

Christchurch Society of Woodturners

E- Newsletter

January 2022

Club Meetings

Thank you to those who felt able to attend the December meeting and willingly cooperated with the testing and mask wearing prerequisites. A very productive and convivial evening was enjoyed by the 20 or so present.

To avoid any doubt or confusion in the future, the meetings will go ahead unless the government bans such meetings or MWCC closes the hall. All members must make a reasoned judgement as to whether they can attend in the context of their personal circumstances and the club respects the decision made.

If you do attend, please look after yourself and protect / respect others

- Take a lateral flow test on the day of the meeting (negative result required!)
- Wear a face-covering at all times (mandatory), unless drinking
- Sign in on arrival so we know who is present
- Give good space to others both when seated and when moving around

Full information, advice and updates appear on the club website.

December Meeting Review

When I heard that the December meeting was about 'Paul's Christmas Box' I generously took along a few coins to throw in the pot – Oops! Turns out he's more altruistic than that it was in fact the latest demo and competition challenge. A comprehensive summary of the demo is available on the website and below you can see the demo piece and exemplars. Please get busy with your box of two or more woods and bring it along to the January meeting, or send it along with a friend if you choose not to attend.



The lid which Paul thought might be a touch loose on demo night was fitting snugly the next morning after it had been sitting in a warm house, and perhaps the wood had relaxed a little.

Different shapes and sizes are acceptable. Feel free to include an internal carrier – the one below / right uses the thread for the lid to secure the carrier by lifting and twisting, and leather washers to separate rings – clever details.



Offset Bowl Competition Results – Table A



1st place - John Bolt



2nd place – Andy Ogilvie



3rd place – Paul Reeves



4th place – Vic Russell

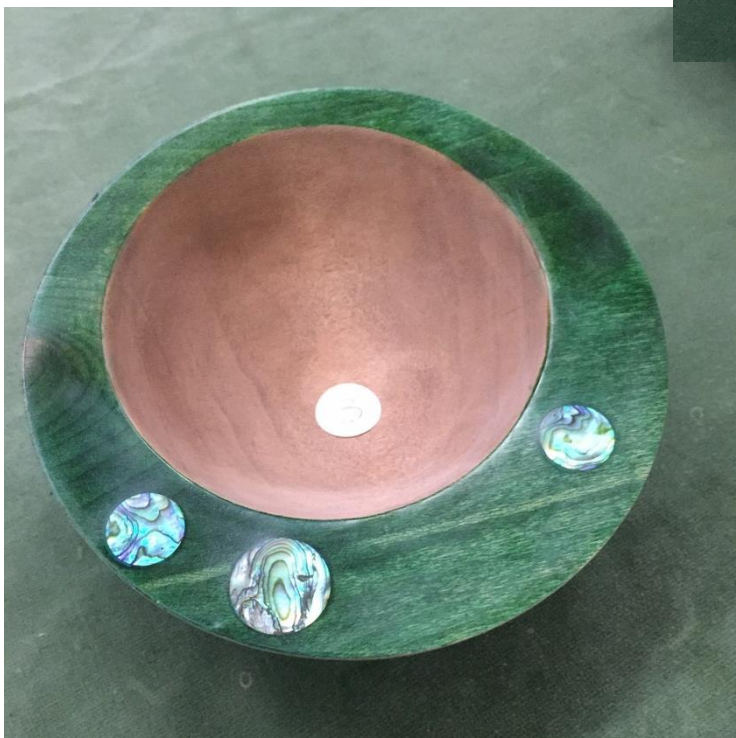
Offset Bowl Competition Results – Table B



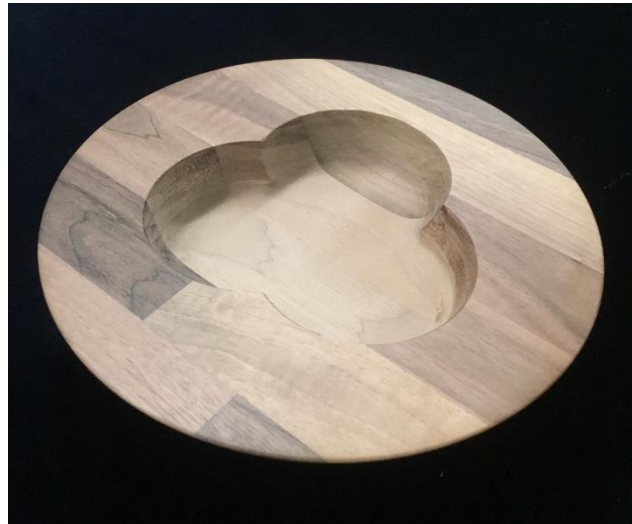
1st place – David Hamilton

2nd place – Alan Brooks

3rd place – Andrew Fairfax



On the display table



Alan Brooks brought along the trial piece for his competition work above and described the elaborate counter-balances he used in turning his offset pieces to make them run smoothly.

John Bolt's snowman, covered in Sandtex, is a smoker!

Internet

This month's suggestions from Vic Russell:
Japanese bowl turning - and tool making!

<https://youtu.be/DqYxnDWmqys>

Do you fancy trying a Pole Lathe in Devon?

https://littleacornfurniture.com/courses/pole-lathe-course-devon/?gclid=Cj0KCQiA15yNBhDTARIsAGnwe0Wtp-jcEsR_4ZKh9Ljs7pv0LRWj2x99uls33JIAyYnm7Gg5FxCtfwlaAgjMEALw_wcB

Henry Taylor Tools

<https://henrytaylortools.co.uk>

The Inspirational work of George Watkins

<http://fromthetreewoodturning.blogspot.com>

Stocking Up on Hornbeam

Having described the qualities of Hornbeam in a previous newsletter, Paul Reeves took the opportunity to grab a very large trunk that had fallen on nearby private woodland. Hornbeam grows with wavy grain and is not used for general carpentry as it is too hard. It is white / cream in colour with some areas of ripple and burr. Usual mature diameter 15". Uses past and present: tool handles, hand plane soles, parts of coach wheels, piano actions, shoe lasts, pulleys, windmill gear pegs, parquet flooring, cutting boards and last but not least chess pieces / turnery.

Paul writes: After crossing the tree surgeon's palm with a large bag of silver he kindly deposited four 5' lengths x 18 - 20" diameter at Rick's place in Everton so that we could deal with them at our convenience.

Then came the possibility of Covid restrictions so the decision was made to bring some or all of it back to my place so that there would be something for me to do in the Christmas holiday. I duly turned up at Rick's with my trailer and after a lot of huffing, puffing and two very red faces the smallest bit was onboard, just. Discretion and valour being our strongest points we made an executive decision to leave the rest where it lay, and I would bring my gear and mill it up in situ. Of course, I still had to get the lump that was now in my trailer out when I got home. You may or may not know that it is Greta's job to unload - so after a couple of minutes it was on the drive awaiting my attention! Disaster then struck when, for completely different reasons, neither of my main milling saws would start. Cue more huffing and I'm afraid some very poor language as big saws take a big effort to pull them over. Top tip..... it's the fastest way to get warm / overheat on a cold winter's day so on the mildest New Year sinceI nearly melted.

All the saw fixing places were closed for a couple of weeks, so I had to move on to plan F. Out came my very old Sachs-Dolmar with a 30" bar that hadn't been used for over ten years. With some fresh fuel and a clean spark plug six pulls later it was running. Result! A bit of fiddling with the mixture screws had it running very well, and the rest is history. We spent a very pleasant afternoon milling up the remaining sections into 3"-4" thick planks that we could actually lift and load. Rick even made us a cuppa. They are now at my place awaiting either milling down again to thinner planks or stacking as they are. It will make some really nice timber when dry, take a look at the pictures to whet your appetites.



From the Editor's Workshop - Salvaging a Plane Wreck

I turned what I thought was a pretty decent 8" dia bowl with some seasoned Plane from my favourite supplier – but it warped and seemed to have very little life in the colour or figure. I decided to try and rescue it. I damped and clamped it to lessen the obvious distortion and some weeks later I re-turned it to make it as thin and regular as I could. Using a cardboard stencil, I marked out leaves at regular intervals, cut the outlines with a junior hacksaw, before sanding and sealing. A similar item I'd seen on the internet used coloured inks (probably preferable) but as I had only acrylic paints, I used them and a black Sharpie for the lines before a final spray with semi-gloss lacquer.



At worst, I had conducted an interesting and different experiment – at best, I'll let you decide!



I would very much like a tale from your workshop. Next time you are working on a project, please take a couple of photos, scribble a few lines, and I'll put it together for the newsletter.

Introducing

Last year's Table A winner, Nick Jazwinski, has been turning and a club member for 6 years. He enjoys trying something different / new and likes to consider a broad interpretation of any competition brief. He has a Tyme Avon lathe and a Viceroy for larger faceplate work. At work Nick was responsible for the design, development and delivery of major construction projects for a national company and this desire to understand the ideas and processes behind things seems to underpin his turning and other varied interests – he is an award-winning beekeeper / honey producer and vegetable grower, and he also works as a volunteer at the Sammy Miller Motorcycle Museum. His first motorbike was a 250cc Panther but he has more recently toured Europe on a Suzuki Vstrom. A Ford Anglia 105E also featured in his early driving years. Nick's favourite food is the Eastern European Golumpki, which he describes as 'fake pigeon'. He would encourage turners of all abilities to push their boundaries to develop new skills.



Examples of Nick's skilful and inventive work – ranging from practical kitchenware to more artistic pieces. In the centre below is a wall hanging - his offering for a deconstructed bowl competition.



New Year's Resolution

Never give up!



Watched any Old Films Over Christmas?

ET didn't 'go home', he hid in a tree!



Just a thought

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass; it is about learning to dance in the rain.

Contributions to this e-newsletter are very welcome as are suggestions and comment. I am particularly interested in the story of projects which members have taken on.

Editor: Andy Ogilvie e-news@christchurchwoodturners.org.uk