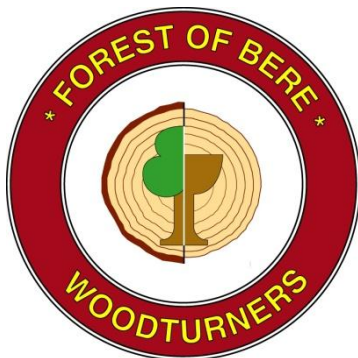


Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



Spring 2012 Edition

Quarterly Magazine

Contents

Advertisements.....	2	Views From a Fund Raiser.....	12
Editorial.....	3	Use and Care of the Toolrest.....	13
A Message from the Chairman.....	4	Finishing Touches.....	14
Advertisement.....	5	January Turn-in.....	14/15
Embroidered Shirts.....	5	Gary Renouf Demonstration	16/17
Saturday Club.....	6	Souvenir from a Giant Redwood.....	18
Finishing Touches.....	6	The Kiss Display.....	18
Competition Programmes.....	7	Advertisement.....	19
Woodturning for Charity.....	8/9	The Garden Dibber.....	20
Light and Curtain Pulls.....	10/11	Advertisement.....	21
A Woodturning Limerick.....	11	Advertisements.....	22/23
		Committee Details 2011-2012.....	24



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Welcome to the spring edition of our magazine.

As the lighter brighter weather encourages the plants into growth I find it encourages me into aspiration mode, some of which develops into firmer plans, a few of which get completed. The spring clean will no doubt find some of the bits that have not yet fully matured from last year. There is plenty to plan for on the woodturning front.



I have 17 pine blanks quietly sitting in the workshop, relaxing, gently bending and twisting. When they have finished they will be planed square and to size and turned into landing stair spindles. The riser spindles will be similarly prepared when more relatively knot free timber can be obtained.

It is just less than two months to the Open Weekend, 12–13 May, and the committee is well on with the event planning, it would be helpful if those that can keep part of the weekend free to help out, more details and requests will emerge in due course.

The Kiss Display brief on page 18 will hopefully inspire many members to have a go, it certainly is a compound challenge and just eight weeks remain to design and make your masterpiece. The challenge could be further enhanced should you choose to document the making of your entry and submit it for publication, I relish the idea of so much material to work with! Please consider it.

We have enjoyed our first two meetings of the year, the January Turn-in and the demonstration in February by Gary Renouf. The atmosphere at club nights buzzes with turning experience, knowledge and ideas freely circulating and of course the jokes and the banter. Woodturning is normally a fairly solitary activity so the fine and plentiful work displayed on competition and gallery tables must represent many solitary hours.

I am not sure where this is leading...

I hope you enjoy the selection of articles in this issue and thank you to all the contributors.

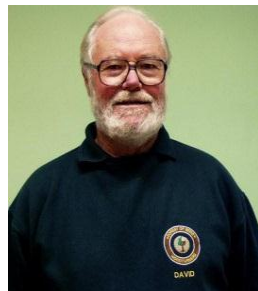
Rick Smith

[Visit the Club website](http://www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk)

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

A Message from the Chairman

2011 ended on a high with the November meeting's excellent and entertaining demonstration by Stuart King. Thank you Stuart. The December Turn-in proved different and entertaining, my thanks go to Bill Thorne, Mike Haselden and John Wyatt for their enthusiasm and skill imparting their knowledge to a well-attended audience.



The Christmas Social evening was attended by approximately 70 Members, Wives, Partners and Guests who were entertained by Quizmaster Don, Team Turning Organiser Bill and as ever we were well looked after by Aline and Nikki with a lovely buffet. **Thank you All.**

2012 began with excellent attendance at the first Turn-in of the New Year. Thanks go to demonstrators Bill Thorne, David Comely and Robin Lacey. Saturday Club continues with between 14 and 18 students attending each session. Thank you to the tutors for imparting your skills and giving up your valuable time. To the student turners who attend, you must take credit for the way you have accepted the instructions, evident by the standard of your entries in the monthly competitions. Derek Blake's enthusiasm for Pen turning has added another dimension to the Saturday Club with 30 plus pens being turned since November by its members.

The magazine continues to be a great asset to the club but, it does depend on members supplying items for inclusion, please put pen to paper and swamp the editor with projects, stories of holidays, visits to other clubs etc.

Please remember the **Competition Judges will be standing down at the September 2012 AGM** so we need 2 volunteers to take over.

Dave Hutchings continues to keep the Website running well. Any alterations or additions required to the site please contact him.

Donations will be gratefully accepted for the Open Week-end Raffle and could I also ask you all for more items that can be given to our nominated Charities.

There is an exciting programme laid on between the 18th and 21st April involving Mick Hanbury's Club Night Demo, Personal Tuition Days and a Masterclass. Please support this programme if you can, Don Smith has the details.

Finally please support the committee with your ideas and constructive criticisms for the benefit of our club.

Thank you for a great start to 2012.

David Jenkins Chairman

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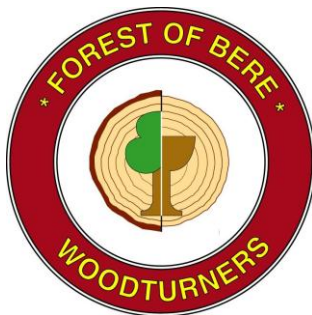
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Saturday Club

A Beginners Class is run once a month, normally on a Saturday morning, 9.00am – 1.00pm.

All new members are welcome!

The training will cover a range of basic woodturning techniques, starting with tool control and sharpening, aiming to help the students become safe, confident and proficient in the art of Woodturning. Available dates have been booked and are shown in the box right also on the FoB website and they will be announced at Club meetings.

Bring your own tools for guidance on sharpening them. There is a £5.00 charge to cover the hire of the hall and refreshments, help with setting up and storing equipment is appreciated. See the Training and Competition pages at the website for more details.

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

Saturday Club 2012

Sat Apr 14

Sat May 12

Sat June 9

Sat July 14

Sat Aug 11

Sat Sept 8

Finishing Touches

- Sand using 100 grit through the grades to 600.
- Buff with soft felt, I use grandma's old hat!
- Apply one coat of sanding sealer (60 sealer to 40 thinners mix).
- Remove the excess with white kitchen towelling.
- With the lathe running buff the article using a soft cloth.
- Apply wax stick or Toluene free polish, buff to shine
- For a special something I would then give it a coat of Renaissance Wax.

To give an extra shine, perhaps to a pen try the following

- Apply a thin coat of Cyanoacrylate Glue, wearing a surgical glove.
- Buff with a soft cloth and a drop of Boiled Linseed Oil.
- Repeat this process for higher a gloss.

Don Smith

Competition Programme

1st Year Beginner

Apr 12	Unhandled Cup / Drinking Vessel
May 12	Saucer to stand April's cup on.
June 12	Spindle Turned Rounders Bat showing drive centre points.

If you require a drawing or written data for the Beginners programme please ask either Dave Jenkins, Don Smith, Eric Warnecke or Rick Smith.

2nd Year Beginner

Apr 12	Toy.
May 12	Eggcup.
June 12	2 Eggs to fit May's Eggcup.

1st Year Beginners programme is for those learning basic turning skills.

2nd Year Beginners programme is for those who have attended the Saturday club or entered last year's competitions.

Whichever programme you choose please continue with it for the whole of the year 2011 - 2012. 1st and 2nd Year entries will be considered as a single Beginner's Group for judging, however, remember each piece is judged on its own merit not against a piece submitted by another member.

Novice

Apr 12	Salad Bowl and 2 Spoons or Spoon and Fork.
May 12	Eggcup
June 12	2 Eggs to fit May's Eggcup.

Intermediate

Apr 12	Multi-Centre turned Candlestick.
May 12	Mick Hanbury demonstration piece.
June 12	David Springett inspired piece.

Advanced

Apr 12	Multi-Centre turned Candlestick.
May 12	Mick Hanbury demonstration piece.
June 12	David Springett inspired piece.

Woodturning for Charity

I mentioned some fun I had had with my turning as the result of an Auction of Promises, and David Jenkins asked me to write about it, because it is not about woodturning!

As many of you know, I am a trustee with a charity which helps underprivileged children in Colombia. When 70% of the population live on less than 'a dollar a day' you have to realise that 'underprivileged' really means 'danger of death'. The charity is called IMC (In Ministry to Children) and is a Christian charity which has its roots in Petersfield. (Try <http://www.inministrytochildren.org/>).

One of the things we do is to run a farm which has places for 24 boys aged 4 to 18. At the farm they get clothing, food, somewhere to sleep, someone to care for them, schooling and training to enable them to find employment when they leave - it's no use taking young kids off the street and dumping older ones back on it later. The skills training comes from an American called Grant who is a former mining engineer who **gives** most of his time to the boys and the farm.

I was first attracted to IMC when I saw a picture of a lathe at the farm. In 2008 when I went out to the farm, about 40 minutes North West of Bogota in Colombia, I spent some time teaching on the lathe, but mainly we were involved with building maintenance etc. I wanted to get Grant up to speed so that he could pass it on to the boys, but it didn't work out because of a team accident which meant he had to take the team member to find a clinic with a working X-Ray machine, sort out the insurance details then get an X-Ray done and so miss out on our time at the lathe. However, he came over here last October and we had some uninterrupted time making shavings! I did get the chance to make a really impressive project - an expander so we could heat the cable conduit tube, ram in the expander, withdraw it and make watertight joints for underground cables. Health and Safety is not a big feature in Latin America!

So, I was speaking to David Jenkins about a couple who bid for a 'woodturning experience' in the Auction of Promises last September. They went away very happy with some woody bits. I had a lovely day with them. Some children in Colombia were fed, watered and educated. You can't lose.

David Comley

The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association currently supports two charities, **Macmillan Cancer Support** and

Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Rocky Appeal.

David Jenkins, Don Smith, Peter Withers or Ken White will be pleased to advise on any production issues, the labelling of your work and popular items that are in demand.



Left

Grant at the lathe. It's an old Record, with no chuck and few tools, and, is a long way from the grinder.

Centre Left

Replacement chair leg completed. Not bad for a beginner!!

Bottom Left

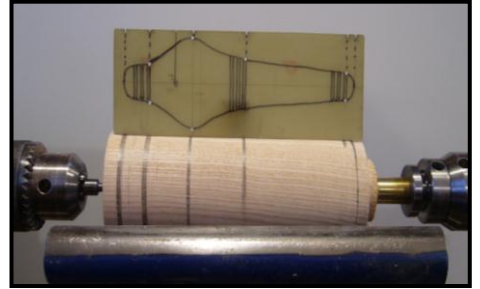
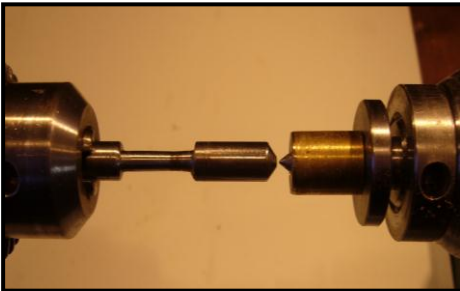
For your information, I spent most of my time making a roof for the rabbit house. The rabbits are for food - in some ways they're easier to manage than chickens.

Bottom Right

So where does the woodturning come in in the UK? Each Christmas I make something like 200-300 snowmen and Christmas trees for the scouts to paint for their Christmas crafts.



Light and Curtain Pulls



The stages and tools John uses to turn light and curtain pulls.

Photos by John Hilton

Light and Curtain Pulls

The tools used were an eighth inch parting tool, a half inch skew chisel and a three eighth spindle gouge.

The drying stand was made from nails with masking tape wrapped round them to form a shoulder for the inside of the larger knot hole to rest on.

The long 4mm drill is shop extended. Four inch drill bits are available for the shorter pulls. Longer ones of this diameter may sometimes be found.

Cut the wood to size and turn to a cylinder, form a chucking dovetail or spigot at one end or hold the cylinder in a jam chuck, or, drill the holes on a drill press. The holes need to be concentric.

Drill the larger 8mm short hole first, to hide the cord knot, then the smaller 4mm hole right through for the cord. Do not forget to cut a seating in the end of the wood, with the toe of a skew chisel, to help start the larger drill bit.

If you are making a pair or more, it is best to have some sort of template. Hold the work by the centres, mark the pattern and cut in with the parting tool and gouge to the required profile.

There are special drives available on the market, but I find my shop-made drive centres are adequate. Whichever you choose, it must be a tight fit to avoid vibration. The rebate in the drive is to allow the tool to cut right to the edge of the drilled hole without blade touching the metal.

To stop the point of the live centre pushing into the 4mm hole, devise a shoulder for the work to press on. The photographs show a metal tube to form the shoulder, but a suitable size washer works quite well. The amount of point left exposed on the centre should be enough to hold the work tightly without enlarging the hole. Note that, with the type of drive used, the work is being held and turned by a friction hold.

John Hilton

A Woodturner's Limerick

I went to a class as a learner
To improve my skill as a turner
The dust from the spindle
Was just used to kindle
The rest....
..... as it went in the burner

Mike Skiffins

Views From A Fund Raiser

Most people are aware that there are Macmillan funded nurses who can advise and support you when you are suffering from or caring for someone with cancer but were you aware that Macmillan also funds Welfare Benefits Specialists, or that they are really successful in lobbying Government to get unfair laws changed?

Discovering that you have cancer can be devastating and often brings additional costs – like special foods, additional heating costs, wigs and hospital car parking charges, possibly when you are unable to work.

Historically, before Macmillan's lobbying succeeded, there were even more expenses than there are now; like prescription charges for people between age 18 and 60 and the London Congestion Charge. I had always thought that treatment for something as serious as cancer would be free but when I found a lump, and went to a one-stop breast clinic, I was really shocked to be told to bring at least £28 with me to pay for the prescriptions! Well, at least that has changed and prescriptions are now free to cancer sufferers.

I believe what Macmillan Cancer Support does is important which is why I belong to a small committee of volunteer fundraisers in Gosport, called Veronica and Friends. We try to enjoy ourselves whilst raising money by running events like Beetle Drives and Race Nights. Naturally, we do the World's Biggest Coffee Morning and the odd stint of standing at a shop entrance with a collecting tin, but we also do Table Top Sales, Christmas Fayres, Pudding Nights (a personal favourite) and one of our members even writes Murder Mystery plays which we perform (with supper included).

The Forest of Bere Woodturners have been excellent supporters and have given many lovely wooden items for us to sell at our events over the past three years, including a spinning wheel. In 2011, Macmillan's Centenary year, they helped Veronica and Friends to raise a splendid £10,500, all of which will be distributed as grants in our local area.

Thank you for your support.

Pamela McCullen

Visit the club website

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

Email Dave Hutchings

webmaster@forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

with your webpage content or enquiries

Use and Care of the Tool Rest

Here we go again, teaching Grandfather to suck eggs!

The working edge of your Tool Rest needs to be clean, highly polished, straight and free from scratches or grooves, at right angles to the vertical tool post. The tool post itself should be a comfortable fit within its socket, with no discernible shake or wobble.

Below are some useful steps, not necessarily in the right order, but they will help you to have better control of your tools. So here is my cunning plan!

For tools with a rectangular cross section, file or grind off the sharp edges so they cannot dig in to or score the surface of your tool rest.

The working surface of the rest can be kept free of cuts, scratches and digs by filing it. Check for flatness with a Straight Edge. Use a fine, first or second cut 8" or 10" file crossways for a finer finish. Check by sighting against the bed bars of the lathe, parallel is good. Use 0000 wire wool to clean up, and finish with either redundant soap left-overs from the bathroom or wax polish. The tool post should be lightly oiled. Minimise clogging of files by occasional wire scrubbing and rubbing some fresh chalk into the teeth of the file.

When presenting the tool in the cutting mode, note the use of modern terminology, the tool stock should be in contact with the tool rest, the distance between the point of cut and the tool rest should be as small as possible.

Parallel turning can be assisted if you set up your tool rest parallel to the bed bars. Similarly, turning to a particular taper or shallow curve can be assisted by setting the tool rest at an appropriate angle.

When locking the tool post, on some machines the locking handle consists of a small ratchet arrangement with a spring loaded gear. Be aware that the material of these may not be of especially good quality and so easily to stripped if one is inclined to be heavy handed.

Mind the Gap! An old Railway Station cry, however it applies to the woodturner. It is generally a good idea NOT to get your fingers between the tool rest and the item you are turning. A slight lack of concentration might lead to splinters, bent fingers, red stuff, and probably pain!!

When you have arrived at the stage of needing 80 grit to hide your tool marks and subsequent use of perhaps finer abrasives to produce your finish ready for polishing, it is a sensible idea to remove the tool rest giving better access to and better sight of your finishing process. Many turners like to do this finishing on the UP side of the rotating timber, it enables a better view of the work.

Finally, Safety First. After setting the tool rest in the desired position, rotate the loaded headstock at least one full revolution to ensure that neither the wood nor the chuck contact the tool rest in its locked, working position. Whenever you intend to change or adjust the position of the tool rest, **always stop the lathe first.** You will have noticed that "teachers" frequently indulge in "don't do as I do, do as I say"C'est La Vie.

Eric Warnecke

January Turn-in

Our first club night of the New Year was planned as a club turn in and was very well supported by members and guests.

We had Bill Thorne demonstrating how to turn a natural edged bowl, commencing with tips on how to select and mark out the bowl's position, aided by a circle of card with a nail through its centre. The nail provided the centre point for drilling through the bark for the drive centre. He turned the outside of the bowl, moving the tailstock as necessary to give even edges to the bowl and to form a chucking point. Bill then mounted the bowl into the chuck and hollowed out the centre, taking care not to damage the bowl edge. Finally he reversed the work with the aid of a tennis ball, to remove the chucking point.

David Comley gave a very detailed demonstration of making a bowl with a decorative edge band, which included six wooden pins, with an overall effect of a metal band riveted to the bowl. The decorative band was created with the aid of a hammer and 4 inch nail, which was then painted black and when dry, silver burnishing paste was rubbed into the black band, to give it a metallic effect.

Robin Lacey demonstrated the correct way to handle and use the basic turning gouges, with the aid of a very large set of wooden shaped gouges. He demonstrated the various cutting angles that can be used, and importantly, also the angles at which not to use them.

Ray Matthews

Finishing Touches

- Sand using 80, 100, 150, 180, 240, 320 grits.
- Buff with maroon Nyweb pads, the wood will take on a shine at this stage.
- Apply one coat of sanding sealer using a brush with the lathe running.
- Cut back using yellow or grey Nyweb pads and burnishing cream.
- Apply friction polish on paper towel.
- Buff with the lathe running.

Melamine and Wax polishes can be substituted for the friction polish. Oil such as Danish oil can be applied instead of sanding sealer, allowing a day to dry between coats. More coats will produce a better shine and tougher finish.

Bill Thorne

January Turn-in



Above The bowl utilises a metallising technique learned from Nick Agar. The band is turned as an integral part of the bowl, the studs are added, and the dimples punched with a rod. It is then painted with very dark grey acrylic paint and metallised with silver wax.



Left Robin explains gouge techniques

Below Natural edge turning from Bill

Photos by Ray Matthews





Above Left

Gary , the first dish has been turned and polished.

Above Right

Care is required to get clean straight intersections and an even ring pattern.

Centre Left

The grain runs vertically through this bowl.

Bottom Left

A Redwood bowl by Alan Williams. See **Souvenir from a Giant Redwood**

on page 18

Gary Renouf Demonstration

After the initial introductions to the evening, Gary, a Professional Turner and Club Member was introduced as the Guest Demonstrator.

He explained that he was going to turn a multi-off-centred bowl using a good quality Plywood as his medium.

He had prepared his demonstration blanks by gluing together plywood pieces, the number dictated by the bowl depth required. The blank was cut roughly to a disc and a faceplate ring attached to what would be the bowl face. He mounted the blank onto his chuck and marked the base using a chucking sized template and then proceeded to turn the outside of the bowl, leaving the pedestal base half an inch larger than the intended finished size.

At this point it would be necessary to glue a sacrificial piece of plywood to the base of the bowl, however, in true Blue Peter style he produced a previously prepared blank with the pedestal turned and glued to a sacrificial piece of plywood. He next drew a circle on the base of the prepared blank, divided this circle into six equal segments by stepping around the circumference with the dividers set to the radius and then joined points 1, 3 and 5 to produce an equilateral triangle. The face plate ring was centred and attached to the sacrificial plywood over one point of the triangle and the blank mounted on the chuck for the first off centre dish to be turned. Gary set out the size of this first bowl by finding the centre and using dividers to mark the dish diameter. He then turned this first dish, sanded and finished it removed and re-attached the face plate ring over the next triangle point for the second dish and again for the third. He used the dividers to mark each bowl trying to get them all the same size and profile, and sanded and finished each bowl before remounting for the next one. Special care was required at the bottom of each bowl to avoid tearing the final layers of plywood. To complete the turning after the face had been sanded, sealed and finished, Gary mounted a large diameter disc of wood with a covering of soft fabric in the chuck to which he offered the face of the bowl bringing up the tailstock to centre it. With the lathe running at slow speed he turned off the sacrificial plywood base, finished the pedestal to the required diameter, then sanded and finished the outside of the bowl.

It was a very interesting demonstration using a medium which many of the audience had not thought of using. Thank you Gary for an interesting and thought provoking evening.

David Jenkins

Photos by Keith Waterman and Robin Lacey

Souvenir from a Giant Redwood

While on holiday in the States in 2009 we visited the Redwood National Park in California which is famous for the world's largest trees – the giant sequoias. They grow to over 300 feet in height and have trunks so large some have been hollowed out to allow cars to pass through!

I had recently bought a lathe and started dabbling at bowl turning so was interested to see a woodcraft store in the park. Inside was a cornucopia of turned items and other wooden ornaments and at the back was a guy busy at an array of lathes. The bowls were mostly turned from redwood burr which is beautifully figured and surprisingly lightweight. I asked him if he would sell me one of his blanks which I saw stacked in his workshop and he agreed for the sum of \$25 to let me have one about 10in dia. The fact that it was quite lightweight made it easier to stow in our baggage on the flight home.

The photo, at the bottom, page 16, shows the result of my turning efforts, all self taught, apart from remembering woodwork class at school decades ago! Since joining FOBWTA last year I have learned that screwing the blank to the faceplate on my basic lathe was not the best way to mount it, but I covered the screw holes with green baize as we did at school! I now have a scroll chuck and a better idea of how bowl turning should be done.

Alan Williams

The Kiss Display

The KISS principle, keep it simple, stupid, is normally applied in design and software engineering circles, as a reminder that most systems will be better if they are kept simple rather than made complex.

Following a suggestion from Ken Briffett, the Kiss acronym will be re-assigned as the theme for a woodturning display at our forthcoming Open Weekend.

All members are invited to participate and we hope to provide a substantial display.

Treat the four letter acronym, Kiss, as an instruction to yourself, but, change the 's' words and make a turned piece to fit the new title. For example, keep it **seasonably saleable**, keep it **star shaped**, keep it **spirally striated**....

The challenge is to come up with a title to which you can find a turning solution rather than finding a title for a readymade. There is the dictionary and the gamut of turning treatments available to explore.

Enjoy the torment and the satisfaction!

This compound piece should provide interest, wonder or amusement to the viewer. No prizes, but if the response is as good as the 'well known phrase' a few years ago everyone is a winner.

Ken Briffett

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The Garden Dibber



Team Turning Organiser Bill Thorne set a garden dibber as the competition piece at the December social evening. All were invited to take part in the team event. It is perhaps not so normal or so easy to concentrate on turning as part of a social evening out however some of those who had a go are shown here.

Photos by Roy Matthews



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If you are planning a project take out some time, if you can, to record your progress. It is relatively easy these days to take good quality photographs, combine these with some relevant notes and there is your article. **If you find a project interesting and challenging so will other members.**

Artyzan

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The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

Committee

2011 - 2012

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Member	Bill Thorne	bill.thorne2@virgin.net	023 43672992

Helpers

Chief Judge	Eric Warnecke	helped by Pete Withers
Library and Badges	Jim Casemore	
Club Night Teas	Volunteers on the night	
Raffle	Arthur Pike	

Meetings

The club meets on the Third Wednesday of the Month at The St. John Ambulance Hall, Fraser Road, Bedhampton, Havant, Hants. PO9 3EJ (Opposite the Rugby Club) 1915 till 22.00hrs.

Disclaimer

Entries in this publication are the opinions of the contributor and are not necessarily approved or endorsed by either the Editor or the Officers of the Club.