
	Nov/Dec	Andover Museum	
1994	Jun	Queen Elizabeth Country Park	Annual Exhibition – 2 days, best ever
	Nov-Dec	Havant Museum	
1995	May	Fort Purbrook	Annual Exhibition
1996	May	Fort Purbrook	Annual Exhibition
	Jun	Havant Arts Centre	
1997	Jun	Portsmouth Cathedral	
	May	St Faiths Church Hall	Annual Exhibition for one week
1999	May	Havant Arts Centre	Annual Exhibition for one week

## Appendix 6. Competitions

Year	Venue	General	Abstract	Relief	Human	Wildlife	Non-Wood	Best in Show
1985	All Saints Church - Annual Exhibition							Charlie Perkins
1986	All Saints Church - Annual Exhibition							Charlie Perkins
1987	All Saints Church - Annual Exhibition							John Powell
1988	All Saints Church - Annual Exhibition				George Rockey			Charlie Perkins
1989								
1990	All Saints Church - Annual Exhibition				George Rockey			John Powell
1991	Portsmouth Art Centre - Annual Exhibition - entries restricted							
1992	Portsmouth Art Centre - Annual Exhibition				Gordon Hoare			Dennis Pert
1993	QECF - Start of different classes for James Bell Shield	Gordon Hoare	Lauie Smith	D Henning	Betty Moore	Den Woodford		Gordon Hoare
1994	QECF	Gordon Hoare	Ray White	Ray Baker	Den Woodford	Den Woodford		Ray Baker
1995	AGM	D Woodford	Ray White	Ray Baker	Gordon Hoare	Pax Benger		
1996	AGM	Gordon Hoare	Arthur Sanders	Charlie Perkins	Gordon Hoare	Pat Weeks		Charlie Perkins
1996	November Competition - making something from a cube of wood supplied by the Guild	Frank Howkins						
1997	At AGM	Gordon Hoare	Alan Crockford	Andrew Huebler	Gordon Hoare	Gordon Hoare		Gordon Hoare
1998	At AGM	Jess Jay	Charles Miles	Ray Baker	Bert Cox	Alan Crockford		Bert Cox
1999	Staunton Park as part of Havant Arts Festival.	Bert Cox	Arthur Sanders	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler	Percy Tonge		Andrew Huebler
2000	Staunton Park as part of Havant Arts Festival.	Andrew Huebler	John Vardon	Bert Cox	Bert Cox	Percy Tonge		Bert Cox
2001	Havant Town Park as part of Havant Arts Festival	Charles Miles	John Vardon	Andrew Huebler	Bert Cox	Charles Miles		Charles Miles
2002	Havant Town Park as part of Havant Arts Festival	Andrew Huebler	John Vardon	Joan Sargeant	Bert Cox	Andrew Huebler		Andrew Huebler
2003	Emsworth Quay as part of Havant Arts Festival	Andrew Huebler	Alan Crockford	John Vardon	Frank Leach	Pat Kyari		Pat Kyari
2004	Emsworth Quay as part of Havant Arts Festival (2 days)	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler	Charles Miles	Andrew Huebler		Andrew Huebler
2005	Emsworth Quay as part of Havant Arts Festival	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler	John Vardon	Jane Parvin	Alan Crockford	John Tappy	Andrew Huebler
2006	Emsworth Quay as part of Havant Arts Festival	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler	John Vardon	Percy Tongue	Pat Kyari	Pat Kyari	Pat Kyari
2007	Emsworth Quay as part of Havant Arts Festival	Andrew Huebler	John Vardon	John Vardon	Bert Cox	Andrew Huebler	Pat Kyari	Andrew Huebler

Note Abstract and Best-In Show categories discontinued in 2008. Competition for Novices introduced in 2009. Frank Leach Competition for the Bill Pinney trophy introduced in 2010.

Year	Venue	General	Relief	Human	Wildlife	Non-Wood	Novices	Frank Leach*
2008	WL West's Wood Show	Joan Sargeant	John Vardon	Bert Cox	John Cude	Pax Benger		
2009	WL West's Wood Show	John Vardon	John Vardon	Jess Jay	Alan Crockford	Pat Kyari	Joe Benjamin	
2010	WL West's Wood Show	Jean Cripps	Alan Crockford	Bert Cox	Darriell Platts		Bill Allen	Frank Leach
2011	WL West's Wood Show	Alan Crockford	Jean Cripps	Jess Jay	Peter Warren			Jean Cripps
2012	Amberley Heritage Centre	Jess Jay	Brian Matthews	Frank Leach	Andy Banger	Pat Kyari	Greg Gregory	Alan Crockford
2013	Amberley Heritage Centre	Eric Breese	Andy Banger	Eric Breese	Andrew Huebler			Alan Crockford
2014	Milland Rural Fair	Andrew Huebler	Andrew Huebler		Gill Sadler			Gill Sadler
2015	The Woodlands Show	Bert Cox	John Vardon	Andy Banger	Bill Allen		Lin Palmer	Bill Allen
2016	Milland Rural Fair	John Vardon	Andrew Huebler	Jean Cripps	Andrew Huebler		Dave Owen	John Vardon
2017	Wood Show, Weald& Downland Living Museum	Alan Crockford	John Vardon	Andy Banger	John Vardon			Philip Haskell
2018	West's Wood Fair	Gill Sadler	John Vardon	Andy Banger	John Vardon		David Davis	
2019	South Downs Show	Jess Jay	John Vardon	Andy Banger	Jess Jay	George Palmer		Sandra Barnes
2020	South Downs Show – not held due to Covid							Jean Cripps
2021	Not held due to Covid							
2022	South Downs Show	Peter Hallam	John Vardon	John Vardon	George Palmer		Terry Perkins	Peter Hallam
2023	South Downs Show	Peter Hallam	Jess Jay	Sandra Barnes	Jess Jay		Alwyn Brace	Peter Hallam
2024	South Downs Show		David Davis	Graeme Swain	Andy Banger		Jack Sadler	Craig Williams

\*Frank Leach Competition held at a social event



## Appendix 7. Social Meetings

Year	Month	Topic	Year	Month	Topic
1979	Sep	Coins through the Ages - relevance of carving		Oct	Pacific Carvings
	Nov	Discussion on choice of wood and choice of carving. Auction of James Bell tools		Nov	Timber Trade
				Dec	Christmas Dinner - believed to have been the first
1980	Jan	Follow-on from Nov Meeting and demonstration on how to start a carving	1986	Jan	Large & Small Trees and their effect upon Landscape
	May	AGM - believed to have been the first?		Mar	Design & Makers of Modern Furniture in Wood
	Oct	No details		May	Sculpture and Bronze Casting
1981	Jan	Female Carvers! - followed by a book sale		Jun	AGM followed by talk on Limewood Foliage in the Style of Grinling Gibbons
	Apr	Relationship between Form, Function and Meaning in Architecture		Sep	Furniture in the Collections of the Portsmouth Museum
	Jul	AGM followed by sale/swap of tools		Oct	Stone Masonry and Carving
1982	Mar	Discussion of carvings of foreign origin		Dec	Humour in the History of Portsmouth
	Oct	Photographing carvings		Dec	Christmas Dinner at Hogs Lodge
	Dec	Carving Ship's Figureheads	1987	Jan	Etching
1983	Feb	The Art of Enamelling		Feb	Display of carvings followed by performance of magic
	Apr	Carving Birds		Mar	Preservation of HMS Victory
	Apr	Skittles at Boar's Head Hotel		Apr	Discussion on Miniature Furniture
	May	AGM followed by a practical demonstration of 'sharpening'		Jun	AGM followed by auction of Harry Wareham's tools
	Sep	Talk about Processional Cross made by a Member		Sep	Abstract Sculpture
	Nov	Security in the Home		Oct	Carvings Observed
1984	Feb	The relationships between Modelling and Carving		Nov	The Brunels and Portsmouth
	Mar	Conservation (at Queen Elizabeth Country Park)		Dec	Annual Dinner at Seafarers Restaurant - the first of many
	Apr	Skittles at Boar's Head Hotel	1988	Jan	Sketching for the Carver
	May	AGM followed by talk 'Three-Dimensional Problem Solving'		Feb	Woodcarving
	Sep	Timber Framed Buildings		Mar	Forty Years in Sculpture
	Oct	Violin Making		Apr	The Englishman's Home before 1600
	Nov	Salvage of HMS Invincible		May	AGM followed by sale and exchange of tools, etc.
1985	Feb	Laminated Wood		Sep	Wood Catering for the Craftsman
	Apr	Timber Framed Buildings		Oct	History of Place Names
	Jun	AGM including presentation of first Constitution		Nov	Sculpture in Iron
	Aug	BBQ at the Pilbeams – believed to have been the first	1989	Jan	Marquetry
	Sep	HMS Warrior		Feb	Silhouettes
				Mar	The Englishman's Home before 1600 - Part 2
				Apr	Antiques Road Show

Year	Month	Topic	Year	Month	Topic
1990	Sep	Calendar of British Birds	1995	Oct	Bring and Buy Sale
	Oct	Wood Finishing		Nov	Making Violins
	Nov	Adventure for Living		Dec	Annual Dinner at Crofts Restaurant
	Jan	Uppark		Jan	Focus on Wildlife
	Feb	Mediaeval Church Furniture		Feb	History of Painting of Miniatures
	Mar	Furniture Restoration		Mar	Bears - Polar and Grizzly
	Apr	Discussion about Woodcarving		Apr	Come to New Zealand
1991	Sep	Stained Glass in Winchester Cathedral	1996	May	AGM and Competitions Evening
	Oct	Tree Felling		Sep	Birds of Prey
	Nov	Carvings and Figureheads		Oct	Abrasives
	Jan	Looking for Inspiration		Nov	Forestry
	Feb	Wood Sculpture		Dec	Annual Dinner at Crofts Restaurant
	Mar	Tea Planting in Assam		Feb	Badgers
	Apr	Falconry		Fem	Magic
1992	May	Harry Wareham Trophy	1997	Mar	Fire at Uppark
	Jun	Caring for an Ancient Cathedral		May	Conservation of Hilsea Lines
	Sep	Shades of Pastel		May	AGM and Competitions Evening
	Oct	Woodcuts		Sep	Wood
	Nov	Misericords of Winchester		Oct	Pews
	Jan	Sea Shanties and Work Songs		Nov	Fresco Painting
	Feb	Timber in the Construction Industry		Dec	Annual Dinner at Crofts Restaurant
1993	Mar	Wood Sculptor to St Georges Chapel, Windsor	1998	Jan	Pews
	Apr	History of Decoy Duck Carving		Feb	Knots
	May	Harry Wareham Trophy - only 6 entries		Mar	Fire Brigade
	Sep	Pastels from the Lake District		Apr	Fort Nelson
	Oct	My Dolls House		May	AGM and Competitions Evening
	Nov	The Mediaeval Long Bow		Sep	Cinema Buildings
	Jan	Guild Trip to Switzerland		Oct	Walking Sticks
1994	Feb	Model Ship Building	1999	Nov	Calligraphy
	Mar	The Potted History of the Carbuncle - the Royal Prerogative and all that.		Dec	Annual Dinner at American Bar Old Portsmouth
	Apr	Wildlife in Focus		Jan	Carving (Ian Brennan)
	May	Harry Wareham Trophy & James Bell Shield competitions		Feb	Customs & Excise
	Sep	Solent Shipping		Mar	Brunels Blockmills
	Oct	My Early Days in Horticulture		Apr	A Humorous Look at Slogan Competitions
	Nov	Carved Screens		May	AGM & Competition
1995	Dec	Annual Dinner at Seafarers Restaurant - the last	2000	Sep	Titanic
	Jan	Architectural Carving		Oct	Making Miniature Musical Instruments
	Feb	Beeswax & Candles		Nov	Restoration & Decoration at Portsmouth University
	Mar	Painting on China		Jan	Annual Dinner at Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club - 40 attended - this was the first
	Apr	Carving and Romany Life		Jan	Crime Prevention at Home
	May	Competitions Evening			
	Sep	Timber and Adhesives			

Year	Month	Topic	Year	Month	Topic
2000	Feb	Sculpture	2004	Feb	The History and Art of Meccano
	Mar	HMS Victory Restoration		Mar	Fire Marks and Fire Insurance Records
	Apr	Looking at Sculpture		Sep	Discovering Timber-Framed Houses
	May	AGM held in May each year	2005	Oct	History and Restoration of the Basingstoke Canal
	Sep	Forensic Science		Nov	Drovers and Drove Roads
	Oct	Up to your Knee in Wood Shavings		Jan	Annual Dinner at Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club - 45 attended. Proceeds of raffle donated to Tsunami Disaster Relief
	Nov	Tool Sharpening		Feb	The Drawings of Heath Robinson
	Jan	Tower of London		Mar	The Bayeux Tapestry
	Feb	Forensic Science		Apr	Journey to the Stars
	Feb	Annual Dinner at Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club		Sep	The London Nobody Knows
	Mar	Growing Fuchsias		Oct	Fantastic Trees
	Apr	Weather Vanes		Nov	Digital Imaging/Art
2001	Sep	Turning Green Wood	2006	Feb	Out of the Horn
	Oct	Hand Carved Sculptures from Zimbabwe - this talk was interrupted by a violent flash of lightening which struck a house nearby		Mar	Knots and Knotting
	Nov	Search & Rescue Hovercraft		Apr	Wildlife in Antarctica
	Feb	Slides of Birds		Jul	BBQ at the Pilbeams - this was the last
	Mar	Mechanical Moving Toys and dolls - speaker did not turn up and a Member gave an overview of the Millennium Carving for Havant Borough Council		Sep	The Romantic and Heroic Ghosts of a Victorian Cemetery
	Apr	Models from Paper		Oct	Restoring Ships' Figureheads
	Sep	Sculpture Techniques		Nov	Tell it to the Marines!
	Oct	SS Great Britain	2007	Feb	Knee Deep in Shavings
	Nov	Forgery & the British Currency		Mar	Sculpture begins at Fifty
	Feb	Libel and Slander		Apr	Thames and Royal Watermen
2002	Mar	The Craft of Paper Making		Sep	Smuggling in Hampshire and the IoW
	Apr	Metal Detecting - it was supposed to be Trees & Wildlife in China but the speaker had done a runner to Wales!		Oct	Flags and Heraldry
	Sep	Gallery of Inn Signs		Nov	100 Years of the Kings Theatre
	Oct	Tools for Self-Reliance	2008	Feb	History of the Guide Dog Association
	Nov	Marine Archaeology		Mar	Just a Line – Love Ethel
	Feb	History of Silhouettes		Apr	Looking Forward to Summer
	Mar	Apples don't Grow on Trees		Sep	Life below Decks on the Royal Yacht
	Apr	Amberley Museum		Oct	Hampshire Air Police Unit
	Jun	American Lunch at the Sergeants - this was the first		Nov	Pantomime Dames
	Sep	Japanese Woodblock Prints	2009	Feb	Cycling Bangkok to Singapore
	Oct	Shades of Pastel		Mar	Country Wine Making
	Nov	Charles Dickens - The Spirit of Christmas		Apr	Petworth House
2003	Feb	History of Silhouettes		Sep	Images of Borneo
	Mar	Apples don't Grow on Trees		Oct	Bees and Beekeeping
	Apr	Amberley Museum		Nov	Railways and other Transport in the Portsmouth Area in the 1960's
	Jun	American Lunch at the Sergeants - this was the first			
	Sep	Japanese Woodblock Prints			
	Oct	Shades of Pastel			
	Nov	Charles Dickens - The Spirit of Christmas			
	Feb	History of Silhouettes			
	Mar	Apples don't Grow on Trees			
	Apr	Amberley Museum			

<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>
2010	Feb	Warblington and Langstone Local History and Folk Tales	2015	Jan	Traditional Sailors Crafts Plus Knot Tying
	Mar	Portsmouth Water		Feb	Pub Games
	Apr	Talk - postponed		Mar	Sniffer Dogs
	Sep	Perfect, Perfect - Part 1		Apr	Quiz Evening
	Oct	Memories from Fleet Street		Jun	A Taste of China
2011	Nov	Lordington Lavender Farm		Sep	Secret Haunts of Hampshire
	Feb	Snowballs in June		Oct	Annual Dinner at SD College - the first at the college
	Mar	Cape to Cape		Nov	Acrylic Artwork
	Apr	Tanzanian Safari	2016	Jan	Life & Times of Gosport & Fareham Inshore Rescue Service
	Jun	American Lunch - held at Pax's		Feb	Pub Games
2012	Sep	One Arm, One Eye and a Mistress		Mar	Stained Glass
	Oct	Perfect, Perfect – Part 2		Apr	From Ashes to Royal Commissions
	Nov	Queen Elizabeth Country Park		Jun	Treasure Hunt/Quiz Evening
	Feb	Costa Rica - Garden of Eden		Sep	Meandering along the Meon
	Mar	Door Step Crime		Nov	Feet & Photographs
	Apr	History of Diving and the Diving Museum	2017	Jan	History and Language - is it all Codswallop?
	Jun	American Lunch - this was the last at the Sergeants		Feb	Pub Games
	Sep	Tunbridge Stickware and Miniature Work		Mar	A Personal History of Transport
	Oct	Beneath the Waves - Marine Conservation in the Solent		Apr	Treasure Hunt/Quiz Evening
	Nov	The Victorian Defences of Portsmouth and the Great Portsdown Forts		Jul	Canine Partners – What We are About
2013	Feb	Landscape Pastel Painting		Sep	The New Forest
	Mar	Journey to the Stars		Nov	Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance
	Apr	Tools – What's It Quiz	2018	Jan	Tools – What's It Quiz
	Jun	Skittles - this was the first		Feb	Pub and Board Games
	Sep	Birds of Langstone Harbour		Mar	The Rocky Appeal/Da Vinci Robot
2014	Oct	The Ugandan Connection		Apr	Quiz Evening
	Nov	What the Butler Saw		May	40th Anniversary
	Jan	Annual Dinner at Lee-on-the-Solent Golf Club - this was the last!		Jun	Boule/Petanque Competition
	Feb	Hidden Haunts of Hampshire		Jul	Lee Historic Heritage Waterfront
	Mar	Treasure Hunt	2019	Aug	Skittles
	Apr	Introduction to British Bats		Sep	Migratory Birds in the Solent
	Jun	Sniffer Dogs		Nov	Life below Decks of the Royal Yacht
	Jul	Quiz Evening		Dec	Christmas American Supper
	Aug	Petanque Competition - this was the first		Jan	Pub and Board Games
	Sep	You too can be a Magistrate!		Mar	A Close-up Look at the Life of the Honey Bee
	Oct	Tools – What's It Quiz		Apr	Quiz Evening
	Nov	Tommy Atkins & WWI		Jun	Boule/Petanque
	Dec	Christmas American Supper - this was the first		Jul	Research into the History of Royal Hospital Hasler



<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>
2019	Aug	Skittles Evening
	Sep	Why Manage Woodlands
	Oct	Presentation Dinner
	Nov	The Treasures and Secrets of the Mary Rose - a Tudor Time Capsule
2020	Dec	Christmas American Supper
	Jan	Pub and Board Games
	Feb	Electric Guitar & Bass Building
2021	Events in 2020/21 cancelled due to Covid	
	Oct	Wood Sculpting
	Dec	Christmas American Supper
2022	Feb	Games Night

<b>Year</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Topic</b>
	Jun	Boule/Petanque Competition
	Aug	Cotton and Me
	Dec	Christmas American Supper
	2023	Feb Games Night
	Apr	The National Coastwatch Institution
	Jun	Boule/Petanque Competition
	Oct	Presentation Dinner
	Dec	Christmas American Supper
2024	Jun	Boule/Petanque Competition
	Oct	Presentation Dinner
	Dec	Christmas American Supper

*Note – most socials in 2020/21 cancelled due to Covid*

## Appendix 8. Visits

Year	Month	Venue
1980	Oct	Petworth House
1981	Jun	Theatre Royal
	Oct	Woodworker Exhibition (19 attended)
1982	Oct	Woodworker Exhibition - competition held by Ashley Isles - 8 out of 27 exhibits carved by Members of the Guild
	Nov	Shipyard in W. Cowes to see figurehead being carved
1983	Oct	Woodworker Exhibition
1984	Jun	Open Air Sculptures at Sutton Scotney
	Sep	Hambledon Vineyard; visit was on a Sunday and wine could not be sold
	Oct	Woodworker Exhibition - not impressed
	Nov	Waterside Carvers
1985	Mar	Horndean Brewery
	May	HMS Alliance & Priddy's Hard
	May/Jun	Normandy trip including carving of Bayeaux Tapestry
	Sep	Leigh Park Gardens
		Winchester to see carving of Bayeaux Tapestry
1986	May	Air Traffic Control Centre
		Rycotewood College
	Nov	Workshop of sculptress Elizabeth Frink
		Edward Barnsley Workshop
1987	Sep	Max Aitken Museum, IoW
1988		Oxford Forestry Institute
		Mechanical Music Museum
		Parnham House & Makepeace Workshops
1989	Jun	Bedchester House Studio - letter carving
	May	Winchester Cathedral, College, Museum and Great Hall
1990	Jun	Windsor
	Jul	Winchester College and Hospital of St Cross
	Oct	Woodworker Show
1991	Jun	Hawk Conservancy, Weyhill
	Oct	Woodworker Show
1992	Jun	Summer Exhibition at Royal Academy
	Sep	Swiss Carving School
	Oct	National Maritime Museum
	Nov	WL Wests
1993	Mar	Practical Woodworking Exhibition
	Aug	Upper Hamble River Cruise
	Nov	The Woodcarver's Craft Exhibition
1994	Feb	Practical Woodworking Exhibition
	Aug	Summer Exhibition at Royal Academy
1995	Jan	Combes Shipyard
1996	Jun	Dram O' Apples Cider Farm
	Aug	Summer Exhibition at Royal Academy
	Oct	Hampton Court
1998		Visit to V&A for Grinling Gibbons Exhibition
1999	June	Visit to Wickham Vineyard

2000	Sep	Goodwood Sculpture Park. 15 attended.
	Nov	Tour of Leigh Park Gardens followed by planting of lime tree sponsored by the Guild
2001	Jun	Petworth House. 31 attended - this included some from Alan Crockford class.
2003	Oct	Apple Farm
	Nov	Self-Reliance - postponed
	Sep	WL Wests
2004	Mar	Self-Reliance
	Nov	Rolls Royce
2006	Sept	Southwick Brewery
2010	Mar	Petworth House
	Apr	Funtington Clock Museum
2011	Jul	Lordington Lavender Farm

## Appendix 9.      Puzzles

In some Newsletters puzzles were included. A couple are given below. (I hope I have typed them correctly!)

In 1984/5 there was this puzzle. A woodcarver, needing practice in carving letters, planned a relief carving of the names of the tools he was using, with a brief title, and drew it on paper one evening. His small daughter found it the next day and cut it up into neat squares each containing one letter. Sorting them out he found he had:

A6 C2 D2 E9 F9 G2 H1 I5 K1 L9 M2 N3 O5 P5 R7 S8 T4 U1 W1 Y1 Z1

The list contains no material, only tools, and the title contained seven letters. What was the title and what were the tools? Answers are given at the end of this Appendix.

In 1989 an interesting word search puzzle was included in the newsletter. It is reproduced below in case anyone once a go. The words are wood carving related. There are between fifteen and twenty words which may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal and may be spelt forwards or backwards. There is one final word for which the clue is 'regretfully sometimes lacking'. Answers are given at the end of this Appendix.

S	O	W	H	T	K	G	E	A	M	A	S	I	D
T	R	A	W	Z	E	U	L	G	I	R	T	N	A
R	U	N	C	O	F	E	E	D	U	H	F	V	L
A	T	E	D	H	Z	F	X	P	R	O	D	U	C
N	X	P	S	D	I	O	F	C	I	N	G	Y	O
I	N	B	A	N	D	S	A	W	F	U	R	L	Z
X	G	R	K	E	M	N	E	L	F	K	O	T	U
H	A	P	Y	D	N	T	E	L	L	A	M	A	M
Q	U	S	P	W	O	O	D	I	E	X	N	R	E
U	S	A	L	M	R	I	T	K	R	O	E	S	T
A	T	R	E	P	A	R	C	S	V	U	L	C	A
R	R	A	X	F	A	L	E	L	Q	T	R	O	W
P	O	L	I	S	H	T	C	I	E	B	A	N	L
E	P	A	P	R	E	P	A	P	D	N	A	S	A

Answers:

Letter puzzle – the title was 'My Tools' and the tools were Adze, Chisel, Drill, Gouge, Knife, Mallet, Plane, Rasp, Riffler, Saw, Scraper, Slip Stone and Strop

Word Search - Adze, Awl, Bandsaw, Chisel, Clamp, Glue, Gouge, Knife, Mallet, Polish, Rasp, Riffler, Sandpaper, Scraper, Slip, Stone, Strop, and Wood. Answer to the clue is Skill.