



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 50 - 22 December 2024

Hello all

Annual Report on 2024

A financial report on the year, together with a more general summary of our activities, is at the end of this bulletin. It is also attached as a document should that be easier to read.

Our constitution was last revised in January 2023, including GDPR and safeguarding policies. A copy is attached.

The Committee is willing to continue to serve for another year, and continue with their respective roles. That is:

John Whiteley - Chairman. Sales organisation.

Phil Coe - Vice Chairman. December social. Sales set-up and assistance.

Steve Fearnley- Secretary and Treasurer.

Geoff Walker - Training and open evenings. Demonstrations bookings secretary.

Martyn Weller- Video and Zoom. Cashier at sales.

Ian Temple - Assistance with video.

Lance Garrard - Reception at club nights.

Steve Cooper

Though not formally on the Committee, we should note Keith Harte's invaluable role as our lead on audio visual equipment, and Elaine and Phill's role manning the club shop.

If anyone would like to join the committee, our constitution says there should be between 5 and 9 members, so there is a vacancy available. Also there are members who would be willing to step down if a change was desired. Please let me know if you have an interest in joining the committee. Note that we very rarely meet as a group in person, conducting any necessary business that arises by email, and occasionally by Zoom meeting.

Enrolment 2025

Further details will be given in next week's bulletin. A few headlines:

- Enrolment will take place in person at the Open Evening on 2 January 2025.
- Enrolment by Bank Account Transfer will be possible online for those who cannot attend. Please don't do a BACS transfer before the New Year – it helps to keep the accounting in order if you wait until after 2 January.
- You will see from the Annual Report that our finances are sound, and therefore we have decided to maintain our subscription rate at £25 for 2025, with couples (two people living at the same address) at £35. Under 18's are free.
- We have also decided to maintain the monthly admission fee for club nights at £5. Open evenings will be free, and any training events will either be free, or at a reduced charge to cover rent if incurred.

Gallery

A couple of bowls from John Whiteley.



And a little pyrography from Martyn Weller, plus a loo roll holder. Martyn says of the sheep:

These aren't my design but I thought I would copy. The body/stand is turned as a cylinder and cut in four, the head is turned and cut in half

to make two. The legs and eyes are turned. The ears are turned then shaped with a dremel. I asked Martyn if he had made many – was he on a roll? He replied: they are bit of a wipe out, ewe should know better, no need to ram it home. Only finished one but will round up the bits for 3 more, but not flocking to do more just yet as need more heads but can't face them. I suggested people will like them so much they will be a bit sheepish about using the roll. As regards selling them, if the price is right, at least they won't feel fleeced.

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Ryedale Woodturners

Treasurer's Report 1 January 2025

I think the Club has once again moved from strength to strength.. A few headlines:

- Membership was up once again, to 80, our highest ever (72 previous best in 2008).
- Attendance at meetings remained good – averaging 44 over the year, (45 in 2023).
- Annual sales income was £4853, just £5 less than our best result in 2022.
- £4132 of this went to club members – the best return to members by over £500
- We sold over £2000 worth of wood to members, at well below market value
- We sold over £4600 of second hand tools donated or bought, at 1/3 or less of true value
- We have acquired another Coronet lathe, and a second AV projector, plus 2 stands.
- We held 3 training days and 3 extra training evenings, either free or at minimal cost.
- 51 weekly newsletters have been sent out, keeping everyone informed

Finances

Our financial position remains strong. We have made a surplus of £500 in the year, as well as purchasing a second projector and related equipment, and another Coronet Herald lathe, which we will use to replace the small Axminster. We also have a good stock of finishing products, abrasives and wood in the Club shop – well over £1000 worth.

I believe the good fortune we find ourselves in comes from a mix of increased income from attendance fees and membership (due to the record enrolment of 80 in the year, which brought in £1200 over and above the cost of core provision, i.e. demonstrators, rent and insurance), 4 successful club sales (which generated £720 commission), and the club shop (generous donations and judicious purchase of wood and second hand tools - £1750 profit) . Having a surplus during the year has allowed us to buy tools and wood from people wishing to clear out their stocks, usually due to ill health, bereavement, or moving house. Some of these have been former members, and I like to think we have been able to extend the benefit of membership to them beyond their period of attendance. I have sought to give people a fair price for clearouts, and to sell on to members at an equally fair price, whilst making a small profit for club funds, and hopefully everyone feels they have gained a bargain. Persistence in processing the cherry wood bought last year has paid off, and there is still more to come from its sale. There has been a good appetite amongst members for acquiring wood and second hand bargains.

We now have over £5000 in our accounts. I believe this allows us to maintain a £25 per year subscription for the fourth year in a row (having *reduced* it from £35 in 2019-20), and a £5 entry fee, as well as offering 2 of our meetings as free entry open evenings. I think we can probably hold sales commission at 10%, though this will be considered at each event.

We have maintained the balance of our club night programme for 2025 at 2 open evenings, 4 professional visitors, 2 IRDs, 3 in-house demonstrations, and 1 social with competition, all of which should be affordable. This mix keeps our costs down in comparison to a programme of 8 or 9 professionals a few years ago. We hope to include some additional hands on / training evenings as we did in 2024. Membership fees plus admission fees alone more than covers this core provision – though of course this will depend on how many choose to enrol in 2025.

General report on 2024

Club evenings

The two IRD evenings with Sue Harker and Richard Findley were well attended, the latter being enhanced by use of the excellent new audio visual equipment installed by the village hall. These seem to be accepted as a welcome addition to our programme, with people attending still being able to socialize and purchase items from the shop, and our being able to see demonstrators who would be unlikely to visit in person. Most of our demonstrations have also appeared, and are still available on *YouTube*. Some demonstrators have requested recordings are available for one month only, with which requests we have duly complied.

We continued our mix of professional visitors and club members for other evenings, welcoming back Emma Cook, Richard Findley, Andrew Hall and Sue Harker, with new appearances from Chris Parker and Ian Ethell, and enjoying in-house demonstrations with Martyn Weller, Keith Harte and Keith Gardam – the last two widening our scope beyond turning to include spinning, metalwork and walking sticks.

The annual club social and competition in December was once again popular, with the usual mix of activities, and a good number of entries in the three different stages of the competition. With thanks as always to Phil Coe for organising the buffet, and others for their various inputs.

We have moved to using disposable cups for refreshments at a modest cost (6p per cup), with a significant reduction in the burden for those helping out – with thanks to Ann and Megan throughout the year.

As well as our two Open Evenings in January and August, which have remained free entry, we added 3 “training” evenings, covering pyrography and sharpening, as well as a hands on evening where members could sign up for particular aspects of turning.

Audio visual provision has improved during the year, with the purchase of a second projector allowing good quality screenshots on both sides of the hall. The village hall has had a new high-quality audio-visual system installed, and by the end of the year we were able to use the sound system for demonstrations, which means the T-loop is also available for anyone wishing to tune in. It also cuts down on equipment to set-up. We could use the projection system as well, but remain uncertain whether this would be a good move, as it would involve moving the demonstrator to one side of the screen rather than being central. We may give it a tryout and seek opinions. The new system is ideal for IRDs (Interactive Remote Demonstrations), as witnessed by Richard Findley’s November demonstration. Thanks are due to Keith Harte for his considerable input and sharing of experience with all this side of our operation, and to Ian, Martyn and Randy for their assistance and interest.

We have continued to broadcast on Zoom this year, and I hesitate to say it, but I think we have just about got it right. There are usually only a handful of watchers, and the Zoom subscription was greater than total fees received (£156 out, £78 in), but I feel the service is worth maintaining, as it allows club members who cannot attend to take part in our activities.

A similar story goes with the website, which only attracts a handful of people each week (it costs £49 per year, usually with single figure visits weekly). What is important is that it gives a reference point: some of the contacts regarding workshop clearances come from the website

contact page, as well as enquiries about joining the club. A couple of new members or a good workshop clearance soon pays the fee.

Training

3 training days, two open evenings and three training evenings have all been well attended. We managed to fit three evenings in the Hall in between our normal monthly meetings, with specific topics on offer (pyrography, sharpening and bespoke lathe tuition). Though storing and shifting our club lathe stock remains a challenge, these events do allow newer members to make progress. Thanks go to Geoff Walker for organising this side of our activities, and to Andy McLaughlin and John Lund for hosting the training days.

Club sales have been hit by bad weather this year, with Martyn and I taking the decision (on the day) to cancel our stall at Filey, fearful of damage to our turning in the heavy rain that was falling and was set to continue falling throughout the weekend. I suspect we will not book Filey in 2025, with us having to pay for the stall regardless of the weather, and it never bringing in high sales, given the restriction to one stall. I doubt we will take part in Malton Food Festival in 2025 – again we only had a single stall, and were competing with lots of others for sales and attention. It was good to meet and talk to people, and the sales weren't too bad, but probably not a good return for 3 days of attendance.

Storm Bert hit our November sale in Thornton le Dale, but we pressed ahead despite the atrocious conditions and in the end managed a respectable total for the two days (£1160). This was to some extent compensated for by our September sale, where we achieved our best ever result (£2070)

Thornton Show was an enjoyable day with lots of interest in our display and in the club. I feel it is important for us to attend regardless of how much we make in sales, to raise our profile and attract new members. Thanks to Bob Ingram for organising the marquee, and everyone involved in erecting and dismantling it, then manning it during the day: well worth the extra expense for the space it provided. And to John Whiteley, Martyn Weller and others for their input in organising and manning different sales during the year.

Club Shop

The Club shop has flourished this year, taking over £8000 and making £1750 profit. All this despite our selling finishing products and abrasives at cost, cheaper than can be found online or at other suppliers, with the intention being to provide a service for members rather than make a profit. The profit has come from some generous donations of tools and wood, and sale of second hand tools at a small profit, though still about one third of new value. Note the accounts show an in-year deficit of £570 on Chestnut and Hope items, but this should be set against over £1000 worth of items in stock. Thanks to Elaine and Phill, and Geoff on occasions, for manning this service throughout the year.

Communication

The weekly bulletin has continued to appear every Sunday, (apart from 1 when I was on holiday with no computer) and is used to advertise and report on events, notify people of equipment for sale, inform readers about any woodturning developments, and showcase members' turning and activities in the photo gallery.

The Ryedale Handymag continues to provide a useful free monthly advert for us in its community events listings, and brings guests and new members to club evenings and events.

Conclusion

We continue to offer “*More than just a monthly demo*”, and I am delighted at the continuing growth and success of the club. We cater for a wide variety of people, with differing levels of expertise and interest, and offer a welcoming social atmosphere to members at our different events. Some attend almost every event we stage, others never attend meetings but follow our progress with interest; others are happy to pay the membership subscription to support us and receive the weekly bulletin.

I look forward to Ryedale Woodturners’ continuing success in 2025. I know some members have left us and will not renew in 2025, but I do hope that most current members will sign up for another year, and that we can continue to attract others to join us in our obsession with wood and woodturning.

Steve Fearnley

22 December 2024

RYEDALE WOODTURNERS ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 1 January - 31 December 2024

RECEIPTS	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	21Jul-Dec	2022	2023	2024	Notes for 2024
Club sales takings	£753.60	£1,107.88	£0.00	£737.75	£4,858.50	£4,387.95	£4,853.50	Filey cancelled.
Membership fees	£974.00	£1,140.00	£0.00	£42.00	£1,275.00	£1,584.00	£1,858.00	80 members
Attendance fees	£1,864.20	£1,215.00	£727.00	£782.00	£1,829.00	£2,199.00	£2,383.00	Inc. £78 Zoom
Shop sales: wood	£140.00				£705.50	£1,090.22	£2,041.71	Donated/ bought
Shop sales: other						£1,635.00	£2,018.70	Chestnut, Hope
Sales: 2nd hand tools							£4,621.00	Donated/ bought
Grants	£150.00	£1,292.96	£289.00	£0.00	£739.00	£0.00	£120.00	event insurance
Donations inc. tools	£203.00	£91.00	£0.00	£480.20	£45.00	£1,198.67		Inc. in sales
Interest		[1.33]	£0.28	£0.04	£0.85	£3.52	£15.24	Savings account
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£4,086.56	£4,846.84	£1,016.28	£2,041.99	£9,452.85	£12,098.36	£17,911.15	

PAYMENTS	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	21Jul-Dec	2022	2023	2024	Notes for 2024
Sales payouts to members					£3,585.40	£3,503.28	£4,131.65	
Speakers	£1,392.00	£832.40	£1,030.00	£200.00	£1,185.00	£1,337.40	£1,481.35	4 Pro, 2 IRD
Venue Hire (Demos, sales)	£830.00	£470.40	£0.00	£328.00	£1,113.00	£738.00	£1,452.00	Hall & sales
Insurance (Zurich)	£174.80	£177.82	£180.94	£0.00	£184.16	£222.77	£267.19	£5m pub. liability
Wood for re-sale				£300.00	£540.00	£1,618.80	£763.00	Inc. donated
Club shop stock						£2,104.59	£2,589.05	Chestnut, Hope,
Second hand tools						£843.59	£3,575.00	Clearances
Equipment purchase	£24.99	£1,426.40	£144.97	£377.78	£2,543.15	£1,124.18	£2,348.48	Lathe + AV
Zoom & web hosting			£143.88	£0.00	£144.00	£210.32	£205.06	Web & Zoom
Prizes and raffle	£217.73	£222.39	£0.00	£36.00	£179.64	£75.25	£52.61	Dec + raffles
AWGB Membership	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	
SUMUP (1.69%)					£46.53	£77.69	£89.42	Card reader
Consumables	£20.60	£15.55	£30.36	£0.00	£170.09	£66.84	£118.49	Card, bags, etc
Catering expenses	£118.21	£142.00	£0.00	£115.00	£184.00	£260.90	£396.73	Tea, coffee etc
Sundries	£150.00	£20.00	£0.00	£0.00	£127.99	£0.00	£0.00	?
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£2,973.33	£3,351.96	£1,575.15	£1,401.78	£10,047.96	£12,231.61	£17,518.03	

In year Surplus/deficit	£1,113.23	£1,494.88	-£558.87	£640.21	-£595.11	-£133.25	£393.12	
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Banking

Current account	£2,285.70	£3,770.06	£3,216.27	£4,371.81	£3,692.82	£3,134.07	£3,535.10	At 22/12/2024
Savings account	£876.46	£877.79	£878.07	£878.11	£878.96	£1,013.49	£1,028.73	At 22/12/24
Cash in hand	£26.05	£35.24	£29.88	£51.00	£134.03	£425.00	£401.85	At 22/12/24
Payments pending				-£536.49				
Closing balance	£3,188.21	£4,683.09	£4,124.22	£4,764.43	£4,705.81	£4,572.56	£4,965.68	At 22/12/2024
<i>Opening balance</i>	<i>£2,074.98</i>	<i>£3,188.21</i>	<i>£4,683.09</i>	<i>£4,124.22</i>	<i>£5,300.92</i>	<i>£4,705.81</i>	<i>£4,572.56</i>	At 1/1/24
<i>Difference</i>	<i>£1,113.23</i>	<i>£1,494.88</i>	<i>-£558.87</i>	<i>£640.21</i>	<i>-£595.11</i>	<i>-£133.25</i>	<i>£393.12</i>	

Members enrolled	40	34	3 new	37	54	72	80
Membership fee	£25.00	£35.00	Waived	£14.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00