



# West Midlands Wood Turners

**JUNE 2016**

Secretary & Editor: John Hooper  
Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk

## WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

## PROGRAMME AND DIARY DATES

Page No	Description	Date	Event
2	Chairman's Comments	12th June	<b>Tony Walton</b> Demonstration
3-6	Report on Woodworks with photos	18th June	<b>Water Orton Carnival</b>
7	Results for all clubs at Woodworks	19th June	<b>Baddesley Clinton</b>
8	Report on Hands On day (goblets)	10th July	<b>New Hall Mill</b>
8	Supplies of Sanding sealer and thinners	17th July	Hands on - cylindrical boxes
9	Chairman's Challenge results for May	21st August	<b>Steve Heeley</b> Demonstration
9	Chairman's Challenge for June	29th August	<b>New Hall Mill</b>
		18th September	Hands on - pen turning
		10/11th September	<b>Festival of Crafts, Coombe Abbey</b>
		16th October	<b>Sue Harker</b> Demonstration
		20th November	AGM and Hands on - open hollow forms
		11th December	<b>Mark Baker</b> Demonstration and Christmas Lunch

**Demo Day 12th June  
Tony Walton**



**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.

## WMWT wins at Woodworks (for the third time).

**The club display, and the Chairman receiving the Shield from Mark Baker**



As most of you probably know by now we had a very successful weekend at Woodworks, finishing in the top three in each of the five competitions and winning the Shield for Overall Best Club. See later in this newsletter for a full report.

Our 15th May Hands On meeting immediately followed the two days at Daventry on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> May. Several members could not be at the meeting due to holidays and had sent in their apologies, as did John Hooper who was laid up with the flu. In spite of this we still had a creditable 32 members in attendance.

There were 5 lathes set up this time because Malcolm Thorpe has taken one of the club lathes home to replace the bearings. Malcolm expects the lathe to be available again for our next hands on meeting.

The theme for the day was making goblets. There was a short demonstration first thing which was eagerly watched, and then it was on to the lathes to make some shavings. The lathes were kept busy all day, and by the end of the meeting, several members had a finished masterpiece to take home with them.

It's good having a theme for some of the lathes because even if you are not ready yet to have a go we can all pick up tips and techniques to take back to our workshops.

The Chairman's Challenge entries were lower than usual but we still had 10 very good pieces. The Display Table had a range of items including several goblets to fit the day's theme.

Hands On days are for everyone and are going from strength to strength but we are always trying to get better, so if you have any ideas or suggestions for things you would like to see please speak to me or one of the committee.

#### *Paskins Kidderminster*

Some of you may have heard rumours that Paskins have ceased trading. Vance Lupton has confirmed that the shop is closed and padlocked and there are no answers to phone calls.

I have received confirmation that our application to Water Orton Carnival has been accepted.

Les Wilkes and Cliff Jeffries are both on holiday for our June meeting so I need two volunteers for tea making duties.

*After courting for over fifty years, a couple finally decided to get married.*

*While out planning for the wedding, they called in at a chemist's shop.*

*The man asked the sales assistant, "Do you sell pills for arthritis?"*

*"Yes we do" replied the assistant.*

*"Have you got anything to relieve constipation?"*

*"Yes, we have."*

*"How about heart medication?"*

*"Yes sir, we stock a wide range of tablets."*

*"Sleeping pills?"*

*"Yes"*

*"Denture cleaner?"*

*"Of course."*

*"Right then!" said the man, nodding to his bride-to-be.*

*"We'd like to register here for our wedding gifts."*

Cliff

By Cliff Lane

The first morning of the Woodworks show is always hectic with 11 clubs trying to pick a good position for their stand and for the lathe, building the stand, unpacking boxes of turnings and trying to create an attractive display, all this between 7am and 9.30am. We have found that the best way to cope with this is thorough preparation.

With this in mind, I went to Malcolm Thorpe's house on the Tuesday before Woodworks. Malcolm had cleared a space in his workshop which allowed us to build the stand and make sure that all of the parts were there. We agreed on a few small alterations that Malcolm suggested before the show. The display items were unpacked and a picture soon started to build up of the best position for the various pieces. Malcolm's wife Margaret was called in for a second opinion and after moving a couple items we were happy with the look of the stand. After a cup of tea and biscuits Malcolm was happy for me to leave him to take pictures of the layout to refer to at the show and carefully pack away the turning so that he would know which order it needed to be unpacked in.

I was up early on Friday morning so that I could pick up Brian Bateman at 5.50am, and despite a small detour we arrived at the leisure centre at 7.15 am. Malcolm Edwards, Malcolm Thorpe and Phil Stevenson were already there and had unloaded the stand and display items from Malcolm Thorpe's motor and were ready to unload the club lathe from Malcolm Edwards' van.

With the vehicles moved to the car park we were ready to start. Phil and Malcolm Edwards set up the lathe, screen, grinder and all of the related equipment.

Malcolm Thorpe, Brian Bateman and I got on with putting stand together; this went to plan and we were soon ready to start setting out the display. This was completed by Malcolm and Brian following the layout that we had already decided on. The preparation on Tuesday was a big help in this and after a few minor alterations we were finished and ready for the show to start.

Mark Baker was an early visitor to the stand and commented that he was impressed with the quality of the work and variety on display.

Gary Rance asked Gerry Pulcella to pass on his compliments on the look of the stand and way the turnings were displayed and we also had a great many favourable comments from the visitors over the two days with plenty of questions about the displayed work.

There were three turning competitions

Friday 11.30 am – 1.00 pm turn a Platter 8 inches in diameter the blank to be supplied by Tudor Rose. Malcolm Thorpe volunteered to do this.

Saturday 11.00 am – 11.45 turn a Bud Vase free choice on material and design, in absence of any other volunteers I agreed to do this.

The main competition was a Three Legged Milking Stool to be turned over the weekend and be on the judging table by 2 pm on the Saturday afternoon. Phil Stevenson volunteered to do

this and set himself even more of a challenge by deciding to put stretchers with captive rings between the legs.

The show opened at 10 am. Phil made a start on the Stool, but had to stop 11.15 to set up the lathe for the Platter competition to start at 11.30.

Malcolm turned the platter, which was a piece of Sycamore, and in spite of having to deal with some difficult grain, finished on time with a good design and to his usual high standard.

Phil returned to working on the stool for the rest of the day.

The first of the good news came about lunch time when Stan Bird from Tudor Rose gave us the rosette for 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Display, and then more good news when Malcolm achieved third place for his platter.

The final job for the afternoon was for each club to select three pieces from their stand for the judges to decide Best in Show; the judging took place before the show opened on the second day. I arrived at 9.30 am Saturday morning and was delighted to find that Vance Lupton's hollow form with the carved flowers had been selected as Best in Show.

Phil Stevenson had finished the turning on the stool before 11 am but still had plenty to do before the 2 pm deadline working out the angles, marking out and drilling the holes for the stretchers.

I had time to get myself ready before starting to turn the Bud Vase at 11 am. I had decided on a piece of Spalted Sycamore for this which turned out to be soft in places but luckily, and with a spray of sanding sealer, I got away with a reasonable finish and managed to finish within the 45 minutes.

The final judging of the day gave the Bud Vase 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Phil Stevenson's magnificent Milking Stool was correctly given 1<sup>st</sup> place.

The marking system awards 12 points for a first place, 10 points for second and 9 points for third. This gave us a total of 52 points and was enough to ensure that we also won the Shield for Best Overall Club.

Coombe Abbey were a close second with 48 points so well done to them.

There were 7 professional turners demonstrating and 2 more on trade stands. The usual range of traders were at the show and seemed to be doing reasonable business. I only brought an Axminster Steb Centre, which I am very pleased with. I remembered too late that I had intended buying some pyrography tips from John at Woodart. I never seem to get enough time to check out the trade stands.

I counted 17 WMWT members on the Friday and 15 on the Saturday, included in these numbers 4 members did both days. I want to thank those members that gave up some of their time to steward the club stand and speak to visitors. It is important to have club members on the stand and visitors appreciate having someone to answer their questions.

We did have offers of help with the clear up but decided that Malcolm Edwards, Malcolm

**WEST MIDLANDS WOODTURNERS**

Thorpe, Phil Stevenson and myself would take our time packing everything away.

My Thanks to Malcolm Edwards and Malcolm Thorpe for transporting all of the equipment.

I always enjoy our visits to Woodworks and the opportunity to catch up with friends and fellow woodturners.

And last, but certainly not least, I want to pass on my thanks, and those of all WMWT members, to Tudor Rose for organising another successful and most enjoyable weekend.

Photos from Woodworks



## The Club Stands



## Competition Display Tables



Best Stand	
Position	Club
1st	Coombe Abbey
2nd	West Midlands
3rd	West Northants
4th	Village Turners
5th	Ise & Nene
6th	North Warks & Hinkley
7th	Tudor Rose
8th	Offchurch
9th	Middlesex
10th	Heart of England
11th	North Bucks & Milton Keynes

Best Turned Piece	
Position	Club
1st	West Midlands
2nd	Coombe Abbey
3rd	North Warks & Hinkley
4th	Tudor Rose
5th	Ise & Nene
6th	Middlesex
7th	North Bucks
8th	Heart of England
9th	West Northants
10th	Village Turners

Best Platter	
Position	Club
1st	North Bucks
2nd	West Northants
3rd	West Midlands
4th	Coombe Abbey
5th	Ise & Nene
6th	Middlesex
7th	Village Turners
8th	North Warks & Hinkley
9th	Tudor Rose

Best Bud Vase	
Position	Club
1st	Village Turners
2nd	West Northants
3rd	West Midlands
4th =	Ise & Nene
4th =	Coombe Abbey
6th=	Middlesex
6th=	North Warks & Hinkley
8th=	North Bucks
8th=	Tudor Rose

3 Leg Stool	
Position	Club
1st	West Midlands
2nd =	Coombe Abbey
2nd =	Middlesex
4th	Tudor Rose
5th	Ise & Nene
6th	North Bucks
7th	West Northants
8th =	North Warks & Hinkley
8th =	Village Turners

Shield Winners		
Position	Club	Points
1st	West Midlands	52
2nd	Coombe Abbey	48
3rd	West Northants	37
4th	Ise & Nene	36
5th=	Village Turners	31
5th=	Middlesex	31
7th=	Noth Bucks	29
7th=	North Warwick & Hinckley	29
9th	Tudor Rose	28

Our last Hands On Meeting focused on goblet turning and I'm pleased to say we had another productive day. As may have been mentioned elsewhere, numbers were a little bit down on recent meetings due to holidays etc but all the lathes were kept busy for most of the day. We had a couple of mini how-to demos following which several members rolled their sleeves up and sallied forth! I know for a fact that one or two members made their first ever goblets and one first timer even successfully completed a captive ring.

It really is gratifying for the committee to see such a great level of participation from our members - a lot of time goes into the planning and implementation of our Hands On Days and this effort is wasted unless a decent number of members actually make some shavings and I'm pleased to say Goblet Day repaid the blood, sweat and tears (OK, not too much blood fortunately). It's also important to remember that other turning is done apart from the theme of the day and thanks as usual go to those who brought their own equipment and kept on making shavings. Forthcoming Hands On Days will continue to follow pre-arranged themes and we look forward to paying special attention to specific design considerations and techniques; if there is anything else you want guidance or practise on, do let us know.



---

00

---

**SANDING SEALER AND THINNERS FOR SALE.**

Due to popular demand, I will be getting in some more sanding sealer and eventually cellulose thinners to be sold specifically to club members at prices much lower than normal retail levels (£6.50 and £4.50 per 500mls respectively including a contribution to club funds). I may be able to get things together for our next meeting but I'm not yet sure.

Please feel free to email Phil Stevenson at [phil@stvnnsn.co.uk](mailto:phil@stvnnsn.co.uk) to register your interest and I'll let you know immediately it is available.

If you have an empty can that can be reused it would be most appreciated. Let me know and I will refill it from the bulk can and give you a price reduction; anything to help recycle!

**Novice Group (4 entries): Tool Handle**

1st place: Darren Smith

2nd place: Gavin Morrice

3rd place: John Whitehouse



**Intermediate Group (3 entries): Offset female figure**

1st place: Graham Hunt

2nd place: Dave Reynolds

3rd place: Brian Bateman



**Advanced Group (3 entries): Thin bowl with reflex curve**

1st place: Don Lawrence

2nd place: Tim Davies

3rd place: Malcolm Thorpe



**CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE FOR JUNE**

Novice Group: Mouse



Intermediate Group:  
Pedestal Bowl

Advanced Group:  
Pestle and Mortar

Wolfgang's impressive stand at the recent show at Chatsworth House.

Hasn't he been busy!

Wolfgang has promised us a write up on his experiences of his first trade show, and I will hold him to that. (Ed)



**NOTE ON PHOTOGRAPHY IN THIS ISSUE:**

Due to my sudden illness, I could not attend Woodworks or the Hands on day. As a result, all of the photos have been supplied by WMWT club members and members of other clubs, and I would like to express my thanks to them for their support.

John (*Editor*)

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