



THE SUSSEX WOODCRAFT SOCIETY

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Hi everyone, here is your latest SWS newsletter.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

September is upon us and the Henfield show will soon be here! I hope work on entries to the ever-popular competition are going well.

Arrangements for the show are progressing well and we will have more information for members at our club night in September.

At the show we will of course be having a club table so if members have the odd piece of work, they would like to sell they can. Tom has kindly offered to run that table for the day. Thank you, Tom.

I visited the sale of work by members at Wakehurst over the bank holiday weekend. The weather was kind to them and they had a good weekend. As per usual there was some great work on show for purchase. It was also nice to see a few newer members there as well.

LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER

I'm afraid I was unable to attend last month's meeting having just come out of hospital after having a blood clot on my brain removed so thanks go to Frank Botterill for writing the items below, Brian.

The speaker (Mary Smith) at the August Woodcraft meeting was very interesting. She is the Secretary of the Burgess Hill Green Circle Network and spoke mainly about Bedelands Farm which some of you may be familiar with. If you are unaware of this group, the following link gives some details: -

<http://bh-green-circle.org.uk/sites/bedelands-local-nature-reserve/>

MEMBERS WORK

2 love spoons by Bob Jubb



pyrography by Pete Brown



2 boxes renovated by Colin Irvine
one leather bound and one
in-laid cribbage box



FEATURE ARTICLE

Going green: Ethiopia's bid to plant four billion trees

The government said a "record-breaking" 350 million trees were planted in a single day on Monday.

These days whenever Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed appears in public, he removes his jacket, rolls up his sleeves, grabs a shovel and gets to planting a tree.

Abiy is leading by example as Ethiopia plans to plant a mind-boggling four billion trees by October, as part of a global movement to restore forests to help fight climate change and



protect resources. The country says it has planted nearly three billion trees already since May. On Monday, state employees were given the day off as Abiy sought to get the rest of the country involved, and the government claimed a "record-breaking" 350 million trees were planted in only one day. "I think we demonstrated the capacity for people to come together collectively and deliver on a shared vision," Billene Seyoum, Abiy's press secretary, told AFP. The figure has attracted scepticism about the sheer number of volunteers this would require, and the logistics involved. "I personally don't believe that we planted this much," said Zelalem Worqagegnehu, a spokesman for the opposition Ezema party. "It might be impossible to plant this many trees within a day." Yet Zelalem also noted that hundreds of members of his party planted trees of their own on Monday, and suggested the actual total was beside the point. "We took this as a good opportunity to show solidarity with the citizens," he said. "Our concern is the green legacy, making Ethiopia green."

Planting only first step - Ethiopia's forest cover declined from around 40 percent half a century ago to around 15 percent today, said Abiyot Berhanu, director of the Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute. "Deforestation has become very grave in many parts of Ethiopia," he said. The recent tree-planting drive has targeted areas that have been stripped of their trees over the years, Billene said. The types of new trees planted have varied from region to region. "A lot of nurseries have been working on producing more saplings over the past couple months," Billene said, while some of the saplings and seedlings had come from abroad. Reforestation is a major component of global initiatives to recapture carbon emissions. It can also purify water, produce oxygen and bolster farmers' incomes, said Tim Christophersen, chair of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration.

But Christophersen said planting trees was only the first step. "The most important factor is grazing pressure. If you plant a tree and a day later the goats come along; they will absolutely eat the tree first before they eat the dry grass next to it," he said. "We don't speak so much about planting trees but about growing trees." He said planting 350 million trees would require about 350,000 hectares (864,000 acres) -- an area bigger than Luxembourg -- and added that a volunteer could realistically plant about 100 trees a day. "It is not impossible, but it would take a very well organised effort," he told AFP. He said that Ethiopia was one of only five countries ranked as having a "sufficiently ambitious" contribution to the 2015 Paris climate agreement, the UN's pact to curb global warming. Trees take in carbon from the air as part of the process of synthesis and store it in their leaves, branches and

trunks. Abiy's tree-planting drive is part of a national environmental campaign, known as the Green Legacy Initiative, that includes cleaning waterways and making agriculture more sustainable.

THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ

What is the tallest tree in the United Kingdom?.....Answer on page 5

AMAZING TREES

Quiver Trees (*Aloe dichotoma*), are also known as kokerboom, and are a species of aloe indigenous to South Africa, specifically in the Northern Cape region, and Namibia. They are referred to locally as "quiver trees" as the branches and bark are used by Kalahari San Bushmen to make quivers for their arrows. Known as Choje to the indigenous San people, the quiver tree gets its name from the San practice of hollowing out the tubular branches of *Aloe dichotoma* to form quivers for their arrows.



AMAZING TREE FACTS

Twenty-two million trees were planted in Scotland last year - more than anywhere else in the United Kingdom.

THIS MONTHS JOKE SPOT

Two Nuns

Two nuns, Sister Catherine and Sister Helen, are traveling through Europe in their car. They get to Transylvania and are stopped at a traffic light. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a tiny little Dracula jumps onto the hood of the car and hisses through the windshield. "Quick, quick!" shouts Sister Catherine. "What shall we do?"

"Turn the windshield wipers on. That will get rid of the abomination," says Sister Helen. Sister Catherine switches them on, knocking Dracula about, but he clings on and continues hissing at the nuns. "What shall I do now?" she shouts. "Switch on the windshield washer. I filled it up with Holy Water at the Vatican," says Sister Helen. Sister Catherine turns on the windshield washer. Dracula screams as the water burns his skin, but he clings on and continues hissing at the nuns. "Now what?" shouts Sister Catherine. "Show him your cross," says Sister Helen. "Now you're talking," says Sister Catherine. She opens the window and shouts, "Get the heck off the car!"

THE AMAZING WORLD OF WOOD

Thought I would show a photo of a fantastic chainsaw carving for this month.



FUTURE SWS TALKS

2019

- September 11th Weald and Downland Living Museum
- October 9 th Lester Backshall, Guitar Maker
- November 13 th Paul Matthews, Hedges and Hurdles
- December 11th To be advised

When you are out and about at wood shows or exhibitions, if you see any person you think might be a candidate to give us a talk, please do ask them or at least take a note of their details and pass it on to Robert Packer who has taken over from Wendy in organising our future talks or any of our committee member so we can maintain the great speakers we have had. We are always open to suggestions for new speakers and we do need your help and input to help with this.

Please also let me know of any shows or exhibitions you think may be of interest to our members so I can include them in the section below, especially events for next year.

EVENTS FOR 2019

September

6th & 7th Yandles Autumn Woodworking Show Hurst Works, Martock, Somerset, TA12 6JU

Contact: Tel. 01935 822 207

Cost: FREE Entry, FREE parking

Hours: 10.00am to 5.00pm Friday, 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday

One of the largest woodworking shows of the year. Charnwood's representatives will be there to demonstrate their range of bandsaws, table saws, planer thicknessers plus woodturning lathes and chucks.

7th & 8th Belmont Woodfest, Faversham Kent.

20th 21st 22nd Bentley Woodfair, Halland.

October

5th 6th Surrey Hills Woodfair, Cranleigh, Surrey

4th 5th 6th D & M Tools, Tool Show, Kempton Park Racecourse, Surrey

20th Wizardry in Wood Worshipful Company of Turners, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2

November

29th Sussex Woodcraft Society Setting up for our Annual show

30th Sussex Woodcraft Society Annual exhibition and show at Henfield Hall

Please note - as it is possible some shows may be cancelled or have the dates changed. Please check with organisers before

ANSWER TO THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ

Answer..... In 2014, the tallest tree in the UK was declared to be a Douglas Fir in Reelig Glen, near Inverness. At 66.4m it's quite tiny compared to Hyperion, the tallest tree of all but still an amazing sight to see.

16th November, Wivelsfield Green Village Hall are putting their Christmas Market from 10 - 4.

£20 a table plus an item for the raffle. Contact Robert Packer on mobile number 07729834341

Or e-mail robert.packer@hotmail.co.uk.