



West Midlands Woodturners

Wood Turning and Wood Art

August 2020 Newsletter

Programme of meetings 2020

Venue: Kingsbury Community and Youth Centre, unless otherwise stated.

16th August	Cancelled (covid-19)	
20th September	Cancelled (covid-19)	
18th October	Cancelled (covid-19)	
15th November	Demo: Rick Dobney	TBA
13th December	Hands on: (AGM) Gadgets and Gizmos. Christmas Buffet	TBA



Keep
on
Turning

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.

Programme of “outside” events 2020

Cancelled (covid-19)	Curborough Festival of Arts
Cancelled (covid-19)	Kingsbury May Day Fun Day
Cancelled (covid-19)	Daventry
Cancelled (covid-19)	Water Orton
Cancelled (covid-19)	Newhall Mill
Cancelled (covid-19)	Newhall Mill
Cancelled (covid-19)	Newhall Mill

Programme of “outside” events 2021

We are contacting the venues we normally attend to ascertain what their plans are for any events during 2021

WMWT Committee

Chairman	Steve Simmons	Chair@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Vice Chair	Vacant	Vice@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Director	John Hooper	
Secretary	Rob Huxley	Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Treasurer	Pete Blakey	Treasurer@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Deputy Treasurer	Chris Jones	
Programme and Events Manager	Vacant	Events@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Equipment Manager	Malcolm Edwards	Equipment@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Membership Secretary	David Campbell	Membership@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Rob Huxley	Editor@wmwoodturners.org.uk

AWGB Seminar 2021 Update

Everyone who had booked for the original October 2020 Seminar dates should have been contacted by now to confirm if they wish to move their booking to the new dates. If you didn't receive anything, please contact [Stephen Evans](#).

If you haven't booked yet, don't forget we have extended the deadline for the early bird booking rates until the end of January 2021. More details and booking options are on the [Seminar Website](#)

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Chairman's Comments

I hope that you are all in good health and coping with the new restrictions.

Once again, I would like to thank all who have entered the virtual Chairman's Challenge. I would also like to thank all the members again that have sent in photographs of their work, extra content to be added into the newsletter and of course Rob, for editing the newsletter.

Well, it did look as if we were moving forward towards getting back to our club meetings but as these new spikes of Covid -19 are happening, it looks unlikely that we will be able to resume our meeting for some time soon.

Stay safe

Steve

Secretary's Comments

Whilst we are still very much in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, the committee are meeting each month via Zoom to discuss and evaluate the ever changing restrictions and guidance.

The government guidelines regarding the opening and use of community centres changed and KCYC planned to re-open some of the facilities on the 27th July, Chris Jones attended a Covid -19 meeting on the 25th July on behalf of the club at

KCYC to understand what guidance and Covid-19 measures and restrictions they had put in place.

There are many aspects of the guidelines that would make it difficult to operate the club as we did, but the limit on numbers and the social distancing requirements means that it would be impossible to hold a meeting at this time.

We have been making provisional plans for 2021 with demonstrators and have booked dates with Kingsbury community and youth centre (Dates for info later in newsletter), obviously this all depends on the Covid-19 guidelines at the that time.

The committee's priority remains the safety and well being of all our members.

John Hooper and myself attended the KCYC management committee meeting on the 28th July. The centre has started to attract some new users groups, which is good news for the centre and its sustainability.

The centre has also had 2 recent grant applications approved and the management committee have agreed to renew the hot water heater in the kitchen, which has already been completed and to also replace the outdated electrical consumer unit.

Rob



Turning a Sphere Without a Jig

“talking balls” with Cliff Lane

It might be an obvious thing to say but the first thing to get into your mind is that the length of a sphere must be the same as the diameter. I only say it because the first couple of times that I tried to turn a sphere, many years ago, it never crossed my mind to measure it out so you can imagine what the results were like.

When you put your blank on the lathe the sphere that you want is inside there somewhere and it is your job to take away as much of the waste wood as possible without taking away any of the sphere.

You can achieve a perfectly acceptable sphere by making a few simple measurements and a series of straight cuts on your blank.

You can hold the blank in a chuck or between centres – my preference is to hold in a chuck

Method

Start by turning a cylinder. If you need to make your sphere a set size, then the diameter of your cylinder needs to be turned to this measurement. If the finished size is not essential turn the blank down leaving it as large as you can. Keep the sides of the cylinder parallel. Turn a tenon to fit your chuck. Mount the cylinder in the chuck and bring up the tail stock, check that it is running true.

Multiply the diameter of your cylinder by 0.414 and turn a tenon at the tailstock end to this measurement. From the tailstock end mark the length the same measurement as the diameter. Turn a second tenon to the same size as the tenon at the tailstock end. Now multiply the diameter of your cylinder by 0.293 and mark a line from each end of your sphere using this measure. Mark a centre line.



Make straight cuts between the marks on the surface and the corners where the tenons go into the cylinder. Important cut as close to the lines as you can but still leave the lines visible. Your blank will now have eight equal sides (an octagon). These sides will form the outer edges of your sphere



Example based on a cylinder with a diameter of 60mm.
Tenon $60 \times 0.414 = 24.84$ (rounded 25mm) straight cuts $60 \times 0.293 = 17.58$ (rounded 18mm).

You now need to make a second series of cuts. To do this multiply your original diameter by 0.2 and turn the tenons to the new diameter. The pencil line from your original tenon should still be visible if not mark it back on. Multiply the diameter by 0.1075 and transfer the answer to the blank making a line either side of your existing pencil lines (not the centre line). It will make your life much easier if you mark these lines in a different colour, red in this example.



Using straight cuts between the red lines remove the black pencil lines but, as before, leave the red lines showing. Your sphere will now have 16 sides (a polygon).



Example based on cylinder as above with a diameter of 60mm.
Tenon $60 \times 0.2 = 12\text{mm}$ red lines $60 \times 0.1075 = 6.45$
(rounded 6mm)

Next draw lines between the red line. Drawing these by eye will be fine but measure if you would rather. You're close to your sphere now so make gentle cuts between your new lines to remove the red lines. You can refine your shape further with a scraper or a skew chisel on its side making arcing cuts to follow the sphere shape.



You are now ready to start sanding and final refining of your sphere. When you are satisfied remove the tenon at the tail stock end and finalise your shape.

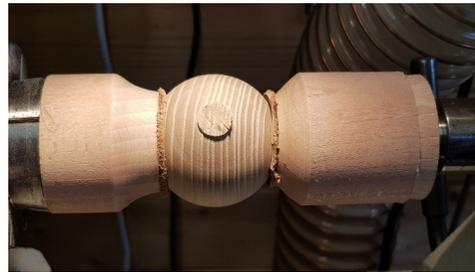


A good way to check your sphere for shape is to use an object that you know to be round as a template. This could be a glass, an empty jar, the cap off an aerosol can or some plumber's fittings can be good.

Part off the sphere from the blank and shape and blend the end of the tenon. You can do this by holding the sphere in cup chucks

OR

as there is now only a small area to finish, you could do this with a sanding pad held in the lathe, this is the method that I used and it is not difficult to form the correct shape. I have not tried it yet (because I could not find mine) but I think that a profile gauge could be used to achieve the correct shape on the final small part of the sphere and the remains of the tenon.



Remember even if you use a sphere jig the tenons still need be taken off and the ends shaped.

If you decide to make cup chucks you will need to make the headstock and tailstock ends differently. For the headstock end mount a piece of scrap wood in a chuck, turn a cylinder, make the shape that you want, dish out the end and make sure that your sphere only touches at the rim. For the tailstock end mount a longer piece of scrap wood in the chuck and drill or make a hole that will fit over tail centre. Make a recess on the outside edge to suit your chuck jaws. Turn over and fit in chuck and turn as for headstock. Remember to slow your lathe down when you are cutting or sanding in cup chucks.

“ What a load of Balls”



Many Thanks again to Cliff for another interesting article.

Thank you to all those that sent in photographs of their work for the virtual Chairman's Challenge. For those that have done the challenge, but have not sent in any photographs your entries will be judged physically along with the others judged in this virtual challenge when we finally return to our meetings

Virtual Chairman's Challenge results: July 2020

Novice Group Candle Stick (1 Entry)

1st Place: John Beirne



2nd Place:



3rd Place:



Intermediate Group Platter with Decorated or Pierced rim 8" /200mm (4 entries)

1st Place: Rob Huxley



2nd Place: Kris Cietak



3rd Malcolm Edwards



Advanced Group: Goblet with twisted or spiral stem (2 Entries)

1st Place: Graham Hunt



2nd Place: Darren Smith



3rd



Chairman's Challenge : August 2020

Novice Group

Egg and Cup



Intermediate Group

Apple and Pear



Advanced Group

Box with decorated lid



Chairman's Challenge : September 2020

Novice Group

Small Bowl



Intermediate Group

Torus



Advanced Group

Tri Cornered Box with lid and Finial



July Virtual Display Table

<https://www.wmwoodturners.org.uk>



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



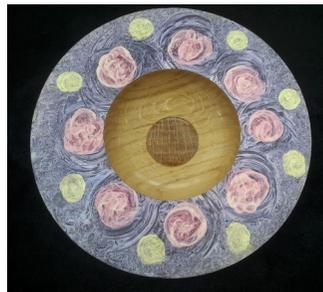
John Hooper



John Hooper



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



John Hooper

(this piece was mainly made on the Band saw)

July Virtual Display Table



John Hooper

(this piece was made on the Band saw)



Bob Yeomans



Graham Hunt

(many years before turning Graham did a couple of marquetry projects)



Bob Yeomans



Rob Huxley

“ I know, it’s Despicable “



Graham Hunt

Cliffs Corner

A married couple in their early sixties were celebrating their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary in a quiet, romantic restaurant. Suddenly a small fairy appeared on their table and declared. “As a reward for being such a devoted married couple who have been faithful and loving to each other for thirty-five years I will grant you each a wish”.

The wife said: “My wish is to be able to travel around the world with my dear husband.” The fairy waived her magic wand and – poof -two tickets for a luxury cruise liner appeared before their very eyes.

The husband thought for a moment. “That’s all very romantic but this is the chance of a lifetime, so I’m sorry darling, but my wish is to have a wife who is thirty years younger than me.”

The fairy waved her magic wand and – poof – the husband became ninety-three.



AWGB information

Talking Turning

Our online chat sessions continue to be held twice weekly on Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7:30pm for anyone who wants to drop in. A schedule of the sessions lined up so far is on the AWGB website. This Friday evening we will be talking about sharpening.

We have also created a user guide for those not familiar with how to use Zoom and register for our meetings.

Sunday Demos

Our last demo last Sunday by Jason Clark was a great success with over 100 people joining the demo and with many people going away with some new ideas!

We will be hosting an online demo by Darren Breeze on Sunday August 16th at 4pm. This is free for anyone to join. more details on the AWGB website.

If anyone has been watching the talk turning or Sunday Demos I would appreciate your feedback.

Rob

Acknowledgment

Thank you to:

Cliff Lane

Humour

Cliff Lane

Turning a Sphere Without a Jig

2021 Meeting dates

2021	
17/01/2021	Sun
21/02/2021	Sun
21/03/2021	Sun
18/04/2021	Sun
16/05/2021	Sun
13/06/2021	Sun
18/07/2021	Sun
15/08/2021	Sun
19/09/2021	Sun
17/10/2021	Sun
21/11/2021	Sun
12/12/2021	Sun

If you have any articles or information on Wood Turning that you feel would benefit other member's of the club, please forward them to me and I will consider them for publication in the Club Newsletter

Rob

Editor@wmwoodturners.org.uk

Mobile 07824 660112

