# Membership

If you have paid you membership for 2022 you will have received your new orange membership card. If you are one of the few that have not paid please complete the membership form and return to me with your cheque. If you have paid and not received your card please contact me and I will sort it out :-Phone 01543506195 or email electricwilliam@gmail.com

This is your absolute last chance, if you have received a renewal form with this newsletter (either email or postal), it means I do not have a record of you payment and I will remove you from our mailing list.

# Wanted For the workshop

#### A VIBROGRAPH B200 MICROPHONE

Any you have we will consider (if not Vibrograph) adapting if possible.

Also if anyone has a timing machine that they no longer need and would consider donating the workshop.

Please contact Alan Westgate home 01342 619 100 or Mobile 07989 783841 or at the workshop

Thanks for any help

#### FREE ADVERTISING FOR BRANCH MEMBERS.

Contact Bill 01543506195 or electricwilliam@gmail.com

www.slbbhi.co.uk

# South London Branch British Horological Institute

Newsletter No. 521 August 2022
Branch No 25. Founded 1978

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month

At The White Hart Barn (Godstone Village Hall)
Godstone Surrey RH9 8DU at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m.

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"It takes less time to do things right than to explain why you did it wrong."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

NEXT MEETING

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

PETER MOWER

FREE TO A
GOOD HOME

WORKSHOP NEWS HOODED WALL CLOCK COURSE

Membership

**WANTED** 

Next Month's Meeting
11th August 2022
"How the watch was worn".
Chris McKay FBHI

The Watch and how it was worn is a photographic study making use of postcards, cabinet cards, etc. pictorially illustrating how the watch evolved around the people wearing them "1860-1930".

Aged 11 Chris started to take alarm clocks apart and by age 13 had learnt to put them back together again! At the age of 19 he worked on his first Turret Clock and has been fascinated by horology ever since. He graduated as an electronic engineer from Sussex University and achieved Chartered Engineer status when he was 29.

continued

#### Continued

After a career in electronics for 12 years he taught Design and Technology in secondary school and then turned to clock work. Chris is a professional member of the British Horological Institute and runs technical courses on turret clocks for the BHI, and new apprentices.

A regular contributor to the HJ Chris has provided both articles and authoritative book reviews. He is a prolific author and contributor to the horological world.

Chris is always a speaker not to be missed.

Duncan Greig.

## Last Month's Meeting

### A HISTORY OF CLOCK MAKING IN ESSEX CHRIS PAPWORTH

Duncan introduced us to Chris who, with his wife has run his business in Kelvedon, Essex since 1963. The opportunity to see and maintain locally made clocks one would assume, were frequent. This was not the way it occurred. It took many years to accumulate his collection and a record of makers from the area by diligent research rather than customers coming through the door with a locally made clock.

Chris initially described the development of horology from 2000 BC up to 1969, the introduction of the quartz movement. He pointed out that before 1700 there were 33 recorded Essex makers and in 1481 there is a record of John Lord Howard (1st Duke of Norfolk) had taken a clock for repair.

#### FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Laurie Steadman, one our longest serving members has a lot of Horological Journals to dispose of. They date from 1981 to the current date. The first 25 years are in binders, the remainder are loose.

Also Timecraft magazines from roughly 1979 to 1987. These have several John Wilding clock plans in them.

They all have to go no picking and choosing, all or nothing.

Email me Bill Horan electricwilliam@gmail.com or

Phone 01543 506 195

#### **WORKSHOP NEWS AND VACANCIES**

The workshop has reopened, there has been some changes to personnel as one would expect after such a long time. This results in some spaces to be filled for the evening classes. Anyone interested in joining us and using the excellent facilities in our workshop please contact James on 01959577312 or 07917226598 The only restriction at the moment is that we require people attending to be double jabbed!

#### **SEPTEMBER 4th AUCTION**

I must thank all of the branch members too numerous to mention here who have given freely of their time and energy to sell the contents of John Hatt's well stocked workshop, he was a repairer and a dealer. It started with 3 visits to pick up from north London, a total of about 8 or nine car loads were brought back and stored in 4 different places, many thanks to all concerned. Then there were days of work sorting through and making up auction lots for sale, what we had was very little organised and quite jumbled in a lot of cases. The first sale was at our branch auction last year, then we have held two afternoon sales, now we have left a full days auction, booked on Sunday 4th September, so still more days of work to be done by our members. Sorting through his collection, it is more of a collection not just a workshop, has been an education as well as a lot of work. It has shown John's depth of knowledge and experience mainly in watchmaking and watch repairing as well as clocks, we have come across many items where your reaction is "what on earth?!" So if you are interested in tools, lathes and mainly watches, pocket and wrist, please come and support us for this auction, we still have a big variety to turn over. If we can we will post information and pictures on the website closer to the date of the auction.

James Marten

#### Continued

We were then introduced to the Hedge family line of six generations and in particular Nathaniel (1733 – 1770) was taught by John Smallthwaite who, in his spare time ran a gang of highwaymen. Smallthwaite was eventually tried by Judge Jefferies for coin clipping was sentenced to death and was hanged.

#### PETER MOWER

It is with great sorrow that I have to inform you that Peter Mower passed away on 23rd July 2022. He went peacefully in his sleep after being ill for some time. I have sent Keith and Janet our condolences and I will attend the funeral on the branch's behalf on Thursday 11th August. Peter was, of course, extremely instrumental in providing the expertise necessary to make both our clockmaking projects such an outstanding success. During the projects Peter made two clocks, one with epicyclic gearing and the other with a grasshopper escapement. He made both the fusee chains from scratch and produced his own tooling. Our thoughts are very much with his family at a time like this.

#### **HOODED WALL CLOCK COURSE**



The object of the course is to make an accurate facsimile of a Hooded Wall Clock, using an original movement. This represents the transition of clocks from a table or lantern clock to a long case clock. Not many originals have survived as they tended to fall off the wall and smash! Those examples which do come up for sale at auction therefore command high prices.

The case will be made in the same way as the originals, using English Oak. The movements are all 10" brass faced, single handed movements of the correct period, early 18th century.

As part of the course there will be instruction in overhauling the movement.

The course will run for approx. 7 Saturday morning workshops between 9.30am -12.30pm.

The first session of the morning will be taken up with instructions for each stage of the case construction and the rest of the morning will be taken up with movement restoration.

It is expected that students will carry out the necessary woodwork at home, (wood supplied cut to size and no joints required). John will be available to help with any wood working problems between sessions in his home workshop.

The course will consist of everything needed to make the case (mouldings machined and wood cut roughly to size), an original early 18<sup>th</sup> century movement and dial together with tuition in both woodworking and movement restoration.

#### **COURSE DETAILS**

#### **Tutors:**

John Ward - Case Making / Woodworking

Ron Rose - Clock Movement Repair

#### Number of participants: 8

**Cost:** £300.00p. This includes all materials and also a movement which will need restoring as part of the course under Ron.

**Dates:** Saturday mornings at the workshop 9:30AM – 12:30PM (To be confirmed) as follows:

Saturday 3rd – 10th – 24th September

Saturday 8th – 29th – October

Saturday 12th – 26th November

Please contact Trevor Keast to book this course and arrange payment: <a href="mailto:trevor\_keast@hotmail.com">trevor\_keast@hotmail.com</a> telephone 07507-142-704