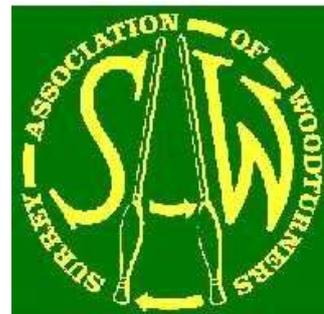


Surrey Association of Woodturners



Newsletter January 2016

Reports, News and Views from North West Surrey

New Members

Welcome to Dennis (Den) Eldred Member No. 725
Welcome to Dan Blanchard Member No. 726

PAID UP MEMBERSHIPS for 2016 are 75

(As of going to press)

Items for the Diary

21 st February 2016	Workshop Day (Sunday)	Mytchett Centre
11 th March	Practical Evening	Club Turners
12 th March	Princes Mead Shopping Centre	Club Demonstration
3 rd April	Axminster Basingstoke	2 Club Turners
8 th April	Phil Jones	Professional Turner

TOP TIP's and articles

If you have a tip or article to share please email it to me at colin.spain1@virginmedia.com
If a tip keep it short, and if we are happy with it, I will include it in one of the newsletters.

Workshop days - Please be aware:

We want you to get the most out of the Workshop days, but to be able to achieve this we must have enough "students" to cover the cost. The Workshop days must be able to pay for themselves, so in future if you book a place and for any reason you cancel at a late stage, or not turn up, we will have to ask for your fee if we can't cover the cost of the hall, however if given enough notice we will try to get one of the reserves (if there are any) to use your place - but without notice - or if no-one else is interested you will be asked for the money. See the updated handbook entry. We do not make a profit from these days and it would be extremely unfair to expect the rest of the club to subsidise something they are not involved in.

March Competition

The first leg of the Club Competition will be held on Practical Night. A slight change to last year in that we are not asking for a set piece, what we want is anything using mainly spindle turning, the choice is yours. (Please see page 12 for more info.)

We have also decided that (we hold a raffle) to give you more incentive to take part, we will give a raffle ticket to each entry and there will be a bottle of wine to be won for each leg of the competition, regardless of which level you are in, or your score.

Name Badge Draw

This year brings a slight change, same £10 prize, but you have to do more to earn it! You have to be wearing your badge **and** have ticked your name off on the register sheet by the main hall door. If not both, then, sorry no prize! It will be checked!

We need to know who is at the club for emergency reasons such as fire. The Mytchett Centre also likes guests using the bar to sign in. We know that quite a few are not always signing in, and that could be catastrophic.

John's jottings - January 2016

As this is my first attempt at writing something for the newsletter it behoves me to start by thanking Paul for the great job he has done as chairman during his most recent spell in charge. He has left very big footprints to fill. Richard Davis has been our hard working secretary for a long time; he now needs a break from that job to concentrate on his day job. Thank you Richard for your contribution to the smooth running of the club.

It is really fortunate that for my first night in the chairman's seat that we have one of our most popular demonstrators in Mark Baker. That has to be a good omen. Let's hope we have a full house.

I have no great plans to change how the club is run or what we do. However I do wish to encourage more participants in the club competitions as I know there are lots of really good turners out there if only they would admit it to themselves. I would like to see more entries in the competitions so that the winner has actually to produce a super piece of turning and can then be justifiably proud of winning their class because there were lots of entries, not just two or three in a class. It will then help the club put together a winning entry for the inter-club competition at Open Day. I was somewhat embarrassed this year at the difference in quality of our entry to the quality of those of our visitor clubs.

It is your club so if you have ideas you would like discussed, please mention them to me or any of the committee. It's no good muttering in your tea at break time; we will be pleased to hear new ideas.

Finally I have to ask everyone to wear their name badges please. I have a dreadful memory for names. Rather like Eric Morecombe I remember all the right names but not necessarily with all the right faces.

John Sherwood – Your new Chairman

AGM January 2016

Chairman's Report for 2015:

The chairman addressed the members:

Good evening to you all.

Mr. President and members this is my report as Chairman of SAW.

This is my last report as your Chairman, my three years are over. I have once again enjoyed my time as the Chairman of this wonderful club and all of its members.

When I look back at 2015 as a club we have had a full and enjoyable year. Locally we had 3 weekends at the Rural Life Centre, two Saturdays at the Princes Mead Shopping Centre and of course the Guildford Model Engineering Show, the Surrey Heath Show and of course Dapdune Wharf in Guildford. All of these were well attended by the public and of course our own members and I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the successful running of these.

It was good to see the Workshop Days being used to their full extent, only two out of the three. I am always surprised when one of these days are cancelled because of lack of numbers, when I tutor on these days everyone talks about how much they enjoyed the day and how much they have learnt. I for one never stop learning and there is always something to be gained. I hope that 2016 is well attended and not cancelled. A lot of thanks go to Colin for the organization and running of these and of course his tutors who give up their day to help the members.

We have had a good selection of professional turners through 2015 and 2016 looks even better. This is all due to the hard work done by Jennie, and for that I feel she deserves a round of applause with my thanks.

I have had a difficult year one way or another and I could not have carried out my task as Chairman without this wonderful committee. Richard kept me on track at committee meetings, David watching all of the pennies as Treasurer, Jennies help and guidance, in fact each and every one of them in their own way, Dorothy, Don, Robert, both Johns, and both Colins, that I owe a big thank you.

Big thanks go to all of the sub-committee for a great Open Day, John for organizing practical nights. Then there are the non committee members, Phil for the sales table along with Bill, Sylvia with her helpers Albert and John for the tea and coffee, Neil for his club table and Brian for helping , our raffle team Ian, Harry and Bob. Robert and of course our new raffle team Anna-Marie, Max and Mike. Don, Colin and Chris have continued to provide us all with a better view of the demonstrations, so a very big thanks to you all. Then thanks have to go to all of you, the members that have helped with the end of evening clear up, demonstrating at practical club nights and attending all of the outdoor events throughout the year.

The competitions in the club continue to show the skills we have within the club. But I would still like to see more entries. My thanks go to Bernie Walker and our two judges Colin Spain and Richard Davies for all of their effort in the club competition three times through the year. The simple club night fun of the Chairman's Challenge competition, by picking a project from the demonstration and with the chance to win a bottle of wine as a prize. I am pleased with the continued interest and support shown. Thank you all for taking part in this bit of fun.

If I have forgotten to mention any one please accept my thanks for your contribution to the club. I look forward to another successful year for the club.

SAW Treasurers Report for year ended 31st December 2015.

As Paul has already thanked the members for their assistance during 2015 I will content myself with merely echoing his comments

Once more I find myself trying to do my magic trick in that I have to explain why I feel that an increase in fees for 2016 will be necessary whilst declaring an above expected surplus for 2015.

So let's start with the 2015 accounts. From the Income and Expenditure Statement you will see that the surplus for 2015 is £1,157.44.

The 2015 fees were set, in part, as a result of an earlier AGM decision to implement a series of small £1 rises to address a problem identified by my predecessor. My 2015 budget projection, which was based upon past activity and an expectation that certain costs were likely to rise, suggested an initial surplus of around £600.

So what went right and what went wrong.

On the down side, that is more expenditure than initially budgeted. Early in the year we were hit with a notice from the centre that they intended to substantially increase the rental charges. The initial request was for an increase from £70 per night to £120 commencing July. That would have wiped out a great deal of our projected surplus. After negotiations we agreed to a set of staggered rent rises going to £100 from July and £120 from January 2016. These changes mean that our 2016 hire cost will rise by £600 over original 2015 predictions.

Next came a series of shop stock replenishment invoices. These were above my original predictions but are largely due to the expansion of the stock range, with an increase in associated stock value, and higher sales figures. What I would say to anyone scrutinising the figures is that the shop continues to show a small net surplus, meaning that virtually all the discounts we negotiate are passed on to the members whilst not being a drain on the club overall.

These two items alone would have pushed the end of year outcome into a significant deficit. However, the number of upside adjustment changed all that.

Your purchases through the shop and your participation in the raffles have significantly outstripped expectations, for which I am very grateful.

Another unexpected bonus has been our success in attracting 20 new members during the year. These increases, when added to a number of smaller expenditure savings and income increases rectified the deficit and returned the surplus to just above the projected level.

What no one could predict was a one of donation made from the estate of an ex-member of £450 which pushed this year's surplus over the £1,000 mark.

The paperwork to support last year's accounts has been exhibited and accepted by John Marnes, acting as Club Auditor, and I wish to formally record my thanks for his assistance with this task. The final figures are as reported in the Income and Expenditure Summary which I offer to the membership for acceptance.

Before seeking that acceptance I shall be pleased to take any questions you may have.

Thank you

Looking forward to 2016. I have again reworked my expectations of income and expenditure. With the exception of Membership subscriptions, raffle income and the profit from the 100 club, most income streams are closely matched to a related expenditure stream.

The unmatched expenditure streams are Rent, Demonstrators, insurance, Competition costs, the name draw, new equipment, the newsletter and general Administration costs.

2016 saw the replacement of the Club's projector. With no similar scale purchase currently under review, this year's projected allowance for equipment has been reduced. This together with additional reductions in a number of other areas still leaves the projected combined cost of these areas in the region of £5,750. Around £1,400 of this is expected to be covered by raffle and 100 club contributions leaving £4,350, the bulk of which will need to be covered by Membership Subscriptions.

Starting with the end of year membership of 156 I need to deduct those who have prepaid, by virtue of joining in the latter stages of the year, and to allow for the expected annual wastage. Having reviewed attendance statistics and allowing for the four members who passed away last year I anticipate collecting fees from approximately 130 existing and new members.

I talked earlier of the rent increase, which will add £600 to this year's cost and equates to approximately £4 per member per year. My proposal is that £2 of this should be added to the Membership fee for 2016. This will bring expected revenue from membership to £4,160. Overall my projected Income/Expenditure figures for 2016 show an anticipated surplus of just £57.

I would, therefore, seek the members' approval of an increase in Membership fees for 2016 to £32.

Before closing

As would be expected all areas of expenditure are regularly reviewed to ensure non-essential costs are contained. In this respect one area which has increased over the years is the cost of printing and distributing the Club's Newsletter. The vast majority of members now access the newsletter from the Club website. There remain, however, a not insignificant number who still receive a hard print copy.

Each Newsletter cost around £1 to print and a further 54p to post, if not collected on club night. This added up to £346 in last year's accounts. Whilst it is not proposed that we will stop supplying hard printed copies where needed what we will be doing during 2016 will be contacting all recipients to see if they are able, and willing, to switch to viewing the Newsletter via the website. If you are one of those please give the matter some thought and let me know if you are able and willing to change.

Your support through the Club Shop, the raffles and not forgetting the 100 Club are very much appreciated so it only remains for me to remind you that applications for the 2016 100 Club can be made today with the forms on my desk.

Many thanks David Stratton - Treasurer

Many Thanks:

I would like to thank on behalf of the club:

Paul Nesbitt for his sterling service to the club, Paul has been on the committee since 2000 he was Secretary 1/1/00 to 31/12/00, then Chairman 1/1/01 to 31/12/03, then Vice President 1/1/04 to 31/12/06, then Member 1/1/07 to 31/12/07, then Chairman again 1/1/08 to 31/12/10, then Member 1/1/11 to 31/12/12, then, Chairman yet again 1/1/13 to 31/12/2015. He is now our Vice President again.

Richard Davies for his hard work as our Secretary for the last nine years, Richard was on the Committee for eleven years.

Don Mitchell Joined the Committee in January 2008 for two years, stayed for eight. Don was our Archivist. He also did many things regarding equipment upgrades.

I also welcome our new Committee members:

Bernie Walker, joined club in 2008

Mike Spaven, joined club in 2011

Chris Wild, joined club in 2012

Colin Spain - Your Editor

100 Club

Don't miss out it is not too late to sign up if you like a bit of a gamble.
The form and the rules are at the end of this newsletter.

Hi resolution Images of the pictures are available if you would like a record of your work, please E-Mail Colin Spain on colin.spain1@virginmedia.com (Sorry, in .jpg file format only)

December Competition Results

The presentation of Awards was made by Paul Nesbitt, many congratulations to all the winners.

Turner of the Year 2015 was achieved by Mike Spaven.

Club Competition Open class

- 1st Rodney Goodship
- 2nd Denis Findlay
- 3rd Jim Gaines



Club Competition Standard class

- 1st Geoff Goddard
- 2nd Mike Spaven
- 3rd David Stratton



Club Competition Novice class

- 1st Eddie Morgan
- 2nd Sid Dodd
- 3rd No entry



The Vic Burge Trophy - This award goes to the Club Member (Non Committee Member) who has done the most to help the club in the previous year.

The Vic Burge Trophy for the year 2015 went to Harry Snelling.



Celebrating Twenty years with SAW

- ❖ David Booth
- ❖ Charlie Cunningham
- ❖ Eric Dade
- ❖ Paul Nesbitt
- ❖

Celebrating Twenty five years with SAW

- ❖ Eric Voles

Left - Your Ex- Chairman giving himself the award for 20 years at S.A.W.



Top Tip

Controlling dust extractors:-

I like to keep my dust extractor out of the workshop and usually build a container outside for it, this stops the noise and the fine dust that the filter cannot deal with getting into your workspace. This usually means that the socket is away from the machines you have your extractor hooked up to.

This remote control for sockets makes it all easier, available from Maplins and other stores.



The club uses one similar to this to control the Camvac dust extractor during club nights.



2015 December Christmas Practical Night and Social

I hope that everyone who managed to come to our December Practical evening found plenty of interesting demonstrations to watch and enjoyed the chance to chat to other members whilst partaking in a veritable feast (even if we had a lot of sausage rolls!).

When you are organising an evening at this time of year you never know what the weather will throw at you. That day I saw people in my high street wearing shorts and t-shirts – and even saw 2 daffodils out on the side of a drive! So, I was pleased that members did not have to brave frost, sleet and snow and that we had a lot of members attending. It was also great to see that some members had brought their ‘other halves’.



Colin Spain - Denis Findlay – Rodney Good ship – Bob French – Mike Spaven – Eddie Morgan – David Stratton

The magnificent seven – pictured above – braved the 10-minute turn challenge and created some eggseedingly fine eggs to go with the competition theme for the evening.

The challenge, set by our President, Bob French, had clearly scrambled the heads of most members as there were not a lot of entries – however those that had made the effort had made an eggstraordinarily good job of it. Bob judged the pieces and put them in order – first, second etc., then Colin Rowe translated the places into scores and filled in the mark sheets. It was clearly difficult as you can see by his total concentration!



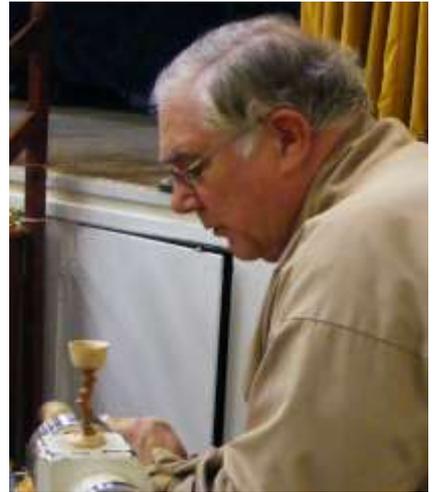
Colin in the spotlight eggsamining the entries

The winning pieces were added to those from previous competition nights and judged by the members for our ‘Turner of the Year’ and this year the piece chosen was the pierced, wide-rimmed bowl turned by Mike Spaven for the August challenge.



Mike’s piece is the wide-rimmed bowl in the centre of the row of bowls. (This picture was taken before the egg stands were added to the Turner of the Year competition).

Other turners demonstrating for the evening were, on the club Wivamac, John Sherwood (our new Chairman). John made a lot of shavings whilst turning a big bowl. Whenever I looked he had an appreciative group watching and asking questions. Paul Nesbitt (our past Chairman and now the Vice President, was in the corner by the stage doing some off-centre egg cups (or perhaps goblets!). This is a really good exercise to work on your spindle turning skills and the effect is always eye-catching.



John answering question

Paul's creations

It takes a lot of concentration!

Colin Spain had really entered into the Christmas spirit, sporting a superb 'Santa' beard! It obviously put the Ho Ho Ho! into him as you will see from the picture.



There were other 'Christmassy' touches over on the raffle table where Chris was sitting folding raffle tickets wearing a Santa hat. We ran 2 raffles – the usual bumper club raffle and – to raise money for the charity, a separate raffle for 3 turned pieces donated by Richard Findley, Gary Rance and myself. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket – with the collections and a club donation it came to £189.49. Unfortunately Anna-Marie Bennett could not run the raffle for us as she was seriously ill in hospital. It was good to see her back on her feet at the AGM and ready to take over the raffle in February.



The spread of food you all brought looked fantastic (and tasted good too). I meant to do a count of how many sausage rolls we had but got side-tracked- when I went back there were less!!!!



Before we attacked the food! Then.... Somewhere in this next picture there are 3 tables of food – honest!!!



In the centre of the hall, the 'Paul's Pick and Show and tell table hosted a competition – run by the members to see which spinning top could spin the longest! I am afraid I didn't write the winner down – but I am sure the time was over 2 minutes and its maker well deserved the box of sweets that were the token prize. The 'Guess the weight of the 2 bowl blanks' also was given some attention – and raised a few more pounds for the charity. Unfortunately I think I made the word game too challenging – going with the egg theme I had provided anagrams of types of timber and it proved too difficult to 'unscramble' them for everyone apart from Rodney! Well done that man! It is difficult to put together little quizzes that can't be solved easily on a mobile phone app – Rodney doesn't need modern technology to solve word puzzles!



Finally, I want to thank everyone who searched the shelves at home for pieces that could be donated to the charity, Thames Hospice, whose shops will have lots of fine treen to sell this year. It was a truly wonderful display of work and it was generous of you to let us pass them on to raise money for a worthy charity. I hope I haven't left too much out. I enjoyed the evening and thought it was well received by the membership. However, we can always do better – so if any of you have ideas for what we should

include on Practical evenings – please email me secretary@sawoodturners.org and I will pass your ideas on to the committee.



Bob French



Rodney Goodship



Mike Spaven

Jennie Starbuck with pictures by John Creasey



So I got it wrong,
when they said turn an egg
they didn't say what type.

Colin Spain



Paul Watts – Arboricultural Officer for Surrey Heath BC

Your entertainment for the second half of the evening was Paul Watts. Paul approached us last year at the Surrey Heath Show and offered to give us a talk about his work. Jennie who arranges our bookings jumped at the chance with the committee's approval, it was an ideal follow on for the AGM.

I have to say I don't think I have ever met a person with such a passion for trees, he openly admits to not being great at naming specific varieties, but what he doesn't know about their arboriculture, the care and management of trees in the urban environment and some of the issues trees face and the impact of trees on people is not worth knowing.

Paul started work in a bank but was not happy and a friend told him about a job going with Portsmouth City Council this was 1978, he enjoyed the outdoor life and working with trees. Soon he attended Merrist Wood Agricultural College to gain professional qualification and subsequently returned to Portsmouth as a Craftsman Arborist and foreman for 2 years.



Paul later established a contracting and consulting business in Hampshire his clients included the Ministry of Defence [PSA] and many Local Authorities in the South. In 1993, he accepted an opportunity to join the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead as Senior Tree & Landscape Officer. In October 1999 Paul was appointed as a Consulting Arboriculturist with OCA UK Limited operating throughout the United Kingdom, specialising in tree related subsidence of low rise buildings, planning and development matters, and also responsible for surveying services and health and safety. Paul has been a keynote speaker at a number of seminars and conferences and written several papers.

During his talk to us he told us a lot about what he does and took a number of questions from the floor all of which he answered very knowledgeably. He told us about the problems facing various trees such as Chalara die back of ash and that it is felt that it has now gone too far and unlikely to be halted. I asked him if from a woodturner's perspective this would mean more wood for us he said sadly no, it has to be burnt, and I find this very sad. He also told us about the problems facing the oak, they are being affected by the oak processionary moth (OPM) this is very prevalent in the London area and is spreading our way, Richmond Park are spending around £250,000 a year to try and protect their trees. It is a serious concern as the moth has very fine hairs that can get into our lungs and could be fatal if you are prone to lung problems.

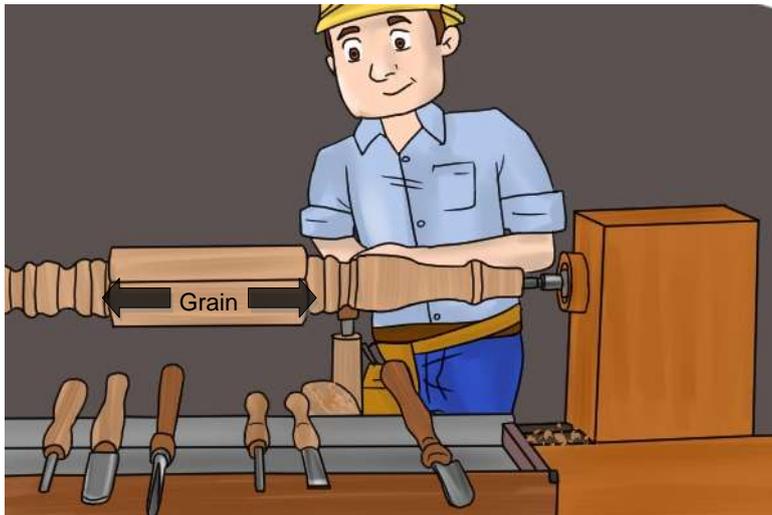
He also explained how clever trees are, if a tree is pruned then it will need less water so it can reduce its root growth to compensate. He went on to say that a survey had shown that Surrey Heath was the top performing area for tree coverage having 40.6% coverage, Waverley (Surrey) has 40.2% and Bracknell Forest next with 39.8%, in perspective The City of London has 4.38%.

Paul left us with a lot to take in. It was very informative; he left us with lots of leaflets to take away, including contact names and numbers of many arboricultural consultants if anyone needs help.

Colin Spain

March Competition Details

To clarify what is required, mainly for the newer members.



A piece of your choice mainly spindle turned (between centres), the grain should run parallel to the lathe bed (see picture). You can turn a small element via faceplate/chuck if needed, for example a base, as in a candlestick. This will give you the chance to show off your skills in turning beads, coves, ogees, and etc. if you so desire.

We will be looking for crispness, lack of tear out, design. Stay within your capabilities, sometimes simple is better.

Also this year we have changed the names of the three levels which were:
Novice/Intermediate/Premier

To: Standard (Beginner and Novice)
Advanced (Intermediate and Open)
Premier (just Premier)

Please be aware: When you come on the March Club Night please check against your name on the sign in tick sheet for your competition level.

CLUB SHOP

Have you examined what bargains are on offer?

They include:

Our own mix of sanding sealer and cellulose thinners now in stock.

Three types of super glue, plus Kicker.

Steel bar to make your own tools

There is also plenty of sand paper, and polishes.

3 grades of Webrax

Ebonising spray etc.

The shop has now got pen kits to sell singly or in 5s.

It also has 2" Velcro-backed sanding discs (60, 80, 120, 180 and 240 grit)

Tack cloths/ safety cloth packs.

We buy in bulk and pass on the discount to members. Any (small) profits go to the Club.

TOP TIP

Make your own - Wipe on Poly Finish

This finish is sold by a few different names but is hard and durable

Mix: 1/3 varnish

1/3 tung oil

1/3 cellulose thinners

For glossier finish increase the varnish and reduce the tung oil.