

# SOLENT GUILD OF WOODCARVERS & SCULPTORS

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Whatever you are carving seek as much information and inspiration as possible. Some sources are:

1. There are numerous specialist books on carving ideas, many with step-by-step guides. Books on animals, birds, fish, etc. are also useful if that is what you wish to carve.
2. Physical objects are a good starting point. Charity shops, local fairs, etc. are a good source and often very cheap. However, you must remember these objects are interpretations themselves therefore it is still worth looking at the real thing and consulting books.
3. Take plenty of photographs from all angles if you are planning to carve an existing object or even a person. If you are planning to carve animals make sure you photograph all views including the back-end; there are very few images of the back-ends of animals on the Internet!
4. Magazines like the [Woodcarving](#) or [Chip Chats](#) (from America) magazines contain a wealth of information on carving topics, step-by-step guides and including advertisements for tools, wood, etc.
5. The Internet is a valuable research tool for images of whatever you want to carve.
6. Your local library is a good source of ideas.
7. Sometimes the shape and characteristics of a piece of wood may inspire the carving.
8. Fellow carvers will provide ideas, guidance, etc.
9. Wood Species – see [Wood Species : Timber Development UK](#)