

Ryedale Woodturners

Treasurer's Report 1 January 2024

By most indicators, I think the Club has had yet another very good year in 2023. A few headlines:

- Membership was up once again, from 54 in 2022, to 72, our highest since 2008.
- Attendance at meetings is up – averaging 45 over the year, the best for 13 years.
- Annual sales income was £4388, £470 less than last year, but our 2nd best result
- £3503 of this went to club members – a good return for members' work
- We sold over £1300 worth of wood to members, at well below market value
- We sold over £1100 of second hand tools donated to the club, at 1/3 or less of true value
- We have acquired another 2 club lathes (donations), and improved audio equipment
- We held 4 training days and 2 hands on evenings, all free to members
- 53 weekly newsletter have been sent out, keeping everyone informed

Finances

Our financial position remains strong. Although we have spent more in the year than we collected (just £133 more against a turnover of £12000), this is easily offset by the stock built up for sale in our club shop – we have finishing products and abrasives valued at over £700 for future sale, and wood valued at over £800 still to be processed and sold (cherry planks, jarrah, and blanks donated just before Christmas from a workshop clearance.) We have improved our audio-video equipment with a new sound mixer and wireless microphones, a club laptop, secure storage cabinet and other smaller items. We have added two lathes to our growing stock – a DML320 and a Charnwood W821, both generously donated to the club.

We still have £4700 in our accounts. This allow us to maintain a £25 per year subscription for the third 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. It also gives us some purchasing power if potential bargains come up – for example, purchase of workshop clearances for re-sale to club members at very low prices.

We have maintained the balance of club nights for 2024 at 2 open evenings, 4 professional visitors, 2 IRDs, 3 in-house demonstrations, and 1 social and competition, which should be affordable. (Thanks to Geoff Walker for completing the bookings after taking over from Ian this year). This mix keeps our costs down in comparison to a programme of 8 or 9 professionals a few years ago. Our rent will rise once again from January, but still remains very reasonable (£48 per evening). AWGB subscription, insurance and Zoom fees will all rise as well. I think a few members will not renew in 2024, but hopefully new ones will join us and keep the membership at a good level.

There is a good “buzz” to monthly meetings these days. Long may it continue.

General report on 2023

Club evenings

The two IRD evenings with Colwin Way and Paul Hannaby were well attended, and despite the technical disaster for Paul Hannaby's demonstration (no sound), 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*.

We continued our mix of professional visitors and club members for other evenings, welcoming back Emma Cook, Dennis Wake, Mick Hanbury, and Phil Greenwood, and enjoying in-house demonstrations with John Whiteley, Martyn Weller and Steve Fearnley.

The annual club social and competition in December had its best ever attendance figures and competition entries, and seemed to be enjoyed by all. We feel that we have a good balance of activities on this evening, and were particularly pleased with the record number of entries to the competition, showing the very high standard of woodturning ongoing in the club. With thanks as always to Phil Coe for providing the buffet.

We re-branded the "hands on nights" as Open Evenings this year, and made them free events. It felt like the right thing to do, and attendance at the events seemed to confirm this. Having increased our stock of lathes, we were able to put on an impressive variety of activities on these nights.

We have continued to broadcast on Zoom this year, with improvements in quality although still not without some technical difficulties. There are usually only a handful of watchers, and the Zoom subscription was greater than fees received, but it is felt the service is worth maintaining, as it allows club members who cannot attend to take part in our activities. Thanks go to Martyn Weller and to Keith Harte, with assistance from Ian and Steve, for their work on our AV systems.

Training

4 training days were well attended, with a Saturday event included this year. The two open evenings also provided welcome training opportunities. Though storing and shifting our club lathe stock around is not easy, it does allow more people to be engaged on these days. Thanks go to Geoff Walker for organising this side of our activities, and to Andy Maclaughlin and John Lund for hosting the training days.

Club sales were once again productive and popular, though heavy rain on the first of the two-day open air event at Filey knocked back our takings in comparison to last year. Bad weather on the second day in Thornton le Dale in November also curtailed our visitor numbers. Despite this, 20 members seized these opportunities to sell their wares at sales events, we made a small profit for the club after rental charges, and we increased local awareness of our existence and our activities. Thanks to Bob Ingram and everyone involved in erecting and dismantling the large marquee at Thornton Show, then manning it during the day: it proved ideal for our display at the show. And to John Whiteley, Martyn Weller and others for their input in organising and manning different sales during the year.

Club Shop

With the very sad decision by Snainton Woodworking Supplies to cease trading in April, we opened our Club Shop in that month, selling finishing products, abrasives and wood blanks, plus second hand tools when available. Items are sold at cost, cheaper than can be found online or at other suppliers, as the intention is to provide a service for members rather than make a profit. However, due to a number of generous donations of tools and wood (thanks in particular to John Lund and Keith Harte for iroko, opepe, oak and laburnum, and to Andrew Duncan and Kia Hellens for wood, pen blanks and tools), we have in fact made a profit through the shop. Thanks to Elaine and Phill for manning this new service throughout the year. Towards the end of the year we have been selling wood supplied on a sale or return basis by Redmill timber in Pickering – thanks to Simon Grimmer for this provision.

Communication

The weekly bulletin has continued to appear every Sunday, 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.

RyedaleWoodturners.org.uk website continues to be available, though in the background the hosting and management of this has changed, with a small increase in cost (hosting now costs £3.50 per month, it used to be around £25 per year). Although weekly visits are low (averaging around 20), some of these hits bring in new members and provide contact for people with workshops to clear, so the investment of time and money in the website is worthwhile and productive.

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

Secretary's summary

I continue to believe we offer *"More than just a monthly demo"*, and am delighted at the continuing growth and success of the club. We cater for a wide of variety of people with differing levels of expertise and interest, and offer a welcoming social atmosphere to members at our different events.

I look forward to Ryedale Woodturners' continuing success in 2024. I hope that current members will renew for another year, and that we can attract more newcomers to join us in our obsession with wood and woodturning.

Steve Fearnley

31 December 2023

RYEDALE WOODTURNERS ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 1 January - 31 December 2023

RECEIPTS	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021Jul-Dec	2022	2023	Notes for 2023
Sales takings	£753.60	£1,107.88	£0.00	£737.75	£4,858.50	£4,387.95	
Membership subscriptions	£974.00	£1,140.00	£0.00	£42.00	£1,275.00	£1,584.00	
Club shop sales: wood	£140.00				£705.50	£1,090.22	Mainly from Snainton closure
Club shop sales: other						£1,635.00	Chestnut, Rhyno, accessories
Grants	£150.00	£1,292.96	£289.00	£0.00	£739.00	£0.00	(2nd hand lathe in 2022)
Donations inc. tools	£203.00	£91.00	£0.00	£480.20	£45.00	£1,198.67	Wood, tools, accessories.
Meeting attendance fees	£1,864.20	£1,215.00	£727.00	£782.00	£1,829.00	£2,199.00	Inc. £109 Zoom attendance
Interest (savings account)		[1.33]	£0.28	£0.04	£0.85	£3.52	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£4,086.56	£4,846.84	£1,016.28	£2,041.99	£9,452.85	£12,098.36	

PAYMENTS	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021Jul-Dec	2022	2023	Notes for 2023
Speakers	£1,392.00	£832.40	£1,030.00	£200.00	£1,185.00	£1,337.40	4 Pro visits, 2 IRD, 3 club.
Prizes and raffle	£217.73	£222.39	£0.00	£36.00	£179.64	£75.25	
AWGB Affiliate Membership	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	
Wood for re-sale				£300.00	£540.00	£1,618.80	Includes £600 still in stock
Club shop stock						£2,104.59	Chestnut, Rhyno, accessories
Second hand tools for sale						£843.59	includes £600 DW tools in stock
Equipment purchase	£24.99	£1,426.40	£144.97	£377.78	£2,543.15	£1,124.18	Accessories for lathes and AV
Zoom & web hosting			£143.88	£0.00	£144.00	£210.32	Web hosting ; Zoom fee
Venue Hire (Demos, sales)	£830.00	£470.40	£0.00	£328.00	£1,113.00	£738.00	Snainton, Filey, Thornton
Sales payouts to members					£3,585.40	£3,503.28	
SUMUP Card fees (1.69%)					£46.53	£77.69	SumUp Card Reader
Stationary & Postage	£20.60	£15.55	£30.36	£0.00	£170.09	£66.84	Stamps, envelopes, etc
Catering expenses	£118.21	£142.00	£0.00	£115.00	£184.00	£260.90	Dec buffet; tea & biscuits
Sundries	£150.00	£20.00	£0.00	£0.00	£127.99	£0.00	
Insurance (Zurich)	£174.80	£177.82	£180.94	£0.00	£184.16	£222.77	£5m public liability
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£2,973.33	£3,351.96	£1,575.15	£1,401.78	£10,047.96	£12,231.61	

In year Surplus/deficit	£1,113.23	£1,494.88	-£558.87	£640.21	-£595.11	-£133.25	
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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	As at 24/12/2023
Savings account	£876.46	£877.79	£878.07	£878.11	£878.96	£1,013.49	As at 24/12/23
Cash in hand	£26.05	£35.24	£29.88	£51.00	£134.03	£425.00	As at 24/12/23
Payments pending				-£536.49			
Closing balance 24 Dec	£3,188.21	£4,683.09	£4,124.22	£4,764.43	£4,705.81	£4,572.56	Balance at 15/12/23
<i>Opening balance 1 Jan</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>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>	

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