



West Midlands Wood Turners

FEBRUARY 2014

Secretary and Editor: John Hooper

0121 354 8464

john@hooper25.plus.com

Chairman's Comments

It was good to see such a good turnout our January meeting which included the AGM. Brian Gibbs had announced his intention to stand down after 10 successful years as Chairman. I was proud to be proposed and voted in as Chairman and will do everything I can to promote the club and keep it moving forward. WMWT has a good reputation and is well respected by members of other clubs, this is clear from the comments that we receive at events like Daventry.

The afternoon session was our normal Hands On and this was a hive of activity with the lathes being kept busy. Three members had asked for instruction and this worked well. Both the Display Table and Chairman's Challenge Table were well supported and I am sure that these will go from strength to strength.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps out at club meetings and at the outside events that we attend. Bob Rimmer and his wife Stella deserve extra thanks for offering to store all the display stands, tables, lighting and several boxes of turnings needed for these out side events. Depending how dates work out this can be for several weeks both before and after the show.

Our next meeting is a demonstration by Andy Coates, I have looked on his Web Site and his work looks very interesting so I am sure that we are in for an enjoyable day.

Cliff

Programme and Diary Dates

16th Feb	Andy Coates Demonstration
16th March	Hands On Day
28/29th March	Midlands Woodworking and Power Tool Show. Newark.
13th April	George Foweraker Demonstration
19th April	Castle Bromwich Easter Event
10/11th May	Tudor Rose Woodworks Daventry
18th May	Hands On Day
22nd June	Ladies Day: Margaret Garrard Demonstration
20th July	Hands On

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. (Setting up from 9.00 am)

Details of external shows will be provided by the organisers, who will be identified at meetings and in the newsletter when known.

Annual Chairman's Challenge Competition Winners:

Brian Bateman (Basic Group) and Don Nash (Premier Group) being presented with their plaques by Cliff Lane.



Annual General Meeting: 10.00 am 19th January 2014

The AGM was attended by 39 members, with apologies from 5 members.

Summary of outcomes:

The meeting approved the minutes of the 2013 AGM, with some issues being discussed under matters arising.

The meeting received and approved reports from the outgoing Chairman, Brian Gibbs, and the Treasurer, Les Saunby. After discussion, the meeting approved a proposal to change the year end to 31st October.

The following elections were held and were unanimously carried:

Chairman:	Cliff Lane
Vice-Chairman:	Brian Gibbs
Treasurer:	Les Saunby
Secretary:	John Hooper
Events Secretary:	Peter Timms
Newsletter Editor:	John Hooper
Hands On Day co-ordinators:	Phil Stevenson and Brian Goodall

The club agreed to remain members of AWGB.

Meeting day fees are to be reviewed in November.

Members were requested to complete questionnaires concerning the Newsletter and Hands On Day format.

The results will be made available when analysis is concluded.

Members were requested to complete a Data Protection Act form.

There was discussion about further external events which we wished to attend.

There was discussion about the December meeting format.

The meeting approved the creation of 3 new life members.

The Awards for the Chairman's Challenge for 2013 were made to Brian Bateman and Don Nash.

The meeting closed at 11.40am



Results of Chairman's Challenge January 2014

Egg and Cup

There were 8 entries in the basic group. The first place was shared between Dave Reynolds and Tom Badger with Les Wilkes taking third place.



1st equal: Dave Reynolds



1st equal: Tom Badger



3rd: Les Wilkes

There were 3 entries in the Premier Group:



1st: Don Lawrence



2nd: Malcolm Thorpe



3rd: Dave Nash

Hands On

After the AGM concluded, tea, coffee and biscuits consumed, members went back to doing what we do—making shavings!

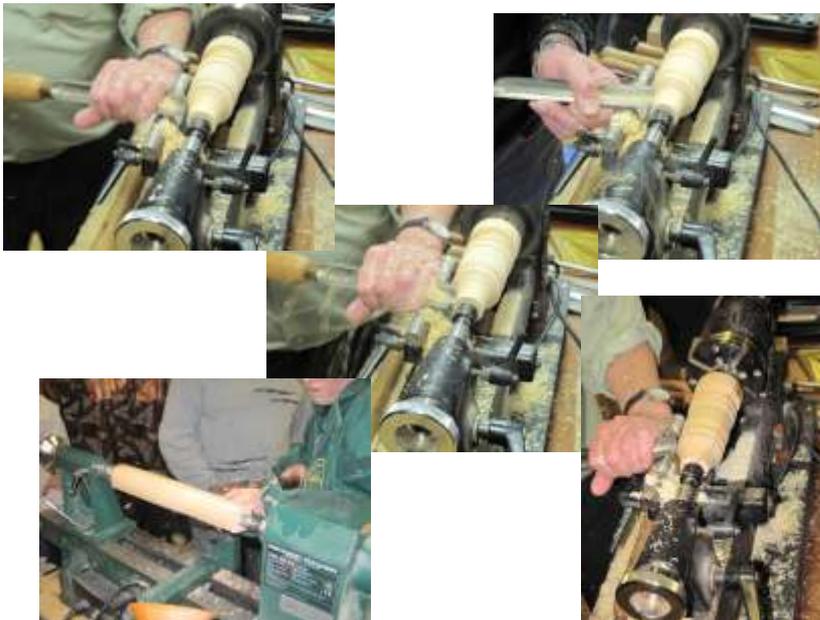
Unusually for WMWT we indulged in some scroll saw activity, with a demonstration of letter cutting.



It is always good to see younger turners having a go, even if at times his knuckles were a bit white! Rounding off can be scary, even if we do it regularly. A return to basics is probably a good thing from time to time.



There was activity around spindle turning, boxes and what appeared to be a discussion about the finer points of gouge profiles.



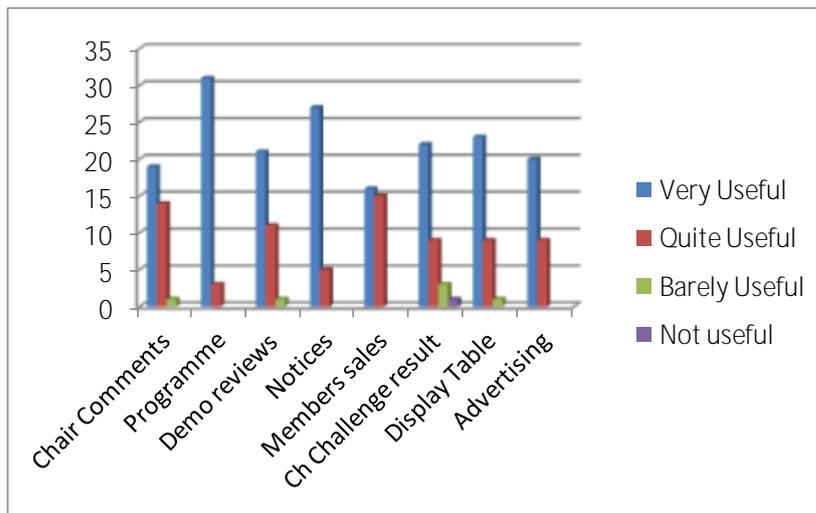
Overall, a good afternoon with lots of activity and discussions about a wide range of turning topics.

Newsletter Questionnaire:

I have been editing and compiling the newsletter for a year, and I wanted to know whether I was getting it right, or whether a revision was required. Improvements can always be made to any project, and I was interested to see what members thought and what they might like to be added or left out. I asked that the forms be completed anonymously so that a clear picture could be obtained.

34 forms were completed, with 27 receiving the newsletter by e-mail and 7 by post. However, 23 members preferred e-mail copy, 4 preferred paper copy and 1 preferred not to receive it.

In terms of the Useful vs Useless question the results were:



The format was loved or liked by 30, tolerated by 1 member with 3 no preference.

As always, with questionnaires, the additional comments are possibly the most revealing.

Responses on content were

For sale and wanted section.

Possibility for sponsorship

Release date 1 week before meeting

Editorial section

Photos are very high standard

Other club activities good to know. Club demo at Burcot cancelled - no notice given. Enjoyed the run out!

Mid Wales club have different members to write review for each demo - it might be useful here.

More "described" photos

Needs more tips and tricks from either members or other sources

Specify times (start & finish) of meetings

Include dates and times of forthcoming meetings

Responses concerning the format were:

More articles - prepared to write some

Very professional

Very factual and informative. Keep it going

Newsletter is excellent and getting even better

Leave well alone

Overall, it would appear that the membership is satisfied with the newsletter and no major revisions or changes are necessary.

The suggestions are useful and, where we can, will be incorporated, although it may be necessary to further discuss some of the items raised.

Whilst I will try to ensure that items concerning other club activities are accurate, unless we are advised of cancellations, and we are aware of who planned to attend, it will be difficult to avoid this problem. I will try to find a solution.

Members who are willing to write articles and/or demonstration reviews will be welcomed with open arms. Please let me know who you are.

I have incorporated some suggestions into this edition, and will look into the other ideas as soon as I can.

Wood Turning Shows:

The Midlands Woodworking and Power Tool show is a new event at Newark. In my capacity as Secretary, I am negotiating for a number of exhibitors passes for use by those who are willing to man the stand for a morning or afternoon session, on both days. There will be further information on this at the next meeting (hopefully—if I get it from the organisers).

Tudor Rose Woodworks is not far away and Chairman Cliff and Bob Rimmer will be collecting exhibits. It is sensible to use these exhibits for the Newark show, so please let Cliff or Bob have anything that you wish to enter as soon as possible.

It would be nice to win for a third time at Daventry, wouldn't it?

Other Events:

We have received the following from Axminster Power Tools Ltd:

Dear Club Secretary,

I'm not sure whether you will have heard but Axminster Tools & Machinery is hosting a FREE major wood-turning event at its store in Nuneaton on Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd March, 10.00am to 4.00pm on both days.

The event, known as 10 Turners Turning, has recruited 10 top turners who will be demonstrating their skills and producing their trademark pieces of work. The 10 turners will also take part in a competition – Ready Steady Turn – over the two days. Visitors will be asked to vote for their favourite turner/favourite piece of work and, as a result of voting, will be entered into a prize draw for a £150 Axminster gift card.

The turners taking part are Mark Baker, Richard Findley, Andrew Hall, Mark Hancock, Steve Heeley, Phil Irons, Stuart King, Stuart Mortimer, Gary Rance and Colwin Way.

The venue is Axminster Tools & Machinery, Bermuda Trade Park, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 7RA. It is literally 5 minutes from the M6. Details of our Nuneaton store can be found at www.axminster.co.uk/stores.

This really is a very unique event and a fantastic opportunity to see 10 top UK turners in action at one venue for free. More information about the event can be found at www.axminster.co.uk/blog.

I should be very grateful if you would make your members aware of this event.

Kind regards,

Jacqueline Hunt
Marketing Co-ordinator

Axminster Tools & Machinery

Yandles Spring Show:

11-12 April 2014 at Martock, Somerset.

There will be demonstrations including turning, carving, chair making, chainsaw carving, blacksmithing and stick making as well as the usual sales points and local club displays.

If there is sufficient interest, I can look into the costs of group travel arrangements. It is a fair distance, but can be done in a (long) day. It is around 160 miles and should take not more than 3 hours each way, depending on traffic conditions, tea stops etc.

Let me have your name if interested.

John Hooper
john@hooper25.plus.com

Tips & Tricks

From Bill Finnigan:

My idea which I find works for me is reusing soup containers. Plastic soup containers which are sold in all the big super markets air tight sealed with a soup of your choice. Sold individually or if you are lucky might qualify for a BOGOF!

After you have used the soup, wash the container leave it to dry remove the plastic stickers from around the lid and container, all this requires is peeling them back and removing. Then you have a container ready to hold rolls of sand paper. Air tight containers would keep sand paper damp free if your work shop/studio has no heating. Labels can be made from packets of corn flakes cut to length and then using a black marker pen write the grade of paper which can then be put into your container showing what grade of paper is inside. Small pieces of sand paper are easily placed inside the containers at the end of your session in your work-shop/studio ready for you.

Empty used soup containers can be recycled with different grades of paper stored placed on a shelf how efficient would that make your work location look?