



West Midlands Woodturners

Wood Turning and Wood Art

October 2024 Newsletter

Programme of meetings 2024

November 17th	AGM; Hands-on: Using a Buffing system and finishing
December 15th	Demo: Steve Heeley

U ever wanna just chuck ur lathe into the street?



Demonstration Days: Start at 9.15 and conclude about 4.30pm

Hands-on days start at 9.30 and conclude around 4pm.

Venue: Kingsbury Sports and Community Centre, unless otherwise stated

West Midlands Woodturners is a "not for profit" company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Registration No: 9419165

WMWT Committee

Contents

Chairman	Keith Lanchester	Chair@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Vice Chair	Vacant	Vice@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Directors	(John Hooper has resigned from November) Chris Jones Rob Huxley	director@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Secretary Deputy Secretary	Chris Jones Peter Flint	Secretary@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Treasurer Deputy Treasurer	Chris Chambers Vacant	Treasurer@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Programme and Events Manager	Malcolm Thorpe	Events@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Equipment Manager	Malcolm Edwards	Equipment@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Membership Secretary	David Campbell	Membership@wmwoodturners.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Mary Dunne	Editor@wmwoodturners.org.uk

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Chairman's Comments:

October's demonstrator was a new face to our club but I have to say that Darren Breeze did not disappoint! Right from the start his explanations and techniques were first class and I for one hope we can get him back at some time in the future for another day.

Our meeting in November will start with the AGM so please make sure to turn up on time and get involved in the running of your club. After the AGM we will have our usual Hands On with the theme of Buffing and will also include other finishing techniques so make sure to bring along any problem pieces and ask for help.

After the appeal for help in putting on a club display at next year's Daventry Woodworks show we had an offer of help and the committee have now taken the decision that the club will attend the show. If anyone else would like to get involved, either looking after the club stand or turning one of the competition pieces, please talk to one of the committee.

Keith.

Club Annual General Meeting

This will take place before the Hands-On session at the November 17th-meeting at 10am. It is important that as many members as possible attend in order for it to be quorate.

The AWGB fee for next year has gone up to £24. This will be collected with the club fees once they have been agreed at the AGM.



West Midlands Wood Turners

(a company limited by guarantee)
Annual General Meeting: 17th November 2024

**Notice is hereby given that the
Annual General Meeting of West Midlands Woodturners
(A company limited by guarantee)
Will be held at Kingsbury Community and Youth Centre at:
10.00am on Sunday 17th November 2024.**

The Agenda for the meeting will be published when approved by the committee.

Nominations (with seconders) for any of the committee roles should be received by the Chairman and/or Honorary Secretary by 7th November 2024.

Propositions (with seconders) may be made prior to the meeting and received by the Chairman and/or Honorary Secretary no later than 7th November 2024.

Nominations/Propositions may be made from the floor only with the agreement of the Honorary Chairperson, whose decision whether or not to accept such motions is binding on the meeting.

Ballot papers, if required, will be provided at the meeting.

Members who are unable to attend may nominate any other member with their proxy by completing the proxy form and passing it to the Chairman prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Chris Jones.

Honorary Secretary/Director

17th October 2024

The Proxy voting form is attached to the newsletter.

WMWT Chairman's Challenge November

Basic

Ball 50—75 mm diameter (as round as possible—no jigs)



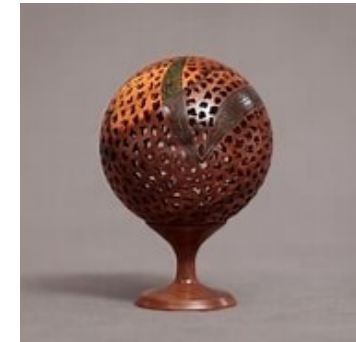
Intermediate

Hollow form pierced



Advanced/Artistic

Hollow and pierced sphere



November 17th

There is no Chairman's Challenge in December.

Results of Chairman's Challenge October 2024

Novice Group: Christmas Tree (5 entries)

1st place: Rob Marlow



2nd place: Helen Huxley (her first solo piece!)



3rd place: Steve Hough



Intermediate group: Hanging Christmas decoration (2 entries)

1st place: Malcolm Edwards



2nd place: Mary Dunne



3rd place: xxx



Advanced/Artistic group: Involute Christmas tree decoration (4 entries)

1st place: Chris Chambers



Joint 2nd place: Chris Jones and Keith Lanchester



OCTOBER DISPLAY TABLE



Ted Gill— photos of pieces selected for AWGB travelling exhibition.



Ted Gill



Ted Gill



Malcolm Thorpe



Malcolm Thorpe



Malcolm Thorpe



Malcolm Thorpe



Bryan Milham—
from
June demo

OCTOBER DISPLAY TABLE



Rob Marlow



Rob Marlow



Steve Hough



Peter Hockley



Peter Hockley



Peter Hockley



Chris Jones



Chris Jones

OCTOBER DISPLAY TABLE



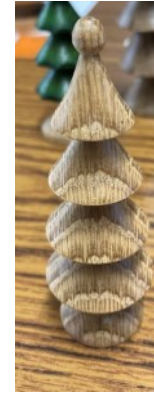
Graham Hunt



Graham Hunt



Malcolm Edwards



Cliff's Christmas trees showing a variety of approaches, using the skew, off-centre turning and carved edges.

Report on October demonstration by Darren Breeze.

This was Darren's first visit to the club and he provided us with an entertaining and informative day, demonstrating how to produce a "Sunshine bowl", a novelty bowl with an insert and a plinth, a beaded small box and a box used in a magic trick for which he demonstrated the secret!

Darren is based in Lowestoft where he has a workshop and a shop. He has been on the Register of Professional Turners for around 7 years, serving on a number of turning-related committees and is now a Freeman of Worshipful Turners.



The first project, that he called a Sunshine bowl, was made from a piece of 12 x 2 and a 1/4" sycamore. He mounted it on a screw chuck prepared first by using a countersink bit to prevent the blank from moving off-centre because of fraying fibres. He used a long screw and uses plastic washers as spacers if necessary to prevent the screw emerging through the centre of the bowl.

Turning at 7–800 rpm, he trued up the edge and the bottom face and created a dovetailed recess to fit the jaws. He reminded us of the cutting sequence A B C M: A—Anchor the tool on the tool rest; B—engage the Bevel; C—lift the tool handle to start Cutting ;M—Move the body, shifting the weight from side to side rather than being stationary and moving the chisel. Using a short grind on the bowl gouge (he uses 50 degrees for the bevel), he shaped a flat around the recess and then shaped the underside of the bowl, working at about 400 rpm. He switched to a long grind bevel to shape the base fully.

As he refined the underneath shape, he commented on how he was using a slow pass with the bevel "floating" over the surface, with no pressure. He emphasised the need to push the tool DOWN onto the tool rest, not into

the wood.

He introduced a negative rake scraper (Simon Hope) which, unlike a standard scraper which has a flat top edge and a bevel, has a bevel on both edges. The tool is used with the maker's name upwards and is used as a refining tool. The carbide cutting edge can be rotated as the cutting section becomes blunt.



He then sanded using an orbital sander and a mixture of mineral oil and beeswax to minimise the dust before applying a coat of oil. He added a bead around the edge, made with his three point tool (easier than with a skew or gouge?) on which he has one flat face and the other two ground up to it.

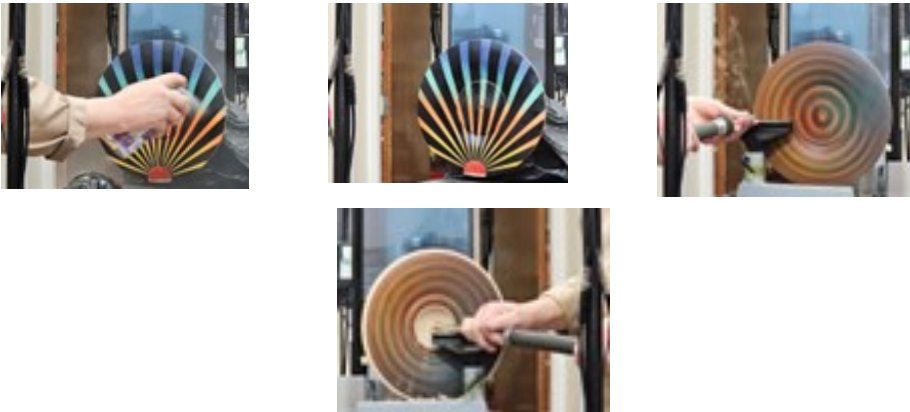
Having mounted the bowl in the chuck, he trued up the face, then marked with pencil the boundaries for the central bowl.

He positioned a piece of tack stencil at an edge of the face. This had a cut-out piece to represent the sun. He sprayed this area with red stain using a diffuser (an airbrush could be used) and when it was dry covered it with the

sun-shaped piece of stencil. Next he blew yellow, orange and dark blue bands of spirit stain across the face. He sprayed only across the bottom half of the face, moving the piece around, to prevent overspray. Then dried it using a hair dryer for speed. Then he used long, triangular strips of tacky



stencil tape starting from the outside of the sun stencil to the outer edges equally spaced to represent the sun's rays. These were removed immediately after the whole face was sprayed with black ebonising lacquer.

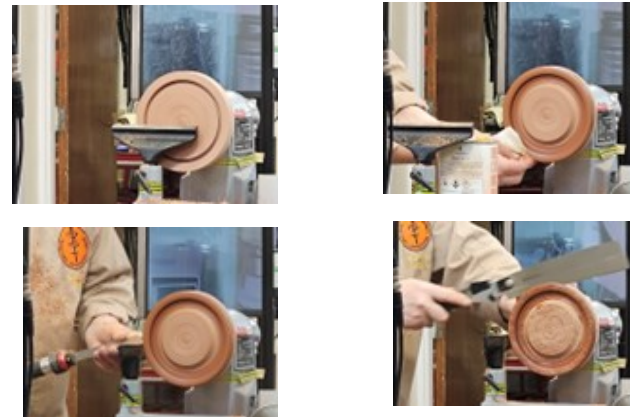


He removed the central bowl area using a standard grind gouge for as much as possible before switching to a long fingernail grind. He advised removing the "pimple" in the middle by coming underneath it with the side wing so it

dropped into the flute. He added decorative beads before spraying the surface with acrylic gloss lacquer.

Project 2: a novelty bowl

The body of this was made from a piece of rippled spalted sycamore and a plastic disc with a printed label attached: "In case of emergency, break glass". Darren put a pack of condoms in it when it was finished but members suggested other items. One of his aims with the bowl was to give it a plinth so that there would be no visible chucking point. Having trued up the face of the sapele blank from which he would be cutting a ring, he used a parting tool to mark out and then cut out a ring. He rounded over the edges of the ring before parting it partway through then finishing with a saw before hand-sanding to 180 grit.



Then he mounted the main block for the body of the bowl and trued it with a long grind bowl gouge. He shaped the underside of the bowl and sanded it with the previous mixture to reduce dust. He created a groove for the ring to sit in and tested it for fit. Next he made a ledge for the plastic insert and tried this for fit after adhering the label. He then hollowed out the bowl and applied a finishing

oil. He then stuck the label to the plastic disc and fitted this with the ring on top after placing the pack of condoms in the bowl.



Next he mounted a third piece of timber which he used to create a plinth for the bowl to sit on. He used this piece to demonstrate using the wing of a roughing gouge to “plane” the finish instead of using a skew. He also demonstrated using a skew to shape the piece, before attaching it to the bowl.



PROJECT 3: A small beaded box

This was the first of two quick projects as Darren demonstrated turning a small box out of yew. He finds it easier to fit the body to the lid and therefore turns the lid first.

He rounded off the log then added a tenon to each end of the box and parted off the lid. He shaped the lid as much as possible at this stage as it would be finished via a friction fit. He left the lid slightly concave inside and used a skew to form the recess for the body of the box before hollowing the lid a little more. He formed three beads on the outside of the lid using a beading tool, with advice about marking out the beads with light pressure of the tool before completing the beads so that it was easier to locate the tool in the appropriate groove for each bead. He commented that the bevel should be facing down when using the beading tool.

The body of the box was then mounted in the chuck for hollowing. He began this with a Forstner bit (saw toothed for end grain) before hollowing leaving a round bottom inside rather than square—for ease of removing anything that might be kept in the box, for example earrings. He shaped the outside into a barrel shape (like a honey jar).

He then added beads to the outside of the box. He created a lip to fit into the recess in the lid, testing for tightness of fit.

Next using a friction fit he completed a small finial on the top of the box before parting off.

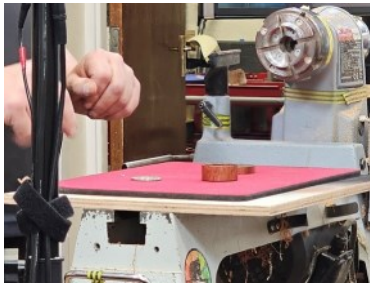




For his final project, Darren demonstrated how he makes a small wooden box for use by a magician doing a coin trick.

The box consisted of a base and a lid , 45.9 mm in diameter. The bottom is left thick to disguise the “vanishing” coin and the wall thickness is crucial to enable the coin to flick into the lid and “vanish”.

Having made the box, he demonstrated how it worked, which was very entertaining!



Club members seemed to find it a very enjoyable and interesting demonstration with lots of techniques and tips included. We look forward to a return visit.



TABITHA BABBITT INVENTED THE CIRCULAR SAW IN THE 19TH CENTURY, TRANSFORMING THE WOODWORKING INDUSTRY. STEMMING FROM HER FRUSTRATION WITH THE CUMBERSOME TWO-MAN WHIPSAW, SHE DEvised A BLADE THAT CUT WOOD MORE EFFICIENTLY. THOUGH HER INNOVATIONS BOOSTED SAWMILLS, SHE CHOSE NOT TO PATENT HER INVENTIONS, BELIEVING IN SHARING PROGRESS. BABBITT'S CONTRIBUTIONS REMAIN OVERLOOKED, YET HER LEGACY OF INGENUITY ENDURES.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Chris Chambers for photographs and Keith for Chairman's Comments.