

Sharpen your skills with templates

March/April 2008 No.101

£3.45

WOODcarving



START CARVING

Bill Prickett's red squirrel in cherry

ON TEST

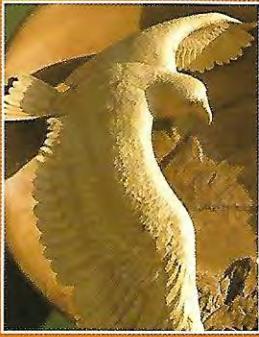
Black & Decker power sander

Arbortech power carving range

Dick Fine laminated chisels

GOTHIC MARVEL

Chris Pye demonstrates traditional carving methods



SKIES ABOVE
Carve our superb white-tailed eagle



FABULOUS FIGUREHEAD
Museum quality carving from Andy Peters



SUM OF THE PARTS
Large scale relief

Contents

IN THE ROUND & RELIEF CARVING

Sky Master

With an eight-foot wingspan, the Whittling author Mick Steiner has created a large-scale woodcarving of a hawk.

Tools & materials

String Carver No. 3 4mm.
No. 5 5mm, No. 6 22mm.
No. 8 20mm, No. 10 16mm.
Raven's Claw
Router
Value: No. 11 2mm.
Altogether: £52.00
Bench gouge - Sustai No.12 25mm.
Avalon Tools 3403/20/0 grit
(150 grit only)
Finish: Two coats of Danish Oil
50/50 with pure tung oil.
Eight coat of Beeswax, thinned with
pure tung oil.

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44

GETTING STARTED – THE RIGHT APPROACH

Lead by example

Whittling author Peter Clobier demonstrates how to make models and templates in preparation for woodcarving.

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Plasticine
- Matches
- A sharp knife – the almond spuds are less bulky and therefore will need more strokes
- Paper – you can use paper as a pressing surface as it is very soft and easy to cut
- A sharp pencil or a fine felt-tip pen
- Scissors
- Clear sticky tape

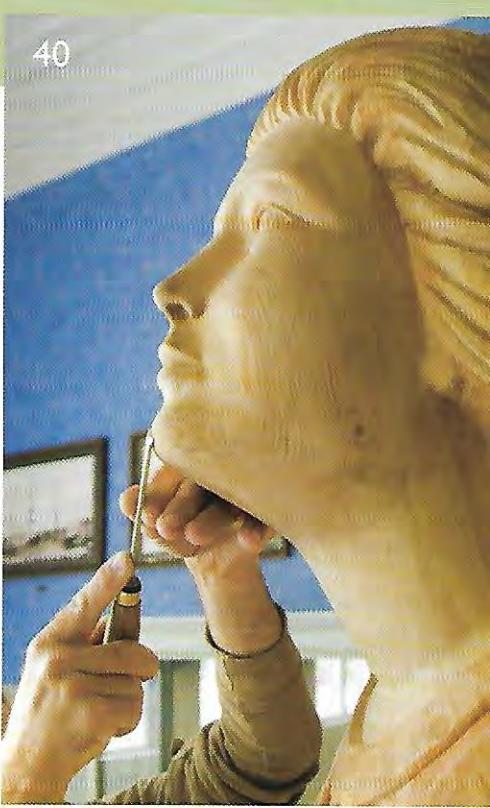
There are many ways of making your first woodcarving project. A whittling block, a piece of wood, a pencil and a sharp knife are all you need. However, I prefer to make a model first. This allows you to visualise the finished article and gives you confidence in your ability to create it. It also allows you to practise your skills on a smaller scale before moving on to a full-size project. This is what I'm going to do.

Getting started

When you're starting out, there are lots of ways to approach your designs and ideas. You could start with a simple animal or perhaps a combination of different shapes. I like to start with a view of the eagle from above, as this is a good way of getting the main features right. You can then add details such as the tail feathers, the wings and the legs. As you work, you'll find that some parts are easier than others. Don't worry if you make mistakes – they are normal. Just learn from them and move on to the next part. Additionally, you can always sand down the rough edges and corners to make the finished piece look better.

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Regulars

4 The Editor introduces the exceptional articles to be found in this issue of *Woodcarving*

14 Gallery

Mary Cleophas and Alphaus, c. 1505-1510, limewood; Mary Salome and Zebedee, c. 1505-1510, limewood. Both by Tilman Riemenschneider

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80 On the skew

Never one to pass up a bargain, **Will Hastings** reflects on his various acquisitions and wonders if the shed could be put to better use

Test

59 Knowledge is power

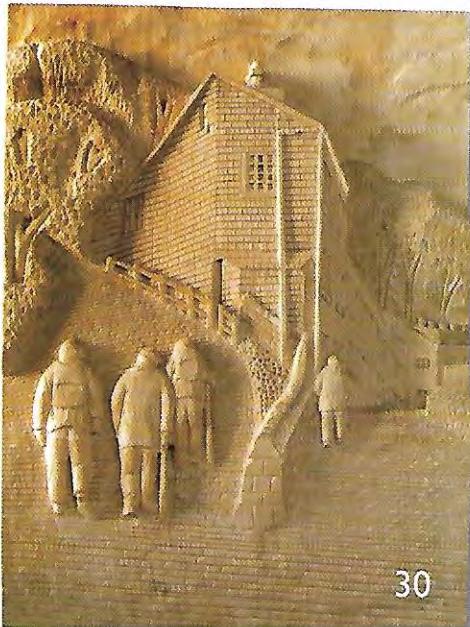
Ian Edwards profiles the KA293E Powerfile from Black & Decker

60 Arbortech cutters

Mark Baker takes a closer look at the Arbortech cutter range

64 Chinese carving tools

Iain Whittington purchases a set of quality, low-cost, laminated Chinese chisels from Dick Fine Tools to assess their merits



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WOOD

carving

Sharpest tool in the box

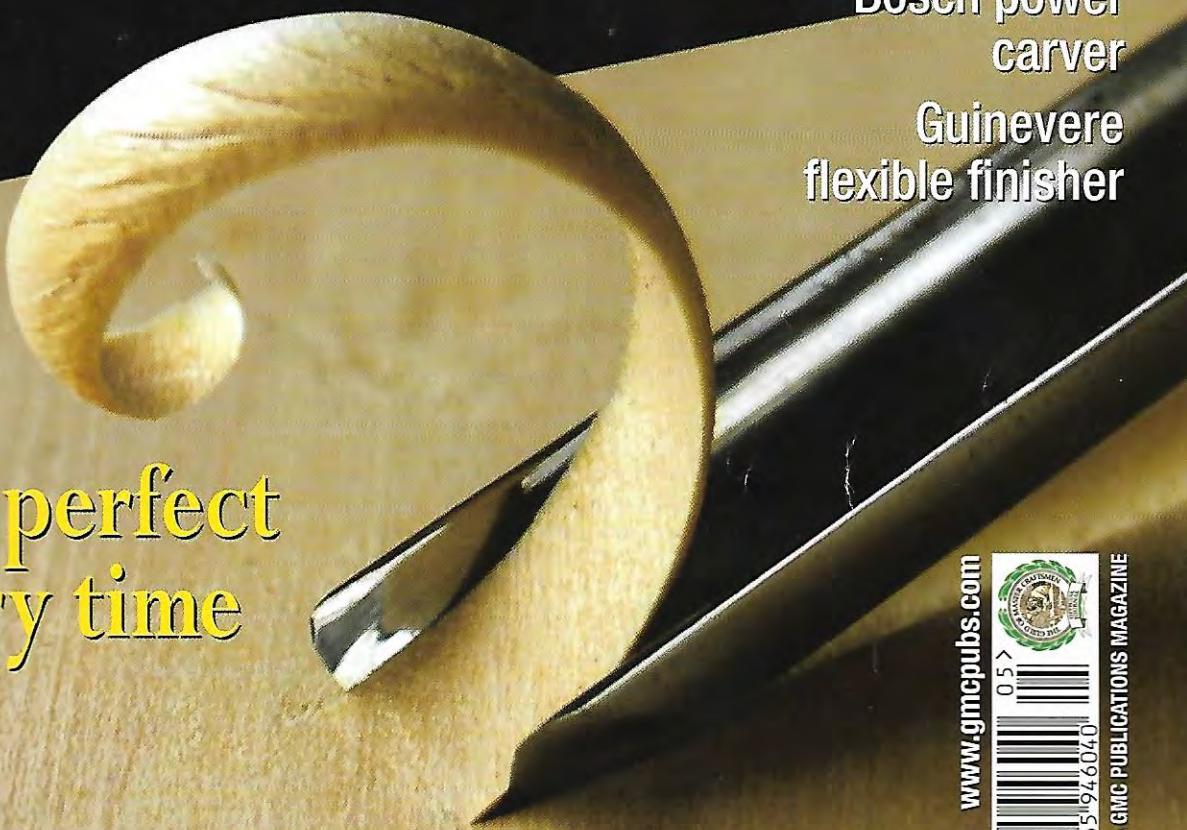
Our step
by step
guide to perfect
cuts every time



FRED ZAVADIL
Behind the scenes with the maestro



BLUE TIT
Achieve the perfect tooled finish

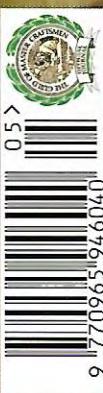


- Carve a fish on a dish
- Wood block engravings
- Euro '08 Dremel competition



GREEN MAN
START CARVING THIS HISTORICAL FIGURE

www.gmcpubs.com



A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE

Contents

LEARN TO CARVE THE GREEN MAN OF NORWICH CATHEDRAL

Green man of Norwich Cathedral

Chris Pye shows us how to carve the mythological and mysterious Green Man, popular with carvers the world over

Although there's no one 'real' Green Man, there are a number of them scattered really nicely in the world, of which the carving above (left) will give you some idea. It's a copy of a 15th-century figure from the cathedral of St James the Greater in Norwich, England. It's a bit of a mystery, though, because it's not known exactly what the original figure looked like.

Considerations

There were several problems when I was asked to copy this figure. First, it's a very tall figure, nearly seven feet. It's difficult to get above sitting heads, but I decided to go for a seated pose. Second, the figure was cut out of a large block of wood, so I had to fit the figure into the available space on top of the wood. In fact, I had to do three separate carvings to get the figure to fit.

The figure is carved from lime wood, which is a small tree. Carving it would take about 20 hours. This is a good time to start, as the wood is very soft and will move around a lot during the process. It's important to have a sharp chisel and a sharp plane for fine detailing.

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24

FEATURE

A touch of class

ASIAN CULT & GUILD OF LONDON
Art School gears up for this year's anticipated diploma show.
Dick Content has a look...at the event's 2007

In the last few years, the Asian Cult & Guild of London Art School has become one of the most interesting and dynamic art schools in the UK. It's a relatively new school, having been founded in 1997, but it has already established itself as a leading centre for traditional Asian arts. The school offers a range of courses, from traditional Chinese painting and calligraphy to contemporary art and design. The school's facilities are excellent, with a range of studios and workshops available for students to use. The school's faculty is made up of experienced and dedicated teachers who are passionate about their subjects. The school's focus is on traditional Asian arts, but it also offers courses in contemporary art and design. The school's facilities are excellent, with a range of studios and workshops available for students to use. The school's faculty is made up of experienced and dedicated teachers who are passionate about their subjects.

Left: Copy of a Persepolis relief in Suryabara by Mike Abbott, centre. An impression of the original. © 2007

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Regulars

4 The Editor invites us all to go back to basics with our woodcarvings

14 Gallery

Seated Bishop, c. 1495-1500, limewood; St James the Greater, c. 1505, limewood.

Both by Tilman Riemenschneider

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80 On the skew

Will Hastings decides to book himself a long trip overseas to somewhere unpronounceable and interesting in the name of carving

Technical

8 Sharpest tool in the box

In the first of this two-part series, **Chris Pye** describes an easy to follow technique for grinding and honing carving tools, and discusses the equipment that is needed

24 Green Man of Norwich Cathedral

Chris Pye shows us how to carve the mythological and mysterious Green Man, popular with carvers the world over



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FREE INSIDE | 16-page Ducks, Decoys & Waterfowl pull-out

WOOD

CARVING

July/August 2008 No.103 £3.45

NEW LOOK!

Alpine art

UNIKA –
European
carving at
its best

NORWEGIAN WOOD
Carve our exquisite
Nordic-style chopping board

ALES MERTL
Startling, original
carvings from the
Czech maestro

CLASSIC PICTURE FRAME
Fred Wilbur's heirloom project

JACK RUSSELL
Simple carving
techniques for
beginners

ON TEST
• Benchtop bandsaws
• Kirschen tools



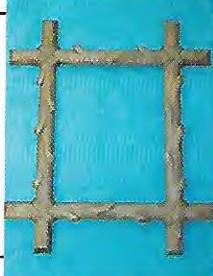
NEW SERIES WEEKEND PROJECT • Q&A • INSIGHT

Technical

44 Sharpest tool in the box – part II

In the second part of this essential series on sharpening, Chris Pye examines closely the step-by-step process in achieving and maintaining sharp tools

COVER STORY

**51** Branching out

In this extract taken from Frederick Wilbur's book, *Decorative Woodcarving – Accessories for the Home*, we look at carved branch frames

Projects

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10 Norwegian breadboard

Iain Whittington serves up a traditional Norwegian style breadboard based on the traditional style of the acanthus leaf



NEW SERIES

18 Weekend Carving Project: Mock turtle

Maureen Hockley carves an achievable stylised turtle for readers to sharpen their skills

COVER STORY

**24** Best in show

Peter Clothier demonstrates how to carve this stylised Jack Russell in plywood, using templates and power tools

Tests

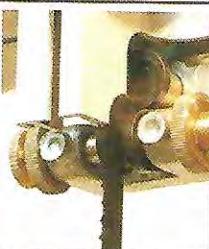
COVER STORY

59 Kirschen tools

Russell Parry gets a feel for this long established German brand with a look at their gouges



COVER STORY

**60** One man band

Russell Parry puts three benchtop bandsaws – the Ryobi RBS-3080, the Scheppach Basato I, and the Record BS250 – through their paces

In this issue...

FREE INSIDE

16-page Ducks, Decoys & Waterfowl pull-out

WOOD CARVING

July/August 2008 No 103 £3.45

NEW LOOK!

Alpine art

UNIKA – European carving at its best

NORWEGIAN WOOD

Carve our exquisite Nordic-style chopping board

ALES MERTL

Startling, original carvings from the Czech maestro

CLASSIC PICTURE FRAME

Fred Wilbur's heirloom project

JACK RUSSELL
Simple carving techniques for beginners

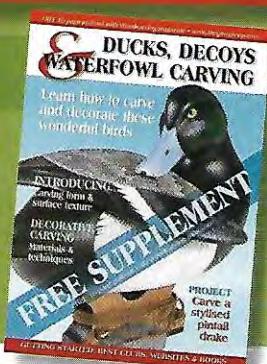
ON TEST

Benchtop bandsaws
Kirschen tools

NEW SERIES WEEKEND PROJECT • Q&A • INSIGHT

plus...

To accompany your new-look Woodcarving magazine, we bring you our fantastic *Ducks, Decoys & Waterfowl Carving* supplement, featuring tutorials on the carving, painting and texturing of these wonderful birds



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8 Insight

In the first of this new series, Woodcarving delves into the lives and works of carvers, bringing you a step closer to what inspires their work and their working environment. We begin with Fred Wilbur...

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30 Puppet master

Editor Stuart Lawson considers the rare talent of Czech carving maestro, Ales Mertl





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Mick Cuomo reports for Woodcarving on his visit to the 13th UNIKA alpine woodcarving show in Ortisei



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As we approach this year's Sculptree event at Westonbirt's Festival of the Tree, Maureen Hockley looks back at last year's show for a flavour of what's to come

80 Woodcarving Competition 2008

Following on from last year's successful Woodcarving photo competition, we are delighted to announce details of this year's event

AXMINSTER
POWER TOOL CENTRE

Regulars

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MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Maureen Hockley is the Publicity Officer for the British Woodcarving Association (BWA) and can regularly be spotted among the Projects, Features and News sections of Woodcarving

Chris Pye is a professional woodcarver, author and teacher of woodcarving for nearly 30 years, and is a member of the prestigious Master Carvers Association



Iain Whittington is a retired army engineer. He marked his retirement with a restoration project of a 17th century Devon farmhouse, together with associated fittings and furniture

Fred Wilbur is a professional woodcarver, producing original and restoration work in a wide variety of styles, having received the Architectural Woodwork Institute's Award of Excellence



STEP BY STEP PROJECT: Carve your own gecko

Wood

CARVING

September/October 2008 No.104 £3.50



NEW LOOK!

Classical Tradition

Carve and gild a
Georgian-style corbel



Weekend project
Oak leaf & acorn panel



CHIP CARVING
Wayne Barton's
definitive guide

ON TEST

- Dust extractors
- Dremel multi-tool

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WOODCARVING COMPETITION 2008 – Entry form

TECHNICAL

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24 Carve a Georgian-style corbel

Carve and gild this classic 18th Century corbel based on the Georgian period, with Steve Bisco

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NEW SERIES

We ask the experts for their solutions and answers to questions relating to all things carving

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44 Chip away

Expert chip carver Wayne Barton introduces readers to the quick and simple techniques required for chip carving



50 Carving links

In this extract taken from Sharon Littley and Clive Griffin's book on Celtic Lovespoons, we have a quick look at carving chains and links

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10 Art gecko

Learn to carve a fantastic yet simple gecko with wood sculptor Bill Prickett



NEW SERIES

18 Weekend Carving Project: Leaf in relief

Russell Parry shows how a small panel of leaves and acorns can be carved in relief with just a few hours work



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59 Dust busters

The Woodcarving team assesses the best dust extractors available for under £200

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Stuart Lawson is impressed by the new 300 Series multi-tool with 55 accessories

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Wood sculptor Henry Phillips opens the doors to his studio in this fantastic series, bringing you closer to the lives and works of the carver

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Ruth Jindal takes a closer look at the incredible works of UNIKA's master-carver Giuseppe Rumerio

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wood CARVING

NEW LOOK!

Classical Tradition

Carve and gild a Georgian-style corbel

Weekend project

Oak leaf & acorn panel



CHIP CARVING
Wayne Barton's definitive guide

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WOODCARVING COMPETITION 2008 – Entry form

Main cover image:

Russell Parry's Oak Leaf Panel, page 18

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

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With the recent debate amongst readers as to the value of woodcarving courses, we take a closer look at the excellent short courses run by carving tutor, Peter Benson



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A wildlife project for you to carve in the round



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Improve your technique with this Georgian-style corbel



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A simple weekend relief project



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Find out what it's like behind the scenes at Robert Sorby

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

Wayne Barton is a professional woodcarver from Illinois who was first introduced to woodcarving at the age of five. He took his formal training in Brienz, Switzerland and specialises in chip carving, devoting more than thirty years to its advancement. He is the author of seven best selling books on chip carving and the founder of the Alpine School of Woodcarving, Ltd. He was named Woodcarver of the Year in the United States in 2005.



Russell Parry started carving about fifteen years ago, the hobby gradually becoming a business. Much of his work has been relief carving, dictated by the commissions available and what speculative work he has found saleable. "Carving what people will pay for has been a spur to progress and development," he says "but increasingly I feel the urge to carve my own ideas for my own satisfaction." Russell is also a member of the BWA.

Bill Prickett took up carving full-time in his 30s having first trained as a dolphin trainer. His passion for animals is evident in his work and he is among the most gifted carvers in the UK, combining technical talent with an artistic imagination. Bill has won several awards, has exhibited at various galleries and is a teacher of woodcarving.



WOOD

CARVING

November/December 2008 No. 105 £3.50

Technique

The secret of capturing movement

Festive ornaments
Carved Santa
decorations

Weekend project
Polar bear
carving with
Peter Benson

Wayang golek
Spectacular
puppets from the
Javanese coast

NATIONAL TREASURES

Great carvings from
Britain's summer shows

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In this issue...

LETTERED POST PROJECT • BENT KNIFE CARVING

WOOD CARVING

November/December 2008 No 105 £3.50

Technique

The secret of capturing movement 50



Festive ornaments

Carved Santa decorations 23

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Polar bear carving with Peter Benson 10

Wayang Golek Spectacular puppets from the Javanese coast 30

NATIONAL TREASURES

Great carvings from Britain's summer shows

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On the cover:

Main photo: Mike Wood's Osprey. This wonderful carving was part of the BDWCA Bakewell Festival of Bird Art, September 2008. It won 1st in the Birds of Prey category, advanced level.

The full-size Osprey is carved from jelutong (*Dyera costulata*) with the branches from basswood (*Tilia americana*).

To find out more about The Festival of Bird Art, see page 64.

PHOTOGRAPH BY HARRY HARTSHORNE

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

Why not join in the discussions on all matters woodworking on the Woodworkers Institute web forum? Covering all four GMC woodworking titles including *Woodcarving*, you can view the work from fellow craftsmen, exchange useful hints and tips, or join in on the hot topic of the day on the live forums.

To register, simply log on to www.woodworkersinstitute.com, click the 'register' button, and follow the instructions. See you on the forum!



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TECHNICAL

40 Q&A

We ask the experts for their solutions and answers to questions relating to all things carving

44 Carving with bent knives

Technique

Tony Griffiths examines how and when we might make use of bent knives in our carvings



50 Carving movement with twists and turns

COVER STORY

Bill Prickett explores movement through twists in this wonderful example of a diving otter



PROJECTS

10 Step-by-step guide to carving a polar bear

COVER STORY



Peter Benson invites you to practice your techniques by carving this delightful polar bear in a weekend

Weekend Carving Project



16 Carve a stylised owl

Maureen Hockley carves a wonderful stylised owl which is perfect for a wall hanging



23 How to carve quick & easy Santa ornaments

COVER STORY

Cyndi Joslyn shows you how to carve these fun Santa ornaments for Christmas in this book extract taken from *Santa Showcase*



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Chris Pye encourages you to get involved in carving projects such as landmarks and lettered posts for your local area

TESTS



57 Tormek T7

Michael Huntley takes his tools to the latest Sharpening System from Tormek



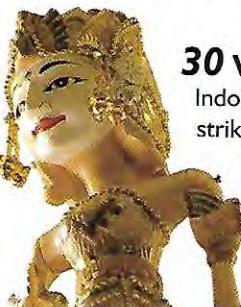
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Editor Michelle Robertson takes the latest tool from Dremel to the ear of a dog

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Steve Bisco provides us with an insight into his life as a carver



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Indonesia is the home to some dramatic and striking puppet carving used over centuries for theatrical storytelling. Yulianto visits the town of Pangandaran to learn more of this art



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Michelle Robertson takes a closer look at the BWA marquee at one of the UK's leading carving events



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A look behind the scenes at Ashley Iles

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

Peter Benson has been carving since he was 11, discovering his passion when evacuated from his home during the war. With little else to do, he began making daggers and planes with his pocket knife. He became a teacher of physical education before moving on to teach children with special educational needs, finding the time for carving along the way. Since retiring, Peter has set up the Essex School of Woodcarving in his studio at home, tailoring his courses to the requirements of the individual. When not in his studio, the Chairman of the BWA can be found promoting carving throughout the UK and abroad.



Michelle Robertson has been involved with Woodcarving magazine since 2004, working on its production, before moving to the Deputy Editor slot in 2006. Having fallen in love with the magazine and woodcarving, she jumped at the chance to become its Editor during the summer of 2008 and is a student of Peter Benson. She began her career in media having graduated from uni with a degree in Classical Studies with English, and the editor of the student newspaper for 2 years, moving on to various editorial and production roles over the years.

Chris Pye has been a professional woodcarver, author and teacher of woodcarving for nearly 30 years, and is member of the prestigious Master Carvers Association. His work ranges from architectural mouldings and figure carving, to furniture, lettering and expressionist carving.



TECHNIQUE

HOW TO RESTORE DAMAGED CARVINGS

Wood

CARVING



January/February 2009 No.106 £3.50

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Arts & Crafts flower panel

Weekend
Carving Project

Decorative carving
Wayne Barton's
chip carved plate

Bird carving
28 steps to
a winter
robin

Courses
Guide
2009

Wood
to metal
Transform your
carvings into bronze

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ON TEST: ASHLEY ILES ART BASE SET • FLEXCUT SCRAPERS

In this issue...



On the cover:

Main photo: Steve Bisco's Arts & Crafts-style flower panel. This panel, carved in green oak, is part of the Weekend Project series on page 10 of this issue and measures 380 x 75 x 32mm.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

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28 Q&A

We ask the experts for their solutions and answers to questions relating to all things carving

COVER STORY

30 Restore your carvings

Clive Nash comes to the assistance of an old family friend in need of a little care and attention,



COVER STORY

34 Relief to bronze

Mick Stidover takes inspiration from a staircase at Wells Cathedral to explore perspective in relief carving and discovers how to turn his work into a bronze sculpture

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COVER STORY



10 Arts & Crafts-style flower panel
Steve Bisco invites you to create this wonderful flower panel in green oak which can be carved in just a weekend



COVER STORY

16 Winter robin

Bill Prickett invites you to try your hand at creating this adorable robin, the perfect project for those winter nights



COVER STORY

22 Learn to chip carve a rosette on a plate

Wayne Barton shows you how to create a stylish rosette on a plate for those wanting to add decoration to their carvings

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Mark Baker tests the latest mini drum sanders from Carroll Tools



55 SK120 scraper set

Mark Baker cleans up his carvings with the Flexcut SK120

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We bring you the latest on tools and gadgets in the world of wood

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We bring you an essential guide to carving courses in the UK and Europe during 2009

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With more power behind their tools, Ryobi are on a mission to properly train the end user. We find out how

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Michelle Robertson welcomes to you the New Year

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61 Club profile

In the latest club profile, we go behind the scenes with the Woodentops carving club

62 News

The latest news and events, including a tool appeal from woodcarving students from Afghanistan

67 Book review

We review the latest carving and wood related books

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80 Letters

Share your thoughts on all matters woodcarving

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

Steve Bisco has been carving as a hobby for 25 years, specialising in decorative carving in period styles. He is inspired by a love of historic buildings and aims to capture the spirit of a period in pieces for display in the 'home gallery'. He often combines carving with woodturning.



Mick Stidever took up carving as a hobby when he retired ten years ago after a career in the RAF and industry, and has not stopped since, keeping a detailed diary – *Ramblings of an Old Chiseller* – of his carvings. He carves solely for pleasure and most of his carvings cover the walls at home – this removes the need to wield a paintbrush when he would rather chisel away.

Woodcarving is a passion for Clive Nash and is probably in his blood – his family hails from a furniture-making background in High Wycombe, with carving featured on some of the pieces still held by the family.



Clive has a preference for carving the human form with an eye to good composition and form, and is on the Committee of the South East London and West Kent Branch of the BWA – the Woodentops.

TECHNIQUE

CHOOSING & USING SURFACE FINISHES

Wood

CARVING



March/April 2009 No.107 £3.50

www.woodworkersinstitute.com

Woodcarving competition



Winners revealed

Learn the art of
Acanthus carving

ON TEST

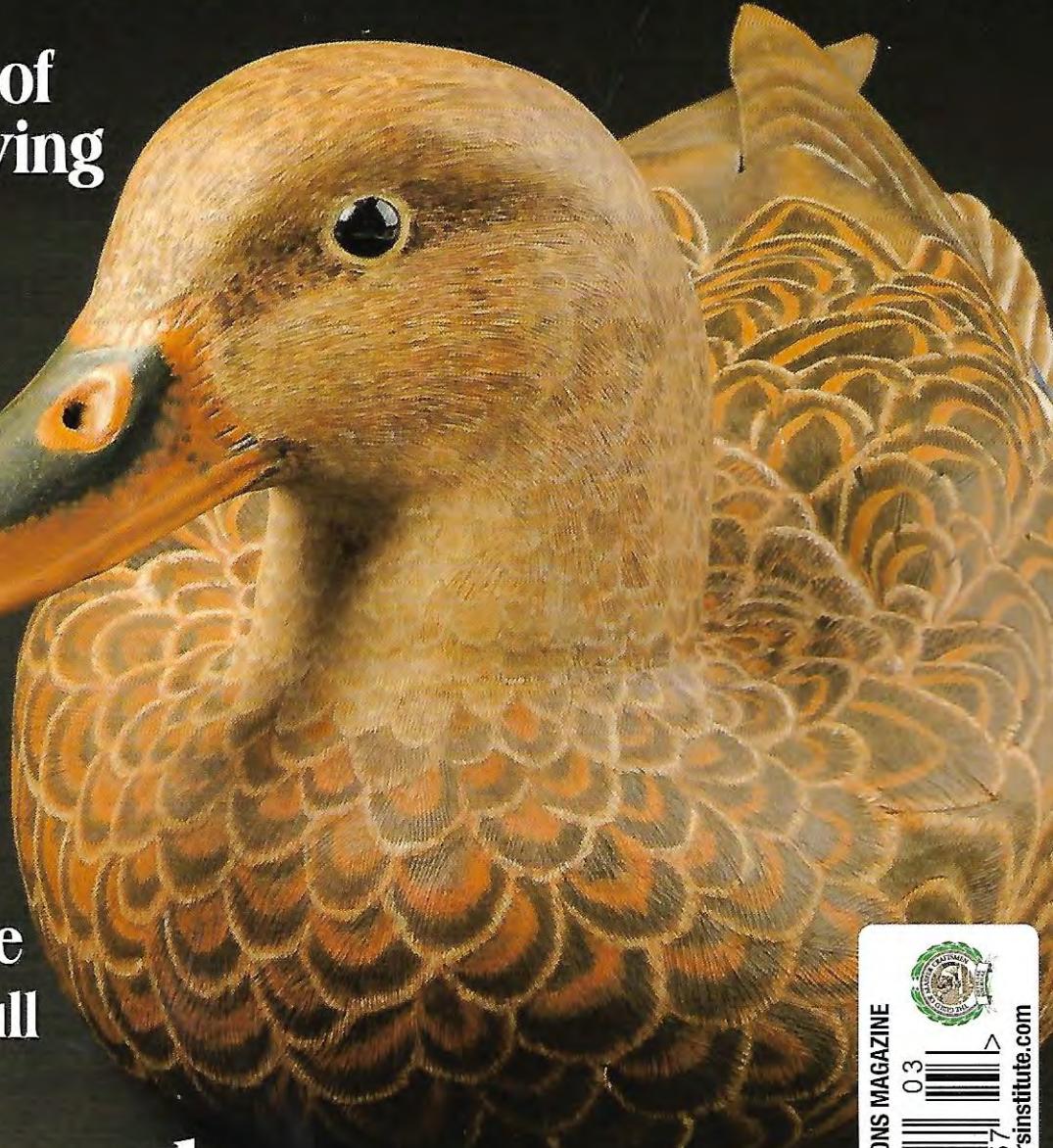
Power wheels
Carving jig

PROJECTS

Fan-carved dove
South Devon bull



Through
the arched window
Carve our Gothic tracery panel



In this issue...

March/April 2009 No 107 £3.50

Woodcarving competition

Winners revealed

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AGMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE 03
9 78065 945037
www.woodworkersinstitute.com

On the cover:

Main photo: Michael Amos' Mallard Duck.
Woodcarving Competition 2008 – entry for the Painted category. Find out exactly how well it did in the competition by turning to page 40.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

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TECHNICAL



COVER STORY

26 Acanthus carving

Iain Whittington explores the techniques which are used in carving a Norwegian style wall clock

COVER STORY

33 Achieving great surface finishes

In this book extract taken from Everett Ellenwood's, *The Complete Book of Woodcarving*, we look at various techniques used for surface finishes



38 Q&A

We ask the experts for their solutions and answers to questions relating to all things carving

PROJECTS



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8 South Devon Bull

Follow Bill Prickett's guide to carving this wonderful bull in American cherry



COVER STORY

14 Fan-carved dove

Sally and David Nye share their fan-carved dove for readers to make in a weekend

Weekend Carving Project



COVER STORY

20 Carve a Gothic window panel

Steve Bisco leads you 'through the arched window' with this Gothic decorative panel

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51 Saburr Power Carving Wheels

Mark Baker tackles power carving with the latest carbide wheels from Saburr Tooth



53 Kel McNaughton carving jig

Glenn Roberts takes a look at a new jig to assist the needs of carvers

54 Carver's toolbag

We bring you the latest on tools and gadgets for carvers

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6 Insight

Sculptor Ian Edwards joins us in this fantastic series where we bring you an insight into the life of the carver

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40 Woodcarving Competition 2008 results

We bring you the winning carvings of our superb competition



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Michelle discusses what makes a winning piece

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Keeping you up-to-date with the latest events, shows and courses

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We review the latest books for you to enjoy

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80 From the chisel

We take a look behind the scenes with Mike Hancock at Classic Hand Tools

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

Sally and David Nye are world renowned for their tireless efforts in researching and preserving the Old World folk art of fan-carving. Their research has taken them across Europe and Scandinavia. The Nye's soon found themselves in the unique position of teaching the Europeans their heritage about the fan bird along with its legends and customs.



Bill Prickett took up carving full-time in his 30s having started out as a dolphin trainer. His passion for animals is evident in his work and he is among the most gifted carvers in the UK having won numerous awards.



Iain Whittington is a retired army engineer. With his wife he has taken on the restoration of a 17th century Devon longhouse, with associated fittings and furniture, which has provided many opportunities to use his woodworking and restoration skills.

WOOD

CARVING

May/June 2009 No.108 £3.50

www.woodworkersinstitute.com

23 pages of projects

- Weekend seashell
- Carver's bench
- Feast dish

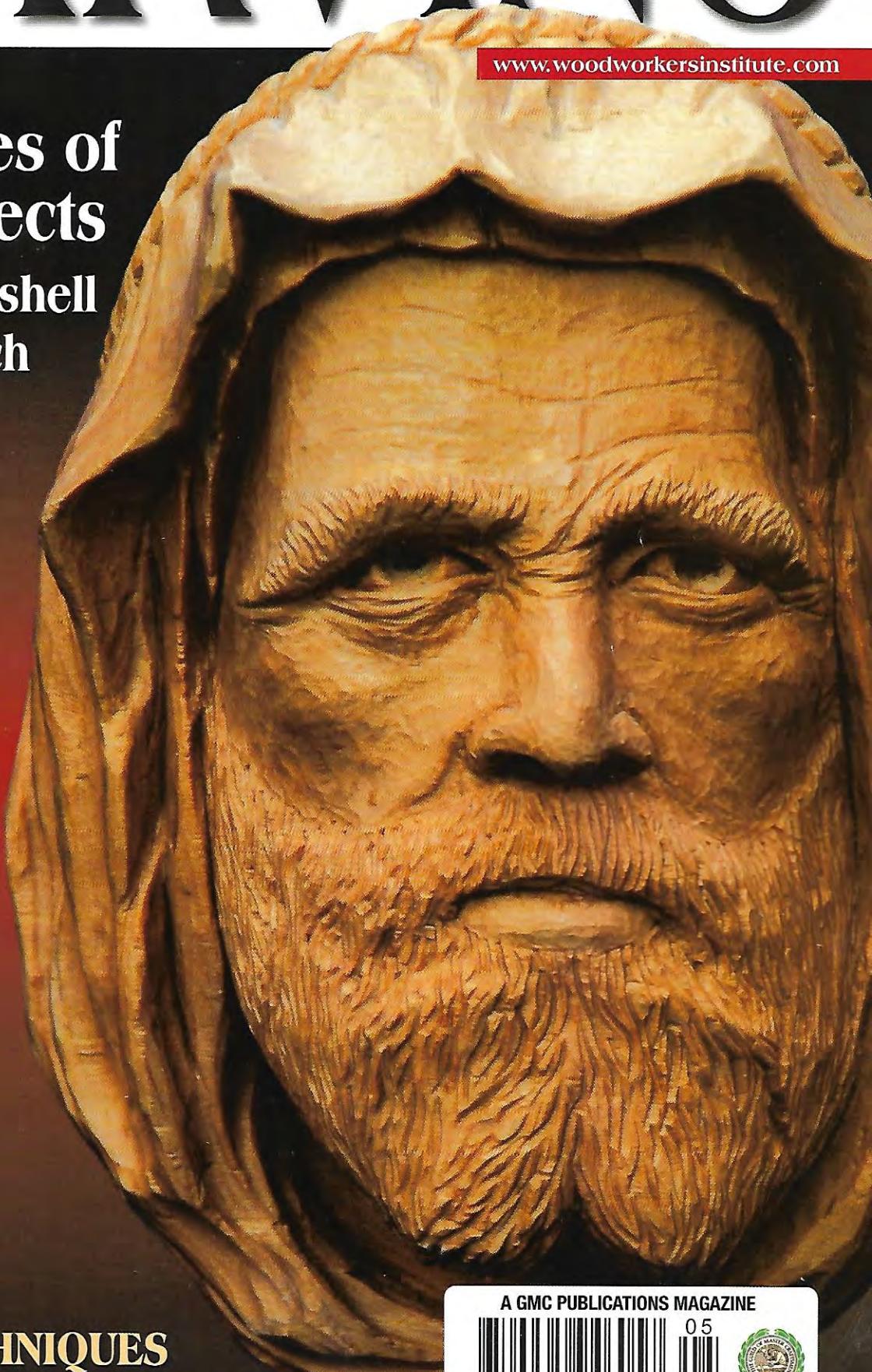
NEW SERIES

Reader profile
John Pace –
head carver



25 STEPS
Carve this
little owl

FINISHING TECHNIQUES
Make the most of wood grain



A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE



In this issue...

ON TEST PFEIL TOOLS ■ ASHLEY ILES DETAIL SET ■ WARCO LAMP

WOOD CARVING 55

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A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE 05
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On the cover:

Main photo: John Pace's Arab Head Lime, with a finish of Danish oil and wax.
150 x 100 x 25mm (6 x 4 x 2in)
To see this and other carvings from John Pace, turn to page 20 for our new Reader Profile series

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHELLE ROBERTSON

TECHNICAL



COVER STORY

36 Achieving great finishes

We show you how to get great results on your carvings using penetrative finishes and stains

52 Q&A

Do you have a woodcarving question which you need us to answer? Go to our Q&A pages for the answer

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7 Little Owl in 25 steps

Bill Prickett shows you how to carve a fantastic little owl in this step-by-step



COVER STORY

14 Carve a seashell

Zoe Gertner makes a welcome return with her seashell carving in yew, perfect for a weekend project



COVER STORY

22 Traditional feast dish

Get carving this northwest coast native-style feast dish with Tony Griffiths using bent knives or gouges



COVER STORY

29 Build your own carving bench

Join Richard Davies as he assembles a workbench suitable for all your woodcarving needs

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

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55 Long reach light

Mark Baker looks into the new magnifying long reach light from Warco



57 Detail selection tools

The editor gets carving with the new Peter Benson Detail Selection tools from Ashley Iles



59 Medium sized tools

Michelle Robertson takes to the bench with the medium sized tool set from Pfeil

60 Carver's toolbag

Be up-to-date with our round-up of new woodworking tools and accessories on the market

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4 Insight

Maureen Hockley, BWA publicity officer and Woodcarving contributor, gives us a unique insight into her passion for carving



COVER STORY **NEW SERIES**

20 John Pace – Reader Profile

Join us in this new series where we get the chance to meet you the reader



42 Competition gallery

A round-up of some of the carvings entered for the Woodcarving Competition, 2008. See if you can spot your own!

50 Learning to carve the Austrian way

In the latest of our learning zone series, Maureen Hockley reports on her recent woodcarving course held at Austria's Geisler-Moroder, Woodcarving School

70 Woodcarving glossary

Ever wondered exactly what a dog legged tool does? Well wonder no more as we roll through the alphabet with our reference guide to woodcarving terms. We begin with A-H

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Michelle welcomes in the spring, lambs and woodcarving shows

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See our guide to carving courses and events during May and June

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We bring you the latest news from the woodcarving field

64 Club profile

We say hello to the Ringwood Woodcarvers

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We search out the best carving books and DVDs for your enjoyment

69 Letters

Write in and share your thoughts with us

80 From the chisel

A look behind the scenes with Kirschen Tools, the famous Three Cherries brand

65 Competition time

Need some new tools? Turn to page 65 to bag yourself a 6-piece set of medium Pfeil tools in our special competition

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

As a kid, Tony Griffiths carved a lot with a penknife such as walking sticks, love spoons, and various other assortments. Upon retiring from science, he started carving seriously. Although able to carve in many styles, he found that living in Vancouver allowed him to participate in one of the world's great carving cultures, that of the northwest coast First Nations.



Richard Davies started woodturning with Duggie Hart in Devon, and then spent seven years furniture making with Trevor Pate in Plymouth. It was here that he started woodcarving with linen fold panels on oak blanket chests. The interest has developed with two annual visits to Chris Pye and a planned visit this year to UNIKA.



Zoe Gertner is a qualified teacher who specialises in teaching woodcarving to people of any age from 8 years upwards, and from all walks of life. A professional woodcarver since 1980, Zoe works by commission and is experienced in all aspects of woodcarving. She holds courses throughout the year in her Devon studio.



WOOD

CARVING



July/August 2009 No. 109 £3.50

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ARTISTIC INSPIRATION

Bill Prickett's frog on a lily pad

Sharpen your skills

Judith Nicoll's techniques
for carving wading birds



Tool technique
Make punches work for
your relief carvings

Turn, carve and gild
a dolphin tazza

A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE



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In this issue...

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32 **3** ARTISTIC INSPIRATION Bill Prickett's frog on a lily pad

44 Tool technique Make punches work for your relief carvings

22 Turn, carve and gild a dolphin tazza

A GMC PUBLICATIONS MAGAZINE
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On the cover:

Main photo: Bill Prickett's *Frog on a Lily pad*
London plane, with a finish of Liberon wax.

To find out how to carve this fabulous frog, turn to page 8

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

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TECHNICAL

28 Q&A

Do you have a woodcarving question which you need us to answer? Go to our Q&A pages and ask away



COVER STORY

32 How to carve wading birds

Judith Nicoll makes a welcome return, sharing with us techniques used to create wading birds



COVER STORY

44 Making an impressive carving

Frederick Wilbur examines punching techniques to enhance relief carvings

PROJECTS

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8 Frog on a lily pad

Bill Prickett shows you how to carve a frog resting on a lily pad



Weekend Carving Project

COVER STORY

16 Carving salad servers

Peter Benson shows you how to carve a simple spoon and adapt the pattern to make a salad server set



COVER STORY

22 Turn, carve and

gild a dolphin tazza

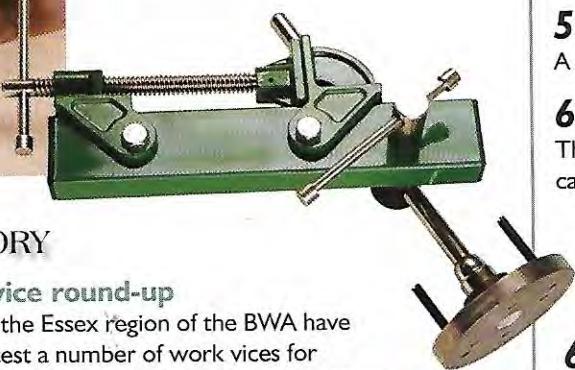
Steve Bisco shows you how to create this beautiful Louis XV-style dolphin tazza using turning, carving and gilding techniques

TESTS



52 Pfeil background punches

Mark Baker puts the new background punches from Pfeil through their paces



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54 Carving vice round-up

Woodcarving and the Essex region of the BWA have joined forces to test a number of work vices for securing work when carving. So if you're looking to get a new vice, make sure you consult this indispensable guide to help you make your decision

59 Roy Gonzales hooked skewes

Mark Baker tries out the latest hooked skew tools from Ashley Iles

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We join Russell Birch as he offers us an insight into his world of miniature carvings

40 The art of learning

Dick Onians introduces us to what it means to be a carving student at the City and Guilds of London Art School

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Woodcarving readers share with us their work and inspiration



70 Woodcarving glossary

Ever wondered exactly what a dog-legged tool does? Well wonder no more with our reference guide to woodcarving terms. This issue I to Si

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Michelle visits some fantastic woodworking shows this summer

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Workshop safety advice – take heed!

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64 Club profile

We look at what the Kent branch of the BWA have been up to recently

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Catch a show or two this summer with your Woodcarving Diary

69 Reviews

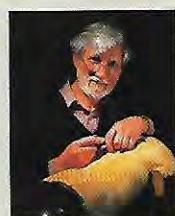
We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

80 From the chisel

Workshop Heaven opens its doors and invites us in for a chat

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...

Dick Onians is a highly regarded sculptor in both wood and stone. He is a Senior Woodcarving Tutor at the City and Guilds Art School in London, and a regular contributor to *Woodcarving*. He is the author of two books through GMC: *Carving the Human Figure*, and *Essential Woodcarving Techniques*.



Judith Nicoll has been carving many species of birds in various styles for 24 years. Commissions include a lifesize Eagle Owl for the Royal Exchange building in City of London; a Woodcock for presentation for the Queen and Prince Philip's golden anniversary, and large owls for the Chelsea Flower Show. She has tackled gamebirds, songbirds, birds of prey and fish, all in a variety of styles and woods – and stone.

Traditional decorative woodcarving has held an enduring fascination for **Fred Wilbur**, especially when in conjunction with architectural spaces. Ornamental history and the theories of design promulgated in the 19th century are also of great interest and, inspired by the art-carved furniture produced in Cincinnati, his recent decorated accessories for the home reflect this interest. He is a writer, teacher and practising grandfather.



WOOD

CARVING

September/October 2009 No.110 £3.50

Safety gloves

- What you need to know
- Which gloves to use
- Why you need them

Making waves

Start carving your own dynamic abstract curve

Weekend project

27 steps to make a stylised broody hen

Readers' gallery

A showcase of your wonderful work

Wildlife carving in driftwood

The magnificent
bird carvings of
John Davies

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In this issue...



Main photo:

John Davies' Little Owl in lime

John takes inspiration from interesting pieces of driftwood to give shape to his fantastic carvings of birds.

To find out more about John's work, turn to page 24

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER HUGHES

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

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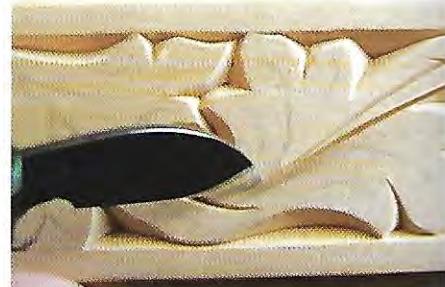


TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

18 The five fundamentals of chip carving

Wayne Barton takes us through the five essential techniques of chip carving and what you need to know



COVER STORY

44 What you need to know about carving gloves

Clive Nash gets to grips with the science behind carving gloves, and factors to consider when choosing protection for your hands



62 Q&A

Do you have a woodcarving question which you need us to answer? Go to our Q&A pages and ask away

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4 Carve a sea wave

Capture the power and movement of the sea with a stunning wave from Andrew Thomas



COVER STORY

12 Broody hen

Zoe Gertner shows you how to achieve this fun and simple hen, perfect for a weekend project



COVER STORY

28 Carving the female form

Chris Pye shows you how to carve a female figure in the round

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48 Carving glove round-up

Woodcarving takes a look at a range of safety gloves on the market, designed to protect hands when using knives, gouges and abrasives

54 Helvie knives

Mark Baker and Michelle Robertson put two knives from the Helvie range to the test



56 Carver's toolbag

Be up-to-date with our round-up of what new tools and accessories are on the market



59 Kirschen starter kit

Mark Baker isn't one for all encompassing starter kits so will this new range from Kirschen change his mind?

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The story behind John's fantastic array of bird carvings on driftwood

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Michelle has a date with royalty

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We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

80 From the chisel

The ToolPost takes a well earned rest to tell us what they are currently up to

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Andrew Thomas is a professional sculptor living in Wareham, Dorset and has over 20 years of experience on the subject. His mediums are principally wood, bronze and mixed media. His work can be seen in many private collections both in the UK and Europe. Andrew is also a qualified tutor in further education and delivers weekly lessons for private students at both beginner and intermediate levels



Chris Pye is a professional woodcarver, author and teacher of woodcarving for nearly thirty years. His work is mainly commissioned and ranges from architectural to figure carving including furniture, lettering, bedheads, fireplaces, mythical and abstract sculpture. Chris is a member of the prestigious Master Carvers Association



Wayne Barton is a professional woodcarver from Illinois who was first introduced to woodcarving at the age of five. He trained in Brienz, Switzerland and although versed in all disciplines of carving, he specialises in chip carving and has devoted more than thirty years to its advancement. He is the founder of the Alpine School of Woodcarving and was named Woodcarver of the Year in the United States in 2005.

WIN! OVER £4,000 WORTH OF KIT FOR YOUR WORKSHOP

Wood

CARVING



November/December 2009 No. 111 £3.50

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Make the perfect cut

How to angle the blade to cut with the grain

Festive FUN

Four fantastic Christmas projects

- ▶ Santa's sleigh
- ▶ Choral mice
- ▶ Reindeer
- ▶ Christmas gnome

Buying a new power carver?

Read our must-have guide before you buy

Foliage techniques
Improve your skills for carving leaves

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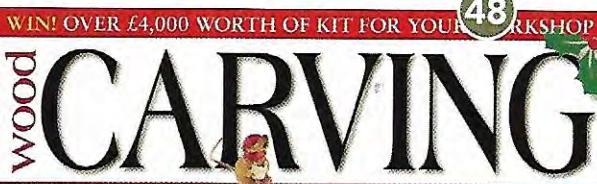
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In this issue...



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4 Make the perfect cut

How to angle the blade to cut with the grain

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Four fantastic Christmas projects

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Improve your skills for carving leaves

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Main photo:

Make the Perfect Cut

Bill Prickett guides you through how to use your tools and grain of the wood to obtain the optimum cut

To find out more, turn to page 4

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

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TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

4 How to achieve the perfect cut

Bill Prickett tackles the techniques required for creating the 'perfect cut' using a selection of tools and grain direction



COVER STORY

32 How to carve decorative foliage

Fred Wilbur guides you on points to consider when designing and carving foliage



36 From the forum

Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website

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Peter Clothier takes time out from teaching to bring us this beautiful horse based on folklore



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16 Carve our Christmas choral mice

Peter Benson gets ready for the festive season with adorable singing mice, perfect for a Christmas scene under the tree



21 3 quick and easy Christmas characters

Have a go at carving our Christmas gnome, Santa, and a reindeer in time for the festivities

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26 Carve & fume a Celtic cross

Steve Bisco borrows from British heritage to produce this stylish cross, perfect for a weekend project

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62 Christmas workshop must haves

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30 Stan Kimm – Reader Profile

Marvel at the beautifully detailed work of Stan's netsuke carvings



40 The unique vision of Teo Mahlknecht

Ruth Jindall examines the playful and distinctive work of one of the Tyrolean's most creative carvers

44 Woodcarving courses

This issue we focus on courses across England for you to advance your carving skills

58 20 minutes with...

Peter Benson talks to Woodcarving about how he started carving and what inspires him today



71 Fantastic give-aways

Fancy adding some fantastic tools to your carving kit for free? Well take a look at our give-away page

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Michelle gets herself ready for Christmas

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We showcase the work of students at the City & Guilds of London Art School, 2009

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Auriou Toolworks make a welcome return to the industry

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48 Workshop kit giveaway

Don't miss your chance to win yourself some workshop goodies worth over £4,000 by entering our special competition to celebrate our new-look website – www.woodworkersinstitute.com

WIN!

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Steve Bisco has been carving as a hobby for 25 years, specialising in decorative carving in period styles. He is inspired by a love of historic buildings and aims to capture the spirit of a period in pieces for display in the 'home gallery'. He often combines carving with woodturning.

Peter Clothier began carving in 1968 under the tutelage of master carver, Gino Maser. He went on to train as an antique restorer of furniture and took up sculpture at the City and Guilds Art School. He has been teaching and carving part-time for 35 years and can be found tutoring at West Dean College.



Fred Wilbur has held an enduring fascination with traditional decorative woodcarving. Especially when in conjunction with architectural spaces. Ornamental history and the theories of design promulgated in the 19th century are also of great interest and, inspired by the art-carved furniture produced in Cincinnati, his recent decorated accessories for the home reflect this interest.

WOOD

CARVING

January/February 2010 No.112 £3.50

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Start carving

Part One Beginners' guide
to carving in relief

Projects for 2010

- Church beakhead
- Abstract bust
- Stylised dove

Carving eyes

How to achieve
the perfect
shape

INSIDE
FIND A NEW
CARVING CLASS
NEAR YOU!

Woodcarving at The Festival of the Tree



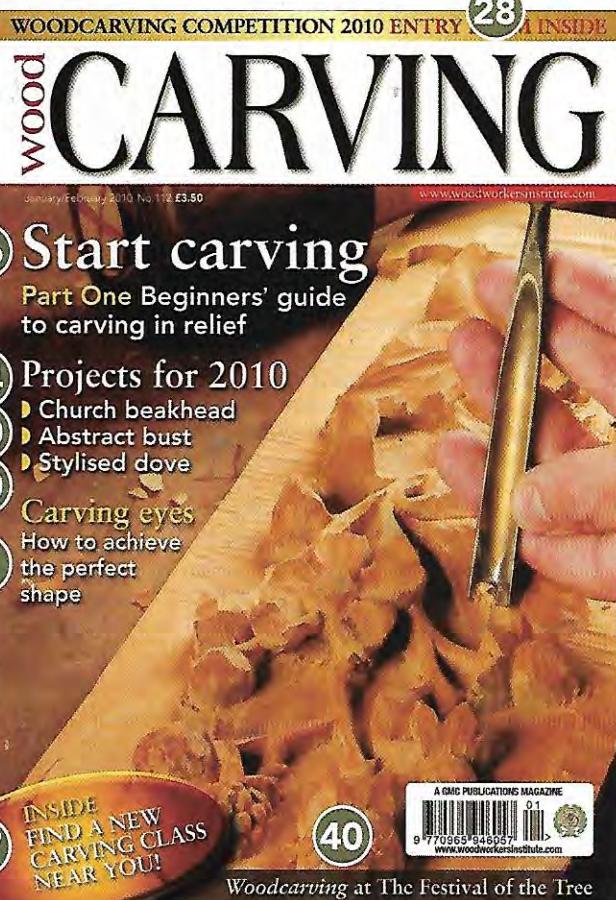
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In this issue...



Main photo:

Russell Parry introduces the techniques involved to get started with relief carving

To find out more, turn to page 16

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

Why not join in the discussions on all matters woodworking on the Woodworkers Institute web forum? Covering all four GMC woodworking titles including Woodcarving, you can view the work from fellow craftsmen, exchange useful hints and tips, or join in on the hot topic of the day on the live forums.

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TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

4 How to shape and carve eyes

Eyes are a vital component of bringing our carvings to life. Bill Prickett shows us how to achieve good shape to our eyes and how to carve in pupils



COVER STORY

16 NEW SERIES

Take the first step towards carving: relief

In the first of four articles, Russell Parry suggests ways in which newcomers can ease themselves into relief carving, avoid the common pitfalls and get a little practice before attempting that first project



22 How to tackle large-scale carvings

Ever wondered how to scale up your carvings? Steve Bisco addresses the techniques needed to do so

64 From the forum

Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website

PROJECTS

COVER STORY

10 Carve an abstract bust

Andrew Thomas shows you how to use your creative side to carve a highly visual and artistic bust



COVER STORY

30 Carve a stylised dove

Maureen Hockley shows you how to carve a stylised bird in 14 easy steps



COVER STORY

34 Carve a church beakhead

Join Tony Griffiths as he shows you how to carve this unique church carving of a grotesque bird, using green timber

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48 Heavy-duty power carving round-up

In the second part of our power carving round-up, we focus on the more industrial, heavy-duty units suitable for woodcarvers

53 Record BS300E Bandsaw

A compact bandsaw can be invaluable for the woodcarver. Here Anthony Bailey tests the latest from Record Power

55 Razertip SS Burner

Woodcarving gets burning with the double pyrography unit from Razertip

57 Warco compact lamps

Warco have just introduced two portable magnifying lamps to the market and we at Woodcarving were first in line to give them a go

58 Carver's toolbag

Find out what new tools and accessories are currently on the market to add to your toolbag

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COVER STORY

40 Festival of the Tree 2009

Woodcarving reports on one of the biggest events in the carving calendar at Westonbirt Arboretum

46 20 minutes with...

We chat to Andrew Thomas at his studio to find out what is the inspiration behind his amazing abstract carvings

COVER STORY

67 Carving Directory 2010

If you fancy improving your skills or learning something new, now's the time to sign up to a class with our essential guide to courses

73 Fantastic give-aways

Grab yourself some great tools for your workshop – absolutely free



REGULARS

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Join Michelle as she welcomes in the start of 2010

44 Reviews

We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

45 Next issue

Get a sneak preview of what's to come in the March/April edition

61 Club profile

We say a big hello to the Solway Woodcarvers

62 News

We keep you up-to-date with the latest news and events

80 NEW SERIES The Art of Carving

Join us as we explore inspiring, beautiful, thought-provoking and historically interesting sculpture. First up is *Virgin of the Immaculate Conception*, featured in The Sacred Made Real exhibition, National Gallery

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



As a kid, Tony Griffiths carved a lot with a penknife such as walking sticks, lovespoons and various other assortments. Upon retiring from science, he started carving seriously. Although able to carve in many styles, he found that living in Vancouver allowed him to participate in one of the world's great carving cultures, that of the northwest coast First Nations.

Russell Parry started carving about fifteen years ago, and the hobby gradually becoming a business. Much of his work has been relief carving, dictated by the commissions available and what speculative work he has found saleable. "Carving what people will pay for has been a spur to progress and development," he says, "but increasingly I feel the urge to carve my own ideas for my own satisfaction, and making the time to do so is not easy."

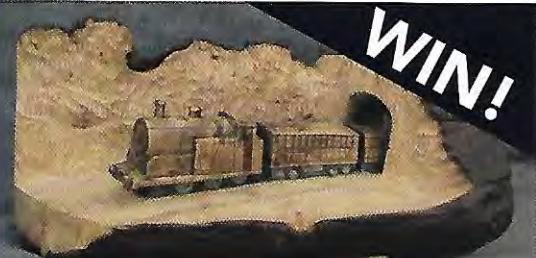


Andrew Thomas is a professional sculptor living in Wareham, Dorset and has over 20 years of experience on the subject. His mediums are principally wood, bronze and mixed media. His work can be seen in many private collections both in the UK and Europe. Andrew is also a qualified tutor in further education and delivers weekly lessons for private students at both beginner and intermediate levels.



28 Woodcarving Competition 2010

Our fantastic competition has returned and we invite you to get your tools out, start carving and submit your work for In the Round, Relief or Painted. Could you be our Woodcarver of the Year? Enter today!



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Grinling Gibbons-style
masterpiece

Carving perspective

Discover the art
of adding
depth to
reliefs

Balinese carving



Plus...

**5 GREAT WILDLIFE
PROJECTS**

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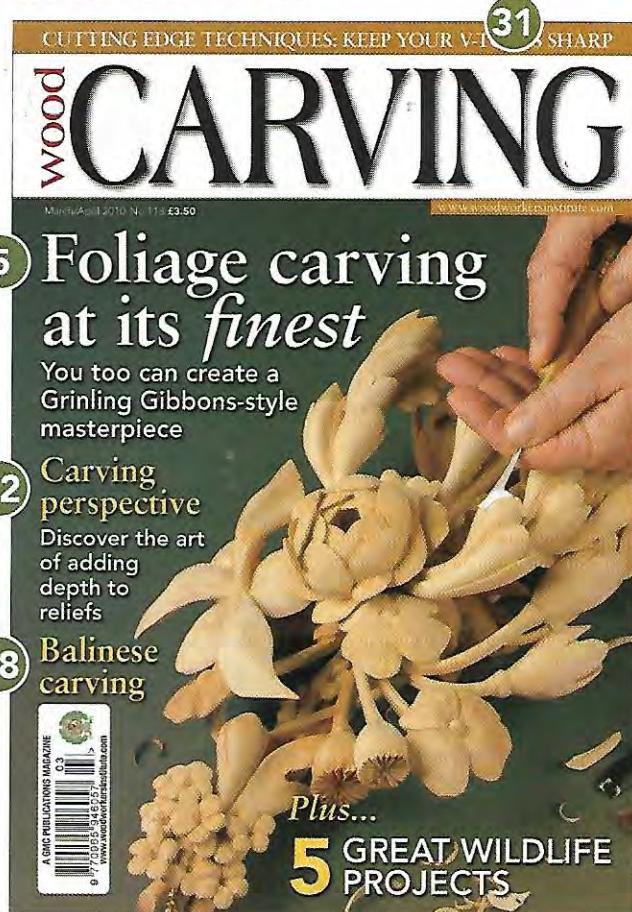


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In this issue...



Main photo:

Steve Bisco shows you how to create a classic Grinling Gibbons-style carving

To find out more, turn to page 5

PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

The Woodworkers Institute web forum

Why not join in the discussions on all matters woodworking on the Woodworkers Institute web forum? Covering all four GMC woodworking titles including Woodcarving, you can view the work from fellow craftsmen, exchange useful hints and tips, or join in on the hot topic of the day on the live forums.

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TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

17 The next step to carving in relief

Russell Parry continues his beginners' series on how to start carving with the next step to relief work



COVER STORY

22 Understanding perspective for relief work

It can be tricky to establish correct lines and angles on relief carvings so it is important to have a good understanding of perspective. Peter Benson shows you how...



COVER STORY

31 How to sharpen V-tools

Matthew Platt explains that the V-tool need not be too complicated to keep sharp, and here he shows you how

34 Top tips for using a V-tool

Our carving experts give their tips on how to use a V-tool

72 From the forum

Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website

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5 Carve a Grinling Gibbons-style foliage

Steve Bisco takes you through the steps needed to carve your own 17th century Grinling Gibbons foliage carving



COVER STORY

11 Carve a greater spotted woodpecker

Join Bill Prickett as he shows you how to carve this stunning bird from sweet chestnut burl



WEEKEND
Carving Project

COVER STORY

36 Weekend Project – Leaping trout stick

Follow Chris Hindley's guide to carving and painting a leaping trout, perfect for those walking sticks

44 Mini projects COVER STORY

We've lined up three great animal projects for you to enjoy: a dachshund dog, stylised cat, and a musical frog

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55 Spencer Franklin PowRock Maxiclamp

Does the SF-1310M live up to expectations? We find out...

56 Record disc sander

Take the strain out of sanding with the new DS300

57 Arbortech mini carver

It's time to see how well the mini carver from Arbortech holds up

59 Sabertooth cutters

We look at the latest rotary carbide cutters for smooth work



60 Pfeil drawknife

Woodcarving tests the latest small but useful drawknife

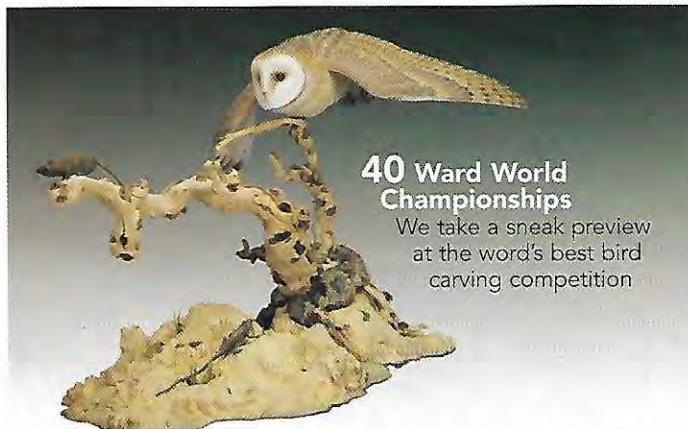
61 Auriou rifflers

We test out these beautiful handmade wood rifflers

62 Carvers' Toolbag

A round up of the latest kit on the market for woodcarvers

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40 Ward World Championships

We take a sneak preview at the world's best bird carving competition

48 Traditional carvings of Bali COVER STORY

Carol Ventura visits Bali to find out more about amazing Balinese relief carvings and handmade sculptures

64 Miniature carvings

Discover the amazing miniature figureheads of Lloyd McCaffery

66 20 minutes with...

This time it's master carver Chris Pye's turn to open the doors to his workshop

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Michelle welcomes in the Woodcarving Competition of 2010

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A look at the carvings you've been working away at

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We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

70 News

Keeping you up-to-date with the latest news and events for woodcarvers

80 The Art of Carving

Join us as we explore inspiring, beautiful, thought-provoking and historically interesting sculpture. This issue: St John of God

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



A carver from Cheshire, Chris Hindley is probably best known for his bird carvings, the influence for which is drawn from both his own observations and the rich heritage of North American folk art. Having never attended a carving class, Chris is living proof that you can learn to carve from books and articles.



Matthew Platt graduated in Economics but now runs Workshop Heaven Ltd, a small but rapidly growing firm based in North Oxfordshire, specialising in high quality hand tools. As well as selling tools, Matthew also works closely with suppliers in the design and development of new tools, and has been involved with several highly successful product ranges.



Carol Ventura is the art historian at Tennessee Technological University. Her interest in art, crafts, and history have led her to find and document craftspeople around the world. Her home page at <http://iweb.tntech.edu/cventura/> has links to her pages that feature wood, fibre, glass, clay, and metal crafts and their makers.



28 Woodcarving Competition 2010

Our fantastic competition in conjunction with Flexcut and Axminster Tools, is back bigger and better, so get your gouges to the ready...



TAKE THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS CARVING IN THE ROUND

WOOD

CARVING

Nature's wonder

Carve this adorable
okimono-style turtle

Bandsaw basics

10 top tips from our
carving experts

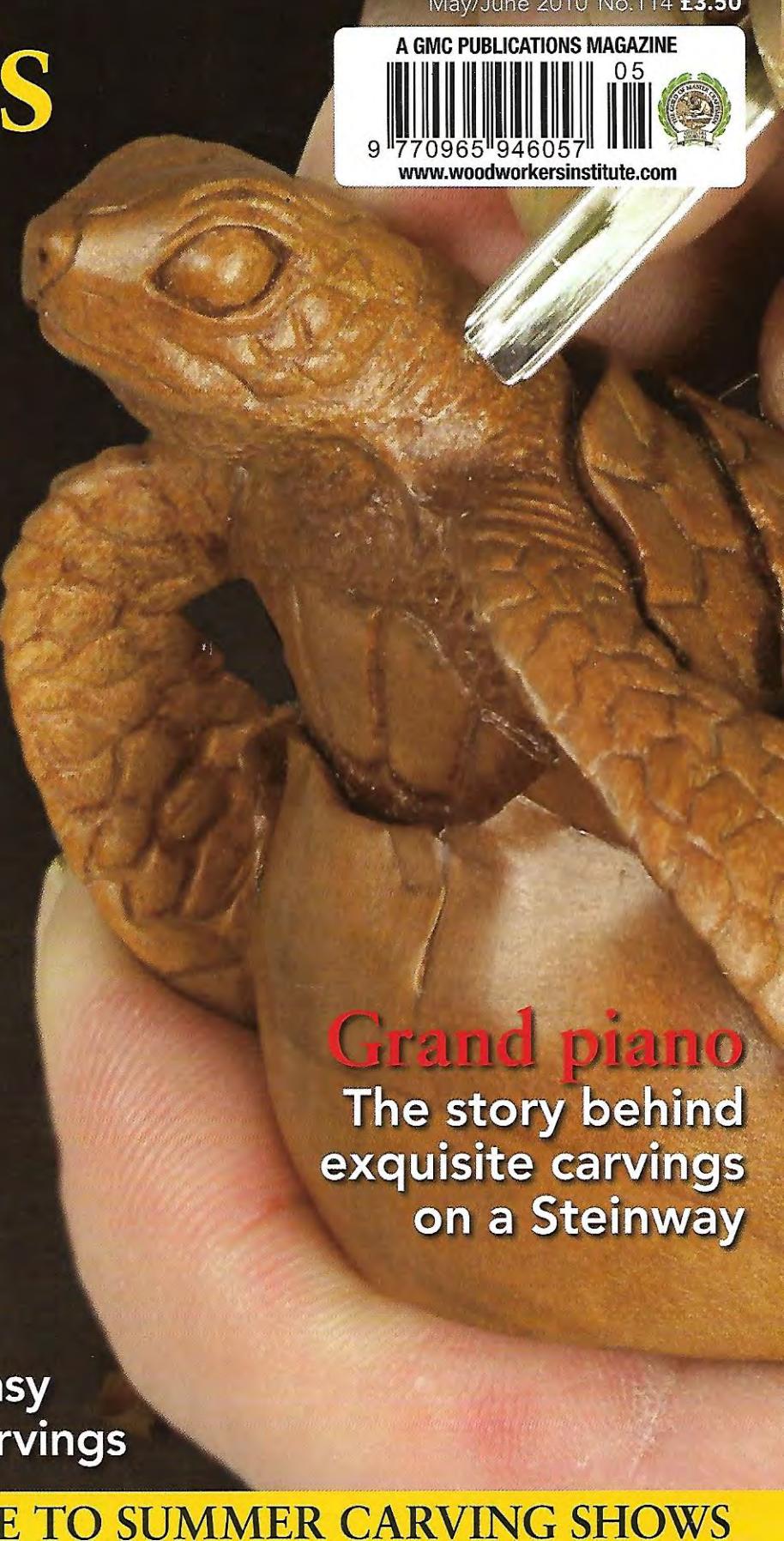


Acanthus barometer

Relief carve
this classic
weather
gauge

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3 quick & easy
wildlife carvings



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05



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Grand piano

The story behind
exquisite carvings
on a Steinway

YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO SUMMER CARVING SHOWS

In this issue...

TAKE THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS CARVING IN **16** ROUND

WOOD CARVING

5 Nature's wonder

Carve this adorable okimono-style turtle

Bandsaw basics

30 10 top tips from our carving experts

22 Acanthus barometer

Relief carve this classic weather gauge

Plus...

3 quick & easy wildlife carvings

38 Grand piano

The story behind exquisite carvings on a Steinway

44

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YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO SUMMER CARVING SHOWS

Main photo:

Bill Prickett's okimono-style hatching green turtle carved in the ukibori tradition

To find out more, turn to page 5

PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL PRICKETT



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The Woodworkers Institute web forum

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TECHNICAL



COVER STORY

16 The first step to carving in the round

In the third part of our how to carve series, Russell Parry looks at the skills needed to start carving in the round

COVER STORY

30 How to use a bandsaw

Peter Clothier shows you what you need to know about using a bandsaw to remove waste timber from a templated block



36 Top bandsaw tips

We ask a group of woodcarving experts for their top tips on using a bandsaw

72 From the forum

Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website

PROJECTS



COVER STORY

5 Ukibori-style turtle

Bill Prickett shares his adorable hatching turtle in the traditional ukibori style



COVER STORY

22 Acanthus barometer

Keep your eye on the weather with Iain Whittington as he carves a beautiful acanthus-style barometer



WEEKEND
Carving Projects

44 Weekend bunny

Carve Zoe Gertner's bunny from a log in just a weekend

48 Mini projects

The theme this issue is marine life and we have two great projects for you to try – a stylised seal pup and a wall-hanging seahorse

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56 Terrier cutters

The editor gets a bit of power behind her carvings with the latest cutters from Kaizen Bopsai



57 Holey Galahad

We look at these revolutionary cutters with holes which allow you to see your work more clearly

59 1/32in V-tools

Michelle takes to the block with these impossibly small tools from Ashley Iles



61 Chestnut finishes

Mark Sanger tests three finishes from the Chestnut range

62 Carvers' Toolbag

We round up the latest kit on the market for woodcarvers

FEATURES

COVER STORY

38 Carving a Steinway piano

Keith Cheveralls visits Dimitrios Klitsas, the man behind the carving of this extraordinary piano masterpiece



50 Summer shows

Woodcarving brings you a guide to the must-see carving and woodworking shows this year

64 Reader profile

Discover the stunningly evocative carvings of Karola Messner



66 20 minutes with...

One of America's finest bird carver's shares her working secrets



28 Woodcarving Competition 2010

Our fantastic competition in conjunction with Flexcut and Axminster Tools is back bigger and better, so get your gouges at the ready...



REGULARS

1 From the Editor

Michelle invites you to take your favourite carving magazine on your summer travels and show us what you've seen

43 Readers' Gallery

Find out what your fellow readers have been carving

68 Next issue

July/August's magazine is a special bird edition

69 Reviews

We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

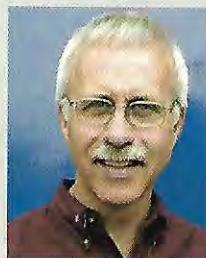
70 News & Diary

Keeping up to date with the latest news and events for woodcarvers

80 The Art of Carving

Join us as we explore inspiring, thought-provoking and historically interesting sculpture. This issue – New Ireland carving

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



A carver from Cheshire, **Peter Berry** is probably best known for his bird carvings, the influence for which is drawn from both his own observations and the rich heritage of North American folk art. Having never attended a carving class, Chris is living proof that you can learn to carve from books and articles.



Peter Clothier began carving in 1968 under the tutelage of master carver Gino Maser, before working with him full-time. He went on to train as an antique restorer of furniture and took up sculpture at the City and Guilds Art School. He has been teaching and carving part-time for 35 years and can be found at West Dean College as a tutor of sculpture and woodturning.



Iain Whittington is a retired army engineer. With his wife, he has taken on the restoration of a 17th-century Devon longhouse with associated fittings and furniture, which has provided many opportunities to use his woodworking and restoration skills.



SPECIAL ISSUE Dedicated to the art of bird carving

WOOD CARVING

Over 40 pages of galleries, projects & techniques in celebration of

Carving birds

featuring

42 birds of prey, waders, duck decoys & more

(we've counted...!)

Projects

- European kestrel
- Whimbrel decoy
- Pair of little owls

How to

- Paint & burn feathers
- Make birds' feet

In profile

Wildfowl carvers
Barry Woodcraft
& Philip Nelson



July/August 2010 No.115 £3.50

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YOUR LAST CHANCE TO BE WOODCARVER OF THE YEAR

Bird of prey

Carve this majestic European Kestrel with British bird of prey champion Mike Wood

To find out how, turn to pages 5 and 10



Cover images feature birds of prey carved by Mike Wood.
US cover: Harry Hartshorne. UK cover: GMC/Anthony Bailey

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TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

10 Master the techniques for painting your kestrel

Mike Wood demonstrates how to apply acrylic paints to your bird carvings



COVER STORY

35 Creating flight feathers

Frank Russell shows you how to texture the flight feathers of a bird through burning techniques

54 Take the next steps to carving in the round

In the final part of this series, Russell Parry shows you how to hone your skills for carving in the round

COVER STORY

29 Making legs & feet for songbirds

Songbird expert Lori Corbett shows you how to make the legs and feet for your carved birds



PROJECTS

COVER STORY

5 Carve a European kestrel

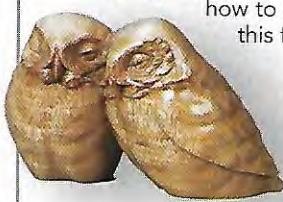
Mike Wood, the British bird of prey woodcarving champion, shows us how to carve this magnificent bird of prey



COVER STORY

16 Carve a whimbrel decoy

Join Chris Hindley as he shows you how to carve and antique this fine shorebird



COVER STORY

23 Carve a pair of little owls

Bill Prickett shows you how to carve a pair of charming little owls from holly

38 Mini projects: feathered friends

As the theme for this issue is all things bird, Paul Bignell brings you two quick and easy projects for you to try – a simple owl and a stylised owl. Enjoy!

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62 Dremel 4000 multi tool

Mark Sanger takes a shine to the latest multi tool from Dremel

65 Supersharp tools

The Editor takes a closer look at the Supersharp carving set from Henry Taylor Tools



67 Microplane shaping tools

Michelle Robertson gets into shape with the 3in snap-in handle and interchangeable blades from Carroll Tools

69 Iridescent colours

Nick Arnall gets his paintbrushes out to see how well the new iridescent range from Jo Sonja's perform

70 Carvers' Toolbag

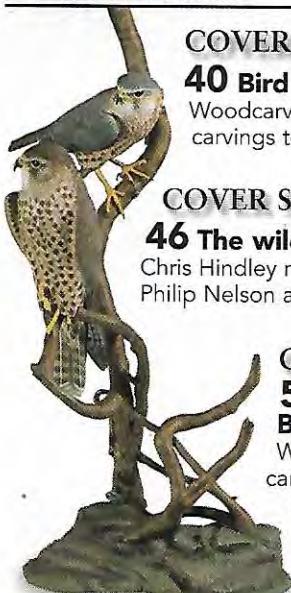
We round up the latest kit on the market for woodcarvers

FEATURES

COVER STORY

40 Bird Gallery

Woodcarving presents a stunning gallery of bird carvings to celebrate our bird issue



COVER STORY

46 The wildfowl carvings of Philip Nelson

Chris Hindley meets award winning wildfowl carver Philip Nelson at his studio in North Wales

COVER STORY

52 20 minutes with Barry Woodcraft

We go behind the scenes with bird carving World and British Champion, Barry Woodcraft



60 Woodcarving Competition 2010

This is your last chance to enter our fantastic competition in conjunction with Flexcut and Axminster Tools, so get your gouges to the ready...



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CARVING TOOLS

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TOOL CENTRE

REGULARS

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The Editor welcomes you to this specially themed bird issue

50 From the forum

Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website

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74 News & Diary

Keep up-to-date with the latest news and events for woodcarvers

80 The Art of Carving

In this issue, The Art of Carving introduces you to the Aguila Wren memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Paul Bignell teaches woodcarving at Bognor Regis Community College – a weekly class made up of students who have booked for a set number of weeks, and regular members who have been attending for several years. Paul has been involved with crafting wood for over 12 years and owes his style of teaching to George Karon who taught Paul how to turn on a lathe, and furniture maker and carver Jack Hill.

A carver from Cheshire, **Chris Hindley** is probably best known for his bird carvings, the influence for which is drawn from both his own observations and the rich heritage of North American folk art. Having never attended a carving class, Chris is living proof that you can learn to carve from books and articles.



Mike Wood has been carving all his life, and professionally since 1986. Carving mostly birds, he is self-taught and takes great inspiration from the American bird carvers. He has lived in Cornwall for the past 20 years, and is originally from York. He supplies to galleries and works on private commissions, mostly enjoying carving birds of prey.



WORK-HOLDING WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WOOD

CARVING

In profile

- Pete LeClair
- Tom Fitzpatrick

Twists & turns

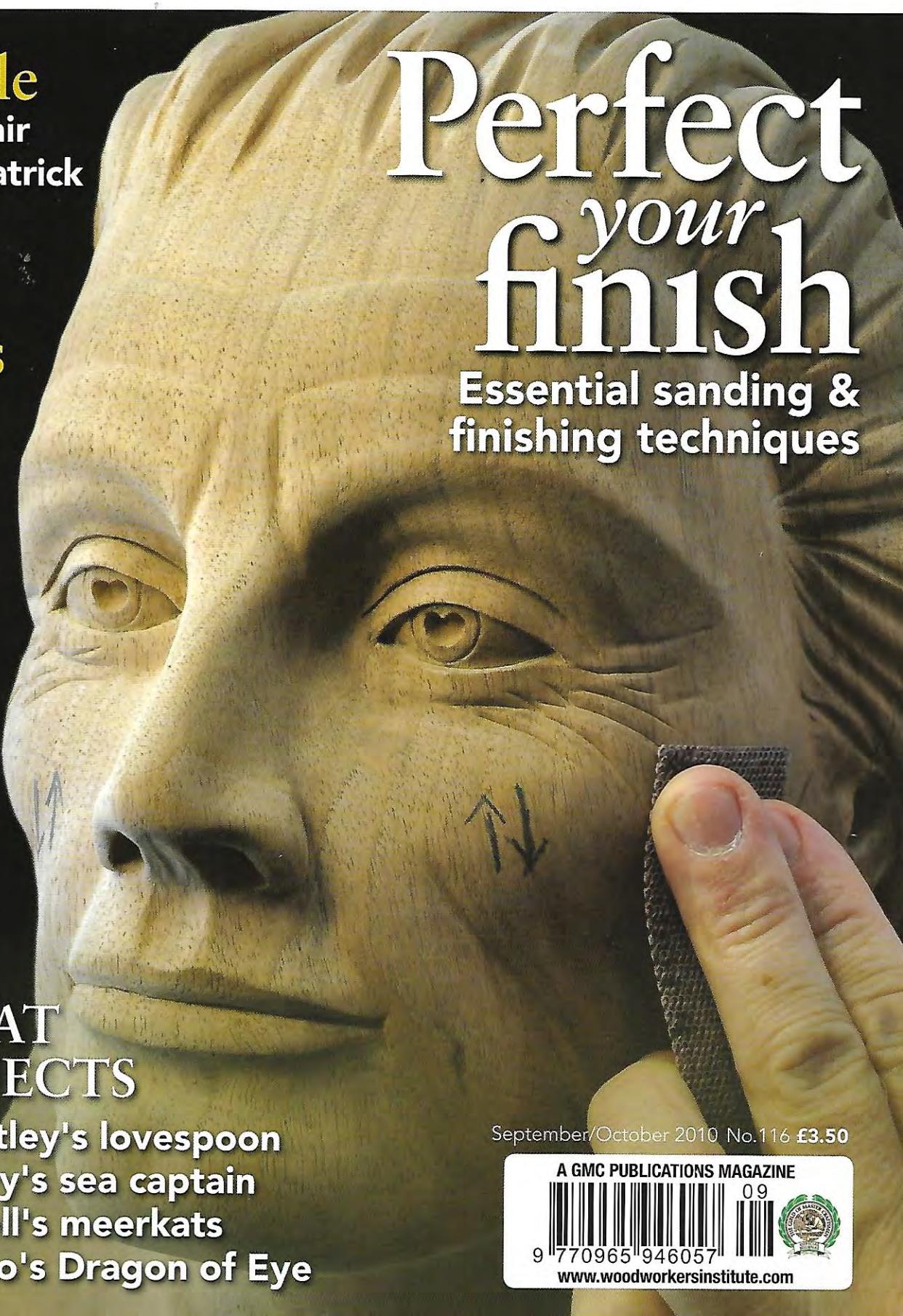
Shape and texture a polar bear

4 GREAT PROJECTS

- Sharon Littley's lovespoon
- Peter Berry's sea captain
- Paul Bignell's meerkats
- Steve Bisco's Dragon of Eye

Perfect your finish

Essential sanding & finishing techniques



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Finishing techniques

Discover what you need to know to achieve the perfect finish on your carvings

Turn to pages 23 & 54



Main cover image features a work in progress demonstrating sanding techniques – see pages 23 & 54. Photographed by ANDREW THOMAS. US cover image shows a Little Owl by David Clews – see page 40. Photographed by HARRY HARTSHORNE.

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TECHNICAL

COVER STORY

10 How to secure your carvings

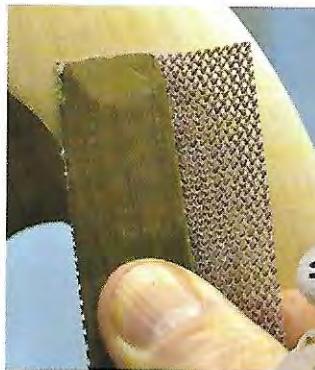
Mastecarver Chris Pye examines the various methods of securing work, to allow for good all-round access to your carvings



COVER STORY

23 Effective sanding

Andrew Thomas shares what you need to know in achieving a smooth and polished finish to your carvings



COVER STORY

36 How to enliven a polar bear

Marlene Benson explains shaping, fur carving and bleaching



54 10 tips to better finishing

Mark Baker shares his top hints and tips for improving your finishing techniques

PROJECTS

COVER STORY

5 Dragon of Eye

Steve Bisco carves a beautiful Victorian Gothic dragon and foliage relief panel



COVER STORY

17 Carve yourself a traditional Celtic knot lovespoon

Lovespoon expert Sharon Littley shows you how to carve a traditional Celtic lovespoon



COVER STORY

29 Sea captain

Peter Berry hits the waves with this fun sea captain

COVER STORY

34 Mini projects: simple meerkats

Paul Bignell shows you how to carve a clan of simple meerkats

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We round up the latest kit on the market for woodcarvers

60 Foredom rotary power tools

We test two hand pieces, a control box and a variety of burrs

62 Kirjes sanding system

Find out how we got on with the latest complete sanding system

65 Lancelot chainsaw blade

Mark Sanger's verdict on the new 22-tooth chainsaw blade



66 Dremel 7700 multi tool

Michelle Robertson looks at the latest cordless multi tool

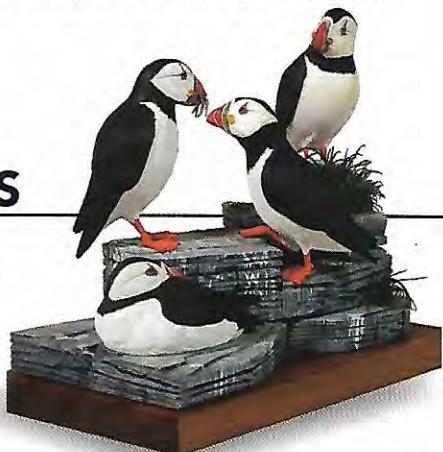
69 Scheppach Deco 405

For those who like scrollsaws, find out more about the new Deco 405 from tool giant, Scheppach

FEATURES

40 Bird Gallery

Don't miss our superb gallery of bird carvings



COVER STORY

44 The bird carvings of Tom Fitzpatrick

A look at some of the beautiful carved birds from one of our readers in the UK

COVER STORY

50 Meet Pete LeClair

We find out more about America's popular caricature carver, Pete LeClair



REGULARS

1 From the Editor

The Editor welcomes you to the latest edition of your favourite carving mag

38 Next issue

Yes it's that time of year already! Find out what's for Christmas as we take a sneak preview of the November/December issue

48 Reviews

We search out the best carving books for your enjoyment

70 News & Diary

Join us as we keep you up-to-date with the latest news and events for woodcarvers

74 From the forum

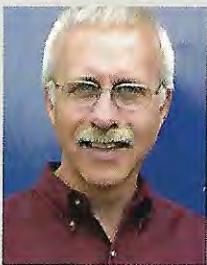
Woodcarving brings you Q&A and letters generated by readers to both the magazine and the Woodworkers' Institute website: www.woodworkersinstitute.com



80 The Art of Carving

The Art of Carving introduces a remarkable and inspiring multi layered box sculpted to reflect the civilisation of man

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Peter Berry specialises in character figure carving and writing numerous magazine project articles. He can also be found teaching and demonstrating at shows, clubs and retailers in UK and Europe. Peter has delivered formal City and Guilds woodcarving and design courses at Leeds City College of Art and Design, and in his spare time he assists Flexcut in design and promotion.



Sharon Littley started on the carving trail as a regional leader for the BWA. After 9 years, she established her own small business in teaching woodcarving and carrying out commissions. She is the co-author of the book *Celtic Carved Lovespoons* and has taken on various lovespoon commissions, most notably for the enthronement of the Archbishop of Canterbury, a presentation for Prince Edward, and Ikea in Cardiff.



Andrew Thomas is a professional sculptor living in Wareham, Dorset and has over 20 years of experience on the subject. His mediums are principally wood, bronze and mixed media. His work can be seen in many private collections, both in the UK and Europe. Andrew is also a qualified tutor in further education and delivers weekly lessons for private students at both beginner and intermediate levels.

2010 CARVING COMPETITION WINNERS REVEALED!

WOOD CARVING

HOW TO

- Carve netsuke
- Use grinders to carve
- Fine tune your knife edge

Christmas projects

Santa garland
Angel plaque
St Nicholas

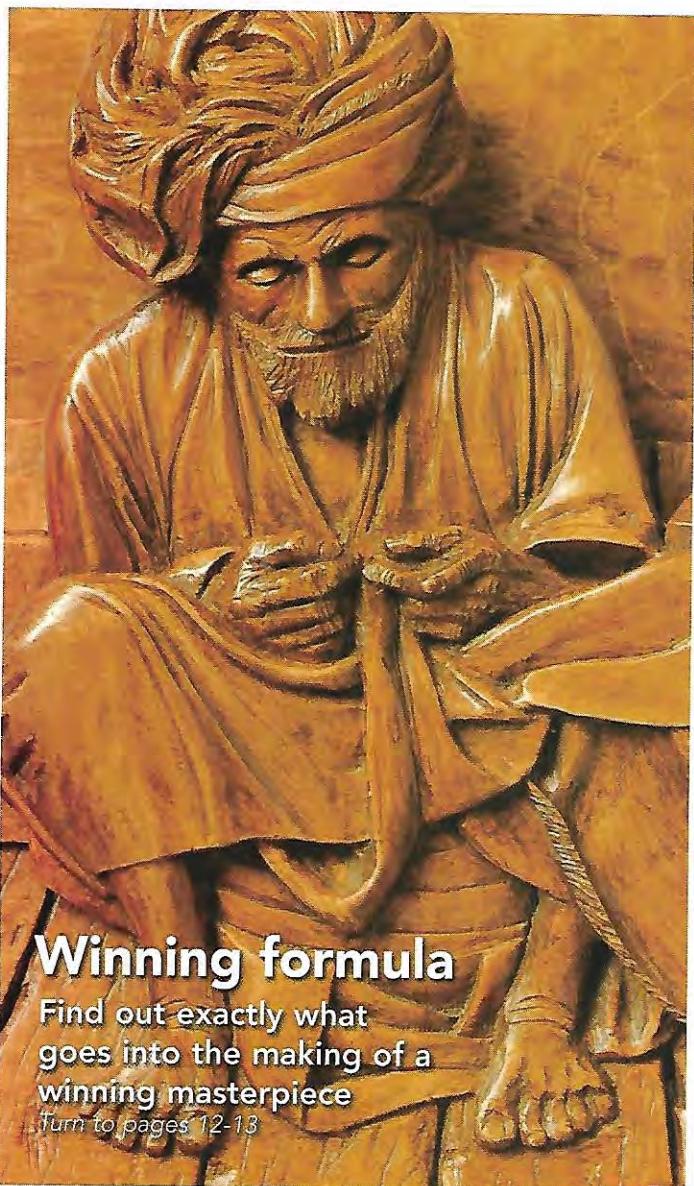
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Winning formula

The story behind
a relief carving
masterpiece

Carve
Chris Pye's
amazing
koi carp





Winning formula

Find out exactly what goes into the making of a winning masterpiece

Turn to pages 12-13

- Main cover image features Peter Downham's *A Penny for Them* – entry to this year's Woodcarving Competition. See page 5. Photographed by GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY.
- US cover image shows Maggie Port's *Black Swan* – entry to this year's Woodcarving Competition. See page 5. Photographed by HARRY HARTSHORNE.

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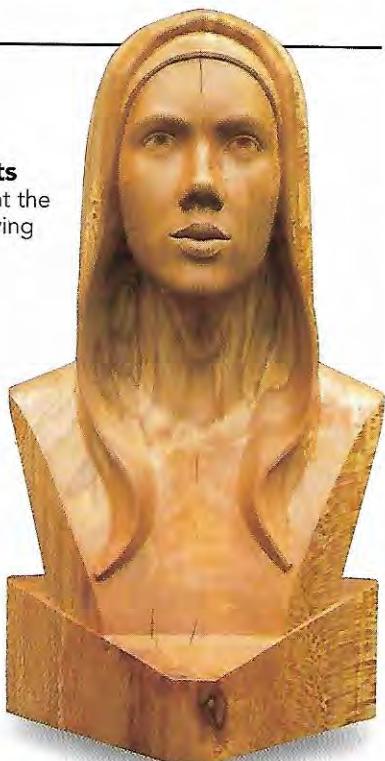


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Mark Baker is the Editor on sister magazine *Woodturning*. Life in the world of wood began with a five-year apprenticeship in carpentry and joinery, where his duties included restoration. He then moved on to assisting in the set-up of an industrial workshop for autistic adults, before moving on to work as a project manager for Robert Sorby. He next joined GMC as *Woodturning* Editor and was Editor of *Woodcarving* between 2000-2003.



Paul Bignell teaches woodcarving at Bognor Regis Community College which is a weekly class made up of students who have booked for a set number of weeks, and regular members who have been attending for several years. Paul has been involved with crafting wood for over 12 years and owes his style of teaching to George Karon who taught Paul how to turn on a lathe, and furniture maker and carver Jack Hill.



Michelle Robertson is Editor for *Woodcarving* magazine. As well as tackling various carving projects in her spare time and playing with new gadgets at the workshop, she enjoys long walks across the South Downs and River Adur, taking inspiration from wildlife and nature, and DIY projects about the home. She has been working on the magazine for 6 years now, starting as Production Controller, progressing to Deputy Editor, before tackling the rewarding role of Editor.

wood

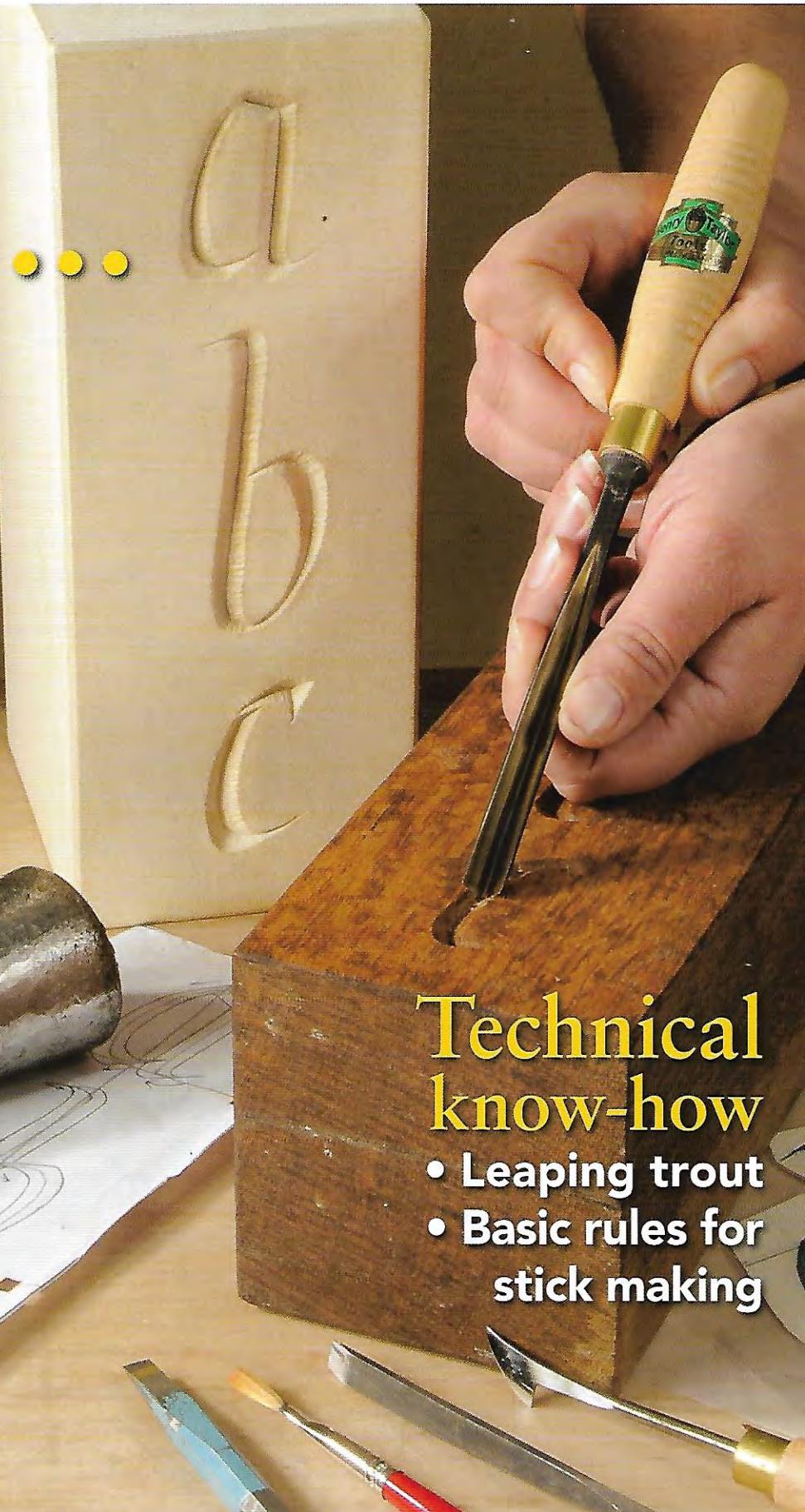
CARVING

It's as easy as ...

Letter carving in
wood & stone –
we show you how

Projects for the New Year

- Arum lily
- Vampire armorial
- Linenfold panels
- Baroque floral garland



Technical know-how

- Leaping trout
- Basic rules for
stick making

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Easy as ABC...

Join us as we show you how to letter carve in wood and stone

Turn to page 22

• Main cover image features techniques on how to letter carve in wood and stone. See page 22. Photographed by GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

• US cover image shows Mike Wood's Gyrfalcon, part of the Bakewell Festival of Bird Art. See page 44. Photographed by RAY LOUGHIN

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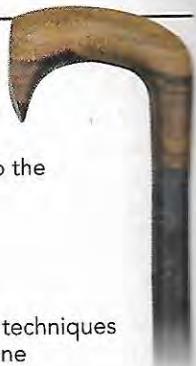
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Frederick Wilbur takes standard metal bookends and transforms them into items of carved beauty

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Steve Bisco's decorative floral garland will look superb on any wall



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The Art of Carving heads to Florence to have a closer look at the sculptures on the Duomo Santa Maria del Fiore



MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Andy Hibberd took up woodcarving having trained at the City and Guilds of London Art School under great tutors such as Dick Onians. He has also studied letter carving with David Holgate, who in turn was taught by Eric Gill. He now has his own workshop in Norfolk and can be found demonstrating at shows up and down the country. Andy even finds the time to turn his hand to carving wooden memorials as well as taking part in sculpture trails and Art Alive in Norfolk Churches.

Traditional decorative woodcarving has held an enduring fascination for **Fred Wilbur**, especially when in conjunction with architectural spaces. Ornamental history and the theories of design promulgated in the 19th century are also of great interest and, inspired by the art-carved furniture produced in Cincinnati, his recent decorated accessories for the home reflect this interest. He is a writer, teacher and practising grandfather.



Dave Wilkins has been making walking sticks for the past twenty years. He is a member of the British Stickmakers' Guild, and has competed successfully in competitions run by that organisation in East Anglia. He is retired and sells his sticks through Country Fairs in East London and East Anglia. He has taught stickmaking at his local Adult Education centre, and is currently carving under the guide of Peter Benson

PROJECTS CELTIC CROSS • WOOD MOUSE • ABSTRACT FEMALE

WOOD

CARVING

Your tools
of the trade

Carving knife
round-up

Gouges
for you

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cutters

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scenes depicting
two world wars

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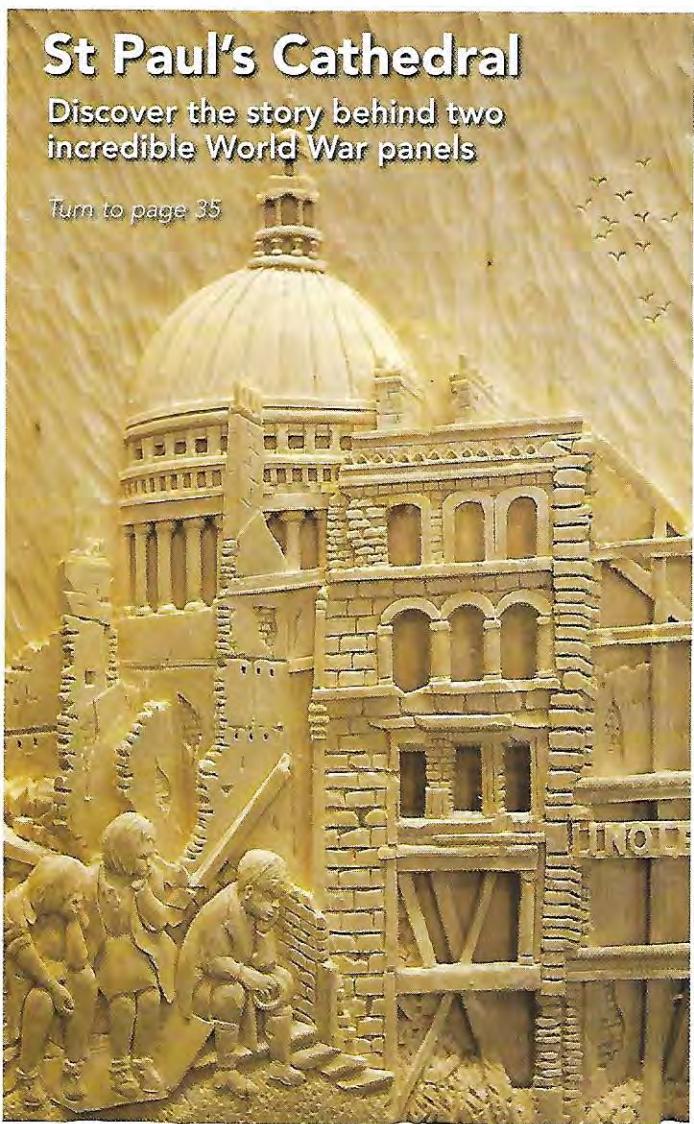
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St Paul's Cathedral

Discover the story behind two incredible World War panels

Turn to page 35



• Main cover image features the relief scene of St Paul's Cathedral, by Dennis Farmer – part of two World War Panels carved by the West Riding Woodcarvers' Association, on display at the Royal Armouries, Leeds. See page 35. Photographed by GRAHAM LOCKWOOD

• US cover image shows a section of the WWII panel carved by the West Riding Woodcarvers' Association – this and the WWI panel are on display at the Royal Armouries, Leeds. See page 35. Photographed by GRAHAM LOCKWOOD LOUGHIN

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In this new series looking at tools for woodcarvers, Peter Clothier focuses on gouges



32 Carving from buffalo horn

Russell Birch reveals the secrets behind the making of his amazing miniature mussel shell

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50 Power carving cutters

Jack Kochan examines bits used in power carving, how best to hold them, and how to get effective cuts



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Step up your game with Bill Prickett's latest wildlife project



17 Easter Bunny

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Andrew Thomas captures the graceful movement of a female figure

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Catch up with some of the best knives for carvers on the market



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35 World War Panels

We reveal the story behind two amazing panels carved in remembrance of the two World Wars



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The Art of Carving takes a trip to see some of the carvings which adorn Barcelona's La Sagrada Família church

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Peter Clothier began carving in 1968 under the tutelage of master carver, Gino Maser, before working with him full-time. He went on to train as an antique restorer of furniture and took up sculpture at the City and Guilds Art School. He has been teaching and carving part-time for over 35 years and can be found at West Dean College as a tutor of sculpture and woodturning.

Andrew Thomas is a professional sculptor living in Wareham, Dorset and has over 20 years of experience on the subject. He works principally with wood, bronze and mixed media. His work can be seen in many private collections, both in the UK and Europe. Andrew is also a qualified tutor in further education and delivers weekly lessons for private students at both beginner and intermediate levels.



Russell Birch has been carving since the late 90s and experiments with many different materials including buffalo horn and hippopotamus tusk, as well as woods such as lemonwood, boxwood and carver's favourite – lime! He specialises in miniature carving and netsuke, and is also known to carve the odd piece of beautiful jewellery in his spare time.

PERFECT YOUR GOUGE SHARPENING TECHNIQUES

WOOD

CARVING

Carving at its *finest...*

The remarkable work
of Lona Hymas-Smith

Classic carving
Grinling Gibbons
armorial panel

Power carve
Goldeneye
drake decoy

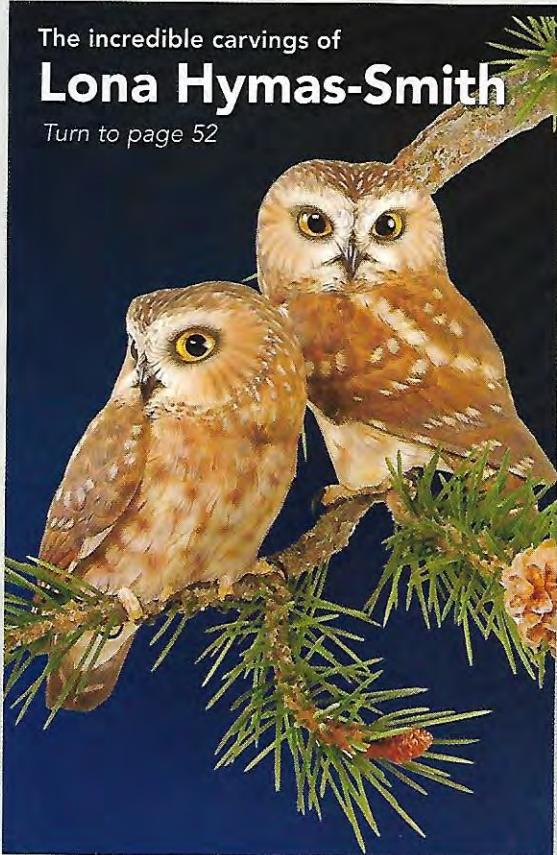
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Chase and patinate
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The incredible carvings of **Lona Hymas-Smith**

Turn to page 52



• Main cover image features a wonderful pair of saw whet owls from American wildlife carver, Lona Hymas-Smith. Photographed by Jason Lugo.

• US cover image shows a stunning American kestrel from American wildlife carver, Lona Hymas-Smith. Photographed by Jason Lugo

See page 52 for Woodcarving's interview with Lona, and page 56 to see how she produced an extraordinary carving of a bass chasing a southern leopard frog. It captures a pivotal moment frozen in time, leaving you to question whether the frog became prey or managed to get away. We will never know and therein lies the beauty of this piece. Enjoy!

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Andrew Thomas offers a unique insight to his methods of patinating bronze work

30 Sharpening gouges

Peter Clothier continues his series on hand tools for carvers, with an essential look at sharpening gouges

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Lona Hymas-Smith reveals how she carved an astonishing fish chasing a southern leopard frog



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Steve Bisco shows you how to carve this superb Grinling Gibbons armorial

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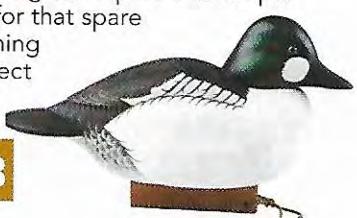
Chris Hindley carves a fully working goldeneye drake decoy using cork and pine

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58 Carving travel kit

Tony Griffiths assembles a portable carving kit, perfect for your summer travels

MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS...



Steve Bisco has been carving as a hobby for over 25 years, specialising in decorative carving in period styles. He is inspired by a love of historic buildings and aims to capture the spirit of a period in pieces for display in the 'home gallery'. He often combines carving with woodturning.

As a kid, **Tony Griffiths** carved a lot with a penknife such as walking sticks, lovespoons and various other assortments. Upon retiring from science, he started carving seriously. Although able to carve in many styles, he found that living in Vancouver allowed him to participate in one of the world's great carving cultures, that of the northwest coast First Nations.



A carver from Cheshire, **Chris Hindley** is probably best known for his bird carvings, the influence for which is drawn from both his own observations and the rich heritage of North American folk art. Having never attended a carving class, Chris is living proof that you can learn to carve from books and articles.

