



# ORBIT —

The Newsletter of the  
Register of Professional Turners

## Welcome to the 2022 Spring issue of your newsletter!

Just as Covid 19 has been concentrating our thoughts over the last two years, we find ourselves with an even more serious event which grips the attention of all decent-thinking people world-wide, so before I type another word I would like to record here, my despair at what is happening in Ukraine, my utter respect for the Ukrainian people and my support for their cause.

If there is one word which I feel should sum up this entire issue of Orbit, it is “Hope”!

Hope, as we look forward to a resolution in Ukraine will certainly be high on my agenda, but Hope also as we look ahead to the events of the year that awaits us, and as we slowly drift from the rigours of winter into the warmth of spring. What a year we have to look forward to!

The Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen will be supported by two of our own members through their commissioned pieces of work which will be auctioned in support of The Lord Mayor’s Big Curry Lunch, on 7th April, with the proceeds going to charities supporting our armed forces.

This year sees another round of the Worshipful Company’s bursary awards, and we have news of that for you later in this issue.

Finally, on the “Back Page”, a request for information from our members, especially those who have stepped up to the challenge of providing IRDs.

Les Symonds RPT...Newsletter Editor



# The Register of Professional Turners

## Annual General Meeting — 2022

In the rather unlikely event of any member having not noticed that it's our AGM next week, here's all the information that you'll need when you attend.

### Calling Notice for the RPT Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Register of Professional Turners will be held over Zoom at 2.00pm on 23rd March 2022. Details of how to join the zoom meeting will be circulated nearer the time.

All members are encouraged to attend the AGM, but the committee recognises that, in some cases, attendance could be difficult. Should this be the case, you are urged to use the attached Proxy form to present your views and to vote on the motions proposed during the AGM or appoint the Chair as your proxy.

Serial	Item	Lead	Notes
1	Welcome and introductions	Chair	
2	Master's address	Master	
3	Apologies	Secretary	
4	Minutes of the previous meeting /matters arising	Secretary	
5	Acceptance of the minutes of the previous AGM	Chair	Motion 1
6	Chair's Report	Chair	
7	Treasurer's Report	Treasurer	
8	Acceptance of the annual accounts	Chair	Motion 2
9	Report on the new website	Webmaster	
10	Update on procedures for joining the RPT: Removal of requirement for a sponsor Assessment Committee and Assessor list	Membership Secretary	Motion 3
11	Exhibitions Update	Exhibitions Coordinator	
12	New Branding Update	Exhibitions Coordinator	
13	Committee Appointments: Confirm the appointment of Les Symonds as Editor of the Newsletter and Feedback Coordinator Confirm the appointment of George Shapland as Secretary of the RPT	Chair	Motion 4  Motion 5
14	Proposed increase of subscriptions from £48 to £54, an increase of £6.	Chair	Motion 6
15	Changes to the Constitution: Removal of the posts of Safety Officer and Applications Secretary Split the posts of Membership Secretary and Webmaster		Motion 7  Motion 8
16	Any Other Business	All	
17	Closing Remarks	Chair	
18	Presentation by Dr Sara Robinson on Spalted Wood		This will take place at 3.00pm and the AGM will be adjourned if not completed.



# The Register of Professional Turners

## Annual General Meeting — 2022

### Proxy voting form for RPT Annual General Meeting to be held 23rd March 2022

1. If you cannot attend the AGM (or there is a possibility that you will be unable to attend) but wish to take part, you may either appoint the Chair as your proxy or vote on each motion at the foot of this form. Due to the difficulties of members casting more than one vote on Zoom, there will not be an option to appoint a proxy other than the Chair this year.
2. Enter your full details into Section 1 of the form so that there can be no confusion over your identity and your right to vote.
3. Next, if you wish to appoint the Chair as your Proxy to vote as they think fit, complete Section 2. However, if you wish to place your own vote, please enter your choices beside the relevant Motions on Page 3 of the form.

Finally, please ensure your completed form is either posted or emailed to the Secretary of the RPT to arrive **no later than 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022**.

Proxy voting forms should be returned to the RPT Secretary:

George Shapland,  
The Garden House,  
Coombe Lane,  
Enford,  
Pewsey,  
Wiltshire.  
SN9 6DF.

Phone: 01980 671321

E-mail: [secretary@rpturners.co.uk](mailto:secretary@rpturners.co.uk)



# The Register of Professional Turners

## Annual General Meeting — 2022

### RPT AGM 2022- FORM OF PROXY

If you are **not** attending the AGM and wish to appoint the Chair as your proxy, please fill this form in and return it by the deadline of **20th March 2022** to the Secretary. The form can be either posted or sent by email to the address on page 1.

Section 1: Your full name (*all in block capitals, please*)

Section 2. Appointment of Proxy

I authorise the Chair of the RPT to act as my Proxy.

Signature:

Date:

### Register of Professional Turners Annual General Meeting 2022

#### Ballot paper

Mo-	Section 3. Voting-Motions and Resolutions. ( <i>To vote, place a cross in</i>	For	Against
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1	<b>Motion</b> to approve the minutes of the 2021 AGM. ( <i>A copy of the</i>		
2	<b>Motion</b> to accept the annual accounts. ( <i>A financial statement will be</i>		
3	<b>Motion</b> to accept proposed change to the RPT constitution. Removal		
4	<b>Motion</b> To Confirm the appointment of Les Symonds as Editor of the		
5	<b>Motion</b> Confirm the appointment of George Shapland as Secretary of the RPT Committee.		
6	<b>Motion</b> Proposed increase of subscriptions from £48 to £54, an		
7	<b>Motion</b> to accept proposed minor changes to the RPT constitution.		
8	<b>Motion</b> to accept proposed minor changes to the RPT constitution.		



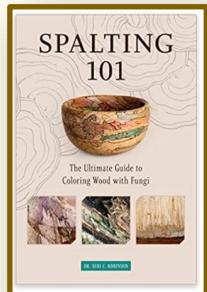
# The Register of Professional Turners

## Annual General Meeting — 2022

### The Craft Meeting—Via Zoom

Understandably, things will be a little different this year, as regards the Craft Meeting. As our guest speaker we have Dr. Seri Robinson, the Professor of Wood Anatomy at Oregon State University. If the name is not familiar, then Dr. Robinson's epithet of Dr. Spalting may ring a bell.

This is what Dr. Robinson has to tell us of herself;



*I'm a professor of wood anatomy at Oregon State University. I'm also an artist. My interests lay in wood aesthetics and the concept of parergonal aesthetics. I like pretty colors and aggressive sports – and I play a lot of roller derby.*

*I work within the field of art science as a bio artist. Unlike many artists who utilize scientific techniques to develop their art, I strive to maintain a balance of both fields in my work. I strive to not be 'just' an artist or 'just' a scientist, but to blur the line between the two disciplines. Neither science nor art can exist without the other, and it is important to communicate that to viewers.*

*I primarily utilize fungi in my work, often with wood as a medium. Two intertwining processes drive me – a return to natural ornamentation techniques and the promotion of parergonal aesthetics. Wood, as a traditionally functional material, holds a unique place within human emotions. The use of fungi and natural decay processes not only creates ornament (instead of dyes and stains), but challenges perceptions of functionality. Decay fungi are generally disdained, but wood is held in high regard. The meeting of both can create emotional conflict and challenges the viewer to re-evaluate their position on functional wood and natural ornamentation processes.*



*My current work involves the development of colored pigments on wood by mold fungi. As molds are some of the most reviled fungi in the world, their use in functional art is controversial and challenges our core assumptions on toxicity, functionality, and understanding of the natural world.*

If you [click on this link](#), you will be led to a video on YouTube, which will give you lots more information about our speaker.

Sad  
news

As I prepare this edition of Orbit for its issue, some sad news has been relayed to us from the family of Roger Gubbin. Roger passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, 5th March. The funeral has been scheduled for 2:30pm on the 5th April 2022 at Bodmin Crematorium, Cornwall if you would like to attend.

As and when more information becomes available, we will update you through the web site and/or a future issue of Orbit.





## A Silent Auction

# News of this year's plans for the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch.

Members will recall the efforts made during past years to donate pieces of our work to be auctioned for charity. This year sees quite a change to the regular format, in that the event will still take place, but the auction will be very, very different. The event, which we all know as The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, will mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in a very special way, by auctioning online a whole host of auction-lots which have been donated by generous businesses throughout the country.

Where then, does the RPT fit in with this? Well, two of our members, namely John Boyne-Aitken and George Shapland, have been commissioned over the winter to make highly individualised pieces to mark the Jubilee and these are now among the 50-or-so lots already being auctioned. My thanks to Christopher Scott and to George for their informative letters on this subject

### The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch

The RPT is supporting the annual Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch in April. It's held at Guildhall in the City of London, and is a major fundraiser for Army, Navy and Air Force charities. Now in its fourteenth year the lunch has raised over £2.5 million.

The Worshipful Company of Turners has a stand selling turned items in aid of the cause. Many pieces are produced by RPT members. This year, we'll be selling stock from the Company's 'Tuning for Good' initiative during the lockdown where the Company offered to buy £250 worth of goods from any RPT member.

There's also an online auction and the Worshipful Company has commissioned two special pieces from RPT members George Shapland and John Boyne Aitken. The 2022 lunch is billed *The Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry Lunch*, so George and John reflected the Jubilee in their designs.

George served 33 years in the army before taking up turning. The rim of his segmented bowl has 70 pieces of rosewood, separated by black tulipwood veneer, representing the 70 years of Her Majesty's reign.

John is an RAF veteran. His chalice in yew has a purple heart lid, a royal colour, plus gilding on the base and finial reflecting regal style. The blackwood stand has seven twists, each representing a decade of the reign.

The pieces are already receiving bids, and we expect the prices to go high as the auction comes to a close at the lunch on April 7<sup>th</sup>. [Here's the link](#) to the auction site. Please spread the word!



At the 2019 lunch Prince Harry was presented with a turned baby's rattle by Gary Rance in a box by Reg Hawthorne.

Christopher Scott

Chairman, The Howe Committee



...and here is George's account of his involvement in the event -

## The Platinum Jubilee Bowl



I was fairly relaxed when I opened an email from Christopher Scott, Chairman of the Worshipful Company of Turner's Howe Committee, entitled 'A Possible Commission' thinking that I just needed to forward the email on to a suitable turner. It was, therefore, with some trepidation that I finished reading it realising that he was actually asking me to complete it, especially as a relatively new turner. I was on the phone to John Boyne-Aitken about 10 minutes later for advice as he had also been asked which helped me enormously.



The brief was to make a piece for an online auction in support of the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch. The design choice was mine, but it needed to have the wow factor. As the theme for the 2022 lunch was Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, it only seemed appropriate to work this into the design somehow. The auction was due to go live on 2<sup>nd</sup> February so I had just over seven weeks to get my act together for my most important commission to date.



I spent two weeks coming up with, and then refining a design, making several test pieces before I made the first proper cut on Christmas Eve. I had settled on a segmented bowl and quickly decided that the rim would be made up of 70 pieces to represent the Platinum Jubilee, but initially I struggled to come up with a coherent idea that fitted the brief. Having used flowers for inspiration in the past, I settled on a layout that looked like seven petals, each of 10 pieces. I drew the design to scale on graph paper and then transferred this to a board to use as a template in the workshop. I chose rosewood for the bulk of the design as I had a plank of it in stock and liked the look of it, using black tulipwood veneer to frame the rosewood. Wenge and beech veneer were used for the contrasting rings.



Due to Christmas and the cold weather (I have no heating in the workshop) it took me just under two weeks to complete the ring and I did not want to start the rest of the bowl until the ring was ready, as its final size would determine the circumference of the bowl.

The bowl was initially made up of eight segmented rings and after turning, was sanded to 600 grit and finished with Yorkshire Grit and Mylands Wax Polish. The final result did not look quite right and so after consulting with Stuart Mortimer, I added another layer to the bottom, which allowed for a more pleasing shape. The base was made from six segmented rings and I followed the theme of the top ring. I must admit to getting more and more nervous towards the end; blending the additional ring into the bowl was probably the most careful turning I have ever done.

I completed the bowl on 24<sup>th</sup> January, exactly a month after I started it. The piece is made up of approximately 640 pieces (I thought about going for 2022 but decided that sometimes discretion is the better part of valour) and getting the top ring right has been one of my biggest challenges so far and took a lot of fine tuning. It has been an honour to undertake this commission for such a worthy cause and I must thank Christopher Scott and the Company for giving me this opportunity.





# The current RPT assessment procedure for prospective new members.



During the previous year virtually every business has had to change its procedures because of Covid 19 and the assessment section of the RPT has been no exception.

Whereas we used to send an experienced RPT assessor to the applicant's workshop, such visits had to stop and we therefore needed to adapt our procedures. Switching the process over from in-person visits to Zoom-based assessments allowed us to continue to process new applications, and virtual visits therefore became the norm. Thus something that few of us had formerly heard of, became the very back-bone of our assessment procedures.



With the Zoom assessment team comprising three committee members, rather than just one assessor, in some ways it has allowed for a more balanced and fairer look at what was being shown to us.

Now that Covid 19 seems to have relaxed its iron grip, we will cautiously reassess our procedure to keep up to date, to be fair and to keep both the assessor and the applicant safe.

Andy Pickard (RPT Committee Member with responsibility for membership applications)



## Your new RPT Patches and Badges

The Committee is pleased to let you know that the new patches and badges are in the country and awaiting Customs Clearance. Those members with up-to-date details on the website will be sent their new patch and badge soon after they arrive.

**If you have not yet added your details, please do so as soon as possible. Without these details we cannot send you your new patch and badge, nor will you be visible to the public on the new website, so you may be missing out on new business.**

Instructions on how to do this can be found in your Members' Website Handbook and in the members' area on the website. [Click here to log in.](#)



## Forthcoming Events



After 2 years of cancellations, The 17th International Woodturning Seminar will take place at Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire from October 7th-9th 2022. The event will run from Friday lunchtime to Sunday afternoon at [Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre](#) in Staffordshire. The Seminar aims to offer something for turners at all levels from beginner to expert. The seminar programme is guaranteed to inspire, educate and entertain!

Make this a date in your diary, you won't regret it! The seminar is open to AWGB members and non-members alike. We look forward to seeing you there!

**The early bird rate is open until the end of March 2022. You may pay a 50% deposit and the balance 4 weeks before the Seminar or you can pay in full. All bookings are guaranteed and will be refunded in full if the event doesn't go ahead.**

[Full details here.](#)

**THE NORTH OF ENGLAND  
WOODWORKING & POWER TOOL SHOW**

The following notice has been taken from the "Harrogate" website, you can get full information regarding dates, times, tickets etc if you visit their site [through this link.](#)

The confirmed dates for 2022 are 11–13 November. We look forward to welcoming you back to the Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, next year. Further details of exhibitors, trade stands and demonstrators will be announced in due course.

Once again, thank you for your continued understanding, support and patience regarding uncertainty and disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the meantime, stay safe and if you have any questions, etc. please don't hesitate to get in touch – [exhibitions@mytimemedia.com](mailto:exhibitions@mytimemedia.com)



George Shapland

# An introduction to George Shapland, RPT Secretary

I learned very early on in my previous career as a soldier that you never volunteer for anything, so my appointment as secretary to the RPT Committee required a bit of arm twisting by our Chair before I agreed.

Although my interest in turning goes back over 40 years, I have only been a professional for three years so I still feel like the new boy and have a lot to learn about both turning and the workings of the Register. I returned to turning on retiring from the army in 2017 and spent my resettlement grant with Stuart Mortimer who has continued to mentor and push me ever since. It was he who encouraged me to go full time and so I launched Butterwood in 2019 to put things on a business footing and joined the RPT later the same year. Although I will turn my hand to most things (pun intended) I regard myself as an artistic turner and therefore focus on the local arts scene in the Salisbury area. I feel very privileged to work in a craft that gives me so much pleasure and I thoroughly enjoy talking to the public about turning at the many events that I attend, to the point where my wife now calls me the Wood Waffler!

As to my qualifications to join the committee, I spent much of my last 15 years in the army serving on various committees and working groups, often as secretary, so when asked by Jay to join the committee, my first response was "OK, as long as it is not secretary!" So, although I have some experience in role, I am used to a fairly rigid structure where direction is more common than discussion.

I am very much looking forward to working with such a strong team to further the aims of the RPT and hope you will bear with me as I learn the ropes and get to know more of my fellow turners in the process.



Here's a link to George's web-site,  
[Butterwood](http://www.butterwooduk.com)



**Butterwood**  
elegant wood designs



# A Word From the Chair.

**Those who have lanterns must pass them on to others**



With my pond gelatinous with frogspawn, Siskin and Redpoll back on the bird-feeders it is a reminder not just that spring is here but - as world events unfold making it hard to feel positivity - it is a reminder to me that we need to enjoy and celebrate the small stuff and not sweat it - small stuff matters. So there are two things from me in this edition; one is small the other large, although both are vital. The second is about turners of the future, but the first involves a small request beginning with one of those questions promised in a previous edition of Orbit.

This question came about because the other day I was particularly exercised about something which manifested in the frustration at not being able to find one of my C-clamps. I was quick to blame the garage goblins and the workshop wraiths, convinced they had hidden it, along with all those pencils. Well, the only reason I could not find it of course was because I was not looking in the correct place...I had not put it in its designated lodgings. My fault of course, my responsibility. After I stopped laughing at myself, it made me ruminate on responsibility; more specifically to ask “who’s responsibility is it to maintain the professional nature of the RPT?”

As chair of the RPT I take this responsibility seriously and base everything the committee does on our strap line ‘quality and excellence’. As individuals within the Register we also need to present our best possible image - showcasing our work and ethos to promote a healthy future for woodturning. The quality in our work should be

paramount and obvious. Therefore, as professionally-minded people, does it not follow that quality in our **presentation** of work be paramount; quality in our **attitude** be obvious?

If you wanted to buy a new lathe or a new car and you went looking on the internet, what would you expect?

You would want instant access to images of lathes; photographs of shiny cars and detailed specifications. How much time would you waste; how much of your boredom-quota would you expend, looking at car salespeople walking their dogs, photos of their partners and plates of food? If you wanted to buy a new gouge or hollowing tool, would you take seriously - indeed trust - that company which displayed their items on creased sheets on a kitchen table, with backdrop of white goods? Surely you would expect high-quality, photographs which would be an indication of the quality of the item and quality of the approach to business? Much has been said by many, about how the RPT should be professional, but this is only possible if we, the enrolled, stop kicking around in the sandpit. Surely, we should not be mixing our professional businesses with our personal lives? The upshot of all of this is that I am asking that we make sure we separate our woodturning business-social-media accounts from the personal and political. There are many who do, but for others, please, please think about this. I have received communication from several areas making just such a request. Ask yourself how many gallery owners, curators, gift shop proprietors etc. have the time to wade through all of this to reach your quality work?

In making this request, please forgive me if I have “sung louder than lovely” but I feel passionate about maintaining the professionalism of the RPT and this is one way to lift our game - we all have to take responsibility.



## A Word From the Chair (Cont'd)

And so to emerging woodturners. If you have watched recent online symposiums such as WWO (Woodturners Worldwide Online Symposium) you will have seen Carl Burn, Pat Carroll, Andrew Hall (no, not the youngsters I want to talk about!) and many others behind the scene, working very hard to provide a fantastic international platform for our next-generation turners. These young individuals have much to offer with their fresh, enthusiastic approach and recently I had the pleasure of working amongst some who are making a positive impression. This opportunity came about through an invitation from GMC Woodturning magazine to be a guest editor. Previous guest editors, Les Symonds and Richard Findley, have both sought to look to the future and at our young craftspeople and therefore I wished to pick-up on their lead. I worked with three young woodturners who not only produced excellent articles, they did so in a timely, and enthusiastic manner. Their quality-writing, photographs and outlook on their businesses does them all proud. I have felt truly heartened by their dedication and work-ethic and felt lifted and privileged to be 'working' with these gifted young craftspeople - although in truth - all the hard work was theirs.

With the likes of these individuals on the horizon, the woodturning future looks very much brighter and the Register can play a part to help light their way. We need to be passing on our experience to help others have the opportunity of earning a good living from woodturning. Plato said that 'if we are to have any hope for the future, those who have lanterns must pass them on to others'. One way in which the RPT is trying to do just that is by hosting a 'Star Turners - Next Generation' workshop at the Max Carey Woodturning Trust in September 2022.

This is a workshop where the young turners will receive expert advice and teaching from RPT registrants; Sally Burnett, Richard Findley and Phil Irons. Carl Burn will be the expert to demonstrate all things IRD, videography and websites. Our special guest is to be Master Turner, Stuart Mortimer who will be giving a presentation on design, which I am sure will incorporate so much more! Other professionals will be on hand to talk about how to have a positive and professional media presence and business acumen. Therefore, if you know of any emerging turner/artists (18 - 35 yrs of age) who you think could benefit from such a workshop please do get in touch.

This is but a small step towards expanding for the future and it is an initiative to complement and augment all the wonderful work which Stuart and Linda Mortimer, the AWGB and the Turners' Company, and many other turners have done in the past and many continue to do so, for youth training in the future. Funding for this type of venture is always problematic of course but what better way of using RPT funds than to invest in the future of woodturning and young turners - artists and craftspeople of the future.

"The most reliable way to predict the future is to create it"

**Abraham Lincoln**

[jayheryet@gmail.com](mailto:jayheryet@gmail.com)

## Bursary Award

# The Worshipful Company of Turners Bursary Award scheme.



**The Worshipful Company of Turners**  
Supporting the Craft, City and Charity for over four hundred years

**BURSARY AWARDS FOR 2022, APPLY NOW!**



Bursary Awards for 2022, apply now!

In 2022 the Turners' Company is offering Bursaries to help talented turners develop their skills and to move to a higher level of achievement. Applicants need to present a clear plan of how the award will advance their work and raise the profile of the craft. A total of £12,000 is available. .



**BURSARY AWARDS for 2022 £12,000**

**The Worshipful Company of Turners** is offering Bursaries to help talented turners develop their skills and to move to a higher level of achievement.

Having the Worshipful Company recognise and acknowledge what I was trying to achieve spurred me on to become a full time turner.  
Darren Breeze  
Awardee 2017

The bursaries are mainly awarded for further education and training purposes between £500 to £12,000. Applications must be received by the Turners' Company Assistant Clerk by Friday 13th May 2022.

**APPLY NOW!**

“ The bursary has done so much for me and my business. I have developed new skills in woodturning through the training I received and my confidence has grown. I will be forever grateful for the support I received.  
Miriam Jones  
Awardee 2019 ”

“ Aside from the material gains, it afforded me opportunities to travel and learn much more about my craft and myself. I strongly urge you to apply.  
Jay Herjet  
Awardee 2003 ”

“ Being awarded the bursary has given me more confidence in my work... to be bolder, more ambitious and push the boundaries.  
Jason Lock  
Awardee 2019 ”

For further information visit: [www.turnersco.com](http://www.turnersco.com)

The Turners' Company | Saddlers' House | 44 Gutter Lane | London EC2V 6BR  
020 7236 3605 | [assistantclerk@turnersco.com](mailto:assistantclerk@turnersco.com)

Members may recall that the previous roll of successful applicants, from the 2019 Award-year, included names such as Jonnie Crawford, Joe Creed-Kaile, Miriam Jones, Richard Kennedy, Adrian Lloyd, Jason Lock, Matt Underwood and Matthew Whittaker; an amazing line-up of established and new talent.

This year, as with previous years, we're asking members to spread the word. If you know of a budding young (or not so young) turner who might benefit from a bursary award, please pass on the details. Below, you will find links to the Turners' Company web site with full details of the award, as well as to a copy of this year's flyer.

### LINKS...

[The Worshipful Company of Turners Bursary Award Scheme—full details](#)

[This year's flyer.](#)



# A call for feedback from members who experienced or provided IRDs over the last two years.



A few weeks ago I attended the AGM of my own woodturning club, Mid Wales Woodturners (MWW), who meet at Carno, which is pretty much right in the heart of Wales; wherein lies a problem! Many RPT members who provide in-person demonstrations at clubs throughout the land, find travelling to our venue too demanding of their time and of the financial costs associated with travelling, so there are times when the club struggles to fill its diary with professional demos. Whilst many clubs chose to embrace digital demos, through IRDs, MWW did not and is now considering whether or not they should do so in the future. This begs many questions; for example...

- If the club invests in the necessary technology, will its members still support it by attending IRDs rather than in-person live demos?
- If the club links IRDs to a Zoom facility, would some of the older members, or perhaps any members suffering any temporary illness, attend the meetings by staying at home and paying a nominal fee to watch the IRD via Zoom, thereby boosting attendance numbers?
- If the club provides this Zoom facility, might they suddenly discover that a great number of members stay home to watch on Zoom, rather than take the trouble to attend in person, thereby drastically reducing the numbers who actually travel to the club's venue and bringing the monthly costs associated with the venue, into question.

It occurs to me that this information might well be of use to clubs throughout the UK and I wonder whether or not such information could be shared for the benefit of all clubs.

So, I put it to our members; if you have personal experience either of providing IRDs to clubs, or of being a club member receiving IRDs, please, please let me know your thoughts on any of the issues raised above. I will happily collate the information and make it available, perhaps through bodies such as the AWGB.

Les Symonds BA RPT, Newsletter Editor.



*The RPT is supported by The Worshipful Company of Turners*