

Cheam Woodturners Association Newsletter 40

March 2010

Magnificent mower: top award

Richard Hoodless once again scooped the first prize in the Advanced section of the Frank Clarke memorial competition in December (toys or games for children). His mower (which he thinks will provide some happy play hours this summer) is a superb example of advanced turning skills. Runner-up was Brian Ash.



Richard

In the Intermediate section, Patrick O'Connell beat off strong competition with his tractor and trailers. It was this creation that also won him the second prize in the Coolings Turner of the Year competition. Runner-up was Derek Rixon.



Patrick

Last but not least, Trevor Etherington walked off with the platter for the Beginners' class with his infant's rattle. Runner-up was Tom Seakins.



Trevor



Mower award: Richard collects his winner's platter from Chairman Greg Moreton



Left Patrick, right Trevor: collect their awards



Left: Trevor's child's rattle

Right: Richard's mower



More photos on page 6



On tow: Patrick's tractor and two trailers

A plea for members to turn to their pens

by John Dye

On reading the December issue of the Newsletter and taking on board the very subtle comment from Ron Grace, thanking David Buskell for his photographs, I thought it was time that I contributed something to the newsletter.

First I would like to express my compliments to the editor and committee whom it appears are the main contributors of articles and photos to every edition of the newsletter and put together a worthwhile read every time — well done.

The thing is, that it is a club newsletter and is read (I assume) by the vast majority of the club membership. Taking my view as general, the newsletter keeps us amused and informed by a limited number of scribes.

Why is it then, that the rest of us cannot put pen to paper, fingers on keyboards or for the more advanced (by this I mean well off) use dictating equipment and add to Ron's workload by giving him loads more ammunition to fill our newsletter?

Is it that we think what we have to say would not be interesting to our fellow members? Or could it just be that we can't be bothered? — I think that probably a bit of both is the answer.

So here I am joining in with a contribution that doesn't have anything to do with turning at all, just moaning about apathy I suppose — but it is a least something for Ron to edit or discard if he so wishes. As I am

writing this — still in December 2009, I'm thinking about the good old tradition of New Year resolutions — usually made in haste and easily broken — but how about a New Year resolution, albeit somewhat late (but as we turners are usually somewhat a procrastinating bunch, it doesn't really matter).

I propose that we each make a resolution, to send Ron at least one contribution (of the literary or photographic kind of course — not financially — I'd much prefer financial contributions to come to me) whether a few lines or an epistle of epic proportions in the course of the next 12 months.

Even if it is to say what a load of rubbish I have written! If it's topical, then Ron can have a bumper edition; if it's a story or advice then he can store it for later use.

So don't delay in sending anything — Ron will no doubt prioritise according to the content, I look forward to reading all.

Thank you for your kind words, John.

I look forward to a flood of words and pictures — although experience over the past six years doesn't fill me with optimism!

But maybe you are the spark that sets the blaze going!

RG



Racal helmet tip

by David Dawson

Faced with the company being defunct and my helmet battery not keeping its charge, I did some research and found another company which replaced said battery for the surprising sum of £10!

Details are:

Cell Pack Solutions Ltd
218 Tedco Business Works
Station Road
South Shields
Tyne and Wear NE33 1RF
www.cellpacksolutions.com
batteries@cellpacksolutions.com
Tel: 0191 427 4577
Fax: 0191 427 4606

Hidden screw can cause problems

by David Curnow

When changing the bearing on the headstock of a Coronet No. 1 lathe, you have to remove the pulley.

Here's a tip worth knowing. The pulley is held in place with TWO grub screws, both in the same hole, one locking the other.

Struggle no more — it's an easy job once you have removed both grub screws.

This may be a common practice. I found two grub screws in the pulley of my Harrison Jubilee. RG

Not at AGM?

Any member wishing to see the full accounts given by the treasurer at the AGM need only ask secretary, treasurer or editor.

Insurance: important notice

The club is insured for public liability and for machinery and equipment used at club events. The club is **NOT** insured for the following items:

Money
Personal effects
Laptop computers
Mobile telephones
Cameras
Hired-in equipment.

The club recognises that members attending events on behalf of the club may take with them some of the items listed above.

It is the responsibility of the event co-ordinator to advise all volunteers that such items are not covered by the club's insurance and that the volunteers should take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety and security of any such items at the event, beforehand and afterwards.

The club will not, therefore, be held responsible or liable for any loss, damage, theft or other incidents that may incur.

If you have any queries on the above please contact any member of the committee.

Hot stuff

by David Buskell



You may have seen flyers advertising a new arts and crafts market in Croydon called Stuff.

The club was approached to see if we had any interest in taking a space but regrettably this was not possible.

Your intrepid reporter visited Stuff over the weekend to see how the market, which had been open for a week at the time of writing, was doing.

On offer is an eclectic range of arts and crafts of diverse kinds spread over a market area in Middle Street, Croydon (adjacent to the Surrey Street market).

It is run by David Lashmar and is based on the old Beano's site. The second and third floor areas especially, will bring back memories to those vinyl junkies amongst us who were customers at the legendary Beano's store.

On the day I visited, there was quite a crowd looking round. Some of the stalls seemed to be doing good business.

The cafe on the 3rd floor was open and doing a roaring trade.



Photo: David Buskell

Most of the stalls were taken and I can report there were no woodturners or woodturnings there, which is a shame.

It does seem that Stuff has caught the imagination of the people of Croydon and all praise to David, Tim and his team for developing the market. I do hope that at some time in the future, perhaps Cheam and the other clubs will find a way to be associated with this venture.

In the meantime, I urge you to go along and have a look for yourselves — you will be pleasantly surprised!

Open seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

Info@stuffcroydon.com

www.stuffcroydon.com

[http://www.retrochick.co.uk/20](http://www.retrochick.co.uk/2010/02/24/hidden-gems-stuff-in-croydon/)

[10/02/24/hidden-gems-stuff-in-croydon/](http://www.retrochick.co.uk/2010/02/24/hidden-gems-stuff-in-croydon/)

Woodturning tuition

with

Gregory Moreton RPT

Learn to turn in a Surrey-based workshop on either of two Vicmarc VL300 lathes with a registered professional turner.

Introductory and advanced courses, as well as individual tuition, are available.

5% discount to all members of CWA

Maximum of two students

For details: ☎ 01372 467692

e-mail: greg@moreton.co.uk

www.learntoturn.co.uk





The magnificent seven

Place: Brian Ash's spacious workshop.

Time: two Saturday mornings in February.

What a really great way to get out of the Saturday morning shopping trip. It was certainly so for me! But for seven keen-to-learn members it was a great opportunity to learn all about the basics of woodturning from experts Brian Ash and Jeff Cordery. No doubt this was the first of many such events.



by
**Ron
Grace**



I am a newcomer to turning and, as yet, I do not have a lathe to play with. I found the training mornings really useful.

I think we all now know the difference between spindle gouges and bowl gouges, wet wood and dry wood, sharpening jigs, dust control and much more.

I advise any beginner to get signed up for these sessions as ALL your questions can be answered.

Many thanks to Brian and Jeff for the fun, advice, tea and biscuits!

Bob Higgins (left)



More pictures on page 5

The club's new projector

Better viewing of demos and other presentations on club evenings is assured with our new projector (right) and a positively massive (7ft square?) screen. First outing was in February; look out for many more.



Early warning

Bringing items to club nights for photographing for the website is very popular.

BUT it gives me a problem when there's no name or material given.

So, in future, no name, no material (could be 'unknown material') also means no photograph.

I have prepared a notice to this effect and supplied information slips, but bear this in mind when packing up ready to leave for a club night.

RG



Top left:
students have a laugh
while other pictures
show them having a go



My pictures
show just how
much the
participants
enjoyed their
two Saturdays
of tuition by
Brian and Jeff.
Right: Brian
makes the
shavings fly
as he trims
the timber
ready for the
next student
to take his
turn





More pictures of superb entries in the December Frank Clarke competition



These remarkable photos of work done with a chainsaw by Randall (Randy) Boni of Parrottsville, Tennessee, were taken by Colin Dunn of the Sutton Association of Woodworkers. It's well worth a visit to his website: <http://www.abundance-acres.com>. Thanks to Mark Scott of the Sutton club for sending them on.



Randy Boni: chainsaw master



Want more info?
Space is often the problem with our newsletter — in this case the AGM report and forum is just too long! If you did not attend and want more information, contact a member of the committee.

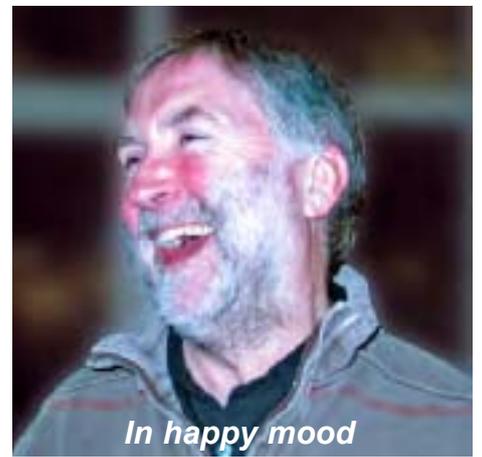
Plater's presentation

by Ron Grace

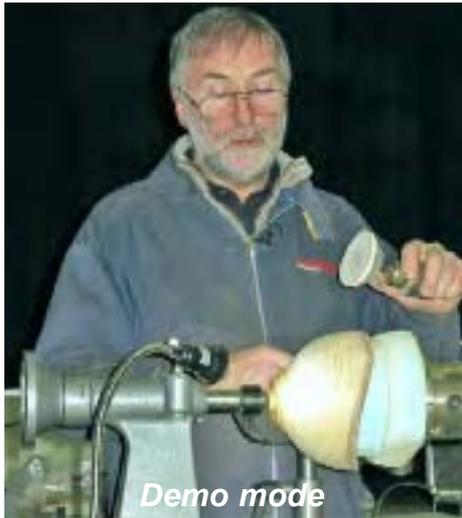
Members were treated to an unusual presentation in February when John Plater started with a practical demonstration followed by a slide show accompanied by his thoughts on design and how he approaches his work.



Everyone was impressed by his skills and here are some pictures which illustrate them — and him!



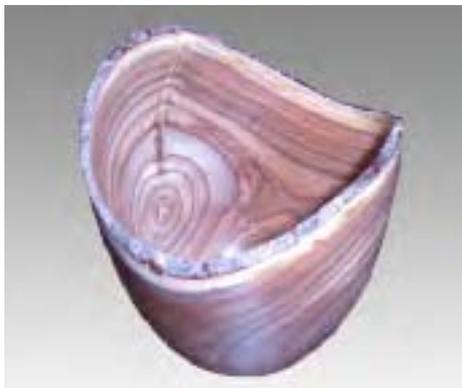
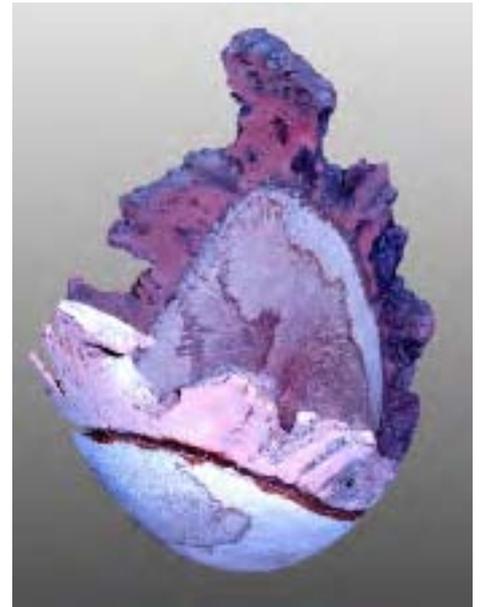
In happy mood



Demo mode



Posed for portrait



John's bowl support setup



These bowls are huge!

2010 Programme

April 21	Gary Renouf	Design and decoration.
May 19	Practical	Discussion on design. Why shapes work.
June 16	Practical	Help in design: useful critique of members' work.
July 21	Allan Beecham	Spindle turning.
August 18	Practical	Candlesticks and lamps.
		Long hole boring,, design.
September 15	Practical	Antique restoration. Shapes for legs/finials/ ornaments. Splicing legs. Raising grain.
October 20	John Johnson	Simple hollow form.
November 17	Practical	Hollow turning: end/side grain; two bowls; Brian's method. Tools.
December 15	Christmas social	Social evening plus events and Frank Clarke competition.

Club website: www.cheamturners.co.uk

In addition to the above there may also be ad hoc tree harvests, hands-on mornings and exhibitions. Changes to the above programme may be necessary at short notice due to unforeseen circumstances. Check our website for further information.

Meetings start at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month at:

**The Colin Peel Hall, Elmcroft Community Centre,
570 London Road, North Cheam, Surrey SM3 9AB (adjacent to Sainsbury's supermarket).**

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Next newsletter

June 2010

Copy deadline

May 31

Ron Grace

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