# Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



#### **Summer 2014 Edition**

# **Quarterly Magazine**

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Summer Quarter June 2014



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#### **Editorial**

Welcome to the summer issue of our magazine.

With the long and warm days it really is like summer. The chickens and bees enjoy it. Recent health issues mean I have had more time to spend watching them but somehow my workshop has continued to fill, where does it come from? Woodturning is now back on the horizon but the associated lifting and shifting could be still a problem.



Well done to Ken Briffett with the Festival of Bowls challenge, a great idea. Thank you to Ray Matthews for some good clear photographs of the fine work produced by our members. It has been a pleasure sorting through the material, an interesting mix of the cerebral and the shavings and there simply is not enough space to show all the fine work. If Ken has his way this challenge might still have some mileage left in it but I do hope he is at some level tinkering with the next task

Thank you to the members who commented on the visit by Mick Hanbury in March. Members right across our club spectrum were able to benefit from his experience and tuition. Most satisfactory and perhaps it might be a pattern for future events.

Once again John Hilton has been busy preparing material for us. Turning multiple offset bowls requires fore thought and considerable care, John has laid out a plan, an introduction to new ideas and techniques for many of us. It is worth reading several times over to get the principles in mind and then, well why not have a go?

Finally, two items tenuously linked. Don Smith reports that the Charities' stocks are at or virtually zero. In one respect this is excellent, all the efforts expended by members has gone to the intended good use, there is however very much an ongoing need so more donations will be most welcome. On a similar theme my stock of material for future magazines is virtually zero. Suggestions for articles, accounts of how you managed a particular project or technique are also welcome!

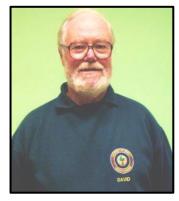
# **Rick Smith**

Visit the club website, this magazine and back issues are available in full colour PDF format along with much much more.

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

#### A Message from the Chairman

The Club meetings have got off to a good start this year and the last three months have been well attended. The May Turn-in was excellent and my thanks go to Don, Ken, Mike Haselden and Peter Withers on the lathes and to David Marsh and John Wyatt for their excellent individual presentations covering jigs, project developments and materials used. Once again the FoB task set by Ken Briffett was a great success, the two tables set aside for the display were full of member's work which was of high quality and ingenuity. Well done to all members that made the effort to enter!



Mick Hanbury's Club Night demonstration, Personal Tuition Days and Masterclass in March went extremely well. Many of the attending member's comments are in this magazine. Terry Smart from Chestnut Supplies gave a very detailed demonstration on the use of polishes and colourings at the April meeting. Gary Rance is due at the June meeting and is very entertaining please show your support.

My thanks go to Rick Smith, who has not been so well over the last three months for his continuing time and effort in putting our magazine together. Please continue to pass him articles for inclusion. Dave Hutchings continues to keep the Website updated.

The next three months are going to be busy with Paul Nesbitt visiting the club in July & August and the AGM being held in September. I would again also like to pester you all for more items that can be given to our nominated Charities for selling on their stalls.

The Committee members are still working hard to make your club successful, however they do need your support, ideas and constructive criticism to make it work.

Thank you for your continued support.

## **David Jenkins Chairman**

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with your webpage content or enquiries

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#### A Warm Welcome to New Members

#### Martin Coles • Peter Salter

I hope the friendship, the activities and the resources of the club will help you to further enjoy and develop your woodturning.

#### Your feedback on any aspect of the club will be most welcome

### **Saturday Club**

A Beginners Class is run once a month, normally a Saturday morning, 9.00am – 1.00pm. The training covers 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. Bring your own wood or a practice blank for guidance or advice on a specific project. There is a £5.00 charge to cover the hire of the hall and refreshments.

# Saturday Club Dates 2014

July 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 11th
Aug 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 8th
Sept 13th Dec 13th

Help with setting up and storing the equipment is very much appreciated.

See the Training and Competition pages at the website for more details.

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

#### All new members are welcome

When you are planning your 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.

# Competition Programmes 2013 / 2014

Meeting	Beginner				
July	Sewing Needle Case (drawing to be supplied as a guide).				
August	Cup and Ball Toy				
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities				
Novice					
July	Pot Pourri with a wooden vented lid				
August	Hollow Vase minimum 100mm X 100mm X 150mm high				
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities				
Intermediate					
July	Hollow Vase 150mm X 150mm X 200mm high				
August	Pestle and Mortar Drawing available				
September	Piece of turning to show off your abilities				
Advanced					
July	Composite Item				
August	Pair of matching Urns				
September	A piece of turning to your own choice				

During 2014 The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association will continue to support

# Rocky Appeal • Macmillan Cancer Support • GAFIRS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance

David Jenkins or Don Smith will be pleased to advise you on production issues,

# And, the latest update from Don

"At the moment I am just looking for anymore contributions, all the goods I presently have are going to G.A.F.I.R.S. via Peter Buckles on Wednesday"

# Please continue with your generous efforts.

# **Manor Farm Country Park**

Saturday and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2014 was one of the better weekends, weather-wise, for some time. Three members of the Club joined forces with wood carvers and woodland crafts people to extend the Manor Farm experience for the visiting families. I took the scarecrow, "Oxymoron", to act as a beacon and to greet visitors at the entrance of the barn, while inside Mike Haselden and Graham Badrick displayed their range of turned pieces, demonstrated the turning process and invited visitors to participate by "having a go".

Manor Farm is a great enterprise and well worth a visit. It provides a contact point with animals which few of us experience. The working farmhouse, full of atmosphere, provided hot food and drinks for the helpers. We also had the opportunity to visit the Old School House and Church which has connection with Richard St Barbe Baker and the organization "Men Of The Trees". Thanks to Sue and the team at the Farm.



Forest of Bere woodturners at Manor Farm

<u>Left to Right</u> Ken Briffett, Oxymoron, Mike Haselden, Graham Badrick

#### Ken Briffett

# **Photo Gallery**











These turnings are from the March competition table, the four pieces above being from the Novice and Beginner sections. They all have clearly defined and interesting shapes, cleanly cut and finished to display the lovely grain patterns, inspiring work.

# **Photos by Ray Matthews**

# **Photo Gallery**











These turnings from February and March, beautifully turned, have been enhanced with further tooling, at the lathe or the workbench. The filigree style vase above by Mick Hanbury and the tooled vase right by Mark Sanger were made during their respective club visits, inspiring work.

# **Photos by Ray Matthews**

# **Ring Stand with Three Bowls**

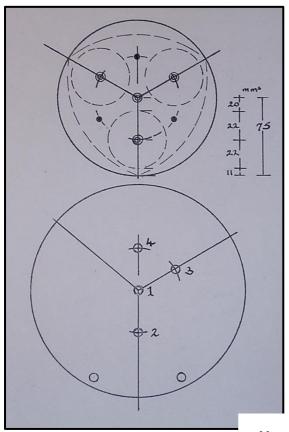
The Jig Four points are needed on the jig, the centre point and three on the circle of the dish or bowl



circle of the dish or bowl centres. Two 120° apart and the third on the straight line produced opposite one of them, accuracy is important. The stand I am making is from a 150mm diameter blank, so my jig is about 30mm greater in diameter to allow space for the counterweights.



I generally draw the arrangement on paper, or tracing paper, as a help with the setting out on the wood.

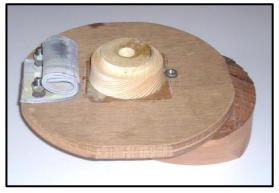


I am using 10mm ply for the jig with a piece of waste wood glued to the back, dovetailed to grip in the chuck. I do not form the dovetail in the ply, as it is likely to break off in use. Make sure the waste wood is either clear of the holes or completely covering them so the holding screws will bed properly. As I am using the jig to hold the counterweights, two further holes are drilled.



These are almost on the edge of the jig, but just far enough in to be secure. The counterweights used here are strips of lead, rolled and bolted to the back of the jig. The size and number of strips used will depend upon the set up. The weight of lead is easily adjustable, so trial and error to get it right is possible.

The Ring Stand Base for the holding screws, a central hole and one at the centre of each of the bowl positions, all shown on the drawing with double circles. The central hole goes right through but the other three must be shallow enough to not show or mark the bottoms of the finished bowls. This must be done accurately. Draw a circle, the radius equal to the distance from the centre of the work to the centre of one of the bowls. Divide this circle into three, 120° at each centre angle. The intersection of the circle and these lines indicates the centre of each bowl, and the position for the screws. Alternatively, lay the drawing on top and prick through. Now position the base centrally on the jig, using the centre hole and any one of the other holes, with the top side of the base to the jig. The effective screw length may be varied slightly by packing with washers. The washers also stop countersink screws from penetrating into the wood mounting block or the back of the jig. Cut the base to the round and clean the underside to a finished standard. Next offset the base,



re-secure and form the second side. Continue in the same way to form the third side. Remove the base from the jig and set out the holes on the underside. The centre of the base has already been drilled right through, three more pilot holes are required on the underside to locate the bowls for turning. Draw lines from the points just formed by turning the three edges through the centre and extend them to intersect the same pitch circle as that on the top side. These pilot holes should not penetrate the top surface of the piece.

still with the top face to the jig. Place and screw one of the bowl centres over the middle of the jig, hole 1, and the central hole in the base over the hole in the jig on the far side from the counterweights, hole 4. Turn the first side of the base. Remove the screw from the centre of the jig, swivel the base round until the next bowl centre is lined up



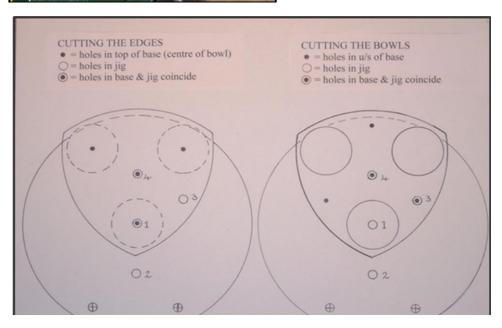
The underside of the base can now be screwed to the jig using hole 4 on the jig



into the central hole of the base.

Secure and line up the base to put one bowl centred for turning with a second screw through hole 3 into one of the three pilot holes. Form the first bowl. Unscrew hole 3 and swing the base round to position the next bowl for turning and secure to form the second bowl. Repeat for the third bowl.

The central hole on the top side is enlarged to take the spigot of the ring spindle, and the underneath holes are enlarged to receive the feet. The centre hole underneath is plugged, plain or fancy according to taste. Some are known to cover the underside with felt to hide the screw holes...



The ring spindle is straightforward spindle turning. Finger ring standard charts give a range of rings from Size A at 12.04mm to Size Z4 at 23.42mm.

## **John Hilton**

#### **Festival of Bowls**

The FOB Challenge was initiated in October 2013 to produce a display in May 2014 with an FOB title 'Festival of Bowls'. The intention was to give members the opportunity to select a word combination from the Club initials and then make a bowl outside their normal routine.

Twenty members took up the challenge producing an impressive display of over 40 bowls.

After discussion with a small number of members they decided to extend the 'play' (the boundaries) on the initials. A little research and constructive thinking then produced turnings and titles to answer the challenge. That's rewarding!

Biggest stretch of the brief has to go to Eric Warnecke for his 'Fearfully Fluttering Flamboyant Forest Flags Out Of Ordinary Orthodox Original Beautifully Battered British Bere Beech'.

The research put in by Chris Nicholl and his wife produced the results I had hoped for with a little gem of a bowl with old Irish letterforms. Mike Skiffins, never short of a few clever words produced simple pieces with suitably oblique titles but one, 'Phlegm or Blood Bowl', never got beyond the title.

The most spectacular piece on display was a large laminated translucent acrylic hand basin by Kim Rogers. I think he enjoys living dangerously.

Our chairman David Jenkins, under pressure, submitted a last minute exhibit 'Full Of Biscuits' bowl however it soon became necessary to prefix this with 'Half'.

John Webb reminded some of us of a major event by displaying the 'Festival Of Britain' logo within his bowl.

The Fabergé Style eggs in a bowl of branches by John Smith was a great way to change the emphasis.

Crafty Turners Beth and Adam scrunched up blue paper to make the sea within their bowl and the bed for their 'Festival of Boats'.

Several members due to time restrictions exhibited 'ready mades' for which they devised F.O.B titles. It was only half the challenge but it was still good to get the spectator reactions.

Thankyou to all who participated. I would appreciate some feed back as I think this is the basis for a really spectacular themed show and would ask the committee to consider ways of promoting and exploiting members talents to this end

#### Ken Briffet

#### **Festival of Bowls**











<u>Top Left</u> Old Irish letterforms but what does it say? <u>Right</u> Just too tempting.

<u>Centre Left</u> A beautiful egg and futuristic bowl. <u>Right</u> A sea scape from Adam and Beth

**<u>Left</u>** Wood from the sea, where or what has it come from?

**Photos by Ray Matthews** 

#### **Festival of Bowls**





Unfortunately only a selection of the bowls produced can be shown. Thank you to Ken Briffett for the inspiration and to all members who were able to complete and display their workmanship.

**Photos by Ray Matthews** 



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# A Day with Mick Hanbury

Having seen Mick turn at the club meeting, the night before, I was excited at the prospect of a 'hands on' session with him on the following day. When I discovered, upon arriving at Don's on Thursday morning, that our 'project' for the day was going to be a 'box with a finial lid' my first thoughts were "what am I doing here?". I've made boxes before but my lids are usually in the 'French style' i.e. Toulouse rather than the 'Russian variety' Popov. My joints are legendary with our competition judges for their ability to 'fit where they touch' and the prospect of turning something resembling a shaped darning needle with an interference fit to another piece of my turning left me well outside my comfort zone.

Mick drew us in with a false sense of security telling us we were going to begin with a few beads and coves on the soft wood we had been asked to bring along. He started out with a inspections. chisel sharpened mine especially the night before, I grind freehand and know that some of my grinds are a little unorthodox. Looking beautifully honed bowl gouge Mick said "you are right handed, I can tell because your grind is higher on the left than the right".

"The importance of sharp tools and correct grinding angles were demonstrated, with Mick's words 'practice at least twice a week' I'm fast running out of scrap timber to practice on but we do have some fancy kindling wood for the lounge fire" Ian Grant

"The tool handling and body position advice was taken on board, holding the tool lower makes a difference"

## Greg Long

I had not noticed but he was of course correct. "And you grind it by rolling it forwards and backwards on the rest", also correct. Other member's tools were inspected with similar comments and constructive advice on how the sharpness and grind / bevel angles could be improved making our turning easier. We were then treated to a demonstration of how to sharpen tools properly. I took a lot away from this part of the day. Whilst my tools were mostly sharp there is finesse to sharpening that I can apply without compromising some of my less than orthodox grinds. I think that I had fallen into the trap that perhaps many of us fall into, just putting a new edge onto the tool rather than thinking about how the cutting edge needs to work and the bevel angle that is required to allow it to cut efficiently on that particular piece.

As I began roughing down the blank for the beads and coves Mick was immediately over "you're standing where you want to start, not where you need to finish". My position in front of the lathe needed to be much further to the left so I would be standing in a comfortable position at the end of the cut, not over reaching or cramped against my own body. A number of us were doing exactly the same, the cut I was making was instantly improved and easier to maintain.

With the blank roughed down it was time to refine the cut with a skew. I started my turning with only a skew chisel and a roughing gouge to my name, so the skew doesn't hold the fears it might for some people, however, I grind my skew chisels with a fairly square blade angle compared to the recognised 'norm'. Mick was back again, with eyebrows raised, looking at my favourite oval skew but having watched me use it, declared "alright, you know how to use it with it ground like that and you get the finish so that's fine". I've taken on board his comments that a more acute skew angle will be more useful to me for getting into grooves and tight corners and I'll be regrinding some of my other skew chisels to a steeper angle.

agreed their think everyone technique improved as a result of the, occasionally, minor adjustments Mick made to the way we presented ourselves and our tools to the lathe.

The need to relax your muscles and let the tool move under its own momentum with just a guide from the turner's wrist, a finger and a dancing body was a valuable reminder. Good turning posture is so important on a whole variety of levels. For some of us, relaxing our

grip is easier said than done!

"As a novice I came away with more knowledge and confidence and an eagerness to progress with projects on my own" Peter Salter

"I learned a lot from him and was able to come home and make my own pot with a finial lid" Henry Wannerton

found I was making small adjustments to my technique which helped me turn with more control and enjoyment" **Brian Stewart** 

I will keep practising.

And so to the afternoon session and the dreaded Finial Lid. Mick showed us the technique, identified the proportions and the final shape that we should be looking at and the process. He demonstrated the turning required for the finial and my confidence built. An hour or so later I had reached the point, literally, that Mick had taken about 20 seconds to reach but I had reached it and I had what could be described as a passable finished finial. I could be putting finials on **EVERYTHING** from now on!

All too soon the day was over, my lid was done and parted off from the blank. I had not completed the box part of the project but was all fired up and returned home to finish the box and managed a 'pop off' lid.

"Despite having been woodturning for quite a few years it is always good to have advice from a top professional" John Webb

"Without the arounding from our club tutors there would have been less for Mick to build on" Philip Argyle

The finished article surpassed anything I previously felt capable of producing. At the Saturday Masterclass, Mick declared it an 8 out 10, would have been a 9 if the proportions of the box had been a little more elegant, I was a happy bunny. Mick inspires a 'can do' attitude, I came away feeling that the basic turning skills I have learned from Ken, Eric, John, Don and Derek at the Saturday club were crystallized into a single piece of turning

#### **Philip Argyle**

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#### The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association

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#### **Helpers**

Chief Judge John Wyatt helped by Eric Warnecke

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.