

## APRIL 2023

**Monday 1st May:- Chestnut Products**

**Monday 5th June:- Members Night**

**Monday 3rd July:- Andrew Hall**

### April meeting and AGM

The April meeting was as usual an amalgamation of both our annual AGM and the Club 'TOY' Challenge rolled into one.

The meeting was attended by 22 members with another 3 new members joining, giving a total of 25 in total, which is a good attendance for the time of year.

*It is also the time of year to pay our membership fees to the Hampshire Woodturners Association by Bank Transfer to the bank details shown below, or by cash to Keith Barnes at the next meeting. The club subscription costs remains the same as in previous years at £30. As such, I would be grateful if you would pay your subscription, the preferred method is 'Bank Transfer' and the Bank details are below:*

**Bank:** Provided by email

**Sort Code:** Provided by email

**Account number:** Provided by email

**Account Name:** Provided by email

**Please ensure you put a reference to your name in the transfer so that we know who it is from.**

On receipt of your membership monies, you will be handed a Membership card which will not only prove that you are a paid-up member but will also entitle you to 5% off at Axminster Tools and other offers.

Please can members pay their subs promptly to help reduce the amount of 'chasing up' that is required. Thanks in advance.

The AGM was hosted by our Chairman **Peter Broadbent** and went to plan as per the published agenda, and the following is the result of the elected officers and the committee.

ELECTED ROLE	NAME
<b>Chairman:-</b>	Pete Broadbent
<b>Treasurer:-</b>	Tom Massey
<b>Secretary:-</b>	Phil Hewitt
<b>Committee:-</b>	Dave Simpson
	Tom James
	Keith Barnes
	Richard Bray
	Kevin Cornmell
	Kev Divall

*We are still looking for an 'Events Organiser', to take over the role that Pete Broadbent is temporarily filling. The role is not an arduous one, and the programme for all of 2023 and most of 2024 has already been organised and confirmed, but we are needing someone to take the pressure off Chairman Pete and fill the vacancy please.*

### CLUB AWARDS

The Len Osbourne trophy was awarded to **Steve Howell**. Steve had sent his apologies for the meeting and so the trophy will be taken to him at home.

The Novice Award Trophy was not awarded this year.

The Clubman of the Year trophy was awarded by **Richard Bray** to **Pete Broadbent**, in recognition of the huge amount of work he does to keep the club running smoothly. The committee had managed to keep this a surprise for the chairman, and Pete was warmly thanked by the members present.



In addition, a gift was presented for Pete's wife **Helen** to express our thanks for the work preparing the buffet for the Christmas Social event.

Bottles of wine were also presented to:-

**Phil Hill** - for the refreshments at our meetings

**Steve Page** - for the camera work (to be given in May 23)

**Alan Truslove** - for the audio

**John Holden** - for photo assistance and helping run the competitions.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023

Well, another year has flown by, and lots has happened! I could just leave it there as it summarises it very well for me!

One thing for sure, life in general does seem to have settled back to the old routines' e.g. we are 'living more normally' than we were 3 years ago when COVID darkened our doors. This was what the Government wanted, and we thought they were mad, but we 'are Living with it' and those days of lockdown seem to be a long time ago, thanks to the brilliant vaccination, all credit to our scientists! It made me laugh when I heard someone at work describing something he did BC (Before COVID), clearly nothing to do with its religious connotation.

As a club, a few members have left, but at the same time, we have also had an influx of new joiners and some new committee members, the beating heart of what keeps the club ticking over.

I feel that we have had a good year, in that the number of people coming back to the 'face to face' meetings has been steadily increasing and it has been great to see you all. I once heard a vicar in a sermon describing the physically going to church was part of the deal about being 'the congregation' and said to those who thought you didn't need to attend as it being akin to being a Scout but never attending the meetings!

We started with the prizes, the winners of which were as follows:

Clubman of the year – **Richard Bray**

Best novice – **Phil Hewitt**

Len Osbourne trophy – **yours truly**.

This year we have had a mixture of professional demonstrators in the form of **Brian Milham, Gary Rance, Les Thorne, and Martin Sabin-Smith**. More recently, we planned to have **Stewart Furini**, however, the day before the demonstration, Stewart informed me that he had COVID; after the mild panic and hysteria had waned, the committee and I rallied round but in the end **Mike Haselden** very kindly stepped to the fore and saved the day! To me, Mike is the epitome of what a 'great' club member is.

Other club members also demonstrated; **Ron Caddy, Tom James** and **Mike Haselden** and I am very grateful to them all.

Interspaced with the professional and club demos were the 'turn-in' nights, where we get the opportunity to do some hands on turning, supervised by our volunteer lathe drivers, usually **Richard Bray, Mike Haselden, Tom James, and John Holden**.

Despite asking for an 'Event Organiser' volunteer several times, and none coming forward, I took it upon myself to organise the events from where Bob Hope had left off, some of which were for this past year but the important point is that we have a full year of events planned and I will go through this at the AGM.

We have had a couple of competitions: One in August (Winners 1<sup>st</sup>: **Mike Haselden**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Harry Woolhead** and 3<sup>rd</sup> **Steve Howell**) and the Christmas one (1<sup>st</sup> **Steve Howell**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dave Simpson** and 3<sup>rd</sup> **Kevin Divall** and **Mario Demontis**) this year. All very light-hearted, but none the less, some excellent entries.

As mentioned, the committee members keep the club going and we jointly make decisions on your behalf through our

meetings and out of committee decisions. This year we have been joined by **Phil Hewitt, Kevin Cornmell** and **Kev Divall**.

Since last year we have a new secretary in the form of **Phil Hewitt**, who also double hats as the webmaster. Phil has been slowly changing the webpage and archiving some of what was on the biggest landing page of any website and in doing so, he has made it more manageable and is doing a great job. As this is where we get the bulk of new members, it is important that it looks right. As a result of Phil's excellent work, I can safely 'ditch' about 5-10 emails day from the club inbox of people offering to upgrade the website and get us to the top of the Google search, all asking for £200 per month!

For the past 2 years our Treasurer has been **Richard Nicholls**, and those of you that have studied the AGM notice, will have observed that he is stepping down at the AGM from this role and also the committee; he is handing over to **Tom Massey**, one of the relative newcomers to the club but with some treasurer experience. I would like to thank Richard for all his hard work in keeping the accounts going and spending countless hours trying to 'talk' to the bank regards getting people added to the account but getting nowhere. Having looked more closely myself, I realised that we could do it all on-line and so we have been able to sort it out without talking to anybody; if only the bank had made that point in the first place, we could have saved Richard hours of frustration!

**Kevin Divall** has added a club 'Facebook account' and in doing so has brought us in line with modern ways of selling what the club does. Kevin also volunteered to take on the Raffle, and again, using the modern way of using an App to pick the winning tickets.

**Kevin Cornmell** has looked at ways of doing a shop but without 'having a shop' and with someone stood there selling the wares. Additionally, he has been very good at suggesting ways to bring more people into the club, and as a result we have 'invited' members of the local men's shed to come along and see what we do.

Richard Bray continues to be the novice champion and provides advice to new joiners, this has also picked up more since COVID and he is also the outreach organiser, attending Sholing Fayre, and arranged 2 events for the club, one being a day at Les Thorne's workshop and then a day at Badger Farm in Winchester to see Kevin Hutson.

The flyer that we have used of the past few years was looking a bit dated and needed a refresh and so I have done a version, I will display a version at the AGM and print a few out for you to

see. If you read the flyer, you can see what you are getting for your annual fee.

**Dave Simpson** continues to do a great job with the newsletter.

**Keith Barnes** continues to do an excellent job as the membership person, and he has also been selling the wares from the 'old' shop.

**Tom James** has been running the 'club library' of books and DVDs for rent at a small price.

I myself have been doing the Chairman role, the event organisation, the photography and associated processing for the website and the newsletter, occasionally doing the newsletter when Dave is away and answering the emails that come in to the club, and this last Christmas, my wife and I did the buffet for the Christmas event and organised and compared the night.

At the last AGM, one of the club members suggested that I look at other clubs to see if they had anyone who would come to the club and do demos. Having tried about seven different clubs, I drew stumps, there were people who did this in the past but are not keen to travel the distance anymore.

One option that we could look into is a zoom demo, but at the club, that way, we could get some far away demonstrators that do not want to travel, including abroad and at the same time, meet each other for a chat rather than being stuck at home! I would be grateful for your views.

Of course, there are others who are 'not' on the committee that are involved, and we rely upon: **Phil Hill** for the teas and coffee, **Steve Page** for the lights and cameras, **Alan Truslove** on the sound and John Holden helping me on the gallery and also marking the competitions. **Mario Demontis** put his skills into action and repaired the spare club lathe (for free)!

The point I am making with all of this is that the club does not run itself and it takes a bit of time of effort and good will. We are always looking for helpers, even if it is setting out the chairs and cleaning up afterwards.

Which leads us nicely into the coming year, which will hopefully see more members joining.

Yours,  
Pete Broadbent.

## 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](#)

## TERRY'S TOP TIPS

This is where we give you extracts from Terry Smart's really useful Chestnut Products weekly newsletter. You can explore their range of supplies and sign up for the complete weekly newsletters here. [www.chestnutproducts.co.uk](http://www.chestnutproducts.co.uk)

We start this week with one about our Cut'n'Polish. Can it be used off the lathe, by hand? I'd never really thought about this before, but the answer is yes. In fact, although we're well-known as suppliers of finishes for woodturners, pretty much all of our finishes can be used off the lathe as well - and often are, for cabinet work, carvings, marquetry, scroll sawing...the list is endless, my apologies if I've omitted your favourite woodwork discipline.

However, in the case of Cut'n'Polish, it will require some elbow grease (not supplied) to achieve the same result as on the lathe, but it is more than possible.

We were asked about a finish that would be very hard wearing, not glossy, and most importantly not 'plasticky' to the touch, as it was for a salt and pepper grinder, and the maker wanted to retain the tactile feel of the timber.

We'd normally suggest a lacquer for this, but this isn't always as nice in the hand as a wax or oil; it's not often a problem, but fortunately we were able to suggest our Satin Hard Wax Oil as an alternative. It's very hard-wearing and will stand up well to being used with wet hands in a kitchen, and, being an oil, won't detract from the feel of the timber. The only downside is that it's a bit slower drying than a lacquer, clocking in at about four hours.

The same correspondent also asked if they could use the Hard Wax Oil over milk paint; they would like to paint their chairs and other kitchenalia in bright colours and want to protect the finish. I'm not sure that the oil would be the best choice here, as it really wants to penetrate into bare wood to achieve a good bond; the paint would seal it, preventing this from happening. A wax could be used, but this might not offer the level of protection required, so the best bet here is either the Acrylic Gloss or Acrylic Satin Lacquer, in the aerosols. Hard-wearing, quick drying, and usually ideal for applying over most previous finishes. As always, a test piece is a strongly recommended, but I'd be very surprised if there was a problem.

That's it for the questions, but a little bit of product news for you. Our supply of materials for the Copper Gilt Cream is running very low. We buy these materials in bulk, and the prices have risen dramatically since we last bought them 18 months ago (you don't use a lot in 30ml jars!). The new costs would make the product too expensive, so we've decided to discontinue this product in the near future. But fear not, we will be adding a Copper to our Rainbow Wax range, so you'll still be able to create the same effects.

(We still have stock of the Gold and Silver, but I strongly suspect that once our supplies are used, they will go the same way).

Another question asking about the best finish for a toy train, which was being made for an eighteen-month-old child. It needed to be child safe, hard wearing/easy to maintain, and, preferably, easy to apply too.

We have a raft of Toy Safe Finishes, which we've helpfully collected into one section of our website; you can find them [HERE](#) if you want to check them out. In this case, we suggested the safe option of Cellulose Sanding Sealer and Clear WoodWax 22. They meet the requirements of being easy to apply and toy safe, and we chose the easy to maintain option, which is one of the beauties of wax. It will stand up to a fair amount of abuse, a buff up with a soft cloth will normally return it to a shine, and when that fails, just apply a little more of it and it'll be as good as new.

Another question came in, asking if it was OK to use Burnishing Cream on our Buffing Wheels. We suggested that it probably wasn't. It would make a mess of the wheels, and probably also make a mess during use - it would flick everywhere. And the action of the wheels would probably make the Burnishing Cream dry too quickly for it to do its job; I just can't see it working.

The only way I'd try it would be to put the Burnishing Cream on the item, let it dry a little, and then introduce it to the wheel. But I still think it would be very messy. A foam mop on a drill would probably be the best way of using the Burnishing Cream with a power-driven item, this would probably stay wet long enough for it to do its work.

Our last question this week is one that we seem to get quite regularly, in one form or another. There must be a lot of car restorers out there, as we are often asked about how to finish wooden dashboards.

Our normal advice here is to use one of the aerosol acrylic lacquers - the Acrylic Gloss Lacquer is usually the one, as a deep gloss is normally required. This lacquer is hard-wearing, and highly resistant to water, so if rain were to splash onto it (especially relevant if the car is convertible, or never had a roof in the first place!) it won't mark. Also, importantly, the lacquer has UV filters in it, something I often mention, which means it will stand up to any sunshine we might happen to have!

This next question is mostly about another use for our products; an email came in from someone regarding a pen they had made. It was based on a standard pen kit, and copper pipe had been added to increase its diameter. A casting resin was used to complete the blanks. All was going well until it came to finishing it, as the copper was being drawn to the surface of the resin. Undeterred, our intrepid turner continued through the grits to get a smooth finish, even though some copper contamination was still coming to the surface of the resin. Finally, the pen was finished with Cut'n'Polish which cleaned it up nicely, curing the problem.

I don't know enough about metals to understand why this was happening, but I saw something sort of similar many years ago. A cellulose based lacquer had been used over an incompatible sealer; it had stuck, but the surface kept getting a white dust on it, which returned even after being cleaned away. This was a stearate bloom, coming through from the sealer. The simple solution was to apply a wax over the surface, which sealed the dust in (the customer didn't want to remove the coatings and re-do the job). I wonder if there was something similar going on here.

**Dave Simpson**

Many thanks to Chairman **Pete Broadbent** for the following photographs of the Toy Competition table.

# APRIL 'TOY COMPETITION' GALLERY



Kevin Divall – 1<sup>st</sup> place



Richard Bray – 3<sup>rd</sup> place



Adrian Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup> place