

Amberley Workshop Opening

Les Thorne R.P.T. professional woodturner from Hampshire and regular demonstrator at the club was invited to formally open our new workshop, something he was happy to do as he said 'no one has ever asked me to open anything before, this is such an honour and privilege'.

He arrived (like a big kid) driving the steam roller 'Gisela' down from the museum entrance, but was disappointed to learn that he could not take it home with him!

Keith made a 'short' speech where he thanked those who made the build possible. The build committee who negotiated with the Museum over location and design, the Architect, Tom's efforts, over several years and about 150 applications, at trying to persuade businesses to offer donations and to those who also supplied the labour and materials to lay the base back in 2012 after a hefty donation from the Wates Foundation. He also thanked the museum staff who had helped during the construction and finally the small but dedicated group of club members without whom the build would never have been completed or viable.

Les then made a short speech before cutting the 'ribbon' across the door and unveiling the plaque above the demo lathe. He then went on the turn a bowl which he signed in the centre and all present signed around the rim.

Meanwhile two Daves and Tom were preparing a barbeque of burgers, sausages and salad outside under a gazebo, which was enjoyed by all those present.

After receiving much praise from the guests and members present it is agreed that the whole project is a resounding success, and a massive asset to the club---

Pictures below:



Les arriving under his own steam!



Keith's Speech



Les's Speech



Cutting the ribbon



Unveiling the Plaque



Les Turning the Inaugural Bowl



Discussing the Menu



Catering Staff Preparing the Barbecue