Forest of Bere Woodturners Association



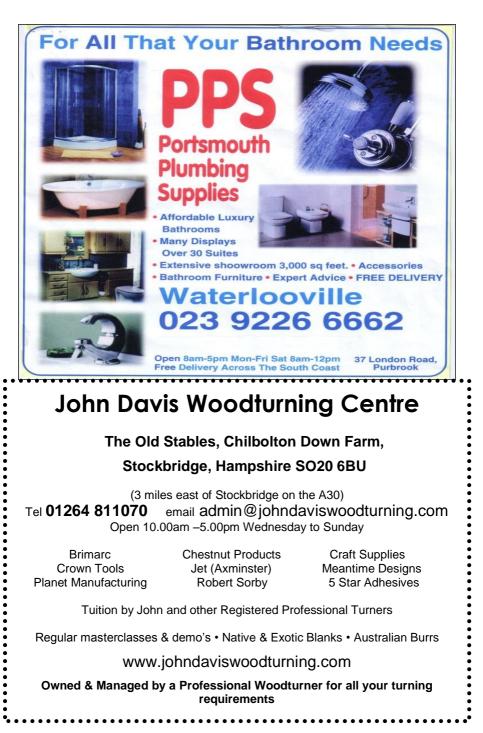
Autumn 2014 Edition

Quarterly Magazine

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Editorial

Welcome to the Autumn issue of our magazine.

The darker mornings, slightly crisper air and the AGM tell us that Autumn is close by. It has been a fairly sedentary summer for me, initially able to lift nothing heavier than a bag of sugar so the workshop has been pretty much out of bounds. Now normal activity is almost resumed, the competition programme has been published and as I did last year I am pondering which projects are hidden within which pieces of the timber, daring me to stretch or climb over, that is stacked on the floor of the workshop.



Congratulations are due to all the members entering the competitions this year. We have a pool of consistently productive members and we can all admire and enjoy their workmanship and be inspired by it. Over 80% of our members however, and I am included in that number, did not enter any of the competitions last year so there is the challenge, let us overload the judges, learn from their critiques and as the saying goes get 'joy in the making'.

Have you ever considered, as you prepare and turn your block of wood, that it was once part of a living organism? Quite possibly older than you, it was subject and responded to environmental pressures throughout its life, although in a slower time frame than we experience. Peter Noot gives us an insight into the lives of trees that is both fascinating and thought provoking.

Thank you to intrepid explorers Mike Haselden and his wife Susan they have given us an account of their recent cycle tour, almost 1500 miles a cycle marathon for most of us, in America.

John Hilton describes how to turn a three point bowl, a fairly daunting and challenging project but John guides us through in a safe and orderly manner that will provide new experience, confidence and an odd shaped bowl.

The club has just passed its 21st year and John also recounts some of the memorable events in the club's history.

Rick Smith

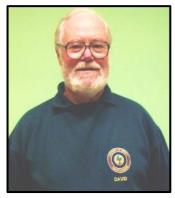
Visit the club website, this magazine and back issues are available in full colour PDF format along with much more.

www.forestofberewoodturners.org.uk

A Message from the Chairman

I have now reached 4 years as your Chairman and providing that the AGM goes well I shall not be writing a message to you in the next Magazine.

I have been very lucky to have been so well supported during my time as Chairman and I hope that you will be as kind and generous with your support to my successor. My thanks go to Don (Vice Chairman) and my Committee (past & present) for all their guidance and help over the years, it has been greatly appreciated.



The Saturday Club started four years ago, originally for Beginners only, and it has brought me a lot of pleasure watching new and old Turners being taught by the Tutors who have willingly shared their knowledge and skills for free. The hardest task was arranging 'TURN-IN' evenings and I am very grateful to all the members who willingly stepped forward to entertain us.

The winning of the SAW's Competition twice and Ken Briffet's efforts in trying to take Woodturning forward have been exciting and certainly made other clubs aware of our presence in the Woodturning arena. My thanks go to John Webb who has put in a lot of time and effort over the years to bring entertaining Demonstrators to the Club meetings and Masterclasses, this also includes Paul & Alfie Nesbitt & our own AWGB qualified demonstrators John Wyatt, Mike Haseleden and Derek Blake. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank John Davis for all his support over the years and Aline and Nicki for all the meals they have made and served to the members at Masterclasses and the Christmas Socials. My thanks also go to the volunteers who made the Tea & Coffee over the years in the Chair. I know you can offer the same support to my successor!

David Jenkins Chairman (2010-2014)



A glade was created, during a storm in the year of 1717, in the reign of King George I, when an old beech tree suffered catastrophic damage leaving a ten foot rotting stump. Within a yard of the stump, standing like a sentry, was a long dead oak spike. This heart of oak spike was being cut by an old forester, to be used as an axle support for a timber wagon.

Around the edges of the glade formed initially by the shade cast by the large beech tree, bracken began to slowly encroach.

The seed from the beech tree during its declining years had fallen into the bare area beneath the old tree and had been consumed by squirrels, mice, and pigs, and any seed germinating, by deer and rabbits. The few seedlings to survive slowly worked their way up through the surrounding bracken area, where no other species could successfully compete with the bracken.

Within the now open glade, birch took advantage of the increased light levels and freely regenerated with an abundance of seedlings. As the birch grew, occasional acorns germinated forming a scattering of young oak among the birch trees.

The birch continued to occupy the area for some thirty years but during that time several of the oak trees had been able to compete more strongly due to weaknesses in the canopy of the birch. Over the next twenty years some of these oak trees began to dominate the area.

During this time some of the beech trees had struggled through the bracken surrounding the original glade and were producing seed, much of that seed was taken by squirrels and mice.

In 1767 during the reign of King George III, a squirrel was extracting beech seed whilst sitting in a fork in the trunk of the larger of the oak trees and some of the seed fell to earth at the base of the oak.

Despite the dense canopy of the oak tree one of the beech seeds started to grow. Slowly at first, the young beech tree headed for the light that filtered through the branches of the oak. As the beech got taller it responded to the extra light and it began to compete with the now one hundred year old oak tree.

The beech tree grew in stature and found its way through the canopy of the oak, and because its tolerance to shade was greater than that of the oak, its leaf cover outgrew the leaves on the lower branches of the oak.

Once above the canopy of the oak, the beech tree was able to take full advantage of the light and expanded its own canopy further shading out the now subdominant oak tree. The oak tree was now 150 years old and the beech tree 100 years old and Queen Victoria on the throne. Both trees continued to grow closely together for a further twenty years and their combined canopy suppressed competition from any tree attempting to grow close by. The only survivors growing in the shade were some holly trees which grew steadily up into the lower branches of the now struggling old oak.

At 180 years of age the oak tree was in serious decline caused by the shade of its competitors, and in 1917 at the age of 200 years it died. King George V was on the throne.

The beech tree continued to develop its crown taking up the space previously occupied by the now fragmenting oak tree. The increased shade from the beech tree now killed off the holly beneath, and created an area clear of any vegetation out to the edge of its crown.

The oak tree had now lost all its bark and sapwood due to insects, fungus and birds and was a skeleton of a tree, standing like a sentry by its dominant rival.

Over the next fifty years the beech tree suffered some severe wind damage and its extended branches had broken under the weight of new spring growth. The oak tree was now a tall hard spike of heartwood.

In the storm of October 1987 in the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, and at the age of 270 years the beech tree suffered catastrophic damage and snapped off leaving a ten foot dead stump with the adjacent old oak spike still on guard at its side in an open glade surrounded by bracken.

The old forester said to the farmer "That old heart of oak spike would make a perfect new axle support for your antique timber wagon".

Peter J Noot



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If you find a project interesting and or challenging so will other members.

Have you considered recording the progress of your project or even just parts of it to share with members through the magazine?

Your ideas • Your jigs • Your methods • Your results

We would love to see them in these pages.

Apart from woodturning, cycle touring is one of my outdoor adventure interests.

My wife, Sue, and I went on a tour of North America at the end of last summer. We flew to Chicago and from there cycled south to the Illinois Trail. This headed west along the borders of a mostly disused canal between Chicago and the Mississippi but often following a railway track which gave us sleepless nights in our little tent. Regular freight trains would trundle noisily by disturbing our much needed slumber. Two pull and one push engines with up to 160 carriages was not unusual and at an average of 25-30 mph they seemed to go on for ever, hooting incessantly whilst passing through the small communities at night.

On reaching the Mississippi our route took us north along the Great River Road on the east side of the river which was not flat as there were many bluffs for us to cycle over. With the Mighty Mississippi in our view for 10 days, the scenery was beautiful. In places the river spans up to 3 miles across.

Minneapolis was our half-way goal where we visited friends with whom we stayed for five days. Fond memories of our stay in Minneapolis include an invitation to Mike Hunter's home workshop and the gift of a set of his hollowing tools.

The American Association of Woodturners Gallery of Wood Art is housed at the Landmark Centre which was once the Federal Court where Al Capone was sentenced to 11 years for tax evasion was another interesting visit.

From Minneapolis we cycled east to Green Bay, did a quick circuit of beautiful and remote Door County and then turned south along the shores of Lake Michigan back to Chicago, visiting the Botanical Gardens en route.

Lake Michigan is such a vast body of fresh water it has a measurable tide and at first sight seemed just like any seascape with sandy beaches, rocky shores, waves and shipping. The eastern shore is out of sight over the horizon and I wonder what the first Europeans thought when they came across this natural wonder.

We cycled a total of 34 days, totalling 1490 miles and averaging about 43 miles a day. Camping was in forests, fields and sometimes secreted in a shadowy corner of a park. The most memorable was being given permission to put our tent up in a quiet corner in the Indian Mounds Burial Park. This sacred historic site dates from 2000 years ago and contains six prehistoric Native American Indian burial mounds. It was one of the quietest night's sleep of our trip!



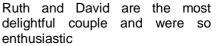


Mike Hunter in his workshop

The two Mikes could have talked woodturning all day and my Mike left with a gift of a coveted set of Mike Hunter's carbide woodturning

tools for hollow forms and end grain. Isn't it strange that souvenirs are off limits when we are cycle touring because of the extra bulk and weight of carrying them but space can be found for anything to do with woodturning!





in inviting us to see their collection of woodturning. Many of the pieces are often sent on tour of the USA. They have published a book of all the pieces, called 'Conversations with Wood', and Mike is honoured to have a copy. Unfortunately it isn't available in the UK.





The American Association of Woodturners Gallery of Wood Art is housed at the Landmark Centre which was once the Federal Court where Al Capone was sentenced to 11 years for tax evasion was another interesting visit.



Walking the Plank!

Everything we need is carried on our bicycles

Our friends also arranged for us to visit Ruth and David Waterbury. Ruth and David have spent a lifetime collecting turnery from all over the world and they have the largest private collection of woodturning in the USA, if not the world, which is displayed in their beautiful home. Truly spell-binding. Every wall just everywhere is covered with glass display shelves. They are not woodturners themselves although they did dabble some years ago, but they certainly appreciate beautifully made pieces.

Now and again we stayed in motels, like the day we were cycling on high ground with no shelter and caught in a tremendous thunder and lightning storm. A kind trucker pulled up and insisted we put our bicycles in his truck and drove us six miles to a motel. The manager of the motel was so shocked at how wet we were that she gave us a 'wet weather discount' and a room with a private Jacuzzi!

Our bicycles are specialist expedition touring bicycles with pannier racks back and front which are loaded with all our needs for the trip including tent, clothes, sleeping bags and mats, cooking gear, wash kit, repairs and spares equipment, all of which had to pass through US customs and immigration procedures! Our expensive multi fuel stove particularly caused some problems and had to be sent from the airport to a friend in Canada who forwarded it on to England by sea...

We have cycled in many countries in the world however and find the Americans the friendliest of all. They are so generous and we have made many friends there.

The reader may think that this type of holiday adventure is too much like hardship. However for a regular cyclist there is little of that. One enjoys a tremendous feeling of achievement at passing quietly through the country being able to see, hear and smell the world as it is, unlike speeding along a highway cocooned in a metal box where you lose touch with the world.

Mike and Susan Haselden

A Warm Welcome to New Members

David Moore • William Edwards

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

Competition Programmes 2014 / 2015

2014	Beginner
15 October	Kitchen or Toilet Roll Holder
19 November	Christmas Decoration
17 December	Candlestick
2015	
21 January	Bowl with a coin inserted into the bottom
18 February	Wine Bottle Stand or Container
18 March	Bud Vase
15 April	Cup and Saucer
20 May	Fisherman's Priest
17 June	Largest Platter that you are comfortable with turning
15 July	Pill Box with lid
19 August	Тоу
16 September	A turned object of your choice to show off your skill
2014	Novice
15 October	Money Box
19 November	Christmas Decoration
17 December	Turned Father Christmas or Snowman
2015	
21 January	Vase
18 February	1 Apple and 1 Pear
18 March	Small bowl with a selection of eggs
15 April	All wooden Pot Pourri Bowl
20 May	Jewellery Stand
17 June	Pedestal Platter
15 July	4 Egg Cups on a Platter
19 August	Set of 4 Serviette rings
16 September	A turned object of your choice to show off your skill
2014	Intermediate
15 October	Fisherman's Priest
19 November	Christmas Decoration
17 December	Matching Pendant and Bangle

Competition Programmes 2014 / 2015

2015	Intermediate
21 January	Block and Gavel
18 February	200mm (8") Vase
18 March	Тоу
15 April	Involuted Candlestick
20 May	Dressing Table Mirror on a Stand
17 June	Secret Box
15 July	Rolled edge bowl
19 August	Off centre turned piece
16 September	A turned object of your choice to show off your skill
	Advanced
Oct 14 /Sept15	A turned item of your own choosing

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.

<u>Saturday Club</u> Dates
<u>2014</u>
Oct 11th
Nov 8th
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

A Three Point Bowl

1. Cut an exact cube. I usually work between a 75mm to 150mm sided cube. 150mm is as large as I feel comfortable to turn, beyond this, problems seem to dwell..., 100mm sides are reasonable and 75mm sides result in a small bowl.

2. Choose two diagonally opposite corners. At each, mark the same size square on each of the three sides and draw diagonals as shown.

3. Cut off the triangular pyramids so drawn. Do this accurately so that it produces two parallel surfaces to receive the centres at both ends. Make sure one is large enough to receive the whole of the drive centre to help maximise the hold. The closer the two surfaces are to parallel, the better the hold.

4. Mark the centre points of the two triangles produced by the cuts. Work the same method as you would for a square, but with only three lines. Take the centre of the

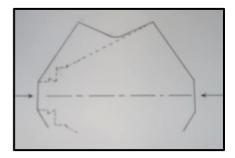
small triangle so drawn in the middle of the cut face.

5. Mount the work on the lathe, between centres on the two points marked.

6. Turn the work by hand and check the corners of the blank. Set the tool rest near the work and hold a pointer on it so that one of the corners just touches as it moves past. Keep turning to check the other corners also just touch. Α correction to the hold is possible at this stage. It is important to have the work accurately aligned. Towards the end of the turning it is possible, sometimes, to correct a small error in alignment but do not rely on this from the start. Study the direction of the grain. The tool has three different angles of grain coming at it with each revolution of the lathe. Note the weak points and keep the tools sharp.

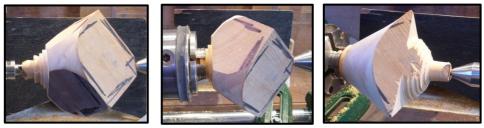






When the lathe is turned on the ghosting of the wood appears, see the photo and the sketch, above. The latter shows (dotted line) the outside shape of the bowl. Note which corners to keep and which to cut off.

7. Form the dovetail. This has to be some way in from the corner to get enough wood all round.



8. Hold by the dovetail and start to form the outside of the bowl. One top corner will be weak, note the grain direction. Keep the tailstock in use as long as possibe, at least until the rough cutting is done. Leave the final inside cut until the tailstock is clear. When the bowl is completed, the walls are too thin for a continuous final cut, so it has to be done in stages as the work progresses.

In cutting the waste wood, I move the tool either parallel to the lathe or at right angles to it depending on which direction gives me the best results at the time. The curves on the top edges of the bowl appear automatically as the cutting proceeds due to the shape of the wood. By careful sanding the three points are made to resemble each other. This means sanding along the rim with the sand paper held at the right angle to preserve the correct shape. The use of a sanding block will help this procedure.



9. Remove the tailstock and turn out the rest of the bowl. This is similar to ordinary bowl work, except that the three corners are a danger and the grain is not running square across the lathe.



10. Be careful parting off. I saw through the last 15mm. Note diagonal grain in the part off area.

The final photographs show the finished bowl and another, actually two three point bowls back to back. A little thought and it will be seen that this shape could be used in a variety of ways in different projects. They are also unusual and, individually, can be made attractive for decorative use.





John Hilton

During 2014 The Forest of Bere Woodturners Association has been supporting

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Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance

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Photo Gallery



A striking and colourful composite bowl. When the various laminates have been glued up, the blank needs to be mounted 'un-naturally' to set the laminations at an angle to the axis. The tool will be constantly challenged by the varying grain angles and materials as it cuts.

conventional А more composite turning. The numerous faceplate and spindle turned parts require some copy turning, accurate spigots and drillings and careful decorative turning. Most if not all the finishing will be completed prior to assembly and particular care is required to ensure the spindles are glued in perpendicularly with no twist.

Possibly on the must try list for all aspiring woodturners.

Photos by

Ray Matthews



Photo Gallery



Barley twist spindles jointed and ready for finishing and assembly. Carved and turned components particularly for furniture have been produced for hundreds of years by highly skilled craftsmen with few machine tools to help them.

Above

The shaping to the rim and foot add interest to this vase.



Above The offset rim on this vase may have been due to the shape of the log or to offsetting the tail centre. The incised lines do not show up clearly in this photo and may be less effective because of the bold grain patterns.

<u>Above</u> The black and gold finish blends well with the grain and a natural looking stalk on this apple.

Photos by Ray Matthews

	Forest	of Bere Woodturners Ass	ociation						
COMPETITION WINNERS FOR 2013/2014									
<u>Beginner</u>	Position	Name	M/ship No	Points					
	1 st	Nigel Wilkinson	302	544					
	2 nd	Brian Kilby	330	367					
	3rd	Harry Wannerton	322	261					
	-								
<u>Novice</u>	1 st	Philip Argyle	316	570					
	2 nd	Jonathan Butt	29	340					
	3rd	James Gilder	363	166					
	. st								
Intermediate	1 st	Dave Reynolds	365	586					
	2 nd 3 rd	Alan Brown	315	572					
	3.4	Michael Denton	243	399					
Advanced	1 st	David Marsh	360	519					
	2 nd	John Wyatt	351	260					
	3 rd	Chris Nicholls	383	246					

Cup Winners and Overall Positions

Mayor of Havant Beginners Shield won by Nigel Wilkinson (302) with 110 points

Runner up Brian Kilby (330) with 72 points

Woodturner of the Year Cup won by Philip Argyle (Novice) (316) with 99 points

Don Smith Challenge Cup won by David Marsh (Advanced) (360) with 98 points

Runners L	Jp

3rd Alan Brown • 3rd Dave Reynolds • 5th Michael Denton

97 points

97 points

75 points

Forest of Bere Woodturners Association Monthly Competition Results 2013/2014

MEMBERSHIP No	S	0	Ν	D	J	F	м	Α	м	J	J	Α	TOTAL
	E	С Т	O V	E C	A	E	A	P	A Y	U	U	U	
BEGINNERS	P	-	v	C	N	В	R	R	Ŷ	N	L	G	
DEGINNERS													
	1					1							
25 BRIAN BURLEY										44			44
302 N WILKINSON	49	42	42	43	46	47	45	48	46	44	43	49	544
307 LAUREN HAINES			39										39
317 BRIAN BOCKING		48	48		40	49							185
322 H WANNERTON						51	41	43	44	43	39		261
330 BRIAN KILBY					45	45	45	49	47	46	43	47	367
359 F CHATFIELD						48			47				95
406 BRIAN STEWART						53	41						94
416 GREG LONG							44		46				90
NOVICES													
29 JONATHAN BUTT	50				51	48	50	51	45			45	340
301 JIM GODFREY		39	47								51		137
316 PHILIP ARGYLE	51	44	49	48	51	48	46	48	45	44	49	47	570
363 JAMES GILDER		34	44			46	42						166
INTERMEDIATES													
243 M DENTON	45	36	46		46	47	47	42			48	42	399
315 ALAN BROWN	51	39	49	49	48	47	44	46	51	52	52	44	572
365 DAVE REYNOLDS	50	38	48	52	53	50	47	46	49	52	51	50	586
ADVANCED													
				ı			1				1	1	
254 BRIAN MITCHELL	53												53
303 MIKE HASELDEN			48			53	53			53			207
351 JOHN WYATT		53	50	51		53	53						260
360 DAVID MARSH	1		50	52	54	53	52	54	45	53	52	54	519
383 CHRIS NICHOLLS	49	51	48			51	47						246

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Twenty-one Years On

The four who organised the start of the Forest of Bere Woodturners made all the arrangements for opening a club. Our thanks must go to them. They organised the first meeting to be held on the 18th August 1993 at the Denmead Community Centre, in one of the wooden huts at the back. They were expecting a dozen or so people, whereas more than sixty turned up. I recount some of the events that I remember well. They show how the Club has advanced over the years

Peter Wincza edited the first issue of the magazine, dated December 1997. Prior to this there were a succession of leaflets and bulletins, written by the Chairman. The magazine was considered, at the time, to be a great step forward.

The first Master Class was given by Stephen Cooper on 14^{th} January 1994 and was a big success. Stephen returned for a Master Class 25^{th} March 2000 – the first of the new millennium.

The Club held its first Craft Fair at Denmead Community Centre on 26thNovember 1994. A pole lathe was being demonstrated, my first real contact with one. We were invited to try our hand at turning, but only Maurice Larrive was prepared to have a go. His efforts were satisfactory to all.

Coach trips were made to the Axminster Show for a few years. I was lucky enough to meet Bert Marsh on our first visit. I did not realise then how high up he was in the turning world, but I was pleased to look, listen and learn.

Don Smith organised, over the years, a series of Skittle Evenings at the Waterlooville Football Club premises. These were great social occasions and a lot of fun. Part of the success, I feel, was because we were all taking part in the same things; talking, bowling and eating.

In March 2006, we held our first 'Open Weekend'. Most members lent a hand with some aspect of this event, it was very successful and helped to spread our name. We all agreed that other such week-ends should be held during the coming years.

My journeys to Alresford came to an end in 2004 when Bill Thorne finally retired and closed his shop on 27th March of that year. Ordering by telephone from Axminster seems dull after the hours spent in Bill's shop. I am pleased he is still a member of the club and ready to help where he can.

During the year 2005, there were many murmurings about the County Council wanting to re-develop the Community Centre and hints of an increase in the letting fees. This all ended with our move to Bedhampton, accomplished on 17thFebruary 2006. Since then, the main item of note is the installation of the camera system.

The first record of cameras goes back to 1995. The Magazine of December that year records the club tried using a TV camera the previous month for the first time. The AGM of 1997 agreed to the purchase of two new cameras. These two first attempts were certainly of value. In March 2009, it was recorded in the Magazine that the Club had received a grant from the Lottery Fund. Although not covering the whole cost, this enabled the present system to be purchased and installed. The Club seems to be as popular now as it ever was. May it go on from strength to strength for many years to come. **John Hilton**

Shane Stoddart

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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

<u>Meetings</u>

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.