



Ryedale Woodturners

News Bulletin 51 - 28 December 2025

Hello all

I believe the new term for this week is "Twixmas". I am not sure if I like the word, but I am certainly enjoying the time it describes. I hope you all are doing the same.

Virtually no turning done in the last week, though I have heard quite a lot going on in next door's shed (Micky and Noel). I hope you all manage to get to the lathe at some point during the holidays.

The Annual Report on 2025, both financial and general, is attached at the end of this bulletin. Also attached to the email is a copy of our Constitution, which we review annually at this time. No changes to the bulk of it, though on advice I have added a paragraph to the GDPR section (General Data Protection Regulations) concerning the use of photographs, reproduced here for consideration (and action if appropriate):

Photographs *(added in January 2026)*

Photos are often taken at club events, and may be published in the club newsletter, and occasionally on the club website. Any photos considered potentially embarrassing or inappropriate will not be used. Any member who would prefer not to have photos used can notify the club secretary, who will record their wishes and ensure they are met. Any member may request any particular photo of themselves, or their work, be removed from the website and/or club newsletter archives, and the Secretary will ensure their wishes are met.

Any comments on the annual report are welcome.

A full description of arrangements for our next meeting on 8 January will appear in next week's bulletin. A brief reminder - this will be an Open Evening, together with enrolment for 2026.

It just remains for me to wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope 2026 *turns* out well!

Gallery

Ian Temple sent in a photo of a lathe he spotted in a fishing museum in Alesund, Norway. I think woodturning and nautical equipment have deep connections, at least in the past.



Martyn Weller sent a picture of one of his latest creations:

This is continuing my series of giant chess pieces and is a present to match the Queen and rooks made previously. They will need to be careful when asking someone to turn the king light on.

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Ryedale Woodturners

Treasurer's Report 1 January 2026

We have continued to thrive for yet another year. A few headlines:

- Membership was up once again, to 85, our highest ever (80 previous best in 2024).
- Attendance at meetings remained good – averaging 45 over the year, range 34 - 54).
- Annual sales income was £5412, beating our previous best of £4858 in 2022.
- £4406 of this went to club members – the best return ever beating £4131 last year.
- We sold over £1500 of wood to members, at well below market value
- We sold over £2700 of second hand tools donated or bought, at 1/3 or less of true value
- We held 3 training days and 2 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 once again made a surplus of £137 in-year, as well as purchasing two Coronet Herald lathes, one replacing a small Charnwood W824 which we sold. We also bought a new chuck (the previous one went missing unaccountably), two Hamlet 6-chisel sets, some display table covers, and additional wiring to make setting up the sound system easier. We also have a good stock of finishing products, abrasives, wood and second hand tools in the Club shop to carry forward– worth well over £1400.

All areas of club finances have done well: we made £800 profit on wood sales (with particular thanks to John Lund for numerous donations); £540 on second hand tools; just £38 on Chestnut Products and Rhyno abrasives (though we do have £700 in stock); and £1005 in commission from sales (£392 to club funds after rent and card fees). Membership and attendance fees more than paid for demonstrators' fees, hall rental, insurance, Zoom and web hosting, AWGB membership, and catering, with £700 spare.

What have we done with these profits? Well, we added two more Coronet Herald lathes to our stock, plus two sets of Hamlet 6-chisel starter-packs, bought some new table covers for sales, and improved the wiring for our AV presentations. All of this whilst providing training sessions for free or at minimal cost (when in the Hall), and providing wood and tools at around 1/3 of market value to members, and finishes, adhesives and abrasives at 20% discount. Through mounting four club sales, we have enabled club members to sell 530 items, and make £4430 from their turning.

We still have over £5000 in our accounts. I believe this allows us to maintain a £25 per year subscription for the fifth year in a row (having *reduced* it from £35 in 2019-20), and a £5 entry fee for club nights, as well as offering 2 of our meetings as free entry open evenings. I think we can probably hold sales commission at 10 - 15%, though this will be considered against returns at each event.

General report on 2025

Club evenings

The two IRD evenings with Paul Hannaby and Richard Findley were well attended and well received. We squeezed in an extra IRD by Nathaneal Griffiths, demonstrating Chestnut finishes.. Most of our demonstrations have also appeared 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 Paul Hannaby, Daniel Smith, Chris Parker, Ian Ethell and Richard Findley, with new appearances from Helen Bailey, and enjoying in-house demonstrations with Dan and Steve Fearnley and Martyn Weller.

The annual club social and competition in December was popular, with a record 50 guests in attendance. 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.

There is a slight change in the balance of our club night programme for 2026, at 2 open evenings, 6 professional visitors, just 1 IRD, 2 (rather than 3) in-house demonstrations, and 1 social with competition. This is not particularly a change in policy – we have found the in-house demonstrations and the IRDs to be well received – but it simply worked out this way when Geoff was organising the programme. We hope to include some additional hands on / training evenings as we did in 2024 and 2025. If we can sustain our membership and attendance, this should be comfortably affordable.

As well as our two Open Evenings in January and August, which have remained free entry, we added 2 “training” evenings – the IRD on finishes and a hands on evening where members could sign up for tuition on one of 7 lathes: thanks go to the volunteers who provided this.

We have made good use of the new audio visual provision in the Hall, and have added some bespoke wiring to make our set-up for sound easier. Once again thanks are due to Keith Harte for his considerable input and sharing of experience with all this side of our operation.

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. Once again we haven't covered our Zoom fees from contributions from those who take advantage of the service (£155 out, £103 in) but I still feel the service is worth maintaining, as it allows club members who cannot attend to take part in our activities.

A similar story applies to the website, which only attracts a handful of people each week (it costs £40 for this year, usually with single figure visits weekly). What is important is that it gives a reference point: some of the contacts regarding workshop clearances and sales 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 two training evenings have all been well attended. There have also been some one-to-one sessions organized between members. Storing and shifting our club lathe stock remains a challenge, but 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.

Sales

We held four club sales, all in Thornton le Dale, with April, September and late November in the Hill Institute, and Thornton Show in August. These venues seem to work well and are more reliable in terms of attracting footfall, and sales, than previous events at Filey (outdoors) and Malton Food Festival (which would have been outdoors in 2025).

The four sales brought in £5412, our best ever annual takings, beating our previous best by £550. As always our thanks go to John Whitley for the inspiration for these sales, and his experience in making them successful. And thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

Club Shop

The Club shop has flourished this year, taking over £6000 and making £1350 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 at about one third of new value. 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 SF 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. We also bought 3 additional banners for sales, though I am convinced that any number of banners wouldn't equate to one person standing outside a sale inviting people in to have a look.

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. A more active online presence from Snainton Village Hall has provided welcome additional advertising.

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 2026. 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 am aware of potential new members keen to start in January.

Steve Fearnley

27 December 2025

RYEDALE WOODTURNERS ACCOUNTS SUMMARY 1 January - 31 December 2025

RECEIPTS	2019-20	2020-21	21Jul-Dec	2022	2023	2024	2025	Notes for 2025
Club sales takings	£1,107.88	£0.00	£737.75	£4,858.50	£4,387.95	£4,853.50	£5,412.00	3 sales + Show
Membership fees	£1,140.00	£0.00	£42.00	£1,275.00	£1,584.00	£1,858.00	£1,936.00	85 members
Attendance fees	£1,215.00	£727.00	£782.00	£1,829.00	£2,199.00	£2,383.00	£2,481.00	Inc. £103 Zoom
Shop sales: wood				£705.50	£1,090.22	£2,041.71	£1,542.22	Donated/ bought
Shop sales: other					£1,635.00	£2,018.70	£1,837.70	Chestnut, Hope
Sales: 2nd hand tools						£4,621.00	£2,703.00	Donated/ bought
Grants	£1,292.96	£289.00	£0.00	£739.00	£0.00	£120.00	£0.00	
Donations inc. tools	£91.00	£0.00	£480.20	£45.00	£1,198.67			Now inc. in sales
Interest	[1.33]	£0.28	£0.04	£0.85	£3.52	£15.24	£13.54	Savings account
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£4,846.84	£1,016.28	£2,041.99	£9,452.85	£12,098.36	£17,911.15	£15,925.46	

PAYMENTS	2019-20	2020-21	21Jul-Dec	2022	2023	2024	2025	Notes for 2025
Sales paid to members				£3,585.40	£3,503.28	£4,131.65	£4,406.25	10-15% commission
Demonstrators	£832.40	£1,030.00	£200.00	£1,185.00	£1,337.40	£1,481.35	£1,891.00	5 Pro, 2 IRD, 2 club
Venue Hire	£470.40	£0.00	£328.00	£1,113.00	£738.00	£1,452.00	£970.00	Hall & sales
Insurance (Zurich)	£177.82	£180.94	£0.00	£184.16	£222.77	£267.19	£283.98	£5m pub. liability
Wood for re-sale			£300.00	£540.00	£1,618.80	£763.00	£784.51	Inc. donated
Club shop stock					£2,104.59	£2,589.05	£1,799.28	Chestnut, Hope,
Second hand tools					£843.59	£3,575.00	£2,149.62	Clearances
Equipment purchase	£1,426.40	£144.97	£377.78	£2,543.15	£1,124.18	£2,348.48	£2,569.70	2 lathes etc
Zoom & web hosting		£143.88	£0.00	£144.00	£210.32	£205.06	£195.36	Web & Zoom
Prizes and raffle	£222.39	£0.00	£36.00	£179.64	£75.25	£52.61	£100.90	Dec + raffles
AWGB Membership	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£45.00	£48.00	£48.00	£48.00	
SUMUP (1.69%)				£46.53	£77.69	£89.42	£108.54	Card reader
Consumables	£15.55	£30.36	£0.00	£170.09	£66.84	£118.49	£18.57	Card, bags, markers
Catering expenses	£142.00	£0.00	£115.00	£184.00	£260.90	£396.73	£319.83	Tea, coffee, buffet
Sundries / travel	£20.00	£0.00	£0.00	£127.99	£0.00	£0.00	£142.20	To longer distance garage clearances
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£3,351.96	£1,575.15	£1,401.78	£10,047.96	£12,231.61	£17,518.03	£15,787.74	

In year Surplus/deficit	£1,494.88	-£558.87	£640.21	-£595.11	-£133.25	£393.12	£137.72	
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Banking

Current account	£3,770.06	£3,216.27	£4,371.81	£3,692.82	£3,134.07	£3,535.10	£3,369.95	At 22/12/2025
Savings account	£877.79	£878.07	£878.11	£878.96	£1,013.49	£1,028.73	£1,042.27	At 22/12/25
Cash in hand	£35.24	£29.88	£51.00	£134.03	£425.00	£401.85	£691.18	At 22/12/25
Closing balance	£4,683.09	£4,124.22	£4,764.43	£4,705.81	£4,572.56	£4,965.68	£5,103.40	At 22/12/2025
<i>Opening balance</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>	<i>£4,965.68</i>	At 1/1/25
<i>Difference</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>	<i>£137.72</i>	

Members enrolled	34	3 new	37	54	72	80	85
Membership fee	£35.00	Waived	£14.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00	£25.00