



Oxon Woodturners

April Newsletter

Dear Members,

Firstly I would like to apologise for the absence of a newsletter last month, and for the last-minute cancellation of the demonstration that was planned for April. We were scheduled to have John Boyne Aitken (a.k.a. [The Bowler Hatted Turner](#)) demonstrate the turning of a hanging pot pourri holder, and a needle-case in the style of a Japanese “Inro” box. Unfortunately John was admitted to hospital and was unable to attend the Club night, but we will endeavour to re-book him for later in the year when he has recovered.

Instead of the planned demonstration, we had a Hands-On night where some visitors were able to try their hands at turning some spinning tops under the guidance of some of our experienced Members.





Charlie also stepped up to demonstrate the turning of a “bobbing-head doll” which features a bulbous peg pushed through a tight-fitting hole. The result is a joint which has movement but the parts are not easily separated.



There was also some practice turning being done towards the end of the evening:



The competition theme for this month was “Winged bowl”, and there were many entries at both “Improvers” and “Advanced” levels:



All entries were well-turned and finished, and there were several pieces on exhibition that were particularly creative. Joe took 1st place in the Improvers category, although it cost him blood during the turning of his square winged bowl. In the Advanced category, the top spot was shared by Charlie, Tony H and Tony S in a three-way split.

Next month's meeting will be a Hands-On session and the competition theme is "Something for the Home"; this allows a fairly broad scope and I look forward to seeing the variety of turned items that are entered.

Finally a reminder that Members are invited to join the Committee. We have several meetings each year which are hosted by Joe Brash (Treasurer) to discuss how best to run the Club for the benefit of all and to ensure its future. We currently have vacancies for Assistant Treasurer and Programme Secretary, and would also welcome Members in an "ordinary" capacity, to provide input on behalf of the Membership. Please get in touch with Ace North (Secretary) if this is something that is of interest to you.

Dan