

# Read 'awl' about it

The Lockdown Newsletter from the  
**Cannock Chase Shed**

ISSUE No. 20



This Issue...

- Shed News
- Chainsaw Carving
- Earth Hour - 27<sup>th</sup> March
- Just for Laughs
- 30 Weirdly fascinating body facts

Submissions and suggestions to:

[annewallbank@talktalk.net](mailto:annewallbank@talktalk.net)

01543 520452

07526 636194



# Shed News

## Cannock Chase Shed Zoom Webchats

These are still taking place at 10.30 am each Monday (except for the first Monday in each month which is when committee meetings are held).

If you'd like to drop in, please contact Barry ([barrykjames@yahoo.com](mailto:barrykjames@yahoo.com)) who will help you to get set up, and send you an invitation to join the meeting.

## Check our webpage...

...for information about our Shed, updates about reopening and back issues of the newsletter.

## We are on facebook...

Remember we have a facebook page, where you can chat with friends, exchange ideas or ask for advice, as well as sharing your projects.

If you are having trouble finding the bits you need for your project, why not post a request? Another member may have just what you're looking for sitting unused in their garage, or they may know where you can get one.

If you have useful items that you are loath to throw away, why not put up a post, offering them to other members, before consigning them to the tip?

Why not post a message now? You can find us

[HERE](#)

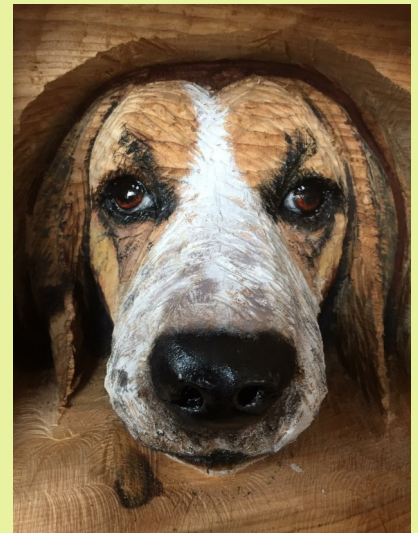


## Karl Macauley is a chainsaw wood carver based in Manchester.

As a boy, Karl was constantly painting and drawing, and later began experimenting with carving wood and stone. After favourable comments from friends and family, he decided to take carving more seriously.

He bought a chainsaw, at first using it to cut the negative space away from the wood, but it wasn't long before Karl realised that he was destined to be a chainsaw carver. That was just the start. Over the years he has experimented with different finishes and textures, applying them to his carvings to create remarkable finishes.

Karl enjoys living and working in a natural environment, and says the trees he tends to carve are either felled because of disease, have fallen because of wind damage or need to be felled because of environmental reasons.



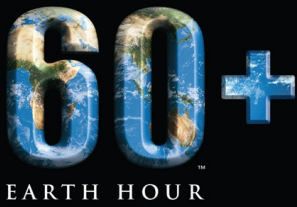
If you'd like to see more, just search 'chainsaw carving' on google or youtube. The speed chainsaw carving competitions are pretty incredible.



# Examples of Karl's work...







**27 MARCH 2021**  
**8:30-9:30PM LOCAL TIME**

## **EARTH HOUR: An opportunity to support our planet.**

Started by WWF and partners as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour is now one of the world's largest grassroots movements for the environment. Held every year on the last Saturday of March, Earth Hour engages millions of people in more than 180 countries and territories, switching off their lights to show support for our planet.

But Earth Hour goes far beyond the symbolic action of switching off - it has become a catalyst for positive environmental impact, driving major legislative changes by harnessing the power of the people and collective action

Earth Hour is open-source and we welcome everyone, anyone, to take part and help amplify our mission to unite people to protect our planet.

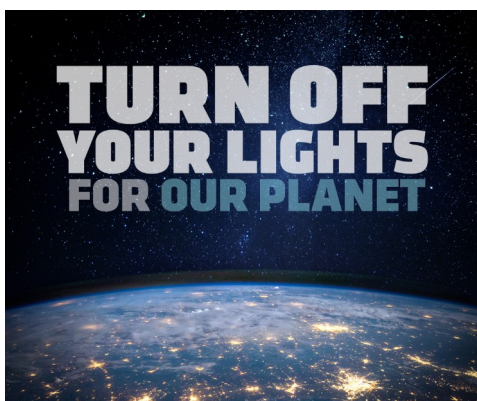
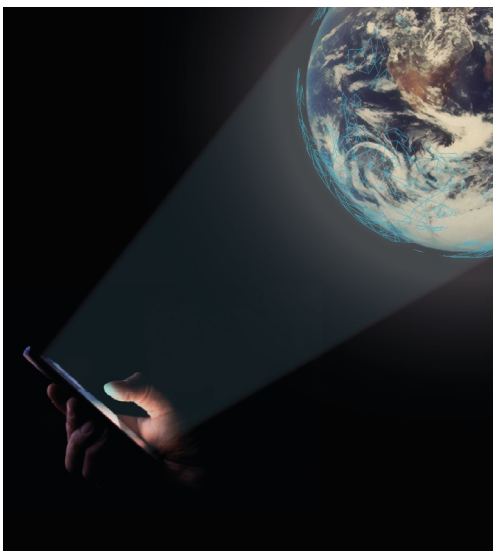


### **Our mission: Then and Now**

In 2007, we encouraged people around the world to switch off their lights to call attention to climate change. More than a decade later, the climate crisis remains, made worse by another urgent threat: the rapid loss of biodiversity and nature.

Natural systems are vital for all our futures – and yet, the rate of global loss of nature during the past 50 years is unprecedented in human history. Nature not only provides us food, water, clean air, and other services worth over US\$125 trillion a year – it is also one of our strongest allies against climate change. Protecting nature is one of the most immediate, powerful, and cost-effective solutions to the climate crisis.

Today, Earth Hour aims to increase awareness and spark global conversations on protecting nature not only to combat the climate crisis, but to ensure our own health, happiness, prosperity and even survival.



## 2021: The year that counts

2021 presents an unmissable opportunity for change. In 2021, world leaders will come together during key global conferences and forums to set the environmental agenda for the next decade and beyond. Crucial political decisions will be made on climate action, nature, and sustainable development — decisions that will directly affect the fate of humanity and our planet for years to come.



With your support, Earth Hour 2021 could be a spotlight moment that puts nature at the centre of international conversations. Together, we can speak up and show world leaders and other decision-makers around the globe that nature matters and urgent action must be taken to reverse nature loss.

### Our first-ever Earth Hour "Virtual Spotlight"

Over the years, the lights-off moment saw entire streets, buildings, landmarks, and city skylines go dark - an unmissable sight that drew public attention to nature loss and the climate crisis.

This year - amidst the current global circumstances - in addition to switching off your lights, we also invite you to raise awareness and create the same unmissable sight online, so that the world sees our planet, the issues we face, and our place within it, in a new light.

On the night of Earth Hour (March 27), we'll be posting a must-watch video on all our social media pages - and all you have to do is find it by searching 'Earth Hour', and share it.

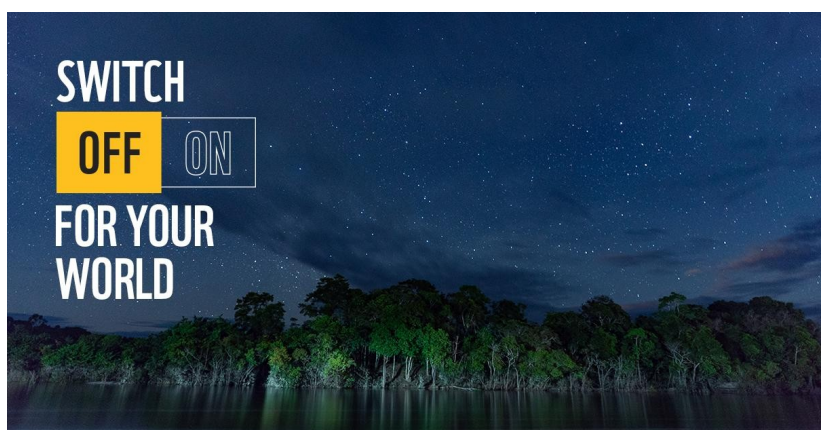


Our goal is simple: put the spotlight on our planet and make it the most watched video in the world on March 27 (or beyond!) so that as many people as possible hear our message.

Source:

<http://www.earthhour.org/>

Click on the link to find out more.





# Just for Laughs

There were two elderly people living in a care home. He was a widower and she a widow, they had known one another for a number of years.

One evening there was a community dinner in the big activity centre. The pair were seated at the same table, across from one another. As the meal went on, he made a few admiring glances at her and finally gathered up his courage to ask her:

“Will you marry me?”

After a dramatic pause and several seconds ‘careful consideration,’ she answered:

“Yes. Yes, I will”.

The meal ended and with a few more pleasant exchanges and they went to their respective rooms.

The next morning, he was troubled. “Did she say ‘yes’ or did she say ‘no’?” He couldn’t remember. Try as he might, he just could not recall. Not even a faint memory.

With trepidation, he went to the telephone and called her. First, he explained to her that he didn’t remember as well as he used to. Then he reviewed the lovely evening past. As he gained a little more courage, he then inquired of her:

“When I asked if you would marry me, did you say ‘Yes’ or did you say ‘No’?”

He was delighted to hear her say: “Why, I said, ‘Yes, yes I will,’ and I meant it with all my heart”. She continued: “And I am so glad that you called, because for the life of me I couldn’t remember who had asked me”.



A man doing research for the Vaseline Company knocked at the door and was greeted by a young woman with three small children.

“I’m doing a survey for Vaseline. Have you ever used the product?”

“Yes,” she said, “My husband and I use it all the time.”

“If you don’t mind my asking,” he said, “what do you use it for?” “We use it for sex,” she said. The researcher was a little taken aback.

“Usually people lie to me but, in fact, I know that most people do use it for sex. I admire you for your honesty. Since you’ve been so frank so far, can you tell me exactly how you use it for sex?”

The woman answered, “I don’t mind telling you at all. My husband and I put it on the doorknob. It keeps the kids out.”

A priest dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who's dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans.

Saint Peter addresses this cool guy, 'Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?' The guy replies, 'I'm Jack, retired airline pilot from Houston.' Saint Peter consults his list.

He smiles and says to the pilot, 'Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom.' The pilot goes into Heaven with his robe and staff.

Next, it's the priest's turn. He stands erect and booms out, 'I am Father Bob, pastor of Saint Mary's for the last 43 years.' Saint Peter consults his list.

He says to the priest, 'Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom.' Just a minute, 'says the good father.

'That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff and I get only cotton and wood.

How can this be? 'Up here – we go by results,' says Saint Peter. 'When you preached – people slept. When he flew, people prayed.'

An elderly gentleman had been experiencing serious hearing problems for a number of years.

He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect.

Your family must be really pleased you can hear again."

To which the gentleman said,

"Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations.

I've changed my will five times!"

Source: 'Keep Smiling' magazine, produced by Philip Joiner, Chair and Newsletter Editor of the Wanstead and Woodford u3a. Heartfelt thanks to Philip for allowing us to reproduce his material.



## 30 Weirdly Fascinating Health and Body Facts

- Each person sheds 22 kilograms of skin in his or her lifetime.
- Your body has enough iron in it to make a nail 3 inches long.
- One in every 2000 babies is born with a tooth.
- During your lifetime, you will produce enough saliva to fill two swimming pools.
- One person in 20 has an extra rib, and they are most often men.
- There are approximately 96,000 km / 59650 miles of blood vessels in the human body.
- A person will die from lack of sleep sooner than they will from starvation, which usually takes a few weeks.
- You are taller in the morning; throughout the day, the cartilage between your bones is compressed, making you about 1 cm shorter by day's end.
- More germs are transferred shaking hands than kissing.
- The human head remains conscious for about 15 to 20 seconds after it has been decapitated.
- Like fingerprints, every person has a unique tongue print.
- The strongest muscle in the human body is the tongue and the hardest bone is the jaw bone.
- Sneezes regularly exceed 100 mph, while coughs clock in at about 60 mph.
- The acid in your stomach is strong enough to dissolve razorblades.
- We share 98.4% of our DNA with a chimp and 70% with a slug.
- The brain doesn't feel pain; even though the brain processes pain signals, the brain itself does not actually feel pain.
- Everyone has a unique smell, except for identical twins, who smell the same.
- The human heart creates enough pressure to squirt blood 30 feet in the air.
- Humans are the only animals to produce emotional tears.
- The human feet have 52 bones, accounting for one-quarter of all the human body's bones.
- It is not possible to tickle yourself.
- Two out of three people cannot see perfectly.
- Humans have 46 chromosomes, peas have 14, and crayfish have 200.
- There is enough nicotine in four or five cigarettes to kill an average adult if ingested whole.
- The tooth is the only part of the human body that can't repair itself.
- Your nose can remember 50,000 different scents and women are better smellers than men.
- Your body gives off enough heat in 30 minutes to bring half a gallon of water to a boil.
- 80% of the brain is water.
- Your brain operates on 10 watts of power.
- Your hearing decreases when you overheat.
- 

### Sources:

<http://www.health24.com/lifestyle/woman/your-life/30-weird-medical-facts-20120721>

<https://www.verywell.com/disturbing-world-smoking-facts-2825336>

<http://oddstuffmagazine.com/50-really-weird-facts-about-your-body.html>

<http://www.knowable.com/a/23-fascinating-and-weird-facts-about-the-human-body-wow>



**We've come a long way, since the first issue of this newsletter way back at the start of the first lockdown.**

**It was only expected to last a few weeks.**

Initially the newsletter was produced weekly, then when that became too much for me it dropped to fortnightly, and then monthly.

Unfortunately, due to my health, I'm now struggling even to manage one issue a month.

**Would you like to help?**

I began this with no previous experience, I've simply learned as I've gone along and I'll gladly support anyone who'd like to do the same.

## **Could you...**

- Sort through your photos and send me a picture and a few words? – your pet, garden, favourite holiday, your most useful tool, a current or past project, a cooking success (or disaster) or favourite recipe ? – Pretty much anything you like.
- send me a suggestion of something you'd like to see included in the newsletter? – anything from just a broad idea, to a finished article.
- send in a 'reader's letter'? Share an anecdote or treasured memory? Share your expertise with those who have less experience?
- Send in something else, or help in another way that I haven't even mentioned?

**All Ideas Welcome**  
[annewallbank@talktalk.net](mailto:annewallbank@talktalk.net)

01543 520452

07526 636194

Thank You,  
*Anne*