

# Revolutions

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Issue No 115

December 2015

**Dont forget to renew your membership!**

**Make a Cone and Slope**

**Gilwell 24**



**Trowbridge Exhibition**

**Demonstrator Training**



**[www.awgb.co.uk](http://www.awgb.co.uk)**

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For full information refer to previous copies of Revolutions or the AWGB website

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## Revolutions

Copy deadline for  
the next edition of  
Revolutions  
1st Feb 2016

## Front Cover

David Springett  
Cone and Slope project  
for you to make  
See page 26 for details

## 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, telephone number and e-mail address being held in this manner then please contact the Secretary.

The AWGB is a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Registered Charity. It is administered by a group of elected Trustees who are also Directors of the Company. The Trustees meet at least twice each year and at the AGM. When they meet together they are known collectively as the "The Executive". Additionally, there are a number of people who assist the Trustees in their duties. These people are not elected and are known as "Volunteers".

## TRUSTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE

### President

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swrep@awgb.co.uk

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## Chairman's Notes

### Andy Coates

So autumn arrived as it always does; cold, misty, wet and on time. It's a worrying time of year autumn. People are dusting off the wood burner and preparing for a long season of burning the very material we all need and want. How many of you, I wonder, scour the woodpiles of friends and family for likely turning material? How many of you I wonder, take scraps of your own indoors only to have second thoughts and end up with a sack full to take back in to the workshop for a second chance? No? Just me then.

The Executive are quite busy at the moment, evidence of which you will no doubt find scattered about this edition, and where prompted your input is as ever welcomed. Our new Trustees are getting on well, and as none have left so far I can only assume that they are finding their respective roles rewarding, if occasionally challenging. It's never easy stepping in to the shoes of the previous incumbent. So thank you, Gentlemen.

2015 has proved to be a taxing year in a number of ways, and I'll be glad to wave it off on New Years' eve. I might even raise a glass to it with a few choice words. I don't have much to say this time, which is probably no bad thing as it happens. If I don't see you before, have a safe and restful Christmas and I hope the New Year is good to you all.

### Andy

AWGB Chairman.

## Dont forget to sign up

As mentioned before we are signed up to Giving a Bit.com. This means you can also sign up for free and every time you make an online purchase from a huge number of outlets including Amazon, John Lewis, Screwfix, Travelodge, to name but a few the retailer will give us a donation. We have around 20 members from 3500 signed up so far and in April we received £20.17 into our account.

Imagine how much we could generate if more of you signed up! It's easy, go to the website, create an account and select AWGB as your chosen charity. Then simply sign into GivingaBit and then go to your store. You can also download a widget and then when you search in Google the outlets supporting GivingaBit are highlighted. It costs nothing and it's easy. Please sign up if you do online shopping.





## Treasurer's Notes

Jeff Belcher

What have I done?! They say it is better to travel hopefully than to arrive - I think I will be hoping to get there for some time yet!

I would first like to say thank you to Dave Atkinson for the sterling work he has put into getting the accounts into a very well structured format and incorporating all the functions of maintaining a complicated set of accounts set up in a commercial package - and he did all this at the same time as being heavily involved in producing the Association's very successful "Let's Teach Turning" DVD. We really do have a lot to thank him for.

Not being an accountant, although I have maintained accounts for a variety of organisations over the years, I have found that coming to terms with the Association's accounts is using vast quantities of whatever brain power I have left to me. I am trying to respond to queries as quickly as I can as and when they arise but I would ask you to be patient with me. I would also ask that if, having raised a query, I have not responded quickly enough please send me a reminder email - I will not be offended and I would much rather make sure that nothing gets forgotten than have members, branches or clubs getting disgruntled and thinking the organisation doesn't care about them and their issues.

Everything relating to members' subscriptions, insurance and available grants was fully explained in the last edition of *Revolutions* and I will not repeat it again here. Suffice it to say that we are now coming into the membership renewal period and I would ask that branches, clubs and members renew their memberships promptly and, where applicable, respond quickly to any invoices I send out for club fees and insurance premiums.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS AT THE NEW RATES**

Finally, if you are a taxpayer and have not completed the Gift Aid declaration relating to your subscriptions, that you do this and forward it to the Membership Secretary with your membership application renewal. If there has been no change in your tax position since last year then you need not complete another declaration form. As I'm sure you all know the Chancellor, in his wisdom, tops up any "Gift Aided" charitable donations from taxpayers by 25%, or more for higher rate tax payers, and this makes a very significant contribution to the Association's annual income. Similarly, if you make donations to the Association for whatever reason and you are a taxpayer please include a Gift Aid Declaration Form with your donation. All the requisite forms are available on the website.

### Subscription rates

The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December. Half year membership is available from 1st July to 31st December at half the yearly subscription rate. Applications received after 1st September will last until 31st December in the following year, providing the full annual subscription has been paid.

Membership fees:

Individual	£ 18.00
Family or Overseas	£ 28.00
Junior (Under 19)	Free

Half Year (July 1 onwards):

Individual	£ 9.00
Family or Overseas	£ 14.00

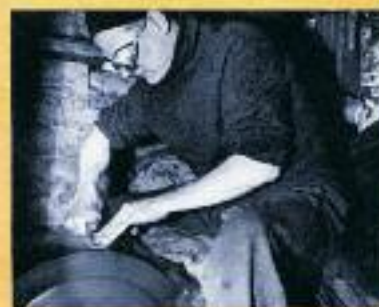
## A Reminder

**If you pay by standing order please update the standing order with your bank to reflect the new rates**

If you are just renewing without changing your details or gift aid status, you don't need to complete the membership form again. All you need to do is send payment - either cheque with your membership number on the back; bank transfer with your surname and membership number as reference or you can renew via the AWGB website [www.awgb.co.uk](http://www.awgb.co.uk).

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## Vice Chairman's Notes

Dave Atkinson

It's nearly Christmas and I hope you're well on the way with your preparations. Mine are all done – Mrs Atkinson does them – I just transfer funds!

### Communications and Complaints:

One of the things that has worried me over the last few weeks have been the odd rumble in the jungle and one complaint about communications, or the lack of it. The AWGB is run by volunteers, some of whom are fully fledged Trustees and we all do our best in our spare time to run the Association to the best of our ability. But we are human! We do make mistakes. When we find out about them we try to put them right.

But please help us to help you. If you have a problem, or feel that you have been ignored, or someone, somewhere has upset you, don't leave it, get in touch. So feel free to write to me, email, or give me a call and I will try to get matters sorted out for you. If you do write rather than email and don't get a reply please give me a call as I have discovered that on far too many occasions letters I know I have written and posted have not arrived, and the same has happened to me.

But.....I will need to know times, dates, what was said or not said. We can't fix anecdotal stories.

### Seminar

Following our Seminar this year the Trustees have reviewed the comments by delegates, the suitability of the venue and the Seminar finances. The Seminar was well received by all who attended but many commented that the site layout at Loughborough meant lots of walking between the accommodation, seminar lecture halls and the lunch facilities. Sadly we were unable to attract sufficient numbers to break even on the costs and this year the Seminar ran at a significant loss.

Therefore we have decided to review the whole Seminar process. Accordingly, the next Seminar will not be held until 2018. We are spending the next few months investigating alternative venues, costs,

possible sponsorship, programme options, and publicity. We will be asking for opinions from a selection of the membership. Based on the results of this work we will be in position to start organising the next Seminar around the middle of next year.



The Seminar is open to everyone. You do not have to be an experienced woodturner or a member of the AWGB. It is a fantastic experience and one that you will never forget.

If you have any suggestions about how we could improve the Seminar experience, or presenters you would like to see please email me on [vicechair@awgb.co.uk](mailto:vicechair@awgb.co.uk)

### Insurance

Firstly I start with an apology! In the last edition I said Tennyson would be sending out the renewal emails in November. Well in view of the problems getting everyone signed up last year they sent them out early and I know that concerned some of you. I hope it hasn't caused too many problems.

Anyway, if you haven't replied please do so before mid-December so Tennyson can get everything in place for the start of 2016. The renewal process is very simple and we have agreed that even if you don't reply cover will be issued "cold" but that does mean we will have to chase you up to get you to reply. If you haven't seen anything from Tennyson please contact them on [woodturners@tennysoninsurance.co.uk](mailto:woodturners@tennysoninsurance.co.uk)

All Public Liability premiums are paid for by the AWGB. The premium is recovered from the Associated Clubs via their membership subscription and the Treasurer will issue these invoices in January 2016 when we have reconciled everything.

All Affiliated Branches and Associated Clubs are responsible for paying their own All Risks premium directly with Tennyson.

If you are in an Associated Club and do not insure with Tennyson please make sure you have adequate public liability cover for the club's activities. Membership of the AWGB does not provide you with any public liability cover at all.

That's it from me. Have a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

## News Flash

Tennyson have changed their name to Zurich - the new web address is:

<https://web.zurich.co.uk/cso/Pages/association-of-woodturners.aspx>

Contact details at Zurich are:

Tom Callingham and Julie Chaffey

0800 917 9531

email: [woodturners@zurichtogether.co.uk](mailto:woodturners@zurichtogether.co.uk)



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Notice is given that the  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

of the

**ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN**

(A Company limited by Guarantee - Company No. 8135399)

will be held at

Oddington Village Hall, Lower Oddington, Nr. Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, GL56 0XD,

**on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> 2016, starting at 2.00pm.**



Regarding Trustee/Director positions on the Executive:

Sheila Hughes, presently a co-opted General Trustee has volunteered to be elected General Trustee.

The Secretary has requested nominations for the Regional Representative positions from the Branches in the South-East and Midlands-and-West Regions as Brian Partridge and Peter Carless will be standing down at the AGM.

Under Section 324 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Articles, a member is entitled to appoint another person as their proxy to exercise all or any of their rights to attend, speak and vote at the meeting. The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and notified to the Secretary before the meeting.

A Corporate member may nominate a person to attend on their behalf in writing to the Secretary before the meeting.

As usual there will be tables on which to exhibit attendee's work which they are happy to submit for judgment and selection for the Travelling Exhibition coupled with the award of the Chairman's Prize. There will also be tables on which to place tools and the like for sale. Nigel Fleckney will be in attendance with a selection of his fine timbers for sale.

The AGM will be preceded by a meeting of Members and Branch Representatives which will start at 11.00am.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
of the  
**ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS  
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

(A Company limited by Guarantee -  
Company No. 8135399)

**on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> 2016,  
starting at 2.00pm.**

**Agenda**

Apologies for absence.

Acceptance of the minutes of the 2015 AGM.

Matters arising from the minutes of the 2015 AGM.

Treasurer's report for year ending 31 December 2015.

Chairman's Report.

Announcement of the result of ballot for Trustees.

Vote on the appointment of  
Accountants/Auditors for the AWGB.

Result of ballot on any resolutions.

Any other business.

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# Give us your opinions

As you know we are reviewing our complete approach to the Seminar. We need to know what you want to see. Please take a few moments to complete this form (whether you are interested in coming or not) and send it back to **Dave Atkinson, 87 Whirley Road, Macclesfield, SK10 3JW.**

Alternatively you can complete the form on our website - there is a link to it on the home page. If you complete it online it will be sent automatically to Dave.

AWGB Woodturning Seminars/Symposia - Questionnaire		
Question	Answer (please circle)	Comments
About You		
Are you currently AWGB member?	Y N	
Your age group	Under 25, 26-40, 41-60, 61-75, over 75	
What is the nearest main city to where you live?		
Do you use the Internet?	Y N	
Do you use Facebook?	Y N	
Do you know AWGB has a Facebook page	Y N	
Seminars/Symposia		
Have you attended any woodturning seminars ,AWGB/TWS/AWA?	Y N	Please list:
Are you aware of the AWGB International Woodturning Seminars?	Y N	
Did you see the 2015 AWGB Seminar advertised in magazines or on the internet?	Y N	
Would you be interested in a woodturning seminar over 2 or 3 days?	Y 2 days 3 days 4	
If an event were all under one roof with accommodation would this be of interest?	Y N	
How far would you travel to such an event (round trip)?	Less than 100, 101 - 250, more than 250	
Would you consider air travel to attend, for example Edinburgh to Birmingham?	Y N	
If you were to attend would you be prepared to arrange your own accommodation?	Y N	
Would on-site accommodation at pre negotiated rates be of interest?	Y N	
Would it be attractive to have trade stands selling at event?	Y N	
Which traders would you expect to see?	Please list	
Would you be interested in workshops/masterclasses alongside demos?	Y N	
What other workshops would be of interest (tool sharpening, thread chasing, use of hollowing tools for example)?	Please list	
Would you expect accommodation for partner?	Y N	
Would you be interested to see overseas demonstrators?	Y N	
Would you be interested in watching demos by UK Professional Turners?	Y N	
Which demonstrators would you like to see?	Please list	
If attending an event would you like to pre-book workshops/masterclasses	Y N	
If the seminar were to move around the country after every second event would you travel to a different area of the country for the event?	Y N	
The seminar has historically been held in mid August, would you prefer it to be in another month?	Y N	Which month?
Name/address/email - Optional		

Comments



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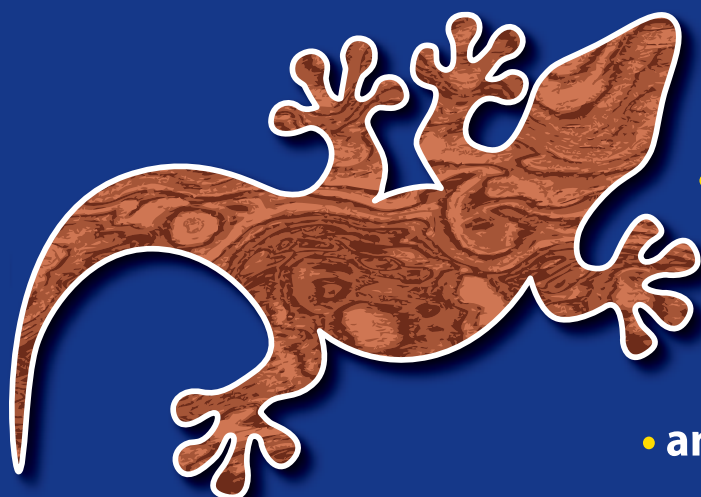
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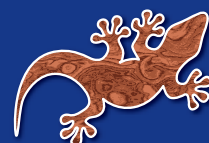


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# Les Thorne Development and Training Day

## Making and Embellishing a Lidded Box

Saturday 30th May four AWGB members arrived at Les's workshop with tools, safety equipment and a feeling of trepidation as to what was to follow.

No need for concerns with Les setting the mood for fun plus demonstrating the art of pleasant banter and skilled training techniques.



Those taking advantage of this excellent training facility offered by the AWGB were;

Andrea Castell centre middle and John Peck top left from Test Valley Turners, Helen Woodward from Avon & Bristol Turners bottom left, Graham Tucker from Plymouth Woodturners centre back, plus another?

The activity started with a drink, biscuit and the house rules;" Les is always right no matter what" it's my place.



This was followed by an introduction to the workshop and the safety protocol to be followed and as the day progressed Les was very mindful of this aspect.

The first task was to layout a simple box, it was to be straight sided inside and out. Then start turning, bring the ash blank to round and cut chucking points on

both ends. A discussion then took place about proportions and rules of thirds and fifths etc. The conclusion was if it pleases your eye use it.

Having then made the choice, mark the line for the joint and make a narrow entry slot with a parting tool to the depth of the ledge on which the lid will fit. Widen the cut to the height of the required spigot and part all the way through. Here Les stepped in with a chat about whether to part all the way through (can be risky if you are not confident in the technique) or saw off; who knows or cares what you did when its finished. A couple followed each method.

Now the fun begins; what method to use to hollow; Les talked us through the choices of using drills, gouges, scrapers and hollowing tools. Les then checked our tools for sharpness and bevel profile helping us make subtle changes which improved the cuts both in finish and avoiding catches but achieving the target with the minimum number of cuts. At this point we all needed help in getting out of difficulties which Les did with good humour and showing more than one possible cure.



The two sections were mounted in the chuck in turn and hollowed and now another choice, flat or curved bottom (was it not intended to be a relaxing day not one of making choices?) The lid fit was to be a light suction one so that the whole thing could be lifted by the top with the base sliding gently off making a light sucking noise. We were encouraged to have parallel sides inside and out with a tooled finish that would sand from 240 or higher grit. At the point where the plain box was finished to the boss's satisfaction the decoration started. Seal all surfaces inside and out. Mount the base in the chuck and fit the lid keeping it in place by its friction fit and tail stock support.

At individuals choice, cut with the point of a skew chisel to form highlight lines to please the eye and then remove the chucking point from the lid achieving the shape required. Reseal the lid top. Spray the outside and top with matt black paint; a couple of light coats and allow to dry.

Les now demonstrated the decoration to be added using a dremel type hand held machine and the ball end cutter from the Decorating Elf "simply" cut a random pattern on the exposed surfaces.



Now using a range of spirit stains dabbed onto the surfaces to colour the plain wood exposed by the cutting with the dremel. The final colour added was yellow and suddenly the pattern popped out.

Time was running out so the base section was remounted on a jam chuck and the spigot removed.

To finish the box completely we were advised to coat it with acrylic lacquer.

The learning curve included tool choice, tool presentation, bevel shape leading to everyone going away wiser and more confident.

Thanks to:

Les for your time and patience,

The team of volunteers at the AWGB who make these courses available.

The other students.



## A simple idea

"how not to lose the pencil in the shavings"



Andrea controlled Les?



## Norman Prouse, 1934-2015



Norman was a member of North Cornwall Woodturners, Tamar Turners and Plymouth Woodturners. He started turning when he was 14 and made a toy tractor with his father's sheep shearing equipment, turned by hand. He had a Myford ML8 in the 50's which is still in his workshop with a belt drive gearbox he made to keep the motor running all the time.

He later joined three woodturning clubs and enjoyed adding his engineering skills to improve the club's equipment. Norman loved a challenge as in his three-armed candlestick, all out of the one branch, which was entered into a competition. Also he enjoyed attending many of the woodturning shows and meeting up with everyone and having a good chinwag.

He was always willing to help others with problems with their turning and shared his ideas. Norman liked to join up pieces of plywood to make very interesting and symmetrical items. His workshop was always full of new ideas and projects waiting to be finished.



His enthusiasm was such that he was always ready to start turning at the clubs as soon as they opened, usually having helped set-up beforehand.

Norman and his many skills will be missed by a great many people.

Roger Gubbin RPT.  
Chairman NCWT.



# Woodturning for Scouts at Gilwell 24

John Leach

After the flooding of the Woodturning Marquee at Gilwell 24 in several recent years, the East Herts Woodturners with the Cambridge Woodturners and turners from several other clubs, returned to Gilwell Park, the main Scout Activity Centre, for the sixth successive year to provide hands on woodturning opportunities for young people. On arrival they found that the marquee had been refurbished and the hogging floor, so prone to flooding in previous years, had been replaced with a wooden floor (Fig 1). The new flooring made set up and clearing much easier and was a better surface to stand on all day.



Gilwell 24 is a 24 hour activity packed camp for Explorer Scouts and Senior Section Guides and is an annual event at the headquarters of World Scouting. This year it was attended by over 5000 young people and their leaders

On Friday morning, half a dozen AWGB Members gathered at the marquee to build the internal screening partitions (Fig 2) and set up the equipment. 6 lathes had been lent and delivered by Axminster Tools and Machines and these were unpacked and set up. In total, 18 lathes were set up in the training area which had been screened off to stop the participants being distracted while working on the



lathes. As a priority, the kitchen and seating area for the staff was set up and Chef Dennis Day provided the staff with much deserved drinks as the sun shone and the marquee became hotter.

The following day saw the Gilwell Park site teeming with young people. One turned up an hour before we opened, such was the enthusiasm to try woodturning. With 18 lathes manned by 18 experienced turners, the taster session area was full virtually all day. As in previous years, the young people were given a short introductory talk on woodturning and a safety briefing (Fig 3).



After these, they had about half an hour working one-to-one on a lathe, supervised and aided by an experienced turner, making a simple wooden item such as a toadstool, dibber, wand, or whistle. The young people were able to have their creation branded with the Gilwell 24 logo before taking them away as souvenirs. As usual the young people left with beams on their faces and showed off the handiwork to their mates. They clearly had enjoyed the experience.

To control the throughput a booking system was used. The available spaces for the whole day (9am to 6.30pm) were fully booked by lunchtime. Despite over 170 people experiencing hands-on woodturning, many more were disappointed as the activity became fully booked.

During the day, the marquee was visited by Nick Edwards, the Master of The Worshipful Company of Turners who had provided financial support for the woodturning activity (Fig 4).





In addition to the hands-on woodturning, there were two demonstrators showing woodturning to the visitors, an 'Instant Gallery' display of wooden items (Fig 5) and a small table selling wooden souvenirs.



The hands-on woodturning at Gilwell 24 was organised by the East Herts Club on behalf of the AWGB. Turners from East Herts, Cambridge, Chelmer Valley, Middlesex and West Suffolk Clubs together with Peter Nicholls and Paul Howard staffed the activity.

The East Herts Woodturners acknowledge the generous support of The Worshipful Company of Turners, Axminster Tools and Machines, Chestnut Products, Henry Taylor Tools and Birchanger Wood Trust. The Organisers thank the members of several AWGB clubs for their efforts in setting up and enabling over 170 young people and their leaders to enjoy the woodturning experience.

Having provided hands-on woodturning at Gilwell, many of those involved set-up and enabled young people and their leaders at the Cambridgeshire Scout Jamboree at Huntingdon Racecourse, to experience woodturning over 5 days in August.

If any AWGB members wish to help at similar events in the future, please email John Leach. Email address is woodturningsurf@aol.com

## Log to Bowl again with Mark Hancock

Ivor Gissing

Three of us were privileged to attend a course with Mark at his well-equipped workshop.

To start with we were advised of the advantages to be gained from using cord wood compared with commercial blanks. The grain options are so very varied and can be used to advantage once you know what to look for.

A look at our own tool choices made for interesting discussion with some useful changes to be made to handles, sharpening and even selection in future! Having agreed on the objective for the rest of the day, a thin walled bowl with round bottom, Mark selected a Sycamore log and rough out 3 blanks with a chainsaw, having first explained the hazards to be avoided when using same.

We were then each allocated a lathe and briefed on the controls as we were all new to Mark's machines. Time to mount the wood and make shavings, I don't intend to tell you everything, you could have been there. We all learnt a great deal and by 7 o'clock we had each produced a bowl to our satisfaction and to Mark's approval.

The considerable amount of information presented by Mark was backed up by hand-outs so we did not need to take notes.

Mark's sharp ear quickly picked up any mistakes and his steady flow of advice was very reassuring. It was a very rewarding and satisfactory day, which we all enjoyed.

Our thanks to Mark and of course A.W.G.B.

## AWGB Merchandise

**Lapel Badges**  
Brass & enamel  
£3.50 p&p included



**Cloth Badges**  
For sewing on smocks etc.  
£4.50 p&p included



**Windscreen Sticker**  
£1 plus sae  
(standard letter rate)



**Tie**  
£16.00 p&p included



**All available from the AWGB Secretary**  
(details on page 3)  
**Make all payments to AWGB**

# Grandad's Revolution

By Brian Hollett

"Well, well, well, a Revolutionary reading about a Revolution on the pages of Revolutions. How many articles do you know that start like that?"

The harsh morning light fought its way through the raggedy curtains seeking out my poor, vein-laced eyelids. I reluctantly opened one of them and blearily perceived that not only had I survived yet another night on this earth but that the long-dreaded day had actually arrived. Downstairs I could hear Management busying herself, if she was gift-wrapping a Zimmer then a quickie divorce was definitely on today's agenda.

Yes, dear Revolutionary, this was my birthday, the one day a year when I would normally be out-whistling the lark, but not today. Oh no, definitely not today. You see I could distinctly remember my Granddad reaching this age and he wore trousers with fluff-filled turnups and ex-army braces. Besides that the crotchety curmudgeon was always far grumpier than I ....Ask my grandkids!

As I reluctantly opened my second eye I heard the welcome and unmistakable clunk of approaching tea mugs and, on Management's arrival, my still-bleary eyes were drawn to the parcel tucked under her arm. It was about three centi-inches in diameter and half a hatemetre in length, wrapped expertly in left-over Christmas paper and sealed with a yellow ribbony-bow thing whose sticky had long since worn off.

Fighting my way into the Santa-encrusted paper... while trying not to tear it, her birthday wasn't too far away after all... I had the shock of my life. A brand new Crown Revolution, the turning tool that I had been secretly drooling over for several months. As I continued to unwrap my new lathe-weapon I couldn't help wondering just how Management had known about my secret desire. Taped to the handle I soon discovered an invitation to attend a day's instruction on the Revolution's use at Mark Sanger's workshop in deepest, darkest Dorset.

"But how the (expletive removed by Editor) have you organised that without my knowledge?" I asked. "Well!" She explained, "You know the laptop I bought you at Christmas".... The memory of a parcel wrapped in exactly the same piece of paper, came



Revolution gets a sharpen with a swift lick of the hone

to mind.... "Well, before I handed it over I got The Boy Munchkin to show me how it worked and there's a history button that tells me what you have been watching on that Your-Tube-Thingy and Mark Sanger demonstrating the Revolution appeared almost as often as those other pictures you seem to enjoy so much".

It was time for a deeply embarrassed grovel, an extra special thank you to Management and important reminder to ask Munchkin how to delete 'History' now that the horse had so spectacularly bolted.



The morning exercise takes shape

## Mark Time

At nine fifteen precisely I stopped shaking Mark Sanger's hand and accepted a steaming mug of tea in its place. The welcome ceremony continued with me showing him the couple of projects that I had brought with me... important to give him some idea of the level of inadequacy he had to deal with... He tactfully stifled his giggles and we set off for his workshop at the bottom of the garden.

The first thing he showed me was how to sharpen the Revolution with a diamond hone, then, with a suitable blank of nearly-dry oak spinning on the lathe, he cracked the whip and had me shaping the outside of a reasonably wide-necked hollow form. He had chosen this shape so that, when the hollowing started I could actually see the Revolution in action for several cuts before it disappeared from sight (as usual when hollowing I would then be forced to work by imagination, feel and, of course, a healthy dose of luck!). He set about demonstrating the Revolution by offering it up to the wood with the tool vertical (cutting edge downward) in this way it was possible to feel the lumps and bumps on the wall of the vessel before gently twisting up the cutting edge to begin removing them. I soon discovered just how controllable the Revolution's cut is, the nearer the edge gets to horizontal the more aggressive it becomes. In no time at all I could recognise both the 'feel' and 'sound' of a clean cut and the hollowing work, interspersed with beverage, biscuits and banter, progressed beautifully.

I couldn't help comparing the Revolution to other hollowing tools I had tried (and cried over) and was pleasantly surprised to find that, because Revolution's shavings flow away from the top of the tool, rather than passing through, no matter how vicious I made the cut, no matter how big or uneven the shavings



became it was impossible to clog the tool. Since returning to my own workhovel I have even attacked newly felled timber and Revolution still disposed of the porridge-like shavings without them becoming impacted within the tool, like damp Weetabix in a hollow tooth.

Under Mark's expert tutelage I was soon confidently taking heavy roughing cuts as well as tiny finishers. Although I found it relatively easy to get an



A central hole was bored as a depth marker, Revolution started work hollowing the inside

acceptably smooth finish straight from the tool the tiny circular cutting edge made it a little more difficult to achieve an acceptably smooth...and evenly curved... surface so Mark introduced me to another tool from Crown. It is a scraper with bolt-on teardrop cutting head. Nothing new there I hear you say. Well



And very soon disappeared from sight



Notice that the Revolution's handle is slightly higher than the cutting edge as the hand anchored to the toolrest acts as a fulcrum to swing the tool in a curving cut.



The negative rake scraper smooths out the inner wall as it approaches its finished thickness.

the small but important difference is the fact that the cutting head is screwed onto the shaft at a shallow angle so that the cut is actually that of a negative rake scraper. I cannot begin to explain just how much difference that tiny detail makes when working deep inside a vessel. I found it almost impossible to suffer one of those un-nerving mini dig-ins as the tool, oh-so-carefully advanced, touches the 'floor' of the project. Yes, dear Revolutionary, I had been smitten by love at first scrape and my wallet began to wail and quake as it prepared itself for the shock of a 'Happy-Birthday-to-me' gift.

## Form Teacher

Over lunch, in Waitrose across the road, Mark offered me the choice of completing the wide-necked piece



Work begins on the squat form



Because the 'neg-rake' scraper has a round shaft it can be used to shear a beautifully fine finish, as can be seen by the miniature shavings.



or treating it as an exercise and moving onto another project. I chose to move on as I had spotted an interesting piece described as a 'squat form with undercut' in Mark's book ('Turning Hollow Forms'), a shape that appeared far too difficult for me to have attempted without guidance.



Alternatively it can take a much heavier, shaping, cut equally successfully

We began with a piece of heavily spalted beech but that turned out to be a false start when the chucking spigot failed because of an unfortunately sited area of punky stuff. A second beech blank was soon whistled up, with rather less punky spalting this time, and work re-commenced. The flatish top meant that the Revolution's adjustability was seriously put through it's paces. At one point I had the twin links, which support the cutting edge, turned through 180 degrees so the tool was pointing back towards me as I made the cut. I've never come across another tool able to perform that circus trick!

By knocking off time I had managed to get the squat form finished, sanded (using Mark's favoured wax mixture to lubricate the finer grades of abrasive) and polished. I was, and still am, proud of the finished piece as I know there has been no corner cutting involved, the inner shape really does ape that of the outside and wall thickness is constant from rim to base.

I had a super day with Mark. I found him to be a mine of useful information, a willing, thorough and patient instructor and a damn nice bloke to boot. What more could anyone ask? The Revolution is every bit as good as I hoped it would be when I watched those videos on 'That-Your-Tube-Thingy' and, because of Mark's help I am getting far more out of it than if I had muddled through alone. It was almost worth



The business end of both Revolution and the neg-rake scraper

Photo by Mark Sanger



The Revolution family: The Mini and Midi come with a scraping cutter whereas the Maxi comes with a further five choices. As all the tools share the same head, and all cutters are available as options, any size Revolution can soon become a whole toolbox.

becoming my Granddad but, if no-one minds, I'll give the turnups and braces a miss for another year or two yet!

## One for the library

Mark's book, 'Turning Hollow Forms' (published by GMC Books ISBN 978-1-86108-893-2) is the most complete work on the subject that I have come across. It covers everything from tools, techniques and timbers to favourite forms and finishes. Whether you are approaching the initial rungs of the hollowing ladder, or needing the inspiration and impetus to climb another step this is certainly the book for you. Initially I read it from cover to cover (and enjoyed it immensely!). Since then I have reached for it several times to answer a question or recap an aspect. 'Turning Hollow Forms' would be a valuable addition to anyone's turning library.

Contact Details: The full range of Crown Tools can be viewed at [www.crownhandtools.ltd](http://www.crownhandtools.ltd)

Mark Sanger can be reached, regarding tool or book purchase or tuition on 01747 8216344 or via his website [www.marksanger.co.uk](http://www.marksanger.co.uk)



No wonder my Grandad was so grumpy, he didn't get these two new tools for his birthday... not to mention a copy of Mark Sanger's book and the guidance to make this lovely squat form (which has had the carved finial added since I got home)

# Trowbridge Exhibition

**John Boyen-Aitken**

I first had the idea of bringing the travelling exhibition to Trowbridge when exhibiting my own work there during Cloth Roads Arts Week. I heard the appreciative comments from those looking at my own woodturning and began to wonder what the comments would be if they saw some of the spectacular works of art that are put on display in the instant gallery during the AWGB seminars.

And so the seed was sown, I approached Trowbridge Arts and had a very positive reception to my idea and so I then raised it at an AWGB committee meeting. At this stage I was still a trustee of the Association and had experience of the work required to set up the travelling exhibition only to take it all down a couple of days later so I started exploring the possibility of running the exhibition for a month or so but to do this I would need more than 25 exhibits which we normally displayed, I would need the whole 50 and then some. With the AWGB firmly committed I managed to secure the Town Hall exhibition area for 4 weeks, free of charge to show off our artistic turnings.



The planning phase was probably the most difficult as I needed to sort the logistics of transportation; it was decided that as I was attending the seminar I would take the exhibits back with me (thereby eliminating any transport costs) which in turn led to the dates being firmed up with the Town Hall. One of the problems we had was the packaging of the exhibits, some had no box to put them in at all and travelled with me just wrapped in bubble wrap, luckily all arrived at the Town Hall unscathed along with some that came through the post and one or two that I picked up myself.

There was a large plinth in the gallery on top of which I built another one slightly higher. This was achieved with the use of plastic struts used to raise the floor in a loft and some CLS timber and 6mm MDF. The ladies at Trowbridge Arts then covered it with cloth more neatly than I would have and so with the addition of two long tables and four glass cabinets loaned by one of my club members Ken Crittle, who subsequently came and assembled them, we had our exhibition space sorted. As we unpacked,

measurements were taken of those pieces without packaging and subsequently passed on to John Montgomery so that he could beg, borrow, steal or make containers that would ensure the safe transportation of all the pieces once the exhibition ended. I then took a step back and allowed the Trowbridge Arts people to set up the display. Normally when setting up the travelling gallery I would place various pieces on different sized acrylic lifts in order to show each piece to the best advantage. I had a sleepless night after seeing all the exhibits displayed on a single level but was assured that this was termed a museum setting and was a better way of displaying art work such as ours. I was unconvinced that this was right but deferred to the professional experience of the ladies from Trowbridge Arts and the Visual Arts Director (at least until the last week when I just had to lift some pieces up).



An opening night was arranged and guests invited, there was a short introduction from Tracy Sullivan from Trowbridge Arts and I had to say a few words and then the Town Mayor, Roger Andrews made the opening speech and opened the exhibition. From that moment on I knew we had a successful event on our hands, the comments that started pouring in could not have been better. Deciding that these comments needed to be recorded a visitors book was obtained to record them in and these exclamations of delight continued right up until the last minute that we were open. The exhibition ran for 4 weeks excluding Sundays, that was 26 days of hearing unrestricted praise and encouraging comments from all that visited, I don't think anyone went away disappointed.



[illegible][illegible]

To foster a greater awareness, nationally and internationally, of the woodturners (turners) art and craft.

Apart from Ken Crittle who I have already mentioned I would also like to thank in no particular order:- Joe Kerrawn, Bernard Bunn, Alan Reed, Pete Moncrief-Jury, Mike Giddings, Chris Brown, Dave Dowding and George Flowers all from Kennet and Avon Woodturning Club for helping to man the exhibition (if I forgot to mention your name please accept my apologies).

17



3. Great! Really impressive work. I have no idea how people can think of some of the designs & projects displayed here. Mind-blowing!

D. Marshall - The skill in displaying the really impressive - the town hall building in an excellent sense of proportion & display. This is the 11th time I've been to the town hall & happily I can return as a great experience. Trowbridge.

R. Finch - amazed to see the magnificent pieces of artwork made out of these natural resources. Seeing even simpler & complex things and knowing the amount of skill involved. Really impressed and amazed with what has been created. Trowbridge.

Brian Butler - scullery skills displayed in many words.

Remarkable - worthy of top class international exhibitions - a Park N.Y. etc. Thank you.

Jan. Marshall - brilliant - word of mouth. Absolutely mind-blowing - just brilliant. I have so many technical questions to ask. The exhibition deserves much more publicity. It ought to be praised with words.

I like the one made from pink wavy wood, from South East Asia and from the East. Really beautiful things. Jane

Excellent prices. Very skilled work.

Some very, very nice quality pieces. Very artistic and Mr. Haddins was very informative.

There was very nice to explain different aspects of wood turning.

Thank you, we loved this exhibition.

Some fantastic pieces of work. Wonderful.

Most original. Beautifully done.

Very interesting and informative. J. J. & D. S. W. 14/7/15 DEWIDG

Beautiful work. Thank you for the guidance tour.

# Wood art sure to turn heads at free exhibit

AN EXHIBITION of the work of the Trowbridge Wood Art Society is being held at the Trowbridge Town Hall.

There are more than 50 pieces on display, including the best in the collection of the Trowbridge Wood Art Society. The exhibition is open from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The exhibition is the largest collection of wood art ever shown in the town.

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Tracy Ballance and Philippa Edwards, left, with some of the art.

what talented people

F.S. Cunningham

inspiring exhibition of wood art. A privilege to see such skill. Thank you. S. Cunningham

Beautiful - truly wonderful art - personal recommendation - I had to see it.

Amazing work. See it all!

Amazing work. See it all!

Amazing work. See it all!

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Amazing work. See it all!

Pages extracted from the Visitors Book at Trowbridge Exhibition

# Contemporary Woodturners Exhibition was a Local Sensation

## Trowbridge Arts

The Contemporary Woodturners Exhibition held at Trowbridge Town Hall, by The Association of Woodturners of Great Britain for Trowbridge Arts, certainly brought in one of the largest audiences for visual arts of any of the exhibitions at Trowbridge Town Hall.

Trowbridge Arts reported that the exhibition brought visitors from the largest geographical area thus far. The visitor's book reflected people travelling from as far afield as Nottingham, Birmingham, Axminster and Cambridge. One 'virtual' visitor from Australia asked to be sent extra pictures of the exhibition because it was just a little too far to travel, and this served to open our eyes to the global reach of the community of artisans and appreciators of Woodturning as a skill and an art.

Tracy Sullivan, Director of Trowbridge Arts said "At Trowbridge Arts we were very honoured to be entrusted with such beautiful, rare and precious objects and we are very grateful to the tireless work of John Aitken without whose tremendous efforts the exhibition would never have taken place."

John is a Trowbridge resident and he was responsible for collecting much of the work from the AWGB Seminar, which was held in Loughborough this year. He initiated the idea for this Trowbridge Arts exhibition by suggesting a public display of works following on from the woodturners bi-annual Seminar held in August.

Trowbridge Arts were grateful to be able to negotiate a more 'museum' placement of the works, rather than the more conventional way of displaying items on 'lifts'. This decision caused some sleepless nights on John's part, but with consideration and negotiation on all sides the resulting presentation was deemed a success by the visitors, although it is unlikely that John will be discarding his lifts in the future.

Fiona Cassidy, Visual Arts Manager for Trowbridge Arts and curator of the exhibition explains "We felt our position should be to get the audience to look at the objects as works of art. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the locally based Kennet & Avon Woodturning Club who provided many hours of volunteer stewarding during the exhibition. Their knowledge, so freely shared, really enhanced the experience of the visitors and the staff based in the Town Hall too."

Art Assistant Philippa Edwards commented "no matter how often I stepped into the gallery I would hear different explanations of the makers' processes and inspirations, and I learned so much during the exhibition including the fact that a 'box' has an entirely different meaning to a wood turner and can include the most dextrous display of skill imaginable."

Trowbridge Arts is providing professional Arts of all types to Trowbridge and the surrounding community. Part of the visual arts department's vision is to showcase local and national talent in ways which challenge convention and which make excellent quality art accessible to everyone by providing a rolling program of visual arts exhibitions which are free to enter.

Arts Council England, Wiltshire County Council and Trowbridge Town Council are supporting the project and we believe all our partners will be proud of the engagement we have generated and the genuine enjoyment that visitors are reporting about this exhibition.

The works on show included work from a young man of 18, a lady who has recently studied woodturning skills in America and work by one, if not the most, highly esteemed turner in the UK, whose work John hand selected from his private collection, and personally collected and returned it to ensure its safety in transit.

Trowbridge Arts are already discussing with John how to build on the success of this exhibition by planning a further project to include woodturning in 2016, although it may take a different form to include even more makers' work. Details of the exhibition, including a video, can be found on [www.trowbridgearts.com](http://www.trowbridgearts.com).



A new generation of CBN grinding wheels is now available to woodturners, giving fast, fine, cool sharpening from wheels that need no dressing and which will last and last. Optigrind wheels now available only from The ToolPost, in a range of widths, diameters, grit grades and configurations to suit most popular grinders, including Creusen and Tormek

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**Sharing expertise**



## Southwest Area News

### John Montgomery - South West Rep

The first announcement is a sad occasion. Norman Prouse, a long-time member of the AWGB and clubs in the Cornwall and Devon area passed away at the beginning of October. Norman was a well-known character in the Southwest and was seen at club events and shows around the area for many years. He will be missed.

Since the last issue of Revolutions, the AWGB have held a month long exhibition of the pieces selected from the Seminar Gallery at Trowbridge in Wiltshire. The event was a great success with very good feedback, plenty of media coverage in the area, and thanks must be given to John Boyne-Aitken and his team for all their excellent work. I went up to Trowbridge on 12th October to help with clearing from the gallery, and over the following week re-packed all the 50 pieces, some to return to the makers and 25 to be kept for the Travelling Exhibition. Thankfully all the pieces sent back arrived safely, and thank you to all members who allowed us to show their work, it was much enjoyed and appreciated.

I am looking forward to attending a Youth Training Day being hosted by Treknow Woodturners, this was taking place in November, so hopefully has gone well by the time you read this. I will also start visiting some affiliated clubs in December, but weather, time and distance will make a difference to how many. If your

club is having an event please let me know and I will try and come along.

Enjoy your turning and please contact me if there is any matter you think the association can help with.

## Wanted

### Demonstrator Training Applicants

We have members who have applied for a Demonstrator Training Course in the Derby area also in the Newcastle under Lyme area and we need another 2 or 3 members from around each area to enable us to run the courses.

If you are interested in attending either course can you please contact me for details or an application form, or apply using the application form on the AWGB website.

The course has been very popular and we have run a course in October in Scotland and another in Suffolk in November.

If you would like to attend a course and are a member, or a club has 4 members who would like to attend a course please contact me and we will try to arrange a course in an area near you, or at your club.

For more details please contact  
John Montgomery at phone 01752 894083  
or [johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk](mailto:johnmontgomery@awgb.co.uk)

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# Chelmer Valley Woodturners Seminar 2015

Guest Turner – Seamus Cassidy

On Sunday Morning the 23rd August Mountnessing Village Hall opened its doors to the advance party (Committee, Seamus, Simon Hope and Paul Howard) at 8am. The kit was unloaded from the vehicles with a lot of effort going into assembly and setting out the seating. Activity in the kitchen produced welcome tea and coffee to refuel the assemblers. The early bird delegates were arriving by 9am and the hall gradually filled. The raffle tickets were brought out and arms were gently twisted by the seller. Once everything was set up the safety audit took place and we were cleared to continue.



Before introducing Seamus the delegates were welcomed to the seminar and given the fire and evacuation briefing. The meeting was then handed over to Seamus who, after his introductory talk proceeded to make a cone shaped ladle (elm and ebony) with a steam bent handle (ash). In its finished form the handle will be ebonised. Each part was explained step by step in great detail. Photo 1, shows Seamus at work with projectors giving a close up view of the turning.



For his second project Seamus showed how to make a conical trinket box (elm, ebony and ash) emphasising the method used to create a perfect joint between the base and the top. Photo 2 shows him at work on the base. The third project was a platter from spalted beech. His final project was a vase turned from ash which would have a miniature



shape of the vase carved out and a decorated canvas insert added. This would be embellished with a small cut out and leather stitching.

The caterers arrived after the morning tea break to start preparing our lunch. Tables and chairs were set out as shown in Photo 3 awaiting the hungry delegates. Once seated, the plates with two home-cooked cold meats and salad were delivered from the kitchen to the tables. Dishes of hot potatoes, beetroot and homemade coleslaw and pasta salad were already on the table. The meal concluded with a slice of exceedingly tasty homemade chocolate fudge cake with cream.

During the breaks Simon Hope and Paul Howard spent time with the delegates explaining the use of their various jigs/tools and making some sales. At the same time some of the committee members were providing that most useful of services, the making and dispensing of tea and coffee. The afternoon tea break also saw the drawing of the raffle.

All too soon the demonstration came to an end and farewells were said. The early morning procedure was reversed and the hall cleared.

We would like to thank all those members from other clubs for making your journeys, long and short, to come and support our seminar day. It is very much appreciated and enabled us to break even when all the sums were finalised. We hope you all had a good day.

Footnote: The committee met again next day at 5:00pm to return the kit to the Church Hall where we hold our meetings. Everything was put back into store ready for our September Club night.

## *A tip from Michael Gibson*

If I may give you a tip in packaging, bubble wrap can have a reaction to certain finishes and even from hot weather and should only be used after a tissue or suitable wrapping has been used before the bubble wrap.

While traveling doing shows I found out the hard way and had to refinish a whole load of work.

## Demonstrator training at Barmossie Club Scotland

**John Boyne Aitken**

During the youth training event at Stuart Mortimer's earlier this year I found myself sat at the table with our Development and Training Officer Peter Bradwick. It was an ideal opportunity to give him a rundown on my trip in June to Sarnia club. (See Rev's Sept 2015 for a full report) Whilst talking he mentioned the demonstrator training request from Barmossie Club in Elgin, Scotland and the need for someone to go there and do the training. Soooooo....once again I stuck my hand up and volunteered, well someone had to do it.

So there followed a flurry of emails backwards and forwards and pushing some costings around. Between the Barmossie Club and John Montgomery the SW rep who doubles as the Demonstrator Training Co-ordinator, Dave Willcocks the Scotland rep and I, we managed to set a date and I managed to book flights. There was a dual purpose to my travelling to Scotland, obviously the demonstrator training that was needed by the club but also to run the course and let Dave see what the course entails so that he can run them up there in future, so training the demonstrators and the trainer.

Leaving home at 3.am Friday morning (why do my days for the Association always start so early?) I was driven to Bristol airport by my good lady to enable me to catch the plane to Edinburgh. I had worked out that it was cheaper to be dropped off and picked up at Bristol than it was to park there for the weekend. Arriving at Edinburgh for 7.30am I took a leisurely breakfast at the airport, leisurely sounds rather grand I know but it had to be as my bacon roll was so hard that it took some serious chewing and Dave didn't pick me up until 9.am. A quick coffee at Dave's and then the 4 hour drive to Elgin only stopping off to visit Dave's club, a timber yard and a café for lunch. Despite Dave's careful driving I only nodded off for a short while so I was knackered by the time we got to our overnight stop at Elgin. Steak pie and a rare (for me) pint and I was asleep by 9pm.

After a substantial breakfast we drove to Barmossie Woodturning supplies, Moss of Barmuckity that was our venue for the day, way out in the sticks but with the sweet smell of wood smoke on the air, paradise. We were welcomed by Gary Lowe the Chairman of Barmossie Woodturning Club and two of his club members Arthur Braiden and Kevin Gantzer, they were our students for the day as was Dave. After coffee with homemade biscuits the course was started, 5 minute talks took place and the critique followed. Training was started for the 20 minute demonstration but had to be temporarily abandoned in favour of homemade sandwiches and cakes, too many for us to finish although we did give it our best effort, thanks are due to Gary for catering for us so well although I suspect his other half

may have been involved with that. Back to work and the afternoon session soon produced 3 very good demonstrations, improvement points were made (and graciously accepted) and the obligatory photographs for Revolutions magazine were taken and then all too soon goodbyes were said and Dave and I started our journey back to Edinburgh. Arriving back at Dave's at about 9.30pm once again I had no trouble sleeping, Dave's hospitality extended to a tour of his workshop in the morning and a gloat over his VB36 but it was soon time to head to the airport again.

Picked up at Bristol by my number one daughter I finally arrived home about 7pm, very tired but pleased with my weekends work. I am sure that Gary, Arthur and Kevin will make full use of the skills they now possess for the benefit of their fellow club members and I am sure that Dave will run many courses in the future.



L to R: Kevin Gantzer, Arthur Braiden, Dave Willcocks and Gary Lowe

### **Gary Lowe** **Chairman - Barmossie Woodturning Club**

Having just attended the AWGB Demonstrator training course at Barmossie Woodturning Club in October I would like to thank the Association for this opportunity.

The course was run by John Boyne-Aitken and David Willcocks. I have to say that both gents were very professional and knowledgeable in the subject matter at hand and put any nerves that were present at bay.

Throughout the day I found the content of the course to be both informative and easy to follow. The instructors were able to pass on their knowledge and experience in a manner that was both enjoyable and informative.

The course works towards a presentation of a Five Minute Talk and a Twenty Minute Demonstration, easy some would think! But surprisingly, not as easy as you think. On discussion all attendees found both in practice and on the day that getting the relevant content of both presentations condensed into the time scales was somewhat awkward. Especially to those who like to babble on a bit.



The Five Minute Talk on any subject of your choice would be easy you would think, but my first practice took nearly nine minutes. Cutting out the parts that you think you are able to omit and still make the speech interesting to the audience is not as easy as you think. Your talk has to have a beginning, middle and end which for a 5 minute talk is very condensed but most enjoyable to try and attain the end goal. The course gives you a good insight into speaking to an audience and how both your verbal communication and body language has influence over them. Having personally demonstrated to an audience several times before, I still gleaned some good advice and tips for future events.

The second part of the course is the Twenty Minute Demonstration, where you work through the preparation and planning stages with the tutors prior to the actual demo. I had this off to a tee, or so I thought! But after the tuition from both John and David there were some parts that required some more work prior to my twenty minutes of fame (or shame).

The information and knowledge that all candidates gained by the end of the day was much appreciated and we all feel that we will be able to present a more polished and informative demonstration in the future.

The AWGB Demonstrator Course was a very good and enjoyable day with a lot of useful information and techniques passed on by the course demonstrators.

I would fully recommend this course to all members who like (or would like) to get up and show others what they like to do in the world of turning.

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A few images from Loughborough Seminar  
August 2015







# CONE AND SLOPE

David Springett

I particularly remember one science lesson. The teacher took two conical funnels. He taped them together, large diameter to large diameter, to produce a double cone shape. He then folded a piece of card, cut a sloping line, opened the fold making a vee slope which was low at the fold becoming higher towards the open end. He then placed the 'double' cone at the lower end of the slope and miraculously it rolled UP the slope defying gravity.

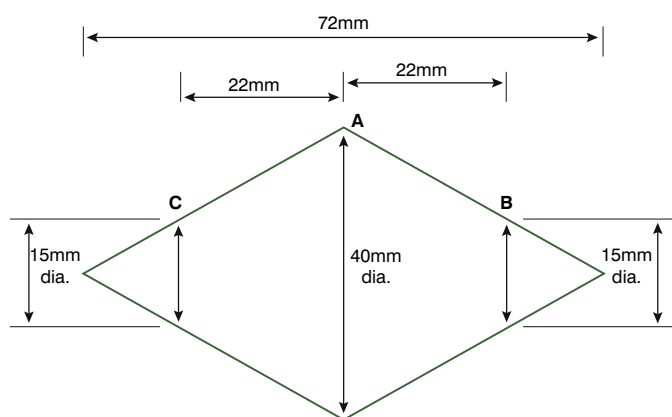
We were never told how this anti-gravity trick worked and that lesson, and that impossible trick has stayed with me. I worked it out some years back and developed it into an interesting turned project.



The double cone & slope.

## HERE'S HOW

The double cone is quite small so now is the time to search your scrap box for that 'too good to throw away' piece of exotic wood. I have used a piece of Zebrano. All you need is a short length 140 mm long by 45 mm square.



1. A zebrano blank set between centres.

Set the wood between centres and turn to approximately 45 mm diameter with a 20 mm diameter, 15 mm long tenon at the tailstock end. (Photos 1, 2, 3 & 4)

Remove the part turned piece from the lathe and replace the drive centre, in the headstock, with a chuck. Hold the turned tenon in the chuck (make sure that the jaws are good and tight) and support the tailstock end of the blank using a revolving centre.



2. Turn to approx. 45 mm diameter.



3. At the tailstock end turn a tenon.



4. This tenon will be held in the chuck.



5. The blank held between chuck and revolving centre.



When the work piece is firmly held turn it to an accurate 40 mm diameter.

From the tailstock end measure 57mm and mark a pencil line at that position. This will be line A.

From line A measure 22 mm towards the tailstock and mark that as line B.

From line A measure 22 mm towards the headstock and mark that as line C. (Photo 5)



6. Marking the two positions 22 mm either side of the centre line.



7. Turn the end to an accurate 15 mm diameter.



8. If you do use the callipers to measure the tenon whilst the lathe is running it is advisable to grind away the top point.



9. Use the accurately turned end to help gauge the position close to the 22 mm line.

Using a sharp parting tool, on the headstock side of line B make a shallow cut. On the tailstock side of line C make a similar shallow cut. (Photo 6) This permanently marks those lines.

Now, close to the tailstock, turn down to an accurate 15 mm. (Photo 7) If you decide to use callipers to check the diameter whilst the lathe is running then it is advisable to lightly grind the tip from the top most point of the calliper jaws this will prevent the end digging in. See photo 8.

Using the accurately turned 15 mm end as a guide begin turning back towards line B (Photo 9) making sure that at line B it remains an accurate 15mm diameter. (Photo 10)

Next measure, from line A, 50 mm towards the headstock. At this position, using a parting tool, turn down to an accurate 15 mm. (Photo 11) Using the accurately turned 15 mm section as a guide, turn away from the headstock, towards line C. (Photo 12) Make sure that at line C the diameter is an accurate 15 mm diameter.



10. Check the diameter.



11. Checking the diameter on the headstock side of the 22 mm line.



12. Turn down to an accurate 15 mm diameter.

Using a small gouge join line A to position C as shown in photos 13 & 15.

When the first angled face has been cut join line A to position C (Photo 14) again using a small gouge. (Photo 16)

Clean up both angled faces then polish. (Photo 17)

## PARTING OFF THE FIRST ANGLED FACE.

With the lathe stationary rub the bevel of the skew along the angled face closest to the tailstock. (Photo 18) This will help fix the 'feel' of the angle of that face so that same movement can be used when parting off. Move the skew so that its first cut is made about 20 mm away from the base of the angled face. Make a small slicing cut, then move the tool backwards a fraction and make a second slicing cut. (Photo 19)



13. Join line A to point B.



17. Sand and polish both part finished slopes.



14. Using a gouge turn the slope.



18. Lathe stationary, 'feel' the slope with the skew.



15. join line A to point C.



19. Begin parting off at the tailstock end.



16. Using a gouge turn the slope.



20. Parted to a point.



Continue these cuts until the base of the angled face is reached. The angled cut should match that of the original face. If it does not, make adjustments. This first set of cuts will not have parted off to a point. The remaining waste is carefully pared away using the skew making sure that the slope flows smoothly to a point. Carefully sand and polish. (Photo 20)

### PARTING OFF THE SECOND ANGLED FACE.

Again with the lathe stationary rub the bevel of a skew along the angled face to get the 'feel' of the angle. Move the skew so that its first cut is made about 20 mm away from the base of the angled face, towards the headstock. Make a small slicing cut, then move the tool backwards a fraction and make a second slicing cut. (Photo 21) Continue these cuts until the base of the angled face is reached.

It is important before parting off this point that as much of the end is sanded & polished.

Part off to complete the double cone. (Photo 22)



21. Begin parting at the headstock end.



22. the double cone parted off.

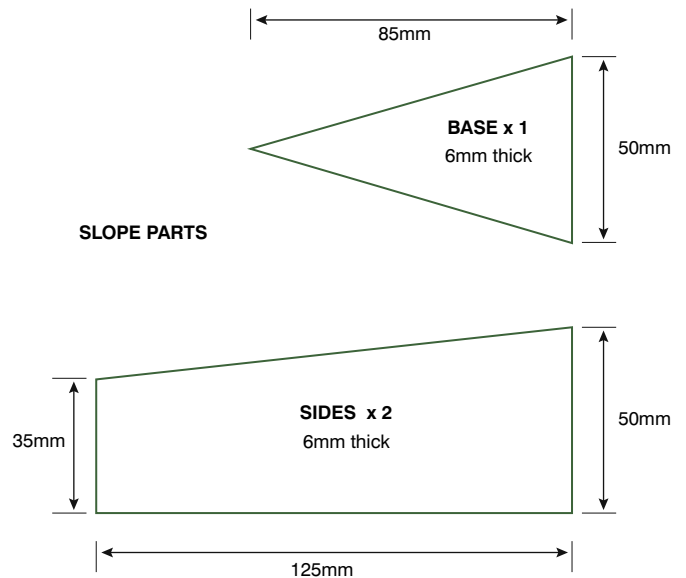


23. The jig for gluing the slope.

### THE JIG WHICH HOLDS THE SLOPE CORRECTLY WHILST BEING GLUED.

In photo 23 it can be seen that there are two small blocks glued to the base plate and set in a vee. To ensure that this vee is the correct angle wrap the vee shaped base piece in cling film, apply glue to the small blocks then press them against the sides of the cling film wrapped base. When the glue has dried the vee base can be slipped out. Another small block (pressure block) is glued about 30 mm away from the larger open end of the vee jig. Cut a 6mm thick filler piece, about 40 mm x 30 mm, and two small wedges (folding wedges). This is a simple clamping device.

### THE SLOPE



I have used walnut for the slope. Three pieces of 6 mm thick wood (or MDF) are cut according to the diagram. Two sides and one triangular base. To glue the sides onto the triangular base first place a piece of cling film over the jig. Place the sides against the



24. Clingfilm prevents the slope being glued to the jig.

jig sides. Apply a small amount of glue to the edges of the vee base. Gently push the vee base in position. Place the 6mm thick filler piece against the back edge of the vee base and use the two wedges to fill the gap between the filler and the pressure block.



Push the wedges together and this will press the vee base against the sides whilst the glue dries. (Photo 24) In the photograph one wedge is dark and the other light so that they can be more clearly seen.

When the glue has dried remove the slope from the jig. Clean up and polish.

### THE 'TRICK'

Place the double cone at the lower end of the slope, where the sides touch, release and it will run 'up' the slope and off the open end. Photos 25, 26, 27 & 28. It's up to you to work out how this simple wooden double cone defies gravity.

What if you have a series of slopes for the double cone to roll 'up'? (Photo 29)



28. ...and 'up'.



29. What if...?



25. Hold the double cone at the lower end of the slope.



26. Let go & it begins to roll 'up'.



27. ...and 'up'.

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