

Hampshire Woodturners Association newsletter

Spring issue, March 2010

Reports:

Mark Baker demo

HWA member Mike Haselden's lovely inlaid work.



Plus.....

2010 AGM notice & nomination form

Projects: Off centre turning Cherry Burr bowl Lathe re-build.

YOUR TURN

Spring 2010



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EDITORIAL

As I sit in my office, peering at the arctic scene outside, feeling too cosy to venture even as far as the workshop, it is difficult to drag my thoughts to the spring. I suppose my natural instinct is hibernation.



View from my window. Spring seems a long way off at the time of writing.

The weather has the opposite effect on Marion who is busily scanning the holiday brochures and nudging me off the computer so that she can do some more research on line.

But I am told that spring definitely is coming and with it comes ...the HWA AGM. You'll find the announcement and committee nomination slip in this issue. Most members of the committee are prepared to stand again but we could use some new blood. If you've ever felt the urge to grumble about the Club, you can do something about it and get involved in running it. Just get a member to propose and another to second you and send your slip to the secretary.

And now an appropriate verse for Spring cheekily called "words' worth":

As a lonely cloud I wandered the hills imagining how a poet feels. But the worth of my words was lost on the birds and on the host of daffodils.



Now, to change the mood entirely, George Gale, long standing HWA member and good friend of mine, died last week. You can read an obituary on page 9.

Dave Gibbard, Editor

REPORTS OF EVENTS

7 December Christmas Quiz

The December meeting is traditionally a social affair and once again we had a quiz with questions including both turning related and other questions. Attendance was higher than usual and members formed themselves into 6 teams with imaginative names to do battle.



Quizmaster Jon Gibbs and scorer Alan Sturgess

Questions were prepared by various committee members Quizmaster Jon Gibbs posed these in 8 rounds on Sport, Picture identification, Current Affairs, Scrambled Sayings, Cryptic Turning Phrases, General Knowledge, Wood and Turning Trivia and Geography.

Teams could nominate a round in advance to play their jokers to double the score of that round. No team optimised this choice which could have altered the result entirely.

In technically advanced fashion, the scores were kept on a laptop spread sheet by Alan Sturgess and projected onto a screen. The initial front-runners, the Magnificent Seven were pipped at the post by Ron's Ravers with Tweedle Dum and the Tea boys coming a creditable third. The winning team were awarded prizes of sweeties and the wooden spoon went to the Novices.

In the interval tea was served supplemented by supper of chips and mince pies.

It hadn't been made clear whether there would be a gallery but 4 members were keen enough to bring something along ranging from miniature bowls by Jean Turner to a large oak bowl by Jon Gibbs. All the pictures are on the website.

The evening was rounded off by calling the raffle which had a large number of seasonal prizes.



Alan doing the gallery crit.

4 January 2010 Mike Haselden - Decorative Inlays

Those of you who have followed the gallery recently will have noticed Mike's lovely bowls with rims inlaid with contrasting wood patterns. There had been so many questions about how it was done that Mike agreed to show us by way of an evening demonstration.

Mike had already prepared an inlay with alternating contrasting wood segments glued with PVA onto an MDF disc about the same diameter as the bowl. The disc had been marked out into 24 equal segments using the indexing facility on the lathe.



the indexing facility on MDF disc with alternating segments the lathe.

MDF disc with alternating segments for inlay. Note marking up jig

Wooden segments about 8 mm thick were cut on a bandsaw, and the edges of each sanded precisely to fit the adjacent segments without any gaps.

Mike prepared the bowl by mounting on a chuck via spigots. We wondered why Mike went to the trouble of turning a cylinder rather than shaping the outside of the bowl straight away. He proceeded to part off a ring from what would have been waste shavings for use as a future inlay. Aah!



(Waste ring saved for future inlay)

Apart from this removal he left the outside of the bowl to be finished later so that it would be as rigid as possible

for fitting the inlay. He had made a useful jig to fit the tailstock with 2 adjustable needles for marking the bowl rim for a groove to take the inlay and also for marking the inlay itself. First the inlay was cut in the form of a ring, the MDF being retained to support the segments. Mike incorporates a very small taper to fit the groove snugly.



Ring ready to inlay

Continued.....

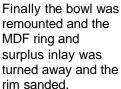
Mike Haselden, continued

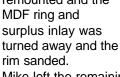
With the bowl mounted with the base in the chuck, the hollowing was started, leaving a centre spigot for remounting. The rim was marked for grooving using the jig without changing the settings for the inlay. The groove was cut carefully to a depth of about 3 mm and after a few trial fittings, PVA glue was spread on both faces and the ring pressed into position and

(Whilst waiting for the glue for a few minutes, Mike gave the gallery critique.)

Grooved ready for inlay (right), being fitted below.







Mike left the remaining bowl turning to be done in the usual way for later but had brought several very nice examples of finished bowls.



Example of a finished bowl

The gallery contained a good variety of work which can be seen on the website. Mike said he felt some embarrassment at having to comment on the work of other turners being a relative newcomer to the craft. But I think his work belies his inexperience and well qualifies him to perform the critique.

1 February – Mark Baker

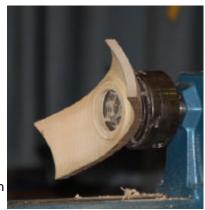
We were treated to a confident presentation from Mark as might have been expected from someone with his background as editor of Woodturning and ex product manager of Sorby as well as being an experienced turner in his own right.

The first item was a box mounted in a curved stand. He started with the top of the stand, being a rectangular block of ash mounted sideways. The turning involved a lot of "air cutting" as the most of the wood surface made only intermittent contact with the tool. This called for firm tool control with the rest as close as possible.



Mark sees nothing wrong with scraping with the edge trailing provided the scraper is kept sharp. Honing rather than grinding is advocated for sharpness and tool life.

Having shaped the top side including a recess for the chuck, the stand was reversed and the underside shaped in a similar fashion. breaking through the centre to leave a hole to accept the box. Mark approves of colouring if the wood is suitable and ash is such a wood with sufficient grain to still look like wood after colouring.



In this case he used an ebonising spray. Whilst drying, Mark turned the box from cherry. The technique was fairly conventional but a few tips emerged. For instance, Mark generally rough-turns boxes and leaves them to relax before finishing. This is recommended even if the wood is dry because movement can occur as the inbuilt stress is altered by hollowing. When reversing, if the box is to be held on the chuck jaws at the rim, a sheet of tissue can be used to prevent damage.

The lid was finished with a finial. The temptation to make this too fine should be resisted as it is the obvious part to grip when taking the lid off and prone to breaking if too slender.

Continued...

Mark Baker, Continued

On the perennial subject of lid fit, for most purposes, when the lid is lifted, the box should stay put. Mark did not do as much sanding as he would have at home because of dust. He takes extreme precautions to protect himself from dust having developed sensitivity from exposure early in his career.



The finished (but unsanded) box in its ebonised stand

The second demo was a wavy edge square bowl. Mark claimed no originality for this, the idea being ancient but he gave Terry Scott credit for recent refinement. Again the cutting involved non-continuous contact. The tips were left thick and shaped with the lathe stationary, alternately up and down. The shaping could be done with a saw and sanding but a mini Arbortech is much quicker. Mark did not finish the bowl but you can see the idea from the pictures. How about some at the next gallery?



Preparing to carve. left and

the resulting wavy edge, below



And for a quick finale, Mark turned a cylinder with radial cuts with a parting tool to various depths. This gave the appearance of a hidden vase when viewed side on. Spraying black enhanced this. The top was fished with a thick blob of copper loaded paint which he blistered using a blowlamp to give a copper textured finish. A quick and unusual piece of work.



Cutting the cylinder with parting tool and the "hidden vase" revealedbelow

Finally Mark gave a helpful critique of the work on display in the members' gallery. It was good to see another impressive display. Pictures of all the gallery items can be seen on the website.



COMING EVENTS

1 March – Mark Sanger – Box with carved finial lid
 19 April - AGM - plus open discussion forum and "woodturners' question time".
 17 May - Finishing Event

17 May - Finishing Event See "SIGNING OFF", page 9, for some interesting non-HWA events.

STOP PRESS

Saturday 13 November – Stuart Mortimer Masterclass. All day event at Stuart's workshop in Grateley . £20. Limited numbers. *Unmissable*. Book with Bob Hope.

PROJECTS



Turn a Female Figure - John Holden

Here is a bit of fun to test your skill at off-centre turning. This figure was presented in Woodturning a few years ago and is an interesting exercise in off-centre turning.

The procedure is quite straightforward. Start with a blank 25x25x200mm say. Rough it round and turn a ball shape on one end to be held in a chuck (although you could us a 2 prong drive as you need to tilt in just one plane).

The sequence of turning is as follows:

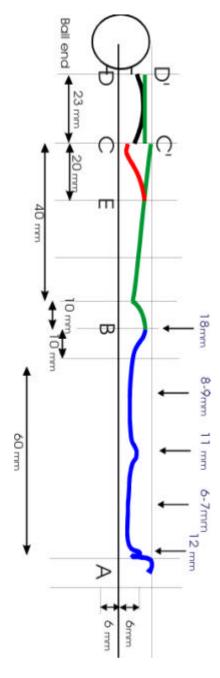
- 1. With the piece centred turn the legs and base from A -B.
- 2. Position off centre (6mm) and turn torso and hips from B-C' and back of head C'D'.
- 3. Position off centre the opposite way and turn neck from E-C.
- 4. Back to centred and shape the head from C-D.
- 5. All that remains is to sand and polish in the usual way and part off.

A Challenge

Why not have a go and bring your version to the next meeting?

Also, can you produce a figure that is recognisably male?

John Holden





Could this be Denis Hilditch's car returning fully loaded from the woods?

His article on the "tale of the cherry burr" follows......

(Actually it is thanks to Chris West for the photo. What does Kath think about the re-shaped car?)

PROJECT - Cherry Burr - Denis Hilditch



Remember this cherry burr bowl from the November gallery? Denis had a lot of questions about chucking it. Here's his story.



Cherry Burr mounted on chucking arrangement. Note balance weights

About five or six years ago a friend, who does a little turning, asked if I would like some cherry that had been blown down. As my chain saw is electric we went armed with an antique cross cut saw. When we arrived at the fallen cherry my friend asked "which part would you like"? With no hesitation I pointed to a burr on the side of the trunk I said "That"!

So we set to work with the old crosscut and still dripping with perspiration we carted off a car full. Once back in the workshop I cut the trunk pieces down the pith line and took the bark off to deter the wood worms.

The burr sat on the shelf where I could see it every time I went into the workshop, and I was often tempted turn it before it was dry. However, I managed to resist the temptation for over five years by which time I thought it was dry enough.

I wanted to save as much of the burr as possible and putting a dovetail into it or a spigot onto it would clearly waste material and in any case would be quite dangerous as a burr is somewhat delicate. So the decision was for a round bottomed bowl which would retain most of the natural shape of the burr even if some of it would be hidden from view when standing on the coffee table.

The problem now was how to hold the log while turning the inside and the outside of the bowl, for if I put a face plate on the flat side of the log and turned the outside how was I to hold the piece to turn the inside?

I came up with a compromise of which Heath Robinson would have approved. I needed to hold the log so that I could turn the inside of the bowl first then reverse chuck it onto a 'Button Chuck' to turn the outside.

My plan consisted of a face plate attached to a twelve inch square of ¾" ply with two hard wood blocks bolted to it in such a position that they were a snug fit to the end grain sides of the log. Wood screws went through the hard wood blocks into the end grain of the log where they would be outside the turned work.

When mounted on the lathe the whole contraption was way out of balance.

The slow speed at which I would have had to run it in order to stop the quarter ton of lathe jumping about would have been impossible for wood turning. My solution was to screw increasing numbers of metal washers to the light side of the 'rig' and as work proceeded and the wood itself became more balanced removing the washers a few at a time. The inside of the bowl and the outside of the rim were turned and finished, as from this point there was no turning back.

The work was now beginning to look more like a bowl and was reversed chucked onto the 'Button Chuck' for the final part of the turning. All things aligned within the tiniest whisker so it was easy to blend in the curved side of the bowl and turn the rounded bottom. The sanding was done on the lathe then the bowl was burnished on buffing wheels finishing with carnauba wax. For once I was happy with the outcome!

Denis Hilditch

You're a more patient man than I, Denis. I'd have certainly given into the temptation to turn it wet, at least roughly to allow it to dry quicker before finishing.

Since there must be many ways of skinning this cat, some of you must have some comments and alternative ides for chucking.

And how about the idea of turning the inside first? I've never got the shape right when I've tried that though it seems to work for some notable turners (like Stuart Mortimer).

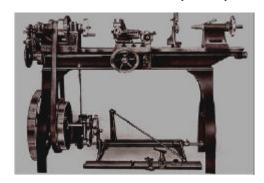
Just write to me or E-mail.

Editor

PROJECT – Lathe re-build – Keith Barnes

My wife said it may not be the biggest one she's seen but could it be the oldest, (my lathe, that is). It's a 1918 Drummond metal lathe built at Guilford in Surrey.

When it was given to me, having been stored in the open for a long period of time, it was in very poor condition. It still had the flat pulleys fitted, these may have been driven by a flat canvas belt from an over head line shaft and this had probably been driven by a steam engine or large D.C. motor, If it had been installed in a very modern work shop it would have had its own D.C. motor fitted on an adjacent wall. I was told it came out of a Royal Navy dock yard.



This photograph shows a similar machine when new, circa 1912. This is a manual machine, note the foot treadle used by the poor apprentice who provided the motive power whilst the turner was busily engaged in other tasks.

I removed the flat pulleys and head stock complete with gears etc; in its place I fitted a 750watt, 415 volt motor driving a shaft that that can take a chuck or a centre driving prong.

I have fitted an inverter to give me variable speeds in forward or reverse, this being the reason for the 415volt motor. The bed is 30" (760mm) between centres with a 12" (305mm) capacity for face plate work. The tailstock has a Morse taper able to take revolving centre etc.

Once all this was completed I gave it a coat of green paint to cover up the "Battle Ship" grey colour.



My re-built lathe

I made up my first tool rest from ¾ round bar but I have now replaced this with a manufactured one from Record Machines, I still at times use the round bar type as it enable me to get closer for working on bowls etc..

The base, legs and tailstock are all manufactured from cast iron so there is no vibration.

The photograph shows my lathe set up to make my wife a Spurtle (you don't know what a Spurtle is then you haven't read the winter issue of "Your Turn"). It's a kitchen tool used mostly in Scotland for stirring porridge / stew.

I'm hoping by turning this it will give me a few Brownie points with the wife as I need to up-grade my band saw to a floor mounted model as at present I have a bench type which at times can be very restricting.

Keith Barnes

BLIND BUREAUCRACY

Thanks to you media watchers for these gems. Are they true?

Well you couldn't really make it up, could you?

Keep them coming.

The application form to be a taxi driver is now available in Braille!

A man who had dropped a £10 note was arrested and charged with littering!

GEORGE GALE - OBITUARY



I'd just about got this issue of Your Turn wrapped up when we got a call from George's wife Betty, obviously upset, to say George had been admitted to Southampton General hospital.

It doesn't seem very long ago that he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Much too late as it turns out, for it had spread to his bones by that time and treatment options were limited. He bore the news and the knowledge of the probable outcome with a characteristic outward show of cheerful dismissal to minimise the effect on his family and friends. We played along of course but we really knew how serious it was.

I had known George since I joined HWA about 30 years ago. He had retired by then from a career in sales in which he seems to have been very successful. But when his last employer, Wolseley (Plumb Centre) wanted to move he said he and his family had put down roots and he declined to go despite much arm-twisting. I can imagine him as a salesman never letting go of a prospect he had got his teeth into and I am not surprised his mind was not for changing once set.

Our wives also discovered a common interest in art and the four of us soon became good friends.

In the beginning I was very much a woodturning novice and was impressed by George's turning. Most members will not be familiar with his work as he rarely brought anything to the Club but he really had nothing to be modest about. The picture shows George a few years ago with a spectacular bowl made from pieces of coloured plastic and wood set in resin, cast in a sacrificial bowl which was turned away to leave just the coloured pieces and resin. It must have taken many hours. Once she feels stronger I'll ask Betty if I can borrow it for the Club gallery. His interest in woodturning was in the challenge and the act of creation; he hardly ever sold his work. Open a cupboard in George's house and you are likely to be bowled over (!) by wooden items tumbling out.

Though he was a reluctant public speaker, he had no such trouble one to one and he was always ready to help at the Club. For several years he was on the committee with the unenviable task of persuading people to take part in turn-ins. And he was regularly last away in the evening having done the clearing up. It was no accident that he was keeper of the Club broom of which I have taken charge. Applicants for the job should see me.

George died on 17th February just a few days before his 81st birthday in the presence of Betty (who had stayed by his side since he was admitted) and his daughter, Susan and son Stephen (who had dashed back from Australia just in time).

He had been married to Betty for 60 years. They were the most helpful and generous people. We're going to miss him greatly but not half as much as Betty will.

Dave Gibbard

Thanks to all those who sent their condolences which I have passed on. George's funeral will be at Southampton crematorium at 11.00 Tuesday 2 March.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome 3 new members:

Alan Baker from Chandler's Ford, Melanie Cranford from Four Marks. Mike Bunce. Sorry Mike I don't have your address yet. Make yourself known to them if you live nearby and see if they need any help finding their feet. If you want to make contact by 'phone or Email, let me or Denis know and we'll put you in touch.

LETTERS & E-MAILS

Thanks for the Your Turn which I have just read with both pleasure and amusement.

I am sorry that I have been unable to attend club meetings for some time, but I am now working in Sweden on a Mon-Thurs basis. In any event work demands have limited my free time so "extras" have been hard to fit in. It is good to have the email to "keep us all together"!

I hope that all is going well, it certainly sounds that way, with even membership creeping up!

Congratulations! I still suspect that the current number will make for a more involved club scene. Could you pass on my greetings to those who know me, and re-assure the Treasurer that I will keep my membership in place, though it might take me a while to get my subs paid in!

Dave (Foote)

Thanks for Your Turn, a triumph as usual. Unfortunately you have transposed my e-mail address on the cover. It should be hopebob1@aol.com. Sorry to be awkward.

Bob (Hope)

Many thanks for the Winter issue of "Your Turn" excellent reading once again. I will put my thinking cap on and send you an item for the next issue.

Keith (Barnes)

Hello Dave.

Nice edition of Your Turn - thank you! I would be very interested in the 'fuller' version of the Nick Agar day, and would be delighted to see the rest of the images you have from the day.

Jean (Turner)

You can see the Nick Agar demo with step by step photos in the "Your Turn" section of the website. (Ed)

Dear Dave

Thank you for the brilliant news letter. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading it. It would have taken me for ever to produce something only half as good. I hope that everyone appreciates all the time and effort that has gone into it.

Lynda Clark

Just a note to say that this months YOUR TURN is the best I have seen and I would like to thank you for all you work and effort in producing it. Well done.

Geoff (Spierling)

Thanks for all that, nice to be appreciated. But someone must have a grumble or two. Or are you just worried I might offer you the job?

Editor

SIGNING OFF

WOODTURNING SHOW DATES from Bob Hope:

John Davis is holding a Robert Sorby day on Saturday 6th March at The Old Stables, Chilbolton Down Farm, Stockbridge.

www.johndaviswoodturning.co.uk

Get Woodworking Live is being held at Alexandra Palace, London from 12th to 14th March. This is a large show with international demonstrators including this year Richard Raffan 3-day tickets are £10.00 (£8.50 in advance) Concessions £8.50

www.getwoodworkinglive.co.uk

Yandles Spring Show is at Hurst Works, Martock, Somerset from Friday 9th to Saturday 10th March. Entry is free. www.yandles.co.uk

W L West Spring Show will be at their premises in Petworth, West Sussex on 7th and 8th May. Full details not yet available www.wlwest.co.uk

West Dean College is holding a woodworking and hand tools event called **Wondrous Wood**, at the college on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th June. www.westdean.org.uk

The Festival of the Tree is being held at Westonbirt Arboretum, Tetbury, Gloucestershire on August 29th to 31st. www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt

Just to repeat that the **NICK AGAR WORKSHOP**, step-by-step photos and write up is available on the website along with the issues of Your Turn.

2010 CHARITY.

We usually run a programme for members to donate work for the benefit of a charity. We supported Wessex Heartbeat last year. In previous years we have helped Jubilee Sailing Trust and Naomi House Hospice.

The committee is considering a similar programme for 2010 and would welcome any suggestions members may have for choice of charity.

Dave Gibbard, Editor

Minutes of the Previous AGM of Hampshire Woodturners Association Monday 6th April 2009

Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Ian Woodford, Ron Caddy and Alan Robinson.

Minutes of the AGM 2008.

These were agreed as a true record, proposed by Gerry Dixon, seconded by Brian Hannam.

Chairman's report.

Jon Gibbs, who was conducting the meeting, gave his report. (*Published in Your Turn*, *Summer 2009, available on the HWA website - Ed*).

In brief he said that the club had 90 members and that the running was down to a stalwart band of helpers but that more assistance was always needed.

He mentioned the speakers through the year and meetings at which club members either demonstrated or gave a presentation.

Treasurer's report.

Alan distributed his report. (Summary published in Your Turn, Summer 2009).

In brief he said that there were 91 paid up members of which 7 were new members.

Expenses were up due to increased hall hire, equipment maintenance and speaker costs. A loss of £676.43 was made on the year. The balance of funds available was £2626 which is equal to one year's expenditure.

He proposed that the subscription be raised to £20.00 per year.

This was proposed by Chris West and seconded by Ron Broadway.

I the discussion that followed Lynda Grant suggested that it was still too cheap to which Alan replied that he felt that it would be sufficient.

A vote was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

Roy Nailor suggested that the tea cost could be increased to help with the finances and his committee will consider this.

Presentations and awards.

The Les Revell trophy for the best novice was awarded to Daniel Would.

The Clubman of the year trophy was awarded to Adrian Smith.

Bottles of wine were presented to all the club helpers not on the committee and to the award winners.

Election of officers and committee members.

The officers stood down and Dave Foote proposed that the officers and committee be re elected on block together with two additional members, Dave Gibbard and John Holden. This was agreed unanimously.

Proposed amendment to the constitution.

Denis Hilditch proposed the amendment that visitors be allowed to come up to three times in a year after which they must apply to join the club or pay an admission fee.

This was proposed by Denis and seconded by Chris Davey.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 17.50

Hampshire Woodturners Association. Notice of AGM

Your Committee hereby give notice of the Association's Annual General Meeting which will be held at the Railway Institute, Eastleigh on Monday 19th April 2010 starting at 7.30 pm

Current Officers and Committee:

Chairman	Jon Gibbs	Available for re-election
Treasurer	Alan Sturgess	Available for re-election
Secretary	Bob Hope	Available for re-election
Committee Member	Gerry Dixon	Standing down
Committee Member	Geoff Spierling	Available for re-election
Committee Member	Denis Hilditch	Available for re-election
Committee Member	Martin Stallard	Available for re-election
Committee Member	John Holden	Available for re-election
Committee Member	Dave Gibbard	Available for re-election
Committee Member	Daniel Would	Available for re -election

Agenda for HWA AGM 6thApril 2009

1. Apologies	2. Minutes of 2009 AGM	3.Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's report	Subscription Rates	6.Election of Officers
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7. Election of Committee 8. Any other business

Nominations for Officers and Committee must be registered with the Secretary on or before 5th April 2010. This must be in writing with the signatures of the Proposer, Seconder and Nominee, stating clearly which position the nominee is being proposed for.

Nomination Form

Send completed form to: Bob Hope, Thornton House, Brimpton Common, Reading, RG7 4RF
Post being proposed for

	Print Name	Signature	Date
Nominee			
Proposed By			
Seconded By			