



Cheam Woodturners Association

Associated with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain
Twinned with Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association



March 2014

We shall celebrate World Wood Day

This month's table has a theme to celebrate World Wood Day on March 21st. Look through your stock and your wood pile and add to the what we hope will be an excellent show of varied timbers to celebrate!

Turners of the world Unite! — a brief discussion of any pieces from all parts of the world that our members are encouraged to bring. David Buskell has samples from Canada, USA, Australia and Africa. Plywood from Ikea does not count as a European piece — Gordon Cookson please note!

Please bring along as many pieces as you can to represent timbers from all parts of the world. They can be unturned blanks or finished work, just as long as you know the country from which the timber comes. If the piece has a story, then that's even better as we will be asking members to talk about some of their items on the table.

We will group timbers by rough geographical areas: Canada, USA, South America; Africa; India, Asia and Far East; Australasia; Europe; United Kingdom. We already have pieces promised from USA, Canada, Australasia and Africa, some of which have interesting stories to tell.

Lights, camera, action! — a brief review of our camera equipment. We hope to encourage a few more volunteers to help. An instruction sheet for its use is available.

Three lathes will be out, fully kitted up so members can practise the techniques shown by Richard Findley. We will need volunteers to start off on each lathe.

David Buskell

Some excellent Findley thoughts

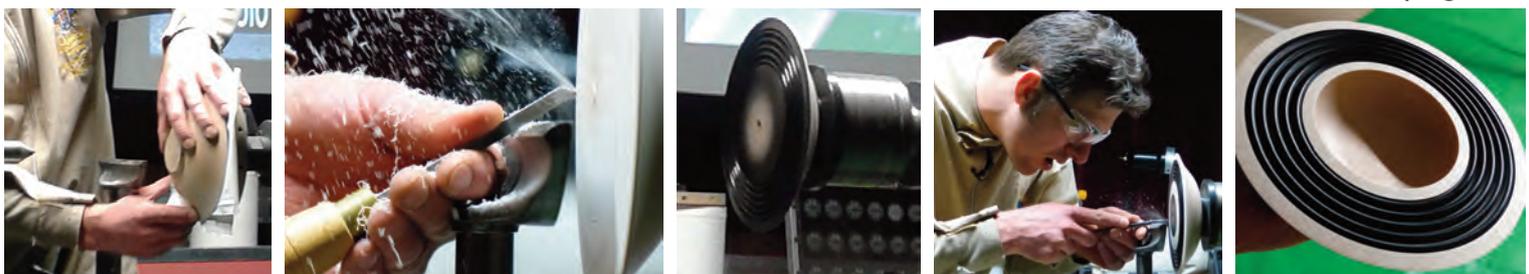
At our February meeting, Richard Findley (Turnersworkshop.co.uk) chose to show us how to make a bowl — an unusual bowl accompanied with tips, thoughts and hints from the master, on timber, tool selection, shape and finish. Simple thoughts on minimising the effect of a small crack in the maple block, methods of holding the base when the piece is reversed and his considerable use of draw cuts — they offer a smoother finish and delicate shavings are much easier. We were treated to a useful explanation of exactly how chuck jaws should fit on a spigot (snug against bowl and on spigot).



An ogee shape is chosen for the bowl and we are advised to place the partly finished blank in its final sideboard/table location to judge that the shape blends in well with the surroundings.

Much was made of the push stroke (centre to edge) for the final cuts, with thoughts on applying an acrylic coat to make the fine wood hairs stand up and be cut rather than just lying flat! A good demonstrator like Richard embeds advice in your head — as did his antics to illustrate the importance of foot positioning and balance.

Continued on page 2



Stages in the making of Richard Findley's bowl, with the final picture showing the finished item

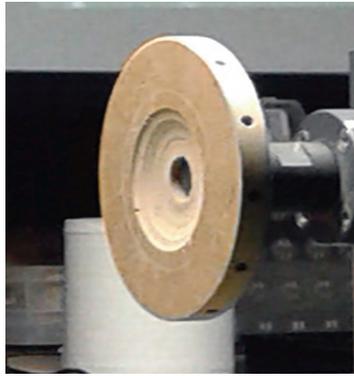
We look forward to seeing you all on 19th March



Continued from page 1

Bevel bounce also came under the microscope — where a chatter necessitates an easing off wood pressure and adding weight to the tool rest. "A lot of practice is needed!"

A power sanding devotee, our demonstrator uses a soft pad backed abrasive disc in a drill chuck; but care is needed in restricted areas to avoid the disc edge marring the work.



L to R: Simple jig for holding partly finished bowl. Positioning bowl on the jig. Held in place by the tailstock centre, the foot is cleaned up

He also emphasised cleanliness, like removing all dust before changing to a finer grade of abrasive.

Reverse rotation sanding? Richard did not appear convinced of any benefits, but admitted it may be worth a try!

The bowl of the evening has a very small capacity, the top face being decorative. The natural tendency would be to have a flat surface but this is not the best approach, says our man. "A slight curve looks more attractive and is easier to produce than a dead flat one".

For the decorative face a 6mm beading tool is used, the angle of the tool being 45 degrees, raised as the cut progresses. An odd number of beads is preferred; for some reason odd numbers dominate in many fields.

Apart from finishing, the last job is hollowing. Work from both sides, forming steps to avoid gouge wings digging in. And to add interest (and a shadow does this well), undercut the outer edge.

Saving the children — with the help of Cheam's club equipment

You probably know me as the cameraman at club meetings. I offered to do this in return for the loan of a piece of club equipment. As well as a keen turner, I am very committed to working as a *Save the Children* volunteer, raising funds for its work overseas and in the UK. I had already been speaking for them at events for a number of years when I was privileged in early 2012 to be offered a space on a visit by five volunteers to Bangladesh.



We went to very remote villages — one being two hours by water from the nearest road and where no white person had ever been. It was a life changing experience and I committed myself to spreading the word to other volunteer groups around London and the south east as well as to schools, clubs and associations.

Although most schools have computers and projectors, this is not the case for most clubs and associations. This where the club's original projector (now the standby projector) has come in useful over the past two years working with my presentations on a laptop.

In this time I have presented to over 5,000 people, over two thirds being children — the largest audience being 950, year 7,8 and 9 students and their 40 teachers at a very very large school in south east London last month.

If you are a member of a club or association that needs speaker please do get in touch. **Roger Marsden**

Club lathes: how would you like to have one free in your workshop for a month?

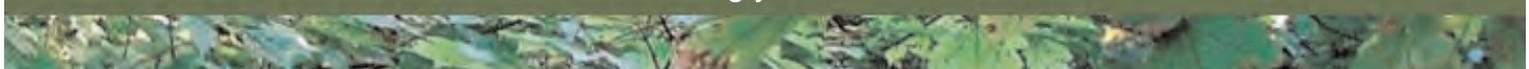
A reminder, particularly for new members, that our Record DML 305 lathe and stand, together with tools and chuck, is currently available for loan. To borrow the lathe please let Brian Ash have your details. Phone: 0208 642 8108; email: brianash@virginmedia.com) by the week prior to the next meeting. 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@btinternet.com

We look forward to seeing you all on 19th March



Members' exhibits on the February show table



1: Gordon Cookson (OSB and plywood, 15 x 9in); 2: Brian Ash (balls and jig for hand turning); 3: David Buskell (burr elm, 14 x 3in, "dry as a bone"); 4: Francois Greeff (sycamore, cherry, ash?, desk accessories); 5: Richard Crook (jatoba, sycamore, acacia, ash, cherry, hats); 6: Chris Taylor (beech, zebrano, bubinga, segmented pendants); 7: David Buskell ("Tryptich": bowl, hickory, USA; lid, walnut, UK; finial, snakewood, French Guyana)

Axminster to host woodturning event at Nuneaton store

Axminster Tools is hosting a free woodturning event at its Nuneaton store on 21st and 22nd March, 10am to 4pm on both days.

Ten Turners Turning, has recruited 10 top turners (Mark Baker, Richard Findley, Andrew Hall, Mark Hancock, Steve Heeley, Phil Irons, Stuart King, Stuart Mortimer, Gary Rance and Colwin Way) to demonstrate their skills and producing their trademark pieces of work.

They will also take part in a competition – Ready Steady Turn – over the two days. Visitors will be asked to vote for their favourite

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-shot editor: ron_grace@btinternet.com

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 venue is Axminster Tools and Machinery, Bermuda Trade Park, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 7RA. It is five minutes from the M6.

More information about the event can be found at www.axminster.co.uk/blog.

Ashtead village fair

Cheam Woodturners is 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 our contact man for this event, Membership Secretary, Trevor Etherington.

We look forward to seeing you all on 19th March





We found Greg at the South East Woodworking show demonstrating his expertise to a very interested crowd.

For those who missed him, he will be demonstrating at the club in April when members can see for themselves what drew the crowd to his stand.

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

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| March 19 | club night |
| April 16 | Greg Moreton |
| May 21 | club night |
| June 18 | Jason Breach
— just bowls |
| July 16 | club night |
| Aug 20 | Mark Baker |
| Sept 17 | Shaun Clifford
— offsets |
| Oct 15 | OGM and club
night |
| Nov 19 | Chris Grace |
| Dec 17 | club social
evening |



Richard demonstrates a critical approach!

Club Shop News

Our shop is freshly stocked with Rustins Danish oil, cellulose sanding sealer and thinners together with Chestnut finishing products. All on offer at low prices and, of course, no delivery costs.

Do check out the promotional video for the AAW Symposium to be held in Phoenix later this year — click [here](#) to view.

March raffle

Richard Findley's bowl is one of the excellent prizes in the March raffle. Don't miss out on a chance to own it. Tickets just £1 each.

If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-shot editor: ron_grace@btinternet.com

We look forward to seeing you all on 19th March