

# THE INSTITUTE OF CARPENTERS



## 2002 Examinations Report

Examination Board Chairman

Mr D. Riley M.I.O.C.

Examinations Registrar

Mr C. R. Tooke F.I.O.C.

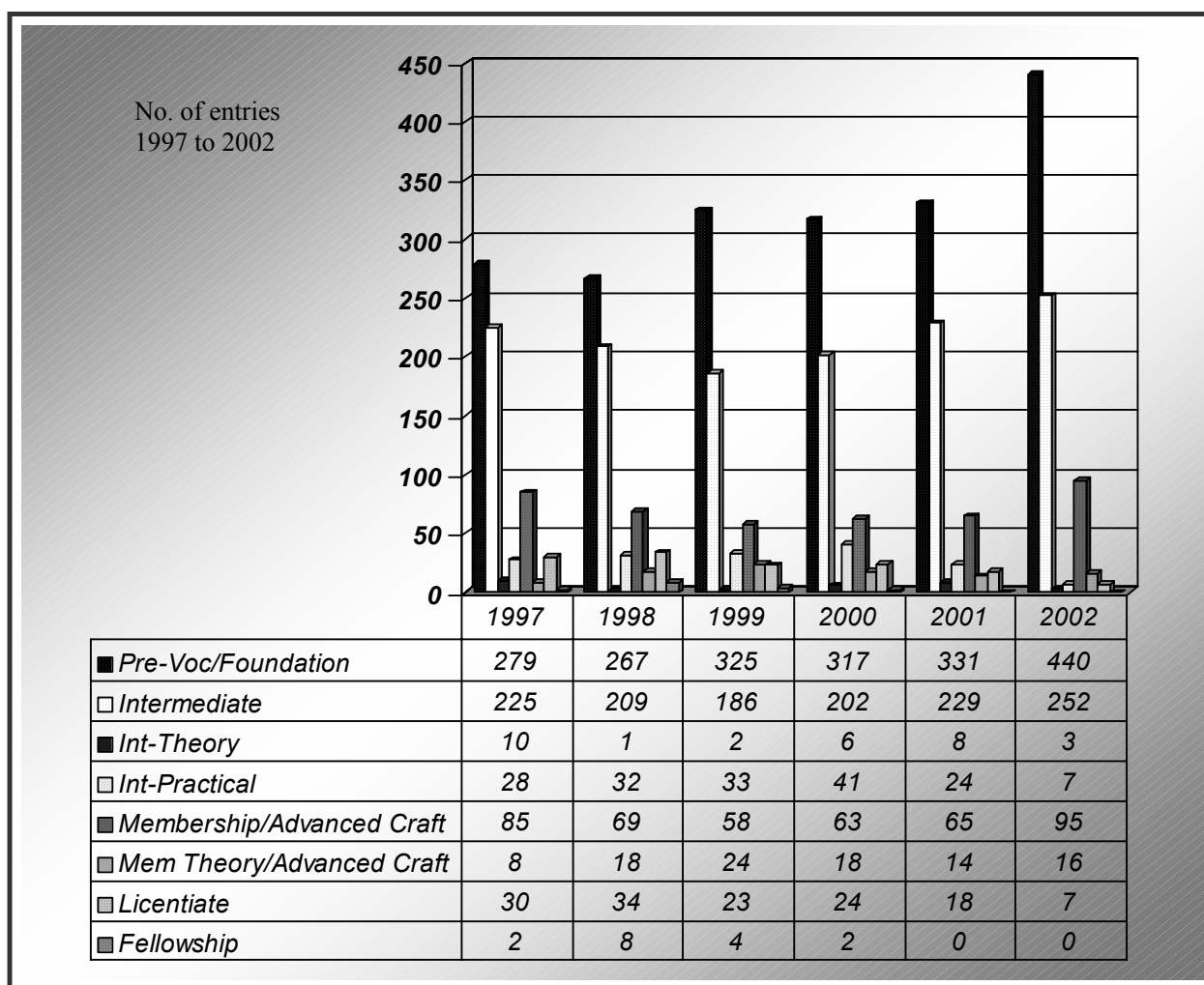
## Introduction

The purpose of providing a report each year is to give each examination centre an overview of the candidates' achievements and the comments from the Examiners on how each question was answered in this current series of Examinations.

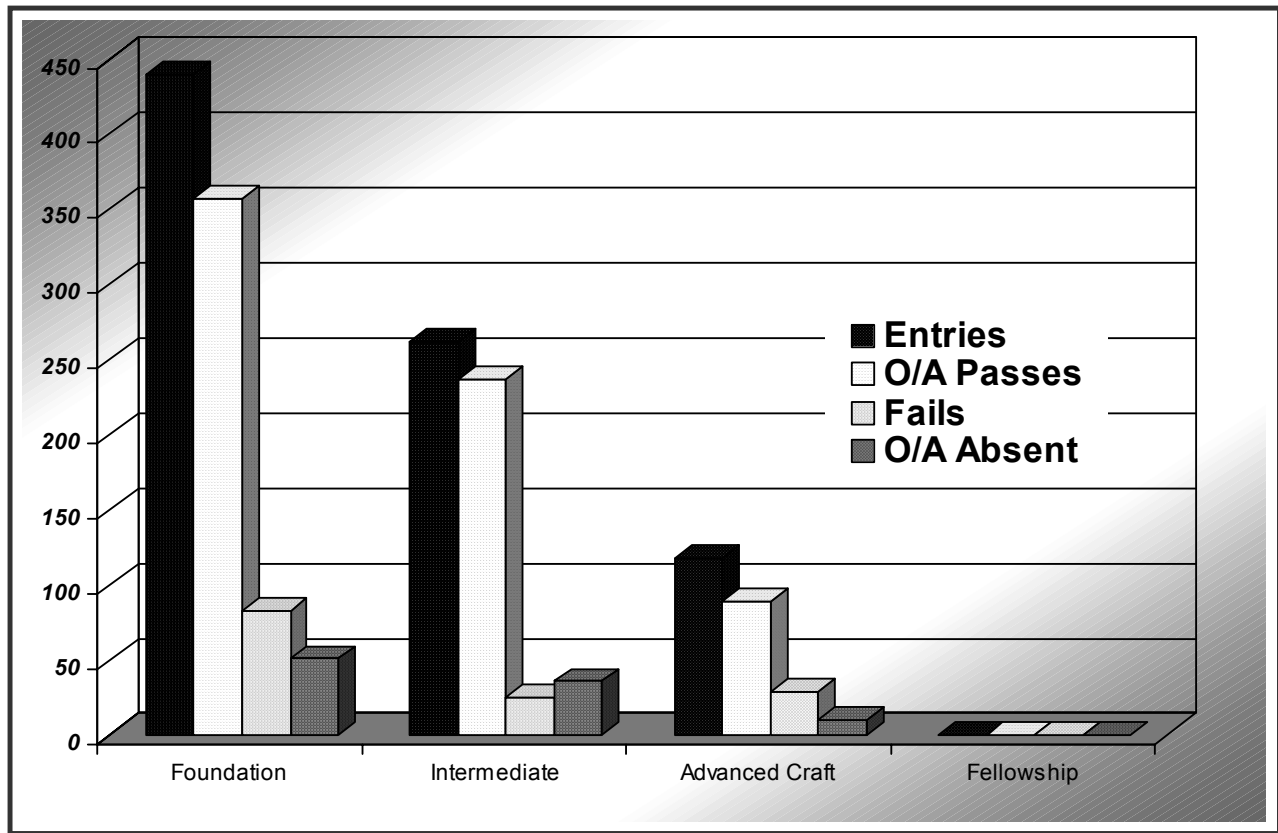
The syllabus for each examination is designed to cover all the current topic areas contained in NVQ/SNVQ courses which most candidates are following at their respective colleges. However, it should be pointed out that additional topics are contained within the Institute's current syllabus **which are not** included in the NVQ/SNVQ units. Yet once again this evident in questions which required a good understanding of geometrical principles and general sketch drawing. Candidates had difficulty in illustrating answers with clear and accurate details of components, diagrams, plans and elevations.

Since the introduction of the NVQ system, it has been noticed that many candidates have limited knowledge in a number of these additional topic areas.

Candidates **must** be advised to undertake self-study to enhance their knowledge in these additional topic areas prior to taking the Institute's examinations.



## Number of 2002 entries for each exam and number of passes.



From the 2001 series of examinations the Examinations Board re-named certain examinations to give more stature to their level or grade. The Pre-Vocational is now the **Foundation** and the Membership is now known as the **Advanced Craft**. Membership of the Institute is still offered to candidates who are successful in the Advanced Craft examinations with the Intermediate, Licentiate and Fellowship remaining the same. The total number of entries for the 2002 examinations was **820** indicating yet again a continuous growth in overall entries compared to the figure of 689 for 2001. However there was a slight drop in entries for the Intermediate Theory and Licentiate entries. Unfortunately, again this year also saw no entries for the Fellowship Examination although there were papers available.

Students who were unsuccessful in the Membership or Intermediate examinations or who wish to gain full membership status may enter the December examination. Furthermore, for the past two years, Foundation examination papers were prepared especially for Scotland, which are now available to colleges who wish to enter candidates in January.

Entries for the Setting-Out in Joinery and Shopfitting course have not been included in this report, although two courses were successfully run at Hammersmith college.

Further information on running this course can be obtained through Central Office.

## **Foundation Examination (formerly Pre-Vocational)**

This examination was the first of the 2002 series with the Practical element being held between the 20th to 24th May and the Theory paper on 22nd May. The course-work assessment element needed to be submitted by June 14th. Yet again it was found that a few colleges submitted their candidate's results later than the designated date which led to a delay in calibrating results onto the computer. The Examination Board has decided that, due to the inconsistency and variation in course-work assessments submitted, from **September 2003**, a set number of practical assignments will be included, together with marksheets. These must be completed by each student entered for the Foundation Examination. The number of passes in this examination was higher than in 2001 at 81%.

The Practical job this year was a book shelf with two ends and a ply base together with a back rail dovetailed into each end. Most students completing the task within the 3-hour period. Most comments from examination centres stated that the piece was well within the candidates' capabilities.

The Theory paper consists of 40 questions and requires the candidate to complete each question with a short answer or sketch within a 90-minute period. Listed below are the comments from the examiners who undertook the marking of these papers.

Q1,	<u>Screw names</u>	Fairly well answered, not all could name all the types of head.
Q2,	<u>Securing the tenon</u>	Some suggestions of screwed, not many suggested draw doweled.
Q3,	<u>Service utilities</u>	Overall well answered.
Q4,	<u>Types of chisels</u>	Well answered, poor sketches.
Q5,	<u>Calculation</u>	Some correct answers, decimal point wrong in some cases.
Q6,	<u>Workshop notices</u>	Few correct answers. Misunderstanding of question.
Q7,	<u>Geometry</u>	Fairly good answers. Non use of compass in some cases.
Q8,	<u>Gutter board</u>	Good answers.
Q9,	<u>Jointing skirting</u>	Not many suggestions relating to shrinkage.
Q10,	<u>Cupboard plinth</u>	Relatively well answered.
Q11,	<u>Frame joints</u>	Fairly good answers, bad sketches, some unusual types of joints
Q12,	<u>Ironmongery</u>	Most mentioned "Hinge" and not correct name.
Q13,	<u>Timber conversion</u>	Some good answers.
Q14,	<u>Power tool safety</u>	Vague answers, few good relevant answers.

Q15, <u>Smoothing plane</u>	Poor sketches, answers wrong way round.
Q16, <u>Accidents</u>	Well answered.
Q17, <u>Drying calculation</u>	Reasonably attempted. Often answers in grms and not percentage
Q18, <u>Job descriptions</u>	Good answers.
Q19, <u>Roof types</u>	Well answered.
Q20, <u>Fixing skirting</u>	Fairly good answers. Some did not understand question.
Q21, <u>Spirit level</u>	First part well answered. Checking level proved a problem.
Q22, <u>Floor board</u>	Good answers, although some wrong way round.
Q23, <u>Storage</u>	Good answers.
Q24, <u>Tenon proportions</u>	Poor answers.
Q25, <u>Mortice lock</u>	Most suggested exterior door.
Q26, <u>Plane parts</u>	Not many understood function of back iron.
Q27, <u>D.P.C.</u>	Some good answers.
Q28, <u>Adhesive</u>	Well answered, although suggested P.V.A. or Urea Formaldehyde.
Q29, <u>Bisecting</u>	Mostly correct, some guesses.
Q30, <u>Formwork</u>	Most either knew the answer or not.
Q31, <u>Door/frame horns</u>	Very few gave both correct answers.
Q32, <u>Type of window</u>	Good answers.
Q33, <u>Floor board calculation</u>	Silly mistakes in most cases.
Q34, <u>Door frame</u>	Vague answers.
Q35, <u>Table top fixing</u>	Not many suggested “shrinkage plate”. Screwed or doweled.
Q36, <u>Timber species</u>	Some good answers, although Hemlock proved a problem.
Q37, <u>Electric plug.</u>	Old wire colours often suggested.
Q38, <u>Honeycombed floor</u>	Insulation purposes often suggested, although some good answers.
Q39, <u>Plywood/blockboard</u>	Poor sketches.
Q40, <u>Door parts</u>	Muntin not familiar with some candidates. Names wrong way round.

## **The Intermediate Examination**

The Intermediate examination took place during the week of 17th to 21st June and consisted of a practical and theory paper. The practical task this June was a small rebated door and frame. The door being hung in the frame as one of the tasks. Comments from centres indicated that the task may have been too much for the given time, with some candidates hanging the door on the wrong side.

The theory paper was taken on 18th June and consisted of 20 questions to be attempted within a period of 90 minutes. Most students completed the paper within the time period and submitted them for marking. Listed below are the examiners' comments.

Q1,	<u>Types of lock</u>	Not well answered. Lack of knowledge with Rim lock, and suggestions for portable compound.
Q2,	<u>Roof members</u>	Sketches poor. few good answers.
Q3,	<u>Calculation</u>	Few correct answers. Silly mistakes.
Q4,	<u>Manufactured boards</u>	Bad sketches. Few could describe "Lamin Board".
Q5,	<u>Fitting furniture</u>	Reasonable answers. Not enough tools suggested.
Q6,	<u>Boxing in</u>	Good answers, poor sketches.
Q7,	<u>Plasterboard</u>	Good answers.
Q8,	<u>Staircases</u>	Few fully correct answers.
Q9,	<u>Screws</u>	"Raised head" caused problems.
Q10,	<u>Timber drying</u>	Part "C" proved a problem. A lot suggested preservative treatments.
Q11,	<u>Arch centres</u>	Some good answers. few mentioned "easing"
Q12,	<u>Power tool</u>	Mostly correct, Some suggested battery for part "B". Not many suggested "Double Insulation".
Q13,	<u>Handtools</u>	Problems with "Side rebate plane" and "Trammels".
Q14,	<u>Adhesives</u>	Some good answers. safety clothing mentioned.
Q15,	<u>Safety aids</u>	Bad sketches and poor answers.
Q16,	<u>Protective wear</u>	Some good answers. Three items only often suggested.
Q17,	<u>Step ladder</u>	Fairly good answers, creosote or paint often suggested.
Q18,	<u>Sash cords</u>	Poor answers overall. No mention of correct procedure.
Q19,	<u>Dry rot</u>	Reasonably well answered. leaking pipes often suggested.
Q20,	<u>Capillarity</u>	Poor sketches. Lack of understanding.

## **Advanced Craft Examination (formerly Membership)**

The Advanced Craft theory examination was taken on 18th June, with the practical examination between 17th and 21st June, and is offered to successful candidates who wish to become members of the Institute. The theory paper is made up of parts “A” and “B” to be completed in a period of 3 hours. Paper “A” has a total of 18 questions with part “B” consisting of 8 questions with only 4 needing to be attempted. The practical paper gave candidates a choice between a Joinery practical or a Carpentry practical, both with a time period of 7 hours. The Joinery paper consisted of an end of a church pew with a housing to accommodate the seat base. The Carpentry paper required the construction of a small porch roof with hipped ends. Both papers needed setting out to obtain all information for construction. Comments from colleges suggested time element correct, although timber size lengths were a problem.

Part “A” of the theory paper was reasonably answered although part “B” again proved too hard for some candidates. Below are the examiners' comments.

### **Part “A”**

Q1,	<u>Timber laminations</u>	Some good answers, a lot of references to contact adhesives.
Q2,	<u>Roofing</u>	Poor sketches, but some fair answers.
Q3,	<u>Schedules</u>	Few understood question.
Q4,	<u>Flooring</u>	Lack of knowledge on “Double” floors. Notching out and drilling floor poorly answered.
Q5,	<u>Ironmongery</u>	Overall fairly good answers.
Q6,	<u>Jointing</u>	Nuts and bolts, “toothed” connectors often suggested. Poor sketches.
Q7,	<u>Storage</u>	Overall good answers.
Q8,	<u>Geometry</u>	Poor answers to equilateral arch.
Q9,	<u>Machining</u>	Not many good methods and sequence of operations.
Q10,	<u>Shoring</u>	Fairly good answers, poor sketches.
Q11,	<u>Preservatives</u>	Not many could give characteristics, lack of knowledge on “Full” and “Empty” cell preservation.
Q12,	<u>Levelling</u>	Unclear answers and poor sketches.
Q13,	<u>Various items</u>	poor sketches and descriptions.
Q14,	<u>Six panelled door</u>	Poor answers. Most gave sequence from marking out, rather than method of assembly.

Q15, <u>Staircase</u>	Poor answers and terminology incorrect.
Q16, <u>Machining</u>	Not very good answers, poor sketches.
Q17, <u>Calculation</u>	Did prove a problem to some students.
Q18, <u>Sliding doors</u>	Not well answered, poor sketches and labelling.

### **Part “B”**

Unfortunately written comments are not available for part B. However it was indicated by the markers that this part of the examination did prove difficult to the majority of the candidates. Poor drawing details and answers being the main setback. It was felt that the majority of candidates do not prepare themselves sufficiently to attempt the Advanced Craft examination. As stated previously, some topics need extra study to fully understand the subject area's. Past papers, syllabuses and schemes of work are available either by the website [www.ioceexams.co.uk](http://www.ioceexams.co.uk) or by contacting Central Office.

### **Fellowship Examination**

The Fellowship examination is offered to candidates who usually wish to upgrade from Membership level. However, in some circumstances the Fellowship award can be offered to candidates at the discretion of the Examination Board. The examination consists of two theory papers only. The first paper is compulsory, is entitled “Organisation and Supervision”, and deals with workshop and site skills of the Foreman/woman. With the second paper the candidate has a choice between Carpentry and Joinery. All papers contain 8 questions which require only 6 to be answered within a period of 3 hours each. The examination was available between 17th and 21st June; unfortunately there were no entries this year.

### **Summary**

Once again the results and comments have shown that it is clearly obvious that a number of points certainly **still** need to be improved. The majority of candidates who entered the Institute's exams certainly need to be more prepared for entry to the exams. More emphasis need to be put towards **a better understanding of drawing and geometry**, timber section sizes, wood machining and in some cases calculations.

The Institute is always prepared to support examination centres with regards to schemes of work, suggested practical pieces etc, all of which can be obtained through Central Office.



## **2002 Prize Awards**

<b><u>College</u></b>	<b><u>Candidate</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>		<b><u>Award</u></b>
<b><u>Foundation Examination</u></b>				
Barnfield	A Hoy	02F0019	1 <sup>st</sup>	(Endorsed Certificate)
Barnfield	J England	02F0010	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(Endorsed Certificate)
Suffolk	D Austin	02F0462	3 <sup>rd</sup>	(Endorsed Certificate)
<b><u>Intermediate Examination</u></b>				
Hammersmith	P Cooper	02IC142	1 <sup>st</sup>	£50 plus Endorsed Certificate
Hammersmith	J Mulvey	02IC173	2 <sup>nd</sup>	£35 plus Endorsed Certificate

## **Advanced Craft Examination**

Barnfield	R Brown	02ACC008	Highest o/a Theory & Practical marks in the Advanced Craft Examination. £50, Endorsed Certificate plus Medal. College awarded Advanced Craft Examination Shield.
Barnfield	I Bywaters	02ACC010	2 <sup>nd</sup> highest o/a Theory & Practical marks in the Advanced Craft Examination. £35 plus Endorsed Certificate.
Barnfield	R Brown	02ACC008	Highest Theory mark in the Advanced Craft Examination. Endorsed Certificate plus medal. Alf Emary Cup awarded to College.
Reading	K Nicholson	02ACC096	Highest Practical marks in the Advanced Craft Examination. Endorsed Certificate plus medal. Ken Hewett Shield awarded to College.

## **Theory Paper Examiners**

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Mr C Tooke	Examinations Registrar
Mr D Elliot	North Western
Mr G Malthouse	East Midlands
Mr P Burgess	East Midlands
Mr K Pomroy	Channel islands

A special thanks to all who offered their services in preparing and marking the examination papers.

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September 2002

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