



West Midlands Wood Turners

DECEMBER 2015

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PROGRAMME AND DIARY DATES

| Date | Event |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 29th November | Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens- Christmas Event |
| 6th December | Mick Hanbury Demonstration and Christmas Lunch |
| 2016 Meetings Programme | |
| 17th January | Hands on - bowl turning |
| 21st February | Andrew (the hat man) Hall Demonstration |
| 20th March | Hands on - spindle turning: table lamp |
| 17th April | Simon Hope Demonstration |
| 15th May | Hands on - goblets |
| 12th June | Tony Walton Demonstration |
| 17th July | Hands on - cylindrical boxes |
| 21st August | Steve Heeley Demonstration |
| 18th September | Hands on - pen turning |
| 16th October | Sue Harker Demonstration |
| 20th November | AGM and Hands on - open hollow forms |
| 11th December | Mark Baker Demonstration and Christmas Lunch |

Christmas Lunch 6th December



In addition to the demo by Mick Hanbury, the traditional Christmas lunch will be held. Bring your goodies for sharing, eat from a wooden platter that you have made, and take part in the "Secret Santa" gift exchange.

Demonstration days start at 9.15 am and conclude around 4.30 pm. (Setting up from 8.30 am)

Hands On days start at 9.30 am and conclude about 4.00 pm.

Water Orton Bridge

At the time of writing this newsletter, the ancient bridge at Water Orton is still closed. We do not yet have a date for it to be re-opened, so if you use this bridge please continue to use an alternative route to the school.

Chairman's Challenge Annual Awards

The presentations for the Challenge Shields will take place at the Christmas Lunch.

The winner of the Novice Group also receives a voucher sponsored by:

Earlwood Interiors

A local supplier of tools, equipment and blanks for woodturners, carvers and cabinet makers.

www.earlwoodinteriors.co.uk

Thanks to everyone that attended the AGM. It has been a positive year for WMMT with some of the highlights being:

11 new members signed up,
a successful weekend at Daventry finishing second overall,
raising £529 from sales at outside events with one more to do and
a full page report on our 25th anniversary in Woodturning Magazine .

The hands-on that followed the AGM was a hive of activity with 6 lathes being kept busy all afternoon. There were 42 members and 2 visitors on the day. The Chairman's Challenge attracted 11 excellent entries and the display table had a varied display of high quality work.

The raffle raised a very generous £61.

Several members donated items for the sales table and "pick a peg" thank you to those.

I was impressed with Brian Teall's printing blocks and the skill shown in the carving. Thank you Brian for sharing these with us.

Our December meeting will include the Bring and Share Christmas Buffet. If you have not been to one of these before we all bring in some food either savoury or sweet, as a guide bring in as much as you would eat yourself plus a bit extra. Food should be things that you can pick up with your fingers and does not need a knife, fork and spoon. Why not bring a turned plate to eat your food off.

Congratulations to Tom Badger for achieving Certificates of Merit for two of his pieces at the recent Society of Ornamental Turners meeting. With both of these pieces he came second to professional turners.

There is no Chairman's Challenge this month so please make an extra effort to bring in something for the display table.

I hope to see you all on the 6th December but can I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and happy peaceful and prosperous New Year.

This year I am not giving gifts, instead I have decided to give everyone my opinion

*Good King Wenceslas phones up his local Italian takeaway.
"I'll have a pepperoni pizza, please," requests the monarch.
"Certainly, your majesty" says the manager, "Would you like your usual?"
"Yes please", replies the King.
"Deep pan, crisp and even."*

How come you never hear anything about the 10th reindeer "Olive"?
Olive?

Yeah, you know, "Olive the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names.

*It was Christmas Eve in a supermarket and a woman was anxiously picking over the last few remaining turkeys in the hope of finding a large one. In desperation she called over a shop assistant and said "Excuse me. Do these turkeys get any bigger?"
"No" he replied, "they're all dead".*

The 4 stages of life:

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus
3. You dress up as Santa Claus
4. You look like Santa Claus

It was Christmas Eve. Harry and Shirley had returned from an enjoyable midnight mass at their local church. They arrived home and spent a short while relaxing by an open fire before retiring to bed.

Some time in the middle of the night they were awoken by heavy knocking on their front door. Harry was very unhappy about this. He went down stairs and noisily unlocked the door to be confronted by dishevelled man who was obviously the worse for drink.

'Th'cuse me thur. Will you helpth me with a puth."

"Help you with a push!" said Harry. "You drunken idiot! Get away from my house before I call the police! Irresponsible people like you should be banned from driving!" And slammed the door into the man's face.

He went back to bed and was astonished to find himself being reprimanded by his wife. "How could you be so mean and uncharitable." she said. "Surely this evening's sermon must still be ringing in your ears. How the innkeeper turned Joseph and Mary away on Christmas Eve. Here you are presented with the same situation and you show yourself to be no better than that uncaring man. Shame on you."

Harry was shocked by the relevance of what he had done and was full of remorse. He ran down the stairs and opened the front door, but the man was no longer there. So, he ran down the path to his front gate to see if the man or his car was along the road; but there was no traffic or people at all.

On the off-chance that the man might still be around somewhere he shouted loudly.

"Hey mister, needing a push, where are you?"

The unmistakable drunken voice replied immediately. "Over here thur, on the thwing."

All complaints about these pearls of wisdom should be directed to the Chairman, preferably after he has had his Christmas pud and brandy!



The Officers and Committee were re-elected and the Committee for 2016 is:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Honorary Chairman: | Cliff Lane |
| Honorary Secretary: | John Hooper |
| Honorary Treasurer: | Les Saunby |
| Honorary Vice-Chairman: | Malcolm Thorpe |
| Events Manager: | Peter Timms |
| Equipment Manager: | Ken Beresford |

Publicity and Membership remain vacant.

Additional Roles:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Deputy Hon Secretary: | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Newsletter Editor: | John Hooper |
| Deputy Editor: | Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau |
| Hands On Day coordinator: | Phil Stevenson |
| External Events coordinator: | Malcolm Thorpe |
| Display Table: | Bob Rimmer and Malcolm Edwards |
| Equipment Maintenance: | Steve Simmons |
| Webmaster: | Brian Goodall |
| Deputy webmaster: | Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau |
| Safety Officer: | Peter Blakey |
| First Aid coordinator: | Dave Hobbs |
| Catering: | Cliff Lane |

Propositions:

The following propositions were carried:

1. To accept committee reports as presented
2. To accept the accounts for the company
3. To maintain current fee levels
4. To offer a discount to members who pay for the full year in advance
5. To offer prospective members one free Hands On meeting and one Demonstration meeting at cost, which will be refunded on becoming a member
6. To use SIC Code 94990 (For annual report to Companies House)
7. To continue to be an Affiliated Club with AWGB
8. That for each month except December the challenge will comprise 3 groups each of which will be set a different challenge.
9. To maintain the current practice of colour printing and sending by post copies of the newsletter to members who are not able to accept electronic communication.

The votes recorded will be published in the minutes of the meeting, available on request from the Honorary Secretary.

Members who were unable to attend the meeting can obtain a copy of the AGM Pack from the Honorary Secretary.

One of our new members, Laura Gurdin, having a turn, and a visitor, Garrick Burchell, getting some tuition from Dave Nash.



Another new member, Brian Teall, brought in his hand operated printing press together with printing blocks to demonstrate his “other hobby”.



Novice Group: Whistle (6 Entries)

1st Place: Dave Reynolds

2nd Place: Les Wilkes

3rd Place: Bill Finnigan



Intermediate Group: Open Neck Vase (1 entry)

1st Place: Wolfgang Schulze-Zachau



Advanced Group: Open Neck Vase (4 Entries)

1st Place: Tim Davies



2nd Place: Malcolm Thorpe



3rd Place: Don Lawrence



DISPLAY TABLE

WEST MIDLANDS WOODTURNERS



The list of projects for the Chairman's Challenge is given in advance in order to provide Greater preparation time and encourage more members to participate. All of the projects have been selected to help build your skills month by month. If you have any questions please feel free to ask me at meetings or phone me at home. Enjoy your turning and I look forward to seeing your input each month.

Novice Group

| | |
|------|------------------------------------|
| Jan | Solid Rolling Pin |
| Feb | Bird |
| Mar | Ring Stand |
| Apr | Kitchen Roll Holder |
| May | Tool Handle |
| June | Mouse |
| July | Door Wedge |
| Aug | Bud Vase |
| Sept | Xmas Decoration - a Christmas tree |
| Oct | Tea Light Holder |
| Nov | Apple |
| Dec | No Competition |

Intermediate Goup

| | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| Jan | Ball and Cup Toy |
| Feb | Hedgehog |
| Mar | Chess Piece 2 Pawns |
| Apr | Goblet with Captive Ring |
| May | Offset Female Figure |
| June | Pedestal Bowl |
| July | Box |
| Aug | Miniature Birdhouse |
| Sept | Xmas Decoration - a Drop Finial |
| Oct | Platter |
| Nov | Apple and Pear |
| Dec | No Competition |

Advanced Group

| | |
|------|---|
| Jan | Square Edge Bowl |
| Feb | Goblet with Lid and Finial |
| Mar | Chess Pieces - 2 from King, Queen, Knight, Bishop, Rook |
| Apr | Plant Stand approx 8inches tall (200mm) |
| May | Thin Bowl with Reflex Curve |
| June | Pestle and Mortar |
| July | Off Centre Candlestick |
| Aug | Box with Threaded Lid |
| Sept | Christmas Cracker |
| Oct | Corinthian Helmet |
| Nov | Small Hollow Form with Open Twist |
| Dec | No Competition |

Cannock Chase Woodturners:

Cannock's annual woodturning show will take place between 2nd and 6th December at Chasewater Innovation Centre Chasewater, WS8 7NL. In addition to the show, there is a raffle, and to console you if you do not win anything, a cafe offering Tea, Coffee sandwiches etc.

Axminster - Nuneaton

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday 26th November 2015 | Pen Turning with Rob Sheehan |
| Saturday 5th December 2015 | Christmas Decorations using a scroll saw and pyrography |
| Saturday 30th January 2016 | Turning on the Axminster 1642 lathe with Richard Findley |
| Friday/ Saturday 11/12th March 2016 | Ten Turners Turning Andrew Hall (the Hatman), Andy Rounthwaite, Joe Laird (from Ireland), Mark Sanger, Phil Irons, Richard Findley, Steve Heeley, Tracey Owen, Colwin Way and Jason Breach. |

UK & Ireland Woodturning Symposium

This will take place at the Hilton Hotel in Coventry, on 18th & 19th June 2016, and is a "not-for-profit" event. Full details can be found on their website www.ukiws.co.uk.

Places for the two days can be booked direct at a cost of £15 per day or £25 for both days, which includes entry and what they call "public" demonstrations.

There is no catering or accommodation offered, but these will doubtless be available through the hotel.

There are to be a number of "Master Classes" which will be at additional cost and will need to be booked separately.

The provisional programme can be accessed at: <http://www.ukiws.co.uk/timetable/>

The following messages have been received.

Hi guys,

I wonder if you can help me, or in fact I can help you!

My father who lives in Cannock Staffs suffered from encephalitis over 10 years ago prior to which he had led a busy life running major sites for Wates Bros and enjoying his wood working.

Time has come for my parents to downsize from their large Victorian house in Cannock to somewhere more suitable. A victim of this will be a whole raft of timber, including solid mahogany planks, American oak planks, teak planks plus a Kitty work bench system with saw, a s/moulder and thickness planer plus lathe and pillar drill and lots of tools.

We need to get this lot shifted and need your help. Ideally to sell of as a contribution to their moving costs.

How can you help me?

Please get in touch.

Simon Breeze (Son)

—oo—

Hello,

I wonder if you can help me. I am looking for someone to turn a Spalted beech bowl blank for me, approximate dimensions are 12 inches in diameter by 2.75 inch thick.

I wondered if you might know anyone who would be happy to turn this for me, and for what cost?

I live in Sutton Coldfield so I am local.

Would appreciate your thoughts

Chris Hoare

—oo—

Contact details for the messages above are available from the Chairman or Secretary.

—oo—

Demonstrators and a lathe for sale.

The following request has been received from Offchurch Woodturners. If any member wishes to consider demonstrating, please be aware that there may be significant insurance implications which need to be understood. Details about the insurance issues can be obtained from the Secretary.

Cliff,

We're putting together the programme for Offchurch Woodturners for next year and we thought that we'd see if there were any local woodturners who would like to demonstrate. If any of your members are starting to present demonstrations and would like to present to a bunch of friendly woodturners without having to travel too far then we'd be glad to hear from them.

We're open to suggestions as regards the content of the demonstration but we're also happy to discuss any possible themes or ideas. We aim more towards the beginners end of the scale and ideally the demonstration would take this into account.

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at Offchurch Village Hall, starting at 7.00 p.m. and finishing about 9.30 p.m.

If there is anybody who would like to present then I'm happy to discuss further by email or on the phone.

Also, on a personal note, do you have a small ads section in your newsletter or your website? I have a Vicmarc VL300 short bed lathe for sale and I thought that I would try the local woodturning clubs before I venture onto Ebay. The lathe works fine, I bought it second hand about 5-6 years ago. I'm only changing it because it's a bit short for the spindle work that I'm doing.

Regards

John Davies

Chairman - Offchurch Woodturners

Contact details are available from the Chairman.

Please send materials for the newsletter to :
Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk