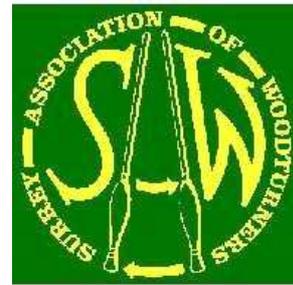


# Surrey Association of Woodturners



LOTTERY FUNDED

## Newsletter November 2011

Reports, News and Views from North West Surrey

### New Members

Sidd Dodd	Keith Evans
Alfie Nesbitt (Jnr.)	Ryan Anderson (Jnr.)
Stephen Smith (Jnr.)	Richard Smith
Alan Tyrell	Steve Kilvert
Peter Duguid	Jamie Shears
John Stalford	Rebecca Sinclair (Jnr.)
Malcolm Sinclair	Andy Murray

### Paid up Membership 179

### Items for the Diary

Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Xmas Special
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Paul Hannaby
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Hands on Day?
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Dennis Keeling
Fri.9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> March	South East Show

### SAW CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

There appears to be some confusion as to when members should renew their Membership. Although the clubs financial year runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> January until the 31<sup>st</sup> December, The membership year has to be different. Otherwise no one would be eligible to vote at the AGM. So membership for most people expires at the

end of January and they will pay the next fee at the AGM or the following month.

Children still at school are classed as Junior Members and only pay half the fee. After the 1<sup>st</sup> August a new member is asked to pay half the annual fee to cover them for the rest of the year.

From the 1st of October, the payment of the full fee (at present £26.00 ) will cover that member for the rest of that year and the whole of the next year irrespective of the fee being increased at the next AGM.

### PRINCES MEAD

Every one arrived soon after 8.am and the display stands and seven lathes were soon put up. There were a lot of items for sale. Three members brought their wives to take the money while they were turning. There was a lot of interest in what we were doing and a lot of different items were sold. It is strange how sales go. About five or six years ago I made several ceramic tile coasters. They have been brought out each year and four were bought by customers. I will have to start making some more if I can find the tiles. As usual we all enjoyed ourselves any money taken was a bonus.



## October Evening

Our demonstrator for the evening was Paul, who needed no introduction. When Robert at a Committee meeting had heard that Paul was to demonstrate, he asked Paul to show us how he turned a large laminated table lamp. Robert had then gone off abroad for that evening. Paul glues up several planks of Maple and Black Walnut using an industrial glue similar to PVA. These are clamped together until dry. He then marks the centre at each end and draws a circle. Then on the band saw with the table set at an angle he removes the corners.

He fitted a large (2") saw toothed bit into a Jacobs chuck in the drive. He had a small scissor jack resting on the lathe bed to help hold up the lamp while he drilled a hole about an inch deep. With a hole drilled in the side this would make it easy to fit the flex. Before drilling in from the side examine the timber to decide on the front and back. The hole would obviously be at the back. A small hole was drilled in the centre of the large hole to take the middle of a ring drive. This was knocked with a mallet to locate the ring and then the middle removed. A four pronged drive was tapped in place at the other end. With the help of the jack the block was secured between centres on the lathe with the revolving ring centre at the tail stock end.

Paul then look his long hole boring tool. This was marked with tape to indicate when the point had cut in just over half way. The handle was marked so Paul knew the top of the cutter blade.

This inserted through the tail stock to start making the hole for the flex through the lamp. The secret of using the tool is to only push in about an inch, then remove and empty any shavings. When you reach the half way mark turn the lamp end for end fitting another drive centre which had rod like projection coming from the middle of the four pronged drive. The boring is repeated. With care the holes will match up and the tool not come out of the side of the vessel.

Using a large roughing gouge Paul started cutting from the centre towards each end to produce a cylinder. The base end was

trued up and undercut about 4mm. Paul then started to shape the bottom and the top to give the desired shape. This was to be like a large champagne bottle. Paul sands to 320 grit and then uses his Beale buffing system with Carnuba wax. The top is finished off.



To cover the hole in the base a small block of Black Walnut is turned and carefully measured to make a bung which can be secured with silicone once the lamp has been wired up. Paul likes to buy the wiring kits as they contain all the different fitting you need. The lamp holder has a safety pin so the you cannot electrocute yourself and has a certificate of competent wiring. The 13amp plug you leave for the purchaser to wire themselves. All the purchaser needs now is a bulb and lamp shade. As usual an interesting and informative evening.

## SAW Open Day 30<sup>th</sup> October

Financially the day was not a success as we had 60 fewer visitors than last year. The traders say their takings were down. There was plenty to see. On the stage the lady from Mulberry Bush was busy selling paints and Jennie had a struggle to find time to eat her lunch. Mark Baker & Chris Eagles judged the competitions for us. For the table top competition they wanted to award a joint first. Paul advised that we required only one first so after a tick back of the best items, Saw was placed first, Forest of Bere was second and Orchard was third. The judges then demonstrated for the rest of the day. Mark was concentrating on large pieces, while Chris showed us smaller items.



When I paid them, they both said they had enjoyed themselves. Our technical experts had made a very good job of arranging cameras to TV screen so the audiences could see close ups of the work on the lathes. I understand that the St. John's did not have to render 1<sup>st</sup> aid although I did hear that Phyl had cut his finger. The car parking went without any hitches. I did not get any moans at the door.

## **NOVEMBER EVENING**

Several of our video and audio technicians were missing but Colin did a very good job. Our demonstrator was Colwin Way. He has been turning for 26 years and for the last 13 has worked for Axminster. He works with Jason providing all the tuition at the Skill Centre. This week they had been running a Windsor Chair Course.

This evening he intended to show us how easy it was to make Christmas Tree decorations.

The main tool used on the first little tree would be a parting tool. A small block of Norwegian Spruce was placed between ring centres on the lathe. Colwin aimed his talk at new turners and explained the need to start in the middle with the roughing gouge at 90' to the axis of the lathe with a speed of about 2000 rpm. Once a cylinder had been obtained then this was refined with a bowl gouge. The bucket for the tree was shaped and the base cleaned with a Skew.



. The tree was tapered and then using a ¼" parting tool a series of grooves were cut. The point of a skew was used to decorate the top of the bucket. These cuts were the burned with a thin wedge of wood. 120 grit was used to remove any strands left and the item was ready for decorating.

The second tree was started in the same way, being roughed to a cylinder and a bowl gouge used to give the tree shape. The bucket was marked and formed with a parting tool. Again a skew was used to clean the base. The skew was then used to make two V cuts along the length of the tree. With these swept branches were formed.

Next Colwin moved on to a Father Christmas. This was mainly bead forming. The same ring centres and timber, rough to a cylinder and then use a skew to clean up and make a V cut for the neck and shape the body. A roughing gouge was used to reduce the diameter for the hat and head. Cut a rim for the hat, then shape the head, hat and a ball on the top. Sand to 320 grit and apply undiluted sanding sealer and colour to taste.



Colwin showed us several other figures all made in a similar fashion, a snowman and soldier.

In the last part of the evening he demonstrated bells made from Polyester resin which come in a 50 mm. Rod. When turning you need to be slow and careful to avoid pitting. Colwin uses water when sanding with Abranet as this cools the work and avoids stripes on the item. He then progressed to 2000 wet and dry and finished with burnishing cream. This produced a lovely finish on the outside. To hollow he used a ¼" bowl gouge with a finger nail profile. Again be patient with no aggressive cuts. An interesting and informative evening. The newcomers in the audience learned a lot.



### **10<sup>th</sup> Farnborough Scouts**

The Chairman recently had a request for wood turning tuition for the Troup. Several of us including some members who are Scout Leaders took our equipment to what was Oak Farm School.

I think we ended up with 8 lathes. Our first shock was that half the pupils were girls. We gave them the choice of making Christmas trees, egg cups, mushrooms or goblets.

The evening was good fun we were welcomed warmly and all the scouts when home with a turned item. One of the youngsters stated I wish we did this sort of thing at school!

Thanks go to the club members who loaned their lathes, and tools as gave freely their time to bring this experience to the Scouts.

Participating SAW Turners were Colin Spain, Douglas Boud, John Creasey, Paul Nesbitt, Peter Stent, Len Scott, Rodney Goodship, and David Bracken



They were all very attentive and quickly understood the principles. At the end of the evening they had all made at least one item which they were proud of.



### **THREE DAYS WITH NICK AGAR by David Bracken**

Earlier this year I applied successfully for a Bursary from the Worshipful Company of Turners. The award is given to applicants who are already competent turners who would like to develop their skills and

knowledge to enable them to make significant steps into a new and a more innovative level of woodturning.

I was asking for help to gain the knowledge and skills to further develop the snare drums I make, especially around decoration of the shell. I was supported in my application by some of SAW Professional Woodturners namely Les Thorn, and Alan Hazel with Phil Woolcroft giving me loads of encouragement.

The bursary process is an application followed by an interview where you talk about your turning and aspirations, I was lucky to be awarded the money to cover three days one to one with Nick Agar. This fitted in with my aims of developing the snare drums aesthetics. I wanted to find a couple of techniques that I can develop in my own time to enhance the aesthetic appearance of my snare drums.

So for three days in November I have been to Nick's studio in Devon picking up ideas about colours, textures, carving, and air brushing. Yep that's right all of that in three days.



*Practicing air brushing*

Nick is a great turner as he has demonstrated at SAW Open Days and Seminar, his workshop is on the side of the River Dart at East Cornworthy, Devon, in an idyllic setting, not that I had too much time to look at the views. We started the three days by discussing how I learn and then me sharing the idea and concept of solid oak snare drums.

Nick's turning style is unique his teaching style was supportive and helpful; at the times I was busy being creative he would grab my camera and take photos that will help me remember the process I was using. He shared his knowledge of different types of colours and using different techniques in a way that was helpful to me. We talked about what influences me and played around with different techniques. I didn't make one whole item the whole three days, but this was my plan, instead I came out with some palettes, skills and knowledge that I now look forward to

developing.

#### **Useful Links**

[Worshipful Company of Woodturners](#)

[Professional Woodturners Register](#)

[Nick Agar Web Site](#)

[Les Thorns Web Site](#)



## **Wood Dust and Words – The Ramblings of a Chairman**

### **Open Day**

Open Day was a great success, the halls seemed to be busy all day long. Once again the stewards and helpers did a great job. The competition display was tremendous and of course we won

the inter club competition. I would like to thank the sub committee members for the organisation, all of the stewards and helpers and the club demonstrators. Well done to you all for helping to make it a splendid day.

### Hands on Day

Unfortunately we have had to cancel another Hands on Day. Of the three planned for the year we have only run one. The Committee is looking into whether the mentoring programme is affecting the hands on days and how the two could complement each other. As ever your views are welcome so please let me know how you think the hands on day and mentoring scheme are working?

### December Club Night

The December club night is the final meeting of the year with the last round of the club competition, so please consider entering a piece. We also have the Turner of the Year Competition so if you have an item that has scored 9.5 or 10 in any of this year's competitions remember to bring it along so it can be entered into the Turner of the Year Competition.

After my request at last months club night four ideas were considered for the SAW Christmas Charity. In the end we decided to support The South West Thames Kidney Fund. The items made on the night will be given to the charity as well as any of your turned items you would like to donate. There will also be a second hand tool sale on the evening with the funds going to the charity.

### AGM

In January we will hold the AGM so do not forget to get your nominations in on time for any one that has agreed to be a committee member with you. I am sure there are people in the club that could help to support and improve the club and being on the committee is the first step.

### General

Two issues have been brought to my attention, Firstly the honesty box for tea and coffee is not matching the number of cups that are being issued on a night so we will need to monitor this more closely.

Secondly, that we have people turning up to specific club nights who are not members and have no intention of becoming members. Either myself or another Committee Member will be discussing this issue with the offenders when we are aware of the situation, of course these people will not know about our crack down as they do not get this newsletter. I mention it so that you are aware what is happening especially if you overhear a discussion.

More photos from OPEN DAY, thanks to David & John.

