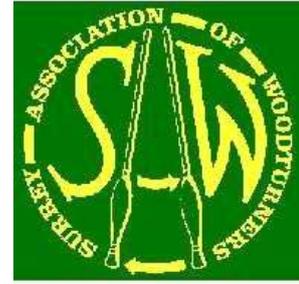


Surrey Association of Woodturners



Newsletter September 2012

Reports, News and Views from North West Surrey

New Members

Paid up Membership 157

Items for the Diary

Saturday 6th October Princes Mead

Friday 12th October Club Turner

Friday 9th November Tony Walton

Sunday 28th October. SAW Open Day

Friday 14th December Xmas Special

Change of E mail. Please note that our chairman, David has changed his address to david@turning.me.uk

August Evening

This was a practical evening organised by John Creasey. On the stage was the usual competition.



In front of the stage to the left Phillippa was again giving tips on photographing your work. After tea this was on a one to one basis.

Rodney was in front of the stage and was using his small Axminster to make earring stands. He was using double sided tape to hold the work on a face plate so gentle cuts were required. In the right hand corner Donald Bell was showing off his collection of wooden puzzles which kept members trying to solve them occupied for quite some time.

Down the left hand side we had a trio of the Nesbitt family all turning. Paul's son Ben was using walnut to make a bowl. Paul was using the club lathe to demonstrate how to use some of the tools the club has for loan. Alfie, Paul's Grandson, was using his own small lathe and made a bud vase and also a mushroom which he sold.



Jennie was in the top corner talking about design. What was a pleasant form and which was not so pleasing.



Phil had the shop with his usual helpers.

Next along the top Robert was giving advice on sharpening tools.

The raffle was moved to one of several tables in the centre by Jim Gaines showing how he prepares his segmented work. Also in the centre was Neil's table and John Sherwood with the Club tools that can be borrowed to try them out before you buy on yourself.

BENDIGO by Douglas Boud

A visit to Bendigo, Victoria in the land of OZ. Arriving on Good Friday was well timed for the town's Easter festivities and the evening parade, which started in 1871, involving numerous voluntary fire service engines and Chinese Dragons, followed by a firework display. Also (a highlight for me) the **Bendigo Woodturners Inc. Easter Exhibition**, a four day event with around 1,800/1,900 visitors, being a comprehensive impressive display of members work and selling thereof by members of the various club groups realising over \$10,500, with the Club taking a percentage. (exchange rate approx. \$1.50 = £1)



Prior to Easter a concerted effort over 6 weeks or more to sell 5,000 \$2 raffle tickets, including at 4 shopping centres/malls – all tickets sold bar 100 which were lost. Prizes were made by members and listed on the tickets – “Rocking Chair \$1,000, Dolls House \$800, Carved Blanket Chest \$600, Queen Ann Coffee Table £350, Pyrographed Document Box \$200 and Intarsia Mirror & Spring Song Scrollsaw Scene \$150”.

The Easter Exhibition is the major source of funds for the Club to cover its annual expenses and equipment (and, no doubt, a nice little earner for members).

The Club groups are: - woodturning, pyrography, scroll saw, toys, Triton, carvers and general woodworking so, inevitably, a large variety of items for the Easter exhibition and sale.

The club was founded on 27th July 1987, when 50 people met to determine if there was sufficient interest and commenced at the Bendigo TAFE College, in the woodwork room, until 1989 when it moved to its present location, the old Hopetown Band Hall. Thereafter much renovation, a workshop built and redevelopment at the rear of the block which opened in 2006. During the last 12 years grants of over \$80,000 from various government departments, \$25,000 invested by the club and in excess of 8,000 hours of in-kind-labour. At the rear of the premise there are 40ft and 20ft shipping containers with a covered area between, for the drying and storage of wood. Timber acquired/gifted is slabbed by members, air dried, stored and available to members.



The workshop, a space not much smaller than the Mytchett Hall, contained a large Vicmarc lathe, six smaller lathes, two bandsaws (one a converted meat saw), planer/thicknesser, saw table, chop-saw, work benches, Triton and other equipment of the groups, including that for “health & safety”. The groups meet at various dates and times throughout a week/month (woodturners 2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly) and on a Saturday morning the workshop is available for those who wish to attend.

I was made most welcome at a monthly general meeting which included a small competition of seven pieces, one item an exceptional carved Victoria Cross (over 30 hours work), and afterwards, in the workshop, a demonstration by Bernie Warren on how he inlaid and turned pewter. See their May newsletter for photographs.

The Club President, Jeff Willey, has held the position for 7 years whilst the Secretary, Frank Gargiulo, it is 14 years. Newsletters can be viewed on the club’s website –

www.bendigowoodturners.com.au - with that of April 2012 containing a brief history of the club.



Two dates for your diary: These were sent to Richard from Kew Gardens.

Thursday 22 November 2012. **Wood Inside and Out.**

Peter Gasson offers a fascinating insight into wood, illustrated with timber samples, photographs and microscope images. He will explain what wood is and how trees produce it, from familiar native species to tropical timbers. He'll also look at the importance of Kew's research into wood. 7pm, admission £5.00

Tuesday 22 January 2013 **From Timber to Treen – Useful woods** at Kew's Economic Botany Collection includes one of the world's largest collections of timbers and wooden objects. Its curator, Mark Nesbitt, will show you some of its amazing treasures, ranging from ancient Egyptian woodwork to Victorian furniture, including Kew's Holtzapffel collection. 7pm, admission £5.00.

For both lectures booking is essential – call 020 8332 5626 or email adulated@kew.org or go to <http://www.kew.org/visit-kew-gardens/whats-on/events-calendar/talks-courses/index.htm>.

SEPTEMBER

The demonstrator was Mark Hancock. He intended to create long stemmed goblets with twisted stems. The first half of the evening was spent creating a small goblet with a long thin stem. He used a light to create a thin wall to the bowl.



After tea he used a cabinet scraper to shape the stem in to an oval cross section. This involved checking the direction of the grain at the base and then scraping opposite sides of the stem which was about 5mm. in diameter.

Mark then produced his bending iron. This was a heated cylinder about 4" high and 2" in diameter. A soldering iron could be used for this purpose. When the iron was hot, Mark used his figure and thumb to wet the stem and by holding around the iron to form the required twisted shape. This process had to be repeated many times.

Open Day Competitions

We hope that every member will consider entering a t least one piece in the Open Day competition. There are no set themes and each member can enter up to 3 mainly spindle turned pieces and up to 3 mainly faceplate turned pieces. Les Thorne and Mark Baker will be judging the competitions - they will not be using our club scoring scheme but will judge based on their considerable knowledge and experience of excellent turned items.

You can enter pieces that have been turned since last Open Day. You can have already entered them in the club night competition. Your entry level is printed on the club night register.

You will either receive entry forms attached to an email or will need to collect them from the club office table at the back of the hall. If you have brought a piece along to club night - make sure you fill out a form with go with it.

If you wish to bring the piece on the day, Paul Nesbitt needs to know this and it needs to be in the small hall by 8.30am. Pieces can be brought to club night in suitable strong packing clearly marked with your name.

Entry information needs to be with Paul in the case of the main SAW competition by Friday 19th October. Entries for the Invitational competition need to be with Peter Stent by Saturday 20th October.

10 members will be invited to put a piece on the club table top competition entry. They will be contacted over the next two weeks. There are 4 clubs entering this year and we hope to repeat last year's triumph and keep the bragging rights again.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me on 01932 888144.

Jennie Starbuck

Raffle Prizes for Open Day

Did you get given a set of soap that you haven't used for Christmas? How about donating it to swell the number of prizes for the Open Day raffle? We would love any donations of new unwanted items for the raffle - however if they are food or drink items, please make sure they are not past their sell date - we don't want to poison anyone - just relieve them of their money!!!! Hand any such donations to the raffle team on club night or bring them on the day.

RURAL LIFE CENTRE 22nd & 23rd September

This was our usual visit with five or six lathes set up in the workshop. I was only there for the Saturday. The Sunday was similar except the rain was heavier and the tent leaked. We all enjoyed ourselves. Lots of visitors enjoyed looking around and getting frustrated with their attempts to solve Rodney's puzzles.

Wood Dust and Words – The Ramblings of a Chairman



The annual Open day is on 28th October and the Organising Committee has put together what looks like a great show. The competition entry forms are with this newsletter and will also be available on the club table on October club night. I hope you all will be there please remember to tell as many people as you can about the show. The professional turners will be Mark Baker and Les Thorn as well as turners from our own and other clubs, a host of trade suppliers will also be there.

The next “Hands on Day” is scheduled for 25th November. We need ten members to make this event break even. At the moment we have six, if you are interested please sign up at the October club night.

This year’s Christmas Charity is Surrey Lines of Sight (SAVI); a charity that supports blind and partially sighted people in Surrey providing services so they may lead fuller, more independent lives. More information on SAVI can be found on their website www.surreywebsight.org.uk. We will donate December’s tea money to the charity as well as all the items turned on the evening. If you have any turnings that you would like to donate to the charity please bring them along on the evening.

January will be the Annual General Meeting where we will be electing the new Committee. Some Committee members are standing down after a few years service so we are looking for new committee members. If you are interested, the nomination forms will be available in December, however if you want to find out more please talk to myself or an existing Committee Member and we will answer all of your questions. I will be standing down as Chairman at the AGM as our house is presently for sale and when completed I will be moving to the west coast of Scotland. Again nomination forms for Chairman will be available in December.

On the clubs facebook account over the last month we have a couple of offers of wood, a link to Cheam woodturners newsletter, an article by Joe Flemming on bowl coring, a copy of the photo of three generations turning that was published in the Star Courier Aug 2012. A link to the new AWGB facebook page and a link to the AWGB video of its 2011 seminar.