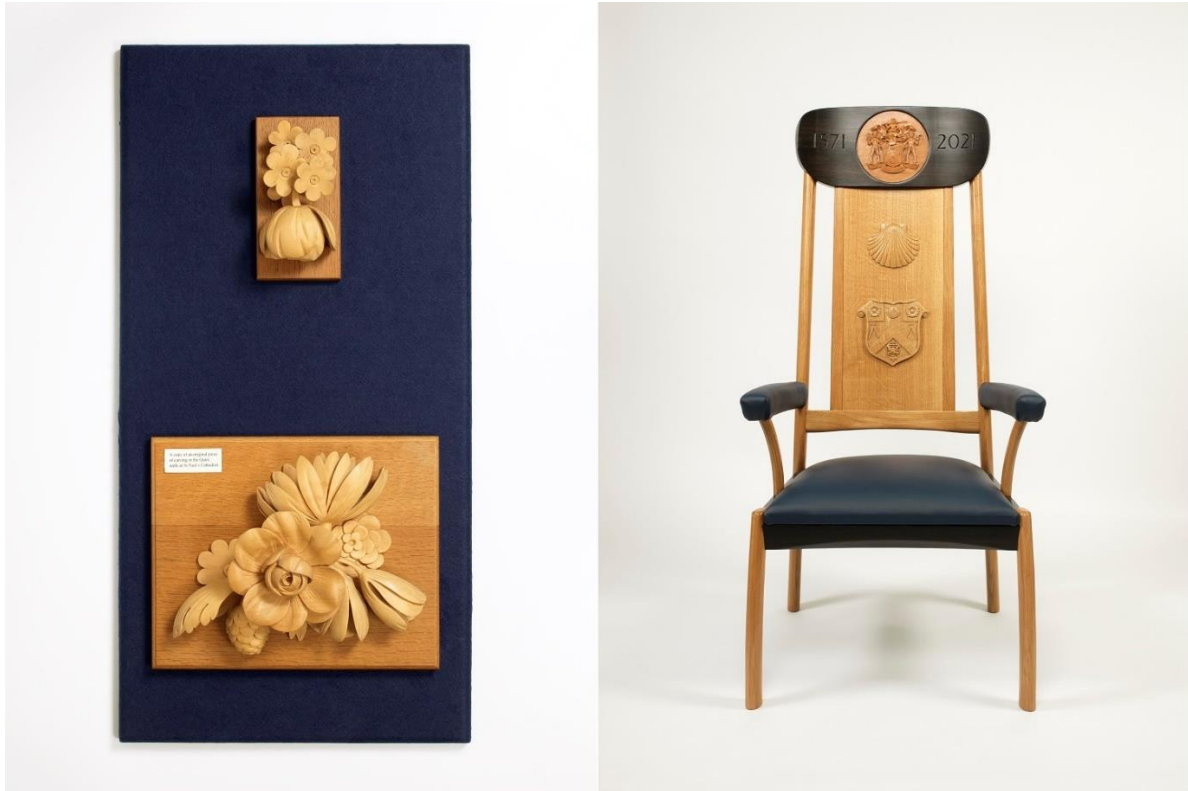


Try soap-carving

The Joiners & Ceilers Company have a temporary exhibition at the Guildhall Art Gallery to celebrate 450 years since they were given a Royal Charter by Elizabeth I in 1571. On display are some beautiful examples of joinery (wooden items that have been made without nails) and ceiling (woodcarving).

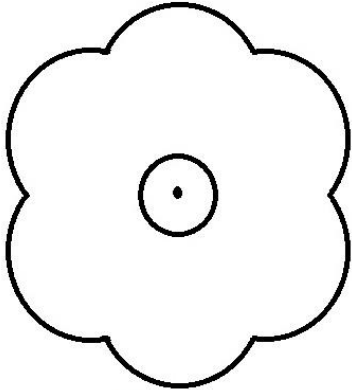


Wood carving involves carving off the bits of wood you don't want. Different woods are harder or easier to carve. The ones on the left in the picture above are carved from limewood which is quite soft. The carving on the chair on the right is on pearwood, oak and the darker section at the top of the back of the chair is bog oak, which is very hard.

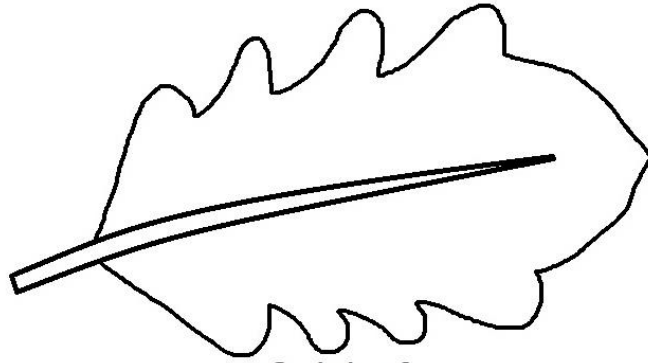
Why don't you try with soap? First of all, choose a new bar of soap. You may need to scrape off a design that's already on there with a teaspoon before getting started.

Print or copy the designs on the next page onto paper. Cut them out and put them on top of the soap. Use a teaspoon (the spoon and the handle) to carve away the soap that's not under the design. Take the paper off and your shape will be a raised area on top of your soap. Use your spoon handle to put in some details.

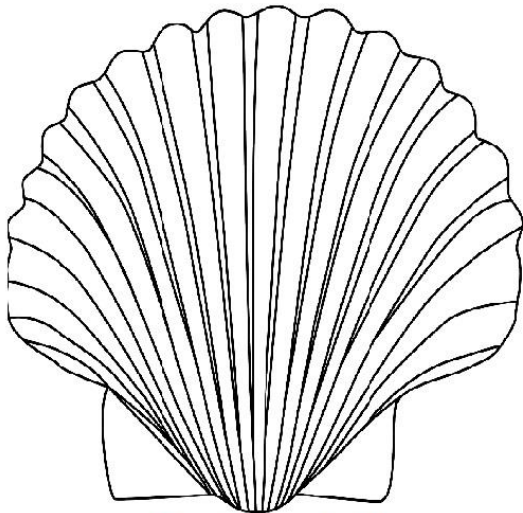
We would love to see your finished carvings. Email them to learning.artgallery@cityoflondon.gov.uk.



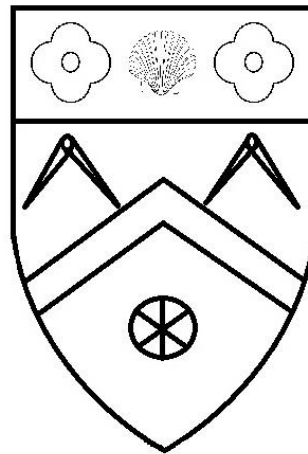
Flower



Oak leaf



Scallop shell



Joiners & Ceilers Company
coat-of-arms

