

# YOUR TURN

Hampshire Woodturners Association Newsletter. Summer issue, June 2014



*The thoughts of  
Chairman Lynda*

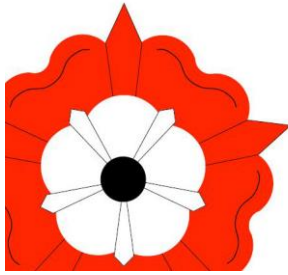
*New Chairman talks  
about the Club*

## *Colwin Way's Crackers*

*Report of the splendid  
Colwin Way Masterclass*



*Plus AGM and much more..*



# YOUR TURN

Summer 2014

Hampshire Woodturners Association Newsletter.  
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## EDITORIAL:

### Let's hear it for the Chair

For a club so dominated by men, numerically at least, women have been very prominent in the lead role. Lynda is the third in our 25 year history, the previous ones to leave their mark being Sue Dixon (for more than one stint I believe) and Hilary Bowen.

I've included a column from Lynda introducing herself, her interest in woodturning and some of the techniques she likes to incorporate in her work. You will probably remember some of her demos at the Club like the application of gold leaf which I particularly liked. She got everyone participating at the meeting. She has also mentioned some of her thoughts about the Club. I'd like to say how grateful we are that Lynda has put herself forward for this job which often calls for tact and diplomacy. Let's support her and wish her well.

I'd also like to thank the outgoing Chairman, John Holden for his work in the role, personally participating in many of the Club activities like Minstead, outreach events and hands on days. He showed his willingness to step into the breach at the March meeting when the demonstrator cancelled at the last meeting. An unenviable task.

### 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

You may be aware that this October sees the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hampshire Woodturners Association. Bob has booked an old friend Gary Rance for a special evening.

I'd also like to mark the occasion by making the Autumn issue of Your Turn a 25th anniversary special edition.

So let me have your memories, anecdotes, pictures etc relating to the Club over the years. I'd be particularly interested to hear from members who were around in the early days and I'm sure our readers would too.

You know who you are and so do I. So I might come calling on you if you don't get in touch!

*Dave Gibbard, Editor*

## REPORTS OF MEETINGS

### 3 March John Holden

We were to have been entertained by Paul Jones making long stemmed goblets. It was late morning on the day that Bob got the call to say that Paul couldn't make it!

Apparently he had put petrol in his diesel car or the other way round and it wasn't going anywhere. I'd have been scathing about what sort of person would do such a thing had I not done it myself. I can only say that the pain of embarrassment soon fades. It is overcome by the pain in the wallet.

This is the first time in Bob's stewardship of the programme that we've had a cancellation on the day.

John Holden nobly stepped into the breach and offered to do a talk and demo about off centre turning. Bob would probably bitten his hand off but that would have impaired his turning.

John clearly has an interest in the subject and you may remember his female figures from the gallery some while back. (pictured on the right).



With no time to prepare John found some useful references via Google including a lot of interesting stuff from Barbara Dill of Virginia. She has done all the basic marking out calculations and has posted a number of videos on YouTube. Just Google Barbara Dill.



John's demo was about what can be done by offsetting the axis on spindles. (There is, of course, another whole subject involving offset faceplate work. Maybe another time?)

Generally the starting point is to turn a cylinder between centres in the usual way.

You then have a choice of how to offset the axis. For example it can be done equally at both ends in the same direction so that it remains parallel to the original axis. An example of this is where a curved triangular section is produced by using 3 centres offset by an equal amount at 120 degrees to each other. (An example of this is the editor's article about triangular napkin rings in the April 2000 issue 86 of Woodturning.)

A useful tip from John is to mark up the ends with diagonal lines on the original square blank before starting. This gives the same reference lines at each end. It is more difficult to ensure the marking is parallel if done after the blank is turned to a cylinder.

More interesting effects can be obtained by offsetting the driven end and the tailstock end in different directions and by different amounts. You need to ensure that the drive centre is well hammered in when re-positioning it. Slipping may not be too serious when turning a cylinder but can ruin the intended effect when offset.

*John's candlesticks in the picture were made by turning in short stretches with offset changes in between.*



Thanks for stepping in at such short notice, John and giving us such great food for thought.

Hopefully we'll see some nice offset work in the next gallery.

*Dave Gibbard*

## Monday 7 April – AGM and Chris West

John Holden opened the last meeting of his 3 year stint as chairman with a few announcements.

He reminded members that our next meeting will be a Club Night on 6 May which is a Tuesday. When the first Monday falls on a bank holiday we have to reschedule the meeting. We used to make it the following Monday but the hall is usually booked at the Railway Institute. Postponement to the third Monday makes it too close to the following meeting and also creates a clash with Test Valley. So recently we have tried just postponing 1 night to the nearest Tuesday and it seems to have worked out quite well. The line-up will be Denis giving a presentation on work-holding for long stemmed goblets and Mike Haselden and Graham Barnard turning items of their choice to be announced on the night.

This October will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inaugural meeting of HWA. To mark the occasion Bob has booked Gary Rance for the October meeting. Gary has been a regular favourite at the Club over the years and I'm sure can be relied upon to make it a special evening.

So on with the **AGM** and John delivered the **Chairman's report**:-

*"Another year has passed and it is time to look back and remind ourselves of all that has happened in the last twelve months. Our membership remains stable and currently stands at 85 plus 1 honorary member who you may have noticed helping with the raffle. We have had demonstrations by Tony Halcrow, Jean Turner, Stuart King, Mark Baker, Adrian Smith, Les Thorne, Paul Nesbitt and a scratch effort by myself. We had turn in with 4 lathes, a club Challenge and welcomed a crowd of visitors from The Minstead Training Trust, not forgetting the Christmas social and buggy challenge. I leave it up to you to decide which meeting was best, but I think we have had a good year and we owe a lot to our secretary for his hard work in arranging the program.*

*On outreach the association was represented at a number of events; in May the Scholing Valleys Summer Fair, in June the Alresford Village Fete, the Party in the Park (Kilham Lane) and in September at the Community Woodfair in Chandlers Ford. This latter event was somewhat damp but we managed to have a good day with plenty of interest from the public.*

*Last year I commented on the importance of the gallery at our monthly meetings and I said I would like to see more members bringing items for display.*

*So I went on the website and counted up how many different people had put items on the table and I was pleasantly surprised to count 40, a good number of whom are novices encouraged by Harry Woollhead. Keep up your good work in the novice corner, Harry. The other thing I found was that more than 150 items had been on the table. The standard is high, so keep it up. The winner for most items in the gallery is Adrian Smith with 15 pieces. Another important area for the Association is the website so ably kept up to date by Phil Bristow. The site was visited 46000 times from 101 countries which I find quite amazing. Think of a country and someone from there will have looked at our site. Having contact details on the site means I am contacted from time to time by people seeking advice, offering wood, tools or seeking stalls for a village fete. The most bizarre came from an American who seemed to think we might know woodturners in Sicily. I pointed out you can search on the internet; it only came up with one name. During the year the Association's support for the Minstead Training Trust has continued and is now well established. The ongoing support from members is much appreciated and fund raising has been very successful and has contributed towards the purchase of equipment for the Minstead workshop. Alan Sturgess has the role of coordinator for the project and has done a great deal of work behind the scenes and has put in many hours to keep the show on the road.*

*Finally, I must pay tribute to everyone who without fail works to make our meetings happen. We are fortunate in having many members willing to do the jobs one can so easily take for granted. We are grateful to Derek Barkaway and Andi Saunders for taking over the shop when Geoff & Helen gave it up. Month by month the bookshop, the tea boys, the rafflers, the audio visual boys and others are there doing their thing. Also we must not forget the members of the committee who all pull their weight behind the scenes. So it has been a privilege to be chairman for the last 3 years and I have confidence in my successor who I am sure will do a great job."*

John then asked Alan Sturgess to give the **Treasurer's report**. Here's his summary:

*Once again my grateful thanks to the committee and subcommittee members for staying within the agreed budget for the year and collecting monies on the HWA's behalf.*

*In fact due to a guest speaker cancelling in March at short notice the finances look better than expected. With an increase in raffle profit, funds are very healthy as we enter another year.*

*Bob Hope again achieved a very interesting and varied set of speakers and demonstrators at good value for money old fashioned prices and within the agreed budget for the year.*



### **AGM, Treasurer's report, continued....**

*Committee members have hosted our committee meetings, saving the cost of hiring meeting rooms, potentially saving over £300. Generally our costs and our income are quite static and as such we are able to continue to hold the membership fee at £25 again which I hope you agree is good value. As a general over view our income was £3,685 this is around £250 down on last year. Membership fees accounted for £2,032, the raffle and Club shop continue to do well and the library is now getting more use and showing a small profit. Likewise tea and coffee make a small profit. This year our novice and Saturday workshops were also in the black. Expense was £3,103. Most expense items are very stable and moved with, or slightly below inflation. However we have increased our Insurance cover to encompass "Employers Liability" to safeguard any speakers or demonstrators who might not have sufficient cover. This gave an Income above expenditure of £581. If you were unable to attend the AGM and would like a full copy of the presented accounts please let me know.*

*Alan Sturgess, Treasurer*

There followed further discussion of the recurring issue of signatories on Association cheques. Last year the motion to reduce the requirement to 1 signatory was defeated. The motion was originally brought because it was often difficult to get the 2 signatories together and the practice had been adopted for one to sign a batch of blank cheques in advance. The proposal now put to the meeting was for 3 nominated signatories, the treasurer, chairman and secretary, the signatures of any 2 of whom on a cheque will be valid. This proposal was passed without objection.

There being no opposing nominations, the officers were elected en bloc: Lynda Barkaway, Chair (John Holden standing down) Bob Hope and Alan Sturgess re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The other committee members were then re-elected en bloc. *New committee details are to be found on page 2.*

John went on to present the **awards to members.**



The Les Revell trophy for novice of the year went to Robert Pearce (left). Well done Robert, we look forward to seeing more of your work on the gallery table.

The trophy for member of the year went to Alan Sturgess (right) for his leading role in the Minstead Training Project.



Without those helping with the novices, refreshments, raffle, shop, library and audio visual the Club would not function. Their contribution was recognised by gifts of bottles of wine. Many thanks to all of you.

After the AGM, **Chris West** gave us a preview of his presentation on **Combo mills** which he plans to use on his forthcoming visit to the USA. As most of you know, Chris is something of an expert in the design and making of mills and shakers. (You can borrow his first book from our library.)



For the uninitiated, a combo mill (like the one pictured left and below) is a combined pepper grinder and salt shaker. Though the combo is more complicated than separate mills, one device does both jobs.



Chris says the public like fresh ground pepper but are happy to simply sprinkle salt these days, hence the popularity of the combo.

Chris went into a lot of detail about where to get mechanisms, dimensions, drill sizes etc. Failing to keep up with it all I was grateful that Chris has posted the presentation on his website. Go to [www.westwoodturnery.co.uk](http://www.westwoodturnery.co.uk), click on "about me" then look for "HWA Combo" at the bottom left of the page. If you don't have the means to do this, ask me and I'll print a copy for you.

**Continued...**

### **AGM and Chris West continued...**

A nice touch is to personalise your mill by turning your own knob for the top. You can insert a "dog tooth nut" to enable it to be screwed on to the grinder thread (*picture below*). Chris has offered to supply these nuts if you are interested.



Chris had brought along a variety of examples to inspire us and I look forward to seeing some innovation on the gallery table



Phil Bristow had his arm twisted to give a **critique of the gallery**. Modestly claiming he wouldn't know how to go about making a number of the items, he did the job thoughtfully and with humour.

There are consistently more gallery entries these days and of good quality too. Those novices who put their work on display are to be congratulated for not being shy. That's the way to improve.

All the gallery items can be seen on the website.

*Dave Gibbard*

### **6 May – Turn-in**

We had a splendid evening with three demonstrations to choose from. There was a lot of discussion with a good exchange of ideas and comments.

**Graham Barnard** produced a neat little scoop out of cherry. His skill at using the skew for the final finish was a joy to watch. A small length of wood was hollowed at one end to form the spoon and then the handle was turned. The hollowed end was then cut diagonally with a saw and finished with a small sanding disc mounted in the lathe.

Graham then went on to turn a small spoon. A ball was turned at the end of a spindle and a sharpened metal vacuum cleaner pipe used to round it off!

He then turned the handle and used a jam chuck to hollow the bowl of the spoon. The chuck had star saw cuts in the end and one of the segments cut out to accommodate the handle sticking out.



**Mike Hazelden** made a delightful apple using a small piece of pine and a bowl gouge wielded with deft skill. He made small light cuts to form the shape and produced an elegant apple shape.

Mike then turned a sphere between centres from a piece of maple. This was another demonstration of a deft touch as he kept addressing the wood with a bowl gouge to refine the shape, using a gauge to check the roundness.



*Mike's sphere brought a smile to Harry's face.*

Thank you Mike I am sure it has encouraged us to attempt the same.

**Denis Hilditch** showed how to make long stemmed goblets under tension via a Power Point presentation. I am sure Denis would let members borrow his CD as I can't do it justice here.

Briefly, a cylinder is turned between centres and the outside of the goblet bowl is shaped at the tailstock end.

A home-made steady is used to support the cylinder to hollow the bowl.



The bowl and foot are clamped in wooden chucks at the head and tail stocks. Tension is applied before turning the stem very thin.

The tension allows this to be done without breaking the stem.

After finishing, the goblet is removed from the lathe and a deliberate bend put on the stem via string whilst drying.

Thank you, Denis, for a very interesting and clever problem solving demonstration.

*Alan Baker*

## Colwin Way Masterclass

15<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Following our successful visit to Axminster Tools last year we thought that we would invite the chief Instructor for the company, Colwin Way to come to give us a Masterclass.

Colwin is a time served woodturner, completing his apprenticeship working for a production woodturning firm in his native Lyme Regis turning all types of wood products together with other things like bone. Following this he started his own turning business, his rent being funded by working half of every day on his landlord's farm where he learnt about woodland management and chainsaw work until he was invited to join Axminster Tools.



His first demo was of a bowl made from one inch timber turned to a fine finish to demonstrate the turning techniques using a bowl gouge.

First he mounted the blank on a faceplate whilst he trued up the blank using draw cuts with the gouge on its side and cutting with the lower wing in a scraping cut, and then he formed the 3mm step on the base of the bowl where it would be held in the chuck to turn the inside. The diameter of the step was determined by measuring the diameter of the chuck whilst it was showing a 6mm gap in the jaws, this position being the point where the jaws made a perfect circle. He advocates shaping the bowl by cutting the side grain and only cutting end grain where it cannot be avoided, to give a cleaner and easier cut. His turning positions for the gouge are with the flute being presented at 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock and cutting with the bevel rubbing to give a supported cut and a fine finish. He tidied up against the foot with a skew chisel with light scraping cuts following which he sanded through the grits to 1500 grit. He used 50/50 sanding sealer followed by black bison wax to finish the underside and then remounted it on the chuck using the stepped foot previously turned

He then turned a small edge bead with the skew and started hollowing the bowl from the outside to the centre with the bevel rubbing until the wall thickness was even and a fine finish was obtained ready for sanding and polishing as before.

Next was a session demonstrating the use of jam chucks. It is important that the timber used for these chucks is strong and stable and not easily split, sycamore, beech and oak being suitable.

Colwin tuned a blank about 100mm diameter to round and mounted it in large chuck jaws.



The inside was hollowed to give a taper to suit the object to be held and different sizes can be turned on either end of the chuck.

The fruit blanks for apples should be 75mm square by 72mm long for apples and 80mm long for pears. He turned these between centres using a small bowl gouge and cut in as far as possible at the ends using a small parting tool ready for mounting in the jam chuck to finish the ends.

The items were sealed and then buffed using firstly a stitched buffing wheel with Tripoli wax then an unstitched one with carnuba wax. He then made a stalk and drilled in at an angle to mount this on the fruit.



Colwin has an interest in German Nutcrackers which are not what you first may think. They were made as functional items in Germany in the last century and have become collector's items, particularly in USA. They had a hinged lever allowing the nut to be put in the model's mouth and cracked. Colwin's version is largely decorative and dispenses with the opening mouth.



Colwin has developed these nutcrackers in his own style generally decorated as military figures.



He uses lime wood to avoid problems of grain showing through the paint and give a smooth finish. First he turns a base and using a jig drills for dowels to hold the legs. He then turns two identical legs using a bead to denote the top of the boots. The legs are turned between centres and he had previously drilled a through hole in these on a pillar drill. The feet are next and first he makes a block from two pieces of wood glued together with cardboard in between so that they can be split apart after turning. He holds these in friction drives to avoid splitting whilst turning. The shape of the feet is made and parted off from the blank and these are split apart and finished on a sanding disc and drum sander mounted in the chucks. The arms are turned and drilled for the jointing dowels.

Colwin has made drilling jigs for the body to ensure that the holes are true and a router box to make the groove for the cracking lever. The body is turned to be a tight fit in the drilling box and the holes are through drilled. The head and the hat are then turned ready for assembly.



The painting and decoration are carried out to personal taste using acrylic paints, airbrushes etc. to give a fine finish and this stage will take much longer than the turning.

Colwin rounded off by turning a vase from a nice piece of water stained sycamore.

All in all a very instructive day for the nineteen people who came along.

Our thanks to Colwin

*Bob Hope*

## COMING EVENTS

**2 June – Peter Moncrief-Jury** on Oriental design.

**7 July – Ron Caddy** demonstrating Pen making.

**4 August – Robert Bishop** - Hollow forms.

### Outreach Events

**12 July Kilham Lane, Winchester.** "Party in the park".

**10 May Sholing Valley** Community Fair.

**19 July - Minstead Training Trust** Open Day.

**30 August - Community Woodfair,** Zionshill Copse, Chandlers Ford.

### Advance Notice

**6 October - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting.**

The very accomplished turner, regular visitor to the Club and jolly nice fellow, **Gary Rance** will be demonstrating for us.

Commemorative mugs for members too. Don't miss it.



## MINSTEAD TRAINING TRUST UPDATE



The new equipment is really showing itself to be a great asset and the students continue to enjoy their woodturning sessions and are making a variety of items. The shop at Furzey Gardens manages to sell them almost as fast as they are made. We've had quite a run on garden dibbers and garden lines which are out selling all else.

Dave Gibbard had an idea of making sets of skittles and we have turned out 5 sets of nine pins with turned balls. We have now been asked to man a skittle competition at the Trust's open day on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Our aim is to also have some sets of garden skittles for sale at the event. We are currently experiencing a few problems getting 2.5 meters of 3" x 3" wood, say sycamore or maple to make the pins. We have plenty of oak and ash for the balls but sourcing the timber for the pins is more difficult to remain in budget.

During the Easter break and whilst the students were away with their families we had two days of giving woodturning taster session to the Trust's staff and volunteers. A total of 16 took up the challenge and had a go.

They were two fun days; all participants managed to make a couple of small items to takeaway. Thanks to Les Barrow, Pierre Baumann and Mike Haselden for their support in this training task. It was also an opportunity to meet other volunteers we don't normally see.

Well it's been quite a year and as you will have seen from my Treasurer's report at our AGM, members have donated £305 to Minstead Training Trust which was added to the £1,000 private donations I received for the new equipment and has meant we have been able to add to our wish list some longer tool rests and spindle gouges. Denis has been busy selling items in the last month and already raised £145 so we start the year in anticipation of being able to build on what we have. As always we are still looking for help and support with the woodturning training and if you feel you have the odd Thursday to spare why not join us. It really is very rewarding and good fun.

You would also be very welcome to come along to the Open Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 10am to 4pm.

*Alan Sturgess*

## MEMBERSHIP

Four new members to be welcomed:

Don Fern, Colden Common; Charles Waterman, Chandlers Ford; Martin Rooney, Southampton; Steve Robinson, Ringwood.

Recorded attendance at recent meetings was March 63, April 55, May 46.

If you had slipped in without signing please remember to do sign in in future. We really do need to know how many are in the hall.

Many thanks to the 58 members who have paid their subs for the coming year. However, if you are among those who have not yet paid could I ask that you write your cheque for £25 payable to HWA put it in an envelope addressed to: Mr Denis C Hilditch, 6 Oregon Close, Southampton SO19 2PS? Don't forget the stamp, and pop it in the post. If the cheque has YOUR name on it there is no need for covering letter, I do try to make it easy for you! If you all do that, membership will stand at 86.

Best wishes and remember to do a good turn.

*Denis Hilditch. Membership Secretary.*

# HINTS, TIPS & THINGS

## Moulded 13amp plugs

*In the last issue of "Your Turn" I wrote about fitting moulded plugs on turned wooden table lamps that you sell and whether it is a legal requirement.*

*After a lot of e-mails and discussions with government and local authorities.*

*The answer is **NO**, providing the plug you use conforms to the British Standard 1363.*

*If you sell domestic electrical equipment it must have a plug fitted and it must comply with B.S.1363.*

*I'm told moulded plugs are used for ease of manufacturing as it takes more time to fit a rewirable plug.*

*Now here comes the interesting part!!!!!!!*

*Trading Standards tell me as you are the manufacturer you will need to comply with the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulation 1994.*

*The following has been taken from an e-mail sent by Trading Standards.*

*The Table Lamp must be:*

- . Safe*
- . Constructed in accordance with principles constituting good engineering practice and in particular offering protection against electric shock.*
- . Marked with the manufacturer's name or trade mark. (This can be on the packaging)*
- . Designed so that the equipment is safely and properly assembled and connected.*
- . Instructions and information required for the equipment to be used safely must be marked on the equipment or in an accompanying notice.*
- . Operate at a safe temperature with no dangerous arcing or radiation.*

*You can satisfy the safety requirements if made to a relevant standard.*

*Once you are satisfied that the product complies with the Regulation, you, as the manufacturer, must affix a C.E. mark (which must be of the required size and form).*

*Now after all of this if you still wish to make table lamps legally for sale (if you do you must be insane) or any other electrical item you will need to draw up a EC declaration of conformity.*

*In practice you will need to ensure that you use safe components that have passed all relevant tests and are CE marked.*

*It may be best practice to purchase them in kit form.*

*You need to keep a record of where you have purchased them from and which lamps (if any) you have used in the product.*

*After completion of you appliance, you must take all test details and record them. Testing of one item from each batch is sufficient for this requirement.*

*Bearing all the above in mind.*

*If you only turn the structure but do not fit any cable, plug or other electrical items/ parts there is no need to comply with any electrical regulation.*

## Jam Chucks

*I have often been asked "what is a jam chuck?"*

*Well the simple answer is:*

*A chuck made in such a way that the item you have turned will jam/ push fit into it. This will enable you to finish a turned item without marking it with a centre drive or revolving centre.*

*The chuck is often something you have made yourself from wood though there are commercial ones and other materials can be used.*

*I have seen jam chucks made from split plastic tube for making eggs with a jubilee clip used to grip the egg,*

*but I don't like the idea of a rotating metal part that may cause you an injury.*

*You could use a jam chuck for turning fruit such as apples/ pears though I myself would use a screw chuck for this purpose.*

*Tissue paper placed between the chuck and your work will help to jam it securely and prevent marking.*

*Try not to leave your work piece mounted on a jam chuck for any length of time, even overnight may be too long as the changes in moisture level may cause the wood to change in size and shape causing your turned work to dislodge from the jam chuck.*

*When using a jam chuck try not to remove your work from it as it will be difficult to get it back in the same position.*

*Well that's it for now folks,*

*Happy turning, be safe.*

*Keith Barnes.*

# NOVICE CORNER

We had a small discussion about the speed at which you should sand your work. Like all things associated with wood there is no definitive answer. It is important that the sand paper is not clogged and that dust is spooling of the wood. If you sand as we have seen at demonstrations the lathe is running at a high turning speed sometimes 2000 rpm. The demonstrators touch the wood lightly keeping the sand paper moving over the wood and not dwelling on one position. This reduces the risk of heat build-up and fine cracking of the wood. So the novice is advised to resist the temptation to press too hard on the wood to sand quicker, but to turn as slowly as possible down to 250 rpm and take more time with a light touch and allow the paper to do the work. Stop the lathe and hand sand with the grain when you hit a rough spot. Harry said that we should always move to the next grade which is 50% more than the previous grade. That is not always possible but worth considering

Whilst on the subject of what speed should I turn at. I would recommend Richard Raffan's book "Turning Wood", a copy of which is in the library. It has some very good practical tasks to practice and tables with recommended speeds for turning different diameters and lengths sizes of wood for both end and parallel grain.

One of the problems when turning at a higher speed is that thing happen very quickly and you have no idea why. Until all the basic skills have been learnt with each type of tool it is advisable to turn slowly.

A discussion on turning apples gave rise to the following tips.

Turn the rounded part as fast as you can with the gouge rubbing all the time. Ensure your gouge is cutting at the centre line.

If you finish with a scraper use a negative rake on the tool tip.

To overcome the problem of having to finish the top and the bottom you finish the bottom and then use a piece of wood that has been turned to fit your chuck with a longish screw through the centre which protrudes for you to mount you apple on like a face plate. You then finish the top and afterwards cover the screw hole in the bottom with a clove.

To overcome a grain change when a lid is fitted to a box, cut a small groove on each piece to draw the eyes away from the differences in the wood that the parting tool has made. This enhances the piece and detracts from the slight change that exists in the line of the grain.

To ensure a finial has sharp edges cut them with a skew. Practice first on a piece of soft wood before completing the final product.

It is easy to remove a fine edge by too much sanding which creates a rounded finish when a sharp edge was cut on turning

I am sure we start a project with one piece of wood but it is the wise man who prepares two pieces at the start.

As a safety measure do not wrap towelling around your hand or fingers when finishing a project as if it becomes snagged it can remove the protruding digit. This also applies to sand paper when finishing a small opening.

*Alan Baker*

*Thanks Alan. On the subject of finishing, I no longer use cloth for the reason you give. Paper towels work fine and will tear if snagged rather than pulling your fingers into the works.*

*I wonder if some of the more experienced turners could contribute some tips for Alan's column? We all develop ways of doing things and rarely give a thought to the fact that they might be novel or of interest to others. So let Alan have your hints and tips at [ajsbaker@aol.com](mailto:ajsbaker@aol.com). It'll help him produce his column and would be of interest to the novices striving to get to grips with our craft.*

*Editor*



## \*NEW\* - CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN



Welcome to the summer edition of Your Turn. I thought I ought to introduce myself so you have a better idea of who I am. I am still baffled as to how I have come to be in this position and hope that I do not let you down.

I am Lynda Barkaway, a retired primary school teacher where I taught music and special needs for many years. With 3 children and a very busy life, woodturning was fitted in to rare times when I was not on duty as a chauffeur.

I first came to the club when I moved to Ampfield with my husband and elderly father in September 2004 from Gloucestershire. 2 years later I moved to Romsey after their deaths. I remarried in September 2011 and Derek and I moved to Waterlooville last November. Due to all these moves my tools and wood have spent too long in packing boxes and sorting out the next workshop. I think we are nearly safe and ready to begin again. It has all been very disruptive, lots more turning in the future. I also enjoy calligraphy and cooking, in fact almost anything practical.

Derek runs the shop with Andy so please buy as many of your supplies from the shop as possible. If there is something not stocked that you would like please ask and check the Axminster catalogue. I love colour, as you may have noticed, and really enjoy enhancing the wood, especially ash, although some of you may reckon I ruin it instead. The most ambitious piece I have turned was a large wall plaque with Nick Agar, turned from sycamore and brightly coloured pink and purple! You may recognise a familiar colour scheme.

Derek and I learnt to turn pens from Ron Caddy and have now turned and sold a large number. I enjoy using Bethlehem olive wood most but have also used lots of the bright coloured acrylics sold by John Davis. Last month the gallery was extremely well supported with a wonderful display of many varied objects. Thank you everyone who contributed and please continue. I hope that this inspires us all to turn more and make more effort in doing something different. The demonstrations this year have been very varied so I hope that we have all found something of interest. If you missed the Saturday with Colwin Way from Axminster Tools then you missed a wonderful treat. Look in the magazine for the report and photos. The committee work very hard to try and provide a varied programme. If you have some suggestions please let one of us know. Support, ideas and constructive criticism are all welcome. Any bright ideas for the competition at our Christmas meeting will be very gratefully received and also subjects for future challenges. For the club to be the most benefit to all of us we need as much help and encouragement as possible. Thank you for all your support during the last 12 months and we will do all we can to make the next 12 months as friendly as we can.

*Lynda Barkaway.*

### *Signing Off*

*Thanks to all the contributors to Your Turn. It would be hard to produce without you and it would have less variety. I apologise for the occasions when space compels me to wield the electronic red pencil.*

*Next time will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue and I really need your contributions.*

*Dave Gibbard, Editor*