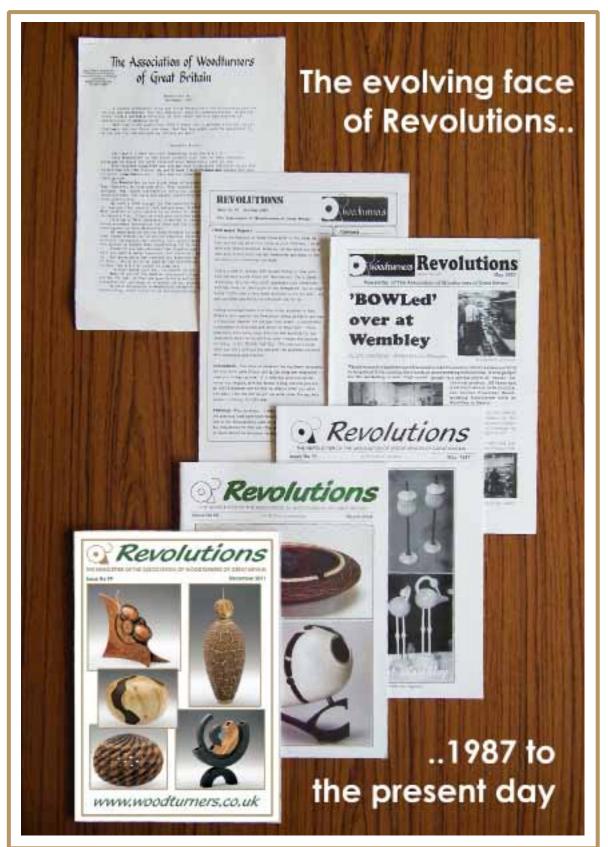
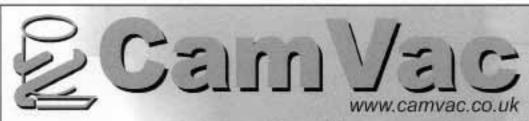


THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN Issue No 100 March 2012



www.woodturners.co.uk



Don't use your lungs as a dust filter.

Workshop machining - especially power sanding on a lathe can produce very high levels of wood dust and debris, but it is the particles you can't see (under 5 microns) which pose the greatest danger to your health.

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These particles will not only pass straight through the filters of poor quality extractors, but will also bypass our bodies natural defences, and lodge themselves deep into our tissues and lungs. Most worrying of all is the carcinogenic (cancer-causing) nature of some wood dusts.

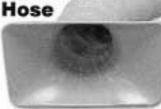
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- Large capacity machines from 36 to 200 litres.

- Powerful high-pressure suction deals with large chips or line dust.
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Chairman's Notes

May I wish everyone a very Happy New Year; I hope that you are all still finding that woodturning continues to provide the pleasure and relaxation necessary in this period of austerity. Since my last Chairman's notes we have been joined by several new clubs both Affiliated and Associated, it is my pleasure to bid them all welcome.

A lot of work has been carried out by Adrian Needham and Mike Collas on the possibility of the AWGB becoming a limited company and charity. We have been instructed and guided in this by Robert Craig. Robert is a member of our North London branch and is a member of a law firm specialising in Charities, we are very grateful for all his help in this. Full details and information on the necessary postal ballot are elsewhere in this issue of Revolutions.

Limited company status provides the necessary protection to EC committee members and becoming a charity will lift the status of the AWGB as well as having benefits like gift aid. Both these motions are fully supported by the EC committee and as Chairman I sincerely hope you will support us in this.

The trial of the woodturning certificate is progressing well under the guidance of Peter Bradwick in South Wales. A second trial will be advertised by Axminster Power Tools in the spring, keep a look out if you are interested.

I'm very disappointed by the lack of response to my plea for help on the committee, particularly We have been very successful in a treasurer. expanding what we do but it is not possible to continue without help. I cannot believe that out of all our membership there is not someone with the skills we need. Woodturning is a hobby for most of us, something we all love and part of that is the whole woodturning environment. AWGB is allowed to disappear because no-one is prepared to give of their time then the whole environment will be adversely affected. committee work is not onerous, there are only three meetings a year — please think about it.

It is getting close to the AGM, date and location elsewhere in this issue. Again I would like to make it more interesting by asking everyone attending to bring pieces along to create an instant gallery and I will again present a chairman's prize to the maker of my favourite piece. There will again be a sales table where you can sell unwanted tools etc. and perhaps buy others that you absolutely need.

Articles, letters, tips, adverts etc. featured in this Newsletter do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the Association of **Woodturners of Great Britain**

DATA PROTECTION ACT

Your personal details are held on computers belonging to Executive Committee members. Your details are held purely for the use of the Association and are not passed on to any third party. If you object to your name,

address and telephone number being held in this manner then please

contact the Secretary whose details are opposite.

AWGB LAPEL BADGES

(Brass & enamel) £2,50 (p&p included)

CLOTH BADGES

For sewing on smocks etc. £4.00 (p&p included)

CAR STICKERS

£1 plus sae (9" x 6") or postage free with badge orders

AWGB lanyards

For name badges, as used at the Seminar £1 plus sae (large letter rate) or postage free with badge orders

All available from the AWGB secretary(details opposite) Make all payments to AWGB

Front Cover

The changing face of Revolutions from issue No. 1 through to issue No. 99

Copy deadline for the next edition of **Revolutions**

April 18th

100 Revolutions

Lionel Pringle

This edition is the one hundredth AWGB newsletter to have been presented to the membership, and, depending upon how one categorises these things, I am the seventh or eighth editor since Reg Sherwin unleashed the publication upon an unsuspecting membership back in November 1987.

Reg had the unenviable task of having to tend to the newly born publication in its earliest and most formative years, when everything was new and there was nobody to turn to for advice. He took it from issue number one through to the eighteenth. There was a break of two issues, twelve and thirteen, when Brian Clifford manfully filled the breach whilst Reg underwent an eye operation.

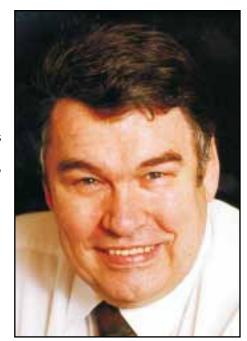


Reg Sherwin Issues 1 - 18

The first issue was six pages of closely typed print, stapled together in the top left hand corner, with not a photo or an illustration to be found, in fact it was not until issue number eleven, with the advent of a new-fangled computer thingummy, that the odd little graphic began to find its way in. This issue also marked a change in font style which had many of us making urgent appointments with the optician! Thankfully this only lasted for three editions.

At the outset members were asked to come up with ideas for an Association logo and a short pithy title for the newsletter. The logo made it first, appearing as a pre-printed header on the first page of issue five in October 1988, but although Reg produced issues four to eleven under the working title of **AWG**or**B**limey, it was issue number twelve when 'Revolutions first appeared emblazoned across the top of the first page.

Reg eventually handed over the editorial baton to Isabel Winstanley in October of 1991 and whilst the last six issues of Reg's reign were produced in a magazine format there was still no pictorial element.



Mike Dennis Issues 25 - 51 and 68 -76

However "Cometh the hour, cometh the man", or in our case the woman. Issue number nineteen saw a complete change in layout and presentation and actually contained three photographs. Isabel looked after 'Revolutions' until issue number twenty-four and in May 1993 she handed the job on to Mike Dennis.

We really hit pay dirt when Mike came on board as editor, not only was he keen and enthusiastic but he also had experience of printing and desktop publishing and was somebody who really understood about computers as well. His first offering, issue number twenty-five, had a really professional look about it, as well as containing a number of clear photographs and having twice as many pages as any of its predecessors. Mike was the man who realised that in the future a newsletter would no longer be the sole means of communication between the Association and its members, and it was he who first introduced the possibility of an AWGB web site and did a lot of the initial groundwork. He was also amonast the first of two members of the executive committee to provide an e-mail address in their contact details in issue number forty-four.

During his tenure Mike was continually making small changes, and occasionally large ones, to the layout and design of the newsletter, but he eventually decided, in November 1999, that a new millennium should be marked with a change of editor, and so it was that in February 2000 John Wilson took over the reins.

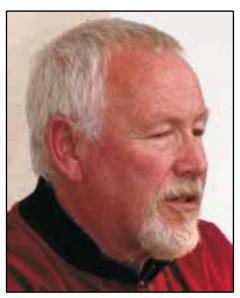
John was responsible for the editing of issues fifty-two to sixty-two and whilst there were no major changes to the look of the publication, there was a noticeable trend to include the odd article or feature which can only be described as being a touch "off piste". One of the things that John was very keen on, but never quite managed to pull off during his time in office was

the introduction of colour to the newsletter. This was discussed many times in committee but the ultimate decision was a long time in coming as, at the time, the cost differentials were considered to be too great.



John Wilson Issues 52 - 62

Eventually the pressures of being in full time employment and being fully committed to the editor's job became less compatible and John felt compelled to step aside. Finding a replacement was not easy and there was not a rush of applicants (as if there ever were) and eventually Bill Care found himself being volunteered. Bill made a very competent editor but it is very true what they say about volunteers and pressed men, and he found it increasingly hard being a full time professional woodturner and finding time to do justice to 'Revolutions'. Consequently Bill felt compelled to throw in the towel after only a year in post.



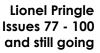
Bill Care Issues 63 -67

Fortunately that AWGB stalwart Mike Dennis stepped in as "temporary" editor. Considering that at the time he was already Chairman of the Association, it can only be said that this was definitely above and beyond the call of duty. He was to be "temporary" editor for two years.

Mike attacked the job with his usual gusto and his first issue in charge, number sixty-eight, had that long awaited colour element, we had full colour on the front and back covers and in the centre spread. Mike managed to rid himself of the Chairman's job fairly swiftly but the committee did not like to see him with only one job to do so he found himself appointed Seminar Co-Ordinator. During this period as editor Mike fell out of love with woodturning, selling his lathe and tools, and his interests moved into different arenas. It was not surprising then that when yours truly offered to take the job on my offer was accepted with the alacrity of an Olympic athlete.

My first issue in charge was number seventy-seven, May 2006, and I have to say that I still really enjoy the job, although there are times when it is frustrating.

'Revolutions' finally became a full colour publication in March 2009 and hopefully it will continue to evolve, who knows what the editor of issue number two hundred will have to report, according to my calculations that should be some time in 2037, I may or may not be around to read them, I hope so!





The odd snippet from the last 99 issues will be found in various places in this 100th issue and I must express my thanks to Reg Sherwin who kindly loaned me his complete set of back copies to sift through.

When we are in the supermarket and someone rams our ankle with a shopping cart then apologizes for doing so, why do we say, "It's all right?" Well, it isn't all right, so why don't we say, "That hurt, you stupid idiot?"

Named at Last

The last time I asked for a title for our newsletter I had just two responses. 'Beads and Hollows' and 'Chips'. Now we are looking again. The Irish Guild have 'Newsletter' as a title, the New Zealand newsletter is called 'Faceplate' whilst the Americans have 'American Woodturner' at the head of their journal.

It is now our hope to produce a newsletter with more than just words. The facility to reproduce acceptable illustrations without incurring a lot of costs or using up a lot of valuable time, has until now been beyond my simple word processor. Now we are looking into a number of possibilities which will allow a greater range of coverage and we need some response from out there not only to this present format but also to our request for a title. Come on folks, let's hear from you. **Newsletter No. 11. November 1989**

Revolutions is now our Newsletter title. Congratulations go to John Wyckam for this suggestion. We thank all of you who contributed, with more than 78 to choose from it made for a difficult decision, Turning Point is already used by other organisations, Revolutions was chosen because it was one word which applies to both styles of turning. John has chosen a free place on one of the mini seminars as his prize. **Newsletter No. 12, January 1990**

I am pleased to say that John Wyckam is still a member and is now amongst the fifty longest serving members of the Association. I trust that he is still enjoying his turning and has benefitted from his AWGB membership.

Tools Explained

MOLE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads.

Amberley Hands-On Day

Chris & Jean Grace

What do kids like to do in their half term holidays? Woodturning it seems!

Activities were already in full swing when we arrived at Amberley on a damp Autumn day to see what went on at their 'Hands-On, Make It Challenge', with particular reference to West Sussex Woodturners input.

In 'The Base' there was a queue of mums, dads and grandparents with kids eagerly wriggling out of jackets and fleeces that shavings might stick to.

The first choice was what to make. As befits the time of year, ghosts, witches, Christmas trees, crackers, snowmen and angels were all on offer - what a decision to have to make. The item having been selected, a piece of wood was then handed out. With five lathes in full swing no one had to wait too long before it was their turn to turn.



Not only good at turning, skilled eyes and hands selected the right size box to stand on, and how much padding was needed in the helmet to locate it on the head without the risk of obscuring the eyes! Visors down and they were off.



By the looks of concentration, everyone was absorbed in creating their chosen item and they were pleased as punch when they turned off the lathe to reveal it. Once the base had been sanded and holes drilled they could hardly wait to rush to the 'decorating' table, for hanging hooks and halos.

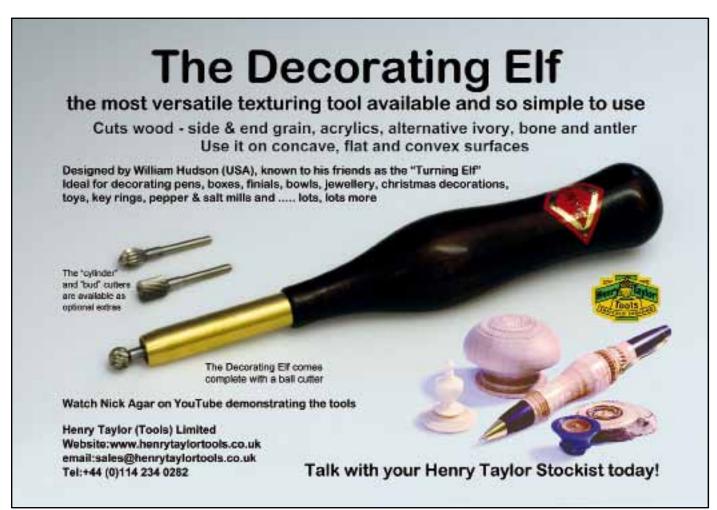
The ladies at the 'decorating' table were also doing a great job sorting out the required colours of paint and pens, and which scarf looked best for each snowman.

Angel wings and halos had to be carefully prepared before-hand, with scary stickers too for the ghosts eyes. I'm not sure which bit the kids enjoyed most; one young lad achieved a record by coming back five times in the one day for a turn, having saved his pocket money to do so, and he said he would like to join the West Sussex Woodturners.

The adults were not to be left out either, and didn't seem to mind taking their place in the queue. The smiles at having created something themselves matched those of the kids.

Many of the kids were clutching besom (witches) brooms they had made (Harry Potter has a lot to answer for!) together with mosaic mirrors and 'brass rubbings' of fire engines - just some of the other activities on offer at Amberley that day.





Coombe Abbey Woodturners

Eric Taylor

During the early 1990's, Coombe Abbey Country Park, Coventry, held Woodturning demonstrations given by the late Mr Roger Warren-Finding, a professional woodturner. These were attended by an increasing number of interested members of the public to such an extent that it was proposed to form a local club.

An inaugural meeting was held and a club was formed in 1994/95 and a committee was duly elected, unfortunately I cannot contact any founder members who can give me exact dates. Initially I understand that there were 20-30 members, and meetings were held at Coombe Country Park visitor centre once every six weeks. Before long the club outgrew the premises and had to locate to an alternative venue, "The Walsgrave Baptist Church Hall" several miles away but easy to find and get to, and is still one of the clubs two venues.

All day demonstrations are held at the Baptist Church approximately every six weeks, with a break normally over July and August.

The club also holds Friday evening meetings at Bulkington Community Centre, again this is every six weeks except in December and January.

As a club we also take part in some local events, such as a Daffodil Weekend in April at Newnham Paddox, Monks Kirby, a local village and the seat of the Earl of Denby, and the Godiva Festival in Coventry's Memorial Park. This is a two day event with a Music Festival included. Various Members also service other village fetes in the locality.

In 2005 the incumbent chairman and secretary resigned, as did the treasurer and vice chairman. After a couple of months of searching we had a stroke of luck and Mr Graham Ball was introduced to the club, duly joined and soon after accepted the position of secretary. After an "Extra-ordinary General Meeting" we had a new committee.



The workshop takes shape

At the first meeting of this committee it was decided that the club should have a workshop where we could have lathes installed, and we could undertake tuition for new and existing members. Graham Ball and I, as treasurer, were given the task of looking for and acquiring the said workshop, and when this was achieved, to apply for a lottery grant; at this time the membership stood at about 60.

For the next twelve months we searched, and investigated different locations, but to no avail. In early 2007 we had a breakthrough and were offered a room at Coombe Country Park. Of course there were some conditions attached, one of which was that we had to open to the public on at least two days of the week and offer lessons to the general public, we accepted. We duly became a part of the establishment. We then applied to "Awards for All" for funds and were eventually offered a lottery grant of £8000. This substantial amount enabled us to equip the workshop with two lathes, a bandsaw, a drill press, a planer thicknesser, a sander with the necessary dust extraction, hand tools, and video equipment. All this was due also to some very cooperative suppliers, most of whom still support us by sponsoring our monthly 40 page news letter, which is extremely well edited and published by our secretary Graham Ball.



On August Bank Holiday 2007 our new workshop was officially opened by the then Vice Chairman of AWGB, Chris Eagles with plenty of public support, since then we have been giving lessons to the general public and enrolling new members each year.

Coombe Abbey Woodturners have become an essential attraction in Coombe Country Park, and at the time of writing (November 2011) we have over 130 members.

In the four years that we have been operating in our workshop we have given lessons to an average of six persons per week, the majority of these have become members, and at the end of each year we probably lose twelve to fifteen of these, but regain the number and more within six months.

Over the past four years the club has raised an average of £2000 per year for the "Warwickshire



The Club committee with the head ranger and staff

and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance" our chosen charity, which gives some indication of the dedication and enthusiasm of the members.

Our latest event was a tutorial arranged by Peter Bradwick of AWGB in our workshop at Coombe Country Park during November 2011, for teachers and would be teachers of woodturning.

Dusty Shavings

Birth of a Logo

1988

We need a Logo design for the Association, so get your thinking caps on, sharpen that pencil, and design away. A prize of free admittance to a Mini Seminar of your choice is on offer to the winner. Last submission date is January 31st; flood us with your entries please. **Newsletter No. 1**, **November 1987**

Thanks to all of you who submitted Logo ideas. We didn't quite find what we were looking for but there were several good ones. We had asked those who came up with the best to re-submit after being given more guidance and we have now decided on Gary Gautier's submission. Congratulations Gary! Consideration is now being given to the different versions of it which can be incorporated into various

I've no idea what became of Gary, he is no longer a member, but his logo lives on and is instantly recognisable as representing the AWGB the world over.

forms of advertising. Newsletter No. 3, May

Toys Project

Ron Davis

Did you ever wake up at four in the morning with a brilliant idea? Well I did and even in the cold light of day it still looked good. Following the freeze last December, staff in the primary school which my grandson attends, went in to check things before the new term started and found a burst pipe in the classroom and water everywhere. They threw out two skips full of toys, furniture and carpets.

I thought that was sad news and put it in the back of my mind, until I had my four o'clock brainstorm, why not ask club members to make the school something to replace the toys. As I am secretary, treasurer, newsletter writer and keeper of the website, I had the means to put my ideas across to the members.

The response was not quite overwhelming at first, there were a few offers and early contributions, but the momentum grew with the passing weeks. My daughter works for a firm of building materials suppliers and she persuaded them to donate some sheet materials, a full sheet of 6mm MDF and a shed load of off cuts.



The child-size electric cooker

Things came in, amongst them a train, a stacking wooden policeman, and a few other bits and pieces. Thinking I had better set an example, I made a castle, a tabletop skittles game and a car ramp / garage.

Starting from an idea of mine and with some significant improvements from Mick the Wood, our club Chair started to make puzzles, we think he made thirty and if we had not told him to stop, he would be making them now!

After a suitable interval, I set a deadline for the toys to be in, the May club night, I contacted the local media and both of our local papers sent a photographer and reporter along.

One of our members, having health problems, decided to donate some new books, and another had a load of decent second hand children's books, but mostly it was hand made new toys for the school.



Some of the splendid array of new toys

I said it was a slow start but at the end we laid out four tabletops full of our toys. Our best item stood on the floor though, a child's size cooker, made with mortice and tenon joints, incredibly well detailed and sturdily made. Even the knobs clicked as they turned and if you stuck your head in you could se the grill where it was routed and painted. Craftsman made? Yes, but bear in mind Ryan, who made it, was only sixteen, and his Dad said the only thing he helped with was the painting.



The toys are formally presented to the school

We invited some of the teaching staff along for our club BBQ the following month and they gave us a book of the children's drawings and favourites, needless to say the cooker was up there with the best.

You can see some of the toys on our website http://bsewoodturningclub.onesuffolk.net/ and the press report on

http://www.buryfreepress.co.uk/news/education/woodturners_craft_new_toys_for_school_1_2756537

Postcard from Norway

Bob Neill

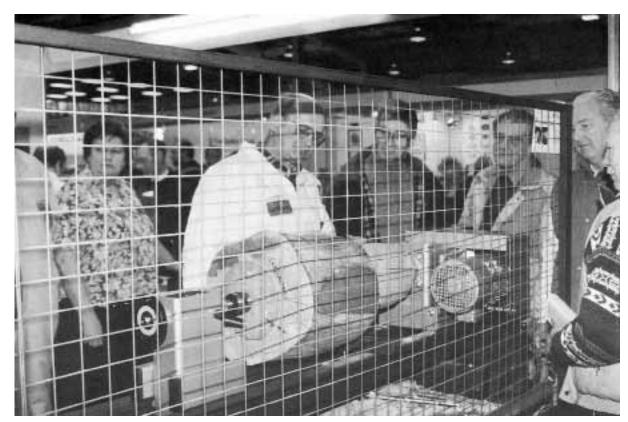
This was the 5th Norwegian Woodturning Cruise, the first being in 1998. The idea of chartering a ship, filling it with tools and machinery was the vision of Odd Erik Thjomoe, managing director of The Woodturning Centre in Stavanger. This year, there were nearly 200 passengers, including over twenty demonstrators, from many different countries on this two week trip. The ship docked at a different port every day where local enthusiasts could come on board to watch demonstrations by some of the best woodworkers in the world.



Bonnie Klein demonstrating

This year's experts included Richard Raffan, Bonnie Klein, Rolly Munro, Terry Scott, Jimmy Clewes, Nick Agar, Mark Baker, Asmund Vignes, Glenn Lucas, Wayne Barton and Jostein Tvedt. The woodwork companies Trend, Tormek, Robert Sorby, Hunter Tools, King Arthur Tools, Vicmarc, Nova and Wivamac were well represented with on-going demonstrations. Jim Stirling created a great deal of interest with his scroll saw work on the quayside every day and my wife Del and I were kept busy with the pyrography workshop using the Razertip and Burnmaster machines.

During the passage between ports, there were demonstrations and also opportunities for passengers to have individual tuition, with the organization of the workshop and classes ably done by Dave Muckle, Mark Hancock and Knut Lien. Chip carving, knife making, relief carving and felt making as well as woodturning were just some of the things on offer.



Many were the comments regarding this photo when it was originally published such as 'Beast of Bromsgrove caged'

The instant gallery also proved very popular with passengers and visitors.



Spectacular Norwegian scenery

The weather was excellent during the trip with the fjords and mountains providing an ever-changing panorama. At most of the stops, visits to places of interest were organized by the ship's staff and some knowledgeable local guides. This time, I took the spectacular bus trip over the Geiranger Fjord and met up again with the ship further along the coast at Molde. King Neptune made his appearance at the crossing of the Arctic Circle and presented certificates to commemorate the event.

The daily newsletter 'Woodcarving News' gave information about the cities we would visit plus details of the day's activities. The evening entertainment included talks and slide shows, fishing from the deck,

a musical evening and an auction on behalf of Cancer Research, Norway. Pieces of work donated by demonstrators and passengers raised over £6,000 for this worthy cause. Other activities sprang up during the trip and included cross-stitching, whittling, pewter work and decorative paper baskets.

Odd Erik, Mette Fjermestad and the staff had taken twenty-four pallets of tools and machinery on this journey of approximately 2,500 nautical miles. The last day came too soon and the end of another very successful voyage. Many of us are looking forward to the next one which is scheduled for 2014. Keep an eye on my stand at the shows for all the latest information. See you on the next cruise.



Jimmy Clewes passing on some tips

Looking for a Slogan

Thank you to all those members who wrote in with a slogan. At the time of the last committee meeting there were only a few to choose from and the committee felt that we should allow more time for suggestions to come forward. Those received so far are:-

For a turn in the right direction Make the right turn and join the AWGB Branch out in the direction of the AWGB For a local voice nationwide join the AWGB

Turn to the AWGB
Revolutions turn wood
Wood appreciation society
A good turn lasts forever
Turning around Britain
Turning Britain around
Around Britain turning
Britain's turning around

A living, breathing Association

A living Association

A living natural Association

A renewable Association with nature
Renewing our Association with nature
Together we'll turn Britain around
Turning around Britain together
Turning nature into art
AWGB, the revolutionary organisation with

a cutting edge

AWGB an Association in the round AWGB turning to the future Turn the corner with the AWGB Turn around with AWGB Would turners join the AWGB AWGB turning with the times

AWGB turning with the time Turn on with the AWGB

AWGB - turning towards tomorrow

AWGB - turning towards 2000

AWGB - turning to your needs

AWGB - turning to the future

AWGB - we turn with the times

Turn to the experience of the AWGB

AWGB - for a good turn
Turn again Whittington

Join AWGB and turn again with great reward

Newsletter No. 35, November 1995

I don't remember this exercise ever meeting with success at the time. If we did have a pithy slogan I for one have totally forgotten it.

However, some seventeen years later we finally came up with "one turn deserves another." Which must prove something, but quite what, I don't know.

Dust Extraction - Problem Overcome

Ron Lansdell

A while back I bought a Record Chip and Dust extractor. Until now I have had the hose jury rigged with bits of string from a wall bracket but could never get it quite in the right place. So on a less busy day, utilising scraps from around the workshop, I set about setting something up that is a bit better,

As can be seen from photo 1 I attached a piece of 3/4" steel tube to the workshop wall with a couple of wood brackets, alternatively these could be fixed to the lathe bed. I then made a beech wood block with a sliding fit hole to go on this tube, slotting it so that it could be clamped with a bolt and wing nut. The slot needs to extend on both sides of the hole for flexibility.

Another similar block was drilled to take a piece

of 12mm hardwood dowel, again a sliding fit and slotted with a bolt and wing nut to clamp in position. The two blocks were then screwed together, just tight enough to swivel and stay in position giving, in effect, a universal joint capable of being swivelled in all directions. A long bolt and wing nut could also be used here instead of the wood screw which I used.



The funnel for the end of the suction tube, photo 2, was made from a piece of silver birch, which had been rough wet turned to make a 12" diameter bowl and which badly cracked when I wrapped it in newspaper to continue the drying process. Incidentally this was the second time I had tried the newspaper method to dry wood, with the same result.



Onto this funnel I attached a block, drilled to take the other, fixed, end of the 12mm dowel. I can now move the funnel into the correct position to be in the most effective position to collect dust and shavings, and it works very well, as can be seen in photo 3 where a vase is being drilled out, virtually all the waste is sucked into the extractor.



Whilst on the subject of dust extractors, do not forget to regularly clean the outside of the filter bag as this gets clogged with dust long before the drum is full, the suction power is much reduced if this is not done. I take it outside, and standing with my back to the wind, gently use a soft brush and vacuum cleaner to get all the dust off.

Tools Explained

OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for setting light to various flammable objects in your workshop.

A Tutor Training Day

Graham Ball

Coombe Abbey Woodturners always try to be at the forefront of anything woodturning, and so it was on Saturday November 26th 2011 when we were hosts to the very first "AWGB Tutor Training day".

Way back in April, I attended the Annual General Meeting of the AWGB. At this meeting it was proposed that a course be put together with the specific aims of assisting woodturning clubs, by giving guidance in the teaching of members of the public, or novices, the art and skill of woodturning. I approached Peter Bradwick the training officer of the Association and suggested that he held the first session in our workshop at Coombe. Peter was very receptive to this suggestion as was the CAWT committee when I put it to them at one of our meetings. Asking around the membership there was no shortage of volunteers to take part, and eventually we had to restrict it to just four candidates with five other club members having to settle for a watching brief.

A date was eventually decided upon with two members of the AWGB committee, Peter Bradwick (Training Officer) and David Atkinson (H&S and Insurance), arriving at Coombe for an early start to deliver the training sessions. Our area representative and club member Peter Carless was also in attendance.

The four candidates for the course were Don Robins, Lionel Crabbe, John Holtom and me, (Graham Ball). Steve Smith who has recently joined our club kindly agreed to be the learner for the day which meant receiving mini-teaching sessions from all four candidates.

Peter got the training session going with a talk and slide presentation outlining what was expected of us. This was followed by a presentation by David on health and safety and insurance, going into great detail to clarify all the legal aspects of the two very important subjects. Questions were invited and answers were given.

Don Robins carried out the first mini-teaching session which was how to rough down a square section piece of wood to a cylinder and plane this with the skew chisel. Thirty minutes was allowed for each of the four mini sessions which was to take place.

Lionel Crabbe took the second spot and his brief was to take the learner through V-cuts and parting cuts. At the end of each session a review was carried out by the trainers and anyone else in the room who wished to make comments on the tutor's performance.

It was now time for lunch which was taken in the upstairs room at Coombe where our Vice Chairman Fred Lapper had put on a finger buffet for us all to enjoy. Enjoy it we did and Fred was congratulated on a really nice welcome lunch.

Resuming after lunch, it was now my turn to deliver a mini-teaching session which was to be on producing coves using the spindle gouge.

This session seemed to go well but I was aware that all eyes were on me and Steve, which was a bit daunting. In the appraisal that followed I found there were quite a few issues brought to my notice for improvement, so I did learn from the experience.



The final teaching session was delivered by John Holtom, showing the learner how to turn beads with the gouge. After the appraisal, Peter and David carried out a winding up talk, discussing points needing attention to improve on our already very good teaching methods.

As this was the very first "Tutor Training Day" organised by the AWGB, Peter Bradwick said there would be some fine tuning but it would then be rolled out to other woodturning clubs throughout the country.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to everyone who helped to make this day the success it was and to say how proud I am to belong to such a progressive national association and a club with so many keen active members.



Trainee tutors, student and leaders after a successful day

Be Aware

On one of the membership renewal forms was written the following note: "Somebody phoned me last week. He's targeting AWGB members and is asking for a donation of £399. If this is too much he will do a deal and only ask £145. In return you get a signed certificate from Michael Caine. It is supposed to go for cancer research but I thought it was rather high for a donation."

It is worth noting that: 1. No one has requested, and would certainly never get, information from AWGB to allow them to target members. We take the database security and member privacy very seriously and would never divulge information on AWGB members. 2. We would never be a party to any campaign that allowed our members to be contacted direct by a third party.

It is obviously a scam and I expect there is no way to know how the caller knew this person was a member. We have not heard from anyone else about this so it could be a one-off, but it is a matter of concern. If any member experiences anything of a similar nature please let our database manager Dave Atkinson know about it.



In winter why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer when we complained about the heat?

The Window Box

Charles Berry

I have a tale of carpentry, the story's very sad
For the hero of our saga went well and truly mad.
A woodworking fanatic, he was doing very well,
Until that fateful day he made The Window Box from Hell

He wanted it for daffodils; he liked their golden hue, And he had some planks in pinewood that, at a pinch, would do, A six-foot box was adequate to house his floral heaven, But one plank measured six feet one, the other five-eleven.

Undaunted he began to saw two inches off the pine, But one still measured six feet one, the other, five feet nine. Three inches more were added to the growing pile of sticks, But yes, you guessed it, one plank became five feet six.

In growing rage he tried again to make the side parts fit. They did, but as he cut the base, the seasoned timber split. He fought all day in vain to tame the errant lumps of trees, But stubbornly each corner measured ninety-three degrees.

Near desperate, he attacked it with a set-square and a plane, But forty knots in every plank soon rendered him insane. His bulbs still wait the window box the poor man had desired. Heartbroken by the wretched thing, the carpenter expired.

Newsletter No. 57, May 2001

SW Area Report

John Boyne-Aitken

It is getting on for a year now that I have been the South-West area representative. In that time I have enjoyed talking to some of our existing members and being the first point of contact for some of our newer members as well. As I point new members in the right direction, it gives me an opportunity to talk to the chairmen and secretaries of various clubs, and I am pleased to report that the craft of turning appears to be flourishing in this part of the country.

We had a stall at the Yandles autumn show and although I didn't man it myself, as I was demonstrating, quite a few people came and had a chat with me anyway. It was nice to meet you all.

I had the privilege of attending the youth training day in Bodmin last October and what a good day that was. To see six young people being given one to one instruction on the lathe for a whole day was a pleasure to behold. The Bodmin club members who gave up their time during that weekend epitomise woodturners everywhere, their generosity and

patience coupled with the skills they are passing on to the future generation of turners should be admired. The aims and ethos of the AWGB were proudly met that day. At the time of writing I am looking forward to the next training day in February.

If your club is organising something in the future and you think that I may be of some help please get in touch and let me know, with enough notice I can usually find the time to turn up.

As this edition of Revolutions comes out we will be approaching the time for the Yandle's spring show where we will once again have a presence and some gallery pieces on display. This really is a top grade show for your calendar and well worth the effort of attending, I look forward to seeing some of you there when you visit the AWGB stand.

Don't forget to have a look at the AWGB forum where you can see what other turners are up to, have a chat and exchange a bit of banter with members from all over the country. My signature on the forum is The Bowler Hatted Turner (BHT) so let's see if we can meet up on-line.



The Annual General Meeting 2012 will be held at ODDINGTON VILLAGE HALL Lower Oddington, Nr. Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire GL56 0XD

At 2.00 pm on Sunday, 25th March 2012.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence.
- 2. Minutes of the A.G.M. held at Oddington Village Hall, on Sunday, 3rd April 2011.
- 3 Matters arising from item 2.
- 4. To receive and adopt the Honorary Chairman's report
- 5. To receive and adopt the Honorary Treasurer's report and financial accounts for the year ended 31.12.2011.
- To receive the results of any necessary postal votes for the election of Officers and Executive Committee members. Should there be only one nomination for each post to receive and appoint those nominated.
- 7. To receive the result of any postal votes relating to any motion properly put within the Constitution of the AWGB.
- 8. As 5 above, relating to the posts of Regional Representatives East and West.
- 9. Any other matter at the discretion

BRANCH MEETING 2012

The AGM will be preceded at 11.00 am by the Branch Representatives Annual Meeting.

AGENDA

- A. Report on training activities 2011
- B. Is there a need for a private forum for Branches to inter-communicate and discuss problems?
- C. Have the demonstrator training days helped branches with their programmes?
- D. Should we rely more on the Internet for communication?
- E. Any other business, at the discretion of the Chairman.

NB Only fully paid up members of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting and/or the Branch Representatives Annual Meeting.

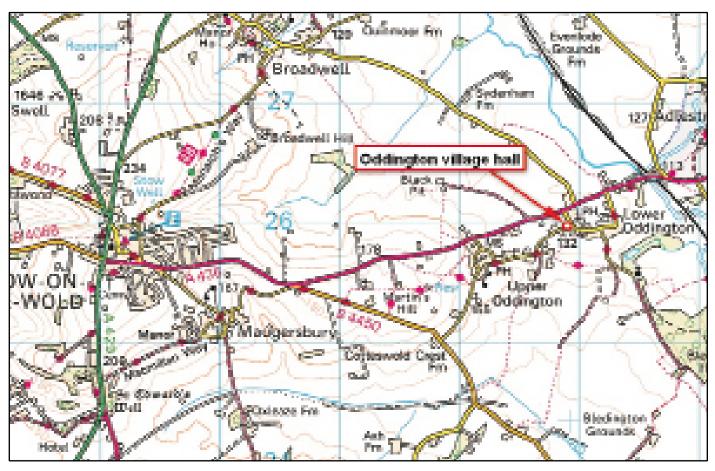
Additional Special Attractions on the Day of the Branch Representatives and Annual General Meeting 2012.

In addition to the meetings: there will be an Instant Gallery, all those attending are requested to bring at least one piece to be displayed. The Chairman will present a special prize for the piece he selects from the Instant Gallery.

English Hardwoods will yet again be offering first quality kiln fried British timber at exceptionally competitive prices. Those who have attended Annual General Meetings in the past I am sure will agree that this is an opportunity to buy some great value wood.

Again this year there will be a sales table, so bring along those good quality woodturning tools and items that you no longer require and provide your colleagues with the opportunity to take them home and you hopefully to have more cash in your pocket. All items should have a label or card attached showing the sellers name and the amount asked for the item.

All Branches and Members are reminded of the importance of these Annual meetings. Branches are asked to endeavour to make sure they are represented at the Branch meeting and all members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting.



Member Training Workshops 2012

Date	Topic / Technique	Tutor	Venue
Friday 30th March	Spindle work techniques Intermediate	Les Thorne	Old Alresford, Hants
Thursaday 19th April	Hollow form technique and design Intermediate	Mark Hancock	Peter Childs, Essex

Further workshops to be announced in the next issue of Revolutions.

Contact Member Training Coordinator Brian Hensby 01297 34115 manofkent1@btinternet.com for application forms, or visit the AWGB website www.woodturners.co.uk

Explanations from the Executive Committee about AWGB becoming a Company and a Charity

Background: Since the AGM in 2010, as recommended by our accountants, your Executive Committee (EC) has been reviewing the Association's organisational 'status'. The review has been conducted with the active support of one of our members, Robert Craig – North London Branch, who is a solicitor with considerable experience in charity and company law. Whilst deliberation has been lengthy the arguments are uncomplicated and lead to a clear recommendation by the EC that your Association should convert from its present unincorporated circumstances to become a "company limited by guarantee" and then to seek registration as a charity.

A company limited by guarantee is the usual format adopted by clubs, learned societies, not-for-profit bodies and charities which want to adopt incorporated status.

The Process: To arrive at a situation where the AWGB can become a company / charity the following steps are involved. They comply with the procedures required by the existing AWGB constitution:

- The EC must put two motions to an Extraordinary General Meeting:
 - the first ("the Company Motion") is a motion to form a company, transfer AWGB's assets to it, give all existing Members, Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs the equivalent status in that new company, and wind up the old AWGB.
 - The second ("the Charity Motion") is a motion for the new company to apply for charitable status.
- The Members vote on the motions via a postal ballot. To be carried, the motions will require a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast. Only postal votes can be cast.
- The General Meeting will receive the result of the postal ballot.

If both motions are defeated, nothing changes.

If the Company motion is passed but not the Charity Motion, we convert to company status but do not become a charity

If the Charity Motion is also passed, the new company applies to become a charity.

Why Do it? What are the arguments?

Becoming a Company: The primary arguments for the AWGB centre on legal status and associated legal liabilities. Today as an 'unincorporated association' it is the individual Executive Committee who would bear the legal liability for any claims against the AWGB which it could not meet out of Association funds. The Executive could not even reclaim that kind of liability from the members of the Association as a whole. Examples of the type of liability that might arise, and which caused our accountants to make their recommendation are:

- Contractual claims arising out of cancellation of the Seminar or other such events.
- Claims for defamation arising out of something printed in Revolutions.
- Claims for civil wrongs like personal injury not covered by our insurance this might arise where insurance cover is capped or cover had lapsed

If the AWGB becomes a limited company then it is the company (not the individual EC members, or the membership of AWGB generally) which would become the target of any legal action. With a company limited by guarantee the exposure of members is limited to just £1 each, if the company becomes insolvent while he is a member or within one year after he ceases to be a member. This is a very important protection for the EC and the AWGB as a whole, and its importance increases as we expand our activities.

We believe that we will find it difficult in the future to get Members to volunteer for the EC if they realise that they have unlimited personal exposure.

The only arguments against becoming a company are

- That we will have to file accounts with the Registrar of Companies each year.
- That our constitution will be rather longer and more comprehensive than it has been up to now

Becoming a Charity: The arguments in favour of charitable status are less legally important but are compelling in practical and financial terms (if it can be achieved). Broadly the key points are:

For

- A widening of the opportunity to receive grants from other organisations, trusts and foundations.
- The opportunity to receive tax-free legacies and donations from members.
- The opportunity for members to pay all or part of their subscription via Gift Aid so that the charity can recover the tax.

- The enhanced status conferred by being a charity the Charity Commission is strict in its requirements and does not award the status lightly.
- Exemption from corporation tax on surpluses.

Against:

- We would be regulated by the Charity Commission not a fundamental problem as most of our current process would meet the requirements already.
- The principle that assets of the charity do not belong to the members personally if it is wound up the assets must be used for similar charitable purposes.
- The general principle that the trustees run the charity for the benefit of the organisation and not to make personal profit nothing new there! the same principle applies to connected people (eg family members of trustees).
- The need to file an annual return and accounts with the Charity Commission. We already prepare accounts appropriately and would simply have to file with the Charity Commission and Companies House not an onerous requirement.

Overall, being a company and seeking charitable status have the effect of making the AWGB a stronger organisation in every respect. Converting to a company is simply a matter of process while becoming a charity requires the case to be made and accepted by the Charity Commission.

What stays the same?

The EC expects that if both motions are passed, all the same activities of AWGB, its style of carrying on its affairs, our magazine "Revolutions," the International Seminar, the status of Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs and their relationship with AWGB, the Regional Structure, our insurance scheme and the powers and rights of members are all likely to remain substantially unaffected by the conversion to a company and charity status.

Members of AWGB in different categories will have a corresponding status in the company and a 2012 subscription will cover a member even if our legal status changes during the year.

What would be different?

To be a company you have to adopt a set of Articles. To be a charity you have to get agreement from the Charity Commission that your objectives are charitable. In drafting the Articles to form the company the AWGB current constitution has been carefully converted to minimise actual change. There are some modifications to the underlying constitution which will be essential to satisfy Companies House and the Charity Commission. There are some others that the EC would commend in any event to meet the needs of a changing world. Perhaps inevitably, the proposed Memorandum of Association is a somewhat larger document than the current AWGB Constitution. The cost of sending a full copy of the draft to all members would be prohibitive so the intent is to summarise the key changes here and make the full document available on the AWGB website.

Summary of Changes: The main points of difference are:

- The Aims: The aims fundamentally remain the same but are replaced by 'Objects' and 'Powers'.
 - The proposed Objects are "to advance public knowledge and appreciation of the craft of woodturning, particularly but not exclusively through the furtherance of skill and creativity in woodturning, and the preservation of the heritage of woodturning".
 - The Powers specify a comprehensive range of actions which may be undertaken by AWGB to promote those Objects
- **Elections**: The current ten Executive Committee members will be replaced by a Board of 11 Trustees (in company law terms they become the directors of the Company) the one additional to the Board allows for the President to be a Trustee. The new Articles propose changes to the election process based on a need to allow for succession planning and business continuity. The old and new can be compared as follows:
 - Old: The three Officers of the Association (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) are elected annually by the membership. The remaining EC members are elected by the membership for a two year term of office. The President is appointed by the EC.
 - New: Under the new proposals there will be eleven Trustees: six General Trustees, four Regional Representatives and the Executive President. General Trustees will be elected by the membership for a period of four years. The Regional Representatives (as now) will be elected by the members of the Affiliated Branches for a period of two years. The Officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) will be chosen from among themselves by the Trustees. The elected trustees will appoint from outside their group an Executive President whose term of office will be three years.

Member Liability

The liability of members will be limited in the company as follows:

If the Charity* is dissolved, a Member or someone who was a member within the last year may be required to contribute a sum of not more than £1 towards the payment of debts and liabilities of the

Charity incurred before he ceased to be a Member, and of the expenses of winding-up.

• Subscription Changes

Under the present rules of AWGB, subscription changes have to be approved by a postal ballot of all members. The EC considers that this is unwieldy, slow and expensive. In the new company rules it will be for the EC to set the level of subscriptions.

Dissolution of the Charity*

- Old: If the AWGB were to be dissolved, if there were any surplus after payment of all its debts in full, the remaining funds would be divided between all paid up Members at that time.
- New: If the Charity* is dissolved, the assets (if any) remaining after providing for all its liabilities must be applied in one or more of the following ways:
 - By transfer to one or more other charities, having the same or similar Objects;
 - Directly for the Objects or for charitable purposes which are within or similar to the Objects;
 - In such other manner consistent with charitable status as the Charity Commission approves..
- * The term "the Charity" is used here on the assumption that AWGB would successfully register as a charity.

What will Conversion Cost?

The cost of this ballot and postage will depend on how many members vote. The cost of actually forming the company will be not more than £500. As a company we may have additional accountancy costs. There may be some one-off printing costs for new letterhead, website alterations and similar as a result of the change. The EC expects that if AWGB becomes a charity the use of Gift Aid, donations and legacies in the future will more than outweigh these expenses.

The Outcome of the Motions - Next Steps

The EC presents two motions for the membership - the first ("the Company Motion") to transfer the current AWGB to become a company limited by guarantee and the second ("the Charity Motion") (dependent on the passing of the Company Motion) for the new company to apply to the Charity Commission for charitable status.

The Charity Motion can only have effect if the membership votes in favour of converting to a company.

If the Company Motion fails the AWGB will not apply to register as a charity even if the Charity Motion succeeds. This is because the proposed constitution is only suitable for a charity which is also a company.

Important Note: If the membership passes the Company Motion, but not the Charity Motion, or if the Charity Commission refuses to register AWGB as a charity, the EC will review the position and will arrange to amend the proposed company constitution to be suitable for a company limited by guarantee which is <u>not</u> a charity.

Timetable

The establishment of the new AWGB company and the transfer of assets to it will take place over the few months after the passing of the first motion and should be completed before the 2013 AGM

The application to register the company as a charity will take place shortly after the company is registered. The timetable depends on how favourably the Charity Commission view our application, but we know of at least one other woodturning charity, and several other craft charities, so we are advised that we stand a good chance of being registered as a charity, possibly with some amendments to the wording of the Objects or the Articles which might be required by the Charity Commission. The outcome should be known before the 2013 AGM.

Recommendation: The EC strongly commends the two motions to the membership for acceptance. In addition, the EC urges the membership to make their views known by participating in the postal ballot.

Note: The membership is reminded that only postal votes can be valid – voting in person at the meeting is NOT possible.

The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Notice is hereby given of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association to be held at The Westwood Club and Reading Rooms, Westwood Heath Road, Coventry, CV48GP on Saturday 12th May 2012 at 12 noon. The meeting has been called by a resolution of the Executive Committee.

The following Motions have been proposed and are to be put to the Members of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain ("the Association") through a postal ballot. The results of the ballot will be received at the Extraordinary General Meeting.

Ballot papers must be returned to the Hon. Secretary of AWGB, using the enclosed reply label care of Finers Stephens Innocent LLP 179 Great Portland Street, London W1W 5LS or in a stamped envelope to 8, Wiltshire Gardens, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 6ND not later than the close of business on Friday 4th May 2012.

Each of the following Motions A and B is a separate Motion, but Motion B is conditional on the passing of Motion A, and if Motion A fails to command the necessary majority Motion B will not be effective:-

Motion A. Conversion of the Association to a Limited Company

- 1. That a company limited by guarantee to be known as "The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain" ("the Company") be incorporated for the purpose of taking over the activities of the Association, which is at present an unincorporated association, and that the Memorandum and Articles of the Company be in the Specified Form set out in the Schedule* to this Motion A.
- 2. That the original subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of the Company be such members of the Executive Committee as it thinks fit and that as soon as may be convenient after registration of the Company all members of the Executive Committee of the Association become the first directors of the Company, holding the corresponding positions on the board of the Company as they held on the Executive Committee.
- 3. That as soon as convenient thereafter the Association shall enterinto an agreement with the Company for the transfer to the Company of all the activities, assets and liabilities of the Association ("the Transfer Agreement") and that the Executive Committee be and is hereby authorised to execute the Transfer Agreement of behalf of the Association.
- 4. That the Transfer Agreement contain provisions for the indemnification of present and past members of the Executive Committee against all liabilities attaching to them by virtue of their having been members of the Executive Committee of the Association.
- 5. That arrangements be made as part of the Transfer Agreement or otherwise for all members of the Association (in whatever class including honorary members) to become members of the Company in the same respective classes, and for their membership subscriptions with the Association to be treated as their membership subscriptions to the Company for the unexpired period after the date of completion of the Transfer Agreement.
- 6. That arrangements be made as part of the Transfer Agreement or otherwise for all Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs of the Association become respectively Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs of the Company in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of the Company.
- 7 That as soon as convenient after completion of the Transfer Agreement final accounts of the Association be prepared and published in "Revolutions" and that such publication be treated as sufficient notification to members of the Association.
- That the Association be dissolved as soon as its affairs have been fully wound up and that notice of dissolution be published in Revolutions and that such publication be treated as sufficient notification to members of the Association.
- 9 That the existing Constitution of the Association be changed so that no remaining funds of the Association on its dissolution shall be paid to members, but they shall be transferred to the Company by way of a donation to the Company.
- That the Executive Committee be authorised to take such further steps and enter into such further documents, deeds and acts as may be appropriate to give effect to the formation of the Company, the transfer of its activities and memberships to the Company and the winding up of the affairs of the Association.

*SCHEDULE TO MOTION A

The Specified Form of the Memorandum and Articles of the Company is as published on the website of The Association at web address: (www.woodturners.co.uk) but may be subject to such amendments as may be considered reasonable by the Executive, or as required by the Registrar of Companies or by the Charity

Commission, for the purpose of giving effect to Motions A and B. Any Member of the Association may have a paper print or electronic version of the Specified Form in its current form on application in writing or by email to the Honorary Secretary

Motion B Registration of the Company as a Charity

That as soon as convenient after the formation of the Company an application be made by the Executive Committee on its behalf to the Charity Commission for England and Wales for registration of the Company as a charity.

Proposer Reg Hawthorne (Chairman) Date 20th January 2012 Seconded Mike Donovan (Vice-chairman) Date 20th January 2012 This Notice is dated 20th January 2012. Mike Collas (Honorary Secretary)

Notes from the Executive Committee:

- A. The Proposer and Seconder are Members of the Association.
- B. The original signed Proposal for these motions was been deposited with the Executive Committee of the Association on 20th January 2012.
- C The Executive Committee considers that the above Motions A and B call for a material change in the Constitution of the Association and therefore require a majority of at least two thirds of the votes cast in order to be carried. (See extract from clause 11 of the Constitution below.**)
- D Members are required to give their membership number or Name and address on the reverse of the Ballot Paper in order to protect the integrity of the ballot process.
- E If this copy of Revolutions is shared by a number of family members, they may each cast their votes on a photocopy of the Ballot Paper, as long as each person voting complies with Note D.
- Any Member who wishes to attend the EGM is welcome to do so, but the only business of the EGM is likely to be receiving the results of the ballot. Members may not wish to travel long distances for what is expected to be a fairly short meeting. The Executive Committee will do its best to ensure there are sufficient Members attending, from the EC and from clubs local to the venue, so that it is seen that the process is carried out correctly.

For the information and convenience of Members, the following are extracts from the Constitution of the Association. Please refer to the full terms of the Constitution of the Association.

"Meetings of the Association

2. The ordinary business to be transacted at each Annual General Meeting shall be:

.....

- e. To receive the results of the Postal Ballot of any Motions properly put to the Membership through the rules of the AGM.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by a resolution of the Executive Committee. The rules for the holding and conduct of the Annual General Meeting otherwise apply.
- 6. Proposals for Motions must be signed by the Proposer and a Seconder both of whom must be members of the AWGB.
- 8. All members entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting, whether they attend a meeting or not, shall be invited to vote by means of a Postal Ballot on all Proposals and Motions put to the Meeting.
- 9. Ballot papers shall be circulated with the Annual General Meeting Agenda and must be returned to the Hon. Secretary by no later than one week before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- ** The Constitution of the AWGB may be changed through a Motion put to a Members' General Meeting. Such Motions shall be put through a Postal Ballot. Any Motion considered by the Executive Committee to call for a material change in the Constitution shall require a majority of at least two thirds of the votes cast in order to be carried.

The Dissolution of the AWGB

1. If the Executive Committee shall decide that The Association shall be dissolved then the Executive Committee shall by the issue of a notice to all Members of the Association arrange for all debts, liabilities, taxes and other dues to be paid in full. The assets shall be sold, and any funds remaining

Association of Woodturners of Great Britain

Ballot Paper for Motions put to Members through a postal ballot

The votes of members are to be received at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at The Westwood Club and Reading Rooms, Westwood Heath Road, Coventry CV4 8GP Saturday 12th May 2012 at 12 noon. Votes cannot be cast in person at the meeting.

Please read the following instructions carefully.

- 1. There are two Motions A and B.
- 2. Motion B will not be effective unless Motion A is passed.
- 3. But you should still vote on each resolution.
- 4. Put an X in the box to indicate how you vote on the Motion.
- 5. If you put anything other than an X in voting on a Motion, your vote on that Motion will be disregarded.
- 6. Put your membership number OR your name and address on the back of this Ballot Paper. (See Note D on the accompanying Notice of the EGM)

This ballot paper must be returned to The Hon. Secretary of AWGB, not later than the close of business on Friday 4th May 2012. See addresses on the accompanying Notice of the EGM.

Motion A				
Do you vote in favour of Motion A?	YES			
(This is the proposal for the conversion of AWGB to a Limited Company)	NO			
Motion B				
Do you vote in favour of Motion B?	YES			
(This is the proposal to apply for the registration of the Company as a Charity)	NO			

DO NOT FORGET - PLEASE ADD AWGB MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND / OR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE BACK OF THIS BALLOT PAPER

AWGB Membership Number	Full Name	Address / Postcode

WCT Competitions

The Worshipful Company of Turners will again be running their prestigious bi-enniel Turning Competitions at Carpenters' Hall, in the City of London on 16th October 2012 as part of the Company's 'Wizardry in Wood 2012' exhibition which will be open to the public from Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th October. The prizes will be awarded on the afternoon of 16th October by Alderman Fiona Wolf and all entries will remain on display until the end of the exhibition. These competitions are arranged in conjunction with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain (AWGB), the Society of Ornamental Turners (SOT) and The Association of Pole-Lathe Turners (APT). The competitions are designed to offer opportunities to both the expert and the relative newcomer.

There will be four competitions open to any turner resident in the United Kingdom.

- The Master's Competition for a matching pair of Lidded Chalices. This is split into two categories, one for plain turning and one for ornamental turning. For each category, cash prizes of £1250, £500 and £250 will be awarded.
- The Felix Levy Freestyle Turning Competition for which a trophy and £1250 will be awarded.
- The Open Competition for a matched pair of Pepper and Salt Mills for which cash Prizes of £250, £150, £100 and a runner-up prize of £50 will be awarded.

There is a **Special Competition** this year for a set piece Candlestick for use at Company banquets. While there will be no prize for this, there will be a special book of historic importance which will record the names and details of those whose pieces are chosen.

A further Plain Turning Competition will be open only to members of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain. There are no restrictions as to subject or techniques employed.

- The Senior Class will have Gold, Silver and Bronze medals and cash prizes of £200, £150 and £100 plus up to 3 runner-up cash prizes of £50.
- The Junior Class will have Silver and Bronze medals and cash prizes of £125 and £75 and £50.
- The Ray Key Competition for juniors who have attended an AWGB Youth Training Day.

The Turners Company is very grateful to Axminster Woodturning Chucks, Crown Hand Tools Ltd, Henry Taylor Tools Ltd, Record Power Ltd, Robert Sorby and Woodturning Magazine, for generously supporting us with a good selection of prizes

Entry Forms and Rules will be available from the AWGB website; the SOT website and from the Turners Company website or from the Clerk of the Turners Company by e-mail or post.

Forthcoming Events

The South-East Woodworking Show

9th & 10th March 2012 - 10.00am until 4.00pm At Kent County Showground, Detling, Nr. Maidstone, ME14 3JF More details at www.nelton.co.uk

Woodworks at Daventry 2012

12th & 13th May 2012

Daventry Leisure Centre

Free entry and parking

A wide range of demonstrators, retailers and club stands

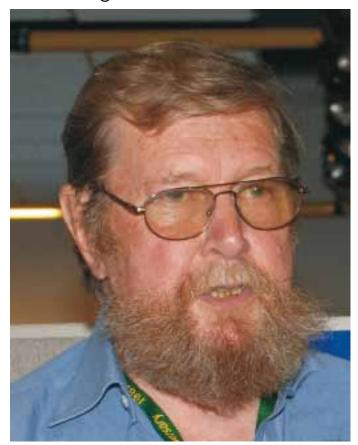
Full details at www.tudor-rose-turners.co.uk

'The Toolpost' Open House

25th & 26th May 2012
Unit 7 Hawksworth, Southmead Industrial Park, Didcot, OX11 7HR
Free entry parking and light refreshments
Philippe Bourgeat, Heinz Wiedermann and Gerry Marlow demonstrating

Alan Mitchell

Lionel Pringle



The passing of two stalwarts of the British woodturning scene, Bert Marsh and Bill Jones, during 2011 has already been recorded in these pages. On November 29th we lost a third in the person of Alan Mitchell, a great friend to woodworking in general and a supporter of the AWGB since its inception.

Alan was one of the larger-than-life characters in woodworking journalism and was a past editor of 'Practical Woodworking' magazine. He was always to be found at the large woodworking events sponsored by the magazine in the late eighties and early nineties. Alan had loved the atmosphere these shows generated, surrounded by acquaintances and mixing with colleagues and friends.

It was at the first 'National Woodturning Show', sponsored by 'Practical Woodturning' at the NEC in Birmingham that I first came into contact with Alan myself. I was new to woodturning and had had the effrontery to enter a pair of candle holders into one of the competitions. My entry actually managed to achieve a runner up prize, (I think there must have been a dearth of entries). Speaking to Alan after the prize-giving, I found him to be most encouraging and he actually asked if I would submit an article on the making of the candle holders in question, I happily agreed and the article was eventually published in May 1994.

I subsequently met Alan on a number of occasions at events organised by the AWGB, the Worshipful

Company and the Register of Professional Turners, and he was invariably to be found with his trademark glass of red wine in hand. Alan was always the life and soul of such functions and could always be relied on to provide a wide spectrum of anecdotes to keep the assembled company amused.

I was extremely pleased, during my short stint as Chairman of the AWGB, to have the great pleasure of being able to hand to Alan a plaque confirming the award of honorary membership of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.

Latterly, since 'retiring', Alan had been very much involved in publicising the work of the Worshipful Company of Turners, not least the 'Wizardry in Wood' events where his enthusiasm was infectious. His knowledge, input and camaraderie will be much missed by all those who came into contact with him.



Alan receiving his Honorary Membership award from Lionel Pringle

A Word of Thanks

Dave Atkinson

Thanks to all the branch and club secretaries and treasurers for sending in their payments for insurance cover for 2012 promptly. It made life much easier and I was able to fully renew the policy two days before the final renewal date.

You should all have received your certificate and schedules for this year as I posted them out in January. If you can't find them send me an e-mail and I will issue a copy.

Correction

The Editor wishes to apologise to Peter Taylor and Richard Lynch-Blosse for getting the attributions of the photographs of their Seminar pieces the wrong way round on pages 16 and 17 of the December issue.

Giving as Good as you Get!

Derek Hayes

A complaint often heard from new turners is "I've no idea if what I'm making is any good". The easy bit is to ask for feedback. Receiving it is somewhat harder. It takes a confident, self-assured person to accept criticism of style and design, although it is arguably somewhat easier to accept comments regarding technical competence.

If receiving it is difficult, then so is giving it. A good observer is able to explain their views without alienating the maker. A "good receiver" needs to reflect on the criticism, good or bad, decide if it is to be accepted and just as importantly, how those criticisms will be taken and used to improve future pieces.

A major problem is that different observers have different levels of expertise. They also place different weightings to personal and those elusive, absolute standards.

So accepting that views which may be received will differ depending on the observer, how can we improve the process of giving feedback?

Step 1: Empathise with the maker. How do you feel when someone comments on your work?

- He's a pro so he must be right
- I've never liked his stuff anyway
- What the hell is he talking about?
- He's absolutely wrong and I'm going to tell him so
- I'm always grateful for comments, I usually ignore them and carry on
- Everyone else thinks it's wonderful
- I think it's wonderful
- I've no idea what rubbing the bevel means, but I'd better not say so or he'll think I'm an idiot
- That's about 15 things he said and I don't remember any of them
- What's on telly tonight?

The last one I call the Homer Simpson moment – where comments just go right over your head and so you mentally switch off. Real communication begins with listening. This is more than just hearing information. It is using your full attention, senses and awareness. This is a two-way process; the giver as well as the receiver. The observer should be aware of how the maker is receiving the information. The good observer will be able to quickly pick up the signs of a breakdown in At the basic level this could be communications. achieved by simply asking for confirmation that the comments made are understood. This is not to say that they have to be accepted though, they are opinions, and the maker has the right to ignore them. This is not an opportunity for heated debate. A useful way to reduce confrontation is to lay down some

ground rules prior to the chat.

This doesn't have to be too formal. Simply prefacing your comments in a statement such as; "I'm happy to comment on what you've made. These are my views and you don't have to accept them but, perhaps you could wait until the end before you respond to what I say, unless of course I haven't explained it too well. Otherwise, take the comments away with you, reflect on them, make use of them if you want to or ignore them if you disagree and, come back to me to discuss anything further."

Without this planned approach, a typical dialogue might be:

Observer

"The base is a mess – I like the bowl, but I certainly wouldn't award it a prize!"

Maker

"Well, I like it, the base stays on the table and only boring old turners look at the finish anyway. I have no intention of entering a competition."

Observer

"Look, you asked me, and I'm telling you, if you don't like my opinions, don't ask."

That's one disgruntled maker who certainly won't ask that observer again or possibly anybody else come to that. Be aware of how your comments may be received. Think how you can pre-empt possible responses that might come.

A friendlier and hopefully more constructive exchange might be:

Observer

"This is a lovely bowl. You are probably aware that the base isn't finished as well as it could be and it does let it down a bit. The typical buyer wouldn't notice, the competition judge certainly will. If that's not important to you, then fine, but I reckon it's worth that little bit more time, but as I say, a really good effort – well done."

Maker

"Thanks I'm not worried about competitions but I may as well try to get it right. How could I have improved the base?"

This leaves dialogue open and provides confirmation that the point the observer wanted to make has been understood.

Giving feedback in a way which enhances, and does not damage, self-esteem is rarely taught to teachers. Some say that praising work leads to under performance ("She said it was good, no need for me to change or improve it".) whilst criticism will spur on the maker to achieve. There is little evidence that either one of these is true.

Here are three positive and three negative remarks you might like to consider when feeding back: Don't:

Be subjective

- Generalise
- Give too many points

Do:

- Be clear and unambiguous
- Be specific
- Encourage

Success for the observer occurs if the maker is able to criticise him or her self, compare their own performance with the 'ideal' and diagnose strengths and weaknesses. Improvements can be suggested, but do seek the maker's views and suggestions. Don't forget to check for understanding and acceptance. Use what are called open, rather than closed, questions.

Open:

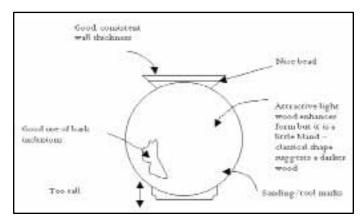
- So what is it you are going to do?
- Which of the points do you feel were most helpful?

Closed:

- Is that okay?
- Did you understand?

This is as much a learning experience for the giver as it is for the maker. It should help you accept supportive criticism when you receive it. Use the opportunity to observe good and bad experience when you are in the student's position. Ask yourself was that a good experience? Did I understand what the 'teacher' was trying to tell me? Will I adjust my practice because of it?

If demonstrating empathy verbally isn't your strongest suit you might prefer to use a written summary to give guidance. This is particularly useful in competitions where a lot of work needs to be considered. Could you try a doodle - type sketch of the piece and some scribbled notes as shown below?



Make sure there are at least as many positive points as there are negative. I've given a simple example. If you don't fancy a sketch, a short written summary something like this might just do it:

This well-turned piece includes a good use of decoration (natural and added) and some excellent flowing curves. It is an attractive form from many viewpoints although the foot is slightly long which detracts from the classic balance of the piece. There are some sanding scratches but overall this was a creditable effort and there is the opportunity for developing the design in future work – well done!

Now, how about some feedback on this article? Treat me gently won't you?



Tools Explained

CROWBAR: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50p part.

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Shear Cuts with a Gouge

Reg Sherwin

Many of my fellow professional turners decry the use of tool grinding jigs, preferring to grind their tools by hand. I use a jig by preference for two reasons.

Firstly, I achieve consistency in tool profile and should I decide to try a different profile and find that it doesn't suit me, I can revert to the original profile as I have the jig settings recorded. However, should I find I can make good use of the new profile as well as the old one; I can always buy another tool.

Secondly, since I started writing woodturning articles way back in nineteen hundred and frozen to death I specifically aimed at the newcomers to what is an intriguing, frustrating, satisfying, challenging and very addictive hobby.

Compared with the time that I started out on this new journey of discovery, there is now a confusing abundance of information available to today's turners. My advice to newcomers is to follow one advocated method, and come to understand it before trying another. That way, you are less likely to become confused as you will have a fairly solid foundation to revert to if, (or should that be when?) things start going pear shaped.

Another problem which often besets the newcomer is that they see a piece of turning which is way beyond their experience, but they are tempted to try to reproduce it. This often leads to frustration. Progress by all means, but do it safely. A series of small steps is safer than a big leap into the unknown.

So far in this series of articles I have concentrated on my methods of sharpening chisels, be they rectangular or oval. I have also gone into their use in cutting dovetail spigots for chucking and also cutting pummels.

For this article I would like to show how I use a shallow flute gouge sometimes when turning a spindle.



My preferred profile for the shallow flute, in this case a 9mm (%"), is as shown in photo 1. It has a 9mm long wing coming down the blade on each side of the rounded nose. I should at this stage say that '9mm' is a measurement anywhere between 8mm and 10mm.

As most of you will know by now, the sharpening jig which I use is the Sorby 447. I have put to good use the flat table part of the jig when grinding the chisels which have been shown so far in this series of articles. But I prefer to use the finger nail profiler on most of my gouges.



To achieve my preferred shape without the profiler, I would need to have the gouge flat on the slide table when grinding each of the two wings, but the handle is raised, rolled, moved through an arc and then lowered again between these two extremes, as can be seen in photo 2. This is where human error comes into play. Trying to find the same combinations of movement by hand at every attempt would result in some frustration. And just rolling the tool along the rest to get the grind will almost certainly result in a sharp 'spear point' profile. (I can hear murmurs of 'that's a fact' even now.)



The 447 profiler can be seen in action in photo 3, and it takes the guess work out of the sharpening operation once the preferred settings have been arrived at by trial and error. Briefly, I have the pivot arm of the profiler set to 23° from vertical for most of my spindle grinding operations, and the tool to be

ground is protruding through the front of the carrier by 2". This setting can be seen in photo 4.



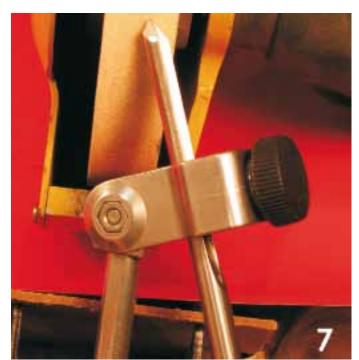


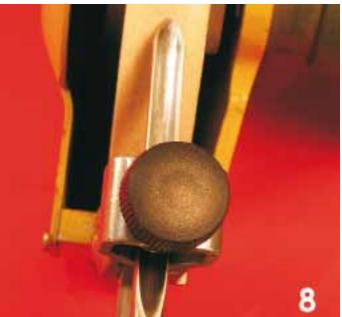
Photo 5 shows the collar in its chosen position along the pivot arm and photo 6 has a home-made mdf setting gauge between the arm and the underside of the tool. This setting gauge was made after I had finished trying out different angles over a few weeks, and finally decided which one I found most useful for me.



Photos 7, 8 and 9 show the progression of the sharpening operation. Using my clock hand description, the bevel of the tool is put lightly onto the wheel with the flute at 2.45 and rotated to the left through 12.00 and around to 9.15. The end of the tool handle goes through its regular arc and gives me the consistency which I am looking for.

The first time this grind is used on a gouge which has







come straight from the maker it takes a little longer to prepare, there being more steel to remove to make the wings longer, but very little steel is taken off the nose. This first grind will usually leave some remains of the original bevel, in the shape of a 'vee', with the apex just behind the tip of the cutting edge. The 'vee' doesn't affect the way the tool works, and will eventually disappear on subsequent grindings.

After any grinding operation on gouges or chisels, I de-burr the cutting edge by dragging a piece of dowel or something similar down the flute and onto the burr. I feel that if a burr is left on a gouge or a chisel, in use it is likely to be carried onto the new edge, and could well take some of that edge away with the shavings.

Incidentally, the Sorby profiler is identical to the Tormek wet grind profiler. Sorby's input into this situation was their improved re-design of the brass tool holding clamp. Over the years I have spoken to a number of turners who use the profiler with the 447 and get confused by the arrow on the arm and the scale on the carrier.

These setting graduations come into play when the profiler is used with the Tormek system and can either be ignored, or hidden, for dry grinding. Simply loosen the Allen screw pivot, swing the arm down through about 140° and then to your favoured angle and lock it again. The tool to be ground can now be fed through the carrier from the opposite side.

One other point which I should make here is that I am using what was once a 200mm (8") grinder and which, like all normal grinding wheels, will be subject to wear. This means that I need to make adjustments to tool settings from time to time. Smaller wheels will also be prone to wear.

So now that we have my favoured shallow flute gouge nicely sharpened and de-burred, let's look at using it. Have you ever noticed how, when someone is in trouble. 'I' becomes 'We'?

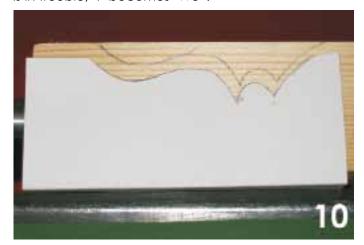
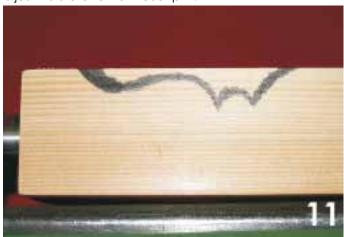


Photo 10 shows what could well be the top of a stool leg and also the line to be worked to. The line only needs to be on one face. Photo 11 shows that the

thin pencil line has been made more visible by use of a thick black marker and photo 12 shows that the line is just visible even at 1800 rpm.







The next step is to present the gouge as in photo 13 so that when it starts, the cut will have a shearing action, as can be seen on the 'up' side of the leg. This leaves a smooth surface on the wood, provided it doesn't go too deep to start with. The handle of the tool is brought round to the left slightly, so as to get the bevel following and guiding the cutting edge.

Photo 14 shows the first cut with the opposite wing, also in shearing mode. For both of these cuts, and many of the succeeding ones, my index finger is curled around the tool post. This is something which I do automatically provided it is safe, and it helps to steady a tool during what can sometimes be quite a

heavy cut. If you don't like it, don't do it.





Photo 15 shows one of the finishing cuts to the top part of the leg. Notice that the tool is not at right angles to the rotating wood and that it is leaning slightly to the left. This is one of a number of finishing shear cuts. The cuts on the lower area of the leg are virtually identical to those done so far, except for the bead.



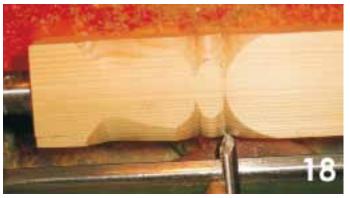
Photo 16 shows that the preparatory work has been started, and will continue until the working area is wide enough for detailed work to begin on the bead.

Cuts alternate from opposite sides, but stay clear of the marked 'finishing line' until there is sufficient working space for the long nose of the gouge to reach into the timber without destroying the profile of the bead.

The left hand side of the bead will in effect be at the base of this operation, and the tool is rolled slowly onto the appropriate wing as the cut deepens and the marked area is approached by the cut. Clearance cuts are made on the right hand side of the wood to allow for further cuts to progress, until a convex walled valley has been achieved on opposing walls, but with a low and slightly raised area between them.



Photo 17 Shows that excavations have been started in the area of the bead and they will progress until the inked area is reached. Photo 18 shows the finishing touches being completed with the gouge in 'shear cut' mode, taking out the last little step where the two surfaces come together. Photo 19 shows the finished feature awaiting a little attention from the sand paper.





AWGB at the North of England Show 18-20 Nov 2011

Dave Blanden

With 58 trade stalls, 13 professional turners demonstrating, and many more attractions, the 2011 North of England Woodworking show at Harrogate lived up to its well-earned reputation as the premier wood working event in the north, if not the whole, of the UK.

The AWGB was present for the three days, ably organised by Dave Grainger, the AWGB Northern Counties and Scotland representative and supported by Brian Partridge, AWGB Eastern Counties representative and Webmaster and his wife Olive, Peter Carless AWGB Midlands and Wales representative, Jim Nixon from Strathclyde and myself from West Cumbria. We had one half of the travelling gallery from the 2011 Seminar which made a very exciting and wonderful display; work that attracted much interest from visitors and members of the exhibition alike.



Having read the article by Mike Collas in the September edition of Revolutions, I was 'tuned in' to count the times the question 'How did they do that?' was asked. I lost count after the first half day!

We were kept busy throughout the show with the questions and queries from the visitors concerning the work of the AWGB, the support we can offer to clubs, youth training opportunities and technical issues. It is clear that in the eyes of many, both experienced turners and those new to the craft, we 'hold the ring' when it comes to seeking help and advice. Mind you, it wasn't all one way. Peter Carless got a lot of help from those people we talked to who had organised and run woodturning events for youth groups, such as the event at Gilwell run by East Herts and Cambridge clubs for the Scout movement. He has a similar event planned for 2012 in the Midlands.

From conversations with several club chairmen and secretaries, it was clear to me that with the demise of

the Northern Federation, there is an important place for the AWGB. It was equally clear that the Northern Rep is doing a sterling job developing the relationship with these clubs and several have already joined the AWGB as Associate Clubs.

By the end of the show we had sold one piece of work from the gallery, taken subscriptions for five new members, one corporate subscription and one club associate subscription with insurance. We ran out of leaflets, badges and other sales items.

It was a privilege to help on the stall and support the AWGB. From a personal perspective it was sometimes daunting, but nevertheless rewarding, to answer so many questions and obtain information that would help young and not so young woodturners visiting the show. Another important aspect was meeting up with so many friends and acquaintances, not least those who have made the long trip into West Cumbria to demonstrate at the club I belong to. I look forward to next year with relish.



Finally, I cannot finish without mentioning a turned block cut in half by Dave Grainger, see photo above. It appeared quite innocuous until the two halves were parted and revealed the profile of a horse as illustrated in the photo. He had followed the tips in a magazine article by Mick O 'Donnell on German toy makers. It remained a talking point throughout the show, especially so as on another stall there was a similar block cut to give a profile of an elephant!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2012 PAYMENTS ARE NOW OVERDUE

If you have not yet renewed your subscription to the AWGB, this will be the last edition of Revolutions that you will receive.

Renew now to avoid disappointment

Square Trees Nurtured

Appalled at the vast quantities of wood wasted when trees are sliced up into timber, Eli Stumuch, a bio-engineer with the University of Life thought there must be a better way. Consequently he began working on a designer tree of decidedly squarish appearance which, when sawed up at the mill would reduce the level of discarded trunk.

What sparked the scientist to believe such dreams were possible was his earlier work on tree shapes and wood formation in plants persistently battered by winds. Usually trees grow with one side of the trunk making wood faster, and creating an acutely thickened area. The cells which control and produce wood, affecting the trunks ultimate geometry, are called cambial cells, which reside just under the bark.

"I thought that if you could somehow turn the mechanism which controls growth on and off, and even enhance it at certain points, you might get that desired square effect," Mr Stumuch told an interviewer. Harnessing techniques which he prefers to call bio-resource engineering; "I cannot go into details as we have a patent pending; all I can say is, it is not gene splicing", he has already 'tooled' a dozen trees.

The four year old selection of species are growing on land close to the University and, claims Mr. Stumuch, studies have shown the wood quality to be identical to their round cousins. "You get much more cells at four points round the stem, not bigger ones. We are just managing to accelerate wood formation at the sites. I suppose the bottom line is that we are altering the way the genes of the cambial cell express themselves at these four areas", he explained.

Mr. Stumuch believes the pioneering of square trees has not only important resource implications for the timber industry but also the environment. He claimed to a newspaper reporter that by bio-engineering an acceleration in wood growth, the trees are consuming up to 38% more carbon dioxide helping to mitigate the so called greenhouse effect.

Hesaidtherehadbeen anumber of enquiries from timber companies throughout Britain and North America expressing interest in his square trees.

Newsletter No. 83, November 2007

Demonstrably Devastated

Peter Taylor

A piece of Yew was on the lathe, turning very sweet.
The gouge was cutting nicely, the vase was looking neat.
I picked up the shearing scraper and used without finesse,
There was a crack like thunder - I had a six star mess.

Jenny picked up the pieces and wiped away my tears.

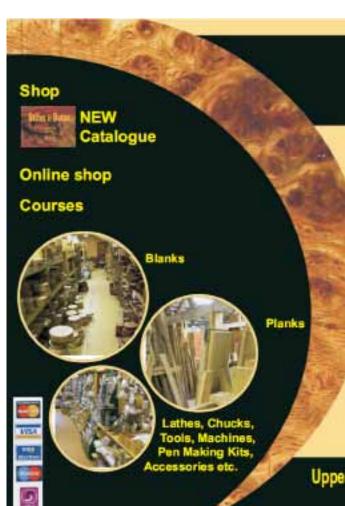
Her tender words of sympathy were music to my ears.

Others weren't so helpful, they hadn't any graces.

They muttered and they tittered, with smirks upon their faces.

A few looked really sorry, but some were really wicked, The professional advice of Doctor Will was how and where to stick it.

Newsletter No. 57, May 2001



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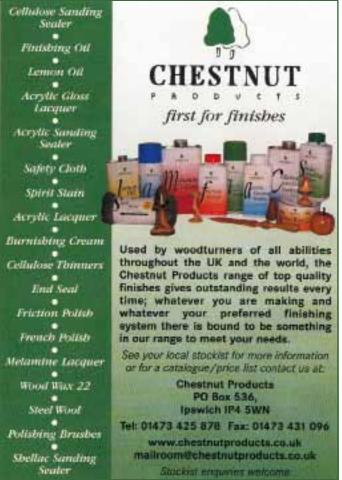
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Turn East 2012

The 11th East of England Woodturning Seminar

Saturday 18th August 2012 At Fakenham High School, Fields Lane, Fakenham. Norfolk 9.20 till 16.45

Admission will be by ticket only at the price of £30.00 which includes a buffet lunch, teas & coffee.

We have lined up a team of first class turners to demonstrate for us

Bob Chapman, Mark Sanger, Jason Breach & Richard Findley

In addition we hope to have a range of trade stands together with an exhibition of members and delegates work.

As we will only have a limited number of spaces available, early application is recommended to what we believe will be a first class event.

Application form and further details are available from:-Mr..Bernard Rose, 63,Belmore Road, Thorpe St. Andrew, Norwich. NR7 OPR Tel: 01603 436990 or email bandm.rose@tiscali.co.uk

Turn East 2012 is a one day Bi-Annual Regional Seminar
Organized by the
Norfolk Woodturners Society
on behalf of the

Association of Woodturners of Great Britain.

Apologies to Kipling

John Boyne-Aitken

If you can find a piece of wood and mount it on your lathe, and make it revolve quite true, just to keep you safe.

If you can sharpen up your tools to make a real fine cut and make a shape that you intend, regardless of any knot. If you can sand and finish, carve and successfully tint with a gentle pastel colour, just a little hint.

If you can part it off quite neat and burn on some design that may mean nothing much at all but could be quite sublime.

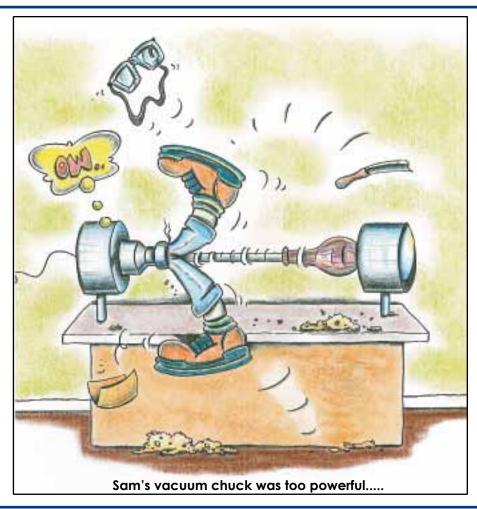
If you can spend your pension on every new tool and leave them to languish upon the workshop floor.

If you can learn by your mistakes and try and try again, and cut yourself on the wood and work right through the pain, with plasters on your fingers and woodstain on your nose, sawdust in your underwear and splinters in your toes.

As strange shaped lumps of wood evolve to meet the current trend Then you can now call yourself a woodturner my friend.

Peter Willmore has been providing cartoons for us regularly since issue number 78. Although he is not a woodturner himself, his father is. I just hope that it is not Dad that provides too much of the inspiration for Pete's cartoons.

This is the first cartoon that we published, at the time it was only seen in black and white and so I thought it worthwhile to reproduce it in it's original full colour.





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Diary Note: ToolPost Open House with Philippe Bourgeat (France),
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May 25th & 26th 2012 - free entry, parking & light rerfreshments

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Kent Woodturners

Peter Martin

Kent Woodturners, the Kent Branch of AWGB, completed a very busy year with their annual exhibition. This is held in November each year in the North Barn of The Friars at Aylesford, a building that lends itself ideally for such an event. They also meet at The Friars for their regular club meetings on the first Tuesday evening and the third Saturday in each month.

The 17th century barn was rebuilt some years ago with funds from the Lottery and now offers a venue for pilgrimages, weddings, exhibitions and the like and has been beautifully restored with old beams, thatch and a tiled floor with under floor heating.



Kent Woodturners were the first to use the barn when it was opened to the public and it is now very much a feature of their exhibitions. In addition to the two weeks that they display their wares in November they also have a summer show in July which attracts an equal amount of attention. Over the years a regular clientele has been established and sales have increased year on year since they started. Prior to moving to The Friars, Kent Woodturners met at Poolewood Machinery and held their exhibitions at Oad Street Gallery in Stockbury. The huge increase in space, following the move, has been well utilised.

Nearly thirty members of the Club displayed at the latest exhibition and there were in excess of 1,500 exhibits.



In spite of the involvement in such a busy enterprise, Kent Woodturners also held a Youth Training Day on 18th November. Six students from The Hundred of Hoo School in Strood spent the day with senior members of the Club getting one to one tuition in the joys of our hobby. Kent Woodturners are fortunate to have three members of the RPT as members of the Club and they added their expertise to the day's events, which was organised and run by David Reeks and David Cheeseman.



The approach was made to the club by a company called Octopus Opportunities who work to improve the skills of young school leavers to prepare them for life after school. A number of the boys expressed an interest in entering a career based on carpentry.

The day was sponsored by the AWGB and The Worshipful Company of Turners, and the Club are grateful for their help and their contribution to a very successful day.



Tools Explained

UTILITY KNIFE: Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard boxes delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use, with you inside them.

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