



Business before Pleasure

As usual, the first meeting of the year was the AGM followed by a critique. There was a good attendance as the meeting got underway. After the minutes from 2025 were approved, the committee members gave their reports, elections were held and any other business discussed.

Peter Castle, who has served the club in many capacities over the years, has decided to step back from an active role in the club. To show appreciation for all his hard work and dedication, he was presented with a lifetime membership certificate along with a gift of wine for his wife Jo. Jo has also worked hard for the club, undertaking all the printing and managing competition entries and scoring at the socials. Our gratitude goes to them both.

Following Peter's retirement as competition secretary in the summer, Mike Gordon was co opted to replace him and we thank him for filling the role until now.

As a result of the elections John Packer was voted in as the new competition secretary. Mike Pollard was elected as Vice Chairman as Peter has also retired from this position. The rest of the committee was re elected on block.

There followed much discussion on the entries in the Richard Hasleden monthly competition and how to encourage more participation, particularly from the novices. The new competition secretary will be reviewing this.

The subject of setting up You Tube videos of in house demonstrations was also discussed and whilst possible is not straightforward. Further research is needed.

The meeting was then closed and the raffle held followed by a break for lunch.

The Critique



The critique began with an appraisal of work led by Maggie Wright and Gareth Garner with members talking about their work and answering questions about techniques and finishes etc.

John Packer and Rick Thompson then took over for the second half.

It was a pleasure to see such a great variety of work showcasing all the wonderful talents our members have.

As a result of the discussions we picked up some useful tips and lots of ideas. Thank you to everyone who brought work to share.

The Richard Hasleden Cup



Spalted sycamore bowl
by Howard Baldock.



1/12 scale doll's house Christmas tree
decorations by Sandra Day.



Mother and daughter tri axis
turning by Gareth Garner.



Natural edge bowl turned by
Adam Baker.



Keith Pierce's first entry, a
lidded box.



Keith Young's trinket bowl.



Rick Thompson's lantern.



Michael Hone turned this
lidded box.



Pencil pencil pot turned by John
Packer.



Captive ring rattle turned by
Lilly James.



Mike Moon turned this ash platter
with cane enhanced lid.

It was good to see that entries were up in the first month of the year

More from the Critique



Summer Competitions

The subjects for the summer competitions have been set as follows.

Novices }
Intermediate } Heath Robinson
Advanced }

Entries must be something that 'does' something. It doesn't have to be practical or useful, just dynamic; it must provide movement, action or change, not be a static ornament. Any size or shape

Alongside this is the Founder's Cup, an open class for a piece showing innovation in form. The Bill Thurlow Cup is awarded for the entry which partners would most like to take home.

February Meeting

February 15th 10.00 - 16.00

Arthur Kingdon

Arthur is President of The Society of Ornamental Turners. He is passionate about turning wooden boxes with complex designs using ornamental lathes.

The Your Way Project

The subject for the February meeting is a candle holder.



Entries in January were Christmas tree decorations.

Chairman	Maggie Wright
Vice Chairman	Mike Pollard
Competition Secretary	John Packer
Secretary	Anne Smith
Treasurer	John Turner
Events organiser	Mike Pollard
Librarian	Gareth Garner
Newsletter editor	Sandra Day
A-V co-ordinator	Brian Rowson
Hands On	Pete Hawes
Webmaster	Rick Thompson
www.wealdenwoodturners.org.uk	

March Meeting

March 22nd 10.00 - 16.00

Gary Rance

Gary is a professional turner specialising in production turning and creative work.

<https://www.garyrance.co.uk/>