

# APRIL 2024



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

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Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Club Turn-in  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Emma Cook (The Tiny Turner)  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July. To be Confirmed

## APRIL MEETING

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The April meeting was taken up with our HWA Annual General Meeting which was held at Junction Church at Eastleigh.

Junction Church will be the new owners of the Eastleigh Railway Institute where we regularly hold our meetings, they will hopefully have completed their legal takeover of the building by our next meeting which (due to the May Bank-holiday) will be held on WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> May and hopefully at the Eastleigh Railway Institute site.

At the AGM the committee decided that the annual HWA subscription for this year remains at £30. I would be grateful please 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 😊.

Please can you help us on the committee by paying as soon as possible, this will allow us to see what funds we have, and it will have a bearing on what we can plan to book going forward.

A **prompt payment** will also ensure that we don't have to send lots of reminder emails. If you have already paid your subscription for this year then thank you, and please ignore the above.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2024

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This is the Chairman's report for this year and my last as Chairman! I have been in the 'chair' for 3 full years and did a stint as 'Deputy Chairman' for about 6 months prior to that in the thick of COVID 19. The time has flown and it now time to hand the reins to the next Chairman, **Phil Hewitt**; I hope he will get the support that you and the committee have given me.

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

Clubman of the year - yours truly - a bit of a shock as we had agreed as a committee, that it was someone else!

Best novice - not awarded last year.

Len Osbourne Trophy - **Steve Howell**.

As per the previous years' successful formula, it has been a mixture of professional demonstrators in the form of **Terry Smart** from Chestnut Products, **Kevin Hutson**, **Les Thorne** and **Anna-Marie Barrett**, we would have had another (**Stewart Furini**) but unfortunately, he dropped out due to illness.

We also had club demonstrators in the form of **Mike Haselden**, **Richard Bray** and **Tom James** - thanks to all for stepping into the breach. I would particularly like to thank **Richard Bray** for stepping in at short notice in the March 2024 demo as the planned professional was unfortunately ill again.

Interspaced with the professional and club demos were the 'turn-in' nights, in which we get the opportunity to do some hands on turning, supervised by our volunteer lathe drivers, usually **Richard Bray** and **Mike Haselden** and with an additional stand with **Phil Hewitt** on 'sharpening'.

I have continued to do the event organising in the absence of a volunteer! Luckily, **Richard Bray** has very kindly stepped in to give me a hand and hence we are both planning the events for the coming year. I will go through where we are for this year at the AGM.

We have had a couple of competitions: One in August (Winners 1st: **Kevin Divall**, 2nd **Richard Bray** and 3rd **Mario Demontis**) and the Christmas one (1st **Richard Bray**, 2nd **Kevin Divall** and 3rd **Dave Simpson**) this year. All had excellent entries!

As mentioned previously, 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, **Tom Massey** and **Kevin Divall** joined the committee.

**Phil Hewitt**, remained as secretary, keeping us on track at committee meetings and as

'webmaster' and is continuing to improve the website.

**Kevin Divall** took on the raffle and is doing a great job at running it and bringing in some revenue and getting free prizes from some woodturning shops. **Kevin** has also set-up a Facebook page for the HWA to allow club members to upload their photos and ask for advice outside of the meetings.

**Tom Massey** has had a full year in the seat as the Treasurer and came with previous experience from the Scouts.

**Richard Bray** continues to be the novice champion and provides advice to new joiners. We have had a lot of new joiners this year and so Richard has had his work cut out. Richard 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 Paul Sweet and this was another successful day.

**Dave Simpson** continues to do a great job with the newsletter. With Dave away for some of the meetings, I have done a few but we are now starting to share the responsibility between the committee members.

**Keith Barnes** continues to do an excellent job as the membership person and provides great continuity for the committee and keeps us on our toes.

With his new job, **Tom James** has not been able to attend many of the committee meetings or the HWA evening and so will step down from the committee this year. Thanks, Tom, for all your help and your demos, hopefully you will continue to be a member!

**Kevin Cornmell** is also stepping down as a committee member this year and so thanks Kevin for your contribution, challenges and your quirky Christmas questions

I have been doing the Chairman role, the event organisation, the photography and associated processing for the website and occasionally, the newsletter when Dave is away. Also 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 Compère the night. All very busy when you work full time. Even though I am stepping down as Chairman, I will still be doing the other bits unless there are some willing volunteers.

As a committee, our responsibility and commitment are to you, and the club overall, and this year we have purchased an additional lathe, this is an Axminster lathe that we got from the Minstead Trust in the New Forest, this is a bittersweet thing! It is good in the sense that we have a great spare Lathe that will mean others don't have to bring their personal lathes in but bitter, from the point that the Trust had to close its doors to turning and we initially helped to set-up and provided support in the form of turners and gave disadvantaged children an option to turn.

There are, of course, others who are 'not' on the committee that are involved in every event that we rely upon. **Phil Hill** and the gang for the teas and coffee, **Steve Page** for the lights and cameras, **Alan Truslove** on the sound.

The club does not magically run itself and it is down to the selfless commitment of the committee members that help us out.

**Richard Bray** and I are part way through doing the next year's programme and we are still considering a zoom demo at the club, that way, we could get some far away demonstrators that do not want to travel, including from 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.

There is some uncertainty ahead; the venue, owned by the Eastleigh Railway Institute closed at the end of March, and is being taken over by the Junction Church, who have said that we are welcome to carry on using the hall. The issue is the sale is not yet complete and so there may be a gap. Additionally, the cost of the venue may go up after a few months.

As a committee we believe that we are solvent, but we are looking to replace the camera equipment, mainly because it is old, one camera is broken, and Steve has his own personal camera in place and it needs an update to future proof it; **Steve Page** is doing a great job with help from **Phil Hewitt** and myself at choosing the best option going forward and looking at the cost.

We have also been looking at some policies to introduce, (to be discussed later) to cover us all, these are still being worked through, but the aim is to have a framework in place to protect all members.

On a final note, it has been a particularly sad year in which we have lost 2 members, **John Holden** and **Bob Hope**, who both passed away, both were stalwart members of the club and have represented the club on the Committee, and with John being a past Chairman and Bob the long-time secretary of the club - they will both be sorely missed.

Thank you for all your support over the past 3 years!

Pete Broadbent

## NEW CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Phil began by thanking Pete for the superb job he has done as club chairman for the last 3 years. Phil explained how much work he has seen Pete doing "behind the scenes" to keep things running smoothly.

Pete has guided the club out of the Covid years and back to a position now where there

are new members joining regularly, and he leaves his role of chairman with the club going from strength to strength. Phil presented Pete with a gift as a small token of appreciation for all his hard work as our chairman.

In addition, although rather belatedly, Phil presented a gift to Pete for his wife Helen, for all the hard work which she put into the catering for the Christmas social.

Phil introduced himself and said he felt privileged to be able to serve now as chairman Phil started woodturning 4 years ago. He bought his lathe from Axminster just a couple of weeks before lockdown as a 60th birthday present. With lockdown he had to learn initially through YouTube, but as things opened again, he joined the club in 2021 and started coming to meetings once they started up again in the middle of that year.

He volunteered to look after the web site near the end of 2021, and so joined the committee through that role, and then he became club secretary in 2022, taking over from Bob Hope who very sadly passed away a few weeks ago. Phil is looking forward to getting to know more club members in the months to come and hopes to keep the club moving forwards.

The club were informed that the fees would remain at £30 for the coming year. There is a risk that the venue hire costs will rise after September, in which case membership fees will probably need to rise next year.

A request has already been sent out for membership renewals, and the treasurer asked club members to pay by bank transfer, if possible, as this is much easier to process.

Phil Hewitt

## NEW PEN TURNING SHOP

Turnershop are a small company distributing top quality woodturning Pen kits at a

reasonable cost. We have numerous specialised products which are exclusive to us.

We are a non-profit company and sales help to finance our chosen charities.

I would appreciate if you could communicate our website address [www.turnershop.co.uk](http://www.turnershop.co.uk) to your members in case, they are unaware of us.

Paul Alford - Turnershop

## HWA FACEBOOK PAGE

Did you know we had a Facebook page '**Hampshire Woodturners Association**' and a member 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 everyone that supports the HWA monthly raffle.

Our special thanks this month to **Prokrafts**, ([Prokraft.co.uk](http://Prokraft.co.uk)). **English Woods** ([Englishwoods.co.uk](http://Englishwoods.co.uk)) and **Axminster** ([Axminstertools.co.uk](http://Axminstertools.co.uk)) and to our members who have donated project kits, blanks, and tools as club raffle prizes. These donations allow us to raise funds to support the clubs many activities.

Personal donations are always welcome, any wood blanks, unwanted tools etc can also be included as raffle 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 time to look at 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 I encourage you sign up for his complete weekly newsletters here. [www.chestnutproducts.co.uk\(19-11\)](http://www.chestnutproducts.co.uk(19-11))

A question this week asked if Rainbow Wax can be applied over an oil. This caught us out a bit, it's not something we've tried, but I don't see any reason why not. Our friend Andrew Hall uses WoodWax 22 as a base for them, something else we hadn't considered either.

Rainbow Waxes can be used on bare wood, but they usually spread better over a sealer - or other suitable coating, such as an oil or a wax.

In a two-for-one deal, our correspondent also asked if the wax could be applied by brush. It's soft enough that it should be possible to load a brush with it, but if it needs to be softer, Reducer can be added to it, or, at a push, water can be used. Reducer is better as it has less effect on the colour.

It's interesting when someone asks about a product we've been selling for ages but that they haven't seen before. Such was the case today when I was asked about our Microcrystalline Wax, and how it differs from the Carnauba Wax Stick.

As a block, the Microcrystalline version is slightly softer, making it easier to apply - the Carnauba one is very hard, to the point of being slightly brittle.

The most important difference is that microcrystalline waxes have a higher melting point and are usually unaffected by handling. Other waxes can finger-mark because of body heat. Visually, there's very little to choose between them.

A caller had an old table that had warped, probably because it had dried out a bit. Would Lemon Oil and wax be a good combination to use on it? That got a resounding yes; the Lemon Oil would feed the wood nicely and will go some way to keeping it straight. The wax (WoodWax 22 would be the best option on this one) will go over the oil, which would do some of the job of a sealer, and the wax would also go a little way to keeping the moisture of the table more stable. It won't prevent warping completely, but it should slow the process down.

What about an old painted dresser, I was asked. Could the oil and wax be used on this? Some of the paint has worn fashionably worn away, so the wood needs protecting. The problem here is that the oil will struggle with the areas that still have paint on them. It needs to be able to soak in, and the paint will stop this. There's even a slight possibility that the oil will attack the paint, although this is unlikely. My suggestion would be to use just the WoodWax 22. Although a sealer is recommended for waxes, WoodWax 22 is one of the few waxes that can be used on bare wood. This is because it dries very quickly, meaning the wax doesn't have time to soak into the wood (as other waxes, including Microcrystalline Wax would). It won't give quite as good a shine without a sealer when buffed, but a second coat can be applied if needed. My caller didn't want a bright gloss, so that's fine.

But what about the gloss level of wax? As a rule, when working with waxes, the more you buff them, the brighter the finish will be. A very bright finish can be achieved quite easily. A second, or even third coat will certainly

increase the finish, if that's what you want. We don't recommend applying more than three coats, as the wax will start to get too soft; any handling will make it finger-mark very easily.

Wax is very easy to maintain, usually a good buff up with bring it up will, and if more damage has been done simply apply another coat of wax, preferably with a fine abrasive. There's not normally any need to strip back to bare wood.

An interesting question this week, asking for a comparison between our new Wipe-On Poly and Melamine Lacquer. I think the Poly is closer to the Acrylic Lacquer, being water-based, to I'll try and include all three.

Melamine Lacquer is quicker drying, meaning that a second or even third coat can be applied in less time, and the item can be used (carefully at first) sooner. Acrylic Lacquer and Wipe-On Poly are slower drying; usually touch dry in five minutes, can be handled carefully after 20 minutes, but should be left for two hours before overcoating.

All three products cure to give a harder-wearing coating. With the water-based ones this is termed as 'cross-linking', but that's just for information; the result is the same, a tough, resilient finish. It's easier to clean the brushes etc with the water-based products, and, of course, there's virtually no smell to them.

The major difference between the Poly and the Lacquers is that the Poly is more flexible. That's not to say that the lacquers are brittle, but they don't have a lot of give to them. And if you're making something that's going to

get a lot of knocks, the Poly will last longer. Plus, this flexibility means you can apply extra coats if necessary. We suggest a maximum of three coats by brush, and up to five coats by cloth (because this usually means lighter coats are applied).

An email this week about our Buffing Wheel Kit. The user was getting white smears over his work; did he need to replace the wheels?

I guessed that this was happening with the B Wheel, and it's usually a sign that too much of the compound is being applied to the wheel. There's a video about using the Buffing Kit on our YouTube channel (plus loads more) which I pointed him in the direction of.

The good news for him was that the wheel was salvageable. Our Mop Dresser will clean the wheel very efficiently, or some 80grit abrasive on a scrap of wood (because it'll get hot), held against the edge of the wheel as it spins, will clean the top surface away to reveal fresh cloth.

I mentioned recently about using Ebonising Lacquer on a landing net used for fishing. An avid reader Chris contacted us, unhappy with this advice. He volunteers at a local chalk stream restoration group, and raised concerns about any toxins that might leach from the lacquer into the water...which is a very valid point I hadn't considered when answering the question. The greatest risk here is probably from microplastics, which is a very hot topic in the manufacturing world now. So, whilst Ebonising Lacquer would stand up to the use, the greener option would be to leave the wood natural.

## COMPETITION GALLERY

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Richard Bray - Les Osbourne Trophy winner



Steve Page – Clubman of the year



Adrian Smith – competition winner



Mike Haselden – second place



Mario Demontis – third place

Photos by Pete Broadbent