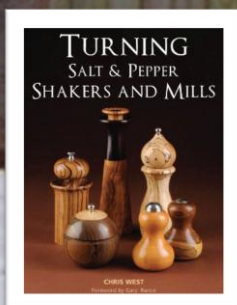
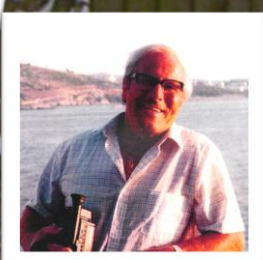


# YOUR TURN

Hampshire Woodturners Association newsletter. Winter issue, December 2011



....That was the year that was



# YOUR TURN

Winter 2011



Hampshire Woodturners Association  
newsletter. December 2011.

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## EDITORIAL - A busy year....

The snapshots on the cover page indicate just how busy 2011 has been.

We have had 5 visiting turners (6 if you include "our own" Les Thorne) in a wonderful programme for which we have Bob Hope to thank. Membership has stabilised and a large proportion of members actually attend meetings. There were well over 60 at the November meeting to see Mark Sanger.

Novice interest has seen a resurgence under Harry Woollhead's low key encouragement. Harry was awarded "Member of the Year" in April for his efforts and Phil Bristow, with an emerging talent, was novice of the year. Phil has also taken over the website and is developing it nicely.

The quality of members' work brought to the monthly galleries has been very good. And we have all been impressed and often amused by the interpretations of the themes set for the Challenges, held 3 times during the year, though there have been occasions for grumbling about the number of entries. Choice of favourite entries was made by all attending members and the formula has produced choices by turners with widely different levels of experience. That has to be encouraging, so don't be shy next time.

Denis Hilditch has done a great service looking after our charity donations to Countess Mountbatten Hospice which have been gratefully received. Suggestions please for next year's charity.

Sadly we lost one of our earliest members, Ken Linham, during the year and also the iconic Bert Marsh. I know Bert was not a member but there can be few of us who have not been influenced by his beautiful work. Finally I'd like to tip my cap at those who run the "supporting" services, shop, library, raffle, tea and my personal thanks to Keith Barnes for his contributions to Your Turn via the Hints and Tips and Novice columns. A Merry Christmas to all our readers.

Dave Gibbard, Editor

## REPORTS OF MEETINGS

### 5 September – Chris Eagles

Chris is a full time woodturner and craftsman dividing his time between teaching at the William Morris workshop in the Cotswolds, furniture restoration and commissions.



*Here is Chris with some examples of his work:*



His themes for this evening were types of decoration that could be used for box lids (in particular off-centre inlays) and turning long thin spindles under tension. Chris had brought examples of complete boxes but for the demo he concentrated on lid variations. He started with a square section blank held in a 4 jaw chuck, making sure the jaw ends dug well in and marking orientation on the wood for future re-mounting. After turning the lid with a flattish top, the reason for the square section became clear. Removing an opposite pair of jaws, say 1 and 3, allowed the lid to be held off-centre in the remaining 2 jaws. Obviously the off-centre distance can easily be adjusted. He bored a blind hole with a Forstner bit to take a contrasting disc, in this case a piece of black acrylic rod. The lid, complete with insert, was then re-mounted in the 4 jaws and the top re-turned and sanded.

For further embellishment it is possible to repeat the process on different offsets to insert other overlapping contrasting inserts.

Chris also showed another effect by tilting a lid in the jaws to cut some crescent shaped grooves in the top which could be filled with coloured paint.

I've done some off centre turning but I've not tried doing it this way. It seemed a quick if somewhat limited way of getting some interesting decorative effects.

I must try it.

Another thing I must try is the way he ground his skew. I generally curve the edge a bit to allow a slight concave to be followed but his was extreme.



He admitted this grind was not his own invention but he now uses only this method and guarantees it is impossible to dig in. (I suspect some of our members are about to prove him wrong). The theory is that dig-ins occur when a part of the blade other than the part being used to plane accidentally touches the surface. By curving the edge the likelihood of this happening is much reduced. I can see the logic of that and it's something else I will try. Another advantage is that a planning cut can be made with any part of the edge rather than a very limited area near the point, so it won't need sharpening as often.

After tea Chris demonstrated another "neat idea". When turning long thin spindles, it is difficult to support them. Applying more thrust from the tail stock makes matters worse as the spindle starts to bow. Chris uses a tensioning device, the tension being applied using the tailstock in the reverse. The spindle obviously has to be gripped in a chuck rather than a pronged drive and also gripped in the tailstock. The device for doing this uses a modified revolving centre in the tail stock adapted to take a cup into which a spigot on the end of the spindle is inserted. The cup has holes to allow the spigot to be pinned in place. The revolving centre is tapped at the end which goes into the tailstock to take a threaded rod which protrudes at the far end of the tailstock and retained by a nut. Got all that? If I can find enough spare bits I'll try making one and let you know.



*Turning a spindle under tension*

Time limitation constrained his tensioned spindle demo to a fairly short one though he had brought examples of much longer ones. His invitation to the audience to imagine this was 12" brought a show-stopping comment from a woman visitor: "That's what my husband says!"

*Dave Gibbard*



### 3 October – HWA Challenge & Chris West on salt & pepper mills

#### The Challenge

We were pleased to be busy booking in the entries for the latest round of the Challenge – 23 from 15 members. Whilst not a spectacular number from almost 90 members, it reversed the downward trend and encourages us to continue with the challenge. The general quality was very good with imaginative and clever interpretations of the challenge categories. I must confess I was surprised what some of you thought of doing with a block of wood.

The categories were:

**A** - Make an item or items from a single piece of wood 3" x 3" x 8" (which attracted 9 entries)

**B** – Interpret the phrase "Run of the Mill" (8 entries)

**C** - Interpret the phrase "Autumn Leaves" (6 entries)

The clear first choice of the 51 members voting was Bryan Matcham's jug (category A) with Dave Gibbard's art deco vase second (also A) and Adrian Smith's box with coloured leaf patterns third (category C).

Time had been allowed for all those entering to say a few words about their entries and take questions. Everyone joined in the banter and the session proved informative and amusing.

Thanks to Bob for booking in and vote counting and Lynda for hand writing the certificates for the 3 top choices.

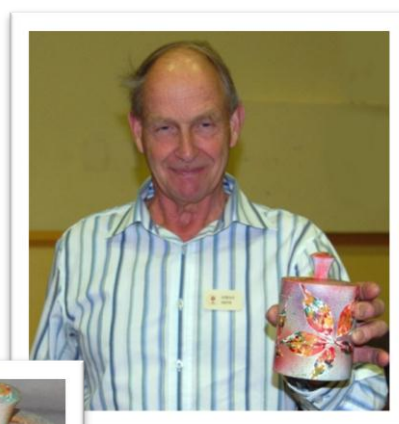
*The next challenge proper will be in March but remember you are invited to make a Christmas decoration and bring it to the December meeting. There will be a simplified vote and a prize of a bottle of wine for the favourite.*



*Bryan Matcham talks about his jug (A), members' first choice.*



*Dave Gibbard receiving second choice award from Chairman for art deco vase (A)*



*Adrian Smith with third choice decorated box*

*Pictures of all the other Challenge entries are on the next page.*





All the other Challenge entries:

Top row: Adrian Smith (B), Chris West (B), Denis Hilditch (B), Jack Mansfield (A), Derek Luke (B).

2<sup>nd</sup> row: Adrian Smith (A), Graham Barnard (C), Bob McFarland (C), Jack Mansfield (B), John Holden (C)

3<sup>rd</sup> row: Ralph Stone (A), Ron Broadway (A), Phil Bristow (A), Pierre Baumann (B), Pierre Baumann (B)

Bottom row: Jean Turner (A), Jack Mansfield (C), Bob McFarland (A), Jean turner (A), Phil Bristow (C).

### Chris West on salt & pepper mills

In the middle part of the evening, **Chris West** put on a very accomplished presentation of making salt and pepper mills and shakers, based on his recent book. This is the sort of job where detailed drawing is essential to ensure the result looks right and fits together. Even then Chris likes to have a rough go at the shape first because it often looks different in 3-D compared with a drawing.

There were plenty of design suggestions and tips- different types of mechanism, the advisability of drilling from both ends not straight through and my favourite – knobs. Well finials strictly. There are numerous alternatives to the metal knob that comes with the mechanism. I particularly liked the threaded inserts that allow you to make your own to suit your

design to give an individual appearance.

I'm not going to try to write all this up; Chris has already done that in his book to which I happily refer you.

*Dave Gibbard*





## 7 November - Mark Sanger & Countess Mountbatten Hospice donations.



I don't remember having seen a demo by Mark before and I was very impressed by his work and the clear, confident way he presented it. He squeezed 2 projects into the evening by using pre-prepared part finished items to enable him to skip some of the more time consuming parts.

I'll just give an outline description. I've already circulated a Emails with Mark's full details of these projects. If any member who does not have internet access would like a copy, please let me know.

His first project was a shallow bowl in sycamore with a broad rim decorated by carving and scorching. He started with the bowl on a screw chuck and with the tailstock in contact to give additional support. Mark employs the tailstock in this way whenever possible. He advocates this for additional stability and precision though the tailstock can cause some obstruction and requires a small amount of hand finishing at the end.

Mark favours a long gouge grind which allows the same tool to be used for a variety of purposes. The tip has a tight radius for details whilst the wings present a long edge for removing wood on shallow curves with a smooth cut. The long edge can also be used in a scraping mode.

The outside was turned with a spigot onto which the bowl was reversed for hollowing the centre. He used a power carver to cut random patterns of grooves in the rim which he then scorched with a blow torch, being careful to ensure the scorching didn't penetrate the carved grooves. If you are worried about burning the bowl, the centre could be hollowed after the rim has been scorched.



To finish the outside, he reversed the bowl against a friction disc (carpet underlay glued to a wooden disc) holding it in place with the tailstock.

Interestingly Mark only sands to 320 grit, the fine finish he achieves coming from burnishing.

He described 2 methods (simplified for the demo). Where possible, Mark likes to finish off the lathe. The surface is sealed with diluted sanding sealer then burnished on a polishing wheel mounted on the lathe loaded with a buffing compound (Mark uses "Hyfin" polishing bar). A microcrystalline wax (like Renaissance) is then applied and buffed by hand. The idea is that the wax protects the surface which is already well finished rather than being the finish itself. The other method is to use up to 5 coats of satin lacquer, cutting back between with wire wool before burnishing to a shine. He uses satin even for a shiny finish because it seems to cover better and keeps the matt option open. Finally, protect with wax as before. The second project was a shallow hollow form with a very small hole in the top. It would be impossible to hollow through such a small hole, so the trick is to do it from the bottom and to plug it.

Holding the blank from the top on a screw chuck, Mark shaped the bottom leaving a long parallel spigot. This was parted off and first a pilot hole was drilled right through followed by a wider hole with a Forstner bit to a depth 10 mm from the top. The bottom opening was turned for the spigot to be re-fitted. The inside was hollowed with a pointed scraping hollowing tool. It is not necessary to get a good finish since the inside will be inaccessible. The spigot was then glued back in, making sure the grain is lined up. Reversing, holding on the spigot allowed the top and hole to be turned and finished. Reversing again, driven via a small scrap cone in the hole and supported by the tailstock, the bottom was finished and the spigot joint disguised by a series of grooves.

So if you can't see or feel the inside, why not just leave it solid with a small hole in the top? The answer is to make something which is light to hold and feels hollow.



*Hollow form seen from the top*



*Underside. Spot the join.*

## 7 November meeting, continued...

Mark's programme was so full that there was no time for a gallery critique. In fact Mark was reluctant to do this anyway without knowledge of the turners and their individual abilities. This was a pity since members had gone to some trouble to put good quality items on the table.

All the gallery items can be seen on our website but I feel I have to make particular mention of the superb monkey puzzle hollow form made by Mike Haselden. The shiny oiled finish must have taken a large number of coats and a great deal of time. Brilliant.



Mike Haselden's lovely Araucaria hollow form in the members' gallery

Finally, thanks to all those who have contributed to our charity. This was the last collection of donations and was swollen by a lot of items made by the late George Gale donated by his widow Betty. See the separate report in this issue.

Dave Gibbard

*By the way it was very encouraging to see such a large proportion of members attending the meeting. Denis tells me it was 62. Probably more in fact since some are known to slip in without signing in.*



Here are a few more "best safety practice" examples



## REPORTS OF OTHER EVENTS

### Hands-on day, Old Alresford, 5 November

Remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November...

As we arrived for the hands on day, the villagers were erecting a large pyre for the evening's festivities. We wondered whether it would be a useful source of material for us or whether we might be adding to it before the day was out.

As it turned out the 15 of us had a most enjoyable day and I think we all learned something, including those supposed to be instructing others.

There were 3 lathes and a grinder in action. The grinder was busy with sharpening practice and on the lathes people were making goblets, hollow forms and boxes, the latter involving some thread cutting.



Jack leaves it to Harry to go for a really thin finish

The weather was good enough for lunch to be taken al fresco for the hardier members and the modest fee covered the costs plus the loss from the previous poorly attended event.

All in all an informative and enjoyable day.

More reports follow....



## REPORTS OF OTHER EVENTS continued...

### Community Woodfair, Zionshill Copse, Chandlers Ford 3 September



The HW A team was John Holden, Bob Hope, Keith Barnes and Dave Gibbard

The intrepid HWA quartet had everything crossed for the weather as we turned up bright and early for the Woodfair. We must have been very good as we were rewarded with a nice dry day, bucking the summer trend. The weather helped bring the crowds out. We set up 2 lathes but added a third during the day as we were so busy.

We were selling items made during the day for our supported charity which is Countess Mountbatten Hospice this year.

Mushrooms were the favourites plus a few small bowls, goblets, vases (and a few pieces of firewood). The take was a satisfactory £75.

John brought along a bowl of very realistic acrylic painted apples. I had brought a real one for lunch which was such a good match that I put it in the bowl. Spot the real apple was a good conversation starter but after a day's prodding I decided not to eat it after all!

If you haven't been to this event I strongly recommend you make the effort next year and bring the family. There's so much to interest adults and children – participation events as well as demos. The joy for me was the delight of the children as they turned up with painted faces clutching bird boxes, model ships, carved bits of soap etc that they had made and then watched as objects emerged from branches of wood on the lathes.

Complaints? Just the length of the queue for the hog roast.

Test Valley Council are to be congratulated for organising such a great community event.

*Dave Gibbard*



## COMING EVENTS

### 5 December Meeting – Quiz and Christmas decoration challenge.

Seasonal fun and games with a quiz including general as well as wood related questions. There are prizes for the winning team.

You are invited to bring along a Christmas decoration you've made. There will be a bottle of wine for the maker of the favourite decoration chosen by the quiz teams.

You may bring a spouse or partner (it could even be your own) to enjoy the fun and snacks and tea/coffee. The bar will be open as usual.

There'll be no gallery

### Programme of Events for 2012

#### 16 January meeting *Note the date!!!*

Turn-in, provisionally featuring natural edges, offset spindle turning, spirals and sharpening.

#### 6 February Meeting– Jenny Starbuck,

Jenny will be showing her piercing and colouring. That's the wood of course. Don't miss it.

#### 5 March meeting

Club night and HWA Challenge

#### 2 April meeting

AGM, Open forum and brains trust.

#### 21 May meeting *Note the date!!!*

Greg Moreton

#### 18 June meeting *Note the date!!!*

Club night

#### 2 July meeting

Demonstrator TBA

#### 13 August meeting *Note the date!!!*

Club night

#### 3 September meeting

Denis Keeling

#### 1 October meeting

Club night

#### 5 November meeting

Showtime with Les Thorne

#### 3 December meeting

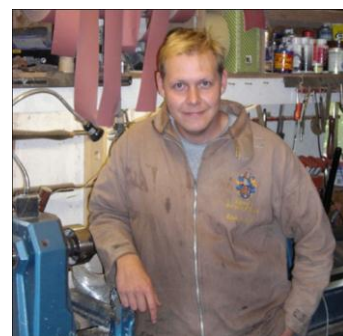
Christmas Social

### Simon Hope Workshop

**Saturday 31st March**

10.00am to 4.00pm

To be held at Badger Farm Community Centre  
Winchester, SO22 4QB



Simon will be demonstrating pewter work, threaded rings, modern salt and pepper sets etc.

Cost £20 per head, tea/coffee provided but bring your own lunch.

Tickets from Bob Hope  
On Sale from January



# HINTS, TIPS & THINGS

## Safety in the workshop Part 1

We all know safety in our workshops should be common sense, but we don't always have the technical know how and the ability on some issues of safety. Whenever possible we must try to Minimise The Risk to prevent danger to ourselves and others.

We don't always appreciate the dangers associated with electricity.

Electricity should always be treated with the utmost respect. You cannot smell or see it but you can certainly feel it, and it hurts. It can cause a fire and in some cases can kill.

I have in general terms listed the best practices that I hope can be easily followed and understood, pointing out areas that can cause safety hazards.

### Earthing

Earthing must be top of your priority list. All of your sockets must have a good working earth. Treat yourself to a plug-in tester. Not only will this tool indicate a good earth it will also show that the socket you are testing is correct for live and neutral connections. You don't need to be an electrician to check out the basics.



*A plug in tester showing a good Earth and Line & Neutral are connected correctly. Plug in testers are available from all good electrical and DIY stores at a cost of around £8 - £10.*

### Multi Plug Adaptors

Plug in socket adaptors should be avoided as they can work loose and then get hot. If you need extra socket outlets use a short extension lead with multi outlet fitted, or better still install extra, fixed wall sockets.



*Avoid using multi plug adaptors.*

### Leads

Try to avoid extension leads trailing on the floor, if possible hang them down from the ceiling/roof. If you use a cable reel or cable drum make sure the rating is suitable for the electrical load you are going to use it for.

Buy extension leads with built in safety cut outs. Always unwind cable reels/drums fully if you intend to use them for an appliance taking a lot of electrical load. Build up of heat will be created within the cable if it is left coiled up. This could cause a fire.

Inspect your cable leads at regular intervals to ensure there are no visible signs of damage or deterioration, Check security of all the connections.

Avoid using tape to cover up a damage cable, always replace the cable when damaged.

### Plugs

Never increase the size of fuse fitted in the plug by the manufacturers of your equipment and never bridge out or wire across a plug fuse or any other type of cartridge fuse.

Replace broken or cracked plugs. Try to use rubber plugs on all woodworking and portable equipment. When using electrical equipment outside use a RCD plug or socket. These are designed to cut the power off if a fault to earth should occur.

### Plug fuse sizes and ratings at 240 volts

2 amp up to 480 watts, 3 amp up to 750 watts

5 amp up to 1200 watts, 13 amp up to 3000 watts

### General

If you have a metal topped work bench make sure it is bonded to a good known earthing point. Hot & cold water pipes should be bonded together and the bonding connected to a good known earth point. Cold water pipes and any other metal pipes such as pneumatic air lines should also be earthed.

### Good Practice

Have an emergency stop button / switch in safe easy reach of your lathe. This also applies to other fixed and stationery equipment when they are being used.



# HINTS, TIPS & THINGS

Safety in the workshop Part 1  
continued

## ELECTRICITY

### Electrical Heating

Exposed element heaters in the workshop are a major safety hazard. Use enclosed heaters such as tubular or oil filled heaters. If you do use fan or convector type heaters make sure they only pull in clean air and not wood dust or shavings. Check them regularly to make sure they are clean and in good working order. If practical fix the heater to a wall.

### Lighting

You need adequate lighting but placed in a way that the lamps will not cause a hazard or get damaged. If you are not sure fit a diffuser or low voltage type lamps.

### Electrical Mains supply

Is the power supply to your workshop adequate for the type of equipment you now use? Do the lights dip when you start your saw or lathe up? If the answer is yes to any of these questions you may need to have the main cable to your workshop checked out or at the very least have the power circuits checked.

If you run all your electrical equipment and lighting from an extension lead, invest in a heavy duty cable from your main consumer unit. When a new supply is installed to your workshop it will give you a bank of circuit breakers complete with a main switch that could be RCD rated to give you that extra safety protection.

### Dust Extraction System

If you use a system that incorporates a long run of steel or ridged plastic tubing, it may cause a build-up of Static Electricity on the tube. To overcome this hazard, bond the tube to a known earth point. This will discharge the static away to earth.

As I understand short lengths of soft flexible plastic tubing may not be a problem.

If you are unsure and need more advice / information you should contact the manufacture of your dust extracting equipment.

In the next issue of Y.T. I will be continuing with Safety in the Workshop, Part 2 looking at safety in general.

I welcome your feed back whatever that may be.

Keith Barnes (keith.hwa@mypostoffice.co.uk)

## **More Hints and Tips:-**

### Burning lines.

To continue with the way woodturners make burning / friction marks, this was taken from an American DVD.

*Cut a small groove in to your revolving work then push the pointed end of a hard wood wedge block into the groove you have just made, this will create a friction mark.*

*Hold the block with a cloth as it can get very hot but be careful that the cloth doesn't get wrapped around the revolving work or catches alight.*

*Don't leave the wedge in contact with the friction mark for too long as it will cause the wood to overheat and catch alight.*

*You can also use this method to make friction marks to the top of your project but without cutting the groove.*

*I think I will keep to the wire system myself as this way seems a bit dodgy to me.*

Woodturning involves a range of basic skills, but these skills are merely a starting point. They must be perfected and used as a basis for experimentation if your work is truly to express your own personality.

*Bert Marsh 1995*

At the September meeting Chris Eagles showed and demonstrated to us his Curved Skew Chisel. This must be a tool worth owning; unfortunately this chisel is not made by any of the leading manufactures but can be made quite easily by modifying a Curved Scraper. A picture of Chris's chisel can be seen on the HWA web site.

*( If I may chip in here, I ground an old skew as suggested by Chris and have been very impressed with the results and ease of use - Editor)*

### **WD-40**

Now winter is with us, to prevent rust corrosion on untreated metal surfaces such as lathe beds / band saw tables spray them with WD-40 this will give the metal protection when not in use.

**VERY MERRY XMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**Happy Turning**

Keith Barnes

# NOVICE CORNER

I have included Denis Hilditch's recent e-mail to me in the Novice Corner. In the last issue I wrote about not complying with some of the ways experienced turners tackle projects. Denis has found the same applies to tool manufacturers.

## Perhaps I've got it all Wrong!

*Those nice tool manufacturers keep working hard on our behalf, designing and making ever more complex and sophisticated tools to make our lives easier and more enjoyable while we are in our workshops making nice 'woody' things. They do it all for our benefit of course, or do they? Now I have to admit that some of the tools are indeed very, very good, but invariably over-priced. Yes I know that research and development costs money but in the majority of cases the tools are just a modification of the last tool they made and the modification was probably on the drawing board before they sold us the first one! I think that the most blatant 'con' is the negative angle scraper! I have read about top line professionals singing the praises of this tool, so I, a mere amateur turner, must have it all wrong, but if I am scraping with an ordinary scraper held horizontally and decide I need a negative angle I just lift the handle of the tool, which is much quicker than reaching for a special tool and has the same result. However, if I have a lot of work needing that angle I would lower the tool rest to achieve the required angle and work with the scraper horizontal. I will admit to being a cynic but I am a cynic borne of experience.*

Denis Hilditch.

Thanks Denis,  
I think in this case Denis it's your money they are after.  
Keith.

When starting out turning it's best to buy the best quality tools you can afford. Human nature being what it is we all tend to buy more tools than we need to, ending up with chisels only ever being used once. A basic starting set only needs to consist of Roughing gouge, Bowl gouge, Skew chisel, Parting tool and a Scraper. You can add to this list once you know which direction you intend going with your hobby.

## Laws of Woodturning

### LAW 1

The speed of the lathe must be compatible with the size, weight and length of the wood to be turned.

### LAW 2

The tool must be on the rest before the whirling timber is engaged and must remain so whenever the tool is in contact with the wood.

### LAW 3

The bevel (grinding edge) of the cutting tool must rub the wood behind the cut.

### LAW 4

The only part of the tool that should be in contact with the wood is that part of the tool that is receiving direct support from the rest.

### LAW 5

Always cut "downhill" or with the grain.

### LAW 6

Scrapers must be kept perfectly flat on the tool rest and presented in the trailing mode, i.e. with the tool handle higher than the tool edge.

Keith Rowley 1999

## The exception to LAW 6

Sheer scraping is cutting rather than traditional scraping, using with the handle down as with the gouge with the bevel rubbing and the blade presented to the wood at an angle. When using the scraper in the traditional manner you can leave the burr on the blade after sharpening. When using as a sheer scraper remove the burr making the blade probably the sharpest tool you use.

Bert Marsh 1995

(May I come in here and point out that law 3 doesn't apply when scraping or parting off?

-Editor )

## Timber Suppliers for turners

A question always being asked, where do you buy your wood? Try these 2 companies they come highly recommended.

Timber Mill  
Wessenden Business centre  
Prospect Road  
Alresford. SO24 9QF  
Tel, 01962 732003

Robert Dyer (John Bradford)  
Silver Street  
Hordle SO41 6DG  
Tel, 01590 681259

Happy turning - Keith Barnes.



## HWA CHARITY OF THE YEAR – Countess Mountbatten Hospice



Another table full of items made by HWA members was donated at the November meeting. A number of these were made by the late George Gale and generously donated by his widow, Betty.



*November's donations to CMH by HWA members*

Lesley Burn of CMH has been very pleased with the wooden items and cash donations from HWA and will let us know how much they manage to raise. This will take a while since some of the things will be held over for their big fund raising event in the Spring.

A big "thank you" is due to all those who have donated and to Denis Hilditch who has run the HWA charity support programme this year.

So now we look towards the coming year and would be interested in suggestions from members as to which charity we should support. Ideally this should have some relevance to our Club or its members and be local or have a local branch. If anyone feels sufficiently motivated to run the programme that would be even better.

### MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome another new member, David Funnell from Alton.

Membership now stands at 87 with recorded attendance of 49, 50 and 60 at the last 3 meetings though we are sure there were a few who came in without signing.

Don't forget to let me know about changes of address, 'phone number or Email address

*Denis Hilditch, Membership secretary.*

### *Signing Off*

Following the encouraging response to the last **Challenge**, the next round will be in March. There will be 3 categories:

- Make anything from a block of wood 2" x 2" x 12"
- Make something incorporating carving and/or texturing.
- Interpret the phrase "The Magic Roundabout".

If you are wondering, the safety "best practice" pictures came from Stephen Hewitt. There are more for another time.

Finally, in this season of goodwill, please spare a thought for those members battling with serious ill health.

'Bye for now, best wishes for the new year.

*Dave Gibbard, Editor*