



West Midlands Woodturners

Wood Turning and Wood Art

November 2020 Newsletter

Programme of meetings 2020

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

15th November Cancelled (covid-19)

13th December Cancelled (covid-19)



Keep making those shavings
(who's the turner ?)



Answer

It was Keith Lanchester at Newhall Mill, August 2019.

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.



Malcolm Edwards Poppy on his front door

WMWT Committee

Chairman	Vacant	Chair@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Vice Chair	Vacant	Vice@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Director	John Hooper	
Secretary	Rob Huxley	Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Treasurer	Chris Jones	Treasurer@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Deputy Treasurer	Vacant	
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

Chairman's Challenge December

As you are probably aware we don't normally have a Chairman's challenge in December, however as we are in lockdown for 4 weeks there's a good excuse to get in the workshop and make some more shavings.

See the chairman's challenge page for items for each category.

Contents

Page No	
1	Keith was the turner in Oct newsletter Our Heroes Remembered
2	Chairman's Challenge December
3	Secretary's comments
4	Spherical box - Phil Stevenson
5	Spherical box - Phil Stevenson Cliff's corner
7	Chairman's Challenge results October
8	Chairman's Challenge November /December
9-10	October Display Table
11	For sale items Acknowledgments / Quiz answers

Secretary's Comments

I hope you are all safe and well. As we enter into the second covid lockdown, it looks more likely now that it will be at least Spring before we can consider meetings as they used to be.

During September and October the committee phoned around members and we have now spoken to most of the members who all seem well and really looking forward to the time when we can all get together as a club, make some shavings, watch a demo and I think most of all share a cuppa and have a chat and exchange ideas with friends.

Can I thank again the members who have sent me Chairman's challenge entries, display items and articles over the last months since we have been unable to meet, this certainly assist me in putting together a newsletter for you and hopefully shares ideas and inspires others to get into the workshop and get creative.

John Hooper and myself are still active on the Kingsbury Management committee and we are pleased to report that whilst there are still some issues to address, the centre is in a far better position both financially and organisationally since the Management team were formed last year. John played a key role in obtaining the funding for the heating and other grants which has put the centre on a much more stable financial footing. He was also very instrumental in getting a 6 figure water rates bill reduced to 3 figures after investigating the usage over the last 5 yrs.

Whilst our initial involvement was the preservation of our wood turning venue, it is pleasing to see that the centre has started to have a resurgence of activity and whilst the covid crisis has somewhat hampered the growth the centre still continues to make progress.

Hopefully the second lockdown will pass quickly and have the desired effect in reducing the R number to allow the government to relax other restrictions and permit us to have a normal as possible Christmas with our families and friends.

Rob



Now that's what I call making Shavings

Spherical box - Phil Stevenson

Like many, I'm sure, I've been tinkering with Cliff's balls over recent weeks I've made a number of spheres following his instructions and have finally got my non-mathematical brain around the process. I'm fairly pleased with the latest ones; they're pretty regular in shape and different timbers can give quite pleasing effects.

But what to do with a bowl of balls?



The first idea came from my wife, a funky mortar and pestle. The ball is about 70mm in diameter – it needs to be big enough to hold firmly – and the hollowed pestle has a slightly bigger curvature to comfortably hold pepper corns, seeds or whatever. It works surprisingly well.



My second development was to turn a sphere into a box; a hollow, openable sphere if you like. I made one and along with a few mistakes, I figured out the most logical steps to completion so here is my second effort.

The main blank is copper beech, just over 70mm diameter (finished size is 70mm). Turn a tenon on both ends and separate into two equal-ish halves, I use a 2.5mm parting tool – important to note as will become apparent.



The separating timber to make the joining tenon is sycamore for no more reason than the colour contrasts with the beech.



Get the adjoining edges of the half sphere and (the "bottom" of the box, as it were) and the contrasting tenon material dead flat and glue them together .



Mount the "lid", and hollow out using a cardboard template to check the shape; cut a mortice to hold the lid on. My o/d is 70mm as I said and the inner diameter is 60mm, giving a wall thickness of 5mm. Then re-mount the "bottom" and butt the tenon as accurately as you can to hold the lid. Here's an important bit ... The visible part of the inserted wood on the finished box should be the same thickness as your parting tool. Then your grain will match more or less exactly; the visible material you removed is replaced precisely by the added piece. Marry the top and bottom together and admire your handiwork and matching grain!



Hollow out the bottom piece in the same way as the top, with the aid of your template.



Now with the hollowed blank between centres, follow Cliff's instructions to shape the outside of your sphere.



Carefully part off both tenons, trim by hand, then remount in your little holding jigs between centres and get sanding. Hopefully it won't need much refining of the shape and behold the finished sanded sphere.

I finished mine with Chestnut Lemon Oil.

There are also some decent video on YouTube describing how to turn spheres – have a look at one by As Wood Turns.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jkwwx28aZWs&t=11s>

Cliff's Corner

During Cliff's recent spell in hospital he was lying in the hospital bed, wearing an oxygen mask over his mouth and nose. A young female student nurse appears and gives him a partial sponge bath.

"Nurse," he mumbles from behind his mask, "are my testicles black?"

Embarrassed, the young nurse replies "I don't know Sir. I'm only here to wash your upper body and feet".

He struggles to ask again, "Nurse please check for me, are my testicles black? Concerned that he might elevate his blood pressure and heart rate from worrying about his testicles, she overcomes her embarrassment and pulls back the covers, She looks very closely and says, "there's nothing wrong with them Sir. They look fine.

Cliff gently pulls off his oxygen mask and says, "thank you very much. Now listen very carefully: Are – my – test – results – back?"



He also confirmed what ICU meant.

A fairy story

Once upon a time there was a very talented turner who produced some fine turned pieces for us all to admire, his name was Darren Smith.

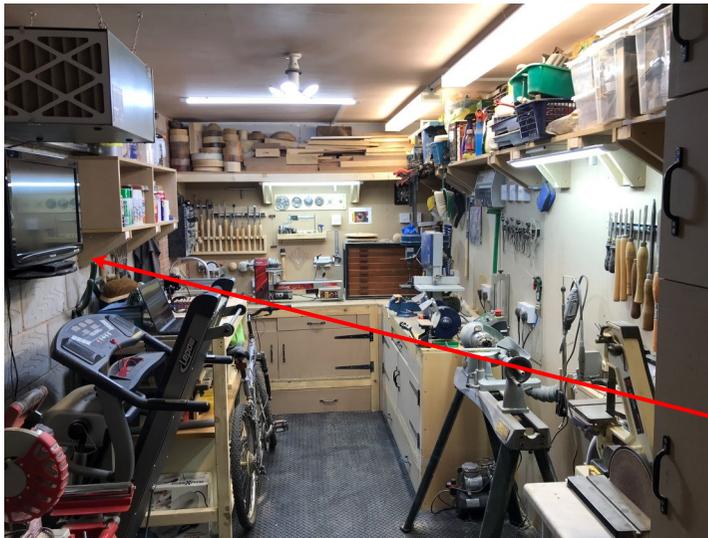
Darren has used his very cluttered garage to do all his turning in.



It looks like the Fairy brought him a new lathe too



During the Covid lockdown the workshop Fairy granted Darren a wish to turn his cluttered garage into a fine workshop with all his machines and tools to hand.



It also looks like he's been watching zoom demos whilst exercising on the tread mill.

[Thanks to Darren for sharing this make over with us.](#)

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: October 2020

Novice Group Acorn (1 Entry)

1st Place: John Beirne



2nd Place:



3rd Place:



Intermediate Group Gavel and Block (5 entries)

1st Place: Kris Cietak



2nd Place: Rob Huxley



3rd Chris Jones



Advanced Group: Salt and Pepper mill (no qualifying entry)

1st Place:



2nd Place:



3rd



Chairman's Challenge : November 2020

Novice Group

Christmas Decoration snowman



Intermediate Group

Christmas Decoration Free Choice



Advanced Group

Christmas Decoration Free Choice



Chairman's Challenge : December 2020

Novice Group

Segmented tea light holder



Intermediate Group

Natural edged vase



Advanced Group

Hollow form with finial



October Virtual Display Table

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



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Chris Jones



Graham Hunt



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Graham Hunt



Graham Hunt



Malcolm Edwards



Malcolm Edwards



Graham Hunt



Les Wilkes

October Virtual Display Table



Rob Huxley



Rob Huxley

Painted by Freya, my neighbours 6yr old daughter



Peter Timms



Peter Timms



Derek Whittaker



Derek Whittaker



Peter Timms



Keith Lanchester



Peter Timms



After making all those buttons he still had time to put a new roof on the workshop.

For Sale

Axminster Lathe - APTC M330



Record Lathe Mfd.1995 - DML24X - 9" bowl dia



Perform Planer PT 260 - 10" planer, 6" thickener

NuTool 12 " /5 speed wood lathe

Large table saw Combi HS315

There are various assorted tools, chisels etc.

An engineering vice

A massive amounts of assorted timber for general DIY.

Please contact **Cliff Jefferies** (Associate member)

Telephone number (01543 416107) (Lichfield)

jefferiescliff@gmail.com

Les Wilkes went to Sykes Timber in Atherstone and said they have a large selection of timber there.

<https://www.sykestimber.co.uk/>

Acknowledgment

Thank you to:

Cliff Lane Humour

Phil Stevenson Spherical box

Darren Smith Workshop transformation

October QUIZ

1. Which turner completed the most projects whilst doing a demo for us. Answer **Gary Rance**
2. According to Pat Carroll what is the colour of the Axminster new hair dryer. Answer **Pink**
3. What type of Jig did Rick Dobney demonstrate
Off centre turning jig

We didn't get a winner as I did not get any answers sent to me

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

