

The Frank Clarke Awards



These were set up by the committee as a means of honouring Frank Clarke, a founder member of the Association and its first chairman. With a membership of around 80, the success of Cheam Woodturners Association is a result of Frank's dedication and enthusiasm.



The competition attracted 35 entries across three categories - beginners (up to 2 years experience), intermediate (up to 4 years) and advanced (over 4 years). The prize in each category was an engraved silver platter (for return) and a certificate (for keeps!). Thanks go to Eddie Hurley for arranging the platters and engraving.



*From top - Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced entries
Below - Tim shows how it's done at the last meeting*

The theme of the competition was a bowl up to eight inches in diameter and entries included natural edge and colour. Frank Clarke encouraged and promoted wood turning in all skill levels and he would have been over the moon to see the high number of entries in the beginner's category (20 pieces). In all categories the standard was high, with thought given to finish and form.

The winners were voted by the members:

Beginner - Frank Canning
Intermediate - Robert Sciberras
Advanced - Gregory Moreton

Congratulations to the winners and well done to all those who entered the competition. Frank would have been absolutely chuffed!

The next competition is at the AGM in February and the theme will be announced in due course.



Andrew Griffiths, Chairman

Christmas is a-coming!

Our December meeting is a social event with mince pies, bring/buy and the chance to chat with fellow Club members. Last year we took a slightly different approach and held an auction for the first time, together with a wood competition.

The Committee have been planning this year's event, and have taken note of your comments during the year.

This year meeting will still be a social evening and together with the mince pies and socialising we will have a hands-on session with the Club lathe. There will also be an auction or rather a series of mini auctions. We hope to have four tables loosely sorted as to: Wood, Woodworking Tools, Tools for Self Reliance and Miscellaneous.

This way you can view items more easily and most importantly, only bid for those items at a table for which you are interested. We are trying for something like a country auction where you follow the auctioneer around, and bid on those items you want. If you want to bid for the wood then join that auction. Afterwards, there are the other attractions of the evening to sample, whilst anyone else who is interested in, say, Tools for self reliance, can join the auction at that table.

The first auction will start at 8pm and then be every 15 minutes or so, afterwards. We hope this new format will give everyone the opportunity to look at the goods beforehand, and decide on what ones to bid for. If of course you do not wish to bid for anything, then the lathe, mince pies and refreshments will be there throughout the evening.

The rules for the auction are as for last year with one slight amendment. Commission will be 10% for Club funds, No reserve on any item And No turned items allowed in the sale please.

Now is the chance to look in your workshop, garage or loft to see if there are any unwanted or unused items that you may wish to sell. If there are, bring them along on the night and we will do our best to get a fair price for you.

We hope the new format will allow everyone to participate in whatever section of the evening they wish to be part of. Any further ideas and or suggestions you may have will be welcome, so please feel free to contact any Committee member on club night or via the website.(www.cheamturners.co.uk)

We look forward to helping you start the festive season in a truly Cheam style !

The Committee

2004 programme

The programme has yet to be completed, but will include such famous name demonstrators as Reg Slack, Bob Chapman and Reg Sherwin together with Mark Baker

**(of Woodturning Magazine)
Jose Abraao (of Good Timber)
and Chris Pouncy
(of Robert Sorby Tools).**

Not forgetting our very own Gregory Moreton.

These experts will be demonstrating a variety of turning projects and techniques which will be sure to interest all our members.

The clock company Meantime Design will also be visiting us.

In addition members will have the opportunity over the year to view and purchase a variety of woods, tools, finishes and clocks

to meet all their needs.

The programme is not yet complete but the above is a taster of what's to come.

Details in the December Newsletter

At the *Yandles* September Show



Dramatic action - a DeWalt planer/thicknesser



Fretsawing on the Delta stand



Just a very small part of the timber that Yandles has on offer



Turning demo



Longbowmen discussing relative merits

From a first-timer at Yandles As one who has been involved with big (Olympia) practical tools, demos and sales exhibitions, I confess that I did not have great expectations about a woodworking show in a sleepy little village called Martock (where the hell is Martock? I had to look it up on the map!) Just how wrong can one be? But, to start at the beginning, I expressed an interest in seeing some really good timber and tools to my better half who immediately booked us in for a night with her sister who lives in Mere, a mere(!) 30 miles from Martock so I was unable to take advantage of the excellent-value coach trip organised by our fellow turners in the Surrey club. Thus we were able to reach the site at opening time without the trauma of a very early start from Epsom. However, we were not the earliest of birds. Many were the cars already parked on our arrival, so this is a really popular event with woodworkers from

many parts of the country. I spoke to some from the frosty north as well as those from sunnier climes. Seriously, I have never parked so close to such vast amounts of sawn and stacked timber, most of which appears to be in the process of seasoning. The show is conveniently split into small areas, each housing certain categories of exhibitor - wood, demonstrations, crafts and so on. Those outside the protection of buildings or marquees suffered a brief but



Old fuzziyshops! Demonstrating the pole lathe in aid of cancer research



Another pole lathe man in action, this time from local college



Lady turner demonstrating

heavy downpour on Saturday and I felt sympathy for two stalwarts demonstrating pedal-driven pole lathes. One was a youngish chap from a local college while the other was an aged, magnificently bewhiskered gentleman who was collecting money on behalf of cancer research. I did see one map showing where everything was located but am I being too critical in suggesting that this was really not enough? However, all exhibits were within a fairly small area so it is not too difficult to whiz around ? except those few wheelchair-bound visitors. Most major tool manufacturers were present; DeWalt, Trend, Sorby, Record, Taylor, Ashley Iles and so on and it was a pleasure to note that they did not seem intent on sales-come-what-may. Indeed, for the whole show, demonstrators were friendly, cheerful, helpful and full of good, free advice. The most interesting area we found was the demonstration room. Turning was, of course, a major target (the skills and products were those which I could only dream about). One chap was demonstrating box making and as a throwaway he explained how to make the tiny decorations he used: I needed a magnifying glass to see these tiny mushroom-shape pieces but he uses hundreds of them! There were longbows and arrows being made, woodcarving, marquetry, fret-sawing, pyrography and even secondhand tools for sale. A feast indeed. Speaking about feasts, I have to commend Yandles on the refreshments. The small hall we visited (there were two eateries) offered good food at reasonable prices. Finally, the wood. We (and I include the Mrs in this) could have spent HOURS there, admiring, fingering, selecting. And we could have spent a fortune, but managed to resist with just a modest collection. If you haven't been, then I strongly recommend you look out for the next event (in April, I believe). See you there.

(All photos courtesy Ron Grace)

Ron Grace

And from a seasoned visitor We normally visit Yandles in Martock on a Saturday, but for personal reasons we had to go on the Friday. What a difference! We have seen the 8th wonder of the world - the A303 clear and with no roadworks. For those of you that travel the A303 regularly you will know what an event this is. Yandles is always a good show and this year there was a slightly different range of suppliers there. We arrived at about midday, to find the car park full.. People were going back to their cars with arms full of wood. What was going on? Last time, the stock was not as we would normally expect from Yandles and some of us were a bit disappointed. We made for the Timber shed and managed to get

some blanks that we wanted. These included some Lime which was on two pallets. It was very popular. We have never seen some much interest in a product, since the Brits visited a French hyper-market's beer department. We looked in the Manufacturers tent, and found some new suppliers including Microclene. Robert Sorby were there and even their demonstrator Chris Pouncey was happy! People were buying cheap 5 speed lathes for £69.99 from Draper, good value if you want a spare lathe.

In the main Sawmill demonstration area, Mark Baker on the VB36 (check out the 2004 programme when it is available) and Dave Register on the Hegner drew the biggest crowds. The demo area is always busy with lots of good turners showing off their skills. In addition there were the usual trade stands from Wolfcraft, GMC and others. As it was a Friday we did not think we would see anyone from the Club, but lo and behold, we spied two club members and joined them for an interesting chat. Yandles has a dedicated following and even our Mr & Mrs P (no names, but you know who you are!), who were on holiday, had travelled up from Bodmin in Cornwall for the day. You can't keep a woodturner away, even on holiday! It's quite a drive down to Martock, but if Yandles keep up the quality of stock, then it is well worth a visit next year. If the Club has sufficient interest, it may be possible to arrange a coach. Listen out for the Chairman's announcement nearer the time.

David Buskell

I have been searching on the internet to find a course or a tutor to give me some basic tuition in the use of the scroll saw. There seems to be absolutely nothing but I came across your newsletter of three years ago and thought that you might be able to point me in the right direction. If you can help contact Caroline Gillies who lives in Maidenhead - 01628 627613 / fhsports@btinternet.com

Gregory Moreton RPT

Professional wood turner Gregory Moreton offers tuition for one or two students in his Claygate workshop

Two day beginners courses and one day advanced or refresher courses are available or hourly tuition can be tailored to your own needs

Gregory is registered with the Worshipful Company of Turners and is a full member of the Surrey Guild of Craftsmen

Please call 01372 467692 for more details or e-mail gregory@moreton.co.uk

www.moreton.co.uk

At the Fairs



pictures from Cheam Woodturners displays at the Sutton Environmental Fair and at the local Scouts Summer Fair



From the Editor

Expecting a possible move out of the area, I am passing on my responsibility after editing Cheam Woodturners Newsletter for three and a half years - 14 issues. I hope you have all enjoyed at least some of the selected reading and feel you can contribute to future issues.

I have always felt the newsletter should be of interest in its own right and not just a report on meetings that have already happened - as are many other woodturner newsletters. Whilst it is also an important added means of communication to you from the committee, I don't feel it should be a purely 'corporate' document either.

I have had reasonable support with the supply of articles, photographs, tips and the like but from relatively few people. There was never more than I could reasonably fit in and often much coming at the last minute.

I hope you will give Ron Grace, who takes over the Christmas and subsequent issues all the help he needs. This means a supply of articles, comment, tips and anything else other members would find useful or interesting. Send them to him no matter how small or large - preferably by email so he does not have to type it all out again himself. He may edit to fit space available.

He is on ron@ron-grace.demon.co.uk and other details are here opposite.

Roger Marsden

Free membership of SLHardwoods website

If you were at the August meeting and wanted to take up the offer you might have had problems. Ron Grace contacted them and got this advice:

*Just go thru the motions and where it asks for credit card details just put in a dummy credit card no. eg 123412341234 exp 11/02 and follow instructions. Sorry forgot to mention that last nite however if you would be so kind as to forward this to other members we would appreciate it
Sean ps any probs please phone 020 8683 0299*

also a **7.5% Discount** is given to memebrrs showing their AWGB card at **South London Hardwoods**

NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

October 15th

**Peter Blake
Multi-centre
and split turning**

November 19th

**Stuart King
Wet, Wild and Ethnic**

December 17th

**Christmas Social
plus practical
and auctions
see article on page 2**

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Any views expressed in the newsletter are those of the people submitting the material and not necessarily of the committee.