

# Cheam Woodturners Association

# Newsletter 8

March 2002



At the January meeting Frank Clarke was presented with a fine dish on behalf of the association to thank him for all his time and effort put into the club in its first two years. Shown above are Frank (right), Andrew Griffiths, who has since been elected as Chairman of the association, and the dish, turned by Colin Simpson.

Frank has now moved to Ireland but hopes to be able to attend some of our meetings when he is over here. We all wish him an enjoyable retirement in the emerald isle.

A brief report on the Annual General Meeting and details of the new committee are both included in this newsletter and full minutes will be posted on the association notice board.

The new committee are already planning and booking speakers / demonstrators for 2003 - please let them know if you have any special requests.

## **2001- the achievements**

Membership numbers up

An interesting and varied programme of demonstrations

The move to a new larger venue with better parking and facilities

Equipment now includes  
lathe, dust extractor,  
video camera, TV monitors

Finances improved  
with increased reserves

A more cohesive committee  
working together

# ***Under New Management!***

## **A review of the AGM**

Frank Clarke made his fairwell speech at the Annual General Meeting, saying how much he had enjoyed the friendship of the club, and but for the unfortunate ups and downs of last year with its extraordinary general meeting, was pleased with the support he had from the members and from the new committee in particular. They had been working as a good team and with the exception of Frank were remaining for re-election.

With Frank moving to Ireland, the meeting required a new committee member and a new chairman to be elected. One person only had been nominated for the committee and one for Chairman so by block vote the new committee were elected. Andrew Griffiths takes over as Chairman and Graham Wood joins the Committee as raffle administrator. Other posts remain the same - full details are on the back page.

The meeting approved two changes to the constitution with strong majority votes and also gave authorisation to increase subscriptions in 2003 by £2.50 if so required.

Most discussion was left for the subject of shows and whether to take part. Although there were strong views on whether these shows should be used for selling or just for showing, there seemed to be general approval that the Association should take part. A show of hands indicated a good response for volunteers to help.

*Roger Marsden*

---

## ***Bring a sample or two of your work***

*At every meeting in future any samples brought will be displayed, reviewed and constructively commented upon by Tim Lawson and other professionals in the club.*

---

## ***Situation Vacant***

*The club has a collection of books on woodturning and woodwork generally, and is looking for a club member to act as librarian to control the comings and goings of the stock. If you are interested please talk to a committee member.*

---

# ***Hands On Day***

## **A report from a novice**

On Saturday 2nd March, eight novice turners spent the first of two very instructive mornings improving their techniques at both bowl and spindle turning.

Brian Ash kindly made his workshop available (and laid on refreshments), Andrew Griffiths and Graham Wood gave up their morning to demonstrate and other club members did the same to generally assist.

This was my first hands-on session since joining the club, and a good opportunity to meet people as well as learn. I spent the morning watching and practising bowl turning, which I've done a little of before. We covered the differences between turning wet and seasoned timber, chucking, getting a good profile and achieving a surface requiring minimal sanding - in just two hours.

The teaching was excellent, and I came away enthused to do more, having learnt new techniques and been reassured over existing ones. Brian Ash also arranged for a group to visit Tim Lawson each morning at his workshop. All found it a fascinating experience. Many thanks to all involved for making it happen.

*Andrew Thompson*

## ***Post Stroke Turning***

A stroke followed by four weeks in hospital culminated in left limbs that just won't do the things they used to.

For someone definitely not stroke material this came as a nasty shock and

so far an unpleasant experience. Whilst I wouldn't wish it on anyone else there have however been some positive factors and because some of these relate to woodturning I thought a few words would be in order.

The hospital world has different rules and reduced horizons; it creates a feeling of exclusion. The real world carries on without you and the way back depends on recovery. (Please God let me throw a six). The many factors involved in recovery include medical expertise, nursing care, physio, one's own attitude and a great deal of encouragement from family and friends.

The club card with all its signatures and good wishes came when I was not at my best and its own sense of that outside world for which I was very grateful. My welcome back later was a major reconnection.

Frank visited me in hospital with the excuse of wanting to test load the bed and updated me on woodturning matters, local and national. Larry and Graham brought recent items to feel, hold and envy and a bag of shavings arrived for me to sniff. Later still on returning home I went in the workshop to indulge in some noxious dust before switching on the lathe and taking a roughing gouge to a square between centres.

Based on my experience I offer the following recovery guide but hope you never need it: Don't despair. Listen to the medics, take your pills, be kind to all nurses and heed what they say. Follow where the physios lead you, do all the exercises all the time. Thank God for wife, family and friends.

*Harry Bell*

## ***Gregory Moreton RPT***

Professional wood turner Gregory Moreton offers tuition for one or two students in his Claygate workshop

Two day beginners courses and one day advanced or refresher courses are available or hourly tuition can be tailored to your own needs

Gregory is registered with the Worshipful Company of Turners and is a full member of the Surrey Guild of Craftsmen

Please call 01372 467692 for more details or e-mail [gregory@moreton.co.uk](mailto:gregory@moreton.co.uk)

**[www.moreton.co.uk](http://www.moreton.co.uk)**

# Missed Out?

## Did you miss out on earlier newsletters?

Articles featured (issue number in brackets) were:

### A Complete Fabrication

How to go about buying a wood drying kiln (1)

### Woodwork Therapy

A local occupational therapy programme including woodturning (2)

### Art versus Craft

Dr Tim Lawson's views on the value of art (3) and Peter Westerman's reply (4)

### Safety First

Useful safety tips (3)

### One Year On

Experiences of a first year of turning (4)

### Dust Management

from Frank Clarke (4)

### Seal of Approval

Finishing products explained (5)

### 100-1

100 issues of Woodturning magazine (5)

### Banksia Cob Candlesticks

A step by step guide for their making (7)

### Show talk

Axminster (3, 7) Cheam Library (3) Wisley (7)

### Shop Talk

Timberline of Tonbridge (2), Stiles & Bates (6) Craft Supplies (6), Derby Woodturning Centre (6) Yandles (7)

### Hints & Tips

Making the most of expensive materials (3)  
A little trick with washers (4), 38mm jaws (4)  
Indexing a graduate (4), Lathe care (6)  
Sizing Spigots (6), Ferules for tool handles (6)  
Low voltage light (6), Teflon spray (7)

**All issues are on the Association website:**

**[www.cheamturners.co.uk](http://www.cheamturners.co.uk)**

The editor can provide copies of previous articles if you send a donation to newsletter costs.

## Hints & Tips

Over the past couple of months I have been using a useful little device from Planet Manufacturing. It consists of a ring of steel 20mm in diameter which slips over the cone of any 60° revolving tailstock centre to convert it to a revolving ring centre. It costs £4.95 plus VAT. There is just one problem with its use - you have to be careful that you do not drop it into the shavings when removing a piece of work from the lathe.

*Richard Hoodless*

## Who's Who on the committee

**Andrew Griffiths, Chairman**, a technical capabilities manager with the MoD managing people and big budgets. Needing a hobby, he was introduced to woodturning by Colin Simpson. His workshop replaced an old garden shed and contains a Record CL1 36 lathe, bandsaw, chapsaw and pillar drill. His weekends are now more enjoyable turning bowls, platters, bud vases, light pulls and bottle stoppers.

**David Buskell, Secretary** came to woodturning just over two years ago after a course with Frank Clarke. Turning provides him with relaxation and a stress free antidote to his day job as a music royalty auditor. He is still developing his technique and says he practices the hints and tips he gets at our meetings.

**Richard Hoodless, Treasurer**, a hobby turner with a life-long interest in woodworking, bought a Coronet Minor for £14 in 1958 but other demands meant not much turning. Now more serious after retiring, with a Graduate lathe and some high speed tools, he enjoys the variety offered by woodturning, is still learning and has a go at most types of turning, particularly enjoying the pre-planning. He mostly uses wood collected and seasoned himself, not commonly sold commercially - laburnum, laurel, lilac, peach, plum etc, and also reclaimed furniture wood. His neighbours know him as 'the man who collects wood'.

**Brian Ash, Membership Secretary** semi retired in 1997 having worked within the Computer Industry for nearly 40 years, starting on LEO1 the UK's first Commercial Computer, a valve operated machine. A newcomer to Woodturning over the last six months having purchased a second hand Coronet in September 2001. Now has the woodturning bug and turns every spare moment.

**Jeff Cordrey, Events Secretary** returned to woodturning to complete the final one of a set of four egg cups he was making for his mother whilst at school! He has still to complete it! Retired from an operational manager's job with BT he has been turning as a hobby for over three years and hopes one day to be able to turn what he has in his mind's eye when he starts!

**Graham Wood, Raffle Organiser** came to woodturning almost by accident about five years ago. Meeting Harry Bell during his work as a driver, heard he had just bought a new lathe and was selling his old one, so bought it and kept for a year or so and then moved on to a new one. This was before the association was formed and the early days were a case of trial and error and teach yourself. Now working from home repairing and restoring furniture he fits woodturning in between as time allows. Next year he will be 65 and hopes to continue with woodworking and turning as long as he can, and also enjoys the benefits that belonging to Cheam Woodturners can give.

## **A letter from Ireland**

**by Frank Clarke**

*Hi Guys. Well, we arrived safely, the ferry crossing was somewhat rough, Lesley and I were OK but the removal guys did not enjoy it one little bit. I believe they had it just as bad on the return journey.*

*I have never seen so many boxes in my life, all together we had over 120 boxes and cartons (some still to be unpacked) not including things like the lathes, machinery, tools and a lot of large loose pieces of timber. Before the ferry company allow lorries onto the ferry they have to go onto a weighbridge. When they weighed our vehicle it was only 20 kilos off its maximum weight of 17 tons - lucky or what. No, it wasn't all mine, it did include the lorry.*

*The builders are starting the new workshop next week, so I should soon have somewhere to put all my junk. It will be one big Christmas opening all the boxes and rediscovering what they hold.*

*I will bore you with further updates from time to time.*

*By for now. Frank*

*(you can keep in touch with Frank on frankclarke@eircom.net)*

# Robert Sorby

- World's premier manufacturer of woodturning tools
- Extensive selection
- Plenty of innovative new products
- Full technical support
- See us at one of our many product demonstrations

## Robert Sorby

Athol Road, Sheffield S8 OPA, England.  
Tel: +44 (0) 114 225 0700 Fax: +44 (0) 114 225 0710  
E-mail: sales@robert-sorby.co.uk  
www.robert-sorby.co.uk

## **NEXT NEWSLETTER - JUNE**

**Copy date 15th May 2002**

Roger Marsden Editor

Clare House, 22 Claremont Avenue, Esher, Surrey KT10 9JD  
tel 01372 464242 fax 01372 470870 e-mail clarehouse@aol.com

*Any views expressed in the newsletter are those of the people submitting the material and not necessarily of the committee.*

*Members who submit articles will be given the opportunity by telephone call or a proof copy in order that they may give their consent/approval of any editing that has been carried out on the original article, before it is published.*

## **CLUB MEETINGS**

**Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month starting at 7.45pm at North Cheam Sports & Social Club 658 London Road (A24) North Cheam, Surrey next to Sainsbury's supermarket**

**Wednesday 17th April**  
*Practical Evening and Timber Conservation*

**Wednesday 15th May**  
*A presentation by Robert Sorby Tools*

**Wednesday 19th June**  
*Roy Childs demonstrates Turning with Wet Wood*

*17th July - Bob French, Lidded Boxes*  
*21st August - Practical Evening, Shape, Form & Design*  
*18th September - Dave Moore, Craft Items for Christmas*  
*16th October - Jennie Starbuck, Decorated Platters*  
*20th November - Stuart King, Rural Crafts*  
*18th December - Christmas Social*

### **OTHER DATES WORTH NOTING**

**Stuart Mortimer Seminar Sun 14th April**  
*Middlesex Woodturners Association*  
*Village Hall, Holmer Green, Nr High Wycombe*  
*phone 01628 530460 for tickets at £12.50*

**Yandles Shows**  
*12/13 April and 6/7 September*  
**Poolewood Show**  
*23-24 May*  
**Axminster Show**  
*24-26 October*

## **COMMITTEE**

**Chairman: Andrew Griffiths**  
020 8644 1546 mail2griff@yahoo.co.uk  
**Secretary: David Buskell**  
"Woodlands" 83 Viney Bank, Courtwood Lane  
Addington, Surrey, CR0 9JU  
020 8657 5565 davidbuskell@yahoo.com  
**Treasurer: Richard Hoodless**  
020 8330 1338  
**Membership Secretary: Brian Ash**  
020 8642 8108 brian.ash@which.net  
**Events Secretary: Jeff Cordery**  
020 8647 2691 jeff\_cordery@hotmail.com  
**Raffle Administrator: Graham Wood**  
01372 272077 glwooduk@yahoo.co.uk