



## This month

**On 19th February** we are delighted to welcome back Richard Findley, who is always a popular demonstrator. This time his topics are bowls, decoration and finishes. He sells Chestnut products and will demonstrate and discuss them along with the usual banter and discussion. You can find out more about Richard on his website - [www.turnersworkshop.co.uk](http://www.turnersworkshop.co.uk)

## RAFFLE...

As usual there will be our raffle and the **star prize this month is a Simon Hope hollowing tool** plus a range of other excellent prizes, as ever great value for the price of £1 per ticket.

## SHORT REVIEW...

**January was our Annual General Meetings** and we were pleased to see a good number of members attending.

Jeff Cordery started by announcing that the club are again intending to organise a coach to go to the South East Woodworking Show at Detling on Saturday 8th March, followed by a trip to the Axminster showrooms at Sittingbourne. We need 22 people to make the hiring of a coach viable and the cost will be £18, which includes the £6 price of entrance to the show. The coach will leave at 9.00 am from Cheam and arrive back about 5.00 pm. We need to hear from anyone interested in joining the trip before the next meeting on 20th February. You can also make your own way there and just get your ticket at a discounted rate. In either case please contact Jeff Cordery as soon as possible - [jeff\\_cordery@hotmail.com](mailto:jeff_cordery@hotmail.com), phone 020-8647 2691.

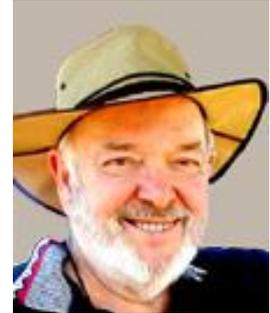
The AGM commenced with the apologies for absence, followed by the minutes of last year's AGM, the Chairman's report and the Honorary Secretary's Report, which were all adopted. John Fenn gave his treasurer's report, again showing a healthy balance in the club funds, although there was a slight drop due to the additional expenses incurred in purchasing the new video equipment.

At this AGM the chairman, Jeff Cordery, and the secretary, David Buskell, had intended to step down but despite several months of canvassing no-one has volunteered to take over either of these posts. It was pointed out that the club relies on volunteers to keep it running and all members were urged to consider whether they could make a contribution. A suggestion was made that volunteers could be co-opted to sit on the committee to understudy for a role prior to getting more involved and Chris Barrett said he was prepared to try this option. He will understudy for David Buskell and later in the year David should be taking over from Jeff Cordery, who will step down. We are very grateful to Ron Grace who has agreed to take over from Hilary Sinclair as e-shot editor and webmaster.

In the following Open Forum there was a discussion on how to attract new members to the club. A suggestion was made that we could perhaps encourage members to bring along friends and relatives without charge, this will be discussed by the committee.

David Buskell told us about a new venture for the club of twinning with the US woodturning club (chapter) of Central Oklahoma. This essentially means that we will link to their website ([www.okwoodturners.net](http://www.okwoodturners.net)) and they to ours, plus we will be able to use any of their online resources and receive their quarterly newsletter and of course if you happen to be visiting Oklahoma you can get into their club meetings for free!. Their club is slightly larger than ours but of course has the same aims of helping their members enjoy woodturning and spreading the word to the wider public.

Following the tea break we had a demonstration by Francois Greeff of how his recently purchased ball turning jig really doesn't work (see more on page 2). It was a similar model to that owned by Jeff Cordery, who considers it is the most useless tool he has ever bought!



Ron Grace will be taking over from Hilary Sinclair as e-shot editor and webmaster

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2014

### Chairman:

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2691, [jeff\\_cordery@hotmail.com](mailto:jeff_cordery@hotmail.com)

### Secretary:

David Buskell, 020 8657 5565,  
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### Treasurer:

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### Membership:

Trevor Etherington, 01372 728788,  
[tjetherington@googlemail.com](mailto:tjetherington@googlemail.com)

### Events:

Bob Higgins, 020 8942 2221,  
[bobhiggins@virginmedia.com](mailto:bobhiggins@virginmedia.com)

### Communications: (eshot and website)

Ron Grace, 01372 723657,  
[ron\\_grace@btinternet.com](mailto:ron_grace@btinternet.com)



**ON THE TABLE**



This elegant tiny hat is a box made by Richard Crook to hold an engagement ring



Yew bowl



Francois Greeff is one of our most recent members and these are some of his early pieces, the box has an interesting way of locating the lid onto the base with a drilled hole and a small metal rod and is Francois' first turned piece.



Another of Gordon Cookson's trademark pieces made from Oriented Strand board (OSB) with an interesting diagonal wood insert



This small thin platter was made by Hilary Sinclair when she first started turning and had very few pieces of wood, so this was a variety of small blocks glued together with Titebond and suprisingly still in one piece two and a half years later!



Francois brought in this lesson to us all as to what can happen - and how safety concerns should be paramount! The gouge caught on a knot with the lathe turning at 2500 rpm, spinning off and hitting the roof with dramatic results.



David Buskell's bowl made from a Chilean Laurel Burr. David provided us with some additional useful information about the wood. It has a very tight cluster and good figure. It is a light yellow to blonde colour with very good pattern. It grows along the Chilean coastline and is sometimes called Peruvian nutmetg, tihue or trihue, or Chilean Sassafras. The blank was supplied by the Toolpost at Didcot

**BALLTURNING JIG**

Francois Greeff features once again with the ballturning jig he brought in to demonstrate during the 2nd part of the meeting. His intention was to show just how difficult to use this particular tool is. In fact he asserted it was almost impossible to produce a well turned ball due to the entire structure being too flexible with too many parts that aren't well fitting. There was a problem with a grub screw in the wrong place and too much distance between the tip of the tool and the support for the jig, which is held in the banjo mount.



Jeff Cordery concurred with this view and had brought in his own model which he had adapted with a different tip, however an experiment with this resulted in the wood flying out of the chuck so probably wasn't any improvement on the original.

Jeff mentioned that Richard Hoodless has produced a much simpler version which works considerably better - perhaps we'll see it some time.

**PROGRAMME 2014**

Bob Higgins has worked hard on the programme of events for 2014 and below is the current list. If you have any suggestions for demonstrators and/or club nights that you would like to see please contact Bob on 020-8942 2221 or [bobhiggins@virginmedia.com](mailto:bobhiggins@virginmedia.com)

- |                |                           |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| February 19th  | Richard Findley           |
| March 19th     | Club night                |
| April 16th     | Greg Moreton              |
| May 21st       | Club night                |
| June 18th      | Jason Breach - just bowls |
| July 16th      | Mark Baker                |
| August 20th    | Club night                |
| September 17th | Shaun Clifford - offsets  |
| October 15th   | OGM and Club night        |
| November 19th  | Chris Grace               |
| December 17th  | Club Social evening       |

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 19th February

February 2014

## HINTS AND TIPS

### SAVING TURNING BLANKS - it doesn't take much

**searching** on the internet to come across a huge amount of helpful advice on all matters woodturning. It's refining it all down that's the problem. As mentioned in the past the AAW are a ceaseless fund of knowledge and a tip from their latest newsletter is **this pdf** from John Lucas having done some exhaustive research on **the best way to save turning blanks** (he uses wax). Extracts of articles from The American Association of Woodturners Woodturning FUNdamentals website are often featured in this e-shot, with the kind permission of Kurt Hertzog (via David Buskell). The entire website is available to those who join the AAW and Woodturning FUNdamentals provides you with a wide variety of resources for basic woodturning skills together with links to other useful information. If you want to find out more you can join here - <http://www.woodturner.org/org/mbrship/index.htm>



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The best ideas are often the simplest - and we always say "why didn't I think of that". A 4" paint roller can be used to apply end grain sealers to rough-cut surfaces on logs and turning blanks. Rollers are significantly more efficient than brushes and provide better coverage on rough-cut/chain sawn surfaces.

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If you struggle with your goggles/mask misting up when turning you can use automotive wipe-on, wipe-off anti-fog treatments to prevent fogging on the inside of your face shield masks, passive respirators and safety goggles. Automotive anti-fog treatments are available at any car parts store.

## AMERICAN WOODTURNER JOURNAL...

David Buskell has passed on a pdf published by the AAW of the American Woodturner Journal, October 2013. This has a range of information and woodturning examples, making fascinating and sometimes inspirational reading. It includes a variety of ornaments (useful for next Christmas) and an article about the work of the amazing Binh Pho plus much more. The link to it is on our website under News or from **this link - American Woodturner**.



## MARCH MEETING...

March sees a club night - the current suggestion is 'boxes'. However if you have any ideas or comments to make on what you would like to see, please let Bob Higgins know so we can try to arrange items that the members want to see - 020-8942 2221, [bobhiggins@virginmedia.com](mailto:bobhiggins@virginmedia.com).

## SUGGESTIONS AND QUESTIONS

It's a new start to a New Year and here are a few suggestions and questions I'd like to raise for members to consider over the coming months:

**TWINNING** – the Club is now twinned with Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association so you have a further 130 fellow woodturners to link up with on all matters. The Committee would welcome suggestions on how we develop this link. We already receive Central Oklahoma's newsletter and they, ours. Have a look at **www.okwoodturners.net** to see what their club/chapter does.

**WORLD WIDE WEB** – is a great source of inspiration and information. As well as YouTube, check out the Forums and the Woodturning Group on LinkedIn. We often think we are the only ones to have a specific problem and then put a question on the internet, only to find many others have experienced and solved the same issue!

**MOZAMBIQUE QUALITY HARDWOOD** – will be arriving in the UK soon from Dalmann Timbers. They have a small but very interesting range of timbers with some great colours and figuring on the, The Toolpost will be one of the retail stockists. Check out **www.dalman.com**

**MENTORING** - We do this informally amongst ourselves and with some of the staff at Epsom College. Perhaps we should make more effort to help other turners within the club if there are any problems?

**COMMUNITY WORK** - we really could do with a project within the community that the Club can support. We do occasional things for charity but not a lot else. Are there any good causes out there we should be in touch with?

**SPARE WOOD** – Here's a charitable start. Francois Greeff's Good4You charity is always in need of timber so speak to Francois at Club if you have any wood to spare that he and his people can use.

**CLUB YOU TUBE CHANNEL** – Should the club consider setting up its own YouTube channel for short instructional videos?

**MEMBERS ONLY AREA** - This could be an alternative to the YouTube channel. We do have material which is really for members only (such as the Jimmy Clewes reviews and photos). Our website is currently open to all – should we have a Members Only area?

**COLOURED WOOD** – Valchromat produce an engineered coloured wood in a small but select range of colours. For us woodturners, the best size is the 19mm sheet at £72 plus VAT for 8' by 4' Check out **www.valchromat.pt** for more details. Are you interested in trying out this new timber? If so, do let me know as it may be possible to split the cost of a board.

**Please note** these are just some personal thoughts and news that I hope the members will read and think upon.

*David Buskell*

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-shot editor Hilary - [hilaryasinclair@gmail.com](mailto:hilaryasinclair@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 19th February

## NEW E-SHOT EDITOR...

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET** that from now on you will have a new e-shot Editor, Ron Grace, who has nobly agreed to take over both the production of the e-shot and the maintenance of the website.

Although Ron did previously produce the quarterly newsletter for a considerable time, the current e-shot in its monthly form is entirely my creation and I would hope that members will support Ron by providing him with information, tips, articles and anything else you can think of to help. Please don't rely on others to do this, in the last 2+ years very few articles have been supplied by members other than the committee (for which many thanks). I was prepared to create the rest of the content myself, but you should not expect Ron to do the same - if you want an e-shot please help out - contact him on [ron\\_grace@btinternet.com](mailto:ron_grace@btinternet.com) or 01372 723657

*Hilary Sinclair*

## AXMINSTER WOODTURNING EVENT

Axminster Tools have asked us to let you know about the following event:

Axminster Tools & Machinery is hosting a FREE major woodturning event at its store in Nuneaton on Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd March, 10.00am to 4.00pm on both days.

The event, known as 10 Turners Turning, has recruited 10 top turners who will be demonstrating their skills and producing their trademark pieces of work. The 10 turners will also take part in a competition – Ready Steady Turn – over the two days. Visitors will be asked to vote for their favourite turner/favourite piece of work and, as a result of voting, will be entered into a prize draw for a £150 Axminster gift card.

The turners taking part are Mark Baker, Richard Findley, Andrew Hall, Mark Hancock, Steve Heeley, Phil Irons, Stuart King, Stuart Mortimer, Gary Rance and Colwin Way. The venue is Axminster Tools & Machinery, Bermuda Trade Park, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 7RA. It is literally 5 minutes from the M6. Details of our Nuneaton store can be found at [www.axminster.co.uk/stores](http://www.axminster.co.uk/stores).

This really is a great opportunity to see 10 top UK turners in action at one venue for free. More information about the event can be found at [www.axminster.co.uk/blog](http://www.axminster.co.uk/blog).

## CLUB SHOP NEWS (a members service)

**Don't forget** that we stock the Simon Hope sanding Arbours and that we have restocked the abrasives, both at the lowest price commercially available, together with the invaluable Rustins Danish Oil, also at the lowest price.

## MENTORING AT EPSOM COLLEGE...

You will have seen Trevor Etherington's article in your December e-shot about mentoring at Epsom College. For various reasons, there are fewer dates this term on which Abi Wickham and Stephen Tierney, the main D & T staff at the College, are available.

These are:

**6th February, 13th February, 13th March, 20th March and 27th March**

Do check your diaries to see if you are available for an hour or so from 6pm on any of these dates - you will be made most welcome at the College. Speak to David Buskell if you can help.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES...

**If anyone has not yet paid**, a reminder that John Fenn will be happy to receive your Membership subscription of £30 at the February meeting.

## ASHTEAD VILLAGE FAIR

**Cheam Woodturners are taking a stall** at the Ashtead Village Fair on Saturday 14th June. This has always proved to be a very successful event for us so if you are interested in taking part please speak to Trevor Etherington.

## YOUR CLUB STILL NEEDS YOU!

**At the AGM** the point was made that we still need new blood to join the committee - without the volunteers the club would not run. The suggestion was made that volunteers could understudy for posts on the committee in the future, so if you think you could consider this option please speak to Jeff or David.

## FOR SALE

**Small woodturning lathe, chuck and tools**

Contact Derek Forrester on 0208-330 7368 for more details

## CLUB LATHE...

**A reminder, particularly for new members**, that our Record DML 305 lathe and stand together with tools and chuck is currently available for loan.

To borrow the lathe please let Brian Ash have your details (phone: 0208 642 8108, email:

[brianash@virginmedia.com](mailto:brianash@virginmedia.com)) by the week prior to the next meeting. Remember that it may be needed for various demonstrations during the summer months so take advantage of it while it is available.

We also have a small Axminster Lathe that is available for loan. To comply with the Club insurance, the kit has to be signed in and out again each month.

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-shot editor Ron Grace - [ron\\_grace@btinternet.com](mailto:ron_grace@btinternet.com)

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 19th February