

JANUARY 2026

HWA Newsletter



Monday 2nd February. Club Member Demo – Richard Bray

Monday 2nd March. Professional Demo via IRD – Emma Cook

Wednesday 8th April. Annual Meeting with talk (details TBC)



HWA FACEBOOK PAGE

Do you know we have a Facebook page

'Hampshire Woodturners Association' and a members only Facebook group called 'Hampshire Woodturners Association Members Area'. Follow the page and get event updates and interact with other members, and post items of interest, or any questions etc in the members group.

HWA MONTHLY RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who supports the HWA monthly raffle.

Our thanks this month to HWA members who donated prizes.



YOUTUBE CHANNELS

A reminder that **Tom James** and **Steve Howell** have both got YouTube channels that showcase their woodturning, give hints and tips and demonstrations on different woodturning methods. Please take a look and subscribe to their channels.

Tom James: [The Welsh Woodman](#)

Steve Howell: [The Hampshire Woodturner](#)

NEWSLETTER FORMAT AND EDITOR

We are continuing to try out a briefer format for our newsletter. We are still sending out club news, but less information about the details of the activities at our club evenings. Please let the chairman know your thoughts – I haven't heard any negative comments so we will continue with this shorter format, and I hope it is still a useful read.

January Meeting – Club Turn-in and Sharpening



Some notes from Brian Hannam about his grinder and sharpening:

Members may be interested in the background to my massive grinder.... the rotating mass takes about five minutes to come to rest. I bought the machine (along with some blacksmiths tongs) from a local surplus merchant. The toolrests were flat three inch squares, and as they were aluminium it wasn't too arduous to saw them down to a more useful size.

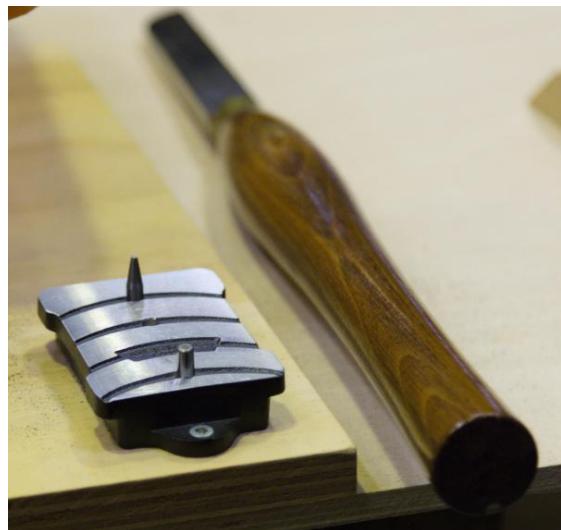
Key points in 'freehand sharpening'

Clean the tools to be sharpened to avoid clogging the grinding wheels' surface.

Just like turning wood, relax, be gentle, approach the wheel from an angle where the cutting edge isn't in contact with the rotating surface, then lower the cutting edge to make the required contact.

When necessary, 'dress' the grind wheels. Perhaps once every five years ?

Brian Hannam.



The above gadget from Veritas is essentially a fixed rod to create a burr on a scraper. By having the rod fixed to the bench the process is a bit easier to make accurate, than pulling a burring rod across the top of the scraper by hand.

The Sorby Pro Edge sharpening system (photos below) has a few limitations (for example, the flat bed can only be set at a number of fixed angles), but it is very easy using the Sorby system to quickly re-sharpen tools in a totally repeatable way.

Phil Hewitt





Thanks to Mike Haselden for running the lathe and encouraging beginners to have a go at bowl turning.



Thanks to Pete Broadbent for all the photos.



TERRY'S TOP TIPS

Extracts from the Chestnut Newsletters

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We get some odd questions, as regular readers will know already! Will our acrylic (water-based) products handle being stored at minus 6 degrees C for a few hours is one that came in recently.

It's not ideal; extreme cold will damage any water-based finish, and once frost has set in to it, it's game over for it.

We don't know the full circumstances of the need to ask this question, and we'd strongly suggest avoiding it if possible; but if not, the use of some good insulation around the product should offer enough protection to ensure the product isn't damaged if it's only for a couple of hours.

A little add-on to the question above, one of the products asked about was Acrylic Sanding Sealer. We checked, and it was the brushing version; the aerosol is less prone to permanent damage due to cold.

However, being an aerosol, the cold can affect how well it sprays; if it gets very cold, for a long time, the propellant will temporarily lose its oomph, causing a poor spray pattern. In cases like this, it's usually best to allow the can to warm up,

preferably naturally, to allow it to return to full strength.

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Another question related to an old piece of furniture. It had been bought for renovation; it wasn't in bad condition, but had obviously come from the house of a smoker, and smelt strongly of cigarettes.

Is there a finish that would seal the smell in? I'm not aware of anything that will do the job, would a spray with Febreze work, I wonder?

Anyway, the only suggestion we could make was to move the item outside (but under cover) with a good air circulation, and let nature take its course.

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'Can certain finishes damage joints glued with PVA based glue?' This is an interesting question and one that's very relevant to those who do a lot of segmented turning. Once the glue has fully dried, it shouldn't be disturbed by a finish, even if it contains a strong solvent.

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JANUARY GALLERY

