



# **THE SUSSEX WOODCRAFT SOCIETY**

**NEWSLETTER No 120 FEBRUARY 2019**

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Hi everyone, here is your latest SWS newsletter.

## **CHAIRMAN'S LETTER**

Last month I received a letter from Cuckfield Church with regard to the Christmas Tree Festival held in early December. Firstly, thank you to those people who produced something to decorate our tree with. It was a good way to advertise our show on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the festival is done to raise money for the church and also a chosen charity each year.

Over the three days it was held they raised an astonishing £13,697. The money was split between the church and Kangeroos a charity working with children and young adults with disabilities.

I hope January has been a productive month for members. However, I know it's been a bit too cold at times to spend too much time in my workshop!

I am looking forward to our first club night of 2019 in March. See you then.

As you are aware, we are not meeting again until March so this month there are no speakers or peoples work to write about. But let's start with some more good news as below.

## **FEATURE ARTICLE**

### **Northern Forest of 50 million trees to be planted between Liverpool and Hull**

A huge 120-mile forest will be created under new plans announced by Theresa May today.

A Northern Forest of 50 million trees is to be planted between Liverpool and Hull, the Prime Minister has announced. Over the next 25 years, a vast swathe of woodland will be created over a 120-mile area to improve the environment and help prevent 190,000 homes from flooding.

On Sunday, Defra pledged an initial £5.7 million to launch the scheme which will be administered by The Woodland Trust and the Community Forest Trust and is expected to cost £500 million in total. Theresa May told BBC1's The Andrew Marr Show: "It's going to take time to plant the millions of trees that will be needed in order to



develop this national forest, so it's not a short-term thing that's going to happen, but the commitment is there."

The plans, which will see 62,000 acres of woodland planted before 2050, is expected to generate £2 billion for the economy through tourism, and by boosting rural business and generating jobs. It is also likely to increase property values and reduce the economic impact of flooding. The Northern Forest forms part of the Government's long-awaited 25-year environment plan. It is hoped Whitehall funding to kick-start planting will encourage private landowners to also sign up to the project.

Environment Secretary Michael Gove said: "Trees are some of our most cherished natural assets and living evidence of our investment for future generations. "Not only are they a source of beauty and wonder, but a way to manage flood risk, protect precious species and create healthier places for us to work and live. This new Northern Forest is an ambitious and exciting project that will create a vast ribbon of woodland cover in northern England stretching from coast to coast, providing a rich habitat for wildlife to thrive, and a natural environment for millions of people to enjoy."

The Northern Forest will connect the five Community Forests in the north of England, the Mersey Forest, Manchester City of Trees, South Yorkshire Community Forest, the Leeds White Rose Forest and the HEYwoods Project, with woodland created in and around major urban centres such as Chester, Liverpool, Leeds, and Manchester. Woodlands will be a mix of native broadleaf trees such as oaks and conifers including spruce and pine, and will be targeted at areas where they can boost health and wellbeing. Planting will begin in March at the Woodland Trust's 1,680-acre site at Smithills, Bolton, which is also supported by money from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Austin Brady, director of conservation at the Woodland Trust, said: "The Northern Forest will accelerate the creation of new woodland and support sustainable management of existing woods right across the area. Planting many more trees, woods and forests will deliver a better environment for all - locking up carbon on a large scale, boosting wildlife habitat and greening our towns and cities. The Woodland Trust and Community Forests will use new and innovative mechanisms to engage communities and a wide range of partners in delivering the forest." The forest will also help tackle climate change and improve the environment by soaking up emissions and carbon dioxide.

Paul Nolan, Director of the Mersey Forest added: "We have shown that we can lock up over seven million tonnes of carbon as well as potentially reduce flood risk for 190,000 homes." The announcement was welcomed by green campaigners. Friends of the Earth Senior Nature Campaigner, Paul de Zylva, said: "England is one of the least wooded nations in Europe, so government backing for the new Northern Forest is extremely welcome. "Well-managed woodland brings numerous benefits from absorbing carbon and helping to prevent flooding to aiding public recreation and learning, as well as the pure enjoyment of the outdoors."

*This is welcome news indeed for the rates of planting in this country have been falling for the past few years, mainly due I understand to cut backs in grants which have in the past encouraged landowners and growers to plant substantial new Woodland areas. Editor.*

## AMAZING TREES

What would you do if you couldn't have that cup of coffee in the morning? Ugh, that would be awful. Well you can thank the coffee plant of the rainforest for your jolt of caffeine every day. It can grow as tall as 30 feet, but is considered a bush or shrub. From the picture they look like grapes, but those are berries containing two coffee beans inside. It takes an amazing six to



eight years for the plant to be in full production and coffee plants can live up to 100 years old.

**Habitation:** Prefers high altitudes for shade with a wet and dry season. Originated in Ethiopia and Sudan and now more than two-thirds grow in Latin America.

## THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ

What important medicine is extracted from the bark of the Cinchona tree?.....Answer on page 5

## AMAZING TREE FACTS

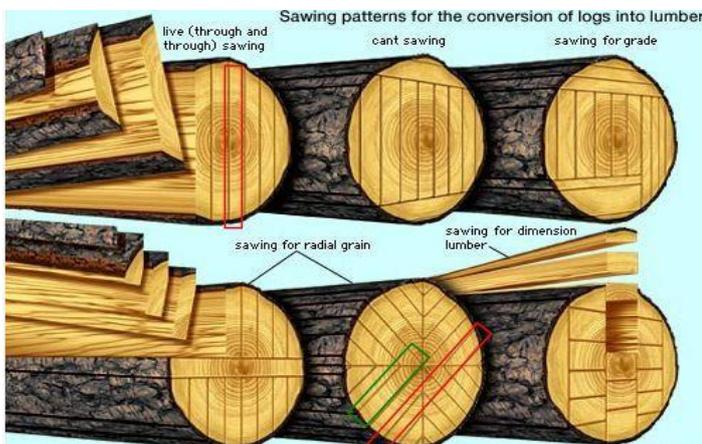
### What is the most versatile wood?

This is subjective, although a case could be made for Lignum Vitae (also known as the Wood of Life) which originates in Jamaica. Wood from this tree is extremely dense and heavy and contains an abundance of natural oils. The qualities of hardness and lubrication meant this wood was used as part of the works in early clocks as well as on fittings on sailing ships due to its resistance to the corrosive qualities of the marine environment. It has been used for butchers' blocks, mortar and pestles as well as truncheons, and on a windy day at a cricket match you may see the balls replaced by ones made of lignum vitae to prevent them being dislodged from the stumps.

## THIS MONTHS JOKE SPOT

Two judges were stumbling home from their local pub, arms around each other, loudly singing Kenny Rodgers. "Hey," said one, "I think we're drunk." "You are right, and according to the law I will have to charge you with being drunk and disorderly," said his mate. "And you will have to appear before me at 10AM tomorrow," said the first. Next morning in court, the first pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$10. They then switched places. "Drunk and disorderly, eh? You are fined \$20." "Hey," protested the first, "When I was in was in chair, I only fined you \$10!" "Yes," said the second judge, "But the offence is becoming too common. You are the second drunk to appear before the court this morning."

## THE AMAZING WORLD OF WOOD



I think this guy needs to clear up his workshop and he's going to need more than a dustpan and brush.

## Special Award Jeane Waller

When Sussex Woodcraft Society was first formed in 1984, by Bob Jubb, Brian Campion and others, amongst the first respondents to the Advertisement was a young Lady who wanted to develop her Woodcraft talents. She was welcomed into the Society and since that time has supported us in every possible way.

Every Exhibition we have organised, Jeane Waller has been a stalwart Exhibitor with, her very artistic and clever entries of Wood Carvings which won various categories in our Competitions.

In later years, Jeane, always supported by her Husband Peter, has made and exhibited her beautiful and professionally designed Musical Instruments. Her Violins, Violas, Guitars, Lutes and other stringed instruments are the envy of Professional Musicians all over the South East of England, including London.

Jeane does not sell her Work, though she would make a fortune if she did so, but plays the Jeane Waller Instruments in various Orchestras throughout Sussex.

Jeane has been unwell recently and The SWS Committee felt it was time to recognise her extraordinary talent and award Jeane **Master Craftswoman of Sussex Woodcraft Society**. A Special Certificate was created, framed and presented to Jeane at our Exhibition in Henfield on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018.



We all thank Jeane and Peter for their support throughout the life of our Society, and, in doing so, we wish her a speedy and long-term recovery so that she may continue her Woodcraft for the enjoyment of the many.

Photo taken by Frank Botterill. Thanks Frank

## FUTURE SWS TALKS

### 2019

January and February **No Meetings**

March Christmas Show Resume

April Malcolm Knight – Tottington Woodlanders 01273 493316

May AGM, Clive Emsley - Bluebell Railway.

June Alan Alyward, Woodland Trust

July To be advised

August	Mary Smith, Green Circle, Bedelands Farm.
September	Weald and Downland Living Museum
October	Lester Backshall, Guitar Maker
November	To be advised
December	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 this year as a lot of people haven't started posting their events as yet.

## **EVENTS FOR 2019**

### **May**

**25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>** Wakehurst Place SWS Exhibition

### **JULY**

**27<sup>TH</sup> 28<sup>TH</sup>** Wildwood Weekend, Wakehurst place

### **September**

**6th & 7th**

**Event:** Yandles Autumn Woodworking Show

**Location:** Yandles & Son Ltd, 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 our range of bandsaws, table saws, planer thicknessers plus woodturning lathes and chucks.

### **NOVEMBER**

**29<sup>TH</sup>** Setting up at Henfield Hall

**30<sup>TH</sup>** Our Annual Exhibition and Show

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

## HENFIELD ANNUAL SHOW

Despite quite a few of us having reservations about the fact we were unable to obtain an earlier booking for our annual show; the show was once more a runaway success. We had lots of nice comments regarding both the exhibition and displays put on by the stallholders and I think most of our sellers were happy with their sales.

I myself had a lady who said, "I would like to make a complaint about your stall". Heart in hand, I asked her what it was she didn't like and she replied, "You have too many Rudy nice things on your stand; every time I look, I find something else I want to buy". I just love complaints like this.

I am advised that we have already booked the hall for this year's annual show. The dates are as follows; 29<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup> of November so you can write this down into your diary of events for 2019. Once the committee have decided what this year's set competition piece will be, we will of course advise you. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see included, please do not hesitate to contact any of your committee members.

I am breaking with tradition this year and instead of including the list of winners of the various competitions and the accompanying photographs, it is my intention to produce what I'm going to call **A SHOW SPECIAL**. This will comprise pages detailing all the entrants of the various competitions and will include photographs taken mainly by Frank Botterill of the competition entries. I am aware because of the lateness of the show, and its closeness to Christmas, a lot of you were unable to attend so it is my hope that this **show special** will at least give you a chance to see the quality and variety of work that was on display. I will e-mail this to you as soon as I have completed it.

As most of you are aware, this was the last time that Tom Lednor was responsible for organising our show. Over the years, Tom has made a magnificent job of organising our shows and we all sorry to see him stepping down but I fully understand his reasons for doing so.

I know Tom would fully agree with me when I say, we have a great team who have helped Tom with organising our shows over the years. In particular, I think of Bob and Pauline Turner who make such a good job of booking in our competition entries and also Paul and Katrina Reader who not only assist with this, but also arrange the entries on the display tables and who also do a magnificent job of working in the kitchen, keeping us fed and watered throughout the day. There are also those who helped set up tables so may I again offer thanks to all of those who took part, which includes our members who had paid for tables.

## ANSWER TO THIS MONTHS WOOD QUIZ

Answer..... It is quinine which is used to prevent and treat malaria and was first extracted in 1820.