



**Annual  
Conference 2010**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
to  
Sunday 21<sup>nd</sup> March

Welcomes internationally  
respected taxidermist and  
Sculptor

***Alexander Sokolov***

The Hayes Conference  
Centre

Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire  
DE55 1AU  
01773 526000

\_\_\_\_\_ Conference Organiser \_\_\_\_\_

Mr Steve Toher

Tel: 0114 269 8046

----- Friday -----

**15:00** Arrival and registration of members and their exhibits.

**18:45** DINNER

**21:00** Social evening in bar.

**Note:** Throughout the conference there will be extra activities. Trade stands, glass eyes and displays. Members are invited to assist to raise Guild funds by bringing along taxidermy books, artefacts, casts and surplus materials and specimens for auction and raffle prizes.

## **THE AVIAN CHALLENGE 2010**

### **Have you got a Jay in your freezer ?**

At conference 2010 the Guild will stage its own version of "Avian Challenge" as enacted at the world show.

This competition tests taxidermists' ability to create a mount which attempts to reproduce exactly the pose of a bird in a set photo.

The competition is open to all, is anonymous\* and the judging will be led by two experienced bird taxidermists who will encourage both audience and entrant participation in the judging and elimination process. This will educate all, from complete novices to the most experienced in learning how to evaluate their own work. The ability to self critique is an aspect of taxidermy which is difficult for the individual working on their own to master. This competition is designed to improve our skills in an entertaining, relaxed and informative manner.

The challenge will be a European JAY. The photo it must be copied from can be found at;  
[http://photo.net/photodb/photo?photo\\_id=4123867](http://photo.net/photodb/photo?photo_id=4123867)

All entries must be on a plain painted or sealed base 8" x 8" with no ground work or labelling.

\* Anonymous in that entries will have a number and only the name of the winner will be announced. The Guild of Taxidermists reserves the right to change the programme and refuse entry to any non member. The decision of the committee members present will be final.

----- Saturday -----

8:30 BREAKFAST

9:15 Welcome from Chairman

9:30 Mr Alexander Sokolov will commence his talk and demonstration on sculpting and mounting a full fox.

10:45 TEA/COFFEE

11:10 Continuation of lecture demonstration by Mr Sokolov.

12:30 Group photo

12:45 LUNCH

Time for participating members to judge the competitions.

14:30 Dr Pat Morris: *Historical taxidermy*

This year Pat will discuss and demonstrate some perhaps long forgotten techniques, tips and methods employed by the "Old masters" of British taxidermy.

15:30 Continuation of lecture Demonstration by Mr Sokolov.

17:30 AGM

(Open strictly to fully paid up members of the Guild)

18:45 DINNER

Followed by Results of Competitions Credits and the Avian Challenge, Raffles etc



----- Sunday -----

8:30 BREAKFAST

9:15 **Legal Update**

Kim McDonald – Kim will update us on any changes to the law as it applies to

9:45 **Continuation of lecture Demonstration by Mr Sokolov.**

10:45 TEA/COFFEE

11:10 **Continuation of lecture Demonstration by Mr Sokolov. To Completion.**

12:30 **Thanks to Mr Sokolov and perhaps an opportunity to ask any questions.**

12:45 LUNCH

13:45 **Close of Conference 2010** – Still time to buy from the taxidermy supply shop

**Current Chairman**

Philip Leggett                      01204 523622

**Bringing along a mount for judging?**

We always welcome and encourage members to bring along specimens for competitions, judging or critique. Please ensure that all specimens have a base of some description which makes the mount stable.

Large mounts must be stable and safe.

**Large Game heads and wall mounts:**

Whilst we do try to provide a facility for smaller wall hanging mounts. (Up to small Sika) You must provide your own stable and safe mount stand for large, heavy or bulky full and shoulder mounts. Unstable stands/mounts may be refused entry on health and safety grounds.

# COMPETITIONS

## PROFESSIONAL

*Best Bird, Best Mammal, Best Fish/Reptile,  
Best Game Head*

## AMATEUR

*Best Bird, Best Mammal, Best Fish/Reptile,  
Best Game Head*

## THEME COMPETITION

*Best Artistic Interpretation of a Theme (i.e.  
Curiosity) - Sponsored by Snowdonia  
Taxidermy Supplies*

## THE WAGSTAFFE TROPHY

*Best Cased Exhibit*

## NORFOLK TROPHY

*Best Ground Work*

## BEST AMATEUR

## DON SHARP MEMORIAL TROPHY

## BEST IN SHOW

## AVIAN CHALLENGE

## Information

Please note: ALL specimens are to be registered by 9.30am Saturday morning.

If you have work on display, please take the time to fill out one of the Judging Slips. Your opinions count. An hour has been set aside after Lunch on Saturday for judging for competitions. Please return the completed forms to the registrar's desk as soon as possible.



## Speakers:

This Year we are very proud to announce that our keynote speaker for Conference will be the internationally known and respected taxidermist and sculptor **Alexander Sokolov**.

Alexander Sokolov owns and operates one of the largest taxidermy studios in Russia.  
Website <http://www.cat-studio.ru>

He also owns a large taxidermy supply company.

He has received many major awards for his work at all levels in Russian, European and World Shows.

He is also a highly respected Judge, having Judged regularly at Russian, European and World Shows.

Alexander is an experienced, entertaining and informative speaker.

This is a unique opportunity to see a world class professional taxidermist mounting a commonly available mammal here in the UK. He is coming to the UK solely to attend the Guild conference. Truly an opportunity not to be missed!

### **Kim McDonald**

Guilds legal representative and liaison with RSPB, DEFRA, Police

### **Dr Pat Morris**

Britain's foremost authority on the history of British taxidermy and a conference institution