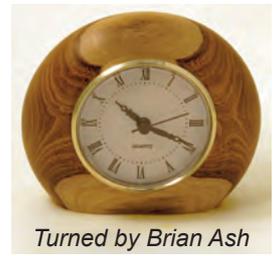




Cheam Woodturners Association

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



Turned by Brian Ash

May 2014

Greg does make sense



Ex-chairman Greg Moreton was our presenter/demonstrator at the April meeting. And, as was expected, he gave an expert performance making a delightful natural edge laburnum box. His tea break was sacrificed to showing members how to acquire razor-sharp edges on their woodturning tools.

A lively session went well into extra time as members jested and gave Greg plenty of backchat, with lots of valuable information and amusing comments imparted to keep memories going long after the hall returned to silence.

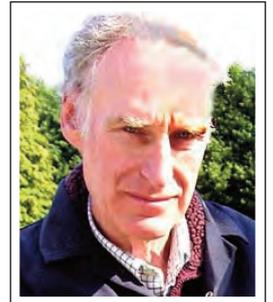
“Does that make sense?” asked Greg, using an expression common among demonstrators these days. And yes, Greg, that does make sense.



For more pictures see page 2

For a great night out!

Blunt gouges, skewers, scrapers? Suffering with bandsaw blade fitting? Cannot get the finish you want on your latest production? Then here is the answer, because member **Tony Bryan** is



organising an exciting session for the May club night on the 21st. Don't miss out on this one-off opportunity to solve your problems.

Included in the session

Bandsaw blade changing and demonstration of bandsaw use.

Using a variety of sharpeners (apart from the club one) for example, the Sorby, the Tru-Grind.

A demonstration of chainsaw sharpening by David Buskell (if you wish to bring in your own saw, plus jigs and files, David will be pleased to help you.)

Finishing bowls and platters. Sanding sealers, melamine, oils, waxing, speed finishing and buffing.

If you do something different, then bring it along.

Some timber will be available, but your own would be more suitable if you wish to start or finish a project with expert guidance.

You can sharpen your own (woodworking) tools and if you have any to sell then they will be welcome.

Club tools will be available but safety apparatus available will only be goggles.

We look forward to seeing you all on 21st May

Page 1





Greg at work and samples of his expertise

On the table



Gordon Cookson, elm, 11in diameter



Chris Taylor, ash



Richard Crook, beech



Chris Taylor, beech rattles



Colin (who?)



Derek Dowle, beech/laburnum



David Buskell, burr elm, 8x3in



Richard Crook, maple



Francois Greeff, yew



Brian Ash, yew

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



Sheffield: an early start

Northern Correspondent Hilary Sinclair sends her first report since moving to the Chilly North

Greetings from Derbyshire. Old habits die hard so here I am in Derbyshire writing up a review of my recent foray to Sheffield Woodturners (<http://www.sheffieldwoodturningclub.org.uk/>) to watch a demonstration by Dave Lowe, coincidentally the demonstrator I saw last September when we were here for a brief visit (some of you may remember my zipped bowl that was the outcome of the visit).

The club opens its doors at 6pm ready for a demonstration starting at 7pm and finishing at 10pm (the advantages of not having dancing girls preceding you) and has a lovely clubhouse in a refurbished barn, with lottery funded equipment. This includes a small but effective and surprisingly quiet dust extractor, which might be something Cheam may consider investing in at some point in the future.

This demo was, perhaps, less successful as Dave had unfortunately forgotten several vital elements including the right size jaws to fit the prepared wood he had brought and the superglue he needed to fix the piece together. In fact the members received an email the next day from the committee apologising for the quality of the demonstration!

Despite this there were one or two interesting bits and pieces to take note of, as there are in any demonstration. Dave made what he called a Moon Flask Vase, a sort of cowboy canteen with a circular insert. He mounts a button in the middle, disguising any centre point mark created when holding the insert in place — he gets his metal buttons from buying ladies belts from charity shops and using the decorative elements!

He also made a bowl which he textured with a Robert Sorby texturing tool, then ebonised and coloured it. The most interesting part being the use of a coloured wax cream called Buff-it to fill the grooves of his piece. This soft wax is a very effective filler which polishes up well. It is produced by Pinflair, in Hertfordshire, www.pinflair.co.uk, is described as a glossy fast drying wax finish and comes in 24 colours including metallic and glitter finishes. Priced at £6.99, or £5.95 for the glitter pastes. This could be well worth a try.

Our man also demonstrated a couple of other fill-in type pieces one using the Jo Sonja's iridescent paints applied while the ebonised piece was spinning. This wasn't entirely successful and, having used all his wood up by 9.30, he was presented with a bag of small pieces and logs by the lady club secretary (there are many more women in the Sheffield club) and asked to make something — they make them tough up here. He made an off-centre turned piece produced by holding the square end of the wood in the chuck and slightly changing the angle of the wood in the jaws after turning each segment.

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



Snippets for your digestion at leisure

All around the country, clubs, galleries and other organisations are running events to celebrate our heritage in Craft and Design. Cheam Woodturners has decided that we should participate in this event and thus our club night on May 21 will be open to all, with an invitation to come along and to see examples of our work. As we will also have the lathes out, we might tempt a few guests to have a go. Guests will be given free admission for this evening only.

To show what the club can do, please bring along examples of your work for the table and we will try to get individual shots of them or a video of the whole table.

Our hardworking Communications Editor needs help to ensure all pieces are photographed so please consider volunteering to assist him.

Through raising our profile in the wider art/craft/design arena, Cheam hopes to generate new memberships and to help to bring woodturning to a wider world.

If you want more information about National Craft and Design Month, do visit:

<http://www.craftanddesignmonth.net>. and check out our listing in the Find Events section — we are on page 32.

David Buskell

Check this out.....

I found a useful video channel while browsing YouTube. Search for Brendan Stemp and look at his AmoBS series of videos — all you want to know on a topic in a minute!

Brendan also does some longer videos such as his one on using resin. It can be difficult to match the products he mentions as we don't always have the same ones available over here.

I am sure there are lots of other woodturning/woodworking channels — have you found a good one that you want to share with everyone?

David Buskell

Join in the fun on Epsom Common Day

Just to let everyone know we have been invited to Epsom Common day on July 20. Run by the Epsom Common Association, this is the 40th year of its existence.

Anybody seen this guy before?

Woodturning is both an art and a craft. "Craftsmen produce vessels; artists make them interesting" This leading statement appears on: <http://www.woodturningart.com>. Worth looking at.

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

Wood up for grabs

Chairman Jeff has been having a bit of a stocktake — he has a couple of bags of small pieces of wood which would be suitable for making small boxes or fruit. It is all English hardwoods and fully seasoned.

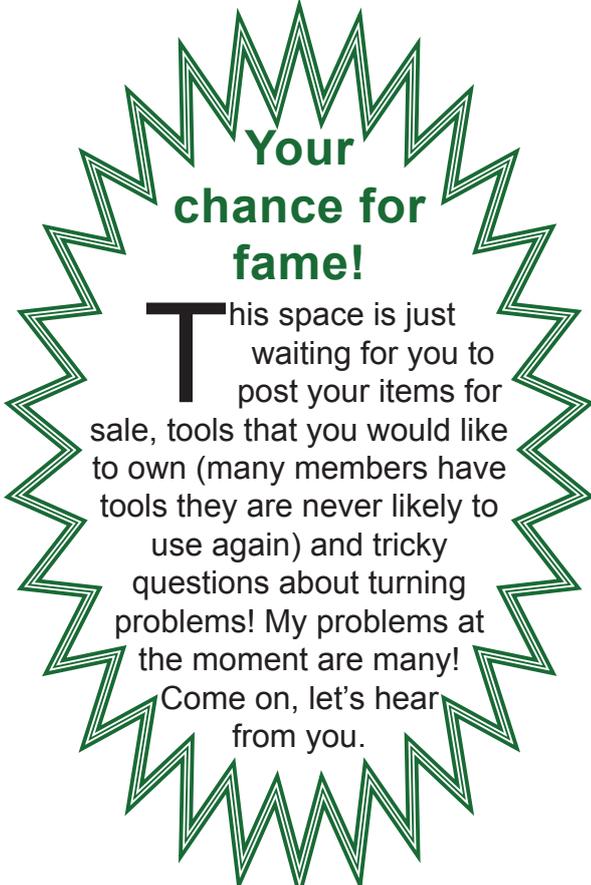
"It seems a pity to give it to a friend for his woodburner so I thought someone in the club might find it useful. To anyone who wants it, it is free to have it, so long as it is not used for firewood. I will bring it to the next meeting if anyone wants it."

World Wood Day

Thanks to everyone who bought in a species of wood for the club table. It was good to see such a wide range represented by turned items, unturned blanks and even elephants and heads! We don't use just English woods after all.

Let's hope we have an equally good display for World Wood Day in 2015.

David Buskell



Your chance for fame!

This space is just waiting for you to post your items for sale, tools that you would like to own (many members have tools they are never likely to use again) and tricky questions about turning problems! My problems at the moment are many!

Come on, let's hear from you.



David asks: “What do you think?”

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 the Central Oklahoma Woodturners Association, so you have a further 130 fellow woodturners to link up with on all matters. The committee welcomes 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. 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 the 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 produces 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 8ft by 4ft. 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



Epsom College shows off its work

An invitation to view practical work by students at Epsom College was accepted with alacrity by David Buskell and Ron Grace. We were greatly impressed by the high standard and keen snapper Ron took these pics for your pleasure. Abigail Wickham, head of the Design and Technology Department, welcomed us and wrote the following introduction.

This year the standard has been particularly high with more students opting to include a combination of traditional manufacture with CNC produced components. Wood turning has become increasingly popular with products ranging from a jewellery box to coffee table legs and feet.

We also saw our first 3D printed product, which was a speaker dock in the shape of clam shells. We are continuing to utilise the range of metal processes used in project work and making more use of the MIG welder and engineers' lathes.



"A common mistake that people make when trying to design something completely foolproof is to underestimate the ingenuity of complete fools"
Douglas Adams

"Good Design is obvious.
Great Design is transparent"
Joe Sparano



Most of the items on show have never seen a lathe! But woodworkers all admire the work of those with other skills. Apart from the high standard of work, one must also envy the equipment available to students — two items were the good old Harrison Graduates!

Deadline....for news, words, pictures for the next issue of e-news is Saturday June 7
If you have any comments, corrections, or items to add, please contact e-news editor: ron_grace@btinternet.com

