

DECEMBER 2021

Wednesday 5th Jan: Three Lathe Turn-In

Monday 7th Feb: What's Next ! Les Thorne

Monday 7th March: Club Challenge.

Well, a huge thank you to all those club members who spent an extraordinary amount of time and effort producing and organising the Christmas quiz night. The evening went off very well and was attended by 22 members and another 16 guests were signed in, making an official total of 38 attendees, however a 'head count' by Keith Barnes revealed a total of 39 attendees, so either one 'attendee' forgot to sign themselves in, or Keith had one to many beers! Either way, the evening was considered a great success and there were 14 items on display on the Christmas Competition table.

This year's competition was to 'produce something no larger than your hand', so there were no restrictions or specific themes to limit the imagination of the members, and a great cross section of creative woodturning ides were displayed.

The competition was hosted for the first time by our new Chairman, **Pete Broadbent** who posed the questions to the assembled hoards and took the scores and adjudicated any contentious issues.



There were several quiz themes that really tested the cranial abilities of the attendees, but the quiz was all good humoured and entertaining, with special thanks to quizmaster and compare Chairman Pete.

At half time there was a fantastic feast of festive fare, tea and coffee with the general gathering around the Competition table where voting for the favourite items was carried out, and raffle tickets were bought.

During the second half of the evening the competition votes were counted with **Les Thorne's** team winning.

This was the fourth year in a row that Les and his wife have been on the winning team, so a resounding well done to him and his team.

DAVE AND MARION GIBBARD

As some of you are aware, **Dave** and **Marion Gibbard** have recently moved out of area to a new home in Dorset.

Although Dave has moved, he will remain a member of the club, but the likelihood is that we will see less of him in person, especially during the winter months, when the journey from his new home will likely be more hazardous.

Dave has been a stalwart member of HWA for many years and has the (dubious) honour of being our longest ever serving Chairman, he has also been the editor of the Newsletters and Your Turn editorials, he is a skilled turner who has been a font of knowledge and advice to many of us.

He chaired the club through the difficult Covid 19 Lockdown period and kept us all informed via email of our plans to progress the HWA when lockdown was eased, and we could return to some form of normality.

On behalf of Hampshire Woodturners please can I thank you both for all you have done for HWA over the years. Stay safe and enjoy your new home.

TERRY'S TOP TIPS

In this regular feature, Terry Smart from Chestnut Products shares some of the more interesting responses to questions Chestnut's helpline.

A regular correspondent emailed in this week, they've been given the job of making a stand which will be used for aftershaves and perfumes. What, they asked, would be the best finish bearing in mind the various chemicals in such items.

As far as I know, these things are alcohol based (similar to hand sanitizer!) so they are safe for skin contact and fast drying. It will still need something hard-wearing to stand on, and I'd guess there's a potential for the surface to get wet as well. So, the best option here is the Acrylic Gloss Lacquer. It'll stand up to most things, and it should give the longest lasting option.

I know I've said it before; Sanding Sealers are woefully misunderstood and are frequently mis-used. This came home to me (again) during a phone call today, from someone saying they'd used the Cellulose Sanding Sealer then used an abrasive on it to the point of removing all of the sealer. This isn't the point of sanding the sealer. Think of a sealer as a primer for painting (although it really is much more than that). You'd give it a rubdown with an abrasive before applying the topcoat, but you don't remove it all. It's the same for a sealer; although you probably won't be able to see it, there should still be a tangible coating left on the surface.

Finally for this week, someone making wooden rings contacted us. These were of the type that are made up of a two-piece stainless-steel core, with the turned piece of wood sandwiched in the middle. Our question-setter usually turns pens, which he finishes using Melamine Lacquer. This gave the hard-wearing finish required, but he wanted something a little brighter for the rings. The only thing missing from his finishing process was the use of Burnishing Cream. I suggested using this on the last coat of Melamine Lacquer (up to three can be applied) and this will bring up a brighter finish. If the last coat can be left 24 hours before burnishing it'll be even better.

And of course, the same trick works on any item, not just rings and pens!

Another question was regarding a house sign made from a slab of natural edge wood. What would be a suitable finish for outdoor use? I suggested either Finishing Oil or Acrylic Gloss Lacquer, depending on what sort of look was required. Both will stand up to a lot of weathering and will offer a good amount of protection. Ideally, a clean-up and another coat every year or so would be good, to keep the sign in best condition. My only slight concern was the 'natural edge' which I took to mean some of the bark is still on the slab. The finish is unlikely to keep it in place, so there might be a need to resort to some glue for this. the slab.

We were contacted by a carver looking to finish a very intricate piece he'd made. Which sealer should he use, and what to put on top of it? I suggested one of our aerosol sanding sealers, and as Melamine Gloss Lacquer was not going to be used, we settled on the Acrylic Sanding Sealer. As it was going to be

indoors, WoodWax 22 would be a good option for finishing it, but care needs to be taken to prevent the wax drying in the various nooks and crannies of the carving. If it does, it could be noticeable. So the trick here is to apply the wax with a brush (our Small Round Brush is ideal for this, but other brushes could be used), and to use a stippling motion when doing so - dabbing the wax onto the surface rather than using a stroking motion. Don't let the wax get too dry; buff it after 30 seconds using a fairly stiff bristle brush - we sell brushes that are perfect for this, but if you're only doing one piece then a shoe brush will suffice. This will pick the soft, surplus wax out, and leave a thin coating.

Just a final note for the year, we all hope that you have a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, and a sincere hope that next year will not be as fraught as this last one was. We look forward to seeing you all again at our next meeting. Please stay safe and happy turning.

Dave Simpson

COMPETITION WINNERS

FIRST PRIZE

Richard Nichols - Walnut Pin Case



SECOND PRIZE

Harry Woolhead - Christmas Pudding



THIRD PRIZE

Richard Nichols - Illuminated Gonk



DECEMBER GALLERY

