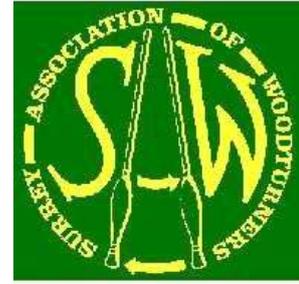


# Surrey Association of Woodturners

## Newsletter April 2013

Reports, News and Views from North West Surrey



### New Members

Tony Bailey          Adrian Stearman

**PAID UP MEMBERSHIP    141**

### Items for the Diary

Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Les Thorne	Sat/Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> April	Rural Life Centre
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Richard Findlay	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Club Turner
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Hands On Day	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Derek Blake

**Correction-** I printed the incorrect mobile number for Paul. It should read 07757 365928

### **FEBRUARY EVENING- Phil Jones**

Phil started turning at school in 1982. This evening he intended to demonstrate making a table lamp.

He started talking about the need for safety, foot ware, safety glasses, no rings and watches. No not put fingers between the work and the tool rest and always rotate the work before switching on the lathe. At home he uses a Wadkin RS and was a bit unused to our variable speed.

A length of 22 oak was fitted between a Steb centre and a ring centre in the tail stock. Phil coated the auger with furniture polish and started to gently push it through the wood. You need to frequently clear the shavings. When half way through he removed the Steb centre and fitted a four prong drive with a central spigot. The block was reversed and he drilled through from the other end.

One handy tip he mentioned was to have spacer washers on the vertical post of the tool rest so you do not lose the correct height when it is swung out of the way.

In what would be the top end he drilled a short hole for the brass ferrule. Then taking a roughing gouge he reduced the shape to a cylinder. He trimmed the end.

His very first job was on a production line skimming pepper mills. He marked the different parts of the design and started shaping using parting tools, spindle gouges and a flat skew. All these tools need to be kept sharp with a slip stone. He removed the tool rest and sanded. Fold the paper in three to stop it slipping. He starts with 120 and then 180 grit for trade work. Anything smoother will not take stain. If for show Phil works up to 600 grit. He then applied friction polish and Carnuba wax. The ferrule for the light fitting was glued in place. When selling lamps let the customer do the wiring with fittings you have supplied.

After tea he showed us the base. A hole had been drilled in from the side. The block was mounted on to a screw chuck. A hole was cut to the correct size for the spigot on the end of the lamp. The face was shaped to a pleasing shape. If you are making a candle stick and wish to cover the underneath with baize cut a thin groove close to the edge that the material can be pushed into.

To finish the time he made a small ball and showed us the way to cut pommels. A very informative and interesting evening.

### **THE CUTTING EDGE** –

a slightly controversial view from our President Bob French

There seems to be a belief that the cutting edge of a turning tool should be ground and honed to as sharp an edge as possible, this may not always be the best approach.

For example: at the start of a cut we rub the bevel against the revolving wood and then raise the tool handle to start cutting, this means there is a transition from rubbing to cutting and if the tool has a finely honed edge this transition will be more sudden than with a tool straight from the grinder, some turners refer to this as a tool being “snatchy”.

Another reason for not being fussy about creating a razors edge is the time it takes to achieve it and the fact that a fine edge is quickly dulled, Especially as some woods are very abrasive. It is interesting to compare the cutting speed of hand woodwork at several inches per minute with the cutting speed of lathe work which can typically be over one thousand feet per minute.

*Bob would welcome your comments!*

## **A Day in the Woods 2013**



*Pole Lathe turning in the woods*



*Lunch provided*

John Stinson (who many of you saw and chatted to at the December meeting) is available for his ‘Day in the Woods’ sessions on Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The days will focus on Pole Lathe turning and spoon carving, but you will learn about cutting and processing the timber as you use it.

As some of you have done a day before, he is suggesting newcomers come to the Saturday session and those that have come before come on the Sunday – although this is not vital. He now has 5 pole lathes available – so there will be lots of turning time as the maximum on either day will be 6 people.

Last time he ran the course for a very small sum and he has had to look at that very carefully. He wants to share his skills and enthusiasm but cannot afford to lose money as he has to take a day off work to prepare for the weekend. So, this time the cost, including food and materials is £25 per day. I hope this won’t discourage people from signing up. We will take a deposit of £10 when you book and you can pay John the rest when you arrive.

He is also running a more specific and intensive bow making course on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July (some of you were interested in the bows he brought along in December). If you are interested there is an article about the process at the following link <http://woodlandcrafts.3owl.com/lw16.longbows.pdf> If you wish to book a longbow course, please contact John directly by email [johnstinson99@gmail.com](mailto:johnstinson99@gmail.com)

# Seminar 24<sup>th</sup> February Mick Hanbury

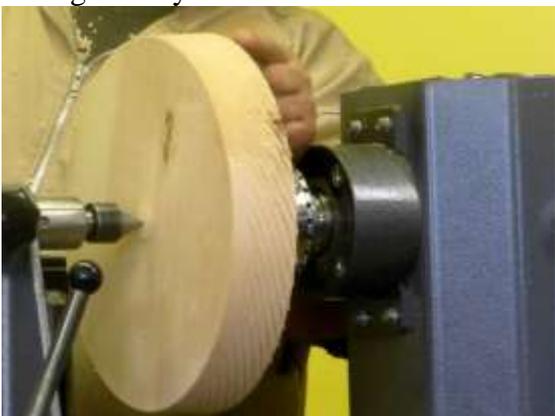
Platter in Maple– Notes by Donald Bell – donald@marchland.org



Mick made several beautiful turnings during the day.



He first used this texturing tool to create spirals on the edge of the bowl blank



Some adjustments were necessary to get the spirals just right



When the bottom is finished, the edge has a rippled effect (which could be coloured)



The pieces was reverse chucked and hollowed, leaving material in the middle



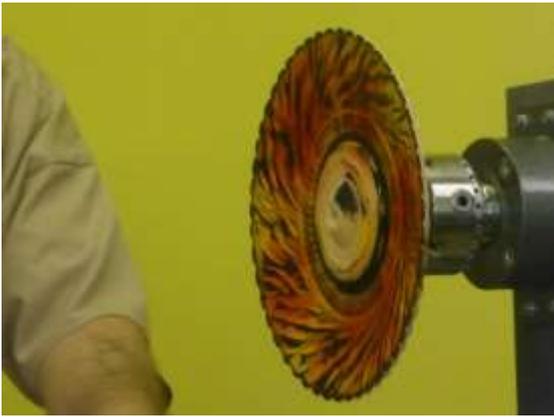
The outer part was machined with the Arbortec



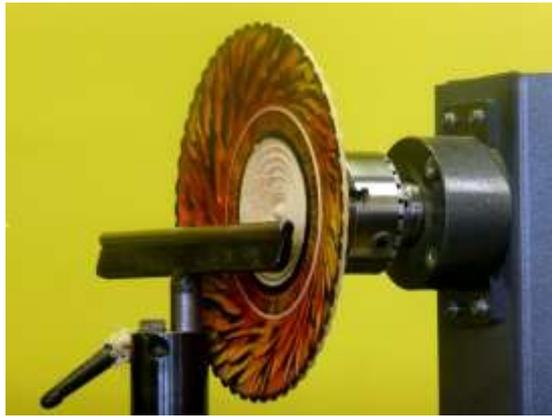
And so was an inner ring



Airbrush spray in red and yellow



Black paint to give a flame effect



Finally a white ring and the centre is hollowed out



**Mick Hanbury Box in Ash– Notes by Donald Bell – [donald@marchland.org](mailto:donald@marchland.org)**



Mick made several beautiful turnings during the day.



He used this ash blank to make a lidded box



Dividing the blank in two, this piece will become the lid



He used a texturing tool to decorate the inside of the lid



The box was hollowed out using a small carbide tipped hollowing tool



He jammed the lid back on, lined up the grain pattern and marked the final size



Patterning with the Arbortec carving tool



High spots painted black



Final decoration of the lid



Final hollowing and polishing, then parting off



Box is reverse jam chucked and the bottom is finished. The ring is recessed



Finished box



There will be photos of the iridescent vase in the next issue. My thanks to Donald for the excellent pictures which has saved me trying to remember what happened to write it out.

## **SOUTH EAST SHOW**



This show was held at the Kent County Show Ground on Friday and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> March. A small group of us had taken three small lathes there on the Thursday to set them up. These were then used by members while other acted as stewards, answering questions from the public. The professional demonstrators were Mark Hanbury, Tony Wilson, David Reeks and Jennie. Most of the other wood turning clubs were exhibiting and demonstrating as well. On the Friday evening it was a dash to get back, have fish and chips and set up for the Club practical evening. On the Saturday we had to dismantle everything but with

everyone helping we were finished by 4.20. I was disappointed that the firm who sell prescription safety glasses did not have a stand this year.

## MARCH Practical Evening

Several of us had dashed back from the S E Show to help set up. On stage Colin and Richard were judging the completion with Bernie Walker recording the scores. In front of the stage Rodney was using his own lathe.



Donald Bell was entertaining everyone with his wooden puzzles. Next were the Nesbitts, Paul making erotic ladies while Alfie made mushrooms. I was alongside the shop demonstrating the benefits of square headed screws. Made of zinc so will not rust or the heads burr over and you can drive them into oak without the need of a pilot hole. Ian and Harry were selling the raffle tickets. In the last corner was David demonstrating the bowl saver on the Wivamac. This is possibly the last time we shall see David before he moves to Scotland. In the centre was Neil's table with the events to sign up for and DVDs for loan.

## **Woodturning in Sydney, Australia**      Neil Lofthouse

While attending a family wedding in Sydney recently I was talking to one of the other guests, Janet, and discovered one of her hobbies was woodturning! She subsequently invited me to visit her club **Northern Beaches Woodturners** - they have their own permanent workshop which is open 2 mornings a week! They are fortunate to have the use of a large self contained workshop within the Narabeen RSL Club (RSL is Returned and Services League which is the equivalent of our British Legion).

We went along about 11am to a Tuesday club morning and I was made very welcome by the President Jack Butler and about 15 other members. I couldn't help being impressed and envious of their set-up with 6 lathes and a wide range of other machinery, tools etc etc.



Like SAW, they are active in the local community by demonstrating regularly at craft fairs/shows etc; they also raise money for the club and charities by running a 'BBQ/sausage sizzle' some Saturday mornings outside Bunnings Warehouse (the Australian equivalent of B&Q) - a real money spinner apparently.

Please have a look at their website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/woodturner60/>

## **Princes Mead Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

There was driving snow when I drove into the car park at 8 o'clock. However the snow only stopped one member who said he would come, from not making it. We had five lathes working and all enjoyed ourselves and managed to sell enough of our items that the sales levy covered the cost of parking! We also enjoyed some of the small eggs that the Centre gave us to give to everyone. Quite a lot of interest was shown in the club and I hope that four or five prospective members will take up my offer of visiting for free for a few evenings to see if they like the club. The Warco lathe packed up after a few hours, so I was able to concentrate on selling the club and my items. When I got home I only had to screw the brushes in tighter to get it to work.

## **WANTED**

**We need examples of your work for the "Show & Tell table.**

**We also desperately need more judges for the competitions. Please volunteer. Full training will be given.**



## **– PAUL's Postings**

Hello to you all.

I have not had much time in the workshop lately, for turning that is. Lots of building work going on, but no turning. Last year in October I got a nice new shiny lathe and I just have not had the time to play on it. Whilst doing my share of the work I needed my electric planer but it wasn't there. I loaned it to a friend some months ago and I did not get it back. So I had to resort to the old fashioned method, wow my arms did ache later that day. The moral of this story is do not lend your tools to anyone, you never know when you will need them yourself.

What a busy start to the year we have had. February we saw Phil Jones who showed spindle and face plate work all in one item and with such skill that he made it look so easy. His chat and instruction throughout the evening was enjoyable and interesting. This is always a must for a good demonstrator and I believe that's exactly what we got. This is the second time he has visited our club and I am sure it will not be the last.

Mick Hanbury then delighted members of the club at the annual seminar. This is an event that I wanted to attend but could not. From the pictures that I have seen and the conversations with those that attended I missed a good day. On previous occasions, when I have watched Mick, I have always found him a very enjoyable demonstrator and he has always surprised me with something new. The seminar is a good chance to see a top turner for a whole day and be up close to the demonstration also among some friends. This is an event that nearly didn't take place due to lack of numbers it was saved by some last minute e-mails sent out to the members in a bid to save the day and it worked so many thanks for it all.

Our next club night was a practical evening. This was our last chance to see David Bracken turning but I hope not at the club. He is about to leave us for the sunny weather of Scotland along with his wife and dog. He has been a very valuable member of the club in the years that he has been a member. He has also been a good friend to many members and I put myself in that category. All the best for the future and your return to Scotland. Now I have digressed, where was I, oh yes the practical evening. Rodney Goodship was turning on his own lathe in front of the stage. Donald Bell was showing his wooden tricks and puzzles. I was next to him turning ladies complete with stand and hat. Next to me was my Grandson Alfie turning Mushrooms. Phil was doing the shop and Peter Stent was extolling the virtues of square drive screws. Not to forget the raffle and the club table in the centre. The competition was on the stage with Colin Spain and Richard Davies judging and Bernie Walker doing the administration. Thanks to every one for a good evening.

On the same day and the following day (Saturday) we were at the South of England Show. This is a lot of work and a good distance to travel each day. So thanks to those that attended and managed the stand. Woodworking shows are disappearing fast and there is nothing really local anymore, which is a shame. It is always a good time to pick up some bargains.

We then had the first day at the Princes Mead Shopping Centre. What a start to the day, snow, not what you expect at the end of March. We all braved the weather and set up and had

an enjoyable day. Some members sold some of their work. Numbers were definitely down on normal but we still managed to talk to lots of people and we had a large bowl of chocolate Easter Eggs to hand out to people. Not sure who had more the public or us.

That's all for now. The building work is almost done and I hope to get into the workshop soon. No silly not to turn, just to clear up all the mess I have made from the other jobs.

## **YANDLES SHOW September**

At the moment this is just a feasibility study to see if it is viable to run a coach there. Please put your names down on Neil's table if interested.

**A date for your diary.** We are planning to exhibit at the Sandown Show 13,14,15<sup>th</sup> December. This always used to be a good show.