

**SOUTHERN FELLOWSHIP OF WOODWORKERS**

**Newsletter**

Issue 7 January 2009



***Who's the Gadget Man***

***AGM Minutes inside***

***Restoring a Record No 8 Plane***

***www.sfwoodworkers.co.uk***

## **Officers and Committee Members**

Chairman	Colin Waters	Tel. 01252 677909 email: colinandlesley@sky.com
Secretary	Roger Hardwick	Tel. 01252 376797 email. rogerhardwick@btinternet.com.
Membership secretary	Roger Hardwick	See above
Treasurer	David Allaway	Tel. 01189693229 email d.allaway412@btinternet.com
Committee	Robert Hayden	Tel. 01420 483434(work), Mobile 07887822196 email; Robert.hayden@de.mod.uk
	Terry Hiscox	Tel. 01276 34568 email: terryhiscox@btinternet.com
	Malcolm Mackenzie	Tel: 01252 540265

## **Chairman's Bit**

Thank you for electing me to the post of Chairman. Some of you will know me from my role as organiser of the Summer Visits which I took over from Andy Swain last year. I still have not spoken to all of you but hope to get to know you all over the coming months.

In the immediate future, I hope to concentrate on initiatives to increase the membership as we are barely viable with 50 members, if we want to do the things that we have done in the past, for the current subscription levels. I know the committee are working hard to deliver the programme within the current budget. So the answer is we need more woodworkers to join us and we need your support at our Winter and Summer Meetings!

The committee has recently agreed with the Furniture and Cabinetmaking magazine that they will promote the Fellowship by including a "News" article in a forthcoming edition followed by a longer feature article on the Fellowship in a later edition. This will include some images of members' furniture so if you have any images of your work please let Roger or I have copies (digital preferred). Anyway, make sure you get your copies of F&C to see our articles.

As part of the effort to bring the Fellowship before the broader community of woodworkers in the South I am hoping that we can have a stand at the Classic Hand Tools show at West Dean College on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June. Last year about 400 woodworkers attended the event – one of them was me and I can recommend the show as well worth a visit. I am currently negotiating the details of our attendance with Classic Hand Tools but in principle they are keen for us to attend.

If you have any ideas on how we can promote the Fellowship and make our existence known to the woodworking fraternity then please let me have your thoughts. Finally, I shall continue to organise the Summer Visits so I look forward to seeing you at those – the programme can be found in this edition of the Newsletter.

Colin.

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**Deadline for next Newsletter is 10th April , 2009.**

Email to:- [sfwoodworkers@btinternet.com](mailto:sfwoodworkers@btinternet.com)  
Are you going to the International Woodworking Exhibition in February. If so how about sending in a report on it.

**Subscriptions**

A few members have yet to renew their subscriptions. Please can you do so soon.

*On the subject of subscriptions, I would like feedback on the view to setting up direct debits to collect subscriptions. The direct debits would be taken in January rather than requesting them at the AGM in November. Feedback to the Secretary please.*

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**NEW MEMBERS**

We are pleased to welcome Raymond Hastings of High Wycombe. Raymond runs his own small business doing bespoke joinery and renovations in people's homes in South Bucks.

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**Members' Welfare**

Several members are now deciding that driving to evening meetings is too much for them. If you live near other members or pass close by on route to Mytchett please offer to collect them so they still have the opportunity to attend the Fellowship meetings.

Roy Benfield has made the decision to resign from the Fellowship. Although Roy's interest have moved over to Art, much of his reason to resign stems from problems with hips and elbows but also he no longer is able to drive in the dark.

Bill Griffiths also finds it difficult to drive more than a few miles and doesn't like driving in the dark. Although he remains a member of the Fellowship he will not be able to attend unless given a lift.

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**FOR SALE AND WANTS:**

If you want to sell any woodworking items or are looking for one the this is the place to advertise. Adds are Free so take advantage of it. I promise not to bag all the best bargains before they go to print.

**FOR SALE:**

Woodwork Combination Machine by Tendo Tools of Belgium  
This machine can be used as a rip saw, a planer/ thicknesser, a slot morticer, a spindle moulder and a cross cut saw with a sliding carriage. Made of cast iron with machined surfaces, has a 2hp single phase motor and complete with all accessories, fence and associated tools. I have just fitted a new re-sharpened 10" saw blade and include a spare planer blade and morticer cutters.

For sale at £500-00 ono

Contact Nick Woodage  
on 01730894418.  
Mobile: 07850408161



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**Wanted**

No items listed.

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**Tools for Self Reliance**

This is a charity working with local organisations in some of the poorest countries in Africa, Tools for Self Reliance refurbishes tools in the UK and then sends them to communities in Africa. We support rural artisans and craftworkers with tools and training so they can improve their businesses. <http://www.tfsr.org>

They are looking for a volunteer to collect tools for them. Is there a member who would take on the business of collecting surplus tools in the Southampton area. They have a collector at Reading but there maybe someone else nearer. I have a few more details and phone numbers if anyone would like to get in touch with Terry Hiscox.

## **MEMBERS ITEMS**

### **Gadget Man**

I am affectionately known in the family as gadget man. I am in the vanguard of those people who in marketing terms are labelled “early adopters”. The gadgets I buy are not confined to woodworking as an avid golfer I have over fifty “toys “ ranging from a £700 “Explonar” to “Two pegs and a bit of string” to line up putts.

Therefore it came as no surprise that I have transferred those acquisitive skills to my other passion woodwork. I haven’t resorted to counting them but I have a few. The problem is distinguishing the tools from the toys.



Nonetheless I thought I would give you my thoughts on one item I recently purchased which impressed me; that is the Veritas Dovetail Saw Guide. Recently I made a small hall table for my sister and her husband which incorporates two small drawers that meant four half blind dovetails and four through dovetails. Not a particularly testing job after all I have, in my time cut dovetails of one sort or another. I have even spent a week doing nothing else with David Charlesworth down in Biddeford Devon.

I decided to have a practise since it is sometime since I last cut a set. The results were ok but not as good as I hoped. The problem was that now I am in my seventh decade and have had cataract operations my eyesight is not as good as it used to be, so sawing to a line without the aid of back lighting and a magnifying lamp is not easy. Enter the Veritas Dovetail Saw Guide, the build quality as with all Veritas products is excellent. The guide can be purchased in two types 1: 6 for softwoods and 1: 8 for hardwoods. The guide clamps over the end of the wood for both tails and pins and holds the saw at the correct angle for cutting pins and tails. The guide has a low friction plastic membrane behind which is a rare earth magnet and this holds the saw in the correct plane without interfering with the cutting action. I have a flush cutting saw for trimming dowels and this works exceptionally well with the tool. I have made a right angled bracket which clamps in the vise and to which I clamp the front and sides of the drawer to mark out the tails and pins. For half blind dovetails I mark from the

tails to the pins, for through I mark the pins to the tails. One thing you can be sure of is that all of the angles are the same.

Neil Hiscox.

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### **Restoring a Record No 8 Plane**

Some time ago I decided that a no 8 plane would be useful because I often have to deal with long lengths of timber. After watching several go on ebay for over £100, I bought one for £95 (including the postage) which turned out to be a collection of parts that were evidently not from the same original plane as they would not fit together.

The approach I take when restoring a “new” plane is to clean the threads of all the bolts with an electric drill and a wire brush attachment. This removes any dirt and corrosion making the bolts run very smoothly and you can feel exactly how far to tighten them and avoid the damage caused by over-tightening.

The frog was then flattened with grit paper on float glass. The two front parts (that sit on the edge of the mouth) were so badly out of square that I had to resort to a more drastic measure as the grit paper could not have removed sufficient material. The sensitive among you may have to look away at this point, but I used a mini-grinder. In my defense, they can be a precise tool when handled carefully.

The blade was badly worn so I bought a Ray Iles replacement, which takes an excellent edge. The new blade was thicker and would not go back into the plane without pressing on the leading edge of the mouth. I made two metal shims (each about 1mm thick) which I inserted under the rear of the frog. This raised the pitch angle of the frog and allowed the blade to pass through the mouth without having to alter the geometry of the mouth. I filed the usual 15 degree bevel on the inside front edge of the mouth to avoid a shaving trap. The cap iron and the lever cap were cleaned and tuned in the usual way (but you know all about that process anyway).

There was an excessive amount of backlash and part of the trouble was due to wear on the brass adjuster. I removed this and (with small and careful hammer blows) peined over the end collar so that it held the adjustment yoke more tightly. It goes without saying that care is needed here but the backlash was significantly reduced.

The old varnish on the handles was lifting off in long shards – not what you need for hours of planning so I stripped off the finish and sanded them before applying some stain to bring back the colour to something like original. I then applied several thin coats of Danish oil to seal the surface. The handles were loose (due to wood shrinkage) so I shortened the bolts with the mini-grinder, using a v file to reinstate the ends of the threads.

The largest task was lapping the sole. It was so convex that I could press on each end and lift up the opposite end by 1-2 mm. I spent many hours hunched over working it back and forth on the grit paper sweating like a galley-slave not making much progress. This was the low point of

the restoration and the little nagging doubts crept in like “am I really going to use this big old thing or will this just be a white elephant” and “serves me right for being too mean to buy a Lie Nielsen”. Eventually I had to resort to more drastic measures (the sensitive might have to look away again) I used a belt sander to remove some metal from the worst spot. This made a great difference and I set about more galley-slave swiping with renewed vigour. After several more evenings I had the sole to an acceptable flatness with a fine polished finish.

The result is that this plane is a joy to use. Despite its size it can take off a very fine shaving and it has been very useful for many projects. An unexpected use for it is on the shooting board. The greater mass, combined with a very sharp blade and a smooth sole makes it the easiest plane to use for shooting. So do not be intimidated by these larger hand planes and consider getting one.

Raymond Hastings

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### **VIDEO REVIEW – French Polishing**

I like to think I was instrumental in persuading the Fellowship Committee to start the Video Library, and so felt it incumbent on me to start borrowing a few for viewing. So, rather than work though my lunch-break this gave me a brief escape to watch and eat at the same time.

I will preface my thoughts by recommending to you all to watch any of these recordings, if only because you can either learn something new, or even a different slant to something you already know. Plus, if you are particularly familiar with a certain tool, joint, technique, etc then you have doubled your advantage because it is most satisfying to get your knowledge reaffirmed, but with the added bonus that you can follow the demonstration easier and so when new materials and techniques pop-up they become far easy to remember and learn.

So with this premise in mind I settled down to watch my fourth offering...which is when the idea of reviewing it arrived. Fortunately I will be brief as I never made notes as I watched, and you will discover why I missed a second viewing – thankfully !

“French Polishing” by Philippa & Alan was billed as a “step by step” guide to achieve “the perfect finish”. In reality it was 54 minutes of pure purgatory. It was one of those experiences you felt obliged to sit through it the hope it would get better as time went on. It didn't. Even clinging to the vain hope I would be shown a few gems of polishing technique and so one small spark of an idea would lodge itself in my brain proved just too elusive. On recollection there was new information to be practiced but irritated by the whole experience I must put down my lapses of memory to attention deficit, or as the youth of today say, “I just lost it” !

If you ever wanted to demonstrate how not to make a video showing techniques of practical work ...then this video is for you.

First they must either live next to a very busy motorway, or their air extraction system needs oiling, as the background noise on the sound-track is to put it mildly – disturbing. Then there is the reverse demonstration, where I show you how to polish the wood, then how to prepare the rubber, followed by the materials to use, interspersed with the finished product.



Ah ! I must also remind you to look out for the lingering glorious face close-ups of both of them. Why ? I didn't find either of them in the least bit attractive so why did I need to study their mugs ? Was it to help me in identify the face of concentration ?

As for demonstrating to me ones technical expertise – well that idea went to pot. It's important not to rubber over the same polished piece again whilst it's wet, nor to ...etc, etc.....so i will contradict myself and demonstrate that poor technique and just hope you are not watching me. As for sanding technique ...let me just show you how to sand against the grain. And, I must also show you how to cross-contaminate all your materials by dipping in the same brush into every one of my new pots of liquids.

This pair also needs to invest in some decent workshop lighting. The difficulty of seeing what was happening due to the poor lighting, compounded by the use of so much dark wood with similarly dark polishes finally pushed me over the limit. I guess this is a radical idea but why not try to demonstrate on a nice piece of white Sycamore out in the full glare of daylight...so i can see what you are doing ! Eh ? Que ?

So as I say, please do borrow this video especially if you are new to French Polishing and let us know how you got on, and please bring the finished product to the next Members Projects – we are all in need of a good laugh !

**Robert Hayden**

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### **Exotic Timber Supplies Westonbirt Arboretum Gloucestershire**

I picked up a flyer for Westonbirt Arboretum some months ago, and noted that they have regular monthly timber sales (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in the month). So being a tad interested in trees, as well as timber, we set out on the designated day to inspect said timber.

Now I must preface this article by reassuring you all that I am neither 'mean' nor 'tight' when it come to getting my moneys worth – but a visit to Westonbirt tested my values ! It is £8 per adult (£3 kids) entry fee, and given it was pouring with rain when I arrived, and was still chucking it down when I left, the opportunity to get 'ones moneys worth' and wander through the 600 acres of woods to admire the autumn foliage was somewhat restricted. One could not even take refuge in the proverbial teashop as the first batch of visitors has taken up residence and were not contemplating surrendering their chair for anyone – even though they had overdosed on tea. They merely chose to lay prostrate and sleepy in the warm humid atmosphere created by all the soggy people in their muddy boots.

Now in case you don't know Westonbirt is owned by The Forestry Commission and so as it is a public body one must ask why one has to pay to get in? I suspect it's one of those venues that are purposely overpriced to reduce visitor numbers, but to maintain the same income. And I in particular wonder how come to maintain an enormous National Trust mansion an entry fee is similarly priced – but where is the cost in maintaining trees? Doesn't God do most of the

work..... free?

And it was also brought to my attention (by a couple of tea guzzling ‘trespassers’) that two public footpaths pass through the site. Yes you heard me correctly. Nearby roadside car parking will provide you easy (AND FREE) access into the Arboretum. So if you intend to walk the 17 miles of paths in the Arboretum it stands to reason that a further short walk will be no hardship.

Similarly, should you feel adverse to contributing to Government coffers on such a grand scale, it is worth telling you that as you approach the paying kiosk you will pass the car park exit, and so if you choose this by mistake (easily done if you, like me, are new to the site), then you can drive in free ! You may find this good value, and particularly rewarding if you can only sit in your car and watch the torrential rain on your windscreen.....

To add to my chagrin Westonbirt boasts an extensive plant nursery, and so I somehow invested a further £60 on saplings I didn’t know I needed !

Well now I’ve had my rant, let’s move onto the timber yard. The Yard has been run for a number of years by a group of volunteers (mainly woodworkers), but does not have any proper organisation to it – but with the cooperation of the FC promised its coming soon. All timber on sale comes from the Arboretum and so you can be assured of some truly exotic timbers. Unfortunately what you cannot be assured of is what particular species of timber it is. For instance they have over 40 species of Oak on site, but when the logs come in to the yard from the woods they are merely marked up as “oak”. You may know that Westonbirt is renowned for its autumnal show of colour from the extensive maple collection – but the plank I bought was merely labelled “maple”. Provenance and knowledge I suggest would attract more custom, and could give a premium to one choosing to buy timber here, but it’s not to be. It appears one half of the organisation does not want to sign up to the wishes of the other half.

All timber is sawn up by a hired in mobile bandsaw, and they have a small kiln to season it. It is cut into normal thicknesses of 1½ ins etc, but if you wanted a specific thickness for a job and were prepared to wait they could probably accommodate the request. Timber was stacked under a lean-to, so at outdoor humidity. Stock was not vast, nor species wide, supply being dependent upon the last storm event. They had Yew, Maple, Poplar, Larch, Pine, Box and Laburnum (may have been Laurel) for turning, and a lot of Oak. Prices were reasonable and they were open to haggling, so a piece of Yew about 1 ins thick and nearly the size of a door which I expect was worth about £30-£45 could be negotiated down to £25 ...but then I remembered I hadn’t got my roof-rack fitted. If you wish to discuss prior to your visit I have a telephone contact number.

So in summary, only worth a special visit if you are in the vicinity and like arboretums, unless you are seeking a specific unique timber or need to prove sustainability – and of course in you have the Missus on board for company want to add £16 to the price of your wood !

Robert Hayden

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## **Member's Survey:**

*I would have liked to include the results of the members survey in this newsletter. However, so far I've only had 14 returns. This is only 28% of the membership and therefore is not a true representation of the membership's views. Can I therefore stress that if you have not completed the questionnaire, that you do so soon and send/email it to the secretary.*

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## **Minutes of AGM held on 27th November 2008**

### **Present:**

Roger Hardwick - Secretary  
Clive Clarke - Membership Secretary  
David Allaway - Treasurer  
Other Committee members:  
Robert Hayden, Malcolm Mackenzie

Eleven ordinary members.

Apologies: Colin Water, Robin Hart, Terry Hiscox, Neil Hiscox, and Raymond Hastings.

Sadly missed 28 members.

### **Minutes of last AGM meeting.**

These were accepted.

### **Secretary's Report**

It's now been three years that the Fellowship has been running without the formal leadership of a Chairman. I still personally feel the Fellowship does need a Chairman and I'm pleased we have a nominee at this AGM. Despite not having a chairman I hope you would agree that the committee has done a very good job of running the Fellowship.

As you know we've managed to run the Fellowship by splitting the responsibilities within the committee. Terry Hiscox has co-ordinated the winter programme and Colin Waters the summer visits. At last years AGM David Allaway came on to the committee as Treasurer which reduced the burden on Clive, who stayed on as Membership Secretary. Clive, now that he has served the Fellowship for 10 years has decided he will not be standing for re-election. Terry has stated that he is willing to do one more year before resigning, which means we will be looking for someone to take on finding speakers for the winter programme. Andrew Swain who co-ordinated the Summer visit prior to Colin taking over has now moved to the Orkneys, so I don't think we can expect to see him very often but he is still keeping on his membership. This means that we have 6 committee members standing for re-election. To function properly the committee should consist of 8, therefore we do need 2 more to be nominated.

For our Thursday evening meetings we've had a variety of Speakers. Some speakers are able to do demonstrations, such as Chris Hyde on Marquetry and while we would prefer meetings with demonstrations, not all speakers can do so and therefore we have to rely on PowerPoint shows. However, we are doing our best to encourage speakers to bring along display items to enhance any PowerPoint presentations.

For the summer visits three were very well attended, but the visit to Rycote only saw Colin and myself making the effort. This was very disappointing as Chris Hyde had made a special effort for our visit.

It has been pointed out to me that poor attendance of the last two evening meetings could have been improved if the profile of the speakers had been made know prior to the meetings. The visit of Nick Barberton at the last meeting being a case in point whereby the advertised programme did not make him sound very interesting, but for those that attended it was a fascinating talk. Although I had included the website of the speakers in the programme, I'll will take this on board and endeavour to give more details in future. I will say though that the meetings are always on the 4th Thursday of the month, September to April, and the Fellowship does need your support, each month.

I don't know if many of you have been using the Website. Since setting it up I've not had much feedback. I'll admit I don't update it very often and it does needs some improvement but I'm no expert on websites and I would more than welcome someone else taking it on.

Membership is down on last year and everyone needs to make an effort to get new members into the Fellowship if we are to remain viable. Some members are also finding it difficult to attend meetings because they are no longer comfortable driving at night. I would ask all members to check the members list to see if other members live nearby or on your route to Mytchett with a view to enabling members to attend that otherwise would not be able to.

Lastly, you were all recently sent a new questionnaire to complete. Thank you, to all those that have already returned it. If you haven't please do so soon as it does provide valuable information for the committee in planning the programme.

**Terry's report on the evening meetings is as follows;**

Since the last AGM we have had six meetings here at the Mytchett Centre for four of them we had speakers and the remaining two were member evenings

Jan 2008 was a members evening when Colin Walters showed us how he rebuilt his garage adding a second floor to provide a very smart workshop, (there might be a visit there next year). Stuart Austin talked about cutting mortise joints and jigs and David Baron demonstrated his Festo Domino Jointer.

Feb 2008 Chris Hyde from Rycote College now BCUC gave a demonstration on marquetry and parquetry with the saw donkey and hot glue etc.

Mar 2008 Stephen Owen showed us his work over a period of his working life, and talked about where inspiration comes from and also the new school workshop he was building (which was burnt down shortly after, and I believe he is rebuilding it).

Apr 2008 A second members evening with Mike Pattinson displaying a very nice small table he had made from some spare material, Malcolm Mackenzie talked about and showed a model brewers dray cart he had made, Peter Guyett discussed band saw blades and cutting radius and Martin Chung brought along his large collection of Lie-Nielson planes.

Sept 2008 The winter talks started with James Ryan from the Barnsley Workshop on the development of the workshop and the training of young craftsmen sharing his view on the attitude to the quality of work he expects from students.

Oct 2008 Nick Barberton, a different type of woodworker altogether, showed us the work he had done in Australia and how he developed it back here down in the New Forest where he now works making gates and benches; Along with an interesting style of staking stools and different types of textured carved bowls.

#### **Membership Secretary's Report**

The Fellowship has had one new member since the last AGM. However the overall trend is going down. The membership for 2007/8 was 55 members.

Clive stated that it doesn't seem like he'd been doing the job for 10 years. How time flies! Clive will continue to assist with the membership administration while a handover is agreed.

The message is we need some more members. The question is:

How do we attract new members?

How do we make people aware that the Fellowship exists?

The leaflets that the Fellowship do print, can give any amount of information about us but unless they are distributed to the public they are useless - and the members present were asked again to do their bit in circulating the leaflets.

One element of publicity that the Fellowship has been offered recently is to have a write up with photographs in the Furniture and Cabinet maker magazine. The Committee plan to make the most of this opportunity.

Much discussion went on regarding benefits to encourage new members. Ideas such as free membership for the first year, either free subscription or free meeting entry or both. Some members actively supported this idea, whilst a few couldn't see the benefits - though Robert reminded the meeting that all that the Fellowship would loose is the cost of tea & biscuits for the night!

The idea of being able to negotiate discounts for members with various suppliers was also mentioned. However, this has already been tried but due to the small membership and therefore low potential sales volumes we had no success on this matter.

It was mentioned by Stuart that woodworkers tend to be loners, hiding away in their workshops and therefore don't always feel comfortable in larger groups. Members need to enlighten them of the benefits in sharing information with fellow woodworkers.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

A Receipts & Expenditure Summary Account for the period 15 November 2007 to 27 November 2008 was circulated together with a financial analysis of the attendance during the year at Meetings and on Visits. Comparisons were shown for the years from 2005 to

2008 as it was over this period that the increased subscription of £10 had been in operation.

Over all the financial position is healthy with the Reserve Account showing a balance of £1091 and the Current Account showing a balance of £758. The Committee has managed to keep Administrative Costs low. The ability to produce the Newsletter on our own laser printer has been a considerable advantage. However, insurance is an uncontrollable cost that represents c40% of our total Administrative Costs. Nevertheless it continues onwards and upwards increasing by 7% to £136 for 2009.

The Net Income for the year was £106.29 compared with £437 in the previous year. The main reason for this was due to the declining attendance at Fellowship Events. Only Members Meetings produced surplus income because speaker's fees and expenses were not incurred. This gives the Committee cause for concern and it is essential for numbers attending to be increased by an average of 50%, if the Fellowship is to remain viable as a worthwhile activity.

The Treasurer thanked Stuart Austin for auditing the Accounts.

Note: A copy of the Accounts has been appended to these Minutes

#### **Approval of Accounts**

Accounts approved - Proposed by Mike Pattison, Seconded by Jock Ross.  
Accounts audited by Stuart Austin.

#### **Subscriptions**

To remain at £10.00

The membership were asked if the current method of having a low subscription and charging for meetings still preferred to having a high subscription and no meeting fee. Overall majority were in agreement to keep the current arrangement.

#### **Election of Committee members**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Member nominated</b>	<b>Nominated by-</b>	<b>Seconded by -</b>
<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Colin Waters</b>	<b>Peter Guyett</b>	<b>Roger Hardwick</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Roger Hardwick</b>	<b>Julian Hatcliff</b>	<b>Mike Pattinson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>David Allaway</b>	<b>Clive Clarke</b>	<b>Stuart Austin</b>
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>VACANT</b>		
<b>1 committee member</b>	<b>Terry Hiscox</b>	<b>Robert Hayden</b>	<b>Stuart Austin</b>
<b>2 committee member</b>	<b>Malcolm Mackenzie</b>	<b>Roger Hardwick</b>	<b>Julian Hatcliff</b>
<b>3 committee member</b>	<b>Robert Hayden</b>	<b>Mike Pattinson</b>	<b>Bob Hodgkinson</b>
<b>4 committee member</b>	<b>VACANT</b>		

**Election of Auditor**

**Stuart Austin has agreed to be auditor. Nominated by Roger Hardwick, Seconded by David Allaway**

**Financial Statement for the Period 15 November 2007 to 27 November 2008**

**Membership Income**

Subscriptions Received (49) £490.00  
Tool Sales etc £19.50

**Total Income from Subscription & Sales £509.50**

Net Income from Membership £186.97  
Net Income from Meetings at Mytchett Centre £ (89.51)  
Net Income from Summer Visits £8.83  
Total Net Income/(Loss) from Events £ (80.68)  
**Total Net Income for the Period £106.29**

**Membership Costs**

Insurance £126.00  
Printing, Stationery, Postage etc £112.54  
Hall Hire - AGM £30.60  
Newsletters £53.39

**Total Membership Costs £322.53**

**Current Account**

Balance at Start of Year £651.77  
Net Income for the Period £106.29  
Balance at Period End £758.06

**Reserve Account**

Balance at Start of Year £1067.46  
Interest Received £24.29  
Balance at Period End £1091.75

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**Public Events with Furniture and Woodworking Interest**

**NB It is advisable to check dates and times with the venue before travelling**

TATHS , Tony Murland tool sale. Tools can be viewed at [www.antiquetools.co.uk](http://www.antiquetools.co.uk)

**Matthew Burt: Idea to Object**

Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts, Farnham  
The exhibition is until 21 February 2009 and Matthew hosts free tours of the exhibition from 11:30am on 17 January and 7 February 2009. Call 01747 820511 to book.  
Matthew’s furniture designs reflect his respect for the raw material and its organic

possibilities, as well as care for the long tradition of arts and craft design. The exhibition features new works and archive materials demonstrating the transformation from idea to object.

To quote Matthew “In all my pieces my aim is to create an object that is enduring in its design and in its construction. I also set out to support the culture that is makers and making. In my workshop we'll use tools from the biblical to the digital and we'll chew it with our teeth if necessary to bring the object out of the idea. We'll wax it with words in order to reach our market and hopefully sell it so that we can continue our work.”

The exhibition features more than 20 different pieces that have been built in the last year. There are a selection of chairs, tables, cabinets and various other pieces on show. I think my favorite piece is his coopered carver chair, though it is a difficult choice. I note that all the makers and other assistance are acknowledged which is also very nice to see.

A new book on Matthew's career as a designer-maker has been written by Simon Olding, Director of the CSC, with essays by the artist and pictures of many of the pieces on display.

For more information the web site is [www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk](http://www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk) or visit Matthews own site at [www.matthewburt.com](http://www.matthewburt.com)

### **Ernest Gimson and the Arts & Crafts Movement' exhibition**

Leicester's New Walk Museum & Art Gallery between 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008 - 1<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

Ernest Gimson was born in Leicester, in 1864, the son of Josiah Gimson, engineer and iron founder, owner of the Vulcan Works and is recognised as one of the most inspired designers in the British Arts and Crafts movement.

The exhibition contains Leicester's collection of his furniture, metalwork, embroideries and architectural drawings, together with examples of pieces by Ernest and Sidney Barnsley and Peter Waals. The Barnsley brothers and set up a workshop with Gimson near Cirencester in 1900 and like William Morris believed in designing, making and selling their products

Gimson studied rush seating and woodturning with local craftsmen in order to improve his skills and there are several chairs in the exhibition.

The exhibition also includes mid-20th century pieces inspired by Arts & Crafts traditions including work by Edward Barnsley, Gordon Russell and the US architect, Frank Lloyd Wright.

More Contemporary work is included in the exhibition to illustrate the continuing tradition of craftwork and design with furniture by Nicholas Hobbs, Simon Pengelly and David Colwell, turned chairs by Neville Neal and plasterwork and metalwork by Chris Vickers

There are a series of talks and demonstrations including a Demonstration by



chairmaker Lawrence Neal (Neville's son), who makes the original Gimson design rush seated chairs

#### 2009 SHOW SCHEDULE

February 6-8th	The International Woodworking Exhibition 2009	Alexandra Palace Ticket hotline 08448488822 <a href="http://www.getwoodworking.com">www.getwoodworking.com</a>
April 3/4th	Yandle's Spring Woodworking show	<a href="http://www.yandle.co.uk">www.yandle.co.uk</a>
May 15-17th	The Craft and design experience	Fawley Court, Henley-on-Thames. <a href="http://www.craftexperience.co.uk">www.craftexperience.co.uk</a>
June 6-7th	Classic Hand Tools Show Top tool makers, woodworkers and your own Southern Fellowship Of Woodworkers will have a stand demonstrating an aspect of member's work. Please come along and support us at this event. More details will be circulated as they become available.	West Dean Gardens, West Sussex
August 16th - 25th	Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design	Cheltenham College.
September 11-12th	Yandle's Autumn show	<a href="http://www.yandle.co.uk">www.yandle.co.uk</a>
September 11-13th	Bentley Annual Woodfair	Bentley Wildfowl and Motor Museum. Lewes <a href="http://www.bentley.org.uk/#/woodfair/4525168793">www.bentley.org.uk/#/woodfair/4525168793</a>
November 6- 8th	D&M Toolshow	Kempton Park Racecourse, Surrey.

English Heritage Open Days in mid-September are expected to include: **Ercol Furniture Ltd, Princes Risborough**: Guided tours of this purpose built energy efficient manufacturing plant and showroom, located eight miles from the historic furniture town of High Wycombe. (**Ercol Furniture**, Summerleys Road, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, HP27 9PX)

#### FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

All winter programme meetings are held at the Mytchett community centre.  
FouthStart time 7:30pm.

January 22nd 2009

This is a members evening and our speakers will be Colin Walters (Chairman) to talk about a drop-leaf dining table he has been making. Next will be Robert Eager. Robert is the son of a neighbour to David Allaway. Robert will describe the methods he used in a GCSE project to design and manufacture a relatively complex table/storage cabinet. The design was developed and refined using CAD techniques which were then translated for component manufacture using CNC equipment. The talk will include discussion on the difficulties which were encountered and illustrated by reference to the finished table that Robert will bring with him. After the break Peter Guyett will share some thoughts on how to modify a standard honing guide to achieve perfection on the sharpened edge, and comments on his discussion with David Charlsworth.

February 26th

John and Louise Cropper. Furniture designers and makers. [www.jlcropper.co.uk](http://www.jlcropper.co.uk).  
John and Louise both been trained in furniture making at Rycotewood College in Oxfordshire, they worked for designer makers for two to three years before setting up their own workshop in 1984.

They work in a converted farm building in the Oxfordshire countryside not far from Henley-on-Thames. They enjoy working with both solid wood and also with veneers, the latter coming more to the fore as we were asked to design more for the type of environment.

Louise cuts all the marquetry work and they try to incorporate this into the overall design rather than have it just as decoration. Louise cuts mainly for their own designs but is happy to work with other designers and makers on their own projects. From the initial meeting with the client through to the delivery of the finished piece they control all the processes in house, the exception being carving as they feel this is a specialised field in itself. John and Louise also design pieces for exhibitions throughout the year and examples of these and other work can be seen on their website.

March 26th TBC

April 23rd Member's evening.

### **Summer Visits**

***May 23rd***

**Member's Workshop visit at the home of John Cain (limited to 10 people)**

John has kindly offered to host a visit to his workshop and to talk about the furniture he has made. John is a highly skilled craftsman and has some interesting tools and work to show to members.

John's wife, Jan, has offered to provide lunch to the group and we can talk about woodworking over lunch and into the afternoon.

147 Worting Road, Basingstoke, Hants, RG22 6NN.

***June 17th a.m.***

Wycombe Museum, Chair making in the Chilterns. (Min 10) 10:30 start.  
Catherine Griggs, Furniture Curator will give an illustrated talk covering the history of chair making and describe how to discern a Chiltern chair. There will also be a tour of furniture exhibits and chairs kept in the store room.  
Priory Avenue, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 6PX.  
Packed lunch can be eaten in the Museum gardens if weather is fine or study rooms if not.

### ***June 17th p.m.***

Stewart Linford; Furniture maker.  
Stewart started building traditional country chairs in 1976 in a small workshop at Little Kingshill, Bucks. These were of classic English Windsor Chair designs known as the Windsor Range. Later, complementary tables were added. At the end of the 1970's a less elaborate selection of tables and chairs were introduced called the Farmhouse Range. During the mid 1980's cabinet making was added to the repertoire, thus creating the Cabinet Range. Today the company has over 40 people including turners, wood machinists, cabinet makers, chair makers and polishers as well as administration and support staff.  
Kitchener Works, Kitchener Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 2SJ

### ***July 15th a.m.***

Hugo Egleston Furniture  
**Hugo Egleston** established his workshop in 1980 after training at the London College of Furniture, and then working for three years in the workshop of Sandy Mackilligin, Surrey. The main influences on his furniture are the work of English 18th Century Cabinet makers, which he thinks has never been surpassed in this country, and the Arts and Crafts makers, especially Edward Barnsley. He believes the study of nature is very useful for the designer, although he seldom uses natural forms directly.  
He recently won a Gold Award in the Furniture and Cabinet Maker magazine competition.  
Old Farm Yard, Lasham, Alton. GU34 5RY

### ***July 15th p.m.***

Museum of Modern Crafts, Crafts Study Centre.  
The Museum's furniture and wood collections reflect the varied and closely connected nature of the early modern crafts movement. Furniture by leading Cotswold makers such as Ernest Gimson, Harry Davoll, Sidney Barnsley and Edward Gardiner is represented alongside chairs from the workshop of William Morris. The curator, Jean Vacher, will give a conducted tour of the craft exhibits and bowls by art turner Jim Partridge., which are held in the reserve collection. Unfortunately the Arts and Craft furniture is in external store so we will not be able to see it but Jean will show us illustrations and talk about the collection.  
University for the Creative Arts, Falkner Road, Farnham. Surrey GU9 7DS.

### ***August 19th a.m***

Edward Barnsley workshop.  
Those members that attended the September 08 meeting will remember James Ryan who is the manager/ designer at the Edward Barnsley Workshop. Established by Geoffrey Lupton but purchased by Edward Barnsley in 1923. Edward followed the Arts and Craft traditions of this farther Sidney Barnsley. James will be hosting our visit around the show rooms and workshop where we will be able to talk to the craftsmen and apprentices.

### ***August 19th p.m.***

TBA.

***September 19th***

**Member's Workshop visit at the home of Colin Waters.**

Colin gave a talk about building his workshop above his garage. Here's your chance to see it and talk about the layout, machines, tools and all things woodwork. Colin will provide refreshments and members are welcome to stay into the afternoon but if you want a lunch then please bring a packed lunch and we can sit on the patio or downstairs in the garage if it is raining. Fridge available in the workshop Space on the drive is limited so please park on the road but Colin will provide resident parking tickets for all attending.

***Note: It is very important that members wishing to attend summer visits notify Colin Waters prior to the event. Problems can arise with the venue if more than expected turn up.***

**Winter 2009 Programme:**

September 24th  
Speaker TBA

October 22nd  
Speaker TBA

November 26th  
AGM.

Look out for this photo in the Furniture and Cabinet magazine. Possibly the March issue.

