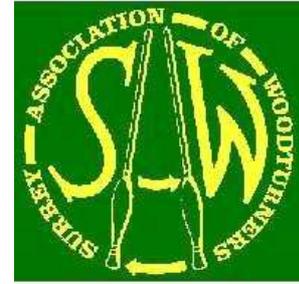


Surrey Association of Woodturners



Newsletter November 2008

Reports, News and Views from North West Surrey

New Members

Bernie Walker	Sean Kelaart
Sue Pritchard	Arthur Martin
Ken Bare	Arthur Hughes
Val Pascual	Peter Pooke
Jill Stewart	Neil Morley
John Risk	Len Scott

Paid up Membership 176

Items for the Diary

12 th December	Xmas Special
9 th January 2009	A.G.M.
6 th February	Simon Hope

Some of you may remember that Basil won a prize at the Alexandra Palace show.

WOODTURNING IN THE PYRENEES

Its a miserable morning as Rosa and I set off at 0530 for Nick Davidson's (Craft Supplies) woodturning course in the Pyrenees. Tea and a sandwich on the ferry revive us and by 1100 we are on the French motorway system. By the time we pass Le Mans the weather is brighter and at Tours it is warm and sunny, what a contrast. We find our hotel in Joue les Tours and walk in shirt sleeves around the lake. Tours is sandwiched between the rivers Cher and Loire and is well worth a visit, the old town is a

delight. After two nights we depart and take to the country roads, there is very little traffic and after a stress free journey we overnight in a small hotel by the river Lot. Sunday dawns and we have to be at the Mill this afternoon.

We arrive at the Mill about 1500, greeted with a drink we sit on the terrace meeting and getting to know everyone. As it happens there are only four couples and five turners, a nice small group from Andover, Basingstoke, Hertfordshire and Farnham. With a small group we are able to turn in the mornings and holiday during the afternoons. Mick Hanbury is our teacher/mentor for the week, an experienced hand at the Mill he appears to be part of it, however, next week he will be in Lincolnshire again.

Dinner is a family affair with our delightful hosts Fran and Nick and Fran's Mother all around one table. There are drinks before and large quantities of wine during a fine repast, the first of many.

Monday dawns and it is time to take a quick breakfast before reporting for duty in the workshop in which there are five lathes, band saw, grinders and sundry other items expected in a woodturning shop.



A chat with Mick and the aspiring group permits us to find out a little of each other and

what the programme is for the day. Mick is prepared to teach whatever we wish, it's up to us to speak up. Mick suggests tool sharpening and a practice piece, his recommendation is that every day in the workshop should start with half an hours practice, he is correct but how many of us follow his advice.

We turned during the morning and played during the afternoon, returning in time for dinner. We soon found that at 1400 the restaurants closed and if you not eaten by then, with difficulty a sandwich may be obtainable. The local town of Foix was busy preparing for the fun fair to set up in the centre.



A vulture eyes Rosa's hat.

Tuesday morning finds us ready for action. Mick explains about proportion and line and suggests sketching a proposal first to define the relationships of diameters, curves and overall shape. Curves are to be continuous with no flat spots. Whilst some turners can produce beautifully proportioned harmonious pieces naturally others struggle and a sketch helps, try it.

We are in two groups, two novices and three with some experience. Our lady turner Di and Mark a furniture maker who wishes to turn some parts are starting their journeys into woodturning. Peter, Colin and I are given an exercise to turn a box, generally following Mick's sketch, each using a different wood. I have Rapola Lacewood which is new to me, Peter and Colin Padauk and Amazaque respectively.



Peter looks concerned whilst Nick and Mick discuss the proposed three cornered box.

It is interesting to compare the simultaneous turning of the different timbers, mine is really dusty and not very decorative or colourful, not something I would choose again but an experience. It takes a couple of mornings to complete the project during which guidance and help is given. We were unable to rough turn and season the pieces and as a result my lid no longer fits, I will have to put it back in the lathe and return it.

Thursday (how time flies when you are having fun) sees two of us trying thread chasing, I eventually produce a fitting pair, however, the finish is poor due I believe to unsuitable wood. My suspicions have been confirmed in that my lathe is too fast; my choices are a variable speed motor, a new lathe or forget about thread chasing.

Next up is a partly spalted ash log, I decided on a hollow form. This was a useful exercise and I was able to try various hollowing tools not available at home. The wood was quite weak and tearing in places so care was needed and I did not turn it too thin. A rosewood spout was made and fitted to complete the form, it was all a bit of a rush to finish in time for Friday lunchtime, however, it all came together and that was nearly the end of a fantastic week.



On Friday evening we all exhibit our work for all to see and handle, it is all good fun, we have all enjoyed the course and learnt something; most important we have new friends. Our lady turner Di has strong motivation and has I believe taken a lot from the course. The final dinner was a great pleasure tinged with the sadness of parting.

Next morning it was goodbyes all round, some were heading home, some to extend their holiday.

What an enjoyable way to have a holiday with a woodturning course thrown in, Fran and Nick are delightful hosts who offer a wonderful dinner party each evening, Fran's Mother at 87 is an interesting conversationalist and when trotting around the garden, trowel in hand makes me feel quite old. Mick's patience, knowledge and experience combined with a pleasant nature make him a good teacher and a pleasure to work with.

October Meeting

Our demonstrator for the evening was our own George Nichols, who is a university student in the third year of a four year Physics Course. Guess what he spent his grant on? He bought a Wivamac lathe, similar to the club's, much to his girl friend's displeasure. George uses square screws to secure a metal plate which fits into the jaws of the chuck. He used a Oneway gouge to clean what would become the bottom of the Platter using a pull cut. Callipers were used to mark the foot which were a size that would fit in the jaws of the chuck. The foot and the underside were shaped. Then with a medium bowl gouge with the flute pointing to about 6.30 on a clock face, finishing cuts were made. This produced feather like shavings. George then sanded with 120, 180, 240 and 320 grits and red webrack. He would also have used grey if he had not used it up. With the lathe stopped he applied some Shellwax friction polish which was buffed under power to give a good finish. The platter was removed from the lathe and the metal face plate unscrewed. He keeps all his screws in a magnetic tin that he buys from the kitchen department of Ikea, where they are sold in sets of three for holding spiced. With their magnetism securing them to the side of the

lathe they are not going to get lost no matter how deep the pile of shavings is.

Remount the platter in the chuck using the foot. Again using the Oneway make pull cuts across the face to clean it up and then start to take out the centre. George then used a swept back spindle gouge to shape the rim. About one to two inches in from the rim a second rim was created to give the nesting bowls effect. There was a problem with a dig in, but by cutting a little deeper the problem was dealt with. These rims were sanded through the grades as before. In case any grains of coarse grit had caught in the timber he gave the item a burnish with shavings. A medium bowl gouge was used to continue hollowing out the centre. Some resonance started to cause small ridges. A short science lesson and an increase in speed solved the problem. A small spigot was created in side and the platter reversed so that George could modify the foot by making it thinner and taking the corner off so that only about 1.5 mm was left to grip in the chuck. This was again sanded and polished as before. This was reversed again in the chuck and using a small bowl gouge the chucking point was removed 1/2mm at a time. Again sand and polish.



After tea, George intended to show us texturing and colouring. Another block of Sycamore was fitted in the chuck using a metal face plate again. The face was trued using the Oneway and a 3mm deep recess cut with a dovetailed edge. From here a gentle curve was created two thirds of the way up the side. This was sanded including

the recess. Friction polish was applied and buffed. The item was reversed in the chuck. The surface was trued up and then a gentle curve was created using the top third of the side. A hemisphere was cut in the centre. The flute of the tool was rolled from 1 o'clock at the edge to 3 o'clock at the centre. To texture, George had a rotating chisel in the form of an Arbatec blade fitted in a small angle grinder. This is where you need to experiment to find the right speed of the lathe and angle of cut to achieve the desired result. The underside was masked with tape and several coats of ebonising spray applied. Here in true Blue Peter fashion he produced one he had sprayed earlier and was now dry. This was sanded with 80 grit Abranet. Three different spirit stains were applied using a diffuser, Yellow, Red and Purple i.e. working light to dark. The centre was lightly hollowed to get rid of the Eboniser. This was sanded through the grades and polished as before to give the finished article.

For someone whose previous demonstrations had only been to the 10 or 12 friends who would meet at Geoff's at Stanwellmoor, I feel that George was exceptionally brave to face 95 people. He explained all that he was doing. A new comer to turning sitting beside me was able to understand everything. Well Done!



New safety footwear for the workplace

**THE
STEELCAP Thong**

Designed in Australia
for
Australians

Available from all good Aussie owned safety shops
Proudly designed and manufactured by *Blundssi Boots*
Also available for New Zealand use as "Jandols Bro"

PRINCES MEAD

This was another publicity event arranged by Roy Edwards. We all had a great time and some even sold some work. Spread around the edge of the Café area there was Jennie turning some very thin platters which she then pierced with her dental drill.



I was using my lathe to make Jewellery in Corian. Rodney and Claire each had a lathe working, as did Paul. Roy had brought his scroll saw and was cutting out Christmas Trees, Santa Claus, Snowmen and Reindeer to give to children. He was a bit miffed when one child asked for one of the goats!



Pete Evans was giving away the animals as fast as they could be cut out and coloured. Joy and several others had to be press ganged into the production line. Our Wivamac blew the fuses in the centre when we tried to use the variable speed facility.

We had to wait a long time for the power to be restored. So Phil concentrated on selling his bowls. Rodney's puzzles caused a lot of interest. Having sold some, he now has to make replacements. Our thanks to all the many members who came and helped us. There was an excellent half page article in the local "Aldershot Mail" giving details of the club and Open Day.

NOVEMBER EVENING

Our demonstrator was Simon Hope who when he was here last showed us how to melt and use Pewter. He showed us some Onion boxes where the base was in fact the lid which unscrewed and on top of the onion shape was a curved point of pewter like the top of an onion.

He intended to show us how to make a small clock which was supported on a wiggly off centre stem.

To make the clock surround he jammed a piece of Tasmanian Blackwood between the face of the chuck and the revolving cup centre he was using in the tail stock. He cut a spigot to fit the jaws of the chuck and mounted the timber in the chuck. A 6mm skew was used to shear scrape the face. The size of the clock mechanism was measured and marked on the face. Using a round bar skew he cut the aperture for the clock to fit into. The face was sanded using 180 through to 400 grit.

A jamb chuck was made with a spigot to fit the inside of the clock aperture. The block was cut to the required thickness and the side dished. A design was created on what would be the back face. Sand as before.

A block of 3 inch square chestnut about 9 inches long was selected. The centres were marked at each end with a long diagonal from corner to corner and a short one. The long lines need to be diametrically opposite each other. Mark in 10mm from the corner. Thus along the longer line there are 3 marked points. These are numbered 1, 2, 3 at each end.

Fit a Steb centre in the drive and use the cone centre at the tail stock. Mount the block using point 1 at one end and No. 3 at the other. Check the position of the tool rest because the piece will now spin eccentrically. Because of the overhang on the tool rest a substantial bowl gouge is needed to form a cove at the middle. The tool may need sharpening to achieve a good finish from the tool. Sand by using long strips

of sand paper through grits 120 to 320. Remove and remount using the No. 2 marks i.e. the centre points. Now a cove was cut each side on the original. Flat spots appeared and were cut out. The new coves were sanded as before. The piece was remounted using the No.3 marks and Simon started to cut a further cove each side of the others. This was when disaster struck and the timber broke. Had this not happened Simon would have remounted using the No. 2 spots and created a spigot to fit an off centred base and a simple finial at the top. Simon used a small brass peg to secure the clock to the side of the stem.

After tea Simon showed us how to make an Onion Box. A suitable block was mounted in the chuck and a ¼" spindle gouge was used to make a hole in the centre of the base and then hollow it out. A hollowing tool was used which need to be kept moving.

A piece of Blackwood was fitted in the chuck and a spigot cut to size to fit the hole in the box. The centre was hollowed out and a ring a few mm wide was cut off.

The box was remounted and a special tool used to open out the inside a leave a step for the Blackwood ring to fit against. This was glued in place. The outside of the ring and the onion were shear scraped.

Simon adjusted the lathe speed to between 400 and 450 revs. and using a modified 18 TPI chaser a female thread was cut. The outside of the box was shaped and sanded.

Another piece of Blackwood was mounted in the chuck. Simon measured the inside diameter of the threaded portion of the box and added about 3 mm. A spigot was cut to this size on the new piece. The edge was chamfered and using the same thread chaser a male thread was cut after reducing the lathe speed. The box was tried and the threads cut to produce an easy fit. Another female thread was cut in another piece of Blackwood to make a jamb chuck to take the male base so that the face can be cleaned up. A few coats of Organoil Danish Oil completed the work. As usual with Simon a very entertaining and informative evening.

Hands On Day Sunday 23rd November

Another very successful day with 17 pupils being guided by 7 tutors. Everybody learnt a lot, even some of the tutors!

Open Day

Paul has mentioned elsewhere what a great day it was. He did not mention that we had six new members join the club.

Firewood Memory Aid

Beechwood fires are bright and clear
If the logs are kept all year
Chestnut's only good they say
If for long it's laid away
Make a fire of Elder tree
Death within your house will be
But Ash new or Ash old
Is fit for a Queen with a crown of gold
Birch and fir logs burn to fast
Blaze up bright and do no last
It is by the Irish said
Hawthorns bake the sweetest bread
Elmwood burns like churchyard mould
Even the flames are cold
But Ash green or Ash brown
Is fit for a Queen with a golden crown
Poplar gives a bitter smoke
Fills your eyes and makes you choke
Apple wood will scent your room
With an incense-like perfume
Oaken logs, if dry and old
Keep away the winter's cold
But Ash wet or Ash dry
A king shall warm his slippers by

Thanks to Paul for this Poem.



Paul's Paragraphs

A Letter of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity of saying a big thank you to all those that helped to make the Open Day such a success, and it was a success. I was getting worried but you came through at the end and we had enough help to make the day work well. From people helping in the morning, to stewards through the day. Then the helpers at the

end of the day and of course not forgetting our demonstrators. Everyone did their bit and it all flowed throughout the day.

October Club Night

Our club demonstrator for this event was George Nichols. Although George has done demonstrations at Geoff Hughes shop on a Saturday afternoon it is a bit different turning in front of almost 100 people. So well done George. It was a good evening and a good demonstration, with lots of information from George along with some physics.

November Club Night

Simon Hope. What a good demonstration, even with a disaster he still made it a good evening. A subject close to my own heart, multi centred work. We saw a different way of doing things. Then an upside down threaded box. That had to be the quickest thread chasing I have ever seen. Everyone stayed until the end. A great evening.

Hands on Day

Well this one was the best ever. 17 Students and 7 Tutors. My thanks go out to those that did the Teaching. It was a full and varied day. When I arrived just after 9 am there was already three lathes set up, Jennie had arrived just before me and Chris was getting her lathe ready, Peter was getting the big club lathe out and we soon had the small club lathe and my lathe out of the van. We were ready to go before 10am. We had complete beginners as well as more experienced people. A short lunch break meant more time turning and before you knew it was 4pm and time to clear up. With every ones help that was done in no time at all. Every one thanked the Tutors for giving up their time. And we all headed home.

Rural Life Centre

Another successful weekend. The weather was on our side and we had good numbers through the door with lots of people admiring our work and watching how we make things. A total of nine lathes working for the two days. Rodney had all his tricks and toys out on display for people to try and solve and many a laugh was had by all. Next years dates have been booked already. My thanks go to all who helped over this weekend to make it another great event for the Club and the Rural Life Centre.

Princes Mead Shopping Centre

What a great day we had. 7 lathes and Roy on his fret saw. We were all kept busy talking to members of the public in between turning and Roy made over two hundred cut outs for the children. The members' sales tables did a roaring trade also. Once again a new member signed up and paid there and then. My thanks go to Roy for all the hard work organising this event.

Open Day 26th October

What a great day. We as a club were able to showcase our members work along with some from other clubs. There were some really good pieces and we had what I can only call a massive vote of confidence in the Open Class Faceplate section from our two judges Stuart Mortimer and Gary Rance, when they said that all the pieces in this section were so good they all deserved a Highly Commended award, that's 19 plus 1st 2nd and 3rd. The trade stands all had a good day with plenty of sales going on throughout the day.

Tools

The tools seem to be going out regularly on loan. Don't be afraid to hire these out for a try or a particular job you want to do. It is a very reasonable price for a month's hire on a try before you buy basis.

Some photographs from Open day.



NOTE. There will be a 'bring and buy' table at the Christmas evening. Bring any old tools etc. you want to sell.





RESULTS – SAW OCTOBER 2008 COMPETITION

Beginners Competition - Mainly Faceplate Turning

First name	Surname	item	wood	result
Jim	Gaines	Housier racing wheel	Iroko	1st
Donald	Bell	Fat rimmed bowl	Maple	2nd
Denis	Findlay	Goblet with captive ring	Yew	3rd
Donald	Bell	Art deco bowl	Sycamore & Mahogany	HC
Donald	Bell	Mobius figure eight	Iroko	HC

Beginners Competition - Mainly Spindle Turning

Jim	Gaines	Ships wheel	Mahogany	1st
Donald	Bell	Pair of twisted candlesticks	Iroko	2nd
Donald	Bell	Caltrop	Sapele	3rd
Bo	Williamson	13cm teaslehead	Acasia	HC
Bo	Williamson	Pen	Australian Pepermint	HC

Novice Competition - Mainly Faceplate Turning

George	Nichols	Platter	Wenge	1st
Linda	Jones	Bowl	Elm	2nd
Cedric	Snowdon	Segmented vase with lid	Mahogany & Oak	3rd
Cedric	Snowdon	Capstan wheel clock	Mahogany	HC

Intermediate Competition - Mainly Faceplate Turning

Richard	Davies	5 sided bowl	Cherry	1st
Joy	Bell	Square edged bowl	Black Walnut	2nd
Colin	Spain	Bowl	Cherry	3rd
Joy	Bell	Goblet	Black Walnut	HC
Joy	Bell	3 sided platter	Black Walnut	HC

Intermediate Competition - Mainly Spindle Turning

Joy	Bell	A Lamp base	Sapele	1st
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Open Competition - Mainly Faceplate Turning

BILL	RILEY	Mobius strip	Teak, maple & purple heart	1st
BASIL	GRIDLEY	Lattice box	Castello box	2nd
JENNIE	STARBUCK	Air-brushed and pierced platter	Horse chestnut	3rd
RODNEY	GOODSHIP	Square winged box	Mahogany & walnut	HC
RODNEY	GOODSHIP	Winged box	Ash	HC
RODNEY	GOODSHIP	Platter	Ash	HC
BASIL	GRIDLEY	Hollow form	Ash & rosewood	HC
PAUL	NESBITT	Hollow form	Cherry & Black Walnut	HC
PAUL	NESBITT	Decorated rim platter	Black Walnut	HC
BILL	RILEY	Vase	Yew	HC
BILL	RILEY	Calabash	Oak	HC
JOHN	SHERWOOD	Hollow form	Yew	HC
JOHN	SHERWOOD	Salad bowl	Ash	HC
JOHN	SHERWOOD	Fruit bowl	Burr oak	HC
ERIC	VOLES	Bowl	Coolibar burr	HC
ERIC	VOLES	Hollow form	Beech & yew	HC
ERIC	VOLES	Bowl	Sycamore	HC
CHRIS	WALLACE	Hollow form	?	HC
CHRIS	WALLACE	Natural edged bowl	Burr Oak	HC
IAN	WILLIAMS	Vase	Robinia	HC
IAN	WILLIAMS	Platter	Elm	HC
IAN	WILLIAMS	Bowl	Yew	HC

Open Competition - Mainly Spindle Turning

Rodney	Goodship	Table lamp	Pau Amarillo	1st
Bill	Riley	Inside out globe on pedestal	Teak & Ebony	2nd
Rodney	Goodship	Pair of candlesticks	Tulip	3rd
Rodney	Goodship	Table lamp	Oak	HC
Paul	Nesbitt	Funnel vase	Spalted Silver Birch & Black Walnut	HC

Open Invitational Competition

Name		ITEM	WOOD	CLUB	result
Rodney	Goodship	Point twist candle sticks	Maple	SAW	1st
Howard	Overton	Split platter	Zebrano	Orchard	2nd
Mick	Adams	Globe	Palm	Orchard	3rd
Jennie	Starbuck	Thin pierced platter	Sycamore	SAW	HC
Basil	Gridley	Lattice bowl	?		HC
Pat	Hughes	Walking stick	Various	Orchard	HC
Dave	Matson	Hole'y Bowl	Yew	Orchard	HC
Brian	Mitchell	Mantle Clock	Maple/ ebony	Forest of Bere	HC
Derek	Manwaring	Child's platform rocking chair	Ash	Thameside	HC

Vice President's Platter -

George Nichols - for a bowl in Wenge

President's Platter -

Rodney Goodship - for a table lamp in Pau Amarillo

Awards: These will be presented at the Club Practical Evening on December 12th. First prize in each section is an engraved tankard. Second and third place awards are medals in presentation boxes.

Thank you to every member who entered something in the competition. Congratulations to all of the winners and highly commended entries - but congratulations too for everyone who 'had a go'.

If you wondered why your entry did not win, or what you could try to do to improve your chances of a win next year, please bring the piece in on December 12th and have a word with 'The Doctor'.

Thanks too to the members who entered pieces in the Invitational competition.

Club Table Invitational Competition for 'The President's Gavel'

Results:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 st place | - Orchard Woodturners (Kent) |
| 2 nd place | - Surrey Association of Woodturners |
| 3 rd place | - Cheam Woodturners |