



WEST MIDLANDS WOODTURNERS



April 2017 Newsletter

2017 Programme of meetings

Venue: Water Orton Primary School, unless otherwise stated.

9th April	Mark Sanger Demo
21st May	Hands On: Finials
11th June	Paul Hannaby Demo
16th July	Hands On: Natural edge bowls
20th August	Keith Fenton Demo
17th September	Hands On: Fruit
15th October	Dave Atkinson Demo
19th November	AGM and Hands On : Spirals
10th December	Mark Hancock Demo and Christmas "buffet"

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.

Don't forget your lunch and a mug!

Programme of "outside" events

29th/30th April & 1st May	Curborough Festival of Artists
12th & 13th May	"Woodworks" at Daventry
17th June	Water Orton Carnival
9th July	New Hall Mill. Sutton Coldfield
28th August	New Hall Mill. Sutton Coldfield

Portable Appliance Testing (PAT Testing)

Testing will take place at the Hands On day on 21st May 2017.

If members want their own equipment testing, then bring them to the meeting.
The cost of testing non-club items is usually passed back to the member(s) involved.

Chairs

The school has a limited number of chairs available, so please bring your own, if possible.

Car parking.

The large car park at the rear of the school will be available on 9th April.

WMWT Committee

Chairman	Cliff Lane	Chair@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Vice Chair	Wolfgang Schulze -Zachau	Vice@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Secretary & Director	John Hooper	Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Treasurer	Les Saunby	Treasurer@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Programme and Events Manager	Malcolm Thorpe	Events@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Equipment Manager	Steve Simmons	Equipment@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Membership Secretary	Helen Lees	Membership@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	John Hooper	Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk

Change to Club Constitution.

On 9th March 2017 the Extraordinary General meeting passed the following resolution by a unanimous vote with no dissention or abstention.

“To reduce the quorum required for Annual General Meetings from two thirds of the membership to half of the membership.”

This amendment has immediate effect, and the amended constitution has been added to the club website.

John Hooper

Honorary Secretary.

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Items for Curborough and Daventry

Please bring any items that you wish to display or sell at the Curborough Festival of Artists to the meeting on 9th April, if you are not able to bring them to the Festival itself.

Display items for Woodworks at Daventry

Please bring display items for the Daventry show to the club meeting on 9th April. Up to 3 items per member can be submitted, but not necessarily displayed, depending on available space on the stand. The display should be representative of all experience levels in the club.

Chairman's Comments

Our March meeting was something different for us and incorporated the AWGB Birthday Bash with a very full Hands On day.

We had 6 lathes in use; one was allocated to the 9 brave members that volunteered to entertain us with short demonstrations throughout the day. The other lathes were kept in constant use by a variety of members and produced a wide range of items.

Steve Heeley accepted our invitation to join us for the day and his services were in great demand by members keen to have tuition from such a skilled professional turner and teacher.

There were 50 members present including 4 new members signed up on the day so a warm welcome to them. We also had 1 visitor who I hope will also decide to join us.

The Chairman's Challenge attracted 16 excellent entries and the Display Table 22 high quality pieces. The quality and variety of work on display each month is a constant reminder of the skills that we have in the club.

I know that I speak for everyone when I say thank you to Malcolm Thorpe for organising such a thoroughly enjoyable day. I also pass on our thanks to Malcolm's wife Margaret for making us a delicious birthday cake. My thanks also to all of the demonstrators, Steve Heeley, and to everyone that came on the day to support the club.

Thank you for the Pick a Peg donations at the last meeting, and for the support over recent months. As most of you know we have decided to only use the Pick a Peg Three times each year as producing this level of stock should be easily managed if the majority of members do a few pieces each year. The Pick a Peg will be used in June, July and August so I am asking you for a big push to build more stock over the coming months.

Rob Huxley has recently volunteered to take over writing the Club News articles for the Tamworth Herald and the Sutton Observer. Rob's work is now starting to be included regularly in both papers so my thanks go to him for his work on this.

The AWGB are holding their AGM on 23rd April 2017. If you are thinking of going and can offer someone a lift or would like to attend but need a lift can you let me or John Hooper know at the April meeting?

I spent half a day at the Woodworking and Power Tool Show in Newark. I enjoyed my visit but had the feeling that there was not as much to see compared to previous years. I resisted the temptation to buy more turning tools but did buy some pyrography tips and piercing bits.

The April meeting is the last before Curborough and Daventry. Don't forget to bring your pieces for the display table. We are also looking for good quality pieces that you are willing to offer for sale at Curborough. If you are still working on your masterpiece for Daventry speak to Malcolm Thorpe, John Hooper or myself to sort out getting the piece in time for the show.

Cliff

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A man is involved in a terrible cycling accident, in which he breaks a large number of the bones in his body. Waking up in hospital several days later, his legs hoisted in the air and his arms encased in plaster, he finds the doctor looking at him from a chair next to the bed.

"Oh," the doctor says, "you're awake. How do you feel my man?"

"Considering I've had such a terrible accident, I really don't feel too bad," the injured man replies. "In fact, I feel pretty darn good."

But as he finishes saying this, he suddenly starts to lean to his left. The doctor, realising the man has no means of support, grabs him and props him upright. Later on a nurse comes by to check on him and asks how he's getting on. "As I said earlier," the injured man says, "when you consider what I've been through I actually feel super." And again, he begins to fall to one side. The nurse jumps forward and sits him upright, then goes on her way.

The next day the man's wife comes in and asks her husband how he's feeling.

"As I've told every one," the man says, "I feel Fine. I just wish these perishers would let me fart in comfort."

West Midlands Wood Turners AWGB 30th Birthday Bash

The history of West Midlands Wood Turners closely mirrors that of the AWGB so our 30th birthday bash brought together members who have taken an active part in the development of the AWGB. The day consisted of a number mini demonstration using our state of the art camera system, plus five turning stations for members to pass on their experience.

First up was Graham Lovatt; AWGB life member who was the Midlands representative for several years and organised the AWGB stands at the NEC. He fascinated new members and visitors with his signature offset turned lady. Graham made the commented how far demonstrations had come with modern camera systems from the overhead mirrors of the past. Graham was a difficult act to follow but Steve Heeley, a local professional and friend of the club was up it. Turning a yew mushroom in double quick time then retiring to a lathe with a queue of novices to help in their development.



Next was Keith Lanchester who took part the tutor development programme and was the originator of the camera system. This was followed by two long serving members of the AWGB; Phil Stevenson, who demonstrated for the AWGB at

the NEC, also made a mushroom but with an added loose ring. Then Peter Hockley, who handled Insurance for the AWGB, made an exquisite small goblet with three loose rings. All the focusing range of the cameras was needed.

Last up before lunch break was Dave Nash who despite his long membership had not demonstrated to such a large audience before. As he said, he was used to tuning before small numbers and the public but it was daunting with all the experienced turners in the audience.



Lunchtime was a busy period, the competition to judge, visitors to greet and what all birthdays should have the chairman Cliff Lane cutting the cake. Time also to peruse English Hardwoods stock for that special piece of timber and a look at the 'bring and buy' table.

The afternoon turners; Malcolm Thorpe, Steve Simmons and Wolfgang took their turns and much to my chagrin (as I was one them) the audience appeared to have grown rather than lessened. Wolfgang finished the day with a chatty demonstration.



It was a very successful day with over 50 attending. There were several visitors, two of which joined the club and AWGB on the day.

Many thanks to Keith and Steve for manning the cameras, Dave, Mary and Bob for keeping the seemingly endless supply of tea and coffee going and my wife for the cake.

Malcolm Thorpe

Additional photos from the day



Caption Competition for April.

Entries to the Chairman - if you dare!



Chairman's Challenge: April 2017

Novice Group:
Mushroom



Intermediate Group:
Pomander

Advanced Group:
Goblet with square rim
and a lid with finial

Chairman's Challenge Results: *March 2017*

Novice Group: Plain Bowl (6 entries)

1st Place: Chris Jones



2nd Place: Mary Dunne



3rd Place: John Whitehouse



Intermediate Group: Lidded Box (5 entries)

1st Place: Darren Smith



2nd Place: Graham Hunt



3rd Place: John Hooper



Advanced Group: Bowl with wide decorated rim (6 entries)

1st Place: Ted Gill



2nd Place: Tim Davies



3rd Place: Steve Simmons

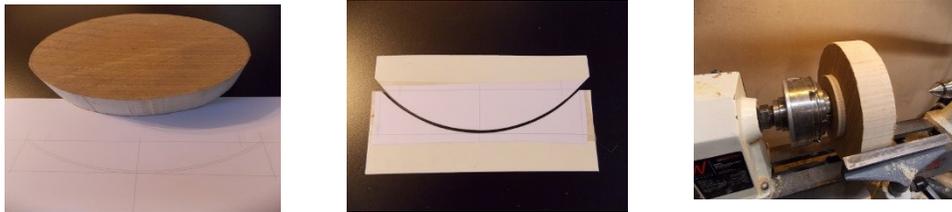


Display Table: *March 2017*



One Way to Turn a Thin Bowl by Malcolm Thorpe

I started with a maple blank 9 inches diameter by 2 inches. The dimensions were transferred in to a CAD drawing and the required shape of the bowl drawn out with a 2mm wall thickness. This was then printed out full size and glued to a sheet of thin plastic sheet. Graph paper and compasses or French curves would have worked just as well. Two templates were carefully cut out.



The blank was mounted on a screw chuck and the outer diameter trued up, hopefully keeping to the measurements of the drawing. If the blank was warped or not central then adjust the datum's on the template. To get the most from the blank a dovetail just 3mm deep and 60 mm diameter was turned onto the waste, using the drawing to check this would not impinge on the finished bowl. The blank was remounted onto the chuck jaws and the front edge and outside diameter finish turned, keeping to the drawing dimensions. The inside of the bowl was then formed with a bowl gouge and a heavy gauge round nosed scraper, using the template to refine the shape. The surface was then sanded down to 400 grit. The back of the bowl was then reduced to 2mm, starting from the edge in 1/2 inch steps using a set of callipers to ensure an even thickness. A strong light



shone through the bowl helps to show up any unevenness then the surface then sanded to 400 grit.

The next stage was to make a fixture to reverse turn the bowl. The fixture should have 4 mm register to locate the outer edge of the bowl (not too tight a fit). Two diametric opposite slots are cut into the fixture, not only to ease the bowl out of the fixture but also to enable the template to reach the edge. An LED light was experimentally added to the centre of the plate and the bowl lightly held with six clamps. The final shape was turned using the template and the light intensity as a guide.



The bowl was finish sanded, removed from the fixture and used for a piercing.



For Sale

Machine stand surplus to requirements.

Dimensions are 580 x 380 x 820 high. There are four holes in the top for bolts and the stretchers would take a shelf. It is unused and similar Clarke or Silverline ones on offer on eBay for £30-40 with postage extra whilst Axminster ones are well over £50. Suitable for drill press, sander, grinder, router, thicknesser etc.



I would be happy to offer it to a good home for £25.

Contact Kris Cietak.

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AXMINSTER M900 LATHE FOR SALE

I have for sale an Axminster M900 lathe and accessories which belonged to my late brother. This is a simple entry level lathe on its own stand, 6 speeds selected via an expanding pulley system (ie not variable speed but a lot quicker to change speed than loosening / undoing / changing belt positions on most simple lathes). I have no pics at present as the lathe is largely dismantled in my garage but I have test run it and it all seems good - it was never used much. This link will take you to the user manual which will depict the lathe and give all the specs, but in brief, 0.5 HP motor, 35 inches between centres, 12 inch swing over the bed, swivelling headstock to allow bigger bowl turning capacity.

www.axminster.co.uk/media/downloads/aptc900_manual.pdf

This lathe is maybe 15 years old and very solidly built, simple but ideal for a beginner. It will come with 2 tool rests, drive and tail centres. I'm asking £70 or best offer. Separate to the lathe are a few tools, a practically new drill chuck, a 6 inch Axminster bench grinder (including a decent white wheel) and an Axminster Woodturners chuck in excellent condition with standard C-jaws. I haven't worked out prices for these additional items yet but they will be cheap and I'm very happy to bundle the whole package together for a very good price so that a beginner can land running with everything they need. You are more than welcome to come and have a no obligation look and play - I'll even make you a cuppa! If the lathe etc goes as a package to a beginner I'll happily

throw in some wood etc to get them started.

The lathe is heavy and long so an estate-type car will be needed for transport but I can help with this if needed. Call Phil Stevenson on 0121 705 9794 or 07711 857261.

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The following is for sale by Bill Nelson, an ex-turner, living in the Broadway area.

Photos of the lathe, the chisels, the Table drill, the sanders and a router set (never used) are below.

The lathe is mounted in an exhibition stand with a folding rack at one end (for chisels, etc).

The seller would love the whole lot to go to someone who's starting out, just as he was several years ago.

Any reasonable offer will be accepted!!



Contact details from the Editor.