

YOUR ^{Re-}TURN

The Hampshire Woodturners Association newsletter

Summer issue, 2009

Introducing your new committee:



Jon Gibbs, Chairman
01962774051



Bob Hope, Secretary
01189813552



Alan Sturgess, Treasurer
02380892622



Denis Hilditch
*Membership
secretary*
02380420901

Gerry Dixon
*Gallery and shop
stand-in*
02380263949



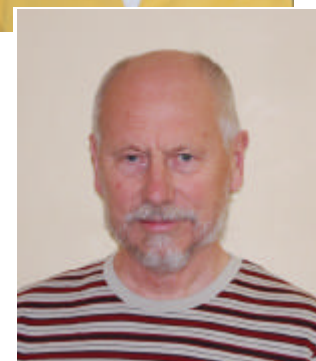
Geoff Spierling
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John Holden
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Dave Gibbard,
Editor, Your Turn
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What's this space for?

If you collect your copy of Your Turn at the June meeting, peel your address label from the sheet and stick it here. Your missing label will tell us we don't have to post your copy. Better still, write your Email address on your label and stick it on the sheet on the table to register that you will take future copies by downloading from the website.

YOUR TURN

Summer 2009



CONTENTS

- **Editorial**
- **Reports of Events**
 - 6 April - AGM followed by Sharpening event
 - 18 May - Hollowing event
- **Coming Events**
- **Letters**
- **Wessex Heartbeat**
 - Selected charity for 2009
- **“Turning the Trinity” Project**
- **Love dress**
- **New Members**
- **Signing off**

EDITORIAL

As you probably know, I gave up editing Your Turn 2 years ago after 7 years in the job partly because of family problems taking an increasing amount of my time and also I felt a new editor would bring a new style which I felt was getting a bit stale. Apart from a brief spell when Angie took it on there has been no regular newsletter since. It is extremely disappointing that nobody was prepared to do the job but maybe not surprising given the general state of apathy. I'm probably going to regret this but I decided to give it another go and offer myself for election as committee member to edit the newsletter. I narrowly managed to avoid having my hand bitten off. I reckoned I might need both of them.

It has been hard to stay remote and watch communication in the club deteriorate without a regular newsletter. I know we have the website but, excellent though it is, it doesn't serve all the members. Only about half the members have the facility to log on and I am sure that a number of those who can rarely do so. Without a newsletter most members rely on announcements at the meetings and jungle drums.

So here's what I propose.

There will be 4 issues each year and publication dates will be set just ahead of a club meeting. At this time Your Turn will be posted on the website (in colour) for members to download and print off. We will update our downloaders list of members who are happy to take their copies in this way. We will further reduce printing and mailing costs by having printed copies and address labels available at the meeting. If you pick up a copy, take your label too. Copies will then be posted only to those whose labels remain and who have not registered for downloading.

We used to get complaints from downloaders that they didn't know there was a new issue available.

We will look again at why it seemed so difficult to send an Email notifying those on the list that a new issue had been posted on the website. Furthermore, we will endeavour to stick to pre-announced publication dates so you will know in advance when to look.

There will be regular features:

- Coming events for next 4 months
- Reports on last 3 month's meetings
- Editorial

And irregular Features depending on availability of material:

- Chairman's column for committee announcements etc. ("Behind the scenes")
- Letters
- Projects, Hints & Tips
- Novice column
- Trading post (for sale/wanted)
- Visit reports & Travellers' tales
- Anything else.

Also, there will be **particular items** in certain issues:

Issue	Publication	Particular items
Summer	1 June	AGM reports, (Chairman's report & accounts summary)
Autumn	1 September	
Winter	1 December	Programme for new year
Spring	1 March	AGM announcement, Agenda, Nomination forms, Minutes of previous AGM

I look forward to receiving your contributions without which it won't be Your Turn.

Dave Gibbard, Editor

REPORTS OF EVENTS

6 April AGM and sharpening workshop

The AGM got underway with the approval of last year's minutes. The Chairman and Treasurer presented their reports. (The Chairman's report and accounts summary are on following pages.)

The Les Revell Novice trophy was awarded to Dan Would and the Member of the year trophy to Adrian Smith for his balls (how appropriate!). Congratulations to both.

Bottles of wine were presented to the helpers: Steve Page and Pete Buckles (audio/visual system) Colin Cordery (Library)

Lynda Clark (Meeters and Greeters)

Harry Woolhead (Novice task)

Ralph Stone, Brian Matcham, David Bird (Raffle)

Phil Hill, Chris Davey, Roy Nailor (Tea swindle)

Chris West (Outreach programme)

Ron Broadway (External gallery liaison)

George Gale, Dave Gibbard (Setting out and clearing up).

Most of the committee were available for re-election and, with 1 or 2 new volunteers, voting was unanimous. See the front page.

The AGM was closed in good time though Dave Foote's record was never really threatened.

The supporting event was a **workshop of sharpening techniques** by various members including Bob Hope, Alan Sturgess and Jon Gibbs. Wet and dry grinders were in use with various jigs. Some members had brought their problem tools for some hands on training.



*D'Arcy Myers of
Wessex Heartbeat*

Jon then introduced D'Arcy Myers to talk about **Wessex Heartbeat Trust** which is our charity this year. Established in 1992, Wessex Heartbeat is one of the region's major charities and exists to support the work of the Wessex Cardiac Centre (WCC), one of the UK's leading heart treatment centres.

Since 1992, the generosity of supporters at all levels has enabled Wessex Heartbeat to raise over £11m which has been used to help ensure that the best possible care is provided to more than 20,000 patients treated at the centre each year.

Heartbeat's house near Southampton General Hospital enables relatives of young cardiac patients to stay nearby.

You can find more details on the website www.heartbeat.co.uk

The intention is for HWA members to produce turned items for sale or auction at Wessex Heartbeat's Christmas dinner event.

See the item by **Denis Hilditch** in this issue.

Bob Collings then gave a **critique of the members gallery**. There are more gallery pictures on our website www.hants-woodturners-hwa.co.uk



Bob pointing out a carved bee in this extraordinary floral item by Chas Bunday, (a visitor).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2008/9

It has to be said that the year got off to a shaky start – we had a real scrape-up for committee members, not to mention the chairman, and membership numbers down. To put some colour on that we stand at just over 90 members now at the close of 2008/9 which is down from just about 100 in 2007/8.

But on the bright side the committee picked up some new blood – A new webmaster in Martin Stallard, a new shop-keeper in Geoff Spierling, a meeter and greeter in Denis Hilditch as well as Gerry Dixon. We also welcomed back Bob Hope as secretary.

Harry Woolthead restarted the novice section which ran for most of the year and enough for us to have a Les Revell Trophy winner – More of that later. And Bob Hope took over the running of the gallery from Harry Butler.

Ralph Stone, who'd been a stalwart of the raffle was forced to step down due to ill health to be replaced by Brian Matcham. We're very grateful to Ralph for his hard work over the years and to Brian for effecting a completely seamless handover.

Over the last year we've tried to put on a packed programme of events covering the usual turn-ins (work holding, Christmas Items in August - that must be a first! and a hands on texturing evening). We've had a timber auction, not to mention a sale of second-hand dentist's equipment. Useful for those members looking for a lucrative career-change!

As usual we've had a peppering of professional turners including Les Thorne and Colin Simpson, and home-grown talent in the form of Adrian Smith. For Adrian's demo, which was one of the highlights of the year for me, I felt that we had ironed out the lighting problems of the AV system & it all seemed to come together thanks to Steve Page's perseverance.

* **Post script - Shop and Library**

I was talking to Geoff Spierling who mentioned how slow moving the shop stock has become. The shop has always stocked the consumable items in regular use by most members, like sandpaper and superglue. This has been a useful source of supply for members and the regular turnover enabled the items to be purchased at a good price. This virtuous circle breaks down if turnover is too low. So if you are getting these items elsewhere, have a look at the shop table at the next meeting. Then there's the library. The stock of books and videos is rather out of date (what's a video?). The stock has been deliberately run down via sell-offs and not updated because the use of the library has been so low. New members borrowed a book or two at first then they just sat on the shelf. The cost of re-stocking with new books and DVDs is high and only justifiable if it's going to be used. Let us have your views on the shop and library. You could write to me at Your Turn.

Who can forget the February meeting? Hopefully it'll be a few more years before we have another meeting snowed off. And I still haven't forgotten that my workshop is the smallest in Hampshire! ...Neither has my wife who hears it at regular intervals these days as I try in vain to Annex the rest of the garden.

Numbers may be down but I think that we are still a pretty healthy club. We're very fortunate to have a dedicated core of members both on and off the committee who keep things running smoothly. Meetings just wouldn't happen without the work and dedication of this team. On your behalf, we'll be extending a thank you to them in a moment but I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank them for the help they've given me over the last year.

But that's enough of last year - What about the future of the club in the year ahead?

I know this has become a bit of a recurring theme amongst club chairmen, but there is an awful lot of reliance on the comparatively few key individuals who keep the raffle, shop, AV-system, teas, meters and greeters table, gallery, novices, website, finances and programme of events going. We still need volunteers to be prepared to come forward to help-out wherever they can. It doesn't have to be a big commitment. It could be offering to help with any of the club night tasks – Tea, Raffle, Novice Task, Shop*, Meeters and Greeters, Gallery. Offering to stand-in for someone if they're away for any reason is valuable. Anyone with a camera and/or computer could help out with the website photography or even writing articles for Your Turn.

It is really down to us the membership to ensure that the club remains healthy and is here for the next generation of woodturning members. It should mean more to us than just as a source of entertainment so please do what you can to help out.

Jon Gibbs, Chairman HWA, April 2009

Editor

TREASURER'S SUMMARY for 2008/9

The year has seen a major reduction in membership numbers, in fact 28 members resigned from the club following the last AGM. Since moving from Kings Worthy where membership was over 150 we are now just under the 100 at 97 members.

This reflects directly on our income, not just the receipt of membership fees but also a reduction in the profit gained from the Raffle, Tea & Coffee and Club Shop.

Had we not cancelled the February meeting due the snow we would have made a loss of nearly £1000.

We fully expect membership to remain low for the short term as woodturning is not a cheap hobby and people do not take up hobbies such as ours when times are hard, they tend to spend the time doing more for themselves instead.

That said the club's bank balance is still healthy and the committee are looking at ways to keep costs down and other directions to improve income.

Our income for 2008/09 was £2058.54 and expense at £2734.97 equalling a deficit of - £676.43 Our closing balance was £2,626.32

Due to the above the committee have agreed to increase subscriptions to £20 for the coming year. We do hope that our numbers will stabilise and encourage you all to rejoin and support your HWA.

Finally I would like to express my gratitude to all those who collect monies on behalf of the club and keep account of their sub account operations.

Alan Sturgess, Treasurer

The itemised statement of income and expenditure was presented at the AGM. Any members who missed the AGM and would like a copy please contact Alan.

If you haven't yet paid your subs for 2009/10 please do so at the next meeting or send a cheque for £20 to Denis Hilditch, 6 Oregon Close, Southampton, SO19 2PS

REPORTS OF EVENTS, continued.....

18 May - Hollowing Event

This was another hands-on participation event. There were 3 lathes available and a wide range of tools for hollowing including the clever, eye watering expensive Rolly Munroe tools to the cheap but slow Bob Chapman types. Sometimes an ordinary gouge can produce excellent results with an appropriate grind and tool rest.

Thanks to Jon Gibbs, Alan Sturgess and Gerry Dixon for demonstration and guidance. Special thanks to Gerry who stood in at the very last minute for your editor, called away to a family emergency – the joys of mobile phones!



Here's Gerry providing some amusement for Ian Woodford.



Jon getting down to it.



Alan and Dennis Hilditch. I'm not sure who is more worried.

COMING EVENTS

1 June. "Fancy Turning", Dave Springett

Dave's ambitious demo will include fitting a solid wood arrow through a glass apple; turning accurate spheres the easy way; turning the "harlequin ball", similar to the Singapore ball but easier and turning a spiked star inside a sphere plus Streptohedrons, (boxes with a twist).

6 July. Three Legged Vessel, Mark Hancock

Mark will be demonstrating a 3 legged vessel which involves hollowing, carving, ebonising, painting and gilding

3 August. Turning boxes, HWA members.

Demonstrators to be decided. Volunteers would be good.

7 September Pole Lathe Turning, Steve Reed

NICK AGAR WHOLE DAY WORKSHOP

22 November at the Badger Farm Community Centre, Winchester (next to Sainsburys).

Fee will be £20. Contact Bob Hope or another Committee member at a meeting or by phone; phone numbers are on the front page.

LETTERS

Off to a good start with a letter from Denis Hilditch. This could be a scoop for Your Turn.

At our November 2008 meeting I put a scoop on the table for critique, later to donate to CLIC Sargent. The item was duly inspected and favourable comment was made about the perfectly shaped bottom, now that was a certain amount of luck.

However, the thing that was a bit unusual about the scoop was that the handle was angled to the bowl to improve the ergonomics but this wasn't spotted which was a bit disappointing as I had gone to considerable trouble to achieve the effect. It has since occurred to me that there may be novice turners out there who would like to have the method explained and if so I would be happy to arrange a 'teach in'.

Denis C Hilditch

WESSEX HEARTBEAT

Our chosen charity for 2009 is **Wessex Heartbeat** and I think that the name itself is a good indicator of the basic aims of the charity so I won't labour the matter except to say that a number of our members have been glad of its existence and the remainder hope they never have to.



(Picture from Wessex Heartbeat website)

One of the great things about us supporting Wessex Heartbeat is that it only involves our members in doing the thing that they like doing and that of course is Woodturning.

The way that Wessex Heartbeat will make use of our 'turnings' is at their 'Victorian Winter Ball' in November, where the most prestigious pieces will be sold in a 'silent auction' when hopefully

Champagne fuelled generosity will come into play. Less valuable items, i.e. Mushrooms, Light pulls etc. will be left on the tables as 'sweeteners' which should generate donations from the revellers.

So, what are we members asked to do? The answer is simple. **Turn some wood!** I will prepare a list of random items to get things started and I know that some members have their own specialities which will be very welcome. On the 'signing in sheets' at meetings we will leave a place for you to make a note of what you intend to turn for the charity. There are of course members who are not able to get to meetings as often as they would like but this is no reason for them to be left out of the effort. If you are one of those members please get in touch with me and we will agree on a way to get your contribution to where it needs to be. I can be contacted by phone. 023 80420901 or E-mail.

denishilditch@aol.com

The last date for contributions will be the October meeting but I will be happy to accept items at any time and if you turn something delicate I promise to take great care of it.

Denis Hilditch.

TURNING THE TRINITY by Bob Hope

Our local vicar is a great chap and not judgemental on those who do not attend regularly, so I get on with him really well. He is always welcoming and he likes a pint!

So when his wife asked if I could make him something to use in his services to help him explain the Trinity, of course I agreed willingly. But what to make?

The brief was for three objects of equal size and joined together, and I immediately thought of people. That just left how to make something.

I decided that I would like to involve turning and carving and came up with the idea for three persons standing in a circle with hands joined.

I roughed out a design to a size I thought would be big enough to be seen from the pulpit but not too big to be comfortably held in the hand. The finished size would be about 6" (150mm) tall and 4" (100mm) in diameter.

I rummaged in the wood store and found a log of laburnum which was given to me by Dave Foote a couple of years previously and roughed turned it with a good spigot on and once I had the size of the blank I could start to draw the figures to the correct size to circumvent the wood.



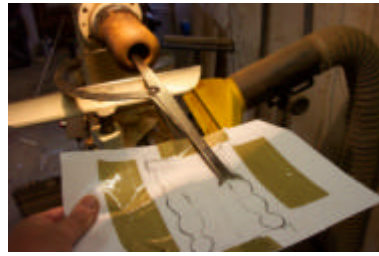
This is the basic drawing of one person I then drew a profile and transferred it to a profile board for turning the outside.



The next part was the easy part, turning the outside to shape and then drilling the centre out with a 2" (50mm) drill bit.



The next operation was to turn the inside profile to shape which involved some tricky hollowing, whereas normally the inside of a hollow vessel is straight or curved to match the outside profile, this had to be shaped to the front profile of the person. I did this by mounting the profiles on a board and constantly checking the shape with inside callipers.



Once I was satisfied with this the turning was almost at an end and the carving began.

First I marked out the shapes on the outside of the blank using the plan drawn originally and then proceeded to stitch drill out the waste with the piece still mounted on the lathe in the chuck. This took some time and the drilling had to be aimed for the centre of the piece to avoid drilling away too much of the inside profile.

Lastly the edges had to be carved to shape and rounded off inside to leave the outside turned profile untouched.

The finished carving was accomplished by using hand tools, gouges, chisels and rasps, and also a hand held rotary carver of the sort favoured by bird carvers, although this was of limited use and the majority of the work was done by hand. Finally the sanding process began, which was done using strips of cloth backed abrasive in the various grades through the openings in the carving.



Finally the holding boss was cut off on the bandsaw, the bottom sanded and the whole piece finished in three coats of Danish oil and wax polished to a shine. I hope the vicar puts a word in for me with his Boss when the time comes!

Bob Hope



LOVE DRESS

Here's a little anecdote with only a tenuous and, some would say contrived, connection with woodturning.

I squirrel these things away when they come my way and I forget who sent me this. Feel free to write and claim it and I'll be pleased to give you the appropriate acknowledgement. Unless you'd rather not own up....

The wife of a woodturner stopped by unannounced at her recently married son's house. She walked in and was startled to see her daughter-in-law lying on the couch, totally naked. Soft music was playing and the aroma of perfume filled the room.

"My goodness, what's going on?" she asked.

"I'm waiting for my husband to come home from work," the embarrassed girl answered.

"But you're naked!" the mother-in-law exclaimed.

"This is my love dress. My husband loves me to wear this dress," she explained. "It excites him no end. Every time he sees me in this dress, he instantly becomes romantic and ravages me for hours on end. He can't get enough of me."

The woman discretely left. When she got home, she undressed, showered, put on her best perfume, dimmed the lights, put on a romantic CD, and laid on the couch waiting for her husband to come in from his workshop.

He walked in and saw her lying there provocatively.

"What on earth are you doing?" he asked.

"This is my love dress," she whispered, sensually.

"It needs ironing," he said "now what's for dinner?"

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome recent new members and maybe give them a call if you live nearby:-

Keith Barnes from Bittern Park, Southampton, 02380550971

Ian Taylor from North Baddesley, 02380736155

Steve King from Romsey, 01794523924

Bill Edmunds from Fair Oak, 02380602359

SIGNING OFF



"What are you going to do today?"

"Nothing"

"You did that yesterday"

"Well, I hadn't finished"

(Thanks to Ian Woodford for this contribution)

If these characters could be you, may I suggest some more useful activities?

Get out in that workshop, make something and bring it to the gallery.

Then write something for Your Turn.

Remember, my job is editor. That means I need material from you to edit.

Please get copy to me at least 2 weeks before publication date, preferably in electronic format to

d-m.gibbard@dsl.pipex.com

I can also take printed items, preferably typed, plus drawings and photo prints, etc.

Hand them to me or send to 7 Balmoral Close, Chandlers Ford SO53 1TG.

And thanks to those of you who contributed this time, even if you were unaware of doing so!

Dave Gibbard, Editor .